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# The Japan Meekly Mail:

# A REVIEW

OF

# JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS,

LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. XXIX.

JANUARY TO JUNE, 1898.



059.52 JW v.29

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Japan Weekly Mail:

OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. REVIEW

No. 1.

YOKOHAMA. JAN. IST. 1808. 月三年五十二分表 可配合使動日三十 Vol. XXIX.

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### The Tapan Weekly Mail.

"FAIRCE QUE DOIS: ADVIRNNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Whater it CURRESPONDENTS.

No solice will be taken of anonymous correspondence,
Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN
WERKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name
and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a
guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the Manager, and Cheques be made payable in same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 18T, 1898.

#### BIRTH.

On Sunday, the 26th ult, at 258-c Bluff, the wife of D. H. BLAKE of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd December, at the Kebe British Consulate and afterwards in the Union Church by the Rev. W. Wynd, Groner Hodekinson Esq., of Osaka, to Anna Rosa Tschumi, of Parent Smitterland Berne, Switzerland.

At the German Chapel, Hongkong, on Mondae, the 20th December, 1897, by the Rev. Ricky, Thronor Bungs, of Kube, Japan, to Elizabeth Treasnors, daughter of Otto Treasnors, of Hamburg, Germany.

At Union Church, Hongkong, on 17th inst., by Rev. G. J. Williams, assisted by Rev. T. W. Penice, ARTHUR J. HUTCHIRSON, of the London Mission, Amoy, to JESSIE A. CANE, second Daughter of George A. Cane, E-q., London.

#### DEATH.

At the Osaka Haspital, at 8 p.m. on 23rd ultimo, the wife of Captain P. C. FULLERT.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE general elections are expected to take place in February.

A CONFLAGRATION OCCURRED in Nemuro, Hokkaide, on the 20th instant, in which 653 houses were destroyed.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer Kinshu Maru, which collided with the steamer Hoku-

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the 22th inst. left Yokohama on the 28th for Shanghai to be repaired, as there is no vacant dock in Japan III present.

The Commander of the Japanese Standing Squadron hoisted his flag on the battle-ship  $Fuj\ell$  a few days ago.

SEVERAL fires have occurred during the past week in Yokohama, but none fortunately attained any very serious dimensions.

TYPHOTO fever and diptheria are rife in Yokohams. Some foreign residents have been attacked by the former disease.

FRANCE is sending out a cruiser to reinforce its Asiatic Squadron, but will remain Impassive unless there be some foreign aggression in South

In the gale which visited Yokohama on the actt inst. a large junk named the Taiyei Maru sank between Yokohama and Tokyo, and three lives were lost.

Tax week has been remarkable for the number of shipping disasters on the coast of Japan One wreck off the Pescadores involved the loss of many lives.

An earthquake occurred on Sunday the 26th inst. which was felt over a wide area. grams referring to it were received from Niigata, Fukushims, and Yonezawa.

THE Government has received information from Mr. Kurino, Minister to France, that the new treaty between France and Japan was passed by the Senate on the 23rd instant.

THE funeral of the late Prince Shimazu will take place on the 5th or 6th of next month at Kago-shima. The Government will grant twenty thousand yen towards the expenses.

Ar Shimo-takai and Shimomizuchi, in Shinano province, snow has fallen to a depth of 10 or 12 feet. Many farm houses have been crushed by the weight of the snow.

On the 18th inst., 915 families of soldiers who died during the China War were rewarded by the Board of Decorations with special grants of money ranging from yen 200 III yen 300.

THOUGH Count Matsukata and other Ministers of State have tendered their resignation, they are to maintain their posts until His Majesty the Emperor gives his sauction to their retirement.

The ex members of the House belonging to the Liberal party held a meeting on the 27th and decided to circulate throughout the country a detailed statement of the cause of the dissolution.

Tes Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer Tamba Maru, now on her way from Loudon to Japan, is reported to have taken on board at London rome\_gans and ammunition for war-vessels in

Marquis Ito was summoned to the palace on the 28th instant and had a long audience of the Emperor. The Marquis is reported to have received his Majesty's commands to form a new

THE amount of paid-up capital of 172 Japanese industrial companies, according to investiga-tions made during the first balf of the year, was ven 34,424 364 and the total profits earned by them yen 2,272,647.

MR. UCHIDA YCSHIRO, representative of over

senting petitions. They ask for the independence of the judiciary, the protection and encouragement of industry, and the establishment of a proper banking system.

THE Diet after being formally opened on the 24th by the Emperor in person, was dissolved next day, just me a motion declaring want of confidence in the Cabinet was being introduced in the Lower House.

RUSSIA, according to Reuter, demand the dis-missal of the English engineers at present employed on Chinese railways. She also demands that German military instructors in China be replaced by Russian officers.

The Times' Peking despatch reports that the Chinese Government will reconstruct the forts

Port Arthur under Russian supervision and with Russian money; which points to the permanent occupation of the port by Russia.

THE ex-members of the Diet belonging to the Progressionist party beld a meeting on the 26th inst, and decided to support the proposers of the motion of "want of confidence" and to issue a manifesto regarding the dissolution.

It is understood that the Washington Government has been sounded as it its views in regard to Chinese affairs, and has replied that it is not interested in the territorial question, the protec-tion of established American interests being its sole concern.

THE steamer Hokuyo Maru, which left Yokohama on the 22nd instant for Niigata pid Hakodate with a cargo of 2,700 bags of foreign rice, went ashore and was wrecked off the mouth of Niigata river on the 27th inst, and there is no hope of saving the ship or her cargo.

THE amount of coal conveyed to the port of Wakamatsu (Kyushu) during November last from various mines in Kyushu reached 366,270,000 kin. The figure shows an increase of 1,500,000 kin as compared with the previous mouth and an increase of over 30 per cent, on the output during last summer,

THE Nippon Tetaudo Kaisha (Japanese Railway) lately presented a petition to the Com-munications Department for an amendment in its fares. According to the petition, the fare of t sen 2 rin per mile on journies extending from 1 mile to 100 miles remains as heretofore, but the fare of 8 rin per mile on journies exceeding 100 miles is to be raised to 1 sen.

No business has been done during the last week in piece goods of any kind, or in yarns. For m-tals there have been a few enquiries, not, however, resulting in any transactions, in spite of a weakening in prices. The kerosene market is exceptionally dull for this time of the year, business being limited to small sales for imme-diate requirements. There has been a fair demand for augur, both brown and white refined, III slightly advanced prices. A considerable amount of Saigon and Bangkok sice has been imported recently and the market for the home production has given way slightly as some holders are obliged to sell to raise money for the New Year settlements. In exports there has been a fair business done in silk, both raw and waste, II prices about 10 yes per picul above last month's quotations. Stocks are low, only about half the quantity at same time last year, and holders are very firm. 100 discontented persons serving in the Gover Very lew transactions have taken place in tea, nor-General's Office, Formosa, came up to the the balance of stock in hand being small and shin Maru it the entrance of Tokyo Bay on capital a few days ago for the purpose of pro- of poor quality. Exchange closes firm.

> UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Of course the condition of domestic politics occupies a large share of journalistic attention in Japan at present, especially when viewed by the nomewhat vivid light of events occurring on the adjacent continent. The fift's opinion, briefly atsted, is that in order to secure the national union so desirable under existing circumatances, a reconstruction of the Ministry is essential. By "existing circumstances" our contemporary refers to the occupation of Kiaochon and Port Arthur by Germany and Russia chon and rost assume by respectively; to the atrong probability that col-lusion exists between those two Powers; is the inevitable inference that France will not be found in a different camp; to the assembling of a British squadron at Chefoo, and finally to the deduction that we are on the eve of a partition of the Chinese empire. At such a crisis, what should be Japan's action? In the first place, she must claim the voice which she is undoubtsue must caim the voice which she is undoubtedly entitled to possess in any extensive re-distribution of Far-Eastern territory; in the second, she must hold resolutely by Wei-hai-wei until China has discharged in full the obligation on account of which that place was given in pledge, and she must recognise in certain contingencies,—such, for example, as the permanent occupation of Risochon by Germany and Port Arthur by Russia it may be necesary for her to retain possession of Wei-hai-wei even after China has paid the whole of the indemnity. Such is the course plainly mapped out for her. In order to pursue it, her strength must be united. There must be no dissensions between the Cabinet and the That result can easily be achieved, but the first steps have to be taken by the Government. If the country's best statesmen combined to form a cabinet, they would assuredly command the support of the Diet, for the nation would recognise its own interests sufficiently throw its whole strongth into the scales with the Cabinet. It will be seen that the Jifi is constant in its often expressed policy, the policy of ke-

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun lays on the Cabinet's shoulders the whole blame of the conflict between the Ministry and the Diet.
Writing immediately after the official opening but prior to the dissolution of the House of Representatives which took place on the 25th instant, the Nicht Nichi alleges that the Cabinet intends to have recourse to dissolution, should the House prove recalcitrant, and in the interval pending the general elections, the idea is to form a new Ministry. Such a programme is denounced by our contemporary in strong terms. It wants to know upon what grounds the Government intends to appeal to the country. If the Cabinet considers that it needs re-construction, then it admits inferentially that the Diet lian cause to be discentented, and it should place its own organization upon a sound basis before resorting in such extreme measure as the dissolution of the Lower House. The Nichi Nichi recounts the grievances urged by the Opposition against the Government; alleges that never since parlia-mentary institutions were inaugurated in Japan has there been such a sweeping majority hostile to the Cabinet, and affirms that the nation is with the Diet in this instance. The "harmony" alluded to by the Emperor in the Speech from the Throne can not be attained with the present Cabinet in nower.

The Kohumin Shimban takes the Emperor's speech for text, and writes an intensifying homily, concluding in terms so general that they sound is sure and unpractical. The gist of the article may be summed up by saying that our contemporary urges the House of Representatives not to inflict an injury on the empire nor to impair the national interests by allowing petty squabbles of a personal or party nature to inter-

post-bellum measures. The Kokumin writes eloquently, but thetoric and political platitudes are not the kind of food for which the nation Craves at present.

The proceedings of the Great Powers towards China are discussed by the Nippon, which arrives III the conclusion that the scene of international friction, hitherto confined to the eastern part of the Mediterrean Sea, has been deliberately transferred to the Far East. It is abourd to suppose that the murder of the missionaries constitutes anything like a sufficient cause for the movements that the Great Powers are now making in Asia. There must be another explanation of their action. In Germany's case the explanation probably is nothing more than a desire to divert national attention to a distant part of the globe. It is in the consequent movements of England and Russia that a real danger to the peace of the Orient lies. Russia has long had her eyes fixed upon Manchuria and its contiguous regions as a field of expansion. England, on the other hand, will not stand idly watching the Russian advance: she will step into the lists to resuscitate her decaying prestige. Possibly she may be found supporting Germany sgainst Russis, though so long as the Triple Alliance exists there is little chance of Russia ranging herself against Germany. At all events, Germany's occupation of Kiao-cheu, not in itself an act calculated to produce wide disturbance, has speedily led to demonstrations by England and Russia against Samsha and Port Arthur, respectively, and a collision between England and Russia would set the Orient on fire at once. What should he Japan's attitude under the cir-cumstances? If she joins England, Russia will be provoked to more vigorous action. If she throws in her lot with Russia, a resolute exhibition of strength on England's part will follow Her best plan seems to be to watch events quiet-ly. Even her defensive preparations are not complete. Offensive action, therefore, is not fessible. The Powers concerned are so formidable that the utmost circumspection must be her rôle for the present.

Referring to the dissolution of the House of Representatives, which event took place subsequently to the publication of the article from the Jiji Shimps epitomized above, that journal notes that although the House has been dissolved several times already, this is the first instance of dissolution on the opening day of the session. The fact is interesting and striking in itself, but when the conditions that confront the Empire abroad are considered, these aquabbles for mastery between a Cabinet and a coalition of political parties assume so extremely petty aspect. It is quite consistent with the spirit of constitutional institutions that a Cabinet should appeal from the Diet to the nation, and that a Diet should refuse to endorse a Cabinet's procedure. But the country can not afford just now to fritter away its strength in such blokerings. The crisis in foreign affairs demands that the administration should be conducted by a combination of all the available talents, in order that not only the people II home, but also the Powers abroad, may know that the Government of Japan really represents Japan, and that when it speaks, it speaks with the voice of the nation.

The Nichi Nichi Shimban discussed the sentence of dissolution from quite a different point of view. It takes no note of the consi-deration that such disputes are prejudicial to the nation's vital interests at the present time, but confines itself to the fact that by dissolving the House before the members had an opportunity of enunciating their views and before the Government had offered any explanation of its own policy, the purpose of the Emperor's Speech, which exhorted to harmonious deliberation, is effectually defeated. The dissolution of the Diet is the most extreme step that the Constitu-

should be invited on one day to open the Diet and address the members from the Throne, and on the next to issue a mandate for the dissolution of the House of Representatives. The Cabinet can not be absolved from the responsibility of bringing about such an anomalous situation. A Ministry that can not claim even the credit of being united, that has blundered in every step of its policy, and has finally precipitated a result like the present, will not occupy a very high place in the historical record of the era. There is more in the same strain, of the era. There is more in the same etrain, but the Nichi Nichis extreme partizansish is this epoch unfortunately detracts agmestiate from the general value of its criticisms.

The Maintchi Shimbun declares that the Cabinet has employed dissolution as a weapon of revenge. The true purpose of dissoluting the House is to appeal from its verdict to the tribunal of the nation. There is no other constitutional reason for such a step. understood to be the intention of the present Cabinet to go out of office before the new Diet The Ministers have, therefore, overthrown their enemies preparatory to committing suicide themselves. If they pursue that programme, they will stand convicted of the most unconstitutional procedure that ever diagraced any Government in any country. Their duty now is in stand their ground, face the new Diet, and ascertain what opinion the nation entertains of their administration.

The Kokumin Shimbun stoutly maintains the propriety of the Ministry's action in dissolving the House of Representatives. A House that resorts to such procedure can not be considered to have the nation's mandate. On the day previous, the Emperor had instructed the Diet to bring to its deliberations a spirit of harmony and had indicated certain important measures calling imperatively for parliamentary approval. Notable among them was the Bitl embedying the remaining portion of the Codes, which have to be put into operation in order to consummate the great work of Treaty Revision. There were other measures which his Majesty described as essential to the success of the administration, the promotion of national progress and the regulation of the finances; for example, measures of increased taxation; measures for amending the local government system, and measures for developing means of communication. The Government. recognising the vital importance of these various projects of law, placed some of them in the bands of the Diet on the very day of its opening—an unprecedented procedure. But the House of Representatives took not the slightest note of all these things. Having received the Emperor's commands, it made answer that it would endeavour in satisfy his Majesty's purpose and to discharge the trust reposed in it by the nation. Yet, on the very day after receiving such commands and formulating such assurances, it allowed itself to be carried away by petty motives of party politics, and without even completing its own organization or reading so completing its own organization or reading so much as a page of the Bills submitted to it by the Government, it proceeded to bring forward a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet. Such a house can not be credited with any exmest desire to disclusing its legislative functions or fulfit the duties it owes to the nation. It did not even wait to put itself in order. Possibly some may wast to put itself in order. Possibly some may adduce the case of Mr. Hoshi Tore as a precedent. But there is no analogy. Mr. Hoshi was President of the House, and the members might not unreasonably allege that even the business of organization could not be properly carried out under a President who had forfeited the House's confidence. The feelings of the members towards the Cabinet, however, have no connexion whatever with the election of Standing Committees and of a Chairman of Committee of the Whole, which steps had to be taken, according to the Constitution, in order fore with the discharge of the duty plainly indicated by his Majesty, the duty of acting in
harmony with the Cabinet to achieve the great
purposes now in hand, Treaty Revision, and the respect towards the Sovereign that his Majesty

Taken, according to the Constitution, in order
that the organization of the House might be
complete. By neglecting those regular obligations and proceeding so pracipitately to attack

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the Cabinet, the House betraved not merely a conspicuous lack of dignity, but also an unbecoming levily in the discharge of its most important functions. The Government's only recourse was dissolution.

The Nippen, as might have been expected, fiercely attacks the Cabinet. It calls the dissolution of the Lower House a coup ditat, and declares that the Government has had most unwarranted recourse to force. To dissolve the House and appeal to the country is an ex-treme measure under any circumstances, but it is held to be constitutionally justified when uncertainty exists as to whether the party, or parties, commanding a majority in the House really represent the will of the constituencies In the present instance, however, no such unthe Progressionists, the Liberals and the National Unionists, are all unanimous in their opposition to the Cabinet. There can not, therefore, be the least doubt that the nation reposes no confidence in the present Government. To dissolve the House and appeal to the country under such circumstances must be regarded as a wanton abuse of administrative power. The Cabinet is responsible first to the Sovereign, secondly to the nation. In this instance it has discharged neither the one responsibility nor the other. Its failure with respect to the nation has been demonstrated above. Its failure with respect to the Sovereign is clearly shown when we observe that immediately after the Emperor had called upon the Diet to deliberate harmoniously, the Cabinet, upon which devolved the of the Imperial purpose, destroyed all hope of auccess by resorting to unreasonable force. (The Nippon elaborates this point, but its arguments are too attained to be worth reproducing). The Cabinet has been found con-picuously wanting in its duty towards the Throne and the nation, and its continued tenure of office has become a national calemity.

#### THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

We translate the following hostile article from the Chue :- Immediately before the dissolution of the Imperial Diet, a financial statement alleged to have been compiled by the Premier from estimates drawn-up by the various Government Departments, was presented as follows:--Gross estimates of revenue and expenditure for the 31st year compared with those of the previous

Revenue. Ordinary Extraordinary	3zst yest. Yen, 129,403,366 Br,510,753	geth year, Yen, 1921,406,618 198,217,852	Decrease. Yen. * 8,196,547 †45,607,498
Total	222214,110	349,524,670	137,420,592
Expenditure, Ordina y Extraordinary	286,979,297 202,416,590	110,384,753 135 <b>/007:4</b> 85	426.392,444 130.542.053
Total,	120,438,327	241,588,137	114,147,550
4	Increase. 1	Decrease.	

The Revenue for the 31st year shows a deficiency of 17,324,468 yen in addition in a sum of 4,285,321 yen, which was set down in a supplementary budget as a special grant to Formore. These figures amount to 21,609,589 yen. To make good this deficit, Count Matsukata intended to have recourse to a revision in the system of land and sake taxation. The supplementary budget compiled for the purpose

#EVERUE. TEN. Increased land taxes	John Diack
Total	O. Keil Organist, W. H. McGowan I.G. J. B. Coulson Steward.
Revaluation of land expenses	H. lvison
Balance, excess of revenue	presiding. A very pleasant evening was passed

In the above estimates of revenue the item, increased taxes on sale, was omitted owing to the amount not being realisable during the 3 set the amount not being realisable during the 3 set we understand that the big prize in the Manila year. The new sake taxes will increase the lottery—\$200,000—has come to Yokohama, and rate to ten yes per keku, and brewing for is shared by two parties.

domestic use is prohibited. As to the revaluation of land, the rates are to be altered for rice and vegetable fields and also for house lots in cities and towns. The surplus obtained from these sources was to be appropriated to supplying the deficiency of 21,600,589 yes above mentioned, and also to cover the loss of 329,803 yes which would result from the prohibition of domestic brewing. The item set down as "loans" refers to money over and above the budgetary items, which devolves upon the Treasury by contract. It is to be obtained at less than five per cent, interest to the amount of 13,512,566 yen, redeamable in four years to suit the convenience of the Treasury. Con-sidering that the Mataukata Cabinet declared would not raise a domestic loan, seems probable that this scheme really refers to a foreign loan bearing five per cent. interest. In investigating the causes of the deficit in revenue, it may be mentioned that the total expenditure for new undertakings for the 31st year amounted to 1,670,481 year, which is partly appropriated for making extensions in elegraph wires and partly for establishing fifteen offices for the better control of communications These are really indispensable undertakings, but there are also other unimportant, in fact, we might say absurd, items relating to the granting of a special subsidy of 3,100,000 yes to the Yusen Kaisha, etc. From the 32nd year a subsidy was to be granted annually to this company for ten years to the amount of 4,500,000 yes. With regard to general expenditure, it may be remarked that the total increase for the 31st year amounted to 16,390,000 year. Subtracting from this amount the expenses for new enterprises, the increase from next year for ordinary expenditures comes to over 8,000,000 yen. The deficit therefore has simply arisen from the expansion of Departmental expenditures and from the special outlay of 4,000,000 ven in Formosa. It is, indeed, a matter for congratulation that this programme of loans and increased taxation on account of unnecessary outlays can not be carried into execution owing to the dissolution of the Diet. The various Departments, however, having recently revised their official organizations, this failure will no doubt occasion them serious difficulties. It is said that the Naval Department, in particular, is greatly embarrassed, as it requires an increase of 930,000 yen alone as allowances to promoted officials.

#### "STAR IN THE EAST" LODGE.

The annual installation meeting of the "Star in the East" Lodge, No. 640, S.C., took place on Tuesday evening at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, when Rt. Wor. Bro. J. G. Cleveland was duly placed in the chair. A goodly number of Brethren were present. Wor. Bro. Andrew Patterson very impressively performed the cere-mony of installation, after which the Rt. Wor. Bro. J. G. Cleveland's officers were invested as follows:---

A. R. G. Clark	I.P.M.
H. W. Lea	
T. E. Beatty	S.M.
E. C. Fox	S.W.
Henry Smith	J.W.
C. A. Peterson	Treasurer.
J. T. Griffin	Secretary.
W. S. Worden	Chaplain.
John Diack	Architect.
J. Delbourgo	\$.D.
L. J. Grimmesey	J.D.
T. M. Laffin	D. of C.
O. Keil	Organist.
W. H. McGowan	I.G.
J. B. Coulson	Steward.
H. Ivison	
After the ceremony, the usu	
held, the Rt. Wor, Master, Bro.	

with toast and song.

#### THE DINGLEY DEFICIT.

The Dingley high tariff law, says a prominent American newspaper, is proving a failure as a revenue producer. Out of the mouths of its authors and champions is the operation of the act condemned. Said Representative Dingley in the House on March 24 :-

" Our problem is to provide adequate revenue from duties on imports to carry on the government.

In discussing the measure in the Senate on May 26, Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, who had charge of the bill in the upper body said :-

" The adoption of a revenue bill which should fall in this purpose [of producing revenue], which should create an additional descreecy in the immediate future, which would require a further issue of bonds to meet current exhopes of future success of any political party responsible for such legislation.

The excuse for the calling of a special ecs-sion of Congress for the sevision of the sariff was the necessity for increased revenue. real purpose of such legislation was the furnishing of protection to special interests. As usual in such a case the latter object was accomplished at the expense of the former, as the figures clearly show. The statement of Government receipts and expenditures for November shows a deficit for the month of \$18,572,109. deficit for the fiscal year up to the present time stands at \$46,581,120. The deficit by months since the beginning of the present fiscal year is es follows :-

July	\$11.073,545
August	14,564,432
September	3.435,718
October	9.310,097
November	8.572,100

The Dingley bill became law on July 24. The deficits for the last four fiscal years, ended June 30, have been as follows :--

1894		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	************	\$69,803,201
1895	*1+1+1+		**************	42,805,223
1896	4,,,,,			25.203,246
1897				18,052,254

For the current fiscal year the deficit, which for the five months already expired amounts to over \$46,000,000, promises to be larger than for any of the years given in the foregoing table, unless there shall be radical, and, judging in from the present outlook, unexpected changes in the relation of receipts to expenditures.

For the fiscal years from June 30 up to the close of the third week in November the revenues, expenditures, and deficits for the years given were as follows :---

Revantes, Expenditures, Deficit, 1895.....\$131,108,437 \$152,078,155 \$20,969,728 1896....... 122,575.547 161,906,957 39.331,410 1897...... 123,275,777 168,145,280 44,869,503

For the periods from July 24, the date of passage of the Dingley law, to the close ill the third week in November, the comparative deficits are m follows :---

1895	
1896	26,254,441
1897	34,170,739

However it may be figured, the comparisons are unfavourable to the Dingley law m a revenue producer. Possibly the future may bring improvement, but the natural fear must be that the rates of the Dingley law are so nearly prohibitive as to prove destructive of revenue pro-ducing qualities sufficient to meet the needs of

#### DEATH OF PRINCE SHIMAZU.

His Highness Prince Shimaga Tadayoshi of Satsuma, whose illness assumed a serious character some time ago, expired in Kagoshima on the morning of the 26th ultimo. The Emperor has conferred on him the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun and has ordered that he shall receive a State funeral.



#### THE CABINET.

Monday, Dec. 27.

It can scarcely be doubted that the Cabinet has been subjected of late to some internal perturbations. Indeed, its period of unrest does not appear to have terminated yet. There is a strong disposition to recast the Ministry by placing Marquis Saigo at the head of affairs and relegating Count Matsukata to the Department of Finance alone. The chief advocates of such reconstruction are said to be Viscount Takashima and Count Kabayama, and the motive animating them is that, with Marquis Saigo in the President's seat, the Progressionists and National Unionists might be persuaded to join hands again with the Cabinet. If we may credit the Jiji Shimpo and the Nichi Nichi Shimbun, journals whose general title to be believed is strengthened in this particular case by the virtual identity of their information, a project of reconstruction in the above sense was actually mooted by Viscount Takashima at a recent meeting of the Cabinet, but being strenuously opposed by Mr. Yamada, Baron Nishi, Viscount Mr. Yamada, Baron Nishi, Viscount Nomura, and Mr. Kioura, had to be aban-doned. The reasons said to have been advanced by these four Ministers were that a reconstruction of the Cabinet on the eve of the Diet's session was in itself undesirable, and that certainly nothing of the kind ought to be attempted unless the resultant advantages were of a greatly preponderating and plainly discernible nature. The proposal of replacing Count Matsu-kata by Marquis Saigo did not appear likely, however, to be productive of any striking beneficial results, and the four Ministers consequently set their faces against it. They might well do so, if the aspect that political affairs present to outsiders be at all correct. For it is not against Count Matsukata that the various sections of the Opposition have ranged themselves in such a powerful phalaux, but against Viscount Takashima, and, in malesser degree—perhaps we should say a greatly lesser degree—against Count Kabayama. The Jiji Shimpo probably diagnoses the situation with complete accuracy when it says that the tide of opposition directs itself against Count Matsukata only as the head of a Cabinet in which Viscount Takashima is the ruling spirit. It is like the case of a player at *écarté* who has a bad hand though it includes the king. He may shift the king to whatever position he pleases in the hand, but unless he throws out two or three cards and replaces them by others, he can not hope to win the trick. It is an interesting and curious but unquestionable fact that in all this agitation one hears no voice raised against Count Matsukata himself. In the case of other Cabinets against which public opinion declared itself emphatically, the Premier generally came in for a greater or less share of direct abuse, but somehow the general feeling now seems to be that Count Matsukata has struggled manfully and honestly against a flood of difficulties and that he might have swam safely to shore had he not been dragged down by his associates. Were a new Cabinet organized under the leadership of Marquis Ito no one would be surprised to see Count Matsukata holding a portfolio in it, supposing that he himself could be pursuaded to accept the position. His personal reputation has plainly to Marquis Ito. suffered wonderfully little in proportion to the unpopularity that has overtaken

sents itself as most probable is a radical change of Ministry before, not after, the general elections. That order of events which seem interesting and are given with present. House of Representations. present House of Representatives has been sent down for paying no attention to the Imperial instructions, and the present Cabinet would surrender office by way of atonement for its failure to secure the support of the House. As for the new Cabinet, that Marquis Ito will be the Premier and that Count Okuma will be a principal member, we entertain little doubt. There is nothing to prevent these two statesmen's serving together if only Count Okuma can divest himself of a modicum of his independence. He resembles Lord Palmerston in his disposition to act first and consult his colleagues alterwards, an excellent trait in some cases but not always conducive to harmony. For the rest, there is no denying that he is politically one of the strongest men in Japan to-day. We are not speaking of his ability: that has been amply proved. What we mean is that he possesses the confidence of the political parties in a very marked degree, and that their support would be given to any Cabinet in which he was included. Marquis Ito, on the other hand, has the full confidence of the Imperial Court. The union of these two men seems to be what Japan wants at the present juncture.

Tuesday, Dec. 28. It is very confidently affirmed that the Ministry have resigned. Marquis Saigo seems to have set the example, and to have been followed in quick succession by Viscount Nomura and Mr. Kioura. Count Matsukata, it is said, has not actually submitted his resignation, but has stated to the Emperor that he wishes to be relieved. Rumour says that he will retain office until his successor is appointed, as the nation can not be left without a Cabinet even for a day at the present crisis. There appears to be some uncertainty about the course pursued by Viscount Taka-shima and Count Kabayama, but the impression is that they too will insist on retiring. Baron Nishi, Mr. Yamada and Mr. Hamao have also tendered their resignations, but as they joined the Cabinet quite recently and can not be associated with its policy in the past, it is asserted that they have been urged to remain at their posts for the present, at allevents.
According to the Chuo Shimbun, the
Emperor instructed the Minister of the Household to summon the elder statesmen —the Genro as they are called—to the Palace as soon as possible, in order that a consultation may be held. Marquis Yamagata was about to start for Kyoto when the summons reached him, and Marquis Ito and Count Kuroda were also communicated with at once. The Chuo thinks that the task of forming a new Cabinet will devolve upon Marquis Ito, for though his Excellency is understood to be unwilling to serve, Count Kuroda will plead age, and Marquis Yamagata is credited with having recently stated that, at an epoch like the present, the office of President must be filled by a statesman not only of the ripest experience but also possessing an accurate knowledge of the conditions existing in the various countries of the Occident. Such a statement points

sponsibility is laid on the aboulders of Viscount Takashima, the Minister of State for War, who, if these accounts are correct, must have a remarkable penchant for intrigue. At the outset, indeed, Count Kabayama is represented as having worked with the Viscount, but in the final stages of the trouble, the former stood aloof from his intriguing colleague. When the Cabinet was formed, and when an alliance with the Progressionists had been effected, Count Matsukata and Count Okuma cooperated carnestly, and the clan element, represented by Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima, found themselves virtually powerless. Resenting such a state of affairs, the clan leaders set themselves to dissociate the Premier and Count Okuma, and finally succeeded in bringing about the latter's resignation in connexion with the demand preferred by the representatives of the Progressionists. After that event, Count Matsukata, taking council with the elder statesmen, determined to revert to the old policy of independent Cabinets, the Government pursuing its own views and taking no thought for political parties. Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima however, did not share that idea. They considered that the support of a political party was essential, and they accordingly set themselves to effect a coalition with the Liberals, the conditions being that Mr. Hoshi Toru should be made Minister of Justice, and that two or three other portfolios also should be given to prominent Liberals. These arrangements were made entirely without the cognisance of the Premier. But when the project was submitted to the committee of the Liberals at a general meeting, it was negatived by a large majority, and Count Kabayama and Vis-countTakashima found themselves in a very awkward position. Count Matsukata, intensely chagrined not only that his distinctly declared policy had been set at naught, but also that portfolios and governorships had been offered to party politicians without his knowledge, invited the members of the Cabinet to a private meeting at his house, and condemned the action of the two Ministers in the strongest terms, declaring his own resolve to stand entirely aloof from political parties, and announcing that if his programme did not please his colleagues, they might adopt any course that suited them. Count Kabayama seems to have taken this failure to heart, and to have refrained from all similar enterprises thenceforth. But Viscount Takashima's propensities underwent no change. Acting in conjunction with certain intriguers outside the Government, he resolved to direct his efforts towards putting Marquis Saigo at the head of the Cabinet, believing that the alliance of the Liberals and the National Unionists might thus be secured. He accordingly addressed himself to Marquis Saigo, asked him whether he would be willing to sacrifice himself for the sake of securing such majority in the House of Representatives as would suffice to pass the measures of vital national importance, and added that Count Matsukata as well as the other members of the Cabinet desired to see such a change effected. Marquis Saigo replied that if the conduct of State affairs would be facilitated thereby and if the



aspect of his plan, broached the subject will have to be abandoned sooner or later, reputation of any political party and openly at the Cabinet meeting on the 14th but Japanese 'statesmen act wisely in materially increase its chances at the polls. instant, but found, to his surprise, that even Count Kabayama seemed uncertain whether to condemn or endorse, and that all the other members were opposed to the change. At the same time, Count Matsukata was indignant that his consent had not been obtained before the proposal was put forward, and Marquis Saigo was angry to find that he had been played upon. Naturally a coolness sprang up between the Marquis and Count Matsukata, and I crisis would have been immediately precipitated had not the imminence of the Diet's meeting suggested the desirability of avoiding any Ministerial complications until the close of the session. It was for these reasons that Marquis Saigo tendered his resignation on the very day of the Lower House's dissolution, and his example was followed by all the other Ministers

As for the new Cabinet, the general impression appears to be that Marquis Ito will be Premier and that Count Okuma will be a prominent member. Marquis Saionji, Viscount Yoshikawa and Viscount Katsura are also expected to hold port-folios. There is no attempt as yet, however, to forecast the whole Cabinet, nor do we find any mention of the names of Baron Ito and Baron Suyematau, to whom important positions would certainly be given if Marquis Ito returned to power.

#### THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

It is now definitely asserted by the Fifi Shimpo that the Cabinet's reason for dissolving the House of Representatives was to save the principle of Imperial Cabinets from apparent violation. Before the Diet met, the Ministry found that they could not work together any longer, and that their resignation was inevitable. The discovery was made at such a late date, however, that it could not be acted upon previously to the opening ceremony. Had the Opposition in the House of Representatives postponed their action with regard to the vote of want of confidence until after the New Year's recess, they would have found a new Cabinet in office when the Diet re-assembled on the itth of January. But by forcing the measure to the front on the 25th of December, they placed the Cabinet of either remaining in the dilemma in power despite the House's verdict, or going out of power in apparent obedience to that verdict. The former course was impossible, hopeless friction having arisen between the Ministers; the latter would have been equivalent to acknowledging the Diet. Under the circumstances, nothing remained except to dissolve the House of Representatives by way of prethe dissolution of the Diet is not to be his Excellency whether he would under-interpreted, so far as we can see, in the sense of an appeal to the country, for, if so, he might reckon on their but rather in the sense of an asser-support. The Marquis said that it would tion of the principle that Ministers hold be time to talk of these thing when office by the will of the Emperor alone, the future had unfolded itself a little and that any House of Representatives more, but he did not discourage his visitors

clinging to it as long as possible so as to In that respect the Liberals have a decided afford time for the due organization of advantage over their opponents, the Propolitical parties.

The Emperor is said to have returned the resignations of Marquis Saigo and Count Matsukata when they were pre-sented to him on the 25th instant. Two days later, however, Viscount Nomura, Mr. Kioura, Viscount Takashima and Count Kabayama sent in their resigna-tions to the Premier, and Baron Yamada, Baron Nishi and Mr. Hamao followed their example on the 28th. Accordingly, the resignations of the nine Ministers were submitted to the Sovereign en masse on the afternoon of the 28th.

His Majesty is said to have summoned Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council, to the Palace on the 27th instant, and held a long conversation with him about the affairs of the Cabinet. Count Kuroda recommended that either Marquis Ito or Marquis Yamagata should be sent for, and on the same evening the Emperor instructed the Minister of the Household to despatch a telegram to Marquis Ito desiring his immediate attendance. The Marquis replied that he had been suffering for some time from his eyes and that he begged to be excused from attending at the Palace for the present, but the Emperor ordered Count Kuroda to proceed to Oiso on the 28th, bearing the Imperial command.

The only forecast of the new Cabinet published as yet is that of the Nippon, namely:-

Minister President ..... Marquis Ito.

М	linister of—	•	
	Foreign Affairs M	arquis Sajonji.	
	Home Affairs	r, Yoshikawa.	
	WatVI	scouist Katsura.	
	The NavyVI	ce-Admiral Yam	amote
	Justice	r. Kimra Keige.	
	Education	unt Okuma or ?	
	Communications M	c. Sone Arasuke.	
	FloanceV	iscount Watanab	e.
	Agriculture & Com-		

We should think that if Count Okuma consented to serve in an Ito Cabinet, his portfolio would be either that of Finance or that of Foreign Affairs. It will be observed, also, that no place is assigned to Count Itagaki.

According to the Fifi Shimpo, the failure of the Progressionists to preserve their relations with the Cabinet has impaired their reputation and caused a reaction in favour of the Liberals, so that if the latter play their cards well at the general elections, they may reasonably hope to secure that the Cabinet held its mandate from from a hundred and ten to a hundred and twenty seats. Immediately dissolution of the House of Representatives, some of the leading Liberals repairliminary to the resignation of the Cabinet. ed to Oiso and had an interview with The principle of Imperial Cabinets could Marquis Ito. They told the Marquis that, thus be preserved, since the last act of the in their opinion, the Matsukata Cabinet Ministry had been to dismiss a House could not possibly hope to obtain a which refused to legislate with them. We majority in the coming elections, and that have already stated in these columns that its downfall was assured, and they asked the dissolution of the Diet is not to be his Excellency whether he would under-

general wish pointed in that direction, he which refuses to work with his Majesty's by any means. There can be no doubt was willing to do anything. Viscount nominees, is acting in contravention of Takashima, much pleased at the promising the Constitution. It is a principle which with Marquis Ito would add greatly to the gressionists, if, indeed, the two are to be really in opposition.

#### PICTURESQUE ADVERTISING.

Mr. Wellesley Parker writes :- " As you have been so unjust as to criticise my work and endeavour to injure me in my absence" (the italics are his) "you will perhaps be fair enough to publish an independent criticism as below. You all seem to have an idea that the money taken and profit, if any, pass out of your town. You are wrong. I receive the ordinary commission that an advertising agent is entitled to only. If a paper does not expend the money in hand on a good production, surely I am not to blame. \* \* \* I wish to add that I hold from the representative of the Japanese Government in writing clearly and distinctly all I said re their patronage, &c. The Times of India hold this original, and your statements, to use your words, "as a matter of fact" are false. Shanghai will be finished, but naturally after Yokohama's ungenerous assault on me as a pressman of nineteen years in Australia, Mr. (name illegible) "decided to wait and show Calcutta and Bombay" (word illegible) "as they are the exact replicas of what we are doing there." The "independent criticism" to which our correspondent alludes is a eulogistic notice in the Overland Mail of "Picturesque Calcutta," which has been issued by the Statesman of that city. The Overland Mail describes the production as "highly artistic," "distinctly creditable" and so on. We do not reproduce the criticism, being in no way concerned with the original. Mr. Parker accuses us of "injustice" and of an ' endeavour to injure him in his absence.' We fail to appreciate the grounds of his charge. Certain illustrated sheets of Singapore were sent us "for the favour of review" and we reviewed them, stating, as we now state again, that they seemed abominably vulgar and that to call them "picturesque" was a libel. We naturally expressed a hope that the pictorial advertisements for which some people in Yokohama had contracted would not be of such a character. By and by, a Shanghai journal stated that Mr. Parker enjoyed the patronage of the Japanese Government. We denied that, and we again deny it. Mr. Parker alleges that he "holds from the representative of the Japanese Government in writing, clearly and distinctly, all that he has said about patronage." What he means by the representative of the Japanese Government we do not know, but we have inquired at the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and are assured that nothing whatever is known about him there, and that he never received any authority to announce himself as under the patronage of the Japanese Government. Possibly he thinks that the support he obtained from the Governor of Kanagawa justifies his statement. but there is a very wide difference between the head of a prefecture and the Government of the empire.

#### THE IWO BATTLE-SHIPS AND THEIR COST.

A curious dispute is going on between the Japan Times and the Kobe Chronicle, in which, we venture to think, both sides are in error. The case is this:-Kobe Chronicle having asserted that the battle-ships Fuji and Yaskima were "built with money granted by the Diet," the Japan Times pointed out that such was not the fact, as the funds had been "contributed by the Court and the officials." To that the Kobe Chronicle replied that "the deductions from the salaries of officials and the uses to which such deductions were put, was (sic) decided by the Government and could have been opposed and rejected by the Diet exactly as in the case of any other financial measure." The Kobe journal further said that "the comment of the Japan Times would be justifiable enough if the funds had been contributed voluntarily," and having then explained that the contributions by officials " pressed very heavily upon many," it concluded with the statement :-- "When the history of the fund is considered, it is all the more remarkable to find it being regarded in the light of a voluntary contribution."

Now this is a very typical example of the Robe Chronicle's method of argument. The question whether the funds were a voluntary contribution or a compulsory disbursement has no more to do with the point in dispute than it has to do with the be devoted to ship-building. Therealter theory of telepathy. The point in dispute the amount appeared every year in the is simply and solely whether the Diet granted the money or whether it was pro-vided without the Diet's intervention and independently of the Diet's purview. Considering that this incident is one of the most remarkable in the story of the conflict between the Government and the Diet, it is astonishing to find the Kobe Chronicle so ignorant of the facts. The deductions from the salaries of officials by way of contribution to the ship-building fund were decided by the Emperor in the exercise of his Constitutional prerogative. The Diet had nothing whatever to do with the matter. To say that the Diet "granted the money" is absolutely wrong, and when the Kobe Chranicle attempts 10 elude the real issue by introducing the question of voluntary or compulsory, it is merely dragging a herring across the trail. On the other hand, if the Japan Times intends to assert-and we do not see what other construction its words bear-that the Fuji and the Yashima were built solely with "funds contributed by the Court and officials," there is an evident mistake. The ships were certainly built in part with such funds, but only in part. The cost of the two vessels, according to the Budget, was 21,895,941 yen, and the sums contributed by the Imperial Court and by officials from the fiscal year 1892-4 to the fiscal year 1897-8 totalled 9,074,879 yen only. Thus the Imperial and official contributions fell short of the sum required for the building of the ships by more than 123 million yen. The fact is that the Fuji and the Yashima formed part of a programme of naval increment submitted to the Diet in the session of 1892-3, and that, in addition to the two line-of-battle ships, there were included the cruiser Akashi and the gun-boat Miyako, the cost of the two latter being 2,654,780 yen, so that the outlay on account of the four ships aggregated tions may be introduced when the new 24,550,721 yen. In deference to the Emperor's message the Diet passed this probe submitted.

Had the official contributions gramme. been levied for six full years, as indicated by His Majesty, the expenditures involved by the programme would have been met by a sum of III millious, approximately, from the Court and official salaries, and 13 millions from the Treasury. But the Diet having presented an Address to the Emperor in the session of 1896-7, praying that the deductions from salaries be remitted as no longer necessary, His Majesty entertained the suggestion in part. The Diet had no more power to abolish the deductions than it had to impose them in the first instance. Perhaps it may be well to add, in order to make the matter quite clear, that the deadlock between the Government and the Diet which led to the issue of the Imperial Message relating to official contributions, was caused chiefly by the Government's refusal to accept the Lower House's amendment of the Budget in the sense of reducing offi-cial salaries. The House has no power to deal with official salaries. They are fixed by the Sovereign, and in attempting to meddle with them the Representatives behaved unconstitutionally. We are merely stating facts, not discussing their propriety or impropriety. Failing to get what it wanted in the way of administrative economy, the House refused to pass the naval estimates, and the Emperor finally resolved the deadlock by docking official salaries to the extent of 10 per cent. for six years, and directing that the money be devoted to ship-building. Thereafter extraordinary Revenue under the title of seikan-hi (ship-building expenses).

We wonder whether the Japanese political agitators of 1892 reflect, now-a-days, how things would have fared with their country had not the situation been saved by the Emperor's wise comp described above. The possession of the Fufi and the Yashima makes all the difference in the world to Japan at present. Without these two vessels her Navy would be comparatively weak; with them, it can hold its own against any foreign squadron on the Pacific station. What that means at this critical juncture we need scarcely pause to point out.

#### THE BUDGET.

The main figures of the Budget for the fiscal year 1898-9 appear to be as follow:-REVENUE. YEN.

82,510,753 mates ....... 23,019,800 Total

EXPENDITURE.

Ordinary Expenditure
Extraordinary Expenditure
Expenditure under first Supplement-235,133,919 126,972,197 102,466,390 4,285,121 memary Budget ..... 1,080,408 It must be confessed that this is a very fine balancing of accounts. However, interest attaches for the moment to the main figures only, and even they are not of much consequence, for, the House of Representatives having been dissolved, the Government will have to work next year on the lines of the Budget of 1897-8. Of course some Bills for special appropria-

#### PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS IN JAPAN.

It is worthy of note-though no note appears to have been taken of the fact by any of the vernacular newspapers-that the phraseology of the Protocol recently concluded between Great Britain and Japan with respect to the protection of patents and trade marks, shows an important variation from the form hitherto used in Orders in Council. The language used in this Protocol is simply ;—" Whereas by Treaty Her Britannic Majesty has jurisdiction in relation to Her subjects within the dominions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan." We no longer find the old form "by Treaty and otherwise." The jurisdiction is explicitly based on the Treaty alone. Anyone that has followed the innumerable disputes and discussions which have arisen during the past thirty years with reference to the scope and origin of the Queen's jurisdiction in Japan, will recognise that had the phraseology of this latest international document been adopted from the beginning, an immense quantity of controversy would have been averted. Our own contention has invariably been for the principle now finally established by the wording of the Protocol, and we commend it with all respect to the many disputants who have called us ugly names, from time to time, because we advocated such views. As for the Protocal itself, it represents a practically valueless but none the less significant instance of the liberal attitude maintained for several years past by Great Britain towards Japan. Her Majesty consents to surrender all the jurisdiction exercisable by her Consular Courts in Japan with reference to matters, civil or criminal, arising out of the operation of the Japanese Law of Patents and Trade Marks. Other Powers-we need not particularise—have not been by any means so liberal as Great Britain in this respect. On the other hand, since the concession is not to become operative until all the other Treaty States follow Great Britain's example, and since they are not likely to do so without the usual series of delays and obstructions, we may assume that Consular Jurisdiction will have been finally abolished before this Protocol cau acquire practical valué.

#### THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

The British squadron has successfully managed to become invisible at this crisis. The greater part of it left Hongkong on the 16th instant, and was to have been followed as quickly as possible by the Powerful, the Grafton, and the Edgar, but the destination was secret. Rumour spoke of a demonstration in the neighbourhood of Chemulpo by way of a hint to Russia, but if the ships had gone to Korea, we should have heard something about them before this time. The recent report that they were at Talien-which, as most of our readers know, is on the east coast of the Liaotung Peninsula, some 25 miles north of Port Arthur-is evidently incredible. It is an interesting little mystery. Admiral Buller, however, may be trusted to turn up at the right moment and the right place.

Dr. von Seldeneck, who was formely Consul-General at Havana, arrived at Bangkok on the 25th November to take up his duties I German Minister Resident.



#### VERBAL ACCURACY AND EDI-TORIAL ACUMEN.

"The extremely loose and careless fashion in which the editor of the Japan Mail uses words is one of the great difficulties in the way of instructive discussion with him." That is the verdict of the Kobe Chronicle. Its proof is this: -"In a recent article the Mail said that 'one and all of the Treaty-Port journals had assumed such and such a thing, and then, a few lines further on, dealing with the same charge, the Mail spoke of the humiliating attitude of the local foreign press with very rare exceptions." We suggest that the editor of the Kobe Chronicle would get on better as a controversialist if he devoted a little more care to reading the matter which he undertakes to controvert. Is there no difference in his eyes between "Treaty-Port journals" and "the local foreign press"? We recommend him to reflect; to wait until he has a moment of uninterrupted leisure and then to propound to himself the question "are all the newspapers that constitute the local foreign press of the Far East included in the category of treaty-port journals." When he has thought the matter out he will perceive that the trouble in this instance is, not our loose and careless phraseology, but the fact that our accuracy has been a little beyond his own apprecia-

Our contemporary also brings up the words "right" and "privilege," and accuses us of failing to distinguish between them. The accusation and its context make one of the most comical specimens of "squirming" we have ever observed. The Kobe journal denied that the new Treaties conferred any "privileges" what-ever in the matter of leases. We retorted that they conferred "the privilege of leasing land according to the provisions of Japanese law." "Not at all," is the Kobe Chronicle's reply; "they confer simply a right to make leases,—nothing further." Now what imaginable difference does it make for the purposes of such a discussion whether the power obtained under the Treaties to lease land be a "right" or a "privilege"? The whole question originally at issue was whether the Treaties contained, or did not contain, a provision enabling foreigners to acquire land in Japan by lease. The Kobe Chromicle's attempt to shuffle out of its blunder by telling us that "privilege was among the Romans something conferred upon an individual by private law," and that "right signifies in this sense what it is right for one to possess "—this whole attempt is really too silly to be taken seriously. If the "right" be there, British subjects ask for nothing more. They will not concern themselves about lexicographical distinctions provided that they get the land. For the rest, ours is the correct language, the Kobe journal's the incorrect. "Right," according to the usage of the best authors, signifies "that to which one has a claim"; "privilege" signifies "a peculiar benefit or advantage." It consequently seems inaccurate to speak of a treaty conferring a "right." We may properly speak of rights possessed under a treaty because the provisions of the treaty constitute a claim to the rights. A treaty may recognise a right, or create a right, but it confers a privilege.

nicle wanted us to understand that when it complained of "the Treaties not conferring any privileges whatever in the "something which among the Romans was advanced by Germany. Degraded he cerconferred upon an individual by a private tainly has been, but why? The news of law," it ought to have labelled it comments the fact, when received in Tokyo, suggestacademical irrelevance.

We have one word more to say to our contemporary, though truly we are reluctant to add to the distress which has already driven it to seek refuge among the ancient Romans. Why does it not apply to some competent authority for an explanation of the word "superficiary" Any Japanese law student could furnish the necessary information and make it intelligible to the Kode Chronicle by an object lesson in a back garden. Ordinary language is plainly powerless to dispel the thick mists of perplexity that hide the significance of this novel word from our contemporary's perception. Like the Tennessee owl it would probably have a belated laugh at its own denseness when the truth dawned upon it, but the result would be wholesome and the humiliation of further floundering in public might be avoided.

#### KIAO-CHOU.

We recently reproduced, from the columns of the North-China Daily News, a detailed statement of the settlement of the Kiao-chou affair and of the terms said to have been accepted by Germany. The account proved entirely misleading, and our contemporary now accounts for the error thus:-" The Germans had agreed to evacuate Kiao-chou forthwith, without insisting on being given a permanent coaling-station, if, as was at one time understood they did, the Chinese agreed to the reparation that Germany demanded. Complications, however, have now arisen which, it is feared, threaten to postpone indefinitely the German evacuation. The Chinese seem not to have realised the advisability of agreeing with their adversary quickly while they had the opportunity."

Meanwhile it would seem that the Germans are making themselves quite at home in Shantung, and gradually extending their sway. "Native despatches received from Chefoo," writes a Shanghai contemporary, "report that the Germans have also occupied the city of Chimô, some distance from the city of Kiao-chou, on the mainland, which they entered on the pretext of calling upon the district magistrate, and that their outposts on the 3rd instant were as far as the hamlet of Nükuk'on, on the Kiao river. The territory occupied by the Germans is estimated at something approaching three or four hundred square miles so far. At Nükuk'on there is a likin station which has also been taken possession of by the Germans, who have also begun collecting taxes on the imported and exported goods. The brigade of General Chang Kao-yuan has been ordered by an edict of the 2nd instant to make a retrograde movement to Chefoo is order to prevent any conflict with the Germans.

No explanation is yet forthcoming of the We do not say that this distinction is in- fact that Li Ping-heng, formerly Governor varially observed, but we ourselves always of Shantung and subsequently made Vice-endeavour to observe it as carefully as roy of Szechuan, was commanded by an

possible. At all events, if the Kobe Chro- Edict of Dec. 11th, to resign the latter post. Li had just been appointed Viceroy but had not yet handed over the governorship of Shantung when the murder of matter of leases," it was thinking, not the two German missionaries occurred, whether foreigners would be entitled to He was consequently responsible, and his He was consequently responsible, and his lease land, but whether they were to get degradation figured among the demands ed that the Kiao-chou affair had been settled, for the Chinese Government would scarcely have taken the initiative in punishing Li. The incident remains a mystery.

#### DISASTERS AT SEA.

Telegrams received in Tokyo on the 28th instant, announce the loss of the Nara Maru, a steamer belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. She was on a voyage from Formosa to the Pescadores, and ran on a sunken rock in the neighbourhood of the latter. Two men-of-war, the Tenriu and the Katsuragi, left the Pescadores with all expedition to render assistance. It is said that eighty lives were lost, but the statement requires confirmation. Mr. Montague Kirkwood was a passenger in the Nara Mars, but happily he escaped without injury.

On the 24th instant, a steamer called the Amatsu Maru ran on a rock off Nagasaki Cape in the Matsura district of Nagasaki Prefecture, at 11 p.m. No lives were lost. Another steamer sustained serious injury on the forenoon of the same day in Wakamatsu Bay, Nagoya, but in this case also there were no casualties. Yet another disaster is reported from Mitosaki, Niigata Prefecture. The steamer was the Hokuyo Maru, belonging to the Hokyo Kaisha of Niigata. She sank with all her cargo, on the forencon of the 26th instant, but her crew and passengers were saved.

#### A CURIOUS AFFAIR.

We learn that on Wednesday afternoon Mr. F. Schroeder, editor of the Eastern World, was the recipient of some rather unwelcome attentions on the part of a compatriot. German subject named Polzien, against whom Mr. Schroeder recently conducted a successful libel suit, called at the office, in company with a man named Allmacher, at about 2.30 p.m. and after a dispute with Mr. Schroeder about the purchase of certain books, Polzien drew a revolver from his pocket and threatened to shoot Mr. Schroeder, his companion at the same time stopping Mr. Schroeder's exit by the door. Mr. Schroeder called for help to the Japanese in a godown opposite and eventually his clerk, who had gone to the police station, returned with a constable. whereupon Allmacher ran away, and Polzien was secured, but the revolver was not then on his person, having probably been taken away by Allmacher. Polsien was taken to the German Consulate by the policeman, where a charge was lodged against him by Mr. Schroeder.

#### BII.LS.

Among the projects of Law that would have been submitted to the Diet had not its session been interrupted by the dissolution of the Lower House, there was one for limiting the period for the exchange of silver yen to June 30th of next year, and another for abolishing the system of special bounties on ailk for direct export.

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### DISSOLUTION OF THE LOWER HOUSE.

RITICS of the Government's action in dissolving the House of Representatives seem to forget that the principle of party Cabinets is not yet introduced in Japan. The situation, as it presents itself to us, was that the House of Representatives refused to legislate so long as the present Cabinet remained in power-Under such circumstances one of two courses only was possible: either the Government must dissolve the House and appeal to the country, or the Cabinet must resign. The latter plan would have plainly declared by implication that the Cabinet holds office by the mandate of the Lower House, a principle not acknowledged to be recognised in this country. The dissolution of the House was therefore the only feasible alternative.

Some of our readers may be perplexed to understand our assertion that the House of Representatives declared its resolve not to legislate so long as the present Cabinet remained in office. The House, they may say, was not suffered to hold any debate or to record any opinion. How, then, can it be said to have declared any such resolve? That point is easily explained. It turns upon a question of of procedure. The projectors of Resolutions in either House are accustomed, especially when the subject is of grave importance, to hand to the President, simultaneously with a copy of a Resolution, a list of the proposers (teishusha) and of the supporters (sanseisha). In the case of an Address to the Throne, a Question or a Representation to the Government, or a Bill, the Law of the Houses provides that a fixed number of proposers-sometimes thirty, sometimes twenty-must be associated with the measure in order that it may come before the House. No such rule applies to mere Resolutions, but the custom is extended to them also. The Resolution of want of confidence, brought forward on the 25th instant, was accompanied by a list of names representing 38 proposers and 195 supporters. It was, the affairs of a nation that it undoubtedly therefore, a foregone conclusion that if possesses in those of an individual, Japan the Resolution were carried to a division, ought certainly to be up and doing at preverdict most emphatically. later, in dissolution. Probably the best Germany. The invasion of a luge empire of such a step are not to be mistaken. It

course in the interests of the nation was to appeal at once to the constituencies.

The curious feature of the situation, however, is that this dissolution of the House can not be called an appeal to the country. There is not, we should say, the smallest chance of the present Cabinet's remaining in office to meet the new Diet. Indeed, we regard the formation of another Ministry as a question of days only. Why, then, dissolve the House, it will be asked. Why not reorganise the Cabinet at once, and leave the Diet undisturbed? One reason has been indicated above-namely, that the time for direct acknowledgment of the Diet's mandate is not supposed to have yet arrived. Of course, the resignation of the Cabinet immediately after the dissolution of the House is virtually an acknowledgment of that principle. But there is a palpable difference between surrender to a victorious opponent and suicide after striking down one's opponent. We have here, in short, one of those compromises which the history of Japanese politics has led us to anticipate at every crisis. The people of Japan unfailingly carry to its logical issue the old saying that "it takes two to make a quarrel? The degree of guilt may vary, but there must be some guilt on each side, and both sides are therefore expected to suffer. In this instance, too, importance was doubtless attached to the fact that on the very day after hearing a Speech from the Throne, in which legislation in harmony with the Ministry and the careful discussion of certain important measures, were indicated by His MAJESTY, the House declared its determination not to work with the Cabinet to which the execution of the SOVEREIGN'S commands had been entrusted. That consideration would not carry much weight in England, but the Japanese preserve a great deal of their old attitude of "reverence and awe" towards the Throne.

#### THE SITUATION.

IF the operation of taking time by the forelock possessed the same virtue in it would receive at least 233 votes in a sent. It is impossible to doubt that events House of 398 members. The House may, are rapidly leading up to a radical re-distherefore, be said to have pronounced its tribution of power in the Far East. China's Moreover, helplessness to defend herself against aghad not the Government intervened, it gression invites enterprises for which her was well understood that the House, administrative laches furnish constant prehaving passed the Resolution of want of texts. The most sanguine on-looker can confidence, would have risen until the scarcely retain any hope in the chances of 11th proximo, and that if the Cabinet her awakening from her lethargy and had not resigned by that time, an Address striking a stout blow in defence of her

by six hundred marines from three ships of war, is an incident for which history furnishes no parallel. Japan, at all events, paid China the compliment of sending armies against her, but Germany undertook to coerce her with half a battalion. It must be plain to every one that if China is to be divided, now is the time to divide her, and it must also be plain that the fact is receiving practical recognition. Japan is not directly concerned, perhaps, by changes in the ownership of Chinese territory. Some of her people may harbour a secret ambition for possessions on the neighbouring continent. Such an ambition showed itself pretty strongly in the closing days of the recent war, but it seems to have been not so much a permanent feeling as a transient sentiment born of successes in the field. Even though the Chinese empire were completely absorbed by European Powers, the resulting position for Japan need not be more dangerous than is the position of the British Isles at present, provided always that she were competent to turn "the silver streak" to defensive purposes as successfully as England does. That proviso means a great deal, however. It means, above all, a strong navy, and there is no concealing the fact that the consummation of Japan's programe of naval expansion depends on China's keeping her engagements with regard to the payment of the Indemnity. This statement is not absolute, of course. When we speak of dependence upon the Indemnity, we refer to Japan's programme as it now stands. Her arrangement is to defray the cost of her new vessels out of the Indemnity, and the amount of the Indemnity still remaining unpaid is 59 million taels, or about 90 million yes in round numbers. If that sum failed to come into the Treasury, Japan would be much inconvenienced, though of course she could ultimately find other sources of income. The question to be considered, then, is whether she is wise in remaining any longer under the semblance of dependence on China. The Peking Government is confronted by troubles so serious that failure to discharge its obligations to Japan may soon dwindle to the dimensions of an altogether trivial humiliation. With Russia at Port Arthur and Germany at Kiao-chou Japan's continued tenure of Wei-hai-wei could not be a matter of great regret to China, and, moreover, her ability to find money may soon be sensibly impaired. It appears to us that the Japanese Government would be acting prudently did it at once place itself in an independent financial position by bold recourse to the European moneymarket. Two hundred million yen could be borrowed with the greatest case in to the Throne impeaching the Ministers integrity. That her helplessness was first London at present, whereas if the compliwould have been presented. Thus the demonstrated conclusively by Japan, can cations now in view develop a more Government's action averted an unseemly not, of course, be gainsaid, but its most acute phase, there might be much difficulty conflict which must have ended, sooner or signal illustration has been furnished by in placing a loan. The political aspects

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would be an announcement to the world that Japan is determined to push forward her programme of naval expansion under all circumstances, and that her resolve to arm herself efficiently and vigorously was prompted from the first, not by fortuitously coming into possession of a sum of money, but by a thorough conviction of the necessity of such a measure. From a purely financial point of view, little doubt proval of the Sovereign. But when he says, exists that drafts on foreign capital must be made sooner or later. Even though Finance to fix upon a scheme of increased the Chinese Indemnity be paid punctually taxation," the public can not fail to recognise and in full, the post-bellum measures can not be carried out without floating a loan of 135 million yen-the Public Undertakings Loan, as it is called in the programme. This loan, as originally planned, is a domestic loan, but there does not appear to be any probability of its being taken up by the people. In fact, the Government makes no attempt to float it, being evidently persuaded that subscriptions could not be obtained at present. Yet the money will have to be found eventually. To foreign observers it has long seemed that Japan was over-taxing her financial strength. During the past fifteen years she has been fixing large Maje fifteen years she has been fixing large Majesty's servant, Hatoyama Kazuo, Presidentol sums of floating capital, and the situation has been immensaly aggregated by the inhas been immensely aggravated by the industrial mania that followed the war. She is now virtually at the end of her resources, and the only visible method of easing the situation is to redeem a portion of the War Bonds. These Bonds, or, at any rate, large quantities of them, were purchased by Japanese capitalists, not for speculative purposes, nor yet as an investment, but from purely patriotic motives. Their holders could find other and far more profitable uses for the money were it now available. All that part of the problem, however, has already been pretty fully discussed. The considerations which have not been publicly urged as yet, and which nevertheless seem to possess great importance, are the political points set down here. They appear to us very weighty.

#### OPENING OF THE DIET.

SPRECH PROM THE THRONE.

His Majesty's Speech at the opening of the Diet on the 24th instant was an follows :-

We hereby perform the ceremony of opening the Imperial Diet.

the Imperial Dict.
Lords and Gentlemen of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives—We have pleasure in informing you that our relations with all the Treaty Powers are on a footing of the closest and most friendly character and that the Revision of the Treaties is on the point of con-

In order to establish the finances on a firm basis, We have instructed the Minister of Pinance to fix upon a scheme of increased taxation in connexion with the Budget for the thirty-first year of Mel/i, and to submit the measure III you, in conjunction with a Bill embodying the Revised Code and various other projects of law, essential to the promotion of national prosperity and to ad-

ministrative progress.

We trust that you will discharge your functions of deliberation and consent with harmony and

The Emparor's allusion to Treaty Revision

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and the Codes was more or less anticipated, but | Constitution, We hereby order the diasolution of the public will probably be surprised to find that the House of Representatives. His Majesty very explicitly endorses the measures for increased taxes also. Of course an Imperial Speech at the opening of the Diet does not, as a rule, possess any strong political significance. But the phraseology of a speech may be constructed so as to signify a great deal. If His Majesty had said simply that measures relating to increased taxes would be submitted to the Diet, no inference could be drawn in the sense that such measures had the distinct apin order to establish the finances on a firm basis. We have instructed the Minister of that his Majesty seems to adopt, so far, at any rate, as language is concerned, the precise policy that Count Matsukata himself has enunciated on more than one occasion. Speeches from the Throne have not acquired in Japan the comparatively perfunctory character attaching to them in European countries. On one occasion the words wachie kyede (harmonious conperation), appearing in an Imperial Message, were quoted and referred to time and again during the subsequent course of the session, and certainly exercised no small effect in moderating, or even quelling, the fiery ardour of political antagonisms. In the present speech the celebratde group of ideographs is reduced to two: his Majesty exhorts in "harmony" (machin) but says nothing of "cooperation" (hodo).

The reply of the Representatives to his Ma-

jesty's Speech was as follows :-

May it please Your Imperial Majesty,-Your are moved with profound granting for Your Majesty's condescension in personally attending to open the eleventh session of the Imperial Diet and in favouring them with Your Majesty's gracious Speech. Your Majesty's servants will endeavour by carnestness and careful deliberation, to respond 
Your Majesty's will and to discharge the trust reposed in them by the nation,

#### DECEMBER 25TH.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.10 p.m.

The President reported that he had repaired to the Palace in the forenoon and presented the Reply to the Imperial Speech voted by the House on the preceding day, which his Majesty had acknowledged in the following words:

We approve the loval sentiments expressed by the members of the House of Representatives. The President announced that the Government had submitted the Budget and correlated measures for the fiscal year 1898-9.

VOTE OF WANT OF CONFIDENCE.

The House was about in proceed to the Order of the Day when Mr. Suzuki Shigeto asked permission to have the Order changed for the purpose of introducing an urgency mo-tion.—(Cheers, and cries of "No," "no.")

The President inquired the nature of the motion.

Mr. Suzuki-It is a Resolution declaring want of confidence in the Cabinet .- (Cheora and groans.)

Mr. Haseba Junko said that he wished to oppose the motion, and several other members

also signified their dissent.

The President—It has always been the cus-tom to dispense with any discussion in connexion with a motion for changing the Order of the Day. I shall follow that precedent on the present occasion. Those who are in favour of changing the Order will sland up,—(A majority rose.)
Mr. Suzuki Shigeto—The Resolution that I

have in propose is as follows :---

Resolved that this House does not place confidence in the present Cabinet.-(Cheers.) DISSOLUTION.

The President called upon the members to rise, as an Imperial Message had been received, which he proceeded to read :-

In accordance with Article VII. of the Imperial no time in replying to the Question.

This announcement was received with cheera and clapping of hands, and the House rose at 1.19 p.m.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 9.40 a.m., and the President having announced his intention of proceeding to the Palace in present the House's Reply in the Speech from the Throne, the chair was taken by the Vice-President.

The Reply was as follows:---

May it please Your Blustrious and Enlightened
Majesty—Your Majesty's servants, the members
of the House of Peers, have the bonour to state
with awe and reverence, that
On this occasion of opening the eleventh session

of the Imperial Diet in accordance with the usual ceremonial, Your Majesty's sevents, receiving Your Majesty's gracious Speech and humbly perusing it, learn that Revision of the Treaties with the various Powers is on the eve of achievement; that the national prosperity is increasing, and that Your Imperial Majesty entertains certain prolound and important projects with reference to the essentials of domestic administration,

Your Majesty's servants reverentially bow to the Imperial will, and keeping in view the welfare of the State and the prosperity of the people, will have the honour to submit their views, with sawe and reverence, for the gracious consideration of Your Imperial Majesty in respectful accordance with Your Majesty's Constitution.

The House then proceeded in elect a chairman of Committee of the Whole. The result of the voting was :--

Marquis Tokugawa Iyesato ...... roz 

The Standing Committees were then elected.

#### THE TAKAND APPAIR

Mr. Matsuoka Koki presented a Question relating to the Formosan Judiciary, as tollows: Since the 8th month of the present year, the Govenment has taken the following steps with regard to Judicial Officers in Formosa:—Takano Takenori, Chief Judge of the High Court, Ono Yoshitoshi, Chief Judge of the Lucal Caurt of Tainan, Shimazu Nobuyoshi, Chief Judge of the Local Court of Misoli Ito Tanemoto, Chief Judge of the Local Court of Taichyon, and Hands Motonao, Judge of the Preliminary Court, have been placed on the Retired List.

Takano Takenori, Judge of the Governor-General's Court, Hamazaki Yoshio and Induye Ataushi

have been dismissed with disgrace.

Does the Government consider that Formosa being beyond the scope of the Constitution, the Constitutional rights of the judiciary are not operative? Or does it consider that the Judges officialing there do not come within the purview of the laws in their administration of civil and criminal justice? On what principle, finally, does the Government retire and dismiss Judicials in Formosa?

The speaker explained that his object in presenting this Question was to afford the Govern-ment an opportunity of explaining its procedure. He described the sensation that had been caused by the retirement or dismissal of the Formosan Judges, and pointed out that in all the towns through which the Judges had passed on their return from Formosa public receptions had been organized to do them bonour by persons who were neither their friends nor their acquaintances and who had There had nothing to gain by féting them. There had been, in short, a spontaneous and wide-spread demonstration against the Government's action. Almost every newspaper and periodical had taken up the subject, and it might almost be said that the Government had found no defenders, so few and far between were those that altempted to vindicate its action. On the other hand, there could be no doubt, he presumed, that the Ministry possessed both courage and ability, and that they had some good reasons for the step taken by them. Unfortunately, however, they were without any recognised means of submitting their views to the public, and to furnish such a means had seemed to him desirable, since the dignity of the Constitution and the tranquillity of the people's minds were concerned. talk of the Diet's being suspended or dissolved, so he trusted that the Government would lose

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ANOTHER HECKLER.

Viscount Tani begged to present the following Ouestion :-

On the 25th day of the 5th month of the 30th year of Meiji (May 25th 1897), the Government ordered the retirement of Yasukawa Shigenari, Ichijuro, Machida Naozami and Seki Muneyoshi, Ichijuro, Machida Naozami and Seat intueyosii, members of the Board of Andit, in accordance with Law No. 91 of the year 1896. The provisions of that Law are applicable to officials who through physical or moral debility, have caused to be competent in discharge their duties. Now the above four officials were in sound bodity heafth, and were daily attending to their duties. For what reason was the Emperor asked in dismiss them.

Viscount Tani was proceeding to explain the important character of the functions discharged by the members of the Board of Audit as overseers of the national income and expenditure, and the consequent necessity of guaranteeing their tenure of office against the caprice of a Ministry whose financial transactions they had to accratinize, when the President announced the receipt of an Imperial Rescript ordering the Prorogation of the House.

#### SITUATION IN THE EAST.

It is natural that at a time like the present many sensational rumours should be circulated. To that category, we have no doubt, belongs Reuter's telegram announcing that Russia has demanded the dismissal of the English engineers employed on Chinese railways and the German military instructors in China's service. The thing is quite incredible. There may be an intrigue of the kind, but surely there is no oficial demand. Great Britain, also, is represented as having declared to the Chinese Government that if it acquiesces in Germany's demand, she-Great Britain-will prefet a similar de-mand. That story, too, is not to be accepted without great modification. It may be taken for granted that Great Britain has made some intimation to China, if indeed Germany be really responsible for the course attributed to her with regard to the working of mines and building of railways in Shantung. The spirit of the most-favoured-nation clause would be plainly violated were China free to make national discriminations of such a nature, and we shall be safe in assuming that Great Britain has warned the Peking Government against committing itself to anything of the kind. But that is very different from the declaration attributed to her by the Fiji Shimpo's telegram.

#### AFFAIRS IN MANILA.

The following telegram has been received by his Excellency the Spanish Minister in Tokyo and kindly handed to us for publication :-

I take great pleasure in informing your Excel-lency that the principal chiefs of the insurrection have laid down their arms with acclamations in favour of Spain, the King and Peace.

It is a matter for congratulation that the weary struggle in Manila is at length brought to a close. The persevering courage shown by Spain in grappling with the terrible difficulties that have confronted her of late years, is worthy of all admiration. She has certainly deserved to emerge successfully from her troubles, and the public can not fail to be glad that the light is breaking in upon her long night of trial. We gather from the above telegram that some concessions have been made to the insurgents and that they have accepted them with acclaims, but as to what the terms may have been we are without information. At all events, that method of terminating the struggle is not only happier from a humane point of view than reliance on the award alone, but is also calculated to secure more permanent results.

Sir William Van Horne, President of the C.P.R. Co., recently received, says a Kobe paper, some magnificent porcelain vases and placques from the Emperor of Japan, in token of appreciation of courtesies extended to Marquis Ito during his progress through Canada last summer.

### CURRENT LITERATURE.

To the pages of the Kokumin-no-tomo Mr. Onishi Shuku furnishes an interesting article entitled Keimo (容蒙) Jidal no Seishin, in which he discusses the spirit of the age which witnesses a change from darkness to light. The gist of Mr. Onishi's essay is that though the causes which brought about the enlighten-ment of Japan resemble those which worked such wonders in Europe in the last century, the manner in which the civilising and enlightening movement has been followed up in Japan differs widely from what took place in Europe. In Europe revolutionary principles affected in a powerful manner every stratum of political and social life. The eyes of the people were opened by the spread of learning and by the efforts of a few powerful writers of the type of the Japanese Mr. Fukuzawa. Once having realised what enlightenment meant, the French people needed no Governmental pressure to induce them to move quickly along the road of progrees. If the Government did anything, it acted as a brake to lessen the speed at which the masses were going ahead. In Japan it cannot be said that the people as a whole are as yet actuated by the spirit of enlightenment. To effect reform the Government apar is constantly needed. As regards the reactions which from time to time occur in this country, and one of which in certain quarters is witnessed to-day, they find a parallet in the wave of conservatism and, from one point of view, retrograde movement which succeeded the European struggle for liberty that characterized the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century all over Europe. As to how far enlightened thought will retreat owing to the pressure of conservatism, this depends largely on the extent to which such thought holds sway over the minds of men of influence and position in the country. From one point of view the fact that a great and fundamental revolution was effected here without any of the horrors which attended a similar movement in France is a subject for congratulation. But at the same time it is a cause for regret that in this country the Government should be always leading an unwilling people, instead of a progressive nation urging reforms on its government. Mr. Fukuzawa's view is that a nation cannot be said to be enlightened because its government has adopted the laws and institutions of enlightened countries; that there is no real progress till the people as a whole, of their own free will, and prompted by intelligent conviction of the necessity of this course, determine to enter the new path. spirit of enlightenment needs to be explained and to be insisted on more and more man antidote to the efforts of the numerous advocates of retrograde movement whose voices are loud in these days.

The Teikoku-bungaku, commenting in laudatory terms on the sentiments given above, adds that the Japanese as a nation have much to fear from that fickleness of disposition which clings to them from year to year and leads to their abandoning enterprise after enterprise solely from lack of the perseverance necessary to

The Ryôikujiron gives at some length the views of Viscount Yoshikawa on education in general and the morality of students in particular, of which the following is an epitome: -In 1871 the Mombusho was established. The following year the system of education to be followed was promulgated. In 1879 there were 28,025 Elementary Schools in the empire and 2,210,607 pupils. At that time the Normal and Middle Schools in existence numbered 196 and the students in attendance 14.512. At firat the establishment of additional Elementary Schools was left to the provincial government authorities, but this plan did not work well, and in 1880 the Department assumed the control of all elementary education. In 1885 the number of Electronvinced of the need of such a book, I was in mentary Schools had increased to 28,283 and no way qualified to write it, being quite ignorant the pupils to 3,097,235. The number of Normal of such matters. I hunted through bookstore

MON1HLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE and Middle Schools was 162, with an attendance of 23,511

The moral effect of the changes incidental to the operation of the new system of education mas bad. Ability to acquire knowledge rapidly was more thought of than uprightness of life. The tendency to despise the old in favour of the new made its influence felt in morals. That high code of honour which was observed by the warriors of the Tokugawa era was regarded as no longer binding. The old parochial system of education enabled teachers to keep a sharp watch on the conduct of their pupils. but under the new régime, the students were free to do pretty much as they pleased, out of school. The new knowledge they had imbibed tendered pupils conceited, and they began to regard their parents' notions on morelity as antiquated and unworthy of attention. In the mean time the law of the land had been gradually undergoing a transformation whereby the individualism of the West was installed in the place hitherto held by parental authority. In addition to this many of the old houses, whose existence would have always fornished a safeguard to morality, grew poor and lost their influence in the world, and their position was taken by upstarts whose one idea was the acquirement of wealth. Thus have the undermining influences made a complete wreck of our ancient code of morals, says Vis-count Yoshikawa, and it is most essential that those who are entrusted with the education of youth should find some adequate substitute for what has been lost.

From the preface to the new edition of Mr. Fukugawa's writings, reference to which was made in our last Summary, we extract the fol-lowing additional information bearing on literary subjects:-In 1859 I settled in Edo, says Mi Fukuzawa. My first work there was a small dictionary which gave in Japanese kena the English pronunciation of Chinese names. My next work was entitled Seiyō Jijō (Foreign Affairs). This book was largely in demand, and more than 250,000 copies have been sold. The reason of its success was that it contained an account of all that had impressed me during the 12 months that I spent in foreign lands. I was fortunate enough to be able to go to Europe in 1861 in connection with the mission despatched at that time. Hitherto I had only read about foreign countries. Imagine my astonishment when I was able to examine everything with my own eyes. There are those whose foreign tours end in wonder. It was not so with the. As I witnessed the various signs so with use. As I witnessed the various signs of progress, I said to myself, this progress shall be seen in Japan before many years are past. I returned to my country full of what I had seen and made it my aim to enlighten the poorly educated samuras as to the real mate of things in the West, and with that intent published my Salyō-jijō. As is well known, our Japanese revolution was not the work of scholars. The learned few were powerless to effect changes of such magnitude III were required. Beforer I went to Europe, so strong was the anti-foeign spirit that, much as I desired to do so, I found it impossible to obtain instruction in English in Yokohama. But this antipathy to foreigners was only the result of ignorance. That ignorance my book did something to dissipate.

My early study of English was attended with great difficulties. I had to acquire it by means of Dutch. Learning it in that though acquainted with hundreds of technical terms, I often found myself ignorant of words in common use among children of four and five years of age in England, and, since help in Japan at that time was not available, I had to be content with what I knew when I set out for England in 1861.

My next work was called Raijū-Söhö (Use of the Rifle). My reason for publishing this work was that in the war between Choshu and the Bakufu, the former was victorious owing to the superiority of its rifle shooting. Though convinced of the need of such a book, I was in

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after bookstore in search of an English or Dutch work on the subject and at last came across just what I wanted. The little volume cost me sixty-eight sen. I had a brother-in-law who was studying rifle-shooting and from him I hoped to receive assistance, but the book seemed beyond his knowledge. So I set to work and translated it we well as I could. Its success fairly astounded me. I am afraid m say how many copies were sold. In connection with this I may mention that Murata Shosho, the famous inventor of what is now called the Murata rifle. told me that his attention was first drawn to the subject of rifles by my little book. little amusing to know that a great inventor was given to the world by means of a book translated

by the veriest tyro on the subject of fitearms.

The next work I published was the Seiyo-tabi-Annei (Guide m Travellers in the West.) In 1866 I was sent in America on Bakufu business. Before leaving I went to Yokohama to make arrangements for drawing money in the U. States. On applying to Messrs Walsh, Hall & Co., for an order on America, I was furnished with Bank of England notes. To these I objected on the ground that they were payable in England; to which country I had no intention of going. It took the clerk who was serving me two hours to convince me that these notes would be received in America. On apologising for my stupidity, I was told by the clerk that the day previous half a day had been occupied in convincing one of my fellowcountrymen of the credit accorded to the Bank of England in every part of the world. Knowing how great was the ignorance of the samurai class m which I belonged on all financial matters, and to save such of them as should go abroad from humiliating situations, I jotted down for their guidance a number of practical suggestions, which subsequently took the form of the "Tourist's Guide" mentioned above.

In publishing my work on Physics entitled Kyūri-sukai (Physics, explained by Charts) I had a special object in view. I wished to show how elementary and how erroneous were the notions entertained in Japan on the laws that govern the material universe and to convince iny readers of the immense superiority of foreign teaching in this branch of knowledge, and thus prepare them to accept western guidance on a variety of other matters. It seemed to me important in begin with a subject that was capable of clear demonstration. My book was not a translation of any particular foreign work, but a treatise founded on general study. I wrote in a free and easy style, so as to make it intelligible to people of limited capacity and education.

The 洋兵明艦 Yohel Meikan, a work on foreign military tactics, drill, &c., was a translation undertaken as an order from a Kumamoto military man, for which I received the aum of 600 yen, which was utilized in adding a new

building to the Keiögijuku. The Yöhei Meihan had a smaller circulation than most of my works, being of a purely technical character.

The Fig. 666-indan is a work that gives an account of English Parliamentary debate. At the time of its publication the desire for representative assemblies in Japan was growing stronger every day and the book was waited for with such interest that I was requested by those who suggested its publication to work at it day and night. Though the work consisted of a volumes, the blocks were prepared and the book printed in 37 days, a feat which in those times was most rare.

My 後 界 圖 畫 Sekai-kunisukushi wan designed to enlighten the ignorant as to the size, location, history, customs and general character of the principal countries in the world. At the time of it in publication the world known to most Japanese did not include the whole of Asia, to say nothing of Europe, Africa and America.

The 準調クストタ Gahumon no Susume (Promotion of Learning) was published in 17 small volumes and treated of a variety of subjects under discussion at that time. Its circulation

more stir in the country than anything I ever wrote. It was furiously attacked on all sides. Among other things the remark that the death of a samurai who threw away his life foolishly out of mistaken loyalty to his master was no better than that of a dog, gave great offence. The newspapers were mostly against me, Numerous were the threatening letters that I received, and my friends showed no small amount of alarm for my personal safety. In order to quiet public excitement and appeare the anger of my opponents. I was recommended to state my case afresh in the columns of one of the news-papers under a nom de plume. This I did in he Chöva Shimbun, signing myself Keiögijukuno-Gokurō Semban, with the desired result.

The 重豪教草 Domo oshie gusa was, ■ its name implies, solely intended for the young and the ignorant, and was published early in the Maiji era when few books on morality Meiri as taught in the West existed in the language, this subject having been much neglected by early translators and writers. The Dōmō-oshie-gusa consists of five volumes. The book has been largely used in schools and has, I am told, helped to mould the minds of young people into the right shape.

My Katawa-Musume is a very insignificant book, a kind of novel, but a novel with a purpose, that purpose being the bringing about of the discontinuance of silly customs. The practice of blackening the teeth, not only followed by married women, but by Court nobles at that time, seemed to me most objectionable, in that
the description hearty given by nature. The it destroyed beauty given by nature. The Katawa-Musume (the Deformed Daughter) aimed at showing the silliness of trying to improve on nature in the ways attempted by certain women. The war against foolish customs was one which I felt it my duty to wage.

A little pamphlet called 改勝辨 Kalreki-ben (An explanation of the Change of Calendar) written when I was in bed with a cold in six hours. But, though the price of a copy was only a few sen, within 3 months it brought me in 700 ran. At that time the feelings of the ancient samurai were still strong with me, and I remember asking myself whether I was justified in taking from the public 700 yen for six hours' work. The change in the calcudar took place on Novamber 11th, 1872. The majority of the people had no notion why the change was made or what it meant. Hence the large demand for my little book. At the end of the book I explained the figures to be seen on foreign watches and taught fellowsamurai how to read the time, This triffing addition augmented considerably the circulation of my little book, which went on increasing month after month.

None of my works cost me more labour than the 報合之法 Chōaino-hō, a treatise on book-keeping. In the first place the whole subject was new to me, and I found it impossible to render to my actisfaction the many technical terms found in foreign books. What I aimed m and what I eventually effected was the ap-plication of foreign methods of book-keeping to Japanese accounts.

The Kwaigi-ben is a book on debating and public speaking generally, for which there was a great demand at the time of its publication. It may be hard for those who see the prominence and importance of public speaking to-day to realise how many were the obstacles to the practice of Western oratory in Japan in former times. Many of the terms now in common use were coined at the Keiôgijuku. This was the case with 複說 ensetzn, the Japanese equivalent of speech, which was first written 演舌 but subsequently was changed to its present fuller and more dignified form. Bi foron as an equivalent for debate; 可决 kaketsu for the passing and 否决 hiketsu for the rejection of a motion or resolution, and 養成 sansei for supporting a motion, all ori-

Keiögijuku. I commenced by writing out my speeches in full, but afterwards abandoned this practice and simply prepared my thoughts and left myself free to choose what language suggested itself II the time. After some months I felt sufficient confidence in myself to recommend my system to others. At that time there existed a society called the III Kall Meirokusha, whose meetings were attended by a number of scholars, among whom were Mitsukuri Shuhei, Nishi Shu, Kato Hiroyuki, Mori Arinori, and others of equal reputation. To these scholars I expounded my method, but received no encouragement whatever. Mr. Mori said that public speaking was essentially a western performance, whose success depended on genius of the language used; that the Japanese tongue was unauitable for such a pose, and so on. To this I replied that in the sermons of priests, the lectures of Koshakushi (lecturers), and the speeches of Hanashika (story-tellers) we already had abundant proof that oratory of a very effective kind was quite possible. But since the above named scholars still remained obdurate, I determined to show them what was possible by delivering a speech in their presence. This I did; and at its close asked whether they had understood what I had said. To which all replied in the affirmative. From that time public speaking became all the fashion. Soon after wards, we erected a lecture hall at the Keiögijuku,having sent to America for plans of numerous public buildings, in order to understand how to give to the new structure the acoustic properties desirable in such structures.

In the year 1874, it seemed to me that the nation was sufficiently persuaded of the superiority of Western civilisation to be able to appreciate a fuller account of Occidental progress than that furnished by the fragmen-tary treatises hitherto published. I therefore set to and prepared a work consisting of six volumes called 文明論之能略, Bummei-ron-no-gairyaku. My labouts were appreciated by the public. The book had a large sale. It was a favourite of Saigo Takamori's, who was in the habit of recommending all young men

My Minkan-keisairoku (Account of Economy as practised by the People) was intended to help the merchant class by explaining to them Western business principles and methods. It was brought to my notice that some traders who had adopted the system of keeping accounts recommended in my Chōai-no-hō, had failed in business, and, without inquiry as to special cases, I concluded that their failure was due to ignorance of business methods. This book, too, had a large sale, despite the hostile action of the Department of Education, took the form of a Reader and was largely used in Government schools until about 1882, when a strong movement in favour of Confucianism and conservative thought made itself felt in the policy of the Department of Education, and orders were given to discontinue the use of Fukuzawa's books in all schools, on the ground that they contained injurious matter. Ten years later, a rich man called Horikoshi, at his own expense, and with my permission, printed 2,500 copies of the Minkan Keisairoku for free circulation among the shop-keepers of Tokyo. The interdict of the Mombusho did me mere good than harm.

My Bunkenron (Divided Authority or Power) Minkenron (Popular Rights) Kokukenron (National Rights) and Jiji-zhogen (Words for the Time) all had one object, namely the improvement of the relations of the Govern-ment and the people. In the early days of the Melji era, there was a tendency among prominent statesmen to advance without the prople, to disregard popular feelings, and instead of taking steps to enlighten the masses as to the advisability of proposed reforms, to despot-cally force their policy upon unwilling subjects. I perceived that this was the wrong way to set to work. At this time, the two watchwords were ginated at that time. In this context Kwanken (Official Rights) and Minken (Po-it may be of interest to relate the early pular Rights), and bitter indeed was the strife history of public speaking in Tokyo. In between the two great parties. I always aimed was large, certainly not less than 200,000 copies, history of public speaking in Tokyo. In between the two great parties. I always aimed which represents 3,400,000 volumes. It caused 1874 we made a commencement at the at playing the rôle of a mediator, of throwing

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oil on the troubled waters, of enabling one side to approach the other. Very early in the Meiji era, I warned the leading statesmen of the evil consequences that must follow the policy of supercilious indifference to public sentiment and feeling which they had adopted. I tried to make them see that they were little better than the peasant-despising, despotic officials of the Tokugawa era, and that they seemed entirely to forget that there are limits to the forbearance of subjects, especially when those subjects are beginning to perceive that the ruled have rights as well as the rulers. To Okubo Toshimitsu and Itō Hirobumi I explained my position in full. On one occasion, when at the house of Mr. Samejima, I was spoken of by Okubo an the "champion of popular rights," and was reminded that if the people had their sights so had the Government, and that in the struggle for precedence it was the duty of the Government not to give way. To this I replied that in figuring as a representative of the people I intended in offer no opposition whatever to the exercise of that lawful authority which belongs to all strong Governments, but only to show my disapproval of the official pride and red-tapeism, of the airs of superiority assumed by the Jack-in-office men who filled Government posts. I was only contending for the right of the people to receive the treatment of men and not that of cattle. At the same time I reminded my bearers that the time was not distant when the people would claim another right, namely that of sharing the government of the country, that they would dispute with the holders of the highest posts in the land their right to remain in power against the will of the people. When that time came the Meiji statesmen would find that they had unwittingly pulled a horners' nest about their ears. When that day comes, I added, it will be seen that Fukuzawa's ideas are to the best method of governing a progressive people were eminently practical and based on the knowledge of incontrovertible facts."

The preface to Mr. Fukuzawa's collected works from which the above extracts are taken covers 130 pages and is for sale at the Jiji Shimpo office an a separate book, at 20 zen per copy. In this work Mr. Fukuzawa states that the fortune which he now possesses is wholly the result of his writing. The money obtained by his pen has not only sufficed to insure for him an affluent old age, but has enabled him to make a thorough success of the great private school with which his name will ever be associated and for the maintenance of which he has subscribed large sums from time to time.

A handbook consisting of English and Japanese sentences of a practical kind by Mr. F. W. Eastlake has been announced as for sale at 40 sen per copy at the Watenabe Shoten, Urajimbochô, Kanda, Tôkyō. The title of the work is Esiwa fitsuyö Kwaiwa-dokushû (A Practical Colloquial Phrase Book-to be used without a teacher). It is said to cover 346 pages, to furnish a number of sentences arranged according to subjects, specimens of letter writing, and other useful matter, and is asserted to be free from mistakes.

Mr. Nalto Chiso, the well known Shinto scholar, has recently published a work entitled 碧海學說 Hekikai-gakusetsu, in which it is contended that Shinto is essentially a system of ethics and that its theology is an invention of priests and is made use of to awe the ignorant and superstitious:

The Topotetsugaku speaks in laudatory terms of Mr. Anezaki's "History of Indian Religions," observing that the difficulties connected with the compilation of such a work were very formidable, but that, undaunted by them, Mr. Anezaki has succeeded in giving to the religious world a really valuable work.

\* \* \* A Collection of Essays on Female Education has recently been published under the title of Joshikysiku-ronsan. Among the writers are Prince Konoye, Mr. Nishimura Shigeki, Dr. Kato, Dr. Toyama, and Mr. Kiyoura: The work

is for sale at the Fukyŭsha, 1, Gofuku-chō, Ni-honbashi, Tōkyō. In Dr. Katō's essay the view that it is desirable to push high class technical education with females is traversed. Dr. Kato approves of giving young women a good general education, but thinks they should not be encouraged to compete with men in the study of the higher branches of knowledge. There has been a great talk of establishing a Female University in Osaka. Dr. Kato is opposed to the notion. He would like to see the number of Female Schools increased thoughout the country. What is most wanted, says Dr. Kato, is female education corresponding to that received by the boys who attend Ordinary Middle Schools. The danger to health and proper physical development which is involved by the severe mental training advocated in some quarters, is, in Dr. Kaiō's opinion, not sufficiently thought of in Japan. Even in Western lands girls are apt to injure themselves by close application to study. This is still more likely to be the case here where the stock of strength belonging to the upper and middle classes of women is so much less than that of their European sisters.

In the pages of the Yaiyo Mr. Yoshimurs Torataro, the former Director of the Second Higher School, states his views on education and the proper policy for the Mombusho to adopt. There is a sad want of continuity in everything undertaken by the Department of Education, says Mr. Yoshimura. The policy of the Department changes with every change of Minister. The late Viscount Mori was only Minister who has anything like an intelligible and far-reaching policy. He it was who devised a scheme for connecting the lower class schools with the University. But he was cut off in the midst of his days, and the Elisha on whom his mantle is to fall has not yet made his appearance. The course, or rather courses, adopted by the Department are nothing more than a series of make-shifts, which effect nothing permanent or meritorious.

The Kyōiku jiron has an article written in a similar tone, in which Mr. Kurabara Ikaku similar tone, in which his accument changes its made to say that no Department changes its notice as frequently as the Mombusho. We policy as frequently as the Mombusho. We have had Cosmopolitanism, Individualism, Nationalism, Conservatism, and we have also had periods when the Department has been policy-less. Mr. Kurabara further asserts that there is no real and effective connection between the three classes of education carried on by the Mombusho, that of the Elementary School, the Middle School and the University. The attempt to make the subordinate school preparatory to the higher establishment and at the same time to enable it to supply the wants of students whose education terminates in the lower school, in the elementary or in the middle, has proved a failure. The attainment of two incompatible objects, has proved an impossibility, as was bound to be the case. Would it not be better, asks Mr. Kurabara, if the University were rendered independent of the Mombusho? Ought not inquiry to be free there? Should University students be urged to adopt nationalism or any other " ism " on which the Department may for the time being wish to lay stress?

The Teikoku-Bungaku prints another of the poetical productions of Mr. Noguchi, the Californian poet, entitled "Noguchi's Song unto Brother Americans," which we give below. The poem, we are told, was suggested by the following extract from a letter. "What a sensation about gold! What a joke it would be to send down rains of gold upon mortals and laugh at them from the heavens." The effusion needs no comment.

mortal, divorced husband from Lady,

Thou, ant, battling for gold dew, art a demon-child unlike the father-God!

Gather, mortal, the boundless gold that bids not abundance adieu-

The world-illuming gold that kindles mortal's delight!-O gold! not the Klondyke gold-The gold at the proud gate of San Francisco Bay, aye, the divine gold of the majestic sun!

At a meeting of the Kodo-kai on the 20th instant in the isekan restaurant, the following

I hall the goddess-Night whose sacred melody unheard flowery tales of a thousand years-

Her's the blessed task to bring peace to the heart that has parted from the land of Content—

O. Night,-a broading love-mantle warming the mortal to full-hodied ease !

Behold, the gracious throne of the empress-Moonwhose heaven beams messages unto me

n humble singer among mortals, respond to a fulling strain of the velvety night!

O, idle Spirit of the night, open the doors of the star-shrines to unite the earth with the beavens Lo, doves mature in the moon's bliss where the guardian-Silence watches the sleeping Voice!

 a constant lover, kiss the bare breast of the damsel-Muse, whilst brother mortals sleep. Hark! An awakening shout-Klondyke geld! Nay, mortal, the gold of day!---

Aye, the emperor-Sun glorifles the snow-obed Alaska land with a crown of golden light!

### JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The Osaka Asahi places the amount of saké brewed in Nishinomiya for this year 🛍 98,141 koku, an increase of 7,700 koku over last year.

The number of Parliamentary members whose annual allowances bas been distrained for debt is reported by the Tokyo Shimbun to have reached 53.

The Hochi states that the Yokohama Specie Bank has resolved to issue loans to the amount of three million yes to manufacturers engaged in the cotton spinning industry.

According to the Nichi Nichi, the Kobe Rice Company has recently entered into a contract with a foreign firm in Yokohama for 1,000 tons of uncleaned rice at \$5.72 per picul, and with another firm for 500 tons at the same price.

With regard to the death, through contact with an electric light wire, of a young girl employed in a Tokyo beef shop, an action has been in-stituted against the Electric Light Company, in which compensation amounting to 4,690 yen in claimed by the bereaved father

The Government subsidy towards repairing the damages caused by recent floods is esti-mated at yen 1,000,000. Niigata Prefecture requires the largest share of the subsidy, and is followed by Toyama, Fukui, Gumma, Saitama, Tokyo, and others.

The Tokyo Shimbun states that the number of destitute people who have come to the capital from the provinces devastated by natural calamities, for the purpose of committing robberies or acts of incendiarism, has increased considerably of late, and the police patrols have been accordingly augmented in the capital.

According to the Tokyo Asaki, the amount of coins and notes in circulation in Japan at the and of last month was 96,480,715 year, showing an increase of 1,682,161 yen over the previous month, and of 14,654.564 yes as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The amount was made up as follows :-- Gold coins, 21,104,370 yen (including 9,920,504 yen in new gold coins); one yen trade dollars, 32,015,806 yen; ailver below 50 sendenomination, 27,297,576 yen nickel pieces 6,712,178 yen; copper, 9,350,783 yen.

The 34th and 121st banks, in Osaka, which lately amalgamated, are now carried on as a joint stock corporation with a capital of 2,100,000 yes. It is now proposed that the Bank shall be incorporated with the Japan Neutral Bank (capital, 3 million yes), the Japan Union Bank (capital, 600,000 yes), and the Nada Commercial Bank (capital, 300,000 yes). Mr. Tataoka Chokuun, of Osaka, has been commissioned to make the necessary arrangements and he contemplates, the Jiii notes, increasing the capital to five million yen.

At a meeting of the Kodo-kai on the 20th

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resolutions, according to the Shegye, were passed:-(1) The Kodo-kai shall, after the reconstruction of the Cabinet, endeavour to pursue a policy compatible with the progress of the nation at large, so that the post bellum programme may be consummated. (2) The increased taxation schemes contemplated by the Government shall be opposed until the reform of the administration and the adjustment of finances have been carried out.

Statistics, published in the Kokumin, show that at the end of last mouth the number of companies throughout the empire totalled 2,146, their capital aggregating 302,408,012 pm. Compared with October the figures are :--

At the end of Dec Capital.—yen. At the end of Nov. Capital.--yen. Companies. Commercial 1,043 142.019.155 1,027 140 688 125 Industrial...1,013 167,962.287 997 168.232,996 Agricultural. 90 2,426,570 90 2,342 070

Total ... 2.146 342.401.012 2.114 311.263.101

The reclamation of Hokkaide has been proceeding steadily year by year, says the Tokyo Shimbun, but the munia of immigration has about reached its climax, and the area of leased lands now amounts to several bundreds of thousands of cho. In the year before last, such lands did not exceed 237,017 che, but at the end of last year the area increased to 254,774 cho. Divided in proportion to the population, each inhabitant secures for cultivation an area of a little over six lan. But this calculation is unsatisfactory, as it includes merchants, artisans, and other elements in addition to the farmers.

The Yomiuri has a curious note, which we translate:-At the end of October, a man convicted of a certain offence was sentenced to one year and three months' imprisonment. He was transferred to Kameda Prison, Nemuro, where he is undergoing hard labour. It now appears that he is a fisherman who lived not far from Hakodate, and for a consideration took the place of the real culprit, a certain rich man in the same village. He receives thirty yen a month during his imprisonment for being another man's substitute. The prisoner, it is said, made a false confession and on this confession was convicted. Meanwhile the real offender is providing for the wants of his deputy's family.

It is no cause for wonder that serious pressure is felt in monetary circles at the close of the year, says the *Hochi*. The unprecedented increase of convertible notes proves how extensive has been the demand for capital during the past few days. On the 18th inst. the bills presented for discount at the Bank of Japan amounted to 1,840,000 pen, loans issued having increased by 630,000 pen over the pre-vious week. The Bank of Japan was therefore obliged in resort ill another over-issue of notes The actual amount on the 18th reached 203 million yen, a sum never before known at the end of the year. On the soth it had risen to about 204 millions.

The trade report of the Finance Department published in the Mainicht shows the exports and imports for November aggregated 15,556,397 yen and 22,261,966 yen respectively, the excess of imports over exports being 6,705.569 yen. Such large imports as this 22 millions in a single month have never been known before. Comparing the volume of foreign trade from January to November this year with that of last year, the following figures are obtained :-

	<b>3897.</b> Yen.		2896. Yen.
Exports			
Imports	200,130,004	*******	157,553.052
Total	346,989,170	*******	260,624,606

The rate of increase compared with the previous year is therefore 42.5 per cent. for exports

and 27 per cent for imports.

Teunoda, Nippon, Osaka, Chuo, and Azuma. Business is chiefly carried on with a definite number of customers who act as middlemen between the manufacturers and the small retail dealers. The retail price of a cask (380 pounds) during aummer was seven yen, but it fell to five or six yen before October, and large orders have been filled at less than five yen. largest demand was made in the spring by the Railway Bureau, the quantity ordered being roo,000 casks. Next came orders from the Hokuyetsu Railway Company, which were scarcely less considerable in volume. The industry, on the whole, develops year by year. But the import of foreign cement during this year changed the general aspect of the home market, as the quality of the imported article was very good. The total imports for this year are said to have reached 100,000 casks.

The Hochi states that in spite of the general depression in trade applications are constantly being received by the Government with regard to the organisation of new joint stock companies. Investigations show that the month in which the number of such applications was the smallest was September. In many respects however, these applications present very dif-ferent features. Formerly the capital applied for generally exceeded 100,000 yen, but at pre-sent it ranges in most cases from 10,000 yen to 100,000 yes, the latter limit being seldom passed. The principal aim of such companies in former times was to engage in new enterprises, the foundations of which had to be built. But the present craze seems to reach towards converting into companies businesses hitherto carried on by individuals or smaller concerns. Another new feature is that while most of the applications for the organisation of joint stock companies used formerly to come from the Kwausai districts, they now arise in localities north east of Shizuoka.

According to the Nippon, a meeting of the Match Manufacturers' Guild was held a few days ago in the foreign settlement, Osaka. A report was read stating that since Chinamen have begun to print Japanese trade marks and labels in Canton, which they affix to matches manufactured in China, the reputation of Japanese matches has been seriously impaired. A representation was made to the Agricultural and Commercial Department urging that steps should be taken to prevent the Chinese from indulging in these frauds, and a reply was received to the effect that nothing could be done. A committee was appointed to investigate the matter, and communications were opened with the idea of establishing sole agencies in Shanghai, Hongkong, Amoy, Singapore and Bombay, to take charge of all interests connected with the export trade. Commissioners were also chosen in Osaka and Kobe to be despatched to foreign countries for the purpose of studying the actual condition in the match trade. These persons will start early next spring.

The Fomiuri states that Kuroda Riuliei, an engineer employed by Tokyo Gas Company in the capacity of foreman of the 2nd workship, shot himself the other day. The rash act was committed on account of his baving made some miscalculation in regard to a plan for the extension of the Company's works. It seems that alterations having have made in the plane, additional expenses of 14,000 yes were necessitated, and the engineer feeling this to be a dishonour, resolved to clear himself of his professional responsibility by death. "In this generation of corruption and immorality," the satisfactory. He Yomiuri adds, "a man possessing such a noble his rearing house. spirit is seldom to be found. His deed may draw upon him the censure of shallow, siderate thinkers, but to us his suicide renders Excessolimports. 53,271,459 ....... 54,483,298 him worthy to be called a man.

> On the 25th instant, loans issued by the Bank of Japan amounted to over three million ven,

augmenting the volume of the Bank's paper, Subsequently the demand for loans increased considerably. Discounted foreign bills for the Specie Bank exceeded seven million ven, so that the issue of notes above legal limit is now expected to reach 40 millions. Permission was obtained from the authorities on the 27th inst., however, to issue notes to the amount of 45 millions. The total issue of loans by the Nippon Ginko for this period of the year will not fall short of 100 millions, showing an increase of 15 million yen over the previous year.

The Agricultural and Commercial Department recently issued a notice to the effect that silver, copper, antimony, sulphide of autimony, and coal, upon which taxes are to be levied, will be assessed as follows :- Gold, 4.89 ven per momme; ailver, 0.14 yen; copper, 25.30 yen per picul; autimony, 15.41 pen; aulphide of antimony, 926 pen.—The assessment of coal per 10,000 catties is fixed as follows:—

	Lump.	Smalls.	Dust.
Place of production.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Tokagori, Fukuok- Prefecture	11.34	15.89	16.58
Kurate, Ficknoks Prefecture	23-3*	82.04	19.63
Kaho, fukuoka Prefecture	83.20	20.38	2027
Kasnya, Buknoka Prefecture	20-43	18 99	14 42
Milke, Fukuoks Prefecture	. 23 40	85-93	13.57
Higashi Matsoura, Saga Prefecture	#1.83	_	25.40
Kishima, Saga Prefecture	22.87	13.71	13.19
Koshiro, Saga Prefecture	#0.b7	_	30.18
Nishi Hiki, Nagasaki Prefecture	15-99	26 75	17 98
Asateura, Yamaguchi Prefecture	. 14.66	9-57	548
Iwashira, Fakushiwa Prefecture	, 13 TO	12.45	
Pataba, Kakushima Prefecture	. 13-10	32.45	-
Sorachi, Hokkaido	27.26	28.65	17390
Ynbari, Hokkaida	±7 86	91.65	27.98

The assessment of anthracite ranges from 15.34 yen, in 23.17 yen, Wakayama being the highest. Other mineral products not scheduled above, will be taxed in accordance with their market value.

According to the Jiii, banks incorporated for the exchange of notes have hitherto been 18. Twelve other banks have now been added to the list, with the proviso that 10,000 yen in public bonds must be deposited by each according to the regulations of the corporation.

The Jiji states that kerosene oil imported into Kobe from January to December this year was as follows:—"Pine" brand, 1.657,39s cases; "Anchor," 123,789 cases; Sumatra, 161,642 cases; Chester, 147,904 cases; Tank, 323,768 CABOS.

Statistics compiled by the Saké Brewers' Corporation in Osaka and published in the Oraka Asahi show that the amount of sale in Osaka on the 1st December was 13,747 koku, in Kyoto 21,516 koku, in Nishihomiya 16,500 koku, in Nada Higashigo 9,762 toku, in Nakago 17,688 koku, in Nishigo 14.905 koku, and in Yeikajima 12,600 koku.

Mr. Yokota Katauzo, of Tokushima prefecture, remarks the Nippon, early distinguished him-selfas a zealous sericulturist. He deplored the shiftless nature of persons who took part in the silk industry, which was then generally carried on as an additional occupation by farmers. Accordingly be devoted several years to perfecting better processes for producing silk and eventually found himself reduced to extreme poverty. His efforts, however, were finally crowned with success, for he discovered a fundamental secret of the industry. He saw that the successful development of silk worms depended upon a regular supply of moisture and the retention of heat at a certain temperature. He accordingly planned a special rearing house for moths, and his system was put to the test seven times in Kami, Saitama prefecture, within three months-May to July-and each time proved satisfactory. He has obtained a patent for

In Okumai, Kochi prefecture, lives a fishmonger named Fukuda Kazutaro, whose wife has been ill since last year. Her sufferings rendered her so laan and ghastly that she pre-sented the appearance of a denizen of another world than this. A few days ago, asserts the There are now sine cement factories in the empire, according to the Hochi. They are called the Hokkaido, Asano, Mikawa, Aichi, of stock seems to have been the chief factor in son with a sword, and stabbing two daughters

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The Finance Department has resolved to issue, twice a year, a trade report for Formosa. The returns for the first hall of this year were lately published as follows :- Exports 5,272,066 yen ; imports, 6,446,982 yen; excess of imports 1,174,915 yen; export of builtion, 174,654 yen; imports, 2,495,233 yen; excess of imports, 2,320,579 yen. Bullion exported was entirely silver but imports included 3,533 yen of gold. The ports where imports and exports are undertaken are eleven in number, but those which realized over one million yes in trade were Tameni and Anping only.

#### CHRISTMAS DAY.

A brilliant sun, flooding an almost cloudless aky, characterised Christmas Day in Yokohama: but this notwithstanding the air was rather shrewd and nipping. Skating was possible on the Y. S. C. pond under the Bluff in the early morning, and several enthusians ensured the corated, having a cosy, Christmassy appearance, though, owing to the big fires and gas, the atmosphere was distressing to a degree.

At one o'clock on Christmas Day 15 poor men sat down m the Seaman's Mission to a bountifully supplied table, with grateful feelings towards those who, out of their abundance, had remembered their need. At six o'clock over sixty seamen partook of the annual Christmas dinner provided chiefly by ladies of the community. After dinners varied programme of vocal and instrumental music was carried out to the satisfaction of all present. Before separating the usual three cheers were given for those who provided the capital enter-

A game between scratch teams of eight a side, captained by Messrs, W. Goddard and H. S. Goddard respectively, was played on the after-noon of Christmas Day. During the first half, H. S. Goddard's team got the best of the play by two goals to nil, one of the goals being ac-cidentally kicked through by W. Goddard's goal, Morse. On changing ends, the latter eight also scored two goals, but just before time was called H. S. Goddard's forwards got the ball through again and the game ended with three goals to H. S. Goddard and two to W. Goddard's side. Another game is to be played this afternoon, kick off at 3 o'clock.

#### FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

On the 23rd ult, at 6 p.m. fire broke out in a house occupied by Ikari Konnejo, porcelain dealer, at No. 1, Ichome, Bandai-cho, Yokohama, and four houses were destroyed. The origin of the fire was accidental. Another fire occurred on Friday morning at 5 o'clock in a house occupied by a farmer named Koiwai Ihei, No. 1,837. Ota, the flames being limited to the one house, which, was destroyed.

Fire broke out on Tuesday morning at about 2.30, in a house occupied by one Otani Sannosuke, in 11, Chojamachi Ichome, Yokohama, Five or six small houses were burned to the ground and several others more or less damaged, before the flames were got under control by the police brigade at about 3.30. The origin of the fire has not yet been discovered.

About a quarter past six on Tuesday evening fire broke out in a coach-house in Morton's stable yard, on No. 118, Settlement. As soon as possible after the alarm was rung. Superintendent Morgin, with a party of men, one of the steam engines and a stand

when the eldest sou sprang upon his mother at No. 107 already on the spot with stand pipe and wrested the weapon away from her. and hose, as well as some men of the Police Brigade. The blaze was very soon extinguished without the assistance of the en-gine. The fire started in a corner of the coach house, apparently from the outside, where it was evident that the woodwork had been saturated with kerosene, and there can be little doubt that the fire was the result of a deliberate attempt in burn down the premises by some person outside. Fortunately the firemen were so promptly on the apot that the fire was ex-tinguished before it had a chance of obtaining a hold, and very little damage was done, but it shows that incendiaries are at work in the town and that extra precautions are necessary. With the present system of police patrol-or rather absence of patrol—little protection can be ex-pected from that source.

#### OLD SHRINES AND TREASURES.

On the 15th instant the following by-laws for the enforcement of Regulations concerning the preservation of old shrines and temples were issued under Imperial Ordinance No. 446 :---

Art, I .- When national treasures are exhibited museum in accordance with Article the Regulations drawn up for the preservation of

old shrines and temples, an overseer shall be appointed to take charge of such treasures.

The overseer shall, subject to the Minister for Home Affairs, be responsible for all matters relating to the preservation of the treasures.

Art. II .- The overseer of national treasures in a Government museum shall be appointed from among officials of sonin rank connected with the institution.

In the case of public museums the superintendent shall perform the duty of an overseer.

Art. III .- The overseer is required to deposit a certain sum of money as personal security, in accordance with Imperial Notification No. 60 of the 22nd year of Meiji and notification No. 4 of the 23rd year.

Act. IV .- When treasures are lost or damaged either purposely or through perfunctoriness, the overseer shall be held responsible.

Art. V.—Annual subsidies will be granted in accordance with Article VIII, of the Old Shrines accordance with Article VIII, of the Old Shrines and Temples Preservation Law. They will range from two yan to fifty yan for each object, and the amount shall be determined by the Minister, of Home Affairs. If any object is found to be of special value or importance, the Minister for Home Affairs may, upon making enquiries of the society organised for the preservation of old shrines and temples, creat a subsidie of aver to wee here. and temples, grant a subsidy of over 50 year but

helow 100 yen.

Art. VI.—The expenses incurred in packing or transporting treasures for exhibition shall be defrayed by the museum in which they are ex-

defrayed by the museum in which they are exhibited. This provision will hald equally good in case of returning the same to the owner.

Art. VII.—When compensation is claimed in accordance with Article XV. of the Old Shrines and Temples Preservation Law, the Minister for Home Affairs shall estimate the amount of compensation, and submit the question for discussion by the Council organised for the preservation of temples.

If the amount determined by the Council differs from the estimate presented by the Home Mini-ster, the latter shalf cause the two amounts to be

ster, the latter shall cause the two amounts to be added together and then take the half of the total. Art. VIII.—Rules other than these which may be necessary for the enforcement of the Old Shrines and Temples Preservation Law shall be determined by the Home Minister.

#### THE LATE MRS. SQUIRE.

We are asked by Commander Squire to express his heartfelt thanks to all who attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Squire, and in other ways showed their kind sympathy on the occasion of her death and in connexion with her illness.

London papers alleged on December 1st, that China had agreed to cede to England a strip of territory near Hongkong, and all the surroundpipe and hose reel, proceeded to the scene, ing islands—Mirs Bay, we presume—in order to where they found a detachment from the enable England to fortify them securely, and to branch station of the Yokohama Fire Brigade increase the garrison at Hongkong.

#### KOREAN NOTES.

The citizens of Soul pay no taxes. Whatever be the area of a man's property or the extent of his frontage, he is not required to contribute a cent towards the repair of the streets, the sanitation of the city, or any public purpose. The provin-cials find all the money required for such objects. It is a system conceived in the interests of the officials of the central government, who find it work very satisfactorily.

The provincial Korean is said by recent travellers to be much better off than he is generally supposed to be. He has a considerable quantity of hard cash which he takes infinite pains to conceal from official eyes. His speciality in the way of a strong room during the winter is a hole in the ground in which he places his store of coins. Water is then poured in and the coins become embedded in a solid mass of ice. The process is completed as each addition is made to the store, and finally an ice safe results which defies thieves.

The Peddlars Guild and the Righteous Army are acquiring something of their old popularity and influence in Korea. They are both among the very worst abuses of ante-reform days. In some directions, at all events, Korea is losing whatever progress she made after the war between Japan and China.

The Söul-Chemulpo Railway is making rapid progress. About two thousand navvies are said to be working on the line, and it is expected that the grading will be finished in a couple of months.

The Emperor of Japan sent an autograph letter of condolence to the King of Korea on the occasion of the State funeral of the late Queen, which was celebrated with so much pomp recently.

All the Departments in Soul are now in telephonic connexion with the Palace.

#### CHINESE NOTES.

The separation of the offices of Chief Justice and Consul-General has now taken place in Shanghai, Mr. G. Jamieson, C.M.G. being the new Consul-General.

Chang Ju-mei is the new Governor of Shan-tung. He took over the seals of office on the asticustant. The question is, will be be the last Chinese Governor of that province.

The commissioners appointed to negotiate with the German Representative in Paking are Prince Ching and their Excellencies Li Hung-chang and Chang Ying-huan.

Talk is again heard of the dismissal of the German officers at Woosung.

Shanghai's scarcity of silver lately received some relief by the importation of £135,000 worth in the Satsuma Maru and £100,000 worth in the Coptic.

We extract the following paragraphs from the Report of the Zien-tsu-kui, or anti-foot-binding association :-

The keynote of this report must be thankfulness. We have not done so much but what we have done has been greatly prospered and we have so far succeeded beyond our most ardent hopes, when with some fear and trembling we formed ourselves into a Society on the 2nd of April, 1895. People doubted then whether it were worth while to form a Society to attempt such a Herculean task—when ther it were not a case of the agg beating against the rock. And many were the attempts made to turn us into ridicule. Now not only Englishmen, like the gentleman who at both of our public mee-t



ings has so kindly taken the chair for us, appland, but Chinese Itterati are writing anti-foot binding tracts, a Chinese Viceroy is circulating one with a preface of his own; a descendant of Confucius is collating and distributing our publications, the leading Chinese periodical is a dvocating our cause, an influential Chinese Anti-footbinding Society is established in Shanghai, Pu Chen Tsu Hui, Bubbling Well Road, and best of all, Chinese fadies of distinction are coming forward to found a school for girls of the upper classes, the first rule of which is that all girls who enter it must be notoned. We must not flatter ourselves that all of this has been that all girls who enter it must be indomed. We must not flatter ourselves that all of this has been brought about by our exertions, yet again and again we find Chinese men coming forward, because they have read our publications. Mr. Chao, the Suilu Hsioyuan, whose appeal has been the most largely circulated of all our tracts, only wrote it when, just after reading some of our literature, his heart was wring by the wailings of his little daughter whose feet were then beginning to be bound. (They are long ago unbound.) Again King Hui-chung, a descendant of Confucers, wrote tast Julys—"I have always had my unquiet thoughts about footbinding, and felt pity for the many sufferers. Yet I could not venture to say it publicly. Now there are happily certain benevolent gentler men and virtuous daughters of ability, wise daught-Now there are happily certain benevolent gentlemen and virtuous daughters of ability, wise daughters from loreign lands, who have initiated a truly noble enterprise. They have addressed our women in animated exhortations and founded a Society for the prohibition of foot-binding. They sim at extinguishing a permiciate custom." He was compiling a book from the best of our statements in order to circulate it, and adds:—"All who are interested in social questions, important in our time, will, I am sure, be glad to see this enterprise advancing." In the West of China Mr. Chao has stated an Anti-Root-binding Society at Snifu, Mr. Mei another in Chungking, and his brother again another at Chanchow, all led and his brother again another at Chanchow, all led in part at least by our efforts. There may be many others in this vast empire of which we have not yet beard.

At Kinking the American Methodists can show about fifty Chinese girls stepping firmly on their retty feet, not to speak of women whom they have pretty feet, not to speak of women whom they have induced to upbind, whilst from Chinkiang our entursiastic local Secretary writes:—"The growth of the anti-foot-binding sentiment within the last six years has been manyellous, and I have never felt more convinced about anything than that the hand of the Lord was in this movement. It is but a short time since it was a taboued subject even amongst Christians and efforts to create a sentiment against the custom in the native Clauch were regarded with indifference, while as for taking any action on the subject that was out of all reason! Unbinding the feet of elderly women was considered worse then preposterous—an absolute crucity.

"All this is changed. Action has been taken and a rule enacted that no preacher shall marry a bound-footed woman nor shall be hind his daughters' feet nor betroth his sons to bound-fontramen. A sentiment sufficient to bring forth the afmesaid rule has not only been created but provision has been made to keep it alive and in-creasingly faithful by an annual mass meeting held in connection with the yearly conferences. The initiative in all this was largely due to the natives themselves."

A memorial to the Emperor of China was drawn up by Dr. Fryer, and signed by a thousand foreign ladies residing in the East and on behalf of 15,000 women of the International Union of Europe and America. Dr. Fryer wote: —"It is copied out on gold paper, and mounted in the most testeful and becoming way that money and native talent could becoming way that money and native talent could command. It is plain but good work, and in in command. It is plain but good work, and in initiself a master-piece of Chinese composition, caligraphy, and mounting. The writing is on eight pages, and it folds up in a space of 5\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} Emperor, and that they would therefore prefer to Emperor, and that they would therefore prefer to keep it on their shelves. On Colonel Denlay bringing further pressure to hear he seems to have been successful in getting the memorial duly presented, for although no official notice of this has yet reached our Society a Chinese gentlemen says he himself has seen the foreign ladies, memorial in the Imperial Palace, which shows that the Emperor has seen it. He also adds that the Emperor has seen it. He also adds that he knows that the Emperor disapproves of

foot-binding.

Are any Chinese women's feet unbound in consequence of the exertions of foreigners? Yes!

But no more than European ladies are they going

bound in missionary schools at Amny, Hangchow, and all up and down the river. And at parties ladies, who as far as we know are untouched by Christian infliences, yet show with pride their soft-forted little girls, saying, "My old people bound my feet, but I will never bind hers." It is the apper circles of China who are giving up binding; the man un the street yet binds, and loves bound feet, just as in Singapore all the Straits-born Chinese have cast off binding, if it be not the very poorest of the poor. Whilst Hongkong has never punished footbinding under the Act for the prevention of cruelty to children the practice the prevention of criefly to children the practice is already greatly diminishing there. There are, however, doubters, if you wish to know, whether it is worth while, quite worth while, to give a small contribution, yet millions of little gibs suffering such tortine as we hope you never felt, from this hideous, cruel custom, for the Chinese proverb still holds true;—"\* For each pair of small feet there have the and the store of the force of the contribution of the chinese of the contribution of the chinese proverbers have been stored on the force full of term."

there has been shed a whole hong full of tears."
There is much yet to do, millions of suffering little ones yet to relieve, but we are thankful for the feeling aheady aroused. It is feeling that

"A despatch from Peking," says the N.-C. Daily News, " states that two Djiggits, or Cossack couriers, in charge of Russian mail matter for the Legation at the capital, were attacked by a gang of bandits on the way from T'ungchou to Peking in broad daylight. The Cossacks open-ed fire upon their assailants and wounded two, whereupon the rest decamped. It appeared that the bandits had been on the track of a Tientsin trader who had with him several boxes of sycee. The man learning at Tungchou that he was tracked, escaped by a ruse, and the robbers seeing the Cossacks' cart mistook it for their intended victim's vehicle, with the above result. The #pao of the ward where the attempted robbery took place failed to report the affair to his superior, the sub-prefect of T'ungchon, who was naturally ignorant of the whole thing until the Taungli Yamen, which had been informed by the members of the Russian Legation, wrote to the Taotai and ordered the punishment of the local officials. The result was that the tipas received 1,000 blows and the sub-prefect had a black mark recorded against him."

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Three German coasting vessels, the Swatew, Quarta, and Loyal, have been chartered by the German Government for one year for the parpose of conveying coals and stores to the navy and troops at Kiso chen.

It is reported that the Russian Marine Department has placed orders with firms on the Tyne for two 38-knot torpedo-bosts. Each boat will be propelled by 12 screws-three screws to a

The Reverend Mother of the Convent, Yokohama, presents the Compliments of the Season with her best thanks to all the kind anbacribers who sent her the sum of \$228 towards the Christman treat for her many poor orphans.

The Pacific Cable company of New York announces that its proposed cable will connect San Francisco with the Hawaiian islands near Honolulu, Japan and Australasia. The surveys for the cable between the coast of California and the Hawaiian islands are highly satisfactory, and arrangements are being made for the establishment of that section within eighteen months.

The Macao Independente claims that in the partition of China Portugal should have as her share at least the whole of the island of which Macao forms part. Our contemporary urges the importance of Portugal's being permanently represented at Peking, and, in view of the present situation, recommends that the Governor of Macao, who is also Minister to China, should at once be ordered to Peking or that another Minister should be appointed.

It is said that Dr. Alexander Edington, bacteriologist to the Cape of Good Hope Governto walk basefoot through the streets to convince doubters. And what is far more important, numbers of little girls remain une ed by rinderpest, when treated with citric acid little to impose a tax on motor cars, the tax ap-

and for such a time as to insure the death of the contagium, will, when injected, immunize all animals exposed to infection. Dr. Edington has practiced his protective injection on several large herds, and always with satisfactory results, the largest mortality having been a little over 3 per cent, or eight animals in a herd of 234.

Typhoid fever, we regret to say, is very prevalent in Yokohama. There are several cases in Japanese town and two foreign residents who entered the General Hospital on the Bluff this week are thought to be sickening for it. Diphtheria is also very rife among the Japanese in Yokobama,

Of the representatives of the payers of the highest amount of national taxes who sit in the present Parliament, Mr. Nozaki Bukichi, of Okayama Prefecture, is reported by the Yomiuri to occupy the most conspicuous position, his annual payments amounting to 8,707 yes. Next comes Mr. Sumitomo Kichizayemon, of Osaka, with 6,787 yen. He is followed by Mr. Igarashi Jinzo, of Niigata, who pays 4,102 yen. Mr. Kayeda, of Kagoshima, is represented as ranking lowest, paying but 520 yen annually.

The French Chamber of Deputies is considering a project for making Paris a scaport by a caust from Rouen to Paris along the valley of the Seine. It will be about 20 feet deep, and serve for all vessels which arrive at Rouen. It will end in a large dock at Clichy, Paris, and the engineer, M. Bouquet de la Grye, estimates the cost at 150 million francs, or six millions sterling. He proposes to carry out the scheme by a public company with a concession of 99 years, and to finish the work for the great Exhibition of 1000 if he is allowed to begin at once.

The great "meteorite" which Lieutenant Peary brought home from Greenland, but which Namen regards as of terrestrial, not celestial, Namen regards as of terrestriat, not celestiat, origin, is a block of a dull blue colour, weighing from 50 to 90 tons according to various estimates. It is about 10 feet long by 8 feet wide and 6 feet thick. Analysis shows it to consist of 92 per cent. of iron, and 8 per cent. of nickel. Even if the block proves a bogus meteorite, it is still interesting as a geological specimen, and, moreover, Lientenant Peary did not go so far north merely to bring it home, but also to prepare for his coming attempt to reach the Pole.

Speaking at Dublin recently, Lord Charles Beresford said Irishmen were not understood properly by Englishmen. But of one thing there was no doubt—the military capability of Irishmen. Wellington, Wolseley, Roberts, Kit-chener, and Sir George White were names well known in England on account of the military prowess they had displayed. Again, in the famous charge of the Gordon Highlanders at Dargai heights, it was curious to find that among the killed were many Irish names, while the piper who continued playing after he was shot through the legs rejoiced in the Irish name of Findlater. That man was recommended for the Victoria Cross, and it was hoped that he would get it.

Matk Twain's new book is graced with more maxims from Pudd'uhead Wilson's notebook; Here are three :--

"Grief can take care of itself; but to get full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide

"Man is the only animal that blushes. Or needs to,"

"Everything human is pathetic. The secret source of humour itself is not joy, but sorrow. There is no humour in beaven."

The last gives us a glimpse of the Mark Twain whom so few persons know-the Mark Twain who once gave it - his chief ambition to write a new life of Christ.

The French have a decidedly practical way of looking at new methods of locomotion. No sooner was the bicycle established than a large revenue-producing tax was imposed on it, and parently varying in different parts, according to the density of the population. In the large centres of population the tax will be somewhat a serious item, and in Paris it amounts III \$12 on vehicles for two passengers and \$20 on larger vehicles. It is curious that at the same time that this tax is being imposed it is also being proposed that aubsidies should be granted to public services of motor cars.

The troubles of Lieutenant M. J. O'Brien of the Romeyn scandal and other notoriety, the San Francisco Chronicle, have finally led to his resignation from the Army. O'Brien was one of the brightest men in his class at West Point, and on that account, and because of professional services, he was sent to Japan to represent the Government during the late war. Peremptorily recalled from that sphere of duty and interrupted in the writing of his report at Washington by orders to rejoin his company, nothing farther was heard of him until the Romeyn affair occurred. Lately he was absent from his command a week without leave and this made a court-martial so imminent that he chose to go back to private life. He now in-tends to go in the Far East as a war-correspondent, should the troubles there lead to the outbreak of hostilities.

"The completion of the trans-Siberian Railways," says an exchange, "seems likely to be deferred to a much later date than was at one time supposed. From Vladivostock to Khabarovks, a distance of something under 500 miles. the line is open; but the rolling-stock is very poor, and the traffic is worked very slowly. The section from Khabarovka to Stretensk, a distance of 1,340 miles, has not yet been touched. From Stretensk to Lake Baikal the line is open and the trains are transported across Lake Baikal in the summer on two large ferry steamers built by Armstrongs. In Western Siberia there are still two large gaps in the line. There is some doubt now whether the line will be carried through Manchuria after all. The original surveyors reported that as the country at the western end was mostly mplain, the construction there would be very easy; but it is found now that this plain is full of swamps, and is intersect ed by rivers whose beds are very capricious, and a great part of the line will have to be carried on bridges, whose construction will be excessively costly; while at the eastern end there is some very heavy tunnelling. It is considered doubtful now whether the line can be completed in ten years from the present time.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### "JAPANESE PROVERBS AND IDIOMS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have to thank the author of the review in your issue of yesterday for his valuable additions to my "Sprichwörter," and also for the apprecia-tive remarks he has bestowed on the collection. In some cases; it is true, the instances cited in the review were no novelties to me, but had already found their place in the collection, although in a slightly different form, as in the case of hyakuryō no kata ni amigasa ikkai (in my collection as senryō no kata ui kasa ikkai) ; or of inyōshi no mi no ne shi rasu (in my callection as onyōshi mi no ne shirazu; onyōshi being the more usual pronunciation of 陰陽節) ; homuru hito wa kau tameshi nashi (in my collection in the completer form, shinamono mo kometaru hito ni kau tameshi nashi); hito no takanonetaria nito ni nau tamishi nashi; into no takara no kazoeri (in uny collection as foneri no takara no kazoeri (in uny collection as foneri no takara no kazoeri ye-which form is perhaps more in use than the other). In Japanese proverby synonyms likm hito and tonari, or iro and koi are sometimes interchangeable, and it has been my special care to point out the cases where such interchange can take place; that a few such cases should have escaped my attention is perhaps, after all, not so much to be wondered at. As to hilo wa mikake mi yaram mono, which also is cited as missing, it will be found in the collection under 694. But for all that I most willingly acknowledge the fact that the majority of instances was unknown to me, and that by offering them the reviewer has laid

how could this first attempt to bring out a collection of Japanese proverbs and figurative expressions, be reasonably expected in be anything like exhaustive? For it ought to be well borne in mind that the Japanese themselves have nothing of the kind, and that the collection in question represents indeed the very first attempt to give, if not an exhaustive, at least a more or less compre-hensive collection of Japanese proverbs and idious, To have delayed publishing till the collection was quite complete and perfect, would have been very much the same as never to publish it at all. The only merit the collection claims is to have materially facilitated the work of future collectors by clearing the ground. I thought indeed that in the preface of the "Sprichwörter," especially on the preface of the "Sprichworter," especially on p. VII., I had already said all that was necessary to remove any doubt as to the question whether the collection was intended to be exhaustive or not.

Yours sincerely, P. EHMANN. Tokyo, 17th December, 1897.

It is to its observed that the first four proverbs referred to by Professor Ehmann as being in bis collection, have not yet been published by him, the second volume of his book taking as only to "K." We, of course, criticized what has been actually published only. With regard to His to we mixels mi green means, we have to myologine; it escaped our attention. For the rest, we have only to repeat our admiration for Mr. Ehmann's excellent work,—Eb., f.M.]

#### VANDALISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL!

IO THE EDITOR OF THE JAPAN MALE.

SIR,—I write to you concerning an abuse which, it seems to me, cries for redress. This is not anything of a political, or the like kind, but has reference to the ruthless, harbarons, truly inexcusable and even criminal defacement of the scenery of this district of Japan—a string of lakes on the this district of Japan—a string of lakes on the side of Fuji-san just opposits to Hakone, the finest scenery that I have seen in the country after having travelled thousands of miles in the interior; and travened into sators of miles in the intertar; and destined, I believe, in time, to be the great summer resort of the main island of Japan—defacement due to the reckless felling of trees now going on. Defacement which will become destruction, so far as beauty of landscape is concerned, unless a stop be put the denudation of the plains and supplies a destroy in the later. mountain sides before it is too late.
Until the Restoration and nome time after that,

when the inhabitants learned that the old check had been relaxed, the trees were most carefully re-spected, but since then cutting has become more

and more reckless, till now it goes on in a way that would scarcely be believed.

The finest trees—those forming features of the landscape—are cut down without besitation for a few feet of the timber, and the rest is left to rot on the ground. It may scarcely seem credible, but it is a fact that I have known a man in this district to cut down a fine cliestinit tree to save himself the trouble of climbing for the nata, or obtaining them in any other way. When asked what he would in any other way. When saked what he would do for chesnuts next year if all behaved like him, he replied that "he did not know where he would be next year, or if he would be dead or alive." In na case are young trees planted to replace a mature tree cut down, whilst, on the other hand, young trees, growing naturally, are untilessly sacrificed if it is thought convenient. Thus a young himski is cut down for every few bearing poles made, and the manufacture of such poles is one of the industries of the district.

What makes the thing worse than it would otherwise be is that most of this wood is sloten, all but a small part of the forest belonging to the Imperial Household Department.

About two years ago an attempt, in which I took some part, was made to have this state of affairs altered. Some half-a dozen or so of men of the Motosu District were arrested and punished. This put a partial check to the thieving for some little time, but now it is carried on more impudently than ever. Even as I write, looking over Shojitake, I see men cutting down trees in the forest of the Imperial Household Department close by the water's edge, whilst boat load after load load of the wood is carried across the lake to the village having aheady been blocked out for the making o bearing poles, clogs (geta), chopsticks (hashi), &c There is no attempt at concealment, thing is carried on as if it were a legitimate industry.

Now the forest would undoubtedly be none the worse for thinning if the selection of trees were judiciously carried out, and if—as is, I believe, in accordance with the law—four saplings were planted for every mature tree felled, the process might go on indefinitely.

The people absolutely need wood for at least some purposes, and I do not think that the poor should be made to suffer even for the preservation of fine

cut discriminately than in cut recklessly, and that the cost of the saptings would be a mere trifle; another is that people are at present killing the goose that lays the golden eggs, inasmuch as that, if things go on as at present, there will be no tree for the next generation to fell, either at a fearable distance for the hext generation to fell, either at a

feasable distance from the villages or from sites where new villages would be built.

I made a series of photographs of these parts about 4 years ago, generally taking advantage of some of the fine old trees to form loregrounds or

some of the fine old trees to form foregrounds or framing for the magnificent views of Fuji-san that are in be had from so many points in these districts. In the case of many of these it would now his impossible to tell where they were taken from. What I have said applies to all the lake districts, but the greatest sinners are the people of Motoso, where the landscape has been entirely changed during the past four years. The people of Shoji were quite as bad till a few years back, when they greatly reduced the amount of felling by the water's edge, and carried their depredations into the interior of the forest, where the defacement of the scenery is not so patent.

facement of the scenery is not so patent.

What are the proper steps to be taken to put a stop to this most shameful state of affairs I do not know, but surely if the case comes to the knowledge of the public something will be done to preserve to the country one of the most beautiful districts of lake and virgin forest to be found in any part of the world.

I remain, Sir, yours &c., W. K. BURTON. Shoji, Yamanashi-ken, Dec. 16th, 1897.

#### FOOTPATHS AT MIVANOSHITA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MALL."

SiR,-Will you kindly allow me's small space in order to suggest the desirability of taking some steps for opening up some of the less fre-quented footpaths in the neighbourhood of Miya-noshits? The same thing was done at Kanuzawa during the last two mammers with excellent results.

and at very small expense.

Perhaps the finest walk in the neighbourhood of Pethaps the mices was in the neighbourhood of Miyanoshita is from the top of the Otome-toge along the extreme ridge of the hills to the Fukaratoge at the end of the Hakone lake, crossing the Nagao-toge about midway. The traces of a path are still visible here and there, but in many places it is always in lang mans and is almost impassable, owing to long grass and thomy scrub. All that is required in to cut this down to a width of 4 or 5 feet.

Another path which requires very little more

than grass-cutting in from the Otome toge towards the summit of Kintoki zan. In one place a short the summer of the management of the finest vices in the color of the finest vices in the color of the finest vices in Kamiryana affords one of the finest views in

the neighbourhood, but the first half of the ascent from Yu-no-hana-zawa is through the longest and closest grass, and the remainder through the thorniest jungle to be found anywhere in the district.

Other routes might be suggested, such as from the teachouse mi Sengen-yama along the ridge towards Yumoto in the other direction.

Even where there is no "scrub " (expressive word!) long grass can be extremely unpleasant, especially after rain or heavy dew. I have frequently been drenched to the shoulders, where a past moon 3 or a feet wide would have let me pass through dry; and if that sort of thing is disagresable for knickerbockers, how much the worse for petricans! for petticeats!

If Mr. Yamsguchi would kindly indertake to obtain the necessary permission from the land-owners, and to set a few coolies to work, the exowners, and to set a rew cooles to work, the expense would some be defrayed by a subscription which need not exceed tyen per head, and which would, I think, be cheerfully contributed by some of the more active of his pedestrian guests. Perhaps some of his Christmas visitors will start the movement, and I, for one, shall be glad to contribute my share.

Yours tenly,

W. SILVER HALL.

A St. Petersburg correspondent telegraphs:—I understand that the Minister of Marine has ordered eleven vessels belonging to the Black Sea Squadron to be held ready, in a full-equipped state. These ships are the first-class battleships Catherbae II., Ichesmé, Georgi Pobiadonosets (Georgi the Victorious), and Tria Sviattlelia (Three Saints); the torpedo gunboats Captain Sakens, Griden, Karsarky; the training-ships Pruts, Dueste, and Beresan; and the transport Gonete. and that by the tortest was the following the series of th



#### U.S. CONSULAR COURT.

(Before P. J. Goway, Esq., Consul-General and Judge, sitting with Associates.) THURSDAY, Dac. 23RD.

HAY DAYSHS THE AMERICAN TRADING COMPANY In the U.S. Consular Court on Thursday morning, below Mr. J. F. Gowey, Consul-General and Judge, proceedings were resumed in the suit of A. Stanley Hay versus the American Trading Company. for libel, claiming damages to the amount of yen 10,000, which was adjourned from the previous day. Messes, Vacanta and H. J. Davison were the Associates. In the U.S. Consular Court on Thursday morn-

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff and

Mr. Lowder for the defendant company.

On the re-opening of the Court, Mr. Lowder and he had one or two more questions to put to

the plaintiff.
Plaintiff—I saw a pactial statement of accounts made by the American Trading Co. in June last.

Mr. Lowder-A complete account could not be made up by the company until your statement was in, could it?—We should have fixed it up together. Interest was a small amount.

Mr. Lowder-Have not the American Trading Co. entered an action suing you for the amount

such a suit has been started.

Mr. Lowder—Are you ready and willing to pay
the amount to the Trading Co.!—Yes, when they

are ready to pay me.

Mr. Lowder—Did not you see by the statement of account of the defendant company that there

of account of the defendant company that there was nothing due to you?—No; and that's why I wanted it investigated by the Court.

Mr. Litchfield asked that the petition and answer in the suit referred to, by the American Trading Company against plaintiff, be put in.

His Honour said that certified copies of the same might be put in an exhibits.

Kobayashi Beika, called and examined by Mr. Litchfield—I am a Japanese subject. At the fall of this year I made a translation of a Japanese advantagement for Mr. Hay. It is marked 9 and the date of the journal is 22nd August 1807. (With the date of the journal is 22nd August 1897. (Wilthe date of the journal is 22nd August 1897. (Witness then read out the advertisement in Japanese.) The English version is:—"There is a person of the name of A. S. Hay; although he was formerly connected with this company, owing to dishonest conduct, this connection was severed. Although this person advertises himself on the preceding page as an agent of a pump manufacturer, he has no authority or right to do so, and if the said person again or persistently continues this dishonest conduct he will be dealt with in a suitable manner." The heading is, as near as can be translated, "Fraudulent misconcerntation with regard to an agency." At as near as can be translated, "gradulent mare representation with regard to an agency." At the buttom is "Asserican Trading Company, 28 Yokohama, 17 Kobe." The is a literal transcript of the advantisement in the Engineering Fournal

of the advantagement in the Engineering Journal of 22nd August, 1897.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—On page to of the Kogyo Zasshi of 22nd August there is an advertisement purporting to be issued by R. or A. S. Hay. It is an advertisement with reference the Worthington duplex pumps. In the advertisement Mr. Hay is described as being the sole agent in Japan for these pumps, On page 8 of the same exhibit there is an advertisement in which the American Trading Co. are described as the sole agents in Japan of the Worthington Pump

Mr. Lowder then cross-examined witness several of the ideographs contained in the advertisement which contained the libel complained of Desirs means againcy, sho misrepresentation, and so fraudulent or deceitist. In this particular place it is a matter of argument whether the character so does not mean both deceitful and fraudulent. Captain Brinkley is considered to be one of the most able scholars in the Japanese language particularly in colloquial Japanese. I have Capt particularly in colloquial Japauese. I have Capt-Brinkley's new dictionary. It is considered to be an authority, through in a great number of his definitions I disagree with him. Nevertheless he is certainly an authority that I should how to; but from certain notes I have made from his dictionary I should say that it was not entirely written or cevised by himself. (Captain Brinkley's dictionary put in and referred to) The sa in the word sa-bo is the same as the word sa that I have translated as frandulent. The sa here means deceit or deception. Brinkley translates sa-bo as the word sarge is no means deceit or deception. Brinkley translates sarbo as deceptive device, strategy, etc. Turning to the word sarbyo, same page, the sarber is the same as the same as the same as Brinkley gives the meaning of sa as feigued, and the word sarbyo is feigued sickness. I understand fraud to be some deception practised on a third rand to be some deception practised on a third can teacher at the of age 9. I am now 28 years old. Igraduated in 1887 at the Tokyo information of the office and saw information of the consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving that day for Korea. Mr. Stone did not accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving the accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving the accompany meto the Consulate and filed an effidavit, as I was leaving the accompany meto th Digitized by COSIC

the head office in New York, to Mr. Hay, verbally. I did not give him a copy of the letter. The matters contained in the letter were of great importance both to the company and to Mr. Hay. I did not write to him on the subject, but interviewed him. My head office did not tell me whether the Worthington Company were negotiating with Mr. Hay for a renewal of his agency. Shortly previous to March '95 there was a change in the discounts and prices of the Worthington Company. Hearned that from the head office. I communicated the change to Mr. Hay. At the interview of May 6th, Mr. Morse, Mr. Hay and myself were present. We asked Mr. Hay certain questions about the business and whether he had written personal letters asking for, or receiving, commissions. He said so, he had not asked for or received the head office in New York, to Mr. Hay, verbally. sions. He said no, he had not asked for or received commissions and had had no personal correspondence on the subject of the conversation. subject of the conversation with limited to his re-engagement. In the conversation on May 11th the question of discounts was raised. He denied having received any remuneration. I cannot renaving received any remonstration. I cannot re-member when it was Mr. Hay showed me his sav-ings bank book. The \$3,200 commission of the Ingersol Co. was paid over to me by Mr. Hay on May 18th. I asked him for it between the 13th May 18th. I asked him for it between the 13th and the day he paid it. I told him I wanted the money. I think he first said he would get it from the bank at once; he did not object to pay it hefore the end of his agreement. The machinery on which the Ingersol commission was paid went forward through our import department. The usual practice was show on the invoice the dis-counts allowed. No trade discount had been deducted in this invoice.

deducted in this invoice.

Re-examined by Mr. Lowder—I remember receiving a letter dated Feb. 16th from the head office regarding the Ingersol order.

Clarence T. Marshal Martin, examined by Mr. Lowder—I am a British subject and have spens most of my life in Japan. I was eight years in the Local Japanese Court, and eight in the Supreme Court, Tokyo, and have made a study of Japanese. The heading dairs sasho means "false representation of agency." I think "frandulent" would be too strong. The would sasho appears in the Penal Code of Japan. I have myself revised a translation of the Penal Code. Article 214 of the Code contains the word sasho and is there translated false, in connection with name or title. In article 82 sasho appears or title. In article 82 sasho appears against five times in a line and is interpreted in all instances "false". In article 202 it also appears and is translated as "unduly." The word peans and is translated as "titudity." It is word sash is made up of two characters so and sho—to make words, or make up. Witness then quoted from Japanese writers of a hundred years ago and ancient classics on the meaning of the characters sasho, where it is used to describe "pretend" or "feign." It is not possible to translate sasho as fraudutent, it is widening the meaning too much. Sagi is the term for fraud in the Penal Code. Final cannot be expressed without sa and gi in conjunction, in the accepted form in the Courts, conjunction, in the accepted form in the Courts, schools, etc. I should translate the word fusei as improper, incorrect. It would be exaggeration to translate it dishonesty, in this context. The term fusei occurs in the official translation of the Commercial Code of Japan. It is there translated "incorrectly" in Art. 257. In Art. 278 in the Penal Code fuset is translated "illegally" and in Art. 309 "through his own fault;" in Art. 314, "by his own fault;" if I wanted to say dishonest I should say fushinjitss. In expressing strong terms in Inpanese two charwanted to say distinues I should say fusingities. In expressing strong terms in Japanese two characters are generally used. Scichobu would also represent "dishonest," I should never use fusci mexpress "dishonesty," but should was a stronger term. The translation of the advertisement shows me is correct.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder-In the trans Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—In the trans-lation of the terms given I relied on the usual significations given in the dictionaries and also on the ordinary meanings. I consider Hep-burn's dictionary a good book. It is certainly old but is recognised as an anthority. It is founded mostly on Chinese. He translates fushojiki as dishunest. Those are the characters I should use oisnmest. I nose are the characters I should use if I wanted to express dishonest. I do not recall any instance of Japanese adverthing the dismissal afany employé. I never saw Gubbin's dictionary. I recognise him as an authority on the Japanese language. In combination, the character sa generally implies deceit.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned till

Middle School and afterward studied English under Dr. Ebr., Mr. Eastlake and Mr. Summers. In 1888 I passed the examination for entry into the English Law College under the Educational De-1888 I passed the examination for entry into the English Law College under the Educational Department and graduated there three or four years afterwards. I was then appointed, in 1891, a clerk in the Yokohama Court and was promoted to English interpreter and translator in 1802. I have also taught English in schools, and have made a special study of philology. I translate Dajei Sasho as "false representation of agency." If I meant to say fraudulent misrepresentation I should say dairi sagitahe kesho. I was in Court this morning when Mr. Martin gave his avidence and paid particular attention to the meanings he gave for sasho. I think the translation he gave of sasho, as false, in the Articles in the Penal Code, quige proper. I agree with him in his definition of the component parts of sasho. I don't think I could express "fraudulent" conduct without using sagi. I agree with what Mr. Martin said with reference to the classic works he quoted. He gives the ideograph sa as a wasteful lie. In sagi the ideograph sa means deceptive and gi falsehood. The distinction in Japanese between fraud and falsehood is that fraud is falsehood profitable to oneself or furtful to auother, while falsehood need not necessacily be either. I am not prepared to give a quotation from any other classics on the definition, but Di. Legge in the Confucian Ananot necessarily be either. I am not prepared to give a quotation from any other classics on the definition, but Dr. Legge in the Confucian Analects, first volume, translates "owing to the conduct of you being deceitful," the word deceitful is rendered by ss. The word fuses which occurs twice, is very indefinite and it is only from the context that one can gather what is only from the context that one can gather what is the meaning meant. In the context of the advertisement it could not be used as dishonest, except at the writer's own risk. I should translate fraudulent representation as sagi lake dairi kosho.

fraudulent representation as sagi sake dairi kosho. The Japanese equivalent of improper conduct would be fukisoks or fusei. Fusei no okonai as given by Hepburn for improper conduct is right, only we add the kona.

Cross-examined by Mr. Litchfield—The first meaning given in Hepburn's dictionary for fusei is "unjust." The word fusei appears in the Commercial Code, under bankruptcy, in Articles 257 and 1054, but I do not know whether the translation is correct.

Reexamined—After comparing the defendant's English translation of the alleged libel with the original in the Kogyo Sasho witness said—I think it is a correct translation.

it is a correct translation.

C. R. Morse, examined—I am President of the American Trading Co., the defendants in this action. About the end of last year I was in New York, and in consequence of information I obtained instructed Mr. Shaw to write a letter, dated 20th January, to Mr. Stone. I returned to Yokohama in March 1897. I instructed Mr. Stone to ask Mr. Hay whether he intended to continue with us after the expitation of his contract. I had heard in New York that he intended to leave us at the expiration of his contract. I also told Mr. Stone that I had heard Mr. Hay had asked for and received commissions from firms filling our orders. ceived commissions from firms filling our orders. I wanted to know at once if Mr. Hay meant it leave as as in that case we should have to obtain another engineer. Mr. Stone told me that Mr. Hay had stated emphatically that he had neither applied for nor received commissions from firms for which he was agent. I remember the interview which took place on 21th May with Mr. Hay. I asked him whether he had received any commissions, rebate, or salary from any of the firms which had executed our orders, and he replied "not one cent." I told him that I had heard in New York that he had written to the Worthington Co. claiming 5 per cent, commission on all orders from He said he had not made such a demand. I then rie said to had not made such a demand. Then told him I wanted a definite answer as to whether he was wilting to re-engage. He said he wanted time to communicate with his friends. I asked him if he had not already done so and he said he ad, and expected an answer by the next steamer. I sold him there were two or three steamers due and I would give him till the 1st June for his reply, on condition that he would at once write me a letter promising to give me his reply on or before the 1st June. I did not receive any replythe next day, the 1st May, and learned that Mr. Hay had gone to Tokyo. That day I learned that Mr. Hay had Tokyo, That day I learned that DIC cray new received a very large commission on our account, and I instructed Mr. Stone to withdraw the offer and I make the other ways. The Mr. Hay. I told him he had promised to write and had failed to do so. He said he had been very busy and had not thought it very important. I then referred him to our conversation on the 11th regarding commissions and rebates and asked him if what he said then was true. He said, ves. sir. I told him he was a liar, that I knew he had taken over \$3,200 commission on one transaction, and that if he did not make restitution at once we should take 33,200 commission on the transaction, and that it is did not make restitution at once we should take criminal proceedings against him. He asked me what proofs I had of what I said and refused to make any statement miles I produced proofs. At this stage the hearing was adjourned till Thesday, the 28th instant.

#### TURSDAY, DEC. 28TH.

The examination of Mr. Morse by Mr. Lowder was resumed.—In the conversation with Mr. Hay on the 13th May I said to him, "Of course you can have no further connection with us." I was then aware that he had received the \$3,200 commission from the Ingersol Co. I learnt that on the 12th May. I had already suspected that he was taking commissions, and knowing that the agent of the Ingersol Drill Co. was in Yokohama I sent for him and asked him if he could give me any for him and asked him if he could give me any information with regard to the transaction. He fold me if I could show him the invoice he could say if any commission had been paid. After looking at the invoice he said that some one had received 20 per cent, on the invoice, if we had not then Mr. Hay had. The same evening Mr. Hay came to my house, and said he must apologise for calling so fate, but as I was going away on the morrow he wanted to make an explanation. He said he thought Mr. Stone had not treated him right and therefore he had refused to make a statement before him, which he not treated him right and therefore its mad re-fused to make a statement before him, which he was now prepared to make. He said he had been mistaken in the terms of his contract, with regard to the logersol commission. I told him it was too late to discuss the terms that eight but that if he would come to the office the next mouning we would discuss the matter. I asked him if there were any other commissions paid him and he mentioned several instances of commissions paid or due. I told him I was glad he had made the statement to me or otherwise I should have left instatement to me or otherwise I should have left in-structions to prosecute bin criminally. On the next morning I told Mr. Stone that after Mr. Hay had repaid the money due I wished him to be treated as leniently as possible. Helt instructions for Mr. Wolseley to be appointed manager of the engineering department in place of Mr. Hay. I have no recollection of Mr. Hay ever stating that he considered he had a right to retain monies rehe considered he had a right to retain monies re-ceived by him for the company till the end of his agreement. He only said he did not understand his contract. An account had been made out which showed a debit balance at the end of May against Mr. Hay. But there were a number of accounts still insettled. We may recover half; but even if all were, there would be little left to the credit of Mr. Hay. The plaintiff's ad-ceptionment was first houself to my attention by vertisement was first brought to my attention by our Kobe agent, Mr. Sargeant; in consiquence I had the notice complained of as the libel inserted in the same paper. After the plaintiff's advertisement was withdrawn I gave instructions for ours to be withdrawn also.

ment was withdrawn I gave instructions for ours to be withdrawn also.

Cross-examined by Mr., Litchfield—I know we have been fairly good customers of the Worthington Pump Co. We have sold a number of their pumps. The husiness was one of the largest done under Mr. Hay's introduction. I may have asked plaintiff some questions regarding the business of the engineering department between March, when I arrived from America, and the 19th May. I don't remember Mr. Hay saying anything to me about having been ill-treated by Mr. Stone with regard to the Worthington Co., unless it was

with regard to the Worthington Co., unless it was in the conversation of the 13th May.

This closed the evidence for the defence and Mr. Lowder then addressed the Court. The defence, he said, was two fold, first, not guilty, and second, if a libel had been committed, it had been justified. The alleged libel was in the Japanese language and he submitted was an inference only, and capable of different constructions. Course then commented on the personality and evidence of the expect called by the plaintiff on the transla-tion of the alleged libel, whom he characterised as an imposter, and submitted that the aver-ment in the advertisement did not bear out the evidence claimed by the plaintiff. With regard to the heading of the advertisement, which it was admitted had been added at the which it was admitted had been added at the his objection, citing the case of Fisher v. Clement, office of the periodical, but to which it was alleged in England, 1882.

Mr. Morse's attention had been drawn after it had appeared, it was only necessary for him to point out that it was not till after the alleged held that the alleged libel was confined to the libel had appeared—on the 22nd August—that it Japanese ideographs in the Kogyo Zasshi, and the was seen by the defendants. That was after the objection was sustained.

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are injured and decrived. Turning to the word sargi, on page 1152, the sa is the same character as has been referred to. Brinkley gives the equivalent of sagi as a finald, a cheat, deception. It may mean a deceptive falsehood if divided into may mean a deceptive falsehood if divided into its component ideographs. Sagi is the only word to describe fraud, used in the Japanese Courts and law books. I think that my translation of rasho as "fraudulent misrepresentation." Sagi as far as I know is the only ideograph which can be used for the English word fraud, in the Courts and Codes. To translate the words fraudulent conduct into Japanese the only word pequisable would be sagi. I have translated the word fissed of fusion. fusho, which occurs twice in the advertisement as distancest. In Brinkley's dictionary the meaning distincest. In Binkley's dictionary the meaning of fusei is given as impust, improper, bad, wicked. Hephyrn's dictionary is also considered an authority but it is somewhat out of date. Passe or fusion is given in Hephyrn's dictionary, third edition, as impust, incorrect, improper. He does not give the equivalent as dishonest. Simplistive the colloquial form of the ideographistichoku. Sicho, or in colloquial form Sho-juki, in Binkley's dictionary is given as huncet, upryth, intoltenus just. In the allegead libel the desegraph rightenus, just. In the alleged libel the idengraph choku does not appear in connection with set. With regard to the translation of the word set in the alleged libel I do not think the word is improperly translated as dishonest, notwithstanding the absence of the ideograph choku, in view of the fact that the ideographs fu sei, fu, dis, or not, and sei, honest, are generally used to describe distincest. In translating the petition if I made use of the word "improper," it ought to have been "dishouest," because the same characters fuses are used in each instance in the Japanese. If I used the term "improper" it was to avoid tautology. The only way I can translate fuser in this connection is "dis

Mr. Lowder here submitted an alternative translation of the alleged libel to witness, who after reading it continued ;—

The translation of the advertisement produced is practically a correct translation of the advertisement, with the exception that the character 3s in saska in the heading I believe should be "fraudilent" instead of "false," and where the words "improper conduct" appear, I think the words "dishouest conduct" more correct; otherwise I think the translation a correct one.

To the Court.—The heading of the advertisement made no difference in my translation of the body

of the notice.

Re-examined by Mr. Litchfield- The meaning which would be attached by Japanese to the advertisement would be that the plaintiff had done something dishouest in the service of the defendant company. The same idea could I suppose have company. The same idea could I suppose has been conveyed by another style of composition. The Court here adjourned till 2 p.m.

On the Court re-assembling after tiffin, Mr. Litchfield called Mr. Assima of the American Trading Co., with reference to the translation of the advertisement in which the alleged libel was

Mr. Asains not being present in Court a mes-senger was sent for him, and after the Court had been kept waiting for about fifteen minutes the

Asaina Asabide, examined, doposed-I am em ployed by the American Trading Co, as translator, to August this year I translated an adventisement to August the year I translated an advectisement for the company and sent it to the Kogyo Zasshi. I saw it published in the journal, I received my instructions to send it to the journal from the President of the American Trading Co. in writing in English. I gave back the writing to the company after it had been in my possession for some

Mr. Litchfield asked Mr. Lowder to produce

the copy.

Alt. Lowder declined to produce the English copy of the advertisement on the ground that the libel complained of was what appeared in the Japanese ideographs, and not what their intention was, It was on the form that the advertisement assumed after publication that the case was based,

Mr. Litchfield contended that the manuscript called for was material evidence and would show the intention of the defendants in issuing the paragraph in question, and as showing whether the instructions given by defendants were carried out in the notice as it appraised.

Mr. Lowder quoted authorities in support of

his objection, citing the case of Fisher v. Clement,

Witness, continuing-I think I made a correct ranslation of the notice given me for insertion.

translation of the notice given me for insection. Gross-examined by Mr. Lowder-Comparing the advectisment as it appeared in the Koyro Zastki with the dualt of advectisement sent by me I find no change except as to the heading, and at the end there was in the original so to mi instead of so to no as appears in the advectisement. The later is a misprint. The heading in the dualt as it left our office was "notice," or attention,—kinkokus, literally, "Respectfully inform the public."

Researchised—I saw the advectisement on page 9 soon after it was set up. The editor always sent a copy; sometimes a few days or a week after publication. In this case I don't semember how long after the publication I received a copy of the

long after the publication I received a copy of the paper. When I did receive the paper I recognised the difference in the heading. I think I called Mr. Morse's attention to the difference in the heading of the advertisement.

Re-cross-examined-I have not made a mistake. I called Mr. Morse's attention to it through Mr. Woolsey. They were both present together Woolsey, I ney were boin present together. Art. Woolsey, to whom I first spoke, took the paper to Mr. Morse's coom, and I followed.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

Alt. Lowder said—At this stage I have an application to make. I am prepared if necessary to go on with the case and bring better evidence than is now before you to show that my clients were justified in the publication which is alleged to be a libel. It is almost impossible, however, that any evidence I can bring before you will emphasize what has already been given to you by the plaintiff himself. He complains that he has been libelied by that which is set out in the next inch. en libelied by that which is set out in the petition in Japanese ideograph and to which he attaches a particular signification. For the purposes of the application which I am now making to you, of course, the Court will accept the construction in English placed upon the ideographic libet. Ex-cepting that, the question in whether the defend-ants have gone beyond what they were entitled to do under the evidence which has been brought to do under the evidence which has been brought before the Court. I submit that the libel as it stands is fully justified in both forms. The evidence shows either if you adopt the inference of the heading of the libel as being "it audulent representation of agency," that the planning did make a fraudulent representation agency. The evidence shows that if you adopt the translation of "dishonest," as being the equivalent of fassi, that the plaintiff was dishonest, and if that is so I think that it would be a waste of time to occupy the Court with saw est, and if that is so I think that it would be a waste of time to occupy the Court with any further evidence considering that the plaintiff is not entitled to the claim that he perhaps once possessed, but has thrown away, viz., his good name. Mr. Lowder quoted from Folkard's Law of Libel and Slander, what he escribed as the law as to justification, to the effect that the defendant was prima facis justified to law and exempt from all responsibility if that which he outlisted were true, and that it would be which he published were true, and that it would be inconsistent with every sound legal principle to allow the plaintiff to recover damages for any injury to that which he either did not or could not possess. Mr. Lowder said the law was very clearly and concisely stated there and submitted to the Conet that so far as the evidence had gone the plaintiff was convicted out of his own mouth and he ask the Court to dismiss the suit without farther evidence being called.

Detrog called.

The Coart decided to continue the case and Mr. Lowder then called, W. S. Stone, who deposed—I was formerly in the employment of the American Trading Co. and was so up to the time the agreement with the plaintiff was severed. I had the making of the agreements between the American Trading Co. and the plaintiff in July, 1894, and 1895. On May 9th, 1897, I addressed a letter to the plaintiff with regard to a renewal of his agreement (rxhibit I produced and shown to witness.) I recognise this letter as the one I sent to plaintiff on May 9th, 1897. I asked in the letter for a definite reply. No reply came. On May 10th I don't think plaintiff was in Yokohama. I did not see him. On the 11th or about that date is aw him, in company with Mr. Morse. Assuming that to be the date of the conversation between plaintiff, Mr. Morse and myself, the conversation was in connection with his relations with the people ha represented in America. The Court decided to continue the case and we satisf was to connection with his relations with the people he tepresented in America. The questions put to him were as to whether he had demanded commissions or rebates from these firms and his answer was that he had not demanded not received any such commissions or rebates. Prior to that I had myself put a similar question to him. I think it was about the middle of March. Some time after that conservation I came down to the Convention of the conservation. versation I came down to the Consulate-general and made an affidavit with reference to it. The affidavit was that produced. The conversation I Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

believe took place on the day of the arrival of Mr. Morse from the United States. Prior to that I had received the letter produced dated 29th June, 1897, from the American Trading Co., New York. The conversation on the 11th March was based upon the contents of that letter and what I heard upon the contents of that letter and what I heard from Mr. Morse. I asked Mr. Hay if he was carrying on any correspondence direct with the American suppliers, or if any commissions had been asked for or given to him. He replied that he had neither asked for nor received any commissions, and that nothing but correspondence with his personal friends was carried on. I made the affidavit on the 13th May because Mr. Morse was going to Korea and I might be going home, and I wanted to record the gist of my conversation with Mr. Hay on the 12th March. On or about the 11th May, Mr. Morse, Mr. Hay and myself met in the office. Mr. Morse asked Mr. Hay self met in the office. Mr. Morse asked Mr. Hay if he had asked for or received commissions from the suppliers of goods ordered by our company. He also asked plaintiff if he had carried on any direct correspondence in the matter; and to these questions Mr. Hay answered no. The next these questions Mr. Hay answered no. The next conversation was on the afternoon of the 13th when Mr. Hay returned from Tokyo. Mr. Morse, Mr. Hay and myself were present. I asked Mr. Hay III wait and see Mr. Morse. The conversation was taken up first by Mr. Morse. He taxed Mr. Hay with having received commissions. Mr. Hay said "I decline to answer any such questions unless you bring penof." I remember Mr. Morse asking Mr. Hay if he had told him the truth on the 11th Mr. Hay replied that he had told him the

Adjourned till 10 a.m. on Friday.

#### FRIDAY, DEC. 24TH.

Upon the hearing being resumed the examina-tion of the winess, Mr. W. S. Stone, by Mr. Lowder, was continued—

Lowder, was continued—
On the 13th of May I sent the letter produced to the plaintiff, cancelling the renewal of the agreement previously proposed. The letter was written before the conversation between the plaintiff, Mr. Morse and myself. On the morning of May 14th there was another conversation between Mr. Hay and myself in which the plaintiff admitted having received commissions. Plaintiff said if this matter received commissions. Faintiff said it this matter was pushed it would not only injure him but make his people at home heart-broken. He did not say then that he had a right to retain the commissions and would account for them at the end of his agreement. On that morning, the 14th May, plaintiff ment. On that morning, the 14th May, plaintiff was removed from his position of manager of the engineering department, and Mr. Wolsey was appointed to the same. Plaintiff was allowed to remain estensibly in the employ of the company from that date till the 30th June, in the interest of human charity. He was not paid his 200 yes for the morth of June, I think, and so far as I know, never asked for II. A copy of the letter dated 15th October, 1895, from the New York office of the American Trading Co. was given to plaintiff. On Dec. 6, 1895, I dictated a letter to the New York Office of the American Trading Co. with reference to the transfer of the agency of the Worthington Pump Co. (copy produced). It was not communicated to Mr. Hay, This letter of the 6th Dec. was to the effect that I had mislaid their contract and regretted it. Another letter, received from the New York ted it. Another letter, received from the New York Office, dated Dec. 14th, was communicated to Mr Hay, asw as also another dated January 3, 1896, from the New York Office. On February 12th, 1896, I wrote to the New York office of the Amerirago, I work in the New York office of the American Trading Co., accepting the agency of the Worthington Co.; this was communicated to Mr. Hay, with whom it was also discussed.

Cross-examined by Mr. Litchfield—When Mr. Hay joined the firm in 1894, he told me that he held agencies from various manufacturers in America.

rica. It was the only inducement offered to us. There was a fairly profitable business done. At the end of the 1894 agreement there was an account residered to Mr. Hay and the halance due to him was paid;—741 yen. The engineering business of the company was almost entirely conducted by the plaintiff. We worked in harmany, Mr. Hay and myself, till the change of agency of the Worthington Co., but I don't think our relations could be called cordial. As a rule I communicated the contents of the letters from the head office con-

commission of the alleged libel, and defendants were not charged with continuing the publication of the libel after the first day of its appearance. After quoting at considerable langth numerous authorities on the interpretation of the words frandulent, fraud, and ingendo, counsel submitted that he had proved that defendants were not guilt-ty of libel, the innendoes in the advertisement ty of fibel, the innendoes in the advertisement not amounting to the construction put upon them by the plaintiffs. With reference to the second defence—that of justification—counsel reviewed the evidence of Mr. Stone and Mr. Morse with regard to the plaintiff having received certain commissions which he definitely denied receipt of, and also of his having written to his brother in Philadelphia with regard to the same. That was the justification for the clause in the advertisement with reference to the connection between defendants and plaintiff having been severed. Connect then cited Campbell on been severed. Counsel then cited Campbell on Agencies, and various decisions with regard to the difference between an agent and a factor, the former of which designations applied to plaintiff's position, and as such he was under the obligation to pay in all movies received on behalf of the Company by which he was employed.

At this stage an adjournment was made till

On the Court reassembling after the tiffin Mr Lowder resumed his address to the Court, and pointed out that assuming that the plaintiff's assumption that he was a partner in the defendant company was correct; he had not, as he himself had admitted he was bound to do, turned over the to the company, excessing himself of the company, to the company, excessing himself on the ground that he had a right to retain such monies until the end of his agreement. It was necessary to take into consideration that it was not until be found into consideration that it was not until he found it was discovered him he was in possession of the monies referred in that he admitted receipt of them. The concealment commenced with the receipt of \$100 from the Philadelphia Engineering Co. in May 1896. It was the duty, according to plaintiff, of the defendants to give him a statement of account at the end of June, as they did do, but it was impossible for them to make a full statement until they had received the account from him of what he they had received the account from him of what he had received. The continued concealment of these receipts, including that of the \$3,200 in January, tecepts, including that of the \$3,300 th January, 1897, from the logersul Company, amounted to an act of dishonesty. Counsel then reviewed the evidence and read several of the letters received from the manufacturers in America who had carried out the orders of the defendant company, from which he submitted that it was shown that decep-tion had been practised by plaintiff from first till last untille had been found out, and confession made to Mr. Morse on the night of the 13th May, and which he submitted that it was shown that to Mr. Morse on the high of the 13th May, and repeated on the morning of the 14th. With regard to the complaint made by plaintiff with reference to his treatment by the defendant company in connection with the Worthington Company's submitted that the evidence produced counsel submitted that the complaint altogether fell to the ground, and consequently his argument regarding his reasons for making special terms regarding its reasons for making special terms with the Ingersol Company as regards the payment of commission, was altogether groundless. With regard to plaintiff's advertisement in the Kogyo Zasthi, calling himself sole agent of the Worthington Pump Co., it was proved that at the voortington Prints Co., it was proved that at the time the notice was inserted until it was will drawn, plaintiff was well aware he was no lunger agent of the Company mentioned. It was from May or June 1896 that commissions were received by and retained by the plaintiff, and that conceal-ment commenced. In conclusion counsel submited that on the grounds stated by him, the petition be dismissed.

be dismissed.

Mr. Litchfield, in addressing the Court for the plaintiff, commented on the interpretation put upon the Japanese advertisement complained of and on the law of agency. With regard to the translation of the alleged libel, he submitted that the words used conveyed to those to whom it was addressed an impression of dishonesty. He argued that the word fitsei used, even if in certain instances translated as unions. myself, till the change of agency of the Worthington Co., but I don't think our relations could be called cordial. As a rule I communicated the contents of the letters from the head office concerning engineering matters to Mr. Hay: generally, be got a press copy, sometimes I only communicated the extracts to him. The letter of 19th Ang., 1896, was written by me to Mr. Hay. Mr. Hay was at when the prima facts meaning of a statement that time carrying on personal correspondence was an impulsion of improper conduct it was written to induce him to avoid giving promises and particulars to these firms so that the suppliers of the paragraph applied to plaintiff's relations about do to be led to suppose that the orders must necessarily be placed with them. I communicated of the defence was its claim for justification the gist of the letter dated 29th January, 1897, from

very small one. In the arrangement with plaintiff very small one. In the arrangement with planting in 1894 the defendants agreed to pay him \$100 a mouth and a further 15 per cent, on all business done; all commissions and rebates received by plaintiff to be paid in as part of the general profits. In the later agreement the last words were omitted, but plaintiff still held that he was bound to account for any such commissions received, while his share in the profits was raised to account. Our like agreement count lated that bound to account for any such commissions received, while his share in the profits was raised to 30 per cent. On this agreement connsel held that plaintiff was a quasi partner, sharing the profits and a portion of the losses. He submitted that plaintiff was acting as agent for the companies in America who were doing business with the defendant firm, and that plaintiff had no obligation to make any account to them till the end of the term of agreement, in his statement of account. Under these circumstantances there was no question of concealment on plaintiff's part, in spite of the statements about the changing of his bank account. Counsel then commented on the loss that would be suffered by the plaintiff by the transfer of the agency of the Worthington Company should he sever his connection with the defendant firm, and also on the reasonableness of plaintiff's belief that until receipt of the final letter he was regarded in a certain way as an agent by the Worthington Company, and also that after the defendants had absorbed one of his agencies, plaintiff was justified in imagining that they would do so with others. Plaintiff had sought a full enquiry in Court and had not attempted to hide anything. After a further review of the evidence connected with plaintiff's fast intertempted to hide anything. After a further review of the evidence connected with plaintiff's fasti nterview with Mt. Morse, and what followed, counsel closed his address, submitting that the libel had bean proved.

His Honour said there was a volume of correspondence to go through and it might take some time to write out the Court's decision, so adjourn-ment would therefore be made till 3 p.m. on Wednesday, for judgment. The Court then rose.

#### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29TH. JUDGMENT.

His Honour delivered the following judgment: In this case, the plaintiff, A. Stanley Hay, claims damages of the American Trading Company, defendants, by reason of the publication by de-fendants of a certain advertisement in a periodical known as the Kogyo Zatshi, or Engineering Jour-

known as the Kogyo Zassa, or Engineering Johnnal, printed in Japanese ideographs and published
at Tokyo: which advertisement it is alleged, defamed plaintiff's character and is libellous.

The defendant company in their answer plead
mot guilty; admit the publication of the advertisement complained of, save the heading, which they
aver was inserted at the office of the said journal; deny malice, and set up justification.

" Libel has been well defined to be a malicious publication, expressed either in printing or writ-ing, or by sign or pictures, tending either to in-jure the memory of one dead, or the reputation of one alive, and expose him to public hatred, con-tempt, or ridicule,"

From the evidence it appears that the plaintiff, a young man, was a mechanical engineer representing a number of manufacturers of machinery in Japan. Not having means to carry on his business, he entered into certain agreements with the defendant Company in order, as plaintiff put it, "to have them finance his business for him."

"to have them finance his husiness for him."

The first of these agreements was for the period of one year, beginning July 1st 1894, by the terms of which plaintiff was to devote himself to general engineering business for said-defendant Company, to be paid 100 yes per mouth and a further sum equal to 15 per cent. of any profits or commission which might be earned by business done directly or indirectly through plaintiff, who, on his part, agreed to put in any commission which he might receive from the manufacturing concern represented by him, the same to ing concern represented by him, the same in go in as part of the general profit. A second agreement was entered into by the same parties agreement was entered into by the same parties in July, 1805, for a further period of two years, that is until June 30th, 1807, by the terms of which the plaintiff was to have charge as Manager of the American and English Engineering Department of the delendant Company, and as compensation was to receive 30 per cent, of the net profit realized from business done in this department; the sum of 200 yen per month to be advanced to him as his share of prospective profits, and in the event that such profits did not equal that amount no claim was to be made against plaintiff, amount no claim was to be made against plaintiff, the same being understood to he his guaranteed share of the profits. Business was to be done in the name of plaintiff as Manager of the Engineering Department of the American Trading Company, all correspondence relating to the business



to pass through the bands of defendant Company's

It was also understood that plaintiff had no an It was also inderstood that plaintly had no an-thority to draw cheques upon the banking account of the defendant Company, nor to pledge its credit, and that the counter-signature of defendants was necessary to the validity of all orders placed by

necessary to the validity of all orders placed by him.

It is also shown that among others, plaintiff was the agent for Japan, of the Worthington Pumping and Engine Company, and the Ingersoll Sargent Drill Co, and that by the terms of plaintiff's contract with the Worthington Co, the same could be terminated at any time after 30 days notice given of such intention. That on January 3rd, 1896, plaintiff was notified by said Worthington Company that they had withdrawn their agency from him, to take effect February 3rd, 1896, and had appointed the American Trading Company their sole agents for Japan.

It further appears that on or about January 8th 1897, plaintiff caused to be published in Japanese ideographs in said Kogyo Zasshi, or "Engineering Journal," an advertisement of said Worthington Pumping and Engine Company, in which he represented himself to bethe sole agent of said Company for Japan, which notice was published in each

for Japan, which notice was published in each issue of said journal up to and including the month of September 1897, plaintiff not informing the defendant Company of said publication. That in the issue of said periodical for August 22nd last an advertisement was inserted by the American Trad-ing Co. in which said Company stated that they were sole agents of the Worthington Pumping Co. for Japan, and in the same issue of said journal (Aug. 22, 1897) there also appeared an advertise-ment inserted by the defendants which constituted the libel complained of. The plaintiff's said advertisement and the alleged libellous advertise-ment were farther published in the issues of said ournal for the month of September, 1897, were then taken out and have not since appeared.

Turning now to the advertisement the publica-tion of which is alleged to be a libel we find some difference of opinion among the witnesses as to the exact meaning of cortain Japanese ideographs. The plaintiff furnished the translation given in the petition, and the defendant Company submit another rendering. Upon this point we think it is

ther rendering. Upon this point we think it is clearly shown:

1. Ist. That the original of said advertisement was furnished the publisher of the Rogyo Zasshi in Japanese without the beading thereto, which was turnished in the office of said journal.

2nd. That the ideograph in said heading translated "fraudulent" and those translated "dishonest" in the complaint, have been given a larger and stronger meaning than is justified by the use either of Japanese scholars or colliquially, and that as used in this advertisement they should be translated "false" and "improper" or "not right."

3rd. That a Japanese on reading the advertisement would receive the impression that the person therein referred to had been (a) falsely represent-

therein referred to had been (a) falsely represent-ing himself as agent and (b) doing things that were improper, not right.

Coming now to another branch of this cause, it appears that under date of January 9th, 1897, plaintiff wrote the Ingersull-Sargeant Dill Co. that he should soon send them an order for machinery and asking them to credit him with the muchinery and asking them to credit him with the commission, and that under date of January 18, 1897, he sent them an order for machinery amounting to \$8,027,30 gold, accompanying this order with a personal letter in which the referred to his communication of January 9, again requested them to credit him with the commission and keep the correspondence confidential. In accordance therewith the said Company did on March 30, 1897, remit direct to plaintiff the sum of \$3,231.68 June nees currency. 88 and for a commission of 20 perses currency. nese currency, as and for a commission of 20 per cent, on said order, which money on Alay 7, 1897 plaintiff deposited to his own credit in the Alusan Bank in order to obtain interest thereon.

It is further shown that from and after either the latter part of June or first of July, 1896, up to May 13th, 1897, plaintiff received from sundry manufacturing companies certain sums of money, as commissions, discounts or rebates, morders placed by him through the defendant Company of which he retained possession, and the re-ceipt of which he did not communicate to the Ametican Trading Co. until the night of May 13th last. Further that no May 18th, 1897, after demand made, plaintiff paid over to detendant Company the sum of \$3.231.68 Japanese currency as and the sum of \$3.231.00 japanese currency as and for the commission so received by him from said logersof-Sargent Company, and on July 6 thereafter, rendered a statement of account to defendant Company of certain mories received by him from sundry manufacturing companies as commissions, telestes or discounts on business done roubles, have be by him through defendant Company. As in these St. Petersburg.

matters the plaintiff contends that the agency of the Worthington Pumping and Engine Cumpany was taken from him through misrepresentations made by the defendant Company and that he was in correspondence with the Worthington Company up to some time in August last with a view to making business arrangements with them, and that making distinces are algements with them, and that the tenor of this correspondence warranted him in advertising himself as their sole agent for Japan. As to this we have to say that, after a careful examination, we can find nothing in the correspondence submitted in evidence, either in the letters of the Worthington Co. to the plaintiff or to the defendant Company, which sus-tains plaintiff's contention; on the contrary said correspondence shows that the Worthington Pumping Co. offered their agency to the defen-dant under date of Oct. 15, 1895, and again under date of January 3, 1896, giving purely business reasons for the change, and that these facts were communicated to plantiff by defen-dant Company. As to the matter of ugency, there is nothing in said correspondence authorising plaintiff to act or advertise himself as the sole agent, or agent for Japan for said Promping Com-pany, and it appears that when the Worthington Co. were advised that plaintiff was so advertising times! they notified him under date of Aug. 25, 1897, that they could not permit the same, and that he must within an their name from his printed. plaintiff or to the defendant Company, which sus 1897, that they could not permit the same, and that he must withdraw their name from his printed

Plaintiff further contends that his interest in contingent profits made him a partner in the business to that extent, and thus warranted him in withholding and retaining in his own possession money, that came into his hands by reason of business done by and through the defendant Company. We can find nothing in the contracts or contract of the parties to support this claim, but assuming plaintiff's contention to be true, that he was not required to account for and turn over moneys thus coming late his hand notif the explication of the year, his action in concealing his receipt of such moneys, and in denying the same when charged with it by the defendant Com-pany was not compatible with the fiduciary relation to seeks to establish prelations as to which the law is zealous in requiring perfect good faith and openness of conduct.
We therefore find that defendant was justified

in printing and publishing the advertisement in the Kogyo Zosshi, upon which the plaintiff's charge

of the and claim for damages is founded. Judgment is rendered in favour of the defendant, with costs of the proceedings to the plaintiff.

JOHN F. GOWSY, Consul General, Acting judicially. We concur.

R. M. VARNUM HENRY J. DAY SON Associates.

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES") SPAIN AND CUBA.

London, Dec. 22. Colonel Ruez, aide-de-camp to Marshal Blanco, the new Captain-General of Cuba, who was sent to negotiate peace with the insurgents, on reaching their camp was shot, after the travesty of a court-martial. THE RUSSIANS AT PORT ARTHUR.

The German Foreign Office professes no surprise at the occupation by Russian war-ships of Port Arthur, and regards the action of Russia as not aggressive in significance or as clashing with German

CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES. London, Dec. 23.

It is understood that the Washington Government has been sounded as to its views in regard to Chinese affairs, and has replied that it is not interested in the territorial question, the protection of established American interests being its sole

London, December 25. Colonel Bryan has been appointed American Minister to China.

THE NEW RUSSO-KOREAN BANK.

The statutes of the new Russo-Korean Bank, with a capital of half-a-million roubles, have been officially published in

The Russian Press, referring to this matter, dilates upon the immense importance of the bank in developing Russian interests and strengthening the influence of Russia in Korea.

#### FRANCE AND CHINA.

France is sending out a cruiser to reinforce its Asiatic Squadron, but will remain impassive unless there be some foreign aggression in South China.

RUSSIAN ACTIVITY IN CHINA.

London, Dec. 24.

Russia demands the dismissal of the English engineers at present employed on Chinese railways. She also demands that German military instructors in China be

replaced by Russian officers.

The Times' Pekin despatch reports that the Chinese Government will reconstruct the forts at Port Arthur under Russian supervision and with Russian money; which points to the permanent occupation of the port by Russia.

CASUALITIES OF THE AFRIDI EX-PEDITION.

The total casualities of the Afridi-Expedition up to the present have been 433 killed and 1,324 wounded, including 34 British officers killed and 81 wounded. THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

FRENCH WARSHIPS SAIL.

London, Dec. 25.
The French cruisers Feane d'Arc and Pascal have sailed for the Far East.

THE FIGHTING ON THE INDIAN FRONTIER.

BRITISH TROOPS RE-OCCUPY ALI MUSIID. The Peshawar column has entered the

Khyber Pass and re-occupied the fort of Ali Musjid unopposed.

ADVANCE OF THE DERVISHES. The dervishes are advancing from Shendi and Metemmeh against the Egyptian troops. Their object line is believed to be Berber.

ITALIANS EVACUATE KASSALA.

London, Dec. 27.

Kassalahas been handed over to Colonel Parsons. The Italians have started for Keren.

ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

Various rumours are current here with regard to a rapprochement between Great Britain and Japan in view of recent events.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND QUEEN VICTORIA.

It has transpired that on his recent visit to the Queen at Osborne on his way to the Far East, in command of the German-China Squadron, Prince Henry of Prussia handed Her Majesty a long letter from the Emperor William.

EMPEROR WILLIAM AND THE TSAR.

A good deal of significance is attached here to the speech of the Emperor William at the frontier fortress of Graudenz, in which he alluded to the Tsar as his dear friend, whose political views were the same as his own.

CHICAGO COLLISEUM BURNT DOWN.

A disastrous fire has occurred at the Colliseum, Chicago. The building was destroyed. Nine persons lost their lives, and fifty sustained more or less serious injuries.

FATAL FIRE IN EAST LONDON. A woman, together with her nine child-

ren, has been burned to death in a fire at Bethnal Green, in the East End of Loudon.



#### MOVEMENTS OF THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

London, Dec. 20.

At the Admiralty it is believed that the British Squadron is in the vicinity of Port Hamilton, but the statement that it was at Chemulpo is officially discredited.

#### RUSSIA AND KOREA.

The last American mail conveys the text of the Russo-Korean agreement whereby M. Alexieff replaces Mr. Mc-Leavy Brown as Financial Adviser to Korea, Russia securing the financial control over the country for an indefinite period.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Later. M. Pichon, French Minister at Rio de Janeiro, has been transferred to Peking. THE PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

A serious recrudescence of the plague is reported from Bombay.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD. Lord Charles Beresford has been selected as the Unionist candidate for York in place of the late Sir F. Lockwood.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF CRETE. Russia has proposed Prince George of Greece as Governor of Crete.

#### CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Unexa Bullus

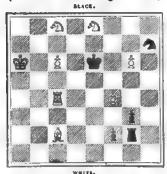
The Yakohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF	PROBLEM No. 350.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1-Q to R 7 2-R to K 2, ch	1—B takes Q 2—K to Q 6
	2—K to Q 6
3—Kt to B 4, male	
	if 2-K to U 4
3-B to K 6, mate	
*	rB takes Kt
2-Q takes P, ch	2-K to B 4
3-P to Kt 4, male	
	1-Kt takes E
2-Q to K 7, mate	
•	if 2-K to B 4
3-Q to K 6, mate	
	if 2 K to Q 6
3-Ki to Ki 4, male	
	If 2—B to K 4
3-Q takes P, mate	
Correct solutions	eceived from P.E.F.S

PROBLEM No. 352. By G. J. SLATER. (From Nuova Revista degli Scatchi.)

J W.E., and D.D.



then just finished. We temarked at the fine that Black had resigned on the 22nd move, but we would have been more correct if we had said that Black lost the game on the 22nd move "by default." No reply to "Nemo's" last move having come to hand after 3 weeks' patient waiting, we concluded that Mr. Fardel had given up and there fore decided the game in Nemo's favour. Last week, however, the missing move came to hand having travelled all over Vokohama, back to Kumamoto and finally, re-addressed, to the Japan Mail office. Mr. Fardel now complains of the injustice done to him and requests as to have the game continued. We regret being meable to comply with Mr. Fardel's request. If the letter had miscarried through the fault of the Post Office we should indeed be placed in an awkward position. As it is, the mishap occurred owing to faulty tion. As it is, the mishap occurred owing to faulty addressing, for which Mr. Fardel alone must be held responsible. We therefore abide by our

#### A PRETTY POSITION.

The following shows, says the Chess Ptager's Chronicis, a most marvellous example of the unlimited power of combination at the disposal of a player in certain cases. Here we have an open position, not humpered or protected by me mass of pawns. The White King, with one solitary piece at his disposal, is in the middle of the board, surrounded by the Black Queen, Rooks and pieces. More than that, White has no check at his disposal whereby he can force his powerful adversary to a mating position. It is only a simple, yet beautiful combination which enables White to win, eg.:—



1-B to B 4 2-B to Kt 5

1-P takes P 2-Any move

#### SINGAPORE.

A consultation Tournament has commenced at the Singapore Cliess Club. As the games occupy a longer time than usual, two late club evenings have been arranged during the course of the tournament, on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

#### \* A GREEK GIFT.

The old saying, "I fear the Greeks even bearing gifts," in finely illustrated in the following game. White gives the odds of K Kt.

_	
White-McDonnel.	Black-Mr,
t-P to K 4	I-P to K 4
2-B to B 4	2-Kt to K B 3
3-P . Q 4_	3—Kt takes P
4-Pinkes P	4-Kt takes K B P
5—Castles	5-Kt takes Q
6-B takes K B P, ch	6—K to K 2
7-B to Kt 5, mate	

Moral-Look several times before you accept Queens .- Literary Digest ..

#### GAMB No. 351.

The six game match between Walbrodt and Janowski having resulted in a draw, the contest-It is six game match between with root and Janowski having resulted in a draw, the contest and sagned to play three additional games to decide the affair. Of these games Janowski won two, and so Walbrodt withdrew, declining to play the remaining game as the result would not be affected thereby. The fifth game, which we give below, is the best of the series. The opining was of the usual character; Black committed the error of judgment of playing his heights we imagine our Chess readers will not find fault when they hear that Mr. Cleland was the one-time class champion of New Zealand and the inventor of "The Ladder," now in use at the Yokuhama Chess Club.

"Japan Mail." Correspondence Tourner.

"Japan Mail." Correspondence Tourner.

On the 1th inst. we declared this event closed, and published the last game, Nemo v. Fardel.

ing up the pawn was that he imagined he would be able to get up a counter-attack, and get the pawn back; but White instituted a second attack pawn back; but White instituted a second affack of a more powerful nature, beginning with 30-R to Kt 6, and continued in very clever fashion with 34-R to Q 4, 35-R to Q 8, &c. Janowski's move of 38-R to Kt 5 forms a very pretty conclusion to this successful manageure. He threatened mate by B to Kt 6 ch, the rook, therefore, could not be taken; after a few more moves Black's game became utterly hopeless.

PIFTH GARE OF THE SERIES. White,--Janowski, Black.-Walbrodt. White,---Ji white,---Ji P Q4 2 P QB4 3 QK: B3 4 B K15 5 P K3 6 K: B3 2 BxP Black.—WHITE. 23 Kt B5 24 P QR3 25 Kt Kt 26 P KR4 27 P B5 28 R B4 P Q4 P K3 BLACK. R Q7 K: Q6 RxK: 7 P B5 R (K-q) Q-q
28 R B4 R Q8 ch
29 K R2 R QK-q
30 R Kt6 R Q-q
31 P QKt4 R R8 ch
32 K Kt3 R Kt7
33 P K4 P P
34 R Q4
35 P KKi B3 Castles PxP 7 BxP P B<sub>4</sub> PxP g KixP 10 BxB 11 R B sq KKt Qa OrB Kr K4 OKI B3 KixKt R Osq B O2 B R sq 12 B K13 13 KtxKt 14 Kt K4 17 R KB3 18 R R3 19 R K13 20 Q K5 21 QxKP 22 BxQ Kt Kt5 P KR3 K R sq P B3 QxQ B B3 43 R Ry ch Resigns.

#### Notes.

A return telegraph match between Hougkong and Suigapore is planned at an early date.

Showalter will play a match with Pillsbury after

Commenting upon the late tournament at Beilin, a correspondent writes:—" The result was a surprise, as tournaments generally are, new men coming mexpectedly to the front, Charousek in this case looming up and taking first prize, with a record that must needs make Lasker tremble for his honours as champion of the world. Lasker has thus far risen head and shoulders above all competitor, although he has no more worlds to competitor, and has determined to abandon the chess field, devoting his future to mathematics, having a professor's clair within his teach. I do not think he will be permitted to retire from the chess areas. without preeting Charonesk in contest for the clampionship of the world or allowing it to go by default. Pillshury apparently has not proved up to the high expectations formed of him after his phenomenal success at Hastings, especially since his match with Showalter. Showalter's good showing was a surprise to every one. Pillsbury will have to do something starting to hold his own, but he is yet young. Steinitz flits around the warious chess rooms, playing simultaneous and blindfold matches. I saw him play two simultaneous games blindfolded at the Metropolitan Club against the whole club. He wan both games.

Dr. Courad Beyer, Austrian problemist, and the Dutch player, Lennep, died recently.

Another player, says the Kobe Herald, who has passed over to the silent majority is M. Clauda Louis Eugene Februet, who succumbed to an attack of paralysis on the 13th Oct., at the age of 72. M. Februet during the monthles of 1870 was a captain of the Paris National Guard. He settled in tain of the Paris National Guard. He settled in London soon after the war, and became a regular frequence of Simpson's Divan, where his vivacious play and remarkable skill as a problem solver made him popular, notwithstanding that he never aucceeded in mastering the English language. The Morning Post says many amateurs who owe their skill in a great measure to practice with M. Febret and the many friends that he made among all ranks of chess-players will hear of his sudden decease with deep regret. The lively game that he cultivated did not lik him for match play, and he took part in but few competitions, the most important is which he figured having been the Vizayanagram Tournament of 1883.

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 26th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, 16th Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Seelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 25th Dec.,—San Francisco, 7th Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Benveaue, British steamer, 1,468, Sarchet, 25th Dec.,—London via ports, and Kube 23rd Dec., General.—Cornes & Co.

Fass-Sang, British steamer, 1,410, Moncar, 25th Dec.,—Hongkong, 17th Dec., Rice and Sugar.

—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Resison, British steamer, 2,529, E. Warnell.

Dec.,—Livernool.

— Jarone Matteson & Co.

Reisow, British steamer, 2,529, E. Warrall, 26th
Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 25th Dec.,
General.—W.M. Strachan & Co.

Andania, British steamer, 1,827, Mills, 26th Dec.,
—Bangkok via Hongkong and Nagasaki, 21st
Nov., Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Muncather Carth. British ship., 1012 William

Nov., Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Ca. Muncaster Castle, British ship, 1,912, William Griffith, 25th Dec.,—Middlesbro' 17th Aug., Cake and Pig Iron.—W.M. Strachan & Co. Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 26th December,—Shanghai via ports, 18th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Raibte

Kaisha.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, Dobton, 27th
December,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe,
25th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

& Co. Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Torque, 27th Dec.,—Hougkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 16th Dec., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.S. Co.

Patrarch, German steamer, 1,252, Schall, 27th Dec.,—Hoilo, 13th Dec., Sugar.—M. Raspe

Vigilant, American ship, 1,675, F. C. Bailey, 27th Dec.,—Put back to port, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Evers & Co.

Onstess. British steamer, 1,846, Pullford, 29th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 28th Dec., General.—Butterfield and Swite.

Norman Isles, Norwegian steamer, 2,180, Hausen, 29th Dec.,—New York Suez Canal, and Singaporr, 13th Dec., Kerosene Oil,—Standard Oil Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Hahata Mars. Japanese steamer, 3,692, R. Nivisan, 24th Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohensoliarn, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 25th Dec.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.,

Vigilant, American ship, 1,675, F. C. Bailey, 25th Dec., New York via Kobe, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Evers & Co.

Saghalism, Fiench steamer, 2,054, Seller, 26th
Dec.,—Marseilles via ports, Maits and General.

—M. M. S.S. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 26th
Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.

—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanase steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei,
28th December,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ohmpia, British steamer, 1,691, Dobson, 28th
Dec.,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Dodwell,
Carlill & Co.

Carlill & Co.

Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, F. Brown, 28th Dec., Shanghai, Ballast.—Nippon Yasen

Kaisha.
Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,622, F. Birmann,
29th Dec.,—Havre and Hamburg via ports,
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Vigilant, American ship, 1,675, Bailey, 29th Dec.,
—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon Evers

At Co. 178, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 29th December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M.S.S. Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Empress of China, from Vancouver B.C.:—Mr. E. L. Thorne, Mr. J. A. D. McBain, Rev. A. and Mrs. Lea, Mr. S. Fujimura, Mr. T. Sassa, Colonel H. P. Haskell, Dr. H. de H. Carreron, Mr. J. Sakurai, Miss Takase, Mr. T. Furuya, Mr. J. Harris, Mr. Thos. Walsh, Mr. C. T. Oldhan, Mrs. Awaya, Mr. J. Nishikawa, Mr. E. W. Griffith, Mr. Z. Horokishi, Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. S. Kushibiki, and Mr. H. Bulman, in cabin; 6 second class, and 23 in steerage. In Transit, for Kobe:—Mr. R. H. Smart, and Mr. R. Howie, in cabin, and 9 in steerage. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. Sturman and child, Mr. J. G. Bulland, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ewan, Mrs.

Stoff, and Miss Stayner, in cabin. For Honkong: -Miss T. Miller, Mr. D. W., Craddock, a kong:—Miss T. Miller, Mr. D. W., Crautoca, and Miss J. D. Eppes, in cabin; 3 m second class, and

Miss J. D. Eppes, in cabin; 3 m second class, and 290 in sterrage.

Per American steamer Peru, from Hongkong via ports;—Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mr. Geo. Hall, Mr. F. M. Levy, Mr. F. T. Gause, and Miss G. R. H. Cunliffe, in cabin, and 3 Japanese in steerage. For Honolulu:—Mr. Mur Fook, in cabin, and 17 Chinese, 2 Japanese, in steerage. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. M. Connell, Mr. Addison Gulick, Mr. W. B. Ellis, Mr. H. B. Bailey, and Mrs. J. Borel and 2 children, in cabin, 2 Europeans, and 60 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer Gaelic from San Franches.

cabin, 2 Europeans, and 60 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer Gaelic from San Francisco:—Commodore Geo. Dewey, U.S.N., Ensign
H. H. Caldwell, Mr. Stimidzu, Mr. N. Suda,
Lieut. T. M. Brumby, Rev. and Mrs. H. W.
Myers, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. Chas. Albertson, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss Matthews,
Mr. Arthur Shewan, Mr. A. R. Donnelly, Miss
Helen Smith, Mr. Chas. Rudolph, Rev. & Mrs.
G. A. Hamily, in cabin. For Hangkong:—Rev.
and Mrs. C. Bone and two children, Mrs. II. Wilson, Miss Kitty Mitchell, Mr. August Schleicher,
Mr. T. M. Devilhiss, Mr. John Gray, in cabin.
For Nagasaki:—Mr. W. F. Sands, in cabin.

#### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Rosstta, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Andie, 2 daughters, and nurse, Mr. J. Barmest, Mr. F. McC. Jowitt, Mr. E. M. Jowitt, Mr. and Mrs. Lestie Hahsburg, Mr. R. W. Almond, Mr. John Roberts, Dr. R. J. Bowie, Master T. Longford, Master Alan Smith, Master Graham, Mr. John Wilson, Mr. O. Samuelson, Mr. W. K. Wilson, Mr. B. C. Hore, and Mr. W. J. Blackhall, in cabin, and 9 Chinese in steerage. Per German steamer Hohensollern, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Newton Allen, Mrs. Cho Nagashima, Mrs. Popi Tetsu, and Mr. Ho Kai Chin, in cabin, r Chinese woman and ten Chinese on deck. Per British steamer Rosetta, for Hongkong via on deck.

Per British steamer Gaelic, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Abrams, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Byrne, Miss Byrne, Master Byrne, Com-modore Geo. Dewey, U.S. N., Lient. S. H. Bunndy, Ensign H. H. Caldwell, Mr. G. F. Finch, Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mr. E. W. Blod-gett, and Mr. J. L. Jensen, in cabin.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

The market still temains unerly staguant, no transactions being reported either in abittings, yains, fancies or woolfens. Quotations are

#### COTTOD PIECE GOODS.

	PER	PIRCE.
Gray Shirtings-84 h , 384 yds. 30inches	\$2 50	to 1.80
Grey Shirtings-olb, 384 yds. 43 inches	1.80	to 3.35
I'. Cloth - 7th, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.00	lo 1.90
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 44 inches.	1.95	to a.go
Prints-Assorted, # ; vards, 30 inchen,.		to 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Sattrens Black,		и тамра
3s inches		to 0.95
"	200	FIRGE,
Valvate-Hinck, 35 yards, sainches	7-75	to 9.90
Victoria Lawon, en yande, ge-ginches,	0.75	to U.no
Furkey Reds—2.0 to 2.1 ft, 21/25 yards,		
30 inches	1.50	lo 17a
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/25 yards.		
30 inches	1.75	lo 2.10
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4h, 24/15 yards,		
ta inches	2.40	to 2.70

Turkey Reds-4.8 to 3h, 24/23 yarda,
12 inches
WOOLLENS. FOR TAPIS.
Flagnel \$0.30 to 0.50
itulian Cloth, an yarda, 30 inchen bant o.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 10 yaula, 32 inches
Madinu 030 to 0.384
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches
Common
Munsaline de Laine-Crape, sy yands,
15 inches
Blankata-Scartet and Grace, 3 to 5%,
P8F \$ 0.50 te 0,50
LOU LON YARRES. FOR FIGURE
Nos. 16/24, Singles 438-30 to 29,50
Nos. 28/38, Singles 48.00 to 43 no
Nos. 38/42, Singles 44:00 to 45:00
Nos. 32, Doubles
Nos. 42, Doubles \$1.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain
Nos. 3/80, Plain
Nos. a/100, Plain
Nos. 2/60, Gassed 72.00 to 70.00
Nos. 2,80, Gased
Nos. a/100, Gassed
RAW COTTON. PRE PICUL.
American Middling
Indian Broach
Chinese

MRTALS. There has been a slight improvement in the tone of the market, but though concessions have been offered by lighters next to no business has been done.

		- 47
	Pan 11	GEL.
Round and square & inch. and upward.	4:15 la	4.50
trop Plates, associated	4.40 10	4. to
Sheet Iron	5.10 Lo	5.30
Galvanized from alteets	g. 10 to 1	9.50
Wire Nails, assorted		
Tin Plates, per box	5 go 1o	6 00
Pig Iron, No. v		
Hoop Iros (1 to 14 inch)	5-00 to	5.25
KKROSROK.	-	

The market is still very quiet, only small trans-actions for the supply of immediate wants being reported.

American	
Russian area area area area area area area ar	
Langkat manamamamamama anam	- 1,90
A1 4 E 4 E 4 E 4	

Sales during the part ten days amount to 38,756 piculs Manda and 14,000 piculs China Brown, and arrivals in the same period have been 39,000 piculs Manda and 4,260 piculs China. Datting has gone up about 15 sen per picul and Formosas fallen about the same amount. A steady business has been done in White refined at slightly harden-

	PER PICUL,
Brown Takan	\$4.35 to 4.40
Brown Manila	4.50 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	
Brown Canton	4.00 to 4 50
White Java and Pennsg	6,50 to 7.00
White Beford	7.3a th 8.9a

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

Since the 22nd ultimo there has not been much business done, but prices, which were forced up the previous week, are still maintained on the in-creased scale. Stocks amount to 9,290 piculs, and total settlements to date are 43,540 picula against 23,490 picula last year at same date. The Peru shipped 944 bales for America on the 29th, the Hohengollers 103 bales and the Saghadan 366 bales for Europe on the 25th and 26th inst.



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# 

The market has been quiet and prices have slightly declined. Settlements since the 26th inst, amount to 2,640 piculs and stocks are estimated at 9,290 piculs. Shipments include 492 picule per Hotencollern, and 1,049 piculs per Saghalien for Europe, and 210 piculs per Olympia, for America,

QUOTATIONS.			
Nachi-Filature, Best	Brig to	120	
Noshi-Filature, Good	Joy to		
Noshi-Oshu, Best.,	tto to	115	
Yoshi-Oake, Good	rea to	103	
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	9a to		
Naghi-Shinshor, Bant	70 to		
Nashi-Shinehu, Good	- 65 to	674	
Nacht-Buchu, Hant an mennennen men.	115 to	120	
Nashi-Bunka, Goud	70e to	110	
Noshi-Bushe, Medium	gé to	80	
Noshi-Joshu, Good	do to	65	
Nashi-Joshu, Fair	55 to	52 t	
Kibiso-Filatore, Best	to to	100	
Kilmo-Filature, Seconds	By to	90	
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	30	
Ebleo-Bushe, Fair	20 to	224	
TEA.			

A few small transactions in medium grades have been effected during the past week, but there is little business to be done. Stocks have been reduced to 1,800 picules, principally low grades, and only a few arrivals from the country are expected. The Olympis took 79,082 lbs. on the 28th, and the Peru 30,838 bs. on the 22th, for the United States and Canada.

done i tome:
Nominal,
32 to 31
Aires accommendation and all to ag-
1 to 33   2 to 33   3 to 33   3 to 31   3 to

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver a trifle lower from London, Indian Council deafts rather higher, and quotations from China unchanged have made little impression on local rates, which close for mail per steamer Empress of Tapan, as follows:—

e≱en, as follows:→	
Secriting Bank T.T	8/0
- Bille on demand	3/01
- a months' sight	2,015
- Private 4 mouths' sight	
- 6 months' sight	
On Paris Bank night	
On Lyons - Private 4 months sight 2	
Do Hongkong-Bank eight 110	
- Trivate so days night, 4 to.	
On Shangkat-Bank right	
- Private 10 days' sight	
On India-Bank night	
- Private 30 days' sight	
On America - Bank Bills on demand	
- Private 4 months' sight	
Os Germany-Bank sight	
- Private 4 months eight	
Ru Mer (Loudon)	26 <u>k</u>

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July 3211, 1897.

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## THE NEW TARIFF.

OPIES of the NEW TARIFF, as passed by the Imperial Diet, can be obtained at this Office in pamphlet form. Price, 25 Cents. Yekohama, April 27th, 1897.

Printed and Fublished for the Propietor, at 51. Main Street, Settlement, by ARIBUR BELLAMY BROWN, of "Nonblands," No. 256, Bluff, Yokohuma.—Saturday, January a, 1895.

Original from

# The Jayan Weekly Itlail:

#### A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 2.]

YOKOHAMA, JAN. 8TH, 1898.

ガミ年五十二冷戦 Vol. XXIX. 智能者復襲日三十

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#### The Tayan Meekly Mail.

4º FAISCH QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!\*\*

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN Werkey Mall" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on husiness be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques he made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YORGHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 81H, 1808.

#### DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Yokohama, on the 7 inst., Thomas Rybing Green, aged 63 years.

At the General Hospital, Yokohama, on the 2nd inst., H. E. Harries, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, son of Benjamin Harries, Esq., Tenby, Wales, aged 26 years.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

An Anglo Japanese alliance has been advocated by Lord Charles Beresford in a speech delivered

THE state funeral of the late Prince Shimazu Tadayoshi is to take place on the 9th instant at

A JAPANESE telegram states that Germany has demanded of China the session of Kiao-chon for go years.

RINDERPEST, which broke out in Kanagawa Ken towards the close of last year, has now been stamped out.

THE British fleet is making a demonstration in Korean waters, according to some; others believe it is still off Chusan.

THE total length of land telegraph lines in Japan at the end of last year was 15,432 miles, and of submarme cables 227 miles.

THE Tokyo-fu Agricultural and Industrial Bank will commence business on the

next. Mr. Matsuda Hideo is the Chief manager of the Bank.

THE buildings of the Military College (Toyama Gakko) at Ushigome, Tokyo, were destroyed by fire on the morning of the 3rd inst.

SEVERAL regiments of British troops have been despatched to Egypt, owing, it is said, to the Dervishes preparing for an advance northward.

THE more influential merchants in Formosa are doing all in their power to induce the Government to undertake the construction of the proposed railway:

THE coming of age of the Crown Prince is to be celebrated in February next, when the year's mourning for the late Empress Dowager will have expired.

THE Japanese was-vessel Tsukuba, which has been engaged in surveying the coasts of Korea for some time past, left Fasan for home on December 30th.

VERNACULAR papers report that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha purpose raising their rates of freight from 10 to 20 per cent, from the end of the current month.

THE 11th of January being the first anniver-sary of the death of the late Empress Dowager, religious services will be performed at the Senzan Mausoleum, Kyoto.

WHILE a meeting was being held this week at the City Hall. London, Ontario, part of the flooting collapsed, and twenty eight persons were killed and a hundred injured.

On the 31st of December last the amount of convertible notes issued by the Bank of Japan amounted to over yes 226 000,000, the excess over the legal limit exceeding yen 47,310,000.

WARS and rumours of wars occupy the attention of Baron Reuter. The Soudan expedition is to be resumed; the Afridi war continues; while in China war clouds still obscure the horizon.

It is authoritatively stated that whatever privileges another Power may obtain from China, Great Britain will demand adequate compensation, and do her unnost to uphold her existing rights in China.

A TARGRAM received in Tokyo reports that Count Leyden, the new German Representative to Japan, will leave Berlin about the 10th of January and arrive in Tokyo towards the end of February next.

THERE have been several skirmishes in Formosa during the last month between the insurgents and the Japanese troops. A number of the former were killed and a few of the Japan. ere soldiers and gendarmes were wounded,

THE construction of a tramway between Shinhashi and Shinagawa was completed recently and the line was opened for traffic on the 30th of December. The passenger fare between Shimbashi and Yatsuyama is 5 sen.

On the morning of the 4th instant about 11 o'clock Count Matsukata, Viscount Takashima, Baron Nishi, Mr. Hamso, Baron Yamada and other Ministers of State proceeded to the Palace and paid a complimentary visit to the Emperor,

NATIVE papers report that the Russo China to the state of th Bank has proposed to the Chinese Authorities

ment has circulated orders to the Commanders of the Army throughout the Empire to prepare for emergencies at a moment's notice.

On the 3rd fast w 2.10 a.m. fire broke out in a bath house at No. 9. Higashi Kuromon-cho, Shitaya, Tokyo, and over 600 houses were reduced to ashes before the flames were subdued. During the fire 16 firemen were more or less injured.

THE Japanese Standing Squadron is now m Yokosuka, It is composed as follows:—The Fuji, Yashima, Chinyen, Itsukushima, Matsushima, Hashidate, Akitsushima, Suma and Isumi. The Isukushi is now at Shanghai, the Akagi at Takao, the Chokai in the Korean sea, and the Zsukuba on her way in Japan via Port Hamilton.

FREQUENT interviews have taken place since the 30th ult., principally at Oise, between Marquis Ito, Count Okuma, Count Itagaki and other statesmon, with a view to the formation of a coalition Cabinet, but it appears that the parties led by the two Counts—the Progressiouists and the Liberals—cannot be brought to agree on any practical platform, and that Marquis Ito will have to form the best Government he can without the cooperation of these two stalesmes.

THE Import trade during the past week has naturally been very atagnant in most lines of business owing to the New Year holidays, New purchases were out of the question until settlements had been made for former business. In shirtings and other piece goods, as well as yarns, there is consequently nothing to report; and nearly the same may be said with regard to metals, though some little business has been done in bars and sheets, and enquires have been made in other lines. A latie spurt occurred in the kerosene market between the 31st ult., and the 2nd instant, resulting in the settlement of some 17,000 cases for the interior - slight reductions on former rates. Next to nothing has been done in sugar, either brown or white refined, but prices are firm and a revival of sales is expected before the end of the month. The total imports of sugar into Yokohams for the past year show an increase over the previous year's figures of about 20 per cent.; showing that luxuries are increasing in the land. war scare in China has caused local coal depôts to be entirely depleted of Cardiff and other smokeless coal, a very large supply being now aftest for the British and Russian fleets. Exports-the only line to be considered mailk. A good demand has continued both for raw and waste, the former principally for the United States market, and prices are firm, with an up-ward tendency. Over 3,900 piculs of raw have been placed since the middle of last month, and 4.480 piculs of waste. The export of raw silk during the past year was, to America 35.09 t bales; to France 23.900 bales; to Italy 2,485 bales; to Switzerland 601 bales; to Russia 225 bales; and to other countries 282 bales; total 62.593 bales. Stock in hand only amounts to 9 410 picula against 18,440 picule at same time hast year. Nothing worth mentioning has been done in ten; the remaining atock is small and of low grade, and the serson may be considered over. An improvement has to be noted in the Japanese yarn trade, considerable parcels of stock having been disposed of for the interior and for China about the end of the year, but few of the spinning companies will be able to pay a dividend for the past balf year. Ex-Smugadias comproved for Shanghai and India, It is also said that the Chinese Govern gold rates being unchanged, with silver up isth.

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Jiji Shimpo speaks in gloomy terms of the year just past. Commercial affairs and political affairs reached their lowest depths of depression and mismanagement, according to our contemporary's opinion. The introduction of the gold standard proved a complete failure. It was to have opened the door for an inflow of foreign capital, thus succouring the distress of the industrial classes and producing an appreciation in the price of public securities. reign capital has not come in, neither have public securities appreciated. On the contrary, we have seen an ever increasing preponderance on the side of imports, a corresponding out-flow of specie, and a steady fall in the quotations for consols and war bonds. Nor in that all. The effect of the demonetization of silver has been fatal to the most promising of all Japan's in-dustrial enterprises—cotton-spinning. Its chief market has been closed against it, and the prosperity that distinguished it at the end of 1896 was replaced by adversity at the end of 1897. As for the administration of State affairs, its history is humilisting. The Government has been almost wholly forgetful of the empire's foreign interests, paramount as is their importance. Failing to see that the addition of one iron-clad to Japan's fleet has more effect upon foreign opinion than any incident connected with the Diet, statesmen have directed their whole attention towards obtaining a majority in the Lower House, whether by intriguing with political parties or by bribing unprincipled members. The cause of the nation has been prostituted by Ministers to the selfish purpose of retaining their own portfolios, and the reputation of the country has suffered greviously in the eyes of foreigners. It is an old experience, however, that when things are at their worst, they generally begin to mend. The winter of Japan's discontent is likely to be soon changed into a spring of satisfaction.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun alleges that the Government has had under profound consideration three lines of policy among which a choice has to be made at the present juncture. They are the policy of abstention and defence (tairei), the policy of peace-making (cho tei) and the policy of advance (chin ho). The first consists in refraining from any demonstrative action of any kind and merely standing ready to defend the country's rights. This is the policy said to have been adopted by the Cabinet. Its advocates contend that any demonstration of activity on Japan's part must greatly aggravate a situation which, if not accentuated by fresh interference, may be trusted to settle itself amicably. It has to be remembered, of course, that Japan's position at Wei-hai-wei and her possession of the Pescadores render it impossible for her to stand entirely aloof from complications involving a re-adjustment of the balance of power in the Far East; but impredent inter-ference might have the effect of precipitating such complications. The policy of peaceful intervention looks tempting, and, as a matter of fact, has been essayed. The Japanese Representative in Peking has made strenuous efforts to bring about an arrangement between Germany and China. But failure was inevitable. for Germany has projects more fat-reaching than the issues involved in the mere question of man the issues involved in the mere question or murdered missionaries, and Russia is pursuing her own aims, quite independently of Germany. Naturally naval and military men advocate a policy of demonstration and advance, but the difficulty of following such a line is that it involves a choice between Trailand and Parsin milescent involved. England and Russin, whereas it would be a mistake to suppose that those two Powers must necessarily be antagonistic with regard to thir Far Eastern problem. They may very possibly agree to settle it amicably. Moltke's saying that defence can not be effective unless there is strength to attack, is very true, but does not mean that attack is essential, above all the complexion of the occasion is more than uncertain. Thus, finally, the Cabinet has been achieved since the Restoration. Clan has been achieved since the Restoration and the line of the Restoration a

defence. There is, of course, no reason to suppose that the Nichi Nichi Shimbun truly interprets the views of a Cabinet to which it is bitterly opposed.

The Nippon has a violent and abusive article. the gist of which is that the change of Cabinet now about to take place will not be an altera-tion but a mere substitution. Marquis Ito's Cabinet fell to pieces in 1896 on account of its post-bellum programme of armament expansion: the question of finance wrecked it. Count Matsukata fully understood the circumstances of the time; fully understood that he came into office to put the finances in order. Yet he unhesitatingly adopted Marquis Ito's programme and plunged the nation in a contiqued flood of expenditure. Finance has now proved the ruin of his Cabinet, and Marquis Ito, in turn, comes back, smiling, to follow the Same route. If Count Mataukata endorsed Marquis Ito's financial policy in 1896, m he must have done since he adopted it himself when he came into power, why did he not assist, instead of impeding, its consummation? If Marquis Ito approves Count Matsukata's financial policy, as he must do since it is identical with his own, why has he stood aloof nor stretched out any hand to assist Count Matsukata, and why does he now erect his own Cabinet on the ruins of Count Matsukata's? Can covered in such proceedings? The fact is that the two statesmen are "foxes from the same hole." The substitution of one for is a more shuffling of the class cards. The voice of the nation has no genuine influence in directing the change. These Meiji statesmen are counterparts of the Korean aristocrats who toss the ball of administrative power from hand to hand. One hears of the Min, and the Bin, and the Kim and the Li displacing each other, but one knows that there is nothing of the Korean people in it all; that it, is merely a transfer of offices and emoluments from one clique of aristocrats to another. The Itos and the Matsukatas and so forth of Japan present a parallel speciacle. They discovered in 1894 and 1895 how potent is a successful foreign war to restore the decaying prestige of the clan oligarchs, and they pledged themselves at once to a programme of military expansion The profits connected with carrying out such a programme far exceed the ordinary emoluments of office. The commission on one war-vessel suffices to enrich several officials for life. So it results that while one group of statesmen assist to bring about the plunging of another group into a financial quagmire, they immediately leap into the same quagmire themselves when they get the opportunity. The profitable programme of military expansion must not be abandoned whatever else goes to the wall. all this where does the nation come in? (Is should be noted that the Nippon has long been a vehement opponent of army expansion on the

Before sanitation became a science it used to be said that the average man's life might be measured by 30 years. The Meifi era has now passed its thirtieth year and is entering its thirty-first. If that period suffices to produce marked changes in the individual, how much more significant should be the alterations noticeable in the case of a nation subjected, as Japan has been, to all the modifying influences of a wholly new civilization? The Melji era was inaugurated by a great national movement in the direction of progress. Feudalism fell, and the spirit that destroyed it overflowed into the realm of old institutions and old fashious, sweeping away the antique and substituting the novel in all directions. But there was a certain element of superficiality in these changes. National ways of thinking were not radically altered, and as years went by, conflicts between the old and the new were witnessed here and

affect the general tendency to advance which is the rule of civilized societies. The nation pushed forward, becoming daily more cognisant of the anomalies that it found in its path. One of those anomalies was government by class statesmen, a veritable relic of the past. other was the reverence in which those statesmen were held by the bulk of the nation. At the outset, the class statesmen regarded party politicians as their enemies and struggled implacably against them, the politicians on their aide fighting with equal fierceness. But by and by the former began to appreciate the necessity of winning the latter's friendship, and the untion also was educated to perceive that only by coalition between the two could its interests be really promoted. Thus, little by little, the principle of government in accordance with the will of the majority, government by the people and for the people, received practical recognition, and last year saw its virtual consumma-tion. For though the Cabinet dissolved the House of Representatives rather than afford an open demonstration of the incompetence of any administration when unsupported by the Diet, there is no possibility of hiding the fact that the Cabinet itself fell because it failed mecure the support of the Diet. Whether the straggle of the Ministry to secure that support destroyed their own collesion, or whether they dared not continue the task of administration in the face of the Diet's opposition, there can not be the smallest question that they went out of power because the House of Representatives refused to give them its mandate. That is the great, the signal, change which calls for record as the Meji era enters its second generation. principle of party government triumphed. Such are the views of the Mainichi Shimbun.

The Kohumin Shimbun, conspicuous hitherto for its support of the Matsukata Cabinet. writes a somewhat weak article, couched in very general terms, the gist of which is that the time demands a Ministry representing the whole nation; that a Cabinet allied several political parties can not hope to govern smoothly; that every effort should be made to construct one great party, and that the best talent available should be collected from all quarters to administer the affairs of the nation at this critical juncture. The Kolmmin's position is somewhat embarrassing, and its invertebrate homily reflects the fact.

The ends to be simed at by the Cabinet, the ends to be aimed at by political parties, and the ends to be aimed at by the peoplethese are the subjects of three articles in the Yomiuri Shimbun. In the first category a multitude of objects are jucluded -administrative reform, development of facilities for communication, preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties, improvement of local government systems, the adoption of some intelligent and decided policy in Formosa, the adjustment of the national finances, and the consummation of the post bellum programme. As to this last, the *Pomiurs* trenchantly observes that within two years of the time of the post bellum pro-gramme's elaboration, its foundations have been proved illusory, so that while one set of politicians cry out for reductions in the scheme of inilitary expansion, another set want to impose taxes. In order to be forcible, the Yomiuri in essentially pessimistic. Its writing conveys the impression that everything remains to be done, that nothing has yet been effected, and that the task awaiting the new Cabinet in the 31st year of Melji is colousal. It goes even to the length of asserting that the material, moral and political progress of Japan has been seriously impeded by the clan statesmen, though less prejudiced observers are disposed to give them the chief credit for everything that has been achieved since the Restoration.

petent to consummate the victory and to profit by it worthily. That is the duty devolving on the parties and on the nation at the approaching general elections. In short, the Yomiuri regards the 31st year of Meiji as a vital epoch in the country's career, and would fain have everybody rise to the occusion.

#### THE BUDGET.

CHAPTER I.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Budget for the 3 tst year places the estimate of revenue at 212, 114,119 Fen and that of expenditure at 229,438,587 yes, showing a deficiency of 17,324,468 yes in revenue. Compared with the Budget for the previous year, a decrease of 37,410,551 yen is noticeable in revenue, and 14,149,650 yen in expenditure. The deficit in revenue mentioned above was to have been supplied in accordance with a special financial programme formulated for presentation to the Diet,
CHAPTER II—REVENUS.

The estimated Revenue for the 31st fiscal year of Melji amounts to 212,114,119 ven, of which 129,603,366 ven is Ordinary, and 82.510,753 ven Extraordinary Revents. Compared with the estimates for the previous year the following figures are obtained :-

	Estimates for	Estimates for
Revenue.	the 31st fiscal	the 30th fiscal
	year.	yest.
	Yen.	Yen.
Ordinary	129,602,266	121,406,818
Extraordinary.	82,510,752	128,117,851
Total	212,113,018	249 524.669
	Increase.	Decrease, Yen,
Odinary	8,196,547	
Extraordinary		45.607,098
Total	. —	37,410,551

In enumerating the most important points relating to the increase or decrease of revenue, it may be mentioned that, although an increase of 13.721,913 yen in expected in ordinary Reventte derived from taxes on Sake, Customs duties. Tobacco Monopoly, Postal and Telegraphic receipts, Railway profits, &c., yet as a diminution of 5,532,366 yen occurs in receipts from stamps, interest on deposits and other items, the balance shows an increase of 8,196,547 year only.

The Extraordinary Revenue has decreased by 48,596,288 yen, principally in the items of public loans, appropriation of indemnity for slipbuilding expenses, and the amount brought over from the previous account, but a sum of 2,989,185 yes having been secured by the sale of forests and fields, the balance shows a decrease of only 45,607.098 sen.

CHAPTER III .- EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the 31st fiscal year amounts to 229,438,587 yen, of which 126,972,-199 yen represent ordinary expenditure and 103.466.390 yen extraordinary outlays. Compared with the estimates for the previous year the figures are as follow:—

Expenditure, 3		. 3	o⊪h fi≼cal yea
	Yen.		Yen.
Ordinary Extraordinary	126,972,197		110,580,752
Extraordinary	102,466.390	***	133,007,485
Total	229,438,587		243.588,237
	Increase.		Decrease,
Ordinary Extraordinary	16,391,444		_
Extraordinary	_	***	30,541,095
Total	-		14.140.650

The most prominent items of increase or decrease in ordinary expenditure are-in the Foreign Department, the establishment of new legations and consulates, and the increase of salaries of diplomatic officials; in the Home Department, the salaries of a number of new officials for Cities and Prefectures, increased police expenses, increase of subsidies and allowances for the preservation of old temples and shrines, and appropriations made for Government railincrease in the amount of expenses for the Digitized by GOOGLE

Tobacco Monopoly Office, payment of pensions, and of interest on public loan bonds; in the War Department, the expansion of the army, revision of the system of organization and ex-tension of offices and schools in connection therewith, increase of exponses caused by the rise in price of provisions and fodder; in the Naval Department, the additional expenditure consequent upon the increase of vessels; in the Judicial Department, increase in the number of Public Procurators and in the salaries of clerks; in the Educational Department, increase of teachers in various schools and of their salaries, and increase of allowances to teachers in primary schools; in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, increased expenses for the improvement of stud horses, and for the encouragement of deep sea fishing and the inspection of silk worm eggs; in the Communications Department, increase of outlays in connection with telephones, parcels post, and the development of means of transport, as well as the establishment of Harbour Offices: these itms combined show an increase of 18 017.280 yen in expenditure; but a sum of 1,625,835 ren on account of reductions in interest on deposits and from the abolition of the Colonial Department being subtracted, a balance remains of 16,391.444 ren on the whole.

In the extraordinary section of expenditure, it became unnecessary for the Home Department to reserve payments for the reconstruction of the river Yodo, on account of a reduction being made in the yearly instalments; or to make any payment for the Yokohama Water Works; or to grant any special expenses for Okinawa no disbursements were required from the Finance Department in connection with the subsidy to the Japan and Kinshin Railway Companies, a reduction being made in the bounty to the Sanyo Railway Company, and expenses for the establishment of the Tobacco Monopoly Statious and for the granting of special rewards were separately treated; in the War Department the expenses for repairs a d for the purchase of stores, expenses for the maintenance of fortifications and artillery barracks, and for new fortifications in the Kii and Awaji Straits, the expenses for the extension of arsenals and work shops, for the Gendarmerie in Formosa, etc., were all reduced as far as possible. In the Naval Department appropriations have been reduced in connection with the expansion scheme, the establishment of a Gunpowder manufactory at Shimonose, the construction of ironclads undertaken in the 26th year of Meijt, the building of Sasebo Admiralty Office, etc. In the Judicial Department reductions was made in the yearly installments for the building of the Osaka Appeal Court and the Osaka District Court. The Educational Department cancelled the tems for the construction of a new laboratory for practical chemistry, metallurgy, and mine-ralogy, for the Third High School, and also the expenses connected with the organization of the said School. In the Agricultural and Commercial Department no outlay was needed in connection with the establishment of an Iron Foundry or the opening of the 2nd Marine Exhibition, or with the inspection of weights and measures at fixed periods, the expenses for which were expunged. In the Communications Department, a reduction was made in the aunual outlays for the expenses of telegraphs between Tokyo and Sapporo, for the laying of new lines to Yetorofu and for the pur-chase of ships. Owing to the above re-ductions, the amount of the estimated expenditure was decreased by 42,507,437 yen, but an increase of 11,966,341 yen having been made on account of the following items, the estimate represents a reduction of 30,541,095 yes on the whole:—In the Foreign Department -au increase of the annual amount for the coustruction of Consulates in Tientsin and Amoy; in the Home Department,-an increase of an nual allowances for the construction of defence works for the rivers Sone and Kiso; of industrial expenses for Hokkaido and for the ways in Hokkaido; in the Finance Department, control of the general election of representatives of the Loves House; in the Finance Depart- Original from

ment, expenses increased by the construction of various offices attached to the Kobe Custom House, those required for introducing alterations in the system of taxation of land and other matters in Okinawa prefecture; in the War Department—construction of batteries at Tsushima, Kelung, and the Pescadores, and other expenses in connection therewith; increase of annual allowances for similar constructions in the Naruto Straits, in Kure, and in Sasebo, and also in the Kii and Awaji Straits; reconstruction of shooting ranges in Tokyo; in the Naval Department,—augmentation of annual outlays for the construction of arsenals; expenses incurred for the construction of crulsers and despatch vessels undertaken in the 26th fiscal year; increase of shipbuilding funds for the Admiralties, establishment of a brick factory; reconstruction of the 1st dock of the Saseho Admiralty and of engineering schools; in the Judicial Department—reconstruction of Kobe District Court; in the Educational Department -reconstruction of class-rooms for physylogy, hygiene, and materia medica,i a the Medical Section of the Imperial University; construcof new class-rooms for the Agricultural college necessitated by the former pre-mises being burnt down; organisation of an Imperial University in Kyoto; expansion of buildings for class-rooms and workshops for the Tokyo Technical School; establishment of a ship-building section in the Osaka Technical School; Agricultural and Commercial Department—expenses for the International Exhibition to be held in Paris; inspection at regular periods of local weights and measures; and special investigation of State forests and mining districts; in the Communications Department—increase of expenses for the expansion of steamship services and for the improvement of existing government railways; construction of commercial schools and bureaus for the control of communications, etc.

(To BE CONTINUED.)

#### THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA.

Dr. Barlett, who has undertaken to show that the first six books of the Old Testament are an accurate historical narrative consistent throughout with the results of recent investigation, writes as follows concerning the passage of the Red Sea :--

Extensive shoals extend far out in a southeasterly direction, and a long, carrow sand-bank reaches toward them from the eastern shore, being at low tide a small channel some 780 feet wide and from three sud half feet deep. But at high tide the widdis about three miles, and the elaborate map of the Suez Canal Company gives the difference between the highest and lowest known seas as ten feet and seven fischer. Here are the conditions for the asfe crossing of the Israelites and the drowning of the Egyptians. The statement of the Scripture narrative that the Lord "caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all night" conforms to the fact mentioned by the travellers Wellsted, Schubert, and Tischendorf—namely, the great effect produced on the height of the " Extensive shoals extend far out in a southeasterly namely, the great affect produced on the height of the waters by a long-continued northeast or southeast wind in connection with the title.

"Dr. Robinson makes a computation to show the

"Dr. Robinson makes a computation to show the feasibility of the passage of two millions, moving at the rate of only two miles an hour, within the silutted time; a dry space of half a mile or more would admit thousand persons abreast, and a column two thousand in depth, two miles or more from front to rear, this would require an hour for the entire column to enter the channel, and two hours more to move over the distance of three or four miles, making, on this last supposition, two hours and a half in all. It may be added that if, on account of the flocks and herds, we suppose the time to be doubled, the interval between sunset and sunrise in April, being about twelve hours, would still allow ample time for the safe passage of Israel, and, when the waters were driven back in full volume, for the destruction of the pursuing host. It would undoubtedly be a difficult movement to arrange and execute with such a company as the Israelites, but a Moses or a Napoleon would be capable of effecting it."

#### THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Friday, Dec. 31. There is nothing new to tell about the political situation. No doubt is entertained as to the fact that Marquis Ito will be Minister President, but that was a foregone conclusion from the outset, in our opinion. The question now is whether the Marquis will ally himself with Count Okuma, or with Count Itagaki, or with both. The leading Tokyo newspapers discuss that point in most uncertain terms. It would appear that there is a strong desire on the part of the Meiji statesmen to leave Marquis Ito entirely free in or-ganizing the new Ministry. Marquis Yamagata and Count Kuroda were present when Marquis Ito was received in audience by the Emperor, but they both retir-ed so soon as the Marquis had consented to undertake the task of forming a Cabinet, their object being to avoid any share in the subsequent conversation. We ourselves have no special grounds for forming any opinion, but we find difficulty in believing that Marquis Ito will turn his back on Count Itagaki and the Liberals. They supported him when he was last in office, and he gave a signal proof of his loyalty by resigning so soon as it became certain that Count Itagaki could not be persuaded to remain in the Cabinet. It appears most improthe cost of his friendship with the Libeshrewdness. On the other hand, there is no blinking the fact that a really strong Cabinet can not be formed at present without the cooperation of Count Okuma. His figure is as conspicuous in the field of politics as Marquis Ito's is in the field of officialdom. The country wants a strong Cabinet. No student of the times can deny that never since the Restoration did Japan stand in such urgent need of the best talent she can command as she stands to-day. We venture to say that if a plebiscite of the whole nation could be taken to-morrow with reference to the control of finance, an overwhelming majority of votes would be cast in favour of Count Okuma first and Mr. Shibusawa Ei-ichi second. To bring Count Okuma into the Cabinrt, however, would mean an alliance with the Progressionists. Would that involve a rupture with the Liberals? There lies the question. Marquis Ito seems to us to be in the position of the man in the middle: he could be happy with either were 'tother dear charmer away. From a purely selfish point of view he would be more pleasantly situated with the Liberals than with the Progressionists; for among the former he stands out haud æquus aut secundus, whereas among the latter he is brought into immediate conflict with the powerful personality of Count Okuma. But as a patriotic statesmen he should subserve every consideration to the urgent needs of the time. The Far East has reached a truly parlous stage of its history and Japan is at a crisis in her own affairs, financial as well as political. If she is to be steered into smooth water, it must be by the hands of men like Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. It is most unfortunate that Count Inouye adheres to his resolution not to accept office again, for his insight and courage The above would certainly be the strong-would be invaluable to his country at pre-est Cabinet organized since the Restora-Ministry appears to be entertained,

as follow:-

ITO CARINET. Minisur President, .... Marquis Ito.

Minister ofForeign Affairs ...... Marquis Saionji-

Commerce... Baron Ito Miyoji.

Minister of-Foreign Affairs ..... Marquis Saionji.

Home Affalis Viscount Yoshikawa.
Finance Vescount Watanabe, or
Baron Iwasaki, or Mr. Shibusawa
War Viscount Kalsura.

Our contemporary adds, however, that Baron Nishi may remain at the Foreign Office or that Marquis Ito may take the portfolio himself, in conjunction with the duties of Minister President; and that in the coalition Cabinet Count bable that he will seek new allies now at Okuma may be at the Finance Department and Count Itagaki at that of Home Afrals, nor would such a course be at all fairs. The latter hypothesis as to the consistent with his reputation for political positions of the two Counts seems to us very probable.

> Tuesday, Jan. 4. A coalition Cabinet seems to be now regarded as not unlikely. It would be welcomed by the nation and by Japan's foreign friends also, for the country has never needed a strong Ministry more than at the present moment. An anonymous member of the Diet, talking in the columns of the Nippon, essays to prove that a Cabinet formed by uniting the leaders of the Liberals, the Progressionists and the National Unionists with the Meits statesmen, would be, not a coalition Cabinet, but a cabal Cabinet. It is exceedingly difficult to decipher the line of reasoning which leads to that conclusion, but the gist. of the argument is that men whose policies differ so materially could not possibly combine in such a manner as to further the interests of the country and promote its prosperity. A curious contention, assuredly, seeing that what puzzles foreign observers is to discover any appreciable difference whatever between the principles of the various political leaders and those of the Meiji statesmen. Leaving such questions aside, it may be interesting to note that the coalition Cabinet spoken of as feasible, would be composed thus:-Minister President,..... Marquis Ito.

Minister of-Lient-General Viscount Rats
The Navy Marquis Saigo,
Finance Count Okuma.

Justice Viscount Yoshikawa.
Education Marquis Saionji.
Communications Baron Ito Miyoji.
Agriculture & Coun, Mr. Sone Arasuke,
Governor General of

Formosa ............Viscount Katsura (or Baron Nogi).

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The Jiji Shimpo forecasts two Cabinets, its formation. We doubt the possibility follow:— of inducing Counts Itagaki and Okuma to serve in the same Ministry. It can not be forgotten that the proximate cause of the disruption of the Ito Cabinet in 1896 was Count Itagaki's retirement when the alternative was combination with Count Okuma. Since, then, Marquis Ito's natural allies are the Liberals, and since he, too, went out of office the year before last rather than turn his back on the party which had supported his programme of post-bellum measures, the simplest solution of the present problem may seem, at first sight, to be a renewal of the alliance with the Liberals, Count Itagaki's inclusion in the Cabinet, and Count Okuma's exclusion from it. But a new difficulty presents itself here—the nation wants to have Count Okuma in the Ministry. That, we think, may be taken for granted. And it may also be assumed that Marquis Ito wants him. In fact, next to Marquis Ito Count Okuma now enjoys the largest share of public confidence, and it is to a union of the two statesmen that the people look for a stable and competent Cabinet. What, then, is to be done? The Liberals ought not to be thrown over, yet their leader will not serve with Count Okuma, and without Count Okuma a satisfactory Ministry can not be organized. Apparently the only way out of the dilemma is to take Count Okuma into the Cabinet and leave out Count Itagaki, making some other arrangement with the latter's party. We do not profess to have any clear idea as to the outlines of such a compromise, but are nevertheless disposed to anticipate it. Baron Ito Miyoji, for example, is virtually a Liberal Header, and that he will receive the portfolio of Communications or Agriculture and Commerce, we take to be tolerably certain. The Liberals, of course, are not what they were. Several of them have shown themselves unworthy of trust or consideration, and it would be wholesome discipline if the party were made to suffer now for insignificance resulting from disgraceful causes. So far as Liberal principles are concerned Marquis Ito is doubtless prepared to push them without much stint, and on that understanding, reduced, perhaps, to some clearly defined points, the Liberals might be induced to give their sup-port to the essentials of Marquis Ito's policy. It looks now as though reduction of the Army-expansion programme and increased taxation would be among those essentials. Viscount Katsura is confidently spoken of for the portfolio of War, and Viscount Katsura is known to maintain that the ante bellum establishment of the Army was amply sufficient for Japan's needs. Count Okuma, on the other hand, in his recent interview with the editor of this journal, practically admitted his will-ingness to endorse an increase of taxation, though he regarded the moment as inopportune for adding to the Land Tax. A compromise on all sides appears to be in the air.

Wednesday, Jan. 5. The Jiji Shimpo gives an account of the progress of the negotiations for the organization of the new Cabinet, from which we learn that, in addition to the difficulty of coming to an arrangement with the three parties—the Liberals, the The above would certainly be the strong- Progressionists and the National Unionists —there is the further embarrassment that sent. But no hope of his return to the tion, but we confess that we ourselves are the Progressionists are virtually divided not very sanguine as to the prospects of into three sections. It appears that the

first person to whom Marquis Ito addressed himself on receiving the Emperor's order, was Count Okuma. The latter explained that many obstacles stood in the way of his accepting office, and asked for time to consider. The result of his consultation with the Progressionists was to show that the north-eastern section and justice that it would be extremely unwise the former "reform party" (Kakushin to) to enter into a hard and fast agreement were definitely opposed to his accepting with parties which, for ought that is known office and to allying themselves with an to the contrary, may be on the eve of Ito Cabinet. These form the left wing, disintegration. The general elections are or the extremists, of the Party. centre, or Hatoyama section, were in favour of two months hence may be composed of union with the Cabinet provided that of very different elements from the one half of the portfolios were allotted to Liberals of to-day, and the same is true the Party's leaders. The right wing, con- of the Progressionists. sisting of Count Okuma's immediate fol- ble to predict that conditions favoured lowers, declared themselves content with by either party at present will have the two portfolios, including Count Okuma's, endorsement of the future representatives assigned to the Party. It was thus evident of that party. The Marquis is reported to that Count Okuma's entry into the Cabinet have declared, further, that it is not for would involve the partial disruption of the him to attempt the task of reconciling the Progressionists. If, indeed, the seceding Liberals and the Progressionists. If, after section comprised only the left wing, the matter would not be very serious, but it might also include the centre, since Marquis Ito could not possibly agree to give one half of the portfolios to Progression-ists. On the other hand, Count Itagaki and the Liberals declared their unwillingness to ally themselves with a Cabinet including Count Okuma and supported by the Progressionists. One of the plans proposed under these circumstances was that each of the three statesmen, Ito, Okuma and Itagaki, should have the fixing of two portfolios. Thus Marquis Ito would dispose of the Minister Rresident's posi-tion and that of the Foreign Minister; Count Okuma, the portfolios of Communi-cations and Agriculture and Commerce; and Count Itagaki, those of Justice and Education, the remaining four portfolios-Finance, Home, Army and Navy-being given to non-party men. This too being found impracticable, the next idea was to settle the holders of the portfolios of War and the Navy first—namely, Lieut.-General Viscount Katsura for the former and Marshal Marquis Saigo for the latter—, and then to try and persuade Baron Iwasaki to take the direction of Finance. The Baron had already refused once, but might possibly yield to persuasion. If not, Marquis Ito could appoint Viscount Watanabe. The Marquis further desired to have a nonparty-man, Viscount Yoshikawa, at the Home Office. Thus it does not appear, so far as this account indicates, that things are in a very forward state nor are there many indications that Count Okuma's much desired cooperation can be secured.

Thursday, Jan. 6. The latest news from Oiso is to the effect that no prospect exists any longer of forming a coalition Cabinet. The practical impossibility of a union including Count Okuma and Count Itagaki has already been explained. But up till very recently it seemed more than probable that an understanding between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma would be reached. are concerned, there does not appear to be anything to keep them apart. Their policies and aims are practice. That any section of a party should break away from the counted a delirious and amissing to be appeared to be anything to keep them apart. That, too, is now declared to be hopeless. policies and aims are practically identi-ing, to be eschewed by every possible cal. But the two Counts can not move contrivance. We who have hope and conwithout their parties. To use a familiar fidence in the future of the Japanese Diet, Japanese law does not recognise the conillustration, it is the tails that wag the would like to see some reflection of the cubine as such. A woman may be regist-

he is not prepared to offer up his whole policy on the altar of a Liberal and Progressionist alliance. He is not prepared, indeed, to pledge himself to any definite list of stipulations formulated by a political party. Even were he disposed to adopt such a course, he argues with much The to take place very shortly. The Liberals It is impossithe general election, the two parties can come to an understanding on the lines indicated by their leaders, Counts Okuma and Itagaki—lines which the Marquis himself finds reasonable and enlightenedthe entry of the two Counts into the Cabinet will be heartily welcomed. But, in the meanwhile, the Marquis will discharge, to the best of his\_ability, the\_duty entrusted to him by the Emperor. He will organize a Cabinet of statesmen such as seem to him most competent to discharge the functions of administration and conduct the foreign affairs of the State in the manner demanded by the circumstances of the time, and he will take care to secure unity of thought and action on the part of the Ministry.

One lesson taught by this incident is that the political parties have to learn discipline before they can pretend to administrative competence. Instead of following and obeying their leaders, they expect their leaders to obey and follow them. So little notion of subordination seems to exist that we hear of the Progressionists being divided into three sections, each of which has a different notion of the conditions that should be exacted as the price of giving its support to the Cabinet, and each is equally resolved to insist upon its own notion. Some time ago the whole series of Volumes comprising Hansard's reports of the British House of Commons' proceedings were offered for sale, and Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, then Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, strongly advocated their acquisition by the Japanese Government. We do not know whether his advice was adopted, but if it was, no more useful study could be commended to party politicians in this country than those truth-speaking volumes. The grand fact that the story of the British Commons enshrines is the recognition given by political parties-the Irish excepted-to the necessity of subordination, loyalty and obedi-ence. Incidents like Mr. Robert Lowe's Cave in 1866, and Lord Randolph Chur-chill's Fourth Party in 1880 owe the salience with which they stand out solely to their exceptional character. That any section

Friday, January 7.
Speculations continue to be indulged in by the vernacular newspapers with regard to the new cabinet, but we need scarcely occupy space by reproducing them. All the indications at present discernible go to show that neither Count Okuma not Count Itagaki will have a portfolio, and that the composition of the Ministry will be entirely independent of political parties. Marquis Ito, for the rest, seems disposed to hasten slowly. He knows the value of time as a solvent of difficulties, and he probably thinks that the loss of a few days counts for little compared with the misfortune of an unstable Cabinet. We doubt whether anything definite can be expected before the 10th, or perhaps the

#### THE SOCIAL EVIL AND SOCIAL MORALITY.

It does not seem right to dismiss this subject without a word of reference to the letter from a correspondent published elsewhere in our columns. We have, in the first place, to correct an error for which we are solely responsible. Seeing that our correspondent speaks in his second letter of Governor Hennessey, we have turned back to his former communication in the Hiogo News, and we find from it that he there also indicated Governor Hennessey, whereas we have been speaking of Sir George Bowen. Our correspondent's account of Governor Hennessey's views stands uncontradicted, therefore, so far as we are concerned, and we have to apologise for the confusion. As to the geisha and their performances, we did not intend, and do not for a moment intend, to deny that they sometimes transgress the limits of modesty. That depends altogether on the company in which they find themselves. But if they are suffered to follow the regular customs of their craft, the strictest purist could not detect a shadow of immodesty in their behaviour. Time and time again we have seen them perform their conventional rôle of attending at Japanese dinners and dancing or otherwise entertaining the convives afterwards, and we can only repeat that the most fastidious lady would not have found any cause to object. But the geisha is not always a demure, strait-laced little person. She can assume a very different character if circumstances suggest the advantage of doing so. Our correspondent must not suppose, therefore, that we claim for her anything like per-manent immaculateness. What we say is that she can be immaculate when she pleases; that she is nearly always immaculate when summoned to assist at social réunions in polite society, and that it is a mistake to regard her as an invariable exponent of evil. There are, indeed, certain bodies of geisha-the very best artistes of their class, too-who to unfailing modesty add a very strict standard of virtue. But, on the whole, the geisha is undoubtedly a demoralizing and dangerous influence, nor are her mischievous potentialities lessened by the refined graces and studied delicacy of her general demeanour.

Concerning the legalization of concubinage, we assure our correspondent that dogs in their case, and the tails refuse to see some tenection of the conered in various capacities, though she is a
be fitted together. As for Marquis Ito, fusion of Japanese political associations.

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be registered as a concubine, nor has a concubine any legal status whatever. That point presents no difficulty, of course, for the person making the registration. No inquisition can be attempted into the real habits of a woman who lives in a private house and is duly registered as some kind of domestic. The law can not prescribe the number of maid-servants in a house, or examine whether they are truly what the register shows them to be. On the other hand, the law, we believe, will not grant a divorce to a wife merely because her husband keeps a concubine. In that respect namely, in so far as the indirect penalty is concerned—the law of the United States must be said to be the more strict.

We need not, perhaps, refer specially to the subject of missionaries and their usefulness. Our opinions on that point must be well known to readers of this journal. It is our desire to say, however, that even though there were no abuse in this country calling for missionary de-nunciation except the shocking and barbarously cruel abuse of keeping concubines in the same house with wedded wives, the presence of the missionaries would be amply justified. It is only necessary to ask any Japanese lady what she thinks of the aid that Christianity can contribute towards relieving her sex from that source of bitter sorrow and often life-long suffering. The answer will clearly indicate one work the achievement of which would earn for the missionary a nation's blessing.

#### THE VOLUME OF THE CURRENCY.

It has always been a perplexing problem to determine the volume of currency suitable to the requirements of the Japanese people. In 1882, an empirical belief prevailed in some quarters that a hundred million yen was the proper figure, neither more nor less. Fiduciary notes were then the principal-indeed, almost the onlymedia of exchange, and it happened that a hundred and eighty million yen of such notes were found to have been issued by the Treasury just when their depreciation had proceeded to such a point that their ratio to silver was as 180 to 100. That arithmetical coincidence seemed very striking to certain publicists, and they set themselves to compile tables for the purpose of showing that every million of notes issued in excess of a hundred miltions involved a depreciation of one per cent., from which it followed, of course, that a hundred million yen represented the exact volume of currency needed by the nation. Inclusive of hard money the volume now in circulation is about three hundred and twelve millions, and again attempts have been made to demonstrate that the general rise of prices recorded during recent years is due to an inflated currency. Nothing can be less trustworthy than these essays to trace relations of cause and effect where coincidences alone may exist. It does not follow for one moment that because the volume of media of exchange circulating in a country is apparently large, the prices of commodities must be high. Many factors fatal to such an assumption can be discovered without much thought, and no fact is better known to economists than that convertible tokens of exchange can not be forced into circulation in excess of a nation's requirements. Fiduciary notes may

their purchasing power. But the case is different with notes convertible at any time into precious metal. In Japan's case, who is to determine what addition ought to have been made to the currency during the past three years of extraordinary industrial and commercial expansion, or who will venture to assert that, even on the hypothesis that 100 million yen sufficed in 1882, three hundred and thirty millions are excessive in 1897? A hundred million yen represented 19 million pounds sterling in 1882—apart from the question of fiat currency, which does not enter into this calculation-and three hundred and thirty million yes represent 33 millions sterling to-day. Surely - even accepting the very doubtful estimate of a hundred millions as sufficient in 1882-an increase of 74 per cent. in the volume of the currency during fifteen years of such extraordinary development as the past fifteen years have been, can not be called excessive, and can not possibly be charged with having produced a general appreciation of prices to the extent of over a hundred per cent? The latest contribution to our data for calculating this question is made by Mr. Amenomiya. He says that when Hideyoshi, the Taiko, introduced the coinage system of the Keicho era-the first system of gold and silver coins worthy to be so called in Japan-the volume was fixed with reference to the yield of rice, that cereal having been the real measure of values from time immemorial. The average annual production of rice was then 20 million koku, and the keku being officially valued at I rivo, Hideyoshi determined the volume of the currency at 20 million rive. mediately prior to the war with China, rice was quoted at 8 yen a koku, approximately, and the volume of the currency, including metallic media, then stood at 320 million yen, the yield of rice being about 40 million koks. Thus the ratio between the yield of the staple cereal and the quantity of the circulating media was preserved, and the money market did not show any embarrassment. But rice has now gone to 13 yen per koku, at the most moderate calculation, and if we take the yield as 40 million koku, the volume of the currency ought to be 520 million yen, whereas it does not exceed 330 millions. No wonder, says Mr. Amenomiya, that industrial enterprise languishes, that companies have to stop working and that bankruptcies are frequent. He strongly advocates the introduction of foreign capi tal to the extent of 200 million yen, and that it should be obtained at the lowest possible rate of interest, the State railways being pledged as security, private railways also being purchased by the Government and similarly hypothecated, if necessary. Such purchase would serve to add the borrowed millions to the floating capital of the nation, or, if need be, the process of redeeming War Bonds might be resorted to. This is an interesting theory, but scarcely credible in its entirety.

#### THE RECENT LIBEL CASE.

The public have probably been amused, though certainly not edified, by the dis-cussion to which the libel suit recently tried in the United States Consular Court

greater their depreciation and the less is particularly vague, if such a wide difference of opinion can exist with reference to the force of words in almost daily use. To us, however, the incident constitutes rather an illustration of the facilities that modern legal tribunals offer for confusing a simple issue. The question was whether a man is entitled to claim that his character has been injuriously defamed when he is accused of having committed an act called sasko, and adopted a line of procedure to which the term fusei applies. Counsel for the plaintiff, concerning whom this language had been employed in a Japanese newspaper, claimed that his client had been libelled, counsel for the defence denied that the words were libellous; each side produced expert testimony in support of its contention, and the Court came to a conclusion practically endorsing the view urged by the defence. Now 25 to the word fusei, to which the plaintiff assigned the meaning "dishonest," there can not be the smallest doubt that it is sometimes used in that sense. But equally certain is the fact that it does not necessarily signify "dishonest." It is a term of wide import, corresponding almost exactly to the English adjectives "incorrect" and "improper." Thus the act of a Minister of State who shows partiality in appointing his subordinates may be described as fusei. but so may the act of a judge who sells his judgments. It can not be alleged that the term fusei carries a defamatory import in all cases. On the other hand, what is quite certain is that when a Japanese speaks of fusei na hito, he intends to indicate a person unworthy of trust; a person who can not be counted on to act correctly or properly in a given con-tingency, whether pecuniary interests or principles of abstract morality are at stake. Equally certain is it that no Japanese writer or speaker, possessing any linguistic discrimination, would apply the term fusei to a mere error of fact not wilfully misleading. He would not think of using the word unless he desired to imply moral obliquity, whether of major or of minor degree. Concerning the second expression in dispute, sasko, the defence contended that it does not convey the significance of a fraudulent act, and that its true sense is simply "false re-presentation." In connexion with this point, frequent reference was made to the fact that the term for "fraud" found in the Penal Code is sags, and it appears to have been thought that the ideograph as alone, without the conjunction of gi, could not be interpreted to mean "fraud." But if the advocates of that view had examined the Penal Code more thoroughly, they would have found that, in Art. 231 Sect. VIII., sasho, the very term in question, is classed as a crime involving a fine of from 2 to 20 yen. Indeed, that Article sets forth the very offence indicated in the alleged libel, namely, shokugyo wo sasho suru (to misrepresent one's trade or calling). The idea of frandulent purpose, or, at any rate, intent to deceive, is unmistakably involved. In short, whatever room there may be to dispute about fine shades of equivalence or variance in English translations, it is beyond all dispute that any educated Japanese, reading the words which constituted the alleged libel, would, if he believed them, conceive a radically bad opinion about the person to whom they were applied, and would carefully avoid him in business transactions. That is the be issued to an almost unlimited extent, has given rise. An impression must have plain fact, very successfully obscured by because the more copious their issue the been produced that the Japanese language the defence, but patent enough to any

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atudent of Japanese. Whether the plaintiff has obliged her best friends to look deserved to be thus labelled "unsafe" another question, upon which we do not touch here.

#### GERMANY AND CHINA.

We are at length in possession of information finally settling the much discussed question whether Germany gave any notice to China, or opened any negotia-tions with her, before seizing Kiao-chou. A Washington telegram to The Times, dated Nov. 19th, says :-

When it was learnt that the bandits in the district of Ru-yeh had killed two Gorman missionaries the Governor of Shan tung was ordered sionaries the Governor of Shau tung was ordered to instruct the high officials of the province immediately to arcest and punish the offenders. On the 15th inst. the Governor reported by telegraph that four arcests had been made. This was communicated to the German Minister, but the German warships had on the 14th landed troops and given the garrison 48 hours in which to retire. The Minister did not give the Tsung Il-Yamén any sotice of this step. The news of the landing of the Germans arrived at Peking on the 15th inst, and caused the greatest supprise. the Ishding of the Germans arrived at Peking on the 15th inst. and caused the greatest surprise. The Chinese Government thereupon, in view of the friendly relations existing with the German Government, ordered the Governor strictly to control the gerrison and to withdraw the troops, enjoining them not to move without instructions.

We have from the first refused to believe that the occupation was made without warning of any kind. No one was warranted in believing anything of the sort so long as a different hypothesis could be entertained. But the above telegram places the matter beyond the range of doubt. Of course such action can not be reconciled with any principles of civilised intercourse. There will be no second opi-nion about that. Germany ought to have formulated her demands, whatever their nature, and given the Chinese Government a reasonable opportunity of rejecting or accepting them before she proceeded to extremities. If her method of dealing with China were to become a precedent, there would be no such thing as security of in-ternational intercourse. A country might at any moment invade the territory of a friendly state in a time of profound peace, and might subsequently justify its violent action by formulating a grievance, real or action by formulating a grievance, real or imaginary. It is greatly to be regretted that a Western Power should have adopted such a course, and we are much mistaken if the German nation itself does not ultimately condemn it, for sounder instincts of morality are not to be found anywhere than among the Germans. The explanation, of course, will be that China, by repeated failures to discharge her treaty obligations, has placed herself beyond the pale of ordinary diplomatic usages, and that the only way to rouse her to a sense of her duties is to show her that by neglecting them she has forfieted all title to respect, and incurred the danger of disintegration. Conceding to such an excuse its fullest value, there remains still the final test of necessity. Nothing short of imperative necessity can justify a great, self-respect-ing and eminently civilized State in making a radical departure from the rules of civilized usage. Was there an imperaof civilized usage. Was there an impera-tive necessity in this case? We can not detect it. We can not see how recourse to armed pressure would have been less efficacious as against China or more difficult for Germany had it been preceded Adviser in the Legations. "Thus Averill in by negotiation. Germany has put Averill succeeds"—His Honour the British herself in the wrong where she might have been conspicuously in the right, and at Shanghai being the new appointer's father. Original from

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askance at a situation in which she would otherwise have had universal sympathy. It is a pity, especially in the eyes of Englishmen, who, though they recognise in Germany a strong industrial and commercial rival, and though they have had many reasons of late to resent her action, nevertheless confess to themselves that the Germans are closer to them than any other European race, and that a serious quarrel with them is scarcely possible. It were futile after this Kiao-chou incident to preach to Oriental nations the tenets of international integrity. They will naturally reply that if the practice of a Power like Germany differs so widely from the principles professed by Europe, canons of conduct cease to have appreciable value.

#### A CHINESE LOAN FROM RUSSIA.

The telegram from Peking with reference to a Russian loan to China is probably true, so far as the main fact is concerned. There appears to be a strong likelihood that the loan will be made, but of course the alleged conditions must be regarded with considerable doubt. China's treaties with Western Powers deprive her of competence to discriminate in favour of any one of the treaty states to the exclusion of the others in such matters as the construction of railways or the working of mines. When the Emperor of China signed an agreement declaring that "should he, hereafter, from any cause whatever, be pleased to grant additional privileges or immunities to any of the subjects or citizens of foreign countries, the same privileges and immunities should be extended to and enjoyed by British subjects," he divested himself of the power to give to Russia exclusive privileges of the kind referred to in the telegram. As to the Customs, if they are to be hypothecated as security for the loan, it is con-ceivable that Russia might ask to have them placed under the superintendence of one of her own subjects. But there is a previous mortgage on the Customs, and its holders would be entitled to object to any such change. We are disposed, therefore, to dismiss all these conditions as apocryphal, and the same may be said of the assertion that a tract of territory is to be given as security. China knows that she can obtain a hundred million taels in England without hypothecating any part of her empire, and it is hard to see why she should turn to Russia under such circumstances. Finally, with regard to Pehtang and the Siberian Railway, that is a very far cry. Pehtang lies a few miles to the north of the mouth of the Pelho. It is the place where the Anglo-French expedition land-Latest estimates indicate ed in 1860. that the Siberian Railway is not likely to be finished for the next ten years. What could Russia want by talking now of extending it to the Gulf of Petchili? The thing sounds somewhat unpractical, and suggests a general programme very difficult to conceive.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, says the N. C. Daily News, has received by wire the substantive appointment of Crown Advocate and Legal Adviser in the Legations. "Thus Averill in Averill succeeds"—His Honour the British

#### THE " NARA MARU."

Unhappily little room remains to hone that the dimensions of the Nara Maru disaster were exaggerated by the first telegrams received in Tokyo. Out of 177 persons, only 5 appear to have been saved. There is some doubt as to the total number, 177. A message despatched from Taipeh on the 28th ultimo speaks of 85 persons having been on board. But the details of the larger aggregate are given very clearly by another telegram, namely, Commander Yasuda and 100 seamen of the Imperial Navy, 16 ordinary passengers —all first-class, apparently—and a crew of 60. The saved are two naval seamen and three of the crew. The man of-war Tenris and the steamers Anning and Takao were sent to the scene to succour to any that might still be living, but the tempestuous state of the weather rendered the attempt abortive. Among the corpses cast ashore, one has been identified as Commander Yasuda's by documents found in the pockets.

We may add that the idea of Mr. M. Kirkwood's having been a passenger in the *Nara Maru* appears to be unquestionably erroneous. It was suggested by a telegram sent by Mr. Kirkwood himself to the Judicial Department in Tokyo, in which he spoke of the Nara Maru's loss and his own safety. But it is now plain from a comparison of dates that the Nara Maru was en route for the Pescadores from Kelung when the dis-aster occurred, whereas Mr. Kirkwood was in the Pescadores at the time, having gone thither from Anping a few days

previously.

#### COMPARATIVE NAVAL STRENGTH IN THE FAR EAST.

The Japan Gazette publishes an interesting table slowing the relative strengths of the squadrons of the various Powers in the Far East, the result being that England and Japan muster 31 ships with an aggregate displacement of 147,307 tons-including four line-of-battle shipsagainst 22 vessels representing Russia, France and Germany, with a total dis-placement of 114,851 tons. We observe are apparent inaccuracy. Among the French ships our contemporary includes Among the the Jeanne d'Arc, an armoured cruiser of 11,270 tons. The Jeanne d'Arc, unless we are mistaken, is not yet in commission. The correct name would be the Jean Bart, second-class unarmoured cruiser of 4,109 lons and 19 knots speed. This reduces the displacement of the Freuch squadron to 19,921 tons, and that of the three allied squadrons to 107,690 tons.

#### FIRE ON NEW YEAR'S NIGHT.

On Saturday night fire broke out in the kitchen of a residential house in the Settlement, No. 119, occupied by Mr. H. Albers. The alarm was given at 9.30 p.m. and very shortly afterwards Superintendant Morgin, of the Yokohama Fire Brigade, with a party of men of the Brigade, and a couple of hose-reels and standpipes were upon the scene. The roof of the kitchen was then blazing up merrily, but the flames were very soon extinguished with water from the neighbouring hydrants, before any damage had been done to the main building. The origin of the fire has not been discovered.

#### THE FAR-EASTERN QUESTION.

RUMOUR is not slow to magnify the perils and menaces of the situation that has been created in the Far East by Germany's action at Kiao-chou and Russia's at Port Arthur. Again we hear the old wail about England's decayed prestige, and again omniscient journalists are pluming themselves on the prescience they displayed two or three years ago when they predicted that this Power would do this and that Power that, and when they declared that if England did not do something she would be condemned for ever to inaction. Prestige, indeed! What is prestige? If the recent proceedings of Germany and Russia, as interpreted by these auxious observers, are to be counted evidences of well supported prestige, then in truth the strength of that much discussed abstraction varies directly as a nation's immorality, and its most brilliant displays consist in international maraudings. The assumptions upon which they base their ideal of prestige are that Germany, in a time of profound peace, suddenly and without warning of any kind, made an armed irruption into the realm of a friendly State, and under pretext of avenging the murder of two missionaries by Chinese banditti, executed a preconceived design of obtaining possession of Chinese territory and securing exceptional privileges of mining and railway building in a Chinese province; and that Russia, baving joined with Germany and France to guarantee the safety of the Chinese capital by driving Japan from a position which she had won in fair warfare, has now turned round and seized the same position for herself, thereby declaring, in effect, that her action in expelling Japan was a dishonest intrigue, prompted, not by any solicitude for China's safety, but by a desire to remove all obstructions from the path of her own greedy aggression. These are the hypotheses underlying the critics' admiration of German and Russian prestige, and because Great Britain has not gone and done likewise, her star is suphas suffered solely at the hands of English detractors and sensationalists, who, piecing together fragments of rumour, construct imaginary complications, and then abuse British representatives and the British Government for not rising to situations which do not exist. If Gerought to be proud that his country has interests threatened. Rumour alleges,

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Powers directly concerned in these Far- usual. Russia has not taken any step Eastern events, she towers head and beyond seeking permission for her ships shoulders not only above each of the rest, to winter in Port Arthur, and availing but even above the other three combined, herself of the permission when granted. We speak of a combination, but is such a She may intend to hold the place perthing practically conceivable as a combination of Russia, France and Germany against England in the Far East? Discriminations between the Occidentand We do not intend to suggest that the the Orient for the purposes of warlike alliances are not supposable. If a belligerent coalition between Germany, Russia and France be possible in Asia, then it is possible in Europe also. Can any sent to a warlike issue, or even to the one seriously contemplate the latter con-immediate partition of China. Still less tingency? Have there not existed, ever is it a situation suggesting any loss of since 1870, insuperable obstacles to anything of the kind? From a strategical effort of self-assertion on England's part. point of view also it is quite plain that Japan is much more concerned to enter the three Powers could not hope to make the arena. Her rights admit of no dispute. head against England in the Pacific unless they crippled her in the Mediterranean and, moreover, obtained the command of session less than three years ago by force of her coaling stations along the route arms. Her troops actually held the whole from Aden to Hungkong. With Eng- of southern Shinking and her officials adland holding the Suez Canal, not a German, French or Russian ship could find its way eastward to reinforce the allied squadron, whereas the route would be clear all the time for British vessels. Any one can appreciate what that means. Again, suppose that the combat had broken out and that Japan were neutral. Where could the ships of the allies go to coal or to repair? The plain fact is that such a fight is out of the question. And, indeed, we see no reason why there should If, as is very probable, the present "exbe any talk about it. A German naval station at Kiao-chou need not impair Exceptional conces-British interests. sions as to mining, railway building and so forth are another affair, but with regard tion of her right, she had better lose no to that, one of two issues is certain: time in showing that she recognises it either no such concessions will be granted, or they will be granted to England and Germany alike. We can be quite sure that the British Minister in Peking has been sufficiently emphatic in his representations to the Tsung-li-Yamen on that subject. It remains to be seen whether Germany has any intention of establishing herself permanently at Kiao-chou, but posed to have set. The fact is that if even granting that she has, her presence England's prestige has suffered at all, it there need not trouble England. As for Russia, she has asked for China's permission to use Port Arthur as a winter station for her ships, and China has granted the request. Why should England be thrown into a flutter by proceedings of that nature? When Russia made similar application for Kiao-chou, and actually many and Russia have acted in the employed it as a winter harbour, there was manner alleged by several of the Eng- no public excitement, nor any talk about lish local journals, every Englishman England's prestige being lowered or her not followed their example. Happily for indeed, that Russia is fortifying Kin-chow. Great Britain, she is not obliged to have That, of course, would point to something recourse to such coups. Her prestige more than a mere winter station, such as rests on an incomparably more solid and Nagasaki and Yokohama used to be for pairing the confidence that foreigners feel respectable foundation. It rests on the the Russian squadron. But rumour ap- in the integrity of the Japanese Govern-

manently, but until some plainer evidence of such intention is apparent, England sertainly need not take any decisive step. situation is without elements of uneasiness, or that it may not ultimately necessitate a conference of the Powers. But it is not a situation pointing at pre-British prestige or demanding any violent The Liao-tung Peninsula and the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea were in her posministered its affairs. She retroceded the district to China in deference to a united protest from Russia, Germany and France that her tenure of it would render the independence of Korea illusory and threaten the security of the Chinese capital. If the three Powers, or one of them, contemplates occupying, or otherwise alienating from China, any part of the territories retroceded under such conditions, Japan has the clearest possible title to protest. cursions and alarums" eventuate in a conference of States, Japan has the most distinct right to occupy a place at the council board. But to secure the recogniherself. The squadrons of Russia, of Germany, and of England are already in the sphere of disturbance, but no Japanese squadron is visible. People ask what good purpose can be served by Great Britain's naval demonstration at Port Hamilton and Chemulpo. Simply this, she shows herself upon the scene. She intimates that the future of the Korean peninsula and its adjacent islands shall not be settled without her consent." Why does not Japan also make "act of presence"? It will be intensely humiliating and injurious for her to find herself quietly ignored on the day of settlement, and that is what will certainly happen II she maintains her present attitude of apathy.

#### THE CUSTOMS AND THE "BU" QUESTION.

HE question of silver bu and the Japanese Customs still occupies attention and is still employed as a weapon for imfact that among the four Great Western pears in this instance to be wrong, as ment. We propose to devote a few Original from

words to the subject in the hope of apparently entertained in Kobe. One Notification the price of the bu in terms of may be noted at the outset. It is charged of Japanese importers, the dollar being that the Japanese Government has never thus worth 3.17 bu.\* On the other hand, vouchsafed any explanation of the matter, but that at last "the Mail, after waiting mitted to pay the duties in bu: they had some three years, has ventured in where to present dollars. As between the foofficials feared to tread." circumstances a statement of that charac- every dollar presented by the former was ter disfigures a controversy. But when reckoned at 3.11 bu only, while every a distinct misrepresentation is implied, dollar presented by the latter was reckonthe statement becomes wantonly mischievous. The Japan Mail took up the per cent., approximately, in favour of an accusation formulated in the Kobe in a moment. Here we confine ourselves a falsehood. There has been no "at last" understand that its explanations and reasons were long ago submitted to the Foreign Representatives. to have taken place, it is simply because the matter is still under discussion.

The chief charge with which we undertook to deal, the only charge, in fact, with which we were concerned at the moment, was that the Japanese Government, in 1874, had issued secret instructions for the purpose of discriminating in favour of their own nationals and against foreigners in the matter of the payment of import duties. Let us consider first the question of secrecy. There was no secrecy. The whole affair was just as open and above board as any other legislative measure adopted by the Authorities. In September 1874, the following Notification was issued by the Japanese Government:-

Notification No. 93.—9th month, seventh year of Meiji. Although a comparative table of values of old nurrency was published in the fourth (intercalary) month of the 1st year of Meiji, the Mint Department, having now revised those values, as in the subjoined table, after a minute analysis, will issue new coins in exchange for the old at the rates given therein until the 12th month of the sighth year of Maiji. Persons nossession at a rates given by Maiji. Persons possessing old coins may apply to have them exchanged at their respective local offices. Until the lapse of the above term, the old currency may be used in the payment of taxes and in all other payments to the Government except the customs dues, but is henceforth prohibited in transactions among the people.

REVISED VALUES.

Ichibu-gin	31 5 sen
Ichibu gin (old)	35 1 13
Ichibu ban (new)	32.8 ,,
Ichibu ban (Ansei, gold)	88-2 ,,

To make the matter clear it is necessary to explain that the specific duties set forth in the Import Tariff were assessed in terms of the silver coin called on. Any one tendering payment of such dues might do so either in bu coins, or in dollars. The value of the dollar in terms of bu for the purposes of foreign importers was fixed by Treaty: one bu 31.5 sen.

represented 32.154 sen, the dollar being dispelling the very erroneous impressions thus worth 3.11 bu. But by the above is explicitly stated. point, though of an unessential nature, the dollar became 31.5 sen for the purposes Japanese importers were no longer per-Under any reigner and the Japanese, however, since ed at 3.17 bs, there was a difference of 2 subject in direct and immediate reply to the Japanese. We shall recur to this point Chronicle. To talk of "at last" and of to the matter of secrecy. There was, we "some three years' waiting" is to suggest repeat, no secrecy. The Notification was publicly issued and took its place among nor any "three years' waiting" so far as the laws of the land. That no steps were the Japan Mail is concerned. With re- adopted to bring it to the knowledge of fogard to the Japanese Government, we reigners was because it affected Japanese subjects only. It interdicted the use of the silver bu by Japanese, but the in-They will terdict could not be extended to foreigners doubtless be published when diplomatic since they were entitled by treaty to convenience permits. If any delay seems use the bu. It was, in fact, a purely domestic regulation, and such regulations are not announced to foreigners in any country. But a foreigner interested in matters of the kind could have made himself acquainted with the Notification as easily as with the Press Law or the Mining Regulations. Moreover, a glance at the Customs Returns of that epoch would have at once illustrated the working of the Notification. We alluded but many times, the charge has been to this point in a previous issue, but have been met with the retort :- "To discover the existence of the discrimination foreign merchants would have had to take the Customs Returns, ascertain the total value be construed in such a sense. So far as of the goods passed by Japanese upon the Treaties are concerned, the Japanese which specific dues were charged, discover Government might remit import duties what proportion of the sums paid in by altogether in favour of its own subjects. Japanese were for specific duties, and then Under the Revised Treaties nothing. by a process of subtraction and compari- of the kind would be lawful, since son eventually arrive at the number of by they secure national treatment for to the dollar which Japanese paid." That the subjects or citizens of the contractis true of the Customs Returns as compiled ing parties. But the Treaties now in during recent years but is not true of the Customs Returns at the epoch in question. In the latter the quantities of each particular class of goods imported by foreigners and invidious discrimination. That, however, Japanese respectively and the duties paid is a point of sentiment. If facts alone be were clearly distinguished, item by item, so that not the least difficulty could have been experienced in comparing the rates. How secrecy can be alleged in the case of a procedure determined by public Notifications and publicly indicated on the Customs Returns, it is difficult to apprehend. Moreover, if any further evidence of publicity be needed, it is furnished by the Mint Report for 1874, where the

adoption of the new rate by the Customs

With regard to the disadvantage at which foreign importers were placed, it was obviously confined to payments made in dollars. The intrinsic value of the bu being 31.5 sen, and its demonetization having been effected by the above notification, its price in the market must always have been less than 31.5 sen. As a matter of fact, it was generally quoted at much less. Hence the foreign importer could exchange his dollars in the open market, and pay his duties with bu which he had procured at a lower rate than that allowed by the Customs to Japanese importers. Twenty million bu were actually handed in by foreigners under these conditions between 1874 and 1894. It is of no use denying the fact on the evidence of an official who "never remembers seeing a single bu paid in." The Customs records show, in black and white, that the yearly payments-varying from over 3 millions in 1875 to less than two hundred thousand in 1894-aggregated 20 millions. On the other hand, foreign importers discharging the Customs dues direct with dollars, suffered a discrimination of 2 per cent., and of course the total loss thus incurred exceeded the total gain on payments made with bu.

It has been most confidently asserted that the action taken by the Japanese Government in this matter of the bu was a distinct violation of the letter and the spirit of the Treaties. Not once or twice, made. None of those advancing it, however, has attempted to prove it. The task would have been impossible, for the Treaties do not contain a word that can operation impose no restriction of the kind. The Government would be unwill. ing, we presume, to resort to any such considered, the statement that the Notification quoted above was in any sense a violation of the Treaties will not hold water for a moment.

The steamer Iyo Maru, secently built at the Kawasaki Dockyard, Kobe, for the Ito Steamship Company, made her official trial trip off Awaji on the 25th ult., says the Chronicle, with satisfactory results. She developed a speed of 15 knots an hour. The new steamer is 180 feet long and her gross tonnage 745. She is fitted with triple expansion engines, and the cabins are fitted with electric light. She is to make her maiden voyage from Osaka on the 6th prox. to Oshima, Satsuma, via Moji, Hakata, Naga-saki, and Kagoshima.



<sup>·</sup> In a recent article we inadvertently wrote that the value of the dollar was fixed by this Notifica-tion at 3.15 bu, whereas we should have written that the value of the bu in terms of the dollar was

#### RUSSIA AT PORT ARTHUR.

If it be true that Russia has sent a force of marines to Kin-chow and is throwing up defensive works there, the fact is full of significance. Kin-chow-or Chinchow as it is also called-lies at the neck of a narrow isthmus connecting the southern and central parts of the Liaotung Peninsula. It is 25 miles distant from Port Arthur, and it may be called the back-door of that important harbour, for a comparatively small force posted in the vicinity of Kin-chow could effectually bar any advance against Port Arthur from the land side. The first fatal mistake made by the Chinese in connexion with the Japanese invasion of Liaotung, was their failure to make effective provision for guarding Kin-chon. The place fell after a very brief struggle and the road to Port Arthur lay open. It is quite plain, however, that if Russia be occupying Port Arthur merely as a winter station for her squadron, the defences of Kin-chow have no manner of concern for her. We must the refore conclude either that she has really undertaken to restore the fortifications of the place in China's interests, or that she intends to be a permanent occupant herself. Under any circumstances this Kin-chow news imparts to the whole incident a complexion very different from that originally assigned to it.

#### EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY.

Some time ago, a newspaper controversy between Mr. Takahashi of the Japan Times and the Rev. E. Snodgrass, editor of the Shepherd's Votce, led to the issue of a challenge—by the former gentleman, we think-to hold a public discussion, and argue the pres and cons of Christianity on the platform instead of in the press. The challenge was accepted, but as a considerable interval elapsed without any steps being apparently taken to complete the arrangements, the public began to think that the affair was "off." The debate is to take place, howwas "off." The debate is to take place, how-ever, in Tokyo on the 8th and 10th instant, at a place amounced in our advertisement columns. The propositions are :--

columns. I he propositions are !—

s.—Affirmed: That Christianity as a social institution is useful, but in its dogmatic sense is but a ghost of superstition and an entirely usefus institution now—Mr. Islambashi affirms.

a.—Affirmed: That Christianity as a social institution is useful, and that in its dogmatic asses is proven to be both rational and credible on the evidence of historical records: and is, therefore, necessary to the highest development of the human race——The Rev. E. Snodgrass.

#### DEATH OF MR. H. E. HARRIES.

We regret to have to record another death from typhoid fever, which occurred on Sunday last, when Mr. H. E. Harries, of the Hongkong and Shaughai Bank, succumbed to the disease after a very short illness. The burial aervice took place at Christ Church on Monday morning, the Rev. E. C. Irwine officiating, and concluded at the Cometery, where there was a large attendance of friends of the deceased and officers of the Bank. The pall-bearers were Messrs, C. Guinness, J. Maclean, W. Reid, G. C. Murray, H. W. Fraser, E. Hutchinson, J. G. Watson, and J. MacArthur. Many beautiful wreaths were sent by friends, amongst others by Mr.
and Mrs. H. M. Bevis, Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. and
Mrs. E. H. R. Manley, Mr. and Mrs. W.
Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Nicholson, Mr.
and Mrs. R. Home Cook (of Kobe), Messrs. J.
Lias, V. Blad, E. J. Libeaud, W. B. Clayton,
G. W. Middleton and F. C. V. Ribeiro, the
Hougkong and Shanghai Bank, the Chartered
Bank, the National Bank of China, the staff of
the General Hospital, the Kobe branch of the Asiatic provinces, and that a revolt is also feared

#### FORMOSA.

"The Beautiful Island" maintains its reputation for unruliness and violence Baron Nogi has again to report various outbreaks of rebellion and various measures of restraint. His telegrams just published relate to events which occurred last month, from which delay we infer that the operations described were in localities more or less remote from the regular lines of communication. The details do not convey explicit information, but it will be as well to translate the telegrams accurately :—

OPERATIONS OF THE FIRST MIXED BRIGADE. The insurgent bands under Lo, Ya and Su Lick having assembled in force, and made irruption into the hilly district on the north of the Kolung River, where they gave themselves up to general pillage, three companies of in-Kelung, under the command of Major Hirooka, on the 7th of December, to disperse them. On the approach of the troops the rebels fled in all directions, and no encounter of any consequence look place. The troops camped out in the hills and instituted a thorough search of the district, with the result that, on the 23rd of December, the insurgents were brought to bay, and two bodies under Seh Ko and Sui Hwan-kink were engaged by the gendarmes, the rebel casualties being 13 killed 40 or 50 wounded and 2 taken prisoner. Or the side of the gendarmes there were one killed, one wounded and one missing.

OPERATIONS OF THE SECOND MIXED BRIGADE. On the 21st of November the insurgents at Taipui-chin and Tok-to-cho were attacked and scattered, but at the close of the month they re-assembled; and in the beginning of Decemher, some two hundred of them, under the leadership of Ho Tiat and Ting Sai sian, made their appearance in the Chik-kow hills, entrenched themselves strongly, and made as trenned manageres arrongly, and made as though they contemplated an attempt to recover possession of Ta-peng-ting. On the 7th of December, therefore, the Brigade sent five single-companies of infantry, a battery of artillery, together with detachment of engineers and ambulance and a squadron of mounted gendarmes, to attack them. On the morning of the 13th, the assault was delivered from three directions, and the rebels, after some resistance, abandoned their entreachments and fled in all directions, with a loss of to killed, 26 prisoners, including one of their leaders. Nai Gi, and 40 wounded, including Ho Tist The Japanese casualties were three wounded, including a sergeant of engineers. A part of the attacking force was stationed near Kai-kowshan, and the remainder was withdrawn.

#### OPERATIONS OF THE THIRD MIXED BRIGADE.

At the close of November, about 200 insurgents assembled at Hwan-tsu-shan, under the command of Chai Ai ai and Chai Hiong, and raided the surrounding districts. Two companies of the Brigade which were returning, on relief, from Sin-eng and Chian-pa-fu, attacked and dispersed these insurgents on the 7th of December. But it having been ascertained that a large force of insurgents were holding a fort in the vicinity of Kiu-ti-ong, Major Inonye was despatched on the 8th to disperse them, having under his command two companies of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, a detachment of artillery and a detachment of engineers. The rebels

the General Hospital, the Kobe branch of the Asiatic provinces, and that a revolt is also feared in the Caucasus.

Asiatic provinces, and that a revolt is also feared in the Caucasus.

The stock remaining in the Caucasus.

#### JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Immigrante to Hokkaido have been steadily increasing year by year, says the Tokyo Asahi, the number for the 29th year only having decreased an compared with the previous year. Immigrants in 1895 totalled 59,671; in 1896, 50.396, a decrease of 9,275. This unusual falling off was attributable to the war with China. This year the number of emigrants has considered ably increased, and although no accurate statistics have yet been compiled the total number in supposed to exceed 60,000. The majority of these immigrants come from Ishikawa, Aemori, Niigata, Toyama, Kagawa, Yamagata, Akita, Iwate, and Tokushima, some of trese prefectures sending more than 7,000 immigrants each every year.

With the progress of the business of the Isdustrial Bank the advantages of obtaining loans repayable on yearly installments have made themselves clearly recognisable. Applications for such loans are steadily increasing, especially in industrial communities. The spinning com-panies, excepting those in Ozaka, Settau, and Miye, have all applied for loans. Some of them have already settled contracts and others are now negotiating for the same. The Plax Manufacture ing Companies in Hokkaido and Shimotsuke are also on the list, and their example has been followed by some of the silk manufacturers in the country. The amount of loans thus issued by the Bank is said to exceed 1,500,000 yes, which will be increased to 1,800,000 yen in January next. Complaints are heard from all directions as to the tedious procedure of the Bank in the issue of loans. But as the Bank's contract extends generally over twenty years, in spite of the imperfection now noticeable in its machinery for the inspection or appraisement of land or other securities for loans, elaborate investigations are required in most cases, making delay in-evitable. From next year, however, the Bank promises to afford greater facilities in all its transactions. A branch of the Central Bank is to be established in Ozaka immediately after the collection of the second call on its shares, Many of the provincial banks are to be commissioned to act as branches or agencies but no change will be made in the rate of interest for the present year.

The revenue payable into the Treasury for this year, according to the Hecki, amounts to 212,114,119 year while outlays to be made after next Spring are estimated m follows:—Redemption of loss bonds, 6,906,500 yen for 1898; 7,170,239 for 1899; interest on public bonds, 3,862,482 yen for 1898; 3,848,928 for 1899; interest on loss bonds, 1,875,000 yen for 1890; interest on loss bonds, 1,875,000 yen for 1899; interest on Public Undertakings Bonds, 1,409,858 yen; 1,778,202 yen for 1899; 10 per cent, of the military and naval armament expansion expenses, 6 358,647 yes for 1897; 4,449,428 yes for 1899; 5 per cent. of general administrative expenditure, 4,253,434 yes for 1897; 3,625,781 yes for 1898.

Since the new coinage system came into force in October last up till the 28th December gold coius exchanged for notes amounted, gold coits exchanged for notes amounted, according to the Mainichi, to 10,186,000 yen and for silver to 3,166,925 yen, making a total of 13,352,925 yen. It is for these reasons that the export of bullion in November shows an excess. The foreign trade for the year can not be definitely tabulated yet but it is beyond doubt that the excess of imports which characterized the 27th year of Meiji still continues to exist, The sums brought into the country by the Indemnity have no longer to be reckoned with, and an outflow of gold must inevitably be expected.

The silk market, asserts the Mainichi, was glutted with 33,066 bales in the beginning of last year. Naturally holders were anxious to realize and prices steadily fell. Trade revived a little in April, but on the whole business in the last half of the season hardly came



not exceed 16,300 bales. In the 29th year of Meiji 43,585 bales of silk were exported while in the 30th year 80,408 bales were shipped abroad from the beginning of the new season. Quotations were at first fixed at 860 yen-though at one time they fell to 840 yenbut eventually rose to 900 yen at which price the market enters upon the new year. scarcity of silk in foreign markets and the orders now coming in from abroad will certainly tend to enhance the value of present stocks; though February is always considered a hopeful month for ailk dealers.

The following comparative table shows the amount of silk received at and shipped from Yokohama during the latter half of each of the past three years :-

	Halos.	Bales.	Balos.
Stock	866	16,581	5.525
Activals	114.569	73,132	98,812
Sales	58,896	36.366	66,797
Direct export	13,198	8,638	14.093
Reinroed	8,629	12,469	7,116
Stock brought over	43.714	32,238	15,948

Arrivals of raw and waste silk in Yokohams from January in December last year were as follows :- Raw Silk, filatures, 84,140 bales; Sakuri, 21,843 bales; hanks, 25 bales; ori kaishi, 12,193 bales; shioisuke, 1,197 bales; miscellaneous, 167 baler; total 119,571 bales; waste silk—noshi, 21,838 bales; skin, 21,206 bales; tama. 264 bales; pierced cocoons, 708 bales; floss, 28 bales: miscellaneous, 6,178, total, 50,222 bales.

According to the Mainichi, the amount of kerosene oil imported from Russia and America during last year was 1,886,118 and 1.743.771 cases respectively. The import of Sumatra oil increases day by day though it does not yet exceed 100,000 cases per year. Last year this oil was at one time quoted at 2.33 yes. but it afterwards fell to 2.10 yen. Comet brand is the cheapest of the oils now imported being sold at from 1.90 yen to 2.03 yen. Arrivals from Russia and America have been brink since October last and considerably more business lies been done than in the previous year. Russian oil alone totalled 302,000 cases against 130,000 cases last year, while Ameriean oil exceeded 256,000 cases. Demand now begins to decrease. The tightening of the money market as well as the general depres-sion of trade have deterred provincial dealers from entering upon large contracts and a full im prices is expected.

#### HERBERT SPENCER'S KNOWLEDGE.

John Fiske, the historian, relates the follow ing incident about Herbert Spencer :-

John Fiske, the historian, relates the following incident about Herbert Spencer:—

"I remember one evening, many years ago, hearing Herbert Spencer in a friendly discussion regarding certain functions of the cerebellum. Abstrase points of comparative anatomy and questions of pathology were involved. Spencer's three sutagonists were not violently opposed to him, but were in various degrees unready to adopt his views. The three were Husley, one of the greatest of comparative anatomists; Hughlings lackson, a very eminent authority on the pathology of the nervous system; and George Henry Lows, who, although more of an amateur in such matters, had nevertheless devoted years of study to neural physiology and was thoroughly familiar with the history of the subject. Spencer more than held his ground against the others. He met fact with fact, brought up points in anatomy the significance of which Huxley had overlooked, and had more experiments and clinical cases at his tongue's end than Jackson could muster. It was quite evident that he knew all they knew on that subject, and more besides. Yet Spencer had never been through a course of 'regular training' in the studies concerned; nor had he ever studied at a univarsity, or even at a high school. Where did he learn the wonderful mass of facts which he poured forth that evening? Whence came his tremendous grasp upon the principles involved? Probably he could not have told you..., When I mentioned this to Lewes, while recelling the discussion on the cerebellum, he exclaimed — Oh, you can't account for it! It's his genius. Spencer has greater instinctive power of observation and assimilation than any man sinco Shakespeare, and he is like Shakespeare for hitting the bull's eye every time he fires. As for Darwin and funley, we can follow their intellectual procasses, but Spencer is above and beyond all; he is inspired!"

#### CALENDARS.

The most beautiful of all the calendars we have received this season is that of Mr. Tamamura, the well known photographer of Yokomura, the well known photographer of Yoko-hama. The upper part of a thick sheet of cardboard with acolloped edges and finely pitted surface, is occupied by a coloured phototograph, the subject an avenue gate within which stands a daintily dressed girl bowing to a lady visitor. Beside the gate hangs a sign-board with the legend, Omdeto Tamanurs. The tones of the picture are most charming, but we are obliged to confess that the colour of the almanack fastened in the lower part of the card is not altogether satisfactory

The Methodist Publishing House (No. 2 Shichome, Giuza, Tokyo), which has now become an institution of considerable importance, sends out a thoroughly practical calendar, the year, the month, the days of the week and the days of the month, all marked in different colours, large, well arranged and conspicuous. Unlity rather than beauty was evidently the object of the compilers, and they have attain-

The Insurance Offices have not made any new departure. They send out calendars designed and decorated pretty much after the fashious of last year. The North British and Mercantile (Yokohama agents, Mesars, Findlay, Richardson and Co.) is the colosaus of the number, from a pecuniary point of view. Its funds on the 31st of December, 1896, were £12,954,532, and its revenue in the fire department for that year was £1,577,029. The card is pretty and refreshingly chaste; it owes its good looks solely to skilfully blended colours and handsome lettering; there is no attempt at pictorial decoration.

The Manchester (Yokohama Agents, Messrs, Kingdon, Schwabe and Co.), with its total funds and securities of 21 millions sterling, distributes a pretty altest, artistically coloured and distinguished by a view of Manchester at night, a portion of the city burning with lurid flerceneus.

The Phoenix, which is, perhaps, the most aptly named of all offices, justly glories in having paid losses aggregating more than twenty million pounds sterling during the 115 years of its career. The cosmopolitan charac-ter of its operations is suggested by a flaming city in which mosques, minarets and pagodas are associated with churches, cathedrals and chambers of commerce. The Yokohama Agents are Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe and Co.

The Northern (Fire and Life), of which Messrs. W. M. Strachan and Co. are the local agents, has funds aggregating £4,893,000, and receives fire premiums amounting to £700,000 and life premiums totalling £243,000. Its calendar is a fine specimen of designing in solid colours.

The Imperial, which, during a life of 94 years, has paid losses exceeding 143 millions sterling, possesses reserves and assets aggregating 2 millions, though its paid up capital is only three hundred thousand pounds. The Yokohama agents are Messrs. Browne and Co The calendar of this company, specially prepared for Japan, furnishes a quantity of useful information. Among the tables inscribed on its face there is one recalling the melancholy fact that silver, which is now quoted at some 26ld. per ounce, sold for 61 pence in 1869.

We have to congratulate the Japan Gazette on sending out a calendar excellently designed and in all respects very tasteful. It offers a good deal of useful information, and as a specimen of printer's work does great credit to the resources of our contemporary's office. Indeed, the typography and general "get up" do not suffer by comparison with the outcome of London establishments.

Among the pictorial sheets distributed by the Japanese newspapers, we notice as specially !

attractive the Tipi Skimpo's chrome-lithograph of a girl with a lap-dog in her arms, typifying the fact that 1898 is the year of the dog, according to the old Japanese calendar. The girl's face and costume are really fine producstions, but the drawing of the dog shows all the weakness generally observable in Japanese efforts to depict animals.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun presents to its readers a capital portrait of Marquis Ito, in full uniform, wearing a galaxy of decorations This is a particularly timely choice of subject, and since it must have been made some time ago, it does considerable credit in our contemporary's prescience.

#### MONTHLY CUSTOMS REQUENS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for November last, showing the foreign

	ire for the	month:-	te toteign
",	2806.	and it (iii ,	ellere.
	SILVER VEN.	1	May.
Exports12, Imports14.	772,107.000	IS.	\$56.397.340
Imports	080,373.000	32,	01,900.410
Total exports and	imports	27	818 050 000
Excess of imports.		6.	705.560.070
	CUSTOMS DUT		, -, -, -, -, -,
Exports		3	239.514.764
Imports			\$48,434.970
Miscellaneous		TP1P111000	26,436.485
Total			814,386.159
TOTAL VALUE OF METORS			
	COUNTRIME		
	Exports. Silver Ven,	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total,
China	2.427.650.070	4,392,622.780 1,230,977.930	Silver Ven. 6,516,181,750 5,000,587,820
Hongkong	1,841,009.900	1,230,917.930	5,000,587.820
fodia	2.161.570	1,764,084 <b>330</b>	z,766,646.74a
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Philippine Islands	2,0 0 210	954,090.150 246,461,720 99,461,930	*49-093-430 *77,274,996 7,345,484.060 2,729,565.830
Great Hrithin	505,680.740	6,570,532 320	7,346,400.060
Sermany	3,250,250,36>	479,276 490	2,729,505.830
EMST	470.110.090	9,200,030 6,570,532 380 470,276 490 8,073,133,600 37,590,790 170,990,750	\$10,938.710
Bwitzerland	771,209.000 0,445.710	310,203.700	#,103,403,650 \$16,938,710 441,109 tfo 316,647 400 34,831,446
ASSITIA MANAGEMENT OFFICE	6,443 7:0 80,750.000 37,678.100	4,783,070	31,932.440
Holland	7,633,610 8,715,000	10,439.710 3,050.980	\$7,642,060 28,473 380 23,715.480
Sweden and Norway	3,715-000	3,050.980	13,74g.:Bo
Portugal	_	3,321.730 5,481.200	3,037.)35 3,037.)35
Turkey	9,609,000 907,900	18.480 847.140	8,647. <b>58</b> 0 8,753.040
Canada and other Bri-	21320000 010	3,509,479.790	8,736,x47 820
Peru	1,873 BO3	31,388.040 81.980	156,912.910
Australia	95,272 900	29,584.380	8,962.180 275,857.228 26,184.510
Other Countries	95,272 900 95 254-520 24,4-5,450	#0.000 #45,199.350	169,655 Boo
	25.849.0 <b>6</b> 6.630		97.59K-002.040
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Total	TE AND IMPOR 9,401,278,250 4,295,713 170 977,721,990 317,673-050 74,588,590 1,200,710	28,261,966 410 FE FRUM AND 20,039,031 860 28,409,040 460 463,318,800 2,060,810,600	10 RACH PORT 19,641,900.580 24,704.743.050 361,046.790 2,888.493 850 838,088.990 1.864.850
Total	TE AND IMPOR 9,401,278,250 4,295,713 170 977,721,990 317,673-050 74,588,590 1,200,710	28,261,966 410 FE FRUM AND 20,039,031 860 28,409,040 460 463,318,800 2,060,810,600	10 RACH PORT 19,641,900.580 24,704.743.050 361,046.790 2,888.493 850 838,088.990 1.864.850
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Total TOTAL VALUE OF REPORT YOUNDAME.  KOBE OSSER Nagasaki Hakodate Nigata Shinaidru Shinaidru Migata Shinaidru Hakata Karatai	TE AED 14470E 9,401,278.250 4,993,973.270 979,721.990 327,673.090 74,578.590 4.200.750 216,622,000 29,493,300 164,626,700 20,957,540 164,626,700 20,957,540	20,305,366 (10 FRUM AND 20,339,637 350 201,435,307 350 201,435,307 350 25,763,370 25,763,370 25,763,370 25,763,370 25,763,370 26,763,460 27,680,630 27,680,630 27,680,630 27,680,630 27,680,630 27,680,630 27,680,630 27,680,630	10 RACH PORT 29,444,300 SE0 24,704,743,500 161,948 SE0 151,948 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,304 SE0 15,305 SE0 15,405 SE0 15,305 SE0
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Total.......... 46,839,005.590 000,230,664.870 346,080,870.450

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#### A CORRECTION.

We have to apologise to the Kobe Chronicle for inadvertently translating its assertions into named, by Count Okuma. The correction, however, is purely technical: it does not in any way affect the argument. The Kobe Chronicle explicitly endorsed Count Okuma's view by undertaking to demonstrate that he was correct in asserting that the funds for building the Fuji and the Pashima had been granted by the Dist. That was the whole question at issue. Our Kobe contemporary, with its wonted magnificence about irrelevant trifles, makes a great deal, a very great deal, of the fact that we put Count Okuma's words into its mouth, and by flying along that side route, evades the original problem altogether. It takes the position of a parson who should object to being credited with using the words of the text on which he preaches. Neither has it yet learned the every-day lesson that evil suspicions are always a subjective revelation.

#### PICTURESQUE PENANG

We have received three more sheets belonging to the remarkable series of pictorial posters for the preparation of which the various foreign communities in the East have put up considerable sums of money. The public is now aware, on the authority of Mr. Wellesley Farker, that from the funds subscribed for the manufacture of these flaming horrors only a small per-centage goes to the advertising agent, the remainder being divided between the producer of the sheets and the newspaper associated with Mr. Parker in the enterprise. Hence, according to Mt. Parket's account, the newspaper's method of dealing with advertisers determines the quality of the so-called "picturesque abeets." Then we can only say that the newspapers have hitherto behaved very badly. These affairs are fit for nothing but to be pasted on the shutters of a travelling caravan. Penang and the Malay Peninsula have now been done in red, blue and yellow, pretty much after the execrable fashion that has already produced an epidemic of nausea in the case of the Straits Settlements. We can only hope that Yokohama will be a magnificent exception.

#### THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

The Paris correspondent of The Times, in a letter dated November 19th, speaks thus of the Dreyfus affair :--

letter dated November 19th, speaks thus of the Dreyfus affair:—

If the Dreyfus affair goes on becoming more and more complicated, if it continues to bring forward new personages, if the newspapers continue and did fuel to the fames by violently taking aidea, if M. Esterhazy, M. Lebloiss M. Hazilke, and, indeed, all those who are more or less implicated or interested in the affair, go on speaking writing, giving interviews, and calling at newspaper offices to deny the uterasoes imputed to them—if this imborglio, these surprises, this exchange of insults, and this clash of cacial passion is prolonged drance will soon asem like a mad-house. Happily, the world does not take it seriously, but knows that this is a transient outbreak; in which even phody tries to drown his neighbour's voice. There has eni-ted, moreover, for ay years, a system, almost a passion, of pareding national sores in the eyes of the world. Frenchmen are in the habit of proclaiming that civic corruption and political immorabity here reach their climax, and they console themselves after the fashion of the citizens of Chicago when they boasted that their fire wan the greatest on record.

This is what has occurred in the Dreyfus case. It might have been minimized. Silence might have been imposed on Chamber. Senate, and Press. Interviews and confidences all this apparatus of deafening uproar might, and in any other country would, have been prevented, but this has not been done. Evarybody is exciting himself and others. For some months France had been calm, and had begun to yawn. Perhaps, for a diversion, the Cabinet would have been overturned, but the Dreyfus affair has come up, and, even if M. Hanotaux offered to recognize England's protectorate in Egypt on condition of Cleopatra's Needle being sent over an a pendant to the Luxor Column, nobody would pay any attention to the case and the decided whether E. Esterhazy or Captain Dreyfus and the documents which show that if the vendors were traitors the buyers were simpletons.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The process of belittling the British Govern ment in order to establish one's own reputation for asgacity is industriously carried on by the N. C. Daily News. Discoursing on the text of how The 2 imes and the Foreign Office poohpoohed its information about the Causini Convention, our contemperary says:—"Now the F. O. is in the undignified position, as we learn from Reuter, of having to run round to the various Courts asking them what they think of warned by us two years ago—and getting snubbed for their pains." The only trouble about this poem of self-laudation is that it is based on a myth. Reuter has not told us anything of the kind. He has telegraphed that "the German Foreign Office professes no surprise, &c.," and that "the Washington Government having been sounded as to its views on Chinese affairs, replied, &c." That these independent statements of the views entersained by the Berlin and Washington Cabinets were obtained by the London Foreign Office after undignified running round is a pure fiction, illustrating the general trustworthiness of the political criticisms penned by the Shanghai journal. It never seems to occur to such writers that a British journal might find a worthier métier than to malign the British Government, minimize Great Britain's in-fluence, and endeavour to prove that Englishmen in the Far East have a supreme contempt for the capacity of their country's Ministers.

Concerning the above case, it is only fair to note that the following letter has been published in the columns of the N. C. Daily News:—

Sig.—The editorial reference in the N.-C. Daily News of yesterday's date to the Bennertz case is not just to China. China does not wish to prolong a settlement; she

China does not wish to prolong a settlement; she does not wish either to starve or embarrass Mr. Bennertz, nor can China be held responsible for what a lawyer may say in arguing a case in one of her Courts. There can be no doubt that the case was properly before the Chinese Court, and that jurisdiction was given the Churt on it by treaty, Sir Nicholas Hannen was present at the time, remained in court during the whole of the trial, as is provided by treaty, and, after the decision of the Court, filed a protest as is also provided by treaty. Sir Nicholas did not think the decision just, and he said so in his protest, but he also said in his protest that he was treated courtenusly by the Taotai and that his personal relations with the Taotai were pleasant. How then can you say that Sir Nicholas was insulted by China?

When a treaty provides where a case shall be tried and it is tried there, the losing party to the case may teel that he has been unfairly treated, but if his Government should undertake to say how the Court must

teel that he has been untairly treated, but it his Government should undertake to say how the Court must decide, why provide by treaty where cases should be tried; why have a Cont at all if the powers of the Court are to be annulled or usorped by the Government of the usuccessful party to the case? To establish such a principle would destroy all confidence in the aystem of Courts provided by treaties.

It is within the knowledge of this writer that China has made accounted footnets a valid the Bonnette was

It is within the knowledge of this writer that Chies has made repeated efforts to settle the Benneriz case, that she desires to sustain friendly relations with the British authorities, but British justice and no other kind of justice requires China to pay the Benneriz debts. Nothing could be more unjust than to ask China to liberate Mr. Hennertz from the claims of his creditors; they were not parties to the case, and Mr. Benneriz may owe one pound or a million.

It can be stated with entire accuracy that China earnestly desires an amicable settlement of the Bennertz case, but there will be no settlement, and there ought not be any, when the measure of Mr. Bennertz' indebtedness is made the measure of the amount China might pay.

I am, etc., December 20th.

The celebrated new rapid on the Yangtze, which has caused so much loss of life and inspired so many paragraphs, seems likely to be removed at last. Sir Robert Hart-the deus ex machina in all Chinese affairs—has despatched foreign engineers to the scene with two tons of dynamite to assist in removing the rocks.

With reference to the Bennertz case, in which the Shanghai Chinese Magistrate took advantage—it is alleged—of Sir Nicholas Haunesn' absence to deliver judgment unfavourable to Mr. Bennertz, eloquent paragraphs appear in sion in the Shantung Promontory or the Liaothe Shanghai press, explaining that the un- tung Peninsula. Here is some food for their

fortunate Mr. Bennerts is on the verge of rain, and that it will be impossible for him to wait until the slowly moving wheels of diplomacy grind out a measure of redress for him. The idea seems to be that a public subscription should be raised to enable him to wait for instice.

Covaul-General Jamieson has returned to Shanghai, accompained by the Misses Jamieson.

The closing of the Peiho by ice seems to have been later than usual this year. The tags and lighters were not docked until the 16th of

Credit seems to be gravely given in Shanghai to the stories that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking has demanded the diamissal of all in Peking has demanded the dismissal of all British employes on the Chinese railways and suggested the removal of the German officers at Woosung; that the Russo-Chinese Bank has offered the Chinese Government 120,000 stand of Berdan rifles on credit, and that the has been accepted. It appears to us quite impossible to imagine that the Russian Representalive can have taken such a line, and we cannot suppose that the Chinese Government is so impecunious as to require credit for a transaction involving less than a million dollars, or so extremely silly as to purchase rifles under such conditions.

It is alleged that the Chinese Government has issued orders for the mobilization of the forces in Chili and the Liantung Peninsula. The commanding officers in the former are Generala Nieb and Ynan, and the commanding officer in the latter, General E-ko-t'ang-a, who fought so well against the Japanese on their advance towarda Mukden.

Another story, very like a "bunder," is that the indemnity demanded by Germany in connexion with the murder of the two missionaries, is six million tacls, not six hundred thousand. and that the German Representative in Peking has sat loftly in his Legation, and compelled the Chinese plenipotentiaries to repair thither for the purpose of negotiating. In all China's complications with foreign Powers, there have been political newsmongers who devoted themselves to the dual task of exaggerating the hu-miliation and incompetence of their own Government and magnifying the injustice and haughtiness of the foreigner.

Resolute efforts are at length being made to place a better class of steamers on the Shanghai-Tientsin line. The trade between the two places is enormous, but the steamers that mono-polise it are, for the most part, very mediocre craft, though their charges are sufficiently exorhitant to justify the employment of the best description of boats. We read in a Shanghai exchange that the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company has secured two five steamers, the Hisping from Germany and the Kwangping from Scotland, with a carrying capacity of 2,180 tons, a length of 265 feet, a beam of 42 feet. a draft of only 14 feet, loaded, and a speed of from 10 to 11 knots.

We observe that a Chinaman who assaulted a foreigner at the Shanghai Feather Cleaning Works, was sentenced in 1,000 blows and a month's cangue. A terrible sentence, truly. Justice is a very lop-sided affair in China. We do not remember to have heard of any exemplary punishment inflicted on a foreigner for assaulting a Chinaman, though such incidents, of the most aggravated character, used to be frequent enough at one time. The same tribunal that ordered a thousand blows and a month's cangue for this assault, was content to order 500 blows and a week's cangue for "a well known thief who had committed a number of larcenies from houses in Hongkew, and stolen property to the value of

Some publicists are in the habit of denying that British commercial interests are in any degree affected by German or Russian aggres-



reflection, furnished by the trade report of Messes. Bush Bros. & Co. of Newchwang, under date November 26th ;--- Business is completely at a standstill owing to the occupation of Kinochan by the German fleet and the rumour that Port Arthur has been annexed by Russia. Merchants who usually buy produce freely on the closing of the port are deterred from so doing fearing they will not be able to dispose of their stock in the spring, and the panic has paralysed exchange and effectually stopped the usual circulation of money, drafts being practically unpurchasable."

The three cyclists, Mesure. Fracer, Lunn and Lowe, reached Shanghai on Sunday, December 18th, and were enthusiastically received. A hundred and twenty-four Shanghai wheel-men and wheel-women escurted them from Soochow to Shangbai.

An interesting case is reported from Amoy. A Chinese born in Singapore and therefore a British subject within the limits of the Straits Settlements, recently visited Amoy, where he was arrested by the Chinese Authorities and thrown into prison, at the instance of the Ger-man Consul, for a debt alleged to be due by him in connexion with the chartering of a steamer that plied between Amoy and the Straits. He had visited Amoy under a pasaport issued by the Governor of Singapore, and had secured a certificate of registration from the British Cousal at Amoy. When his property in Amoy was distrained by the Chinese Authori-When his property in ties, he applied to the British Consul for assistance, but being informed that nothing could be done for him, proceeded to the German Consulate to make inquiries, and was these promptly arrested. Ha is now lying in prison, whence he has addressed to the Governor of Singapore a petition saying that the Chinese Local Authorities are gradually extorting from him his whole property, and that they are not likely in release him until they have stripped him of everything.

The Chinese in Shanghai have subscribed \$2,360 to purchase land for enlarging the Margaret Williamson Hospital.

It is said that the Chinese in Shanghai are beginning to show excitement about the Kian-chou affair. Three insults to foreigners—two of them ladies—are reported, but no reason is assigned for the hypothesis that these incidents have any relation to the seizure of Kiao-

It is reported that several of the bandits who took part in the murder of the two German missionaries have been arrested, and that the local officials are doing everything in their power to apprehend the remainder. The chief official of the district where the catastrophe occurred, Mr. Hau, is said to be a great friend of foreign-ers and fond of foreign things, but neither he nor any one else has been able to devise means for effectually checking the robber raids to which the locality is subject.

The machinery for the Changtu mint has passed up the Yangize, and probably reached its destination by this time. The mint is to coin dollars and smaller pieces for

Shari, the nawly opened port on the Yangtze, appears to be an unhealthy place. The foreigners who have settled there report much fever and rheumatism. Trade with the outer world has made little progress, but is said to be slowly growing, and the volume of commerce with the interior is evidently immense.

The Formosa correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News Writes :-

It is nechans not generally known that the finest building in the island is the German Consulate at Twatutia. It is on the bank of the Tamuni viver, conveniently located and a great ornament to the city. The English Consulate is established down the river at Hobé, although a Consular office has been opened at Twatutia. It is reported that the

Spanish and French Consuls would also establish themselves permanently here if suitable quarters could be obtained, but regardless of the construc-tion of many new buildings there is still a great demand for houses which can be rarely satisfied and only then at an excessively high rental, The report published in some Shanghai paper

from an Amny correspondent regarding the great preparation the Japanese are making to defend the island (presumably against the French) and the island (presumably against the French) and the large numbers of transports carrying troops to Formosa, is a pure canard. There are no preparations out of the ordinary in progress and no transports are arriving with troops—it might be well for the internal peace of the island if there were. The report regarding the Rench and Rormosa does not appear to have disturbed the Japanese in the least. Should the Franch ever come to Formosa it will be necessary that they come better equipped than the last French expedition to the island.

The country in very much disturbed, reports of

The country in very much disturbed, reports of attacks by stuted bands of robbers coming in nearly every day. Travel in the interior is missafe at present. Not much improvement can be expected until after China New Year.

Kinnoneh, a small town situated on the same bank of the Yangize as Chungking, from which it is separated by the Kialing, has always been noted for its anti foreign spirit. On the 7th of December, Dr. F. M. Woolsey, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, was stoned by the people, and though not seriously injured, seems to have had a parrow escape.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The German steamer Martha was towed into Manila on the 16th December by the N.Y.K. steamer Famashiro Maru, having lost her pro-

A London telegram dated Nov. 17 reports that the new British torpedo-boat destroyer Crane, in her official trial in Stokes Bay, made n run of 32.49 knots per hour.

At the match between Stoddart's XI and Victoria II Melbourne, a sum of £2,222 was paid as entrance money. And yet Australia is paid as entrance money. And yet Australia is said to be in financial difficulties, remarks the China Mail.

Great satisfaction is felt at Marseilles at the fact of its superseding Brindisi as the Continental port of the Peninsular and Oriental Company. From the end of January the Company's steamers will go direct to Marseilles.

A very amusing story is published, says the China Mail, in the native papers at Shanghai to the effect that it is the Kaiser himself who is coming out to China, disguised as his brother Prince Hemy, in command of the German Squadron!

Mr. Takáhashi, the station-master at Kyoto, was killed by a train on New Year's day, says the Kobe Chronicle. A Tokaido train arrived at Kyoto at 1.30 p.m., and the passen-gers began to open the doors of the carriages get out while the train was still in motion. The station-master was trying to prevent them when he accidentally fell on to the rails and was run over by the train and killed,

We understand that Dr. Munro has arranged to deliver at the Yokohama General Hospital, Bluff, a course of St. John's ambulance—firstaid-to-the-wounded-lectures every Saturday afternoon during the winter months. The introductory lecture was given on Monday afternoon, but the first practical exposition begins at 5 o'clock on Saturday next. Further particulars can be obtained of Dr. Munto.

The comparative ratio between the total outlays of the State and the yearly expenditure on education in Japan and the countries of Europe is as follows:—Japan, r.17; Great Britain, 10.60; France, 5.01; Russia, 2.90; Germany, 5.33; Austria, 2.61; Italy, 2.44; and Belgium, 6.96. As will be seen from this table, Japan is far behind in the matter of education when compared with western countries.

Pinnacle Rock Fund, in open a credit of \$300 with the Hougkong and Shanghai Bank, to be used by the British Consuls at each of the nine ports including and south of Shanghai, in giving awards of from \$10 to \$50, according in the importance of the danger divulged, to native giving information of the existence of previously unknown rocks on the coast.

Many will read with regret, says the Hyogo News, the announcement of the death of Mons. E. Tissot III an early age. The sad event occurred at Marseilles on the 12th of November. M. Tissot was well known and much liked during his stay in Kobe as second in command at the M. M. Agency, and all regretted the break-down in health that occasioned his being invalided home.

A European lady missionary, dressed in Chinese clothes, happened to be on board a Canton river-boat the other day when some pirates boarded her. The men treated the lady very rudely and eventually, after beating her, rob-bed her of 40 dollars. Soon after a launch was sighted and the pirates transferred their attentions to it, but before they could loot the boat, they had to kill one of her crew.

From Australian papers we learn that Superintendent Braidwood, of the London Fire Brigade, was killed during the big fire in Cripplegate, London. The area destroyed covered 42 acres, and the greatest width of the fire was a quarter of a mile. The Goldsmith's Com-pany are the principal owners of the freehold which has been devastated. Four thousand workpeople were thrown out of work by the destruction of the premises in which they were employed.

At seven o'clock on New Year's eve sixty-five sailors sat down at the Seumen's Mission for a high ten. After ten, songs and games provided recreation. At 9.30 those who wished to return to their ships were conveyed on board by the Mission launch. At re o'clock, after refreshments had been served, a Watch Night Service was held, conducted by the Chaplain. There was an attendance of nowards of fifty seamen. The Mission lannch made a second trip at 12.30, returning all safe on board their respective ships.

Mr. Obaldo Kluth, Secretary of the Club Concordia, Shanghai, committed suicide on the 24th December. Deceased covered his face with a handkerchief, heavily saturated with chloroform, and enveloped his head in a hood, thus providing against the escape of the deadly fumes and ensuring a speedy and painless death. He had been Secretary and Manager of the Club Concordia for about five years, and prior to that was Inspector of Police in Shanghai, having been 17 years in the force. He leaves a wife and several children, all girls, the eldest of whom is between 17 and 18 years of age.

A series of articles which are attracting much attention, headed " Marching Backward, been appearing in the Daily Mail. The writer shows that Britain I falling behind in the great industrial race and has demonstrated how the United States, France and Germany can show increased exports to the amount of £25,000,000 in the twelve years from 1883 to 1895. It is further proved that the imports of the United Kingdom in the same period decreased £9,000,-000 (\$45,000,000). Commenting upon this showing, the Daily Mail expresses the opinion that the main reasons for this falling off in British trade are want of business instinct and want of genuine patriotism, "as evidenced by ship-owners carrying foreigners' goods at lower rates than Britishers."

Readers will recollect, says the Hiogo News, that the American yacht Tolna was injuid on the night of September 20th last by the German steamet Mária Rickmers swinging on to her bowsprit after paying out chain in a stiffish blow. At first no suggestion for a settlement would be entertained by the steamship representatives in Hongkong, where the steamer was held until English Consul desires to establish the Consulate the Hongkong General Chamber of Com- Hongkong, where the steamer was held until here and is tooking for suitable quarters. The merce has decided, in connection with the accurity to meet the case instituted by Count



and Countess Festetics de Tolna was given. Counsel for the latter asked \$1,200 in full satisfaction, and received an offer of \$500 in return. Two days were occuped in taking evidence on commission and considerable expenses were incurred. Then came a renewed offer from the defendants, and finally the suit was compromised This sum has now been paid, and a capital illustration is afforded of the soundness of the advice to settle with your adversary quickly while he in in the way.

It is rumonred that H.M.S. Swiftsure, an armoured screw battleship of the third class, at present at Portsmouth, is un be stationed at Sydney as a drill guard-ship. It is also stated that H.M.S. Invincible and H.M.S. Iron Duke, also armoured screw battleships of the third class, are to be stationed for similar purposes at Esquimault (Vancouver) and Colombo re-

One of the staff of the Kobe Railway Station was unexpectedly arrested on Tuesday after-noon by the police acting under the direct in-structions of the Preliminary Judge, and charg-ed with embezzlement of Government monies amounting to about 1,700 yes. At the same time, says the *Hiogo News*, a suspected ac-complice was summoned to the Saibansho and held in custody while a domiciliary visit was paid by the officials to his quarters.

A Peking despatch, says the N.-C. Daily News, reports that the Emperor will appoint General Tung Fuhsiang, the soldier who crushed the recent Mahommedan rebeilion in Kansu, to be Generalissimo of the Imperial forces in Chihli province and at Shanhaikuan, Apropos of the above, an Imperial edict of the 25th Dec. grants the above named the privilege of riding on horseback in the "Forbidden City." General Tung is now in Peking where he arrived about a fortnight ago from Kansu.

A Washington special telegram says:—The A Washington special telegram says:—Inc U.S. cruiser Raleigh, now at Smyrna, under command of Rear-Admiral Selfridge, has been ordered to the Asiatic station. The vessels which will be in Eastern waters on the arrival of the Raleigh will be the Olympia (flagship) the Boston, Petrel, and Monocacy. The Helena New York in a few days for the East will leave New York in a few days for the East via the Suez Canal, but her orders do not require her to report to the commander-in-chief at the Asiatic station until next summer. Marietta and Concord also soon proceed to the East. The Marietta is now at Sitka, Alaska, and upon being relieved by the Wheeling will cross the Pacific and join Commodore Dewey's fleet.

An important legal question has been submitted for the decision of the Court of Crown Cases Reserved. The case involved the issue as to whether a person entering a restaurant where he was turknown and ordering a dinner for which he was unable to pay, was liable to be criminally convicted for obtaining, goods or otherwise for obtaining credit under false pro-tences. In October last, a man named Jones entered a restaurant and ordered and ate a 40. dinner, for which he was unable to pay, having only \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. He was charged and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and the point now raised was whether the transaction involved a question of contract or one of fraud. Judgment was reserved.

A very deserving charity is being brought before the shipping community of Yokohama at the present moment, in connection with the Liverpool Homes for Aged Mariners, excellent institution is situate at Egremont, Cheshire, and provides an ideal retreat for 120 men who have gone down to the deep in ships and have spent their lives on the great waters, as the Hebrew essayist so sonorously puts it. Mr. T. H. Ismay, to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee, made a large donation to the funds of the institution and the public are asked to aubscribe a further amount so as to enable the that afternoon, rushed off to the Singapore Club Association to utilise this gift to the full in to look for a Magistrate before whom to sweat

to so/- month: a very excellent idea indeed. Since the institution was founded in 1870, upwards of 19,000 deserving cases have been re-lieved. Captain Martin, Captain J. Turner Harrison, and Mr. T. M. Laffin are circulating the lists in Yokohama.

Foe Chong, a well-known coal-merchant, speculator in opium, metals, etc., of Shanghai has suspended payment. His liabilities, the Mercury says, reach Tls. 350,000, against which his assets are estimated at about Tls. 250,000. His failure is believed to be due to over-speculation in sharm of all descriptions, besides losses in his own business. It was thought that the settlement of the 31st December would be considerably hampered by the snapping of this solid link in the chain of share-dealers. Several of the native bankers have seized his books and are examining into his accounts. A meeting will shortly be held to ascertain the possibilities of carrying him over the difficulty, and it is held that he will be able, if sufficient time is given him, to meet his liabilities.

The human mind is still evolving, in the view of Dr. R. M. Bucke, as expressed at the Montreal meeting of the British Medical Asso-By slow and dubious steps taken in the long ages of mental darkness our remote ancestors wearily climbed to simple conscious-ness, he affirms, and after another immense interval they reached self-consciousness. This cannot be the end. Our old mental faculties are some of them fading out, others advancing toward greater perfection, and alongside of them new ones are springing up, some of which will, without doubt, be of overshadowing im-portance in the future. So-called telepathy and clairvoyance seem to be specimens of such nascent faculties. But of infinitely more importance than these in that superimposed upon self consciousness, as it appears that a third and higher form of consciousness is at present making its appearance in our race. We have had occusional and increasingly numerous examples of it for 2,000 years. In the course of a few more milleniums there should be born a type of men possessing in its completeness this higher consciousness, and the advent of this higher, better, and happier race would justify the agony of its birth through our past.

A petition from Mr. Quong Tart was pre-sented to the New South Wales Legislative Conneil on the 31st Nov. by Sir Arthur Renwick with reference to the Coloured Races Restriction Bill, praying that some modifications may be made in it in the direction of allowing Chinese merchants and others who have business in New South Wales and may desire to go to China for a short visit, or merchants residing in China who may desire to come hither for business purposes, to travel, either to from the colony, without having to encounter the disabilities imhe Chinese residents in the colony are a peaceable, law-abiding, and industrious class of residents, whose sojourn in the colony is con-ducive to the production and expenditure of wealth. The number of Chinese in gaol in the colony bears a much lower percentage to the whole than is the case in respect of any other nationality; 62 out of every hundred males there are primary producers of wealth, while of the whole male population of the colony only 20 in every hundred come under that category; and the Chinese residents expend about £250,000 a year, or about £18 per head, in food and clothing products of the colony, in addition to petition was received and read.

The following breezy story is taken from the Singapore Free Press :-- In connection with the prosecution of the clerk in the Land Office for criminal breach of trust a rather amusing incident happened on Saturday just at 2 p.m. Mr. Michell, who was due to play in a cricket match

match, and just on the point of leaving the Club for the Esplanade. Duty before pleasure of course, and Mr. Michell was in a hurry to get his "swear" off his chest. A prolonged search, however, in the precincts of the Club failed to discover a bible. Then the Secretary's office was visited, but there was no sacred volume there. A clerk, however, had the presence of mind to say that in the adjoining office, the Chamber of Commerce, there was a native clerk of pious repute who would be sure III have one. To the application there, however, for a loss of a "Christian Koran," as it was styled, there was no result, not on the premises; and the Magistrate and the Land Officer looked at each other in dismay. There was, it was true the Hong-kong Bank, close by, there was the Post Office, there was Motion & Co., the watchmakers, Lyon the engineer's, Hartwig, the water-contractor, and Gaggino, the ship chandler, with Capt. Craufurd at the Shipping Office, as a dernier researt. Needless to say the chance of discovering the volume wanted at any of these places were not accounted worth the trouble of going round. But a divine inspiration struck the Magistrate. "Kelly and Walsh, by Jove!" Off the pair san, in their cricket blazers, at top speed to the aforesaid renowned emporium of literature. "Oh yes, certainly, a hundred, if you like." "One would do, thank you." And so at a table the deed was done, the swear aware, and Mr. Michell was safely relieved of the in-formation which he was bursting to deliver. And so to cricket, with the comforting consciousness of duty nobly done.

"In trade and commerce the Japanese continue to maintain their reputation for 'push-fulness,' sars the Glasgow Herald. "The latest filustration of their energy comes from Hong-kong. Sir William Robinson, the retiring Governor of thar Colony, has sent home his final report, and while he is able to sum up the his-tory of his administration in the single word 'progress," he feels it necessary to utter a warning se to the strides made by the Mikade's people. This applies more particularly to manufactures and shipping. The British flag is still predominant in the entrances and clearances at Hongkong but there are two facts in connection with the matter which Sir William Robinson is careful to dwell upon. The first is that British tonnage does not bear the same relation to foreign tonnage that it used to do. Only two or three years ago it represented yo per cent. of the total tonnage; now it only represents 53 per cent. The second and still more striking fact is, that while the British tonnage at Hongkong increased last year by 5% per cent., and German tonuage by 23 per cent., Japanese tonnage advanced by no less than 195 per cent. Taken by themselves, these figures would seem to prove that the large sums voted by the Japanese Diet for the development of commerce are not being apent in vain. But more remains behind. The Japanese are flooding the market of Hongkong and of China with cotton yarns, and thereby displacing the Indian product. They appear to have appreciated the aituation caused not merely by the unfavourable rate of exchange, but by the closing of the Bombay mills, and to have taken full advantage of it. Cotton factories are being multiplied in Japan, and through them China is being applied with goods which she formerly obtained from Europe and India. To Sir William Robinson's credit be it said that he foresaw this commer-cial revolution some years ago, and did his best to prevent it. Why, he argued, should not cotton mills be established at Hongkong? He knew of several eligible sites for them, which belonged to the Government, and he promised to obtain liberal terms for capitalists. His advice was not heeded then, but though the crisis has become more acute it may not be too late to recall the Governor's offer. The introduction of additional local industries at Hongkong, such as cotton-spinning and weaving, would not only benefit the Colony directly, but would Association to utilise this gift to the full in granting to look for a Magistrate before whom to swear tend to stem the advancing tide of Japanese granting to 500 mariners who have come to the an information. He there fortunately found trade invasion. The Mikado and his officials practical end of their life's labours sums of 10/- Mr. Wolferstan, also due to play in the same are deserving of little consideration at our



hands. Ouite recently they have displayed an utter disregard of international courtesy by refusing to recognise certificates of competency granted to British captains by our Board of Trade. Some of these navigators were anxious to remain in Japan after taking out new ships built on the Clyde and elsewhere. But they failed to reckon upon the consent of the Japanese Nautical Board. This tribunal insisted upon a new test, and had the temerity to pluck men who had commanded ocean liners and had passed their examinations at home with flying colours. Such procedure must ultimately re suit in benefit to our own mercantile marine, but its lesson is obvious. So long the Japan-ess are so absurdly exacting at home where British subjects are concerned, no encourage ment should be given to their operations abroad." The writer of this article is not entirely behind the scenes. He does not know, ee imagine, that the British Board of Trade refused to give Capt. Nirei, one of the most competent shipmasters in the N.Y.K. service, a British Master Mariner's Certificate when he applied for one some years ago. The Board's explanation was that Capt. Nirei had not served his time on a British ship; his Japanese service and experience did not count.

#### CORRESPONDENCE. LAND AND FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Str.-The question of "land and loreigners seems to become more and more complicated, at least in the brains of foreign newspaper men. least in the brains of foreign newspaper men. And yet it is so simple, if only people would cease interpreting Japanese law from the point of view of English law, The misconception fallen into by hearly all the writers on this subject in that they nik up "lease" and "superficies," which error may be traced to the fact that the English law uses the expression "leasehold" for a right somewhat similar to the fact that the English somewhat the English may be traced to the fact that the sure inserts the expression "learshold" for a right somewhat similar to the Japanese superficies. In Japanese law, however, "lease" and a superficies" are legal conceptions of a quite different nature, and the rights of the lease are in no way identical with those of the superficiary. If, for instance, a building is the object of a lease, the building remains the property of the lessor, but it thecomes the property of the superficiary in case of a superficie. Act. 265 of the Japanese Civil Code says: "A superficiary has the right to use the land of another for the purpose of owning upon it buildings, trees or bamboo." Of course use the land of another for the purpose of owning upon it buildings, trees or bamboo." Of course it is quite indifferent whether the buildings and already standing on the land or are to be erected by the superficiary. The latter is the true purposer of the building, and the owner of the land is excluded from any use of it, by which the right of the superficiary might be affected. There right or the superficies—chijohen to the reis no doubt that a superficies—chijohen to the
may be acquired by foreigners under the new
treaties. That such shall be the case is specially
stated in a protocol affixed to the new GermanJapanese treaty the right of acquiring a superficies is reserved to Englishmen in Act. 3—not by the wording
"may lease land" but—by the words "may own
houses, manufactories, etc."

Another difference between lease and superficies

Another difference between lease and superficies is the time for which each right may be acquired. The duration of a lease is limited to twenty years, Art. 604, a quite reasonable restriction, which is also contained in the new German Code (68): also contained in the new German Code (GO):
thirty years). As to the duration of a superficies
the following may be mid:—It is a generally acknowledged principle of law that any right
may be acquired for any time, unless the law conmay be acquired for any time, times the law con-tains a special restriction in regard to a certain right. In the Japanese Civil Code such limits of time are found in regard to the hining of things movable and immovable (lease), as explained before, to the hiring of services, as to which Art. 626 says that, if such contract is made for more than five years or for life, it may be dissolved at

1.-Art, 265. "Chijôkensha wa tanin no tochi ni oite kōsakubutsu mata wa chikuboku wo shoyû suru tame ni sono tochi wo shiyô suru kenri wo yūsuru,

地上推審の他人ノ土地ニ於テエ 作物又へ竹木ヲ所有スル為三其 土地フ健用スル権利サ有ス

- 不動産質 Judosanshichi, is different from mort-gage, it confers on the pledgee the right to the posses-sion of the immovable pledged to him and to use it in lieu of interest on his claim.

any time after five years have elapsed, on three months' notice. Furthermore a pledge's of an immovable thing is limited to a period of ten years (Art. 360). Finally as to the right of "emply-tensis, ekosakuken 永小作業" which means a right to carry on agriculture or keep cattle on the land of another on a rental, Art. 278 of the Civil Code says:—"The duration of the emplytensis is between twenty and fifty wears. If it is establish. between twenty and fifty years. If it is established for a longer period, such term is shortened to fifty years." In all these cases it appears that the law distinctly draws the limits for the dura-

tion of each right.
On the other hand no limit of time is made for On the other hand no limit of time is made for the right of property, possession, servitudes, mortgage, for a sale, donation, etc., and thus it follows from the general principle stated shove that agreements relating to such matters can be made for any time convenient to the parties concerned. The same rule applies to a superficies. The time for which it can be acquired is wholly left to the will of the parties, and only in case the latter have omitted to fix the time themselves, the law supposes that their intention has been to make an agreement for a period of between twenty and fifty years, and only in this case the Court is entitled to determine the proper time within these limits on application of the parties concerned. The only way for me to prove that such is the real meaning of the law is to render the provision itself. Act. 268 of the Civil Code runs as follows: law supposes that their intention has been to make

"Where in the case that a time of duration has ont been agreed upon in the contract, no different custom exists, the superficiary may at any time renounce his right.

"If the superficiary does not renounce his right according to the before mentioned provision, the

Court, on application of the parties concerned, is to fix the duration of the right, between twenty and fifty years." Here we see clearly that a limit of time is stated for a certain case only, namely if time is stated for a certain case only maney in the parties concerned have omitted to fix the duration of the right in the contract. The law only interferes in this point as far as it is neces-sary in order to remedy such omission. The clear consequence thereof is that whenever the parties the parties for the time of duration of a superficient themselves fix the time of duration of a superficies in their contact, such agreement is effective and cannot be altered either by one of the parties or by the Court. It is a matter of course also that the Court cannot after the amount of rent agreed upon by the parties on the conclusion of the contract

Thus the right of superficies as established in the Japanese Civil Code may show a different face according as a time of duration has been fixed by according as a time of duration has been fixed by the parties or not, and the following cases may be distinguished:—t. The time of duration has not been fixed in the contract. Then the superficiary may (a) remource his right, or (b) apply to the Court to fix the time of duration between twenty and fifty years according to the circumstances of the case. These provisions under t, however, only apply as far as no different custom exists. 2. The time of duration has been distinctly fixed in the contract. Then the rights and duties of the the contract. Then the rights and duties of the parties concerned are regulated entirely by the provisions of such contract, as explained before.

After all no hindrance exists to the acquisition of a superficies for any reasonable time, say fifty, a hundred, or even if a man should be anxious to provide for his most distant posterity, for a thousand and one years,

I have now studied law-day by day for about

3 I have omitted that part of the article which has no relation to the matter in question.

4 The law says, setteikoi the things, which means properly any art by which a private light may be acquired, f.i. also a will. As I do not know a corresponding English word. I used the word "contract," because this is the only case which is important for foreigners.

5.—Ari. 268; Setteikoi wo motte chijôken no sozokukikwan wo sadamezarishi baai ni oite betsudan no kwanshu naki toki wa, chijokensha wa nandoki nite mo sono kenri wo hôki suru koto wo u. "Chijokensha ga zenko no kitei ni yorite sono kenri wo hôki sezaru toki wa saibansho wa tojisha no

seikyu ni yorite junen ijo jugonen ika no han-i-nai ni oite sono son≇ukukikwan wo sadamu.''

設定行為ヲ以テ地上權フ存績期 間ヶ定メザルシ場合コ於ラ別段 ノ慣費ナキトキの堆上機者の何 時ニテモ其權利チ抛棄スルコト ヶ得 地上權者ハ前項ノ規定=依リテ 其権利ヲ抛棄セザルトキハ裁判 所へ當事者ノ請求ニ因リニ十年

以上五十年以下ノ範圍内ョ於テ

a quarter of a century, and for many a weary night I have cogitated upon Chinese characters and Japanese laws, and therefore I hope it will not be overbold if I say:—"There is no uncerto the overload it I say: "There is no inter-tainty whatever on the question whether according to the Japanese Civil Code the right of super-ficies can be acquired for any period of time to be fixed by the more agreement of the parties."

[Lis a matter of the highest importance in the

foreign residents in Japan to have a clear know-ledge of their future rights in this direction. This ledge of their future rights in this direction. This is the reason why I have undertaken once more to explain this question apparently so complicated and yet so easy for any person accustomed to legal reasoning. If I again should not succeed in convincing the sceptics, I must console myself with the fact that there are things on earth against which, as a German proved puts it, even gods would fight in vain.

Your obedient servant,

DR. L. LÖNHOLM,

Tokyo, December 28th, 1807.

Tokyo, December 28th, 1807.

#### THE SINGLE TAX: A "PANACEA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Str.—As you kindly connect my name with "a Panacea," I take the liberty of presenting a few thoughts on the subject of the Single Tax and what thoughts on the shiper, of the Single 4m and white it is claimed it will do. It is especially appropriate to devote a little attention to the subject, since the death of Henry George, the great representative of the idea, has taken place so recently. I believe the Single Tax will do wonders and that it is as near a panacea as anything, yet I always regard it as a part of a greater whole—the Gospel of Christ.

I generally refer to it as an important factor in most reforms, without which it is useless to ex-pect complete success. The first question is, "Is it just?"

I affirm that the rent of land in justice belongs

affirm that the rent of land in justice belongs

I affirm that the rent of land in justice belongs to the whole community, because they, by their presence, create it. I deny that the landlord class, as landlords, have any right to the cent of land, except what they have as citizens in common with the test of the community.

I have claimed that the equation: Production:=Wages+Interest+Rent, teaches us the true limitations of Individualism and Socialism, the rent of land only being social in its nature; however, it should here be noted that tailways, telegraph lines, gas lines are land functions and are classed as land by Single Taxers, and have been decided to be such by Courts.

You can call upon your readers to give a reasonable answer to the question, as to what the landlord does for the community or the tenant that corresponds to the rent he receives.

I have never found a single person who could give a reasonable answer to the question.

There is no use of reasoning about what the Single Tax would do, if it be not decided that it is

If it is right then other taxes are wrong, ciety or socialism violates individualism by taking private property (by taxes) for public use, and inprivate property (by taxes) for public use, and individualism takes public property (land taxes) for private use, we can easily see a transendors factor has been neglected in the reform programmes. All it requires to see the truth of the Single Tax is a little study, a clear head and a pure heart, and then having had its position explained it becomes as simple as the trunning principle of the bicycle.

Mr. I ambeth the Catholic privat who exceeds

Mr. Lambeth, the Catholic priest, who answered Robt. G. Ingersoll's criticisms on the Bible so dollars to refute Henry George's theory. He studied with a view of trying to do so, but replied,

"He is unansweable."

First thee, I premise the Single Tax to be right. As I have already trespassed on your space, con-necting the subject of the S. U. and providution, I will omit further reference to that subject. I have mentioned the S.T. in connection with the question of war. Mon do not individually nor collectively naturally love war, and in my opinion most wars of aggression, (and one party, or both have to be aggressive to start a war) are started

with a view to robbery.

There is somewhere in every was question, either There is somewhere in every was question, either before or after, a land question: the reader versed in history can review the subject for himself. Were it acknowledged that the rent of the land in India belonged to the people of India, and wages and interest of the people of India belonged to them and not to the English, England would not hold India and June and Pague as flighting and not to the English, England would not hold India one day. Germany and France are fighting over land, practically. Spain and Coba, Japan and Russia. The Single Tax idea would destray this aggressive matter of war, there would be no advantage or profit in holding distant territory, trade would be free among all countries, and,

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Formosa and Kores.

The Liquor Question:—
To reverse a Japanese expression, I believe "liquor to be the chief of a hundred poisons."
But the legal settlement of the question will, I am persuaded, never be attained while a liquor monopoly is fostered by high licenses.
The salogu keeper is not respected and he is a

posy is tostered by light itemses.

The saloon keeper is not respected and he is a corruptionist in society and politics, and is in it for revenue only. Make a way for him to live without such a business and he is apt to select exactles.

Again, there is as much drinking caused by poverty as there is poverty caused by drink. The extremely rich and the extremely poor do most of

extremely rich and the extremely poor do most of the drinking. Miss Willard, the greatest authority on temperance work, quotes from Proverbs, "The destruction of the poor is their poverty."

If the possibility of living easily and surely is open to men they are less apt to drown themselves in the forgetfulness of liquor. I do not say the S.T. will alone settle this matter but it is a factor

in the forgelithness of liquor. I do not say the S.T. will alone settle this matter but it is a factor that can not be safely neglected.

Voluntary Poverty:—

It has been claimed that the S.T. would do away with voluntary poverty. The principal cause of poverty is the lack of opportunity of employment. Periodically thousands are thrown out of employment. A very small part of poverty is caused by laziness, and not such a very large per cent, by liquo—the great cause is lack of opportunity. The land is monopolized, and this monopoly is the foundation of other monopoles that cause the race to-day. We are always regaled with the Scripture, "the poor have ye always with you," but never with Dent. 15, 4 (N.V.) "How be it there shall be no poor among you." In the Sermon on the Mount, it is forbidden to be rich. "Lay not up treasures on earth." "Behold the birds of the air." "Consider the lilles of the field." God feeds and clothes them. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness." and all these things will be added to you. Recognize that the present the trainer and the first factor in right.

need. God feeds and clothes them. "Seek first he Kingdom of God and his righteousness" and all these things will be added to you. Recognizing that universal right is the first factor in righteousness—result poverty and wretchedness. Private Property in Land is Atheism:—The Single Tax is part of my religion. By this new economy I can understand, as never before, what Christ meant, when he said "thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself;" "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." "The gloomy science," is turned to the luminous one, the hopeful one. With the increase of society, all are bound together by closer bonds, and with the increase of land rent the social more and more helps the individual. Under private property in land, the landless are slaves. The wicked (ich revelling in luxury and the deserving poor grovelling in the dirt, causes the former to say "Who is the Lord?" or the latter "to sleal or profane God's name." There is a strong atheistic tendency in it all. The compelition under the Single Tax will The competition under the Single Ta he free and helpful, that at present restricts pro-

duction and destroys.

What the landlord gains, others lose, because there is an "unearned increment." In closing let me quote:—"The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." Covetousness may be in the heart, but the occasion of its activity is in the open. portunity of getting something, as the landlord does."

The Single Tax would cut this tap-root of cove-The Single Tax would cut this tap-root of cover-tousness—this root of all kinds of evil—and in this way it is a panacea—as nearly as one thing can be, for the ills of the individual and of the body politic. The latest news from Australia, England, America, and Canada, indicates clearly that the Single Tax will soon be in operation, and then we will be able to see what it will do. However, the Single Taxets might be mistaken in the exact de-gree it is to change affairs; they are not mistaken in their assertion, that the land belongs to the people

ancient or modein, to support me in my assertious, and that, consequently, my opinion should have no weight with the Court. With the permission of Mr. H. C. Lüchfield, counsel for the plaintiff, I may state that subsequent to Mr. Martin's testimony, I placed in Mr. Litchfield's hands a document containing my reasons for translating the advertisement as I did, and I gave authority for the various statements I made about the ideographs. If Mr. Litchfield had considered it expedient to recall me, I could have given a complete explanation of the ideographs in dispute and supported my statements by books of reference. As a considerable amount of discussion has taken place regarding this translation, I enclose herewith a copy of the paper handed to Mr. Litchfield, and I think, after perusing its contents, wery fair minded person will come to the conclusion that I have very strong reasons for adhering to my there would be local self government, in India, ancient or modern, to support me in my assertions, There very strong reasons for adhering to my original translation.

With regard to my linguistic qualifications, it

was not stated in court, but, as a matter of fact, I have spent eleven full years in Japan and during the whole period I have made a thorough study the anguage, both spoken and written, and this should be enough to qualify me to speak with some authority on the subject.

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of this later.

of this fetter, I am, Sir, Yours respectfully,

J. M de BECKER.

Yakohuma, Dec. 29th, 1897.

With regard to the translation of the Japanese advertisement appearing in the Rögyö Zasshi (or Engineering Journal), dated 27th of August, 1897, there seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to the correct rendering of the Japan-

opinion as to the correct rendering or the Japanese into English.

The first thing that strikes a person acquainted with the Japanese language is that this advertisement is a translation from the English and that it has nothing essentially Japanese in its composition, i.e., that it is not put in the way in which a Japanese would compose such an advertisement, if he had not some foreign copy as a basis to work upon.

To take the meaning seriatim, the characters heading the advertisement are Dairi Sasho ft 理能避

Dairi means " Agency."代理

Sa means " Fraudulent or deceifful."

Shō means "Representation." ##
I should therefore translate that heading as
Fraudulent misrepresentation with regard to "Fraudulent this representation with regard to agency." It has been advanced by persons claiming to be experts that Sa does not mean "Fraudulent," and that it only means "False," In support of this view, Mr. C. K. Marshal Martin brings Art. 214, of the Penal Code of Japan, where he says the sense in which the word is used is "False." In turning to the original Japanese, I find that the only sense in which "False" is used in this Article is when such falsity is fraudulent, because the Japanese says

is in an indicated the content of t

Penal Code.

In Arts. 231 and 232, of the Penal Code, it is quite true that the English translation of the word Sasko appears in one place as "False" and in another as "Unduly." The sense, however, of these two Articles is this:—That the usurpation of costnines, insignia, titles or decorations, etc., comes under the heading of crimes against the public trust and comes under the calegory of various classes of fraud. Mr. Martin says the ideograph Sa means, "To make up," or "Fabricate." So it does, but, at the same time, I do not take the contraction to be the same as that stated by him. In their assertion, that the lead belongs to the people and hence the rest belongs to them.

Three Cheers for the Single Tax!

CHAS. E. GARST.

44 Tsukiji, December 17th, 1897.

A. S. HAY VS. AMERICAN TRADING CO.

To the Edition of the weathing of the meaning of Sa the "Yakubun Suchi," compiled by Matsumoto Guzan, Matsumoto Guz

nense of fraud or fraudulent is thoroughly brought out. In the word Sabô, which is translated by Capt. Brinkley as "A deceptive device, an evil imagination or strategy," this should have been translated, in addition to the above meanings, "A fraudulent scheme." On page 1161, of Brinkley's Dictionary, Sa-jutsu is translated as "a stratagem." In the Civil Code of Japan, in the "Book relating to Property," Art. 204, Sa-jutsu is used in the sense of a fraudulent scheme. In the Civil Code of Japan, in the "Book relating to Property," Art. 30, appear the words Sa-gai no kō-i (許貴子行為) which are used in the sense of a fraudulent act which is calculated to cause loss to a creditor or injure such creditor's interests. sense of fraud or fraudulent is thoroughly creditor's interests.

Then in a translation of Bouvier's Law Dictionary, made by Ucabe Sliözö, a barrister of Tokyo in 1890, the "Statute of Frauds" is translated;-

in 1890, the "Statute of Frauds" is translated;—
Sate! Forst which means: ###, Se
Frand, tel Fix, determine or settle, Forst Sixtute,
The above illustration will show distinctly that
it is not necessary to add the character Gi to Se
in order to preserve the sense of "fraud" in the
first character. My contention is that when Se
precedes another ideograph, although a second
sense may be produced, still the idea of fraud is
preserved in combination. Taking the experience
of eleven years of hard reading and constant in
character So is used at the heading of the adventisement in question with the intent to express the
word "Fraudulent," because there are a great
many other ways of expressing the same meaning. many other ways of expressing the same meaning, as, for instance, in place of Sasho (能解) could he used Gi-koku (儒管) and then it would simply mean "A deceifful or false notification; or King! Ko-koku could be used

(旅傳廣告).
As regards the word Fusei, Mr. Martin has brought forward an old out-of-date book as reference to prove the meaning of Se, so I may perhaps be permitted to bring forward, for the meaning be permitted to bring forward, for the meaning of Fussi (TME), an English-Chinese Dictionary, published in 1866 in Shanghai, by the Rev. W. Lobscheid. In this dictionary Fussi is given as the equivalent of dishonest. In a Dictionary of the English language, published by Shimada Yntaka, 6th Edition, 1897, "Dishonest" and "Dishonesty" are both translated with the word Fussi. The character Soi (also can be read Sho) means "Houset; upright; real; true; gentuine; straight;" etc. In Japanese, the character can be read as Tadashii. Thus, Tadashii hito, according to Hapburn, page 620, and according to Brinkley, page Tadashii. Thus, Tadashii hito, according to Hepburn, page 529, and according to Brinkley, page 1440, is translated "An honest person." The reverse in Japanese would be Tadashtkarasara hito (E>n? I have and unthing else. In Brinkley. Fusei, is not rendered "Dishonest," but "Unjust; improper; wicked; bad; wickedness." Now, "honesty "is the disposition to act justly, honestly, especially in business transactions, or in relation to the rights of property, and the autonym of this is "lacking honesty; destitute of integrity or good faith; having or exercising the disposition to cheat or defrand; untrustworthy; knavish." When the word Fu-sei is employed, the Japanese will understand it as the exact autonym of lionesty. Hepburn gives as an equivalent for of honesty. Hepburn gives as an equivalent for the word "Dishonest" Fu-shôfiki na, but the Fu-sho of the above word could be read as Fu-se; and it does not require jiki (can also be read " choku") to complete the sense

In Art. 262 of the Commercial Code of Japan, Fu-sei no i is translated as " Dishonest intention." Fu-sei no i in translated as "Dishonest intention," but I am willing to admit that in a great many instances it is also used in the Codes in the sense of "Incorrectly," and "Improper." However, when it is translated "Incorrectly" or "Improper," it is always in a place where I sandulent intention is implied. In a Dictionary by Tanahashi Ichiro, 5th Edition, 1887, the word "Dishonest (want of probing is the sense given) is translated "Fu-sei." I cannot find in any place "Improper" to be translated Fu-sei, but it could be translated as Fu-so. If the translator of this advertisement from English to Japanese had had in the original the words "Improper conduct" and had translated them correctly, he would not have used the word Fusce, but he might have used the words Fusce.

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wicked and criminal one. In the Commercial Code, Art. 257, Fu-sei im translated as "Improperly." This, as a matter of fact, is right, in its way, but it is not strong enough. Still, it will be noticed that it is used in connection with a punishable offense, and the idea is to prevent fraudulent entries or omissions in the list of shareholders. Mr. Ozawa, in his testimony, went so far as to say that Fu-sei could not be translated as dishonest and vice versa. The examples which I have given above show that this is entirely incorrect, and I do not consider it necessary to even refute his remarks, under the circumstances.

incorrect, and I do not consider it necessary to even relate his remarks, under the circumstances. After all, the various objections which have been raised and the various theories which have been advanced on the side of the defendant Company amount simply to juggling with words and nothing else. The effect produced on the mind of a Japanese when seeing an advertisement headed with characters among which is the ideograph Sa, is to immediately-make him think of the word Sagiwhich is the legal word for Iraud, and the sense in which Fu.sei is considered by a Japanese seeing the advertisement is "Dishonest." The whole advertisement is likely to produce a very deep impression on the minds of readers and calculated to seriously damage the character and reputation of the person in question.

to seriously damage the character and reputation of the person in question.

Although I have cited authorities in support of my interpretation, I do not consider that the iprediction of even the best lexicographical authority should be taken as final on the subject, as at present the available dictionaries are not complete and I would not entirely depend upon them. My translation has been made in the light of practical analysis and I raise monthly own personal experience and I rely upon my own personal knowledge of the language in giving the characters employed the signification I have done.

#### THE "SOCIAL EVIL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—The chief feature of your reply to my acticle in the Hyogo News was not unanticipated. It was not therefore either ignorance or obtuseness which led me to give to the term "Social Evil" a wider meaning than "the arithmetic of prostitution and the wisdom of the licensing system." I did this deliberately and for several

reasons:

First because in the mind of the public the wider meaning of the term is by no means uncommon, I doubt very much if "A Missionary" meant to represent Col. Bacon as confining himself in his addresses to the limits of the question given by yourself. That others of your readers do not do so is clearly shown by the communication of your lady correspondent "E.S.P." who concludes her letter in these words:—"And I am not alone in thinking that II the globe-trotters who come to criticise, and the missionaries who come to criticise, and the missionaries who come to convert, the Japanese people, would only stay at home, and expend their superfluous energies in at home, and expend their superfluous energies in endeavouring to cleanse their own cities, instead of coming to countries where the conditions are totally different, leaving the latter to be altered and improved where necessary, by the laws of the country, as will happen naturally and in due course, they will be doing a better work, and would show more satisfactory results than they will ever achieve amongst a people whose minds are both critical and analytical." I will say frankly that it was in part because I feared your article, entirely without and anamicat. I will say trangly that it was in part because I feared your article, entirely without intention on your part, would strengthen one class of your readers in the opinion that "if the mis-

of your readers in the opinion that "if the missionaries who come to convert the Japanese would only stay at home \*\* they will be doing a better work," that led me to write in criticism of it.

Secondly, I have a firm conviction that social morality and the Social Evil are so closely related that they cannot really be separated, that they are in a true sense one and the same question. When you can separate a river from its source or a plant from the soil out of which it grows, then and not till then can the social evil be treated without reference to social unrality. As a living British reference to social murality. As a living Bittish scholar has recently said:—" It is vain for the men of a nation to practise impurity and fancy that nevertheless they can keep their wamankind chaste." chaste.

You declare that I have made misstatements in

the writer said—the article is before me as I write —"Kare ga konnichi kozen sho to shite kosekibo ni Taka who is to-day publicly registered as his con-cubine is the daughter of——a lumber dealer cabine is the daugh living in Fukagawa.)

I wrote my article knowing that concubinage is common in Japan, and believing it to be so in the case mentioned; I knew, too, how carefully every Japanese is registered; and so with the above sentence in mind—it indicates an examination of the records—I wrote as I did feeling quite sure of my ground.

I know your acquaintance with Jepanese law is lar greater than mine and if, as I think not improbable, it turns out that in following the Yorosu Choho, I was technically wrong in the statement made, is it not still true that persons known to be concubines are registered as jochiu, kashimoto, or sobame? If so, would the negative statement, "Concubinage, though illegal in the United States, is not so in Japan," be incorrect?

I accept your statement as conclusive that the I accept your statement as conclusive that the demonstrations made by the late Governor Hennessey at the geisha entertainment in Kyoto were those of approval and not of disapproval and offended dignity. But I am not ready to admit that the latter sentiments were never expressed. My informant was an Englishman not now in Japan, a gentleman of the highest character, and a former resident of Hongkong, and I understood him to claim positive knowledge. My explanation is that at the time the Governor expressed the accreval and delight claimed, but that afterthe approval and delight claimed, but that after-ward when he found that he had been enter-tained by a dance by women of evil reputation his indignation, as has been the case with other visitors, was strong, and strongly expressed. Having now disposed of two apparent misstate-Having now disposed of two apparent misstatements in my article allow me to call attention to statements in yours which seem to me decidedly questionable. You say, "No foreign lady, could be offended by the contributions which the grisha makes to social convivialities," If you were compelled to spend as many nights in Japanese inns as some missionaries do, often-times with only a shoji between you and a company of merry makers, you could not I am sure make such a statement. If there is nothing offensive in their presence why—if I am correctly informed—did General Nogirefuse to attend a public entertainment in Sendai during the present year unless the plan to have geisha present were given up?

ment in Sendai during the present year unless the plan to have geisha present were given up?

In your issue of Dec. 4 you speak approvingly of "the Japanese plan of relegating the evil to remote quarters of the cities and confining it there." One of the main contentions of my article was that it is not so confined. I showed, and I could show still further, and even bring, witnesses to prove that the Social Evil—even in its narrower sense is not confined to remote quarters but that the lottels almost everywhere are full of it. Of this there is there can be no ourse. full of it. Of this there is, there can be no ques-

I am glad to read Pour outspoken words as to the character of the gisha, and your opinion that "their abolition would be a salutary step." I am glad too to be assured—though I had not before doubted it,—that on many points connected with this great question we think alike.

Asking your pardon for the length of this article on the ground of the importance of the subject discussed. I remain very truly your.

discussed, I remain very truly yours

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE IN THE "Hiogo News"

#### ASIATIC SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The recently published decision of the apan Branch of the Asiatic Society, is of course, matter to be decided by the subscribers; but as a matter to be decided by the subscribers; but as one of the outside general public who is specially interested in the sphere that the said Society was established to influence, I beg to be permitted to offer some observations bearing on the question in the future.

As the Suciety acknowledges failure in the en-couragement of contributors, I venture to suggest a thorough reorganization; and as the Revised Treaties will ere long be in operation, let Japa-nese and foreigners be precisely on the same foot-ing; remove all restrictions, admit any one paying the subsection and the basic productions.

not mere dilettanti, and on subjects now "cold shouldered" but interesting to the majority of but interesting to the majority of

shouldered "but interesting to the majority of the savants and more intelligent reading public, a steadily increasing number.

The preparation of a "paper" involves much expenditure of time and careful thought, even with all the material to hand; and any one having command of a wider circle of readers than the Journal of such a Society as that under notice, will not offer the results of so much trouble to the censorship of a Committee such as usually acts as Executive in a small community composed principally of the elements to be found in such a place as Tokyo for instance; and only to be emplace as Tokyo for instance; place as Tokyo for instance; and only to be em-balmed in pages that furnish pabulum to the in-

dustrious literary back.
The most vigorous societies in London, and the dustrious literary back.

The most vigorous societies in London, and the writer is familiar with many, as Member and Lecturer, are those giving facilities to wider membership and having the largest audiences, the greatest freedom of discussion and the most extensive circulation of their Journals (or Reports, Proceedings, Transactions, &c.), such as the Society of Arts, Adelphi, the patron of which was the late Prince Consort; and to which the late Admiral Rider, when Commander in-Chief at Portsmouth, altuded in a private letter to the writer as "being like an elephant's trunk, nothing was too great or too small for it to take up."

The most learned amongst the Yamatologists are still dependant upon Japanese for the information that furnishes the basis of all contributions; and why not have the authorities at the meetings, with interpreters for the benefit of those who have not acquired the necessary knowledge of Japanese? The original in Japanese could be printed at a very small cost, as well as a carefully revised translation. Japanese subscribers would not be the only persons pleased with such a feature.

So long as the range of subjects acceptable is restricted to the arrow range of the ideas of the

with such a feature.

So long as the range of subjects acceptable is restricted to the narrow range of the ideas of the propagandists of a creed, in any of the numerous sectarian forms which is in competition with the indigenous cultus and other ancient beliefs, there will be limitations to the usefulness of a Society the estensible raison d'efre of which is (or should be) Oriental Research; and the encouragement that ought to be afforded, becomes non existent. non existent.

A long list of subjects occurs to the inditer, suggested by questioners met with when travelling and lecturing in Europe and America, upon which information is desired; and in years to come there will be increasing difficulty in obtaining "unsophisticated" information.

It is sincerely to be hoped that scientific, systematic research will have organized encouragement in the near future; and I therefore advocate the establishment of a solid institution on a broad and liberal basis.

Lam, yours, &c., C. PFOUNDES. January 5th, 1898.

#### AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sydney, November 26.

The Colonied Races Restriction and Regulations Bill, introduced by the New South Wales Government, has every prospect of being adopted by the colonial parliament, although whether it will receive the assent of the British Government remains to be seen. It is aimed principally at the increasing number of Afghan, Syrian, and other Asiatic peoples in the colony, the difficulty being that many of them claim to be British subjects, and is based upon the measure which has proved so successful in Natal. Practically it will exclude only those desirous of settling in the colony, the exemptions being numerous and comprehenthe exemptions being numerous and comprehe

sive.
In Queensland the Labour party is clamouring for legislation of a drastic character, with a view to preventing the employment of Japanese in the Northern Queensland sugar country, the large number of Japanese settled on Thursday Island being made an excuse for action in the matter. Recently in the Queensland parliament, the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, stated that the action taken by the Queensland Government with a view to the stoppage of Japanese immigration "had not arrived at such a stage as will admit of its being made public." This reply has given rise to a considerable amount of press comment. The Queenslander, for instance, says:—"The slow You declare that I have made misstatements in regard to two points of fact. One of these is in my statement:—"Japan has, America has not legalized concubinage." This you say is "diamout trically opposed to the truth," and you go on to say, "concubinage is not more legal in Japan han it is in the United States. The law does not recognize it in any way." When I wrote I was strongly of the impression that concubines were registered as such. I had in mind an editional article I had read months before in the Korodsu Choho. Speaking of the immorality of the Head Priest of the Eastern Hongwanji sect of Buddhists

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Couragement of contributors, I venture to suggest at the Council to contributors, I venture to suggest at the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, stated that the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, at the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, stated that the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, stated that the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, at the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, at the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, stated that the Premier States and the Premier, Sir Hugh Nelson, stated that the Premier States and Instance, same stated that the Premier States and Instance, say stated that the Premier States and Instance, say stated that the Premier States and Instance, s

gravity of the evil, and were doing their very best to have it met, the answer brings us again in view of the fact that the Government is in actual negotiation with that of Japan on the subject. It negotiation with that of Japan on the subject. It is well to remind ourselves of that fact in discussing the position. If realous anti-Japanists do not forget it they do worse; they write and speak after a lashion which can only embarrass the negotiators and prejudice Queensland in the negotiation." The columns of the Brisbane Courier have been filled with correspondence and articles the strict of the strict the lattices. have been filled with correspondence and articles bearing upon the question, among which the latters written by Mr. James Clark, from Thursday. Island, occupy a leading place. Mr. Ctark insists that the Japanese should not be allowed to monopolise the pearl fisheries of Torres Straits. He admits that they came at the invitation of the white capitalists, and would have nothing to say I they had remained in a condition of servitude. Their great sin, in his eyes, is that they have practically become their own employers. He would have them excluded from Queensland soil, but the colonists would not agree to anything of the kind. On this point the Brishaus Courier says:—
"Gavernment and Parliament with hesitate before dealing with Japanese now fishing in Queensfore dealing with Japanese now fishing in Queens-land waters in the manner recommended by Mr. land waters in the manner recommended by Mr. Clark. Such measures as he would like to see adopted would probably be taken as an affront by the Government and people of Japan. It is one thing to say to Japanese in Japan who may be thinking of emigrating to Queensland "You shall not land here;" or, "If you come here it can only be on such and such condition." tions. We will not have you as capitalists. You shall not own or hire boats in the peadshell fishery. tions. We will not have you as capitalists. You shall not own or hire boats in the pearlshell fishery. You may only enter the employment of white capitalists for so many years at wages that may be agreed upon, and then return to you own country." It is quite another thing to turn upon the Japanese now in the country, and impose disabilities upon them, even to taking the ownership of properties out of their hands. Australia has put an end to Chinese immigration, but it has not imposed irritating disabilities on the Chinese already in the country. We have not rescinded their naturalisation papers, or compulsorily bought them out of industries in which they have honestly earned their livelihood. The politicians who were resolute in terminating Chinese intangration were just as resolute in maintaining that the Chinese mow in Australia must not be disturbed in the enjoyment of rights and privileges. Is it reasonable to expect that the Government of Japan would tolerate a treatment of Japanese in Australia which compared hadly with the treatment of Chinese? If the Government of Japan were willing to agree to each stringent measures as Mc. Clark thinks ought to be adopted, we should soon, have other interested white contraints clamparing Clark thinks ought to be adopted, we should soon have other interested white capitalists clamouring for the Government to similarly run the Chinese and other coloured aliens out of ownership in other and other cajoured afters out of ownership in other industries. If the Japanese naw in Queensland ought not to be permitted to compete with Mr. Clark and other white boat-owners in the pearlshell industry at Thursday Island, ought the Chinese growers of bananas at Carus and Geraldton to be permitted to compete with the European growers of bananas there and elsewhere in Overal tast? European growers of bananas there and ensewhere in Queensland? Where could this thing stop, short of excluding coloured persons now amongst us from all ownership and control in the industries? And would that policy of harsh disability to the stranger within our boundaries, who came here when disability did not exist, be a policy that Britons could be proud of? Would it be a policy that the policy of the production with the R trial both of emerging in a Britons could be proud of? Would it be a policy consistent with the B itish habit of engaging in a capitalistic capacity in the industries of other countries?"

The Queenslander, releasing to the arguments employed by Mr. Clark and those sharing his employed by Mr. Clark and those snaing mappinion, says that one of them seems to give away the whole case. "It is that the Japanese have so heated the British in Japanese to deserve the treatment it is proposed to measure out to them in Queensland." Now let us understand them in Queensland." Now let us understand where we are. If our action is to be put upon the basis of Japanese desert, what becomes of the previous pleas of necessity urged in total independence of desert? We do not remember that much trouble was taken to show that the Chinese deserved the restrictions laid on them, say in the matter of the goldfields; the convinc-ing argument was the necessities or convenience of the white Queenslander. Desert is a dangerous plea when it is really a question of what we can wisely or safety do to secure our own interests And its dauger has seldom been better illustrated than in this very instance. It falls at every point: it even lives its edge against the whites. Much has been made of the embargo laid on British journalism in Japan. That does not amount to much But it has been shown that there is no embargo. the mount of the prospect or being superseded to the markets of a subsour that English memorf-war are displaying But it has been shown that there is no embargo. The East by the merchants and manufacturers of a subsour that English memorf-war are displaying But it has been shown that there is no embargo. This newly-active power; may prove a desirable great activity in the Gulf of Pechili. You will be Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

What has hannened, according to the editor of the Fapan Gasetis, is "a delect in the disting of the treaty," under which British journalism is liable to testly, under which such purchase by be extinguished in 1890; but the delect, it is thought, will be easily rectified upon representation made. This surely is a matter for negotiation rather than the proposed irrelevant reprisals. Then it has been complained that British travellers in Japan are restricted in their movements, have to provide themselves with passports, and are dogged by soldiers and policemen. This is Mr. Clark's great complaint. But it has been met by the principal Japanese resident of Thursday Island in a manner which should shame newspaper correspondents. ner which should shame newspaper correspondents ont of further reference to it. Mr. Torajiro Sato shows that the treatment Mr. Clink complains of was in reality a privilege of protection conferred on him and British subject under existing treaties. Nearly forty years ago it was agreed that British subjects in Japan should be protected by British law, and it became necessary for the Japanese Government to follow British travellets in order to secure them their legal privilege. It is not to the credit of disputants that they persist in twisting this exceptional privilege, which would be scouted with tidicule if proposed for the Japanese in Queensland, into an offence justifying severity on our part. And again we have to urge that misrepresentation of this kind does not help the Governmental negotiation. We only add that Governmental negotiation. We only add that we take this line of remark not from any lukewe take this fine of remain not from any func-warmness in our desire me see a white Australia, but from the conviction that, is on relations with Japan, it is only by a careful observance of reason and of justice, not to say international courtesy, that we can being the desire to happy fruition."

The tone adopted by the Queenslander very fairly represents that of public options generally thoughout the colony, if not the whole of Australia. Nowhere is all the world are the Japanese more respected appreciated than in the Australian Colonies, the whole of the trouble has miginated with the lower sections of the Australian labouring classes who affect to see in the Japanese workers formid-able industrial competitors in the next forme.

The establishment of schools for the complete commercial education of Japanese youth has naturally attracted some little attention in New South Wales, where the commercial element so largely predominates. The Maitland Mercury, after describing the educational curriculum remarks that:—"It will be interesting, for those who live long enough into the coming century, to observe whether this somewhat mechanical plan observe whether this somewhat internation plan of producing a commercial nation will succeed. Those political constitutions which have been marked by the most painful elaboration, and in chich endeavour is made to auticipate every development of the working of the political machine, have not been so conspicit usly successful as de-vices of government as has proved that unsym-metrical and unsystematic polity under which metrical and unsystematic polity under which Bittons live. And it may be that thorough and complete as is the system of Japanese commercial complete as the system of Japanese the education described, it may yet be deleated by followers of rough-and-teady and unscientific methods. Some of its will see. Meanwhile, on the surface we may fairly say that the Japanese designs merit respectful attention on the part of signs merit respectful attention on the past of England. Recent Lapanese progress may be, as The Times remarks, only a spirit. Yet it will be prident for English mechants and manufacturers to assume that they have in Japan a forman worthy of their steel. Nothing is much more foolish in a serious contest than to inderestimate your enough a trength. All this systematic and scientific training of Japanese lads for hearing a great part in a future commercial development of the mation may move to be wasted energy. But it the nation may prove to be wasted energy. But it may be also, to use Million's phrase, the process of a giast mewing its youth, and preparing to become puisseant in commerce as in war. We can well inderstand that merchants and captains of industry who are learned in political economy and in the whole province of the world's trade, to whom commercial and producing conditions everywhere are mercial and producing conditions everywhere are an open book, who have absorbed theoretical and practical commercial knowledge when the mind is plastic and memory receptive, whose buddy vigonithas been made to keep pace with the growth of their mental activity and alermess, and who have been disciplined in a morality resembling one aspect of that exalted morality given to the world by the Wise King of Israel, and that Greater One who spoke matchless words—that such merchant and industrial leaders may nowe formidable comwho spoke matchless words—that such merchant and industrial leaders may prove formidable competitors to the fields of the world's commerce with Englishmen and other Europeans, practised as they are by centuries of experience. We do not doubt the ability of Bottain to hold her own with Japan if she exert berself. And it is probable that the prospect of being superseded in the markets of the Earth with the prospect of being superseded in the markets of

spar to English folk, and embedy a warning against letteracy, and embody a warning against letteracy, and against toolding any antagonist too cheap. Moreover, a good policy is to learn of an adversary, as Peter the Great learned of the Swedes. We have called the morality inculcated in these Japanese commercial schools a morality resembling one aspect of the Christian morality, British production and commerce may hecome partified by incorporation into its methods of that higher aspect of Christian morality where-is we learn that a false weight and a deseiful balance are an abomination to the Lord.

#### NEWS FROM RIAO CHOIL

(TRANSLATED FROM " DER OSTASIATISCHER LLOTD," FOR THE " N.-C. DAILT NEWS.")

A sign that, netwithstanding our military occu-pation of the bay of Kieo chou, the friendly rela-tions between Germany and Clina have not been broken off, is visible in the non-interruption of telegraphic communication between the new Ger-man stations of Kieo-chou and Thinasand telegraphic communication between the new German stations of Kiao-chou and Tsingtao and the outside world. It is evident that the Chinese Government as well as our own, is carnestly striving for a poscelul solution of the present difficulty. In Tsingtao the little Chinese employee of the administration retains his post, clad in his elegant peach red gown; but his pedantic, reticent bepeach red gown; but his pedantic, reticent be-haviour compares very unlavourably with that of the sallors and non-commissioned officers—telethe sations and non-commissioned officers—tele-graphic experts—who have have been adjoined to him. Unfortunately, at Kiao-choustation, the next on the line from this, a like arrangement of the telegraph office was not practicable: there the lelegraph office was not practicable: there the Chinese telegraph clerk concluded to do politics on his own account and abandoned his post in an access of Germanophobia, to which he gave expression in a telegram sent in English to Tringtan in language not fit to be repeated. According to another story, he took French leave upon the approach of the Germans, fearing to be called to account for his telegraphic heart-outpourings. In any case his action led to a breach in telegraphic communication which lasted over a week, but which, although it disturbed our official traffic, did little harm to us personally, as the Ottariatischer Lloyd is hardly yet the "World-paper" to be able to wire its correspondence to its subscribers, even had we the necessary permission in use the wire. Consequently we must be gonreaders to have patience for a time which will happily not be long. We have to thank the Telegraph Administration for sending a fresh clerk and so restoring communication.

Otherwise peace and quiet reign absolutely. The detachment of 500 marines and sailors sent to Chino has been withdrawn, now that all the Chinese troops have left the neighbourhood. Chinese troops have left the neighboushood. It was a bitter cold day, the thermometer at 19 E, and a northwest gale blowing, as the men marched back in high spirits singing their soldier songs, (wind was at their backs) with a high colour from the wind and sin. And why should they not hook healthy? Is it not the home climate in which we are living? Rice and banners grow here no mark than they do at home; and our peasurts would soon learn to accommodate themselves to the mosquitoes and the somewhat higher sumants temperature. What a nity that this fire country is already soon learn to accommonate themselves to the most quitoes and the somewhat higher summs temperature. What a pity that this fine country is already fully occupied by the children of the yellow race and that they cannot be driven out or extensionated with the aid of powder and alchohol like the aborigines of Africa, Australia, and Polynesia. But if the Chinese, with life and reproductive powers equal to our own and so few wants, no idea of displacement is entertainable. Under these circumstances, never will China offer a field for colonisation to the surplus population of Europe. And yet here, too, we have what cannot withstand Western civilisation with its strange disintegrating influences; its Christianity and love of one's neighbour out the one hand; on the other, the reckless selfishness and individualism of our European industrialism—both backed by modern war methods—and this is the ancient empire of China. It is a hopeless invalid, whose decease is It is a impeless invalid, whose decease is unly a question of time. By the help of that Western civilisation which has destroyed it must the Chinese empre be again restored. In this work of the coming century we shall now take our part, starting from Kiao chon. From this point of vantage we shall be in a position to support a modern Chinese government with word and deed, as well as to watch over the safety of our mission-spies in the interior of China and to push the extension of our trade.

extension of our trade.

The English cruiser Undaunted which put is an appearance here on the 9 to of December, left as again on the 11th. Before that a small English maniof-war, the Algerine, our old friend from Shanghai, had arrived and is still here. There is

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better informed as to their movements in Shanghai than we here. Is it possible that, owing to our action here, England has been excited to a more active policy in China? Are complications between England and Russia threatening in regard to Korea? Such are the indications in the news brought by the German steamer Swalow yesterday. The arrival of a steamer is an event in this remote, newspaper void, Bay of Kiao-chou. So far only the German steamers chartered by the Admiral of the squadron come to this port. English steamers are said ill have rebetter informed as to their movements in Shangthis port. English steamers are said III have rethis port. English steamers are said in liave re-fused to call in here because, according to treaty, they render themselves liable to confiscation by calling at a non-upen port. But the German steamers by no means limit themselves to the con-veyance of letters and dispatches. The Loongveyance of letters and dispatches. The Loongmoon, which has made several voyages between this and Shanghai, has brought—besides fresh and preserved provisions in large quantities—numbers of ponies, timber for building, stoves, beds, and other faculture. The Loyal came in from floughoug with coal recently. To-day I noticed on the landing jetty the cargo being landed from the steamer Swatow, doors and windows made in Shanghair chairs and tables; sentry boxes to protect our sentires from wind and windows made in Shanghai's chairs and tables a neutry boxes to protect our sentires from wind and weather, and which will be shortly painted with the German colours,—black, white, red: streel-lanterns for roads and barrack yards, huge kettles, great loads for the depôt, and numberless other things which soint to the fact we intend to install ourselves both in comfortable and military shape. And wandering through the old Chinese camps, in which our brave blue-jackets are now housed, one seas the men all busily at work planking the floors and fitting doors and windows into their place. The yamen in Tsinglao—that magnificent range of buildings formarly occupied by the Chinese general in command—is now being fitted out for dwellings for our own Head Command and the higher officers. From the landing place to the magazine go trains of coolies and small Chinese carts, drawn by a mule or pony, laden with stores for the different camps and returning emoty. The remotes mentry boxes to protect our sentries from wind and go trains of coolies and small Chinese carts, drawn by a mule or pony, laden with stores for the di-ferent camps and returning empty. The country people move about them pursuing their ordinary occupations. Now we come across one of our well-known Shanghai wheelbarrows with the guest sitting on one side and her luggage on the other side of the wheel. It is a rather suspicious-looking small-footed beauty, decorated with white powder and deep rouge. What is she doing here? Has the come from the interior of the country la visit a and deep rouge. What is she doing itere? Has she come from the interior of the country to visit a or has she been imported by some specurelation or has she been imported by some specu-lative. Chinese in order here, like Eve, to under-mine the morals of our bardy warriors? Here we have a decidedly more innocent picture,—a little assied by a countryman, out of the baskets slung across, on either side peep out the heads of two little children who gaze with autonished eyes upon the "Red Devils." Of course there is been proed on the abusive language so freely bestow-ed on the European in China-often with the accompaniment of stones, fifth, and clods of earth, -not even in the interior of the occupied territory must even in the interior of the occupied territory. You may wander alone or ride through the surrounding villages and you will be absolutely numolessed; indeed around Tsingtao you mostly get a friendly salute copied from our military salute. May it ever he thus!

When the wind blows strong from the North, s when the wind blows strong rum the North, a walk through the country or even a shoul through the atreets of our little town of Tsingtao, does not afford much enjoyment; walking against it, the wind fairly takes away one's breath and one does well to cover up the ears. Then on the broad waters which look so pleasing from afar white combast the numbers and combast the numbers and provides the numbers of the property of the prope combers the mp, unpleasant enough when one is close to them and which, though they leave our stately men-of war undisturbed, play havoc with the small steam-launches and the drafts of men being landed from them at the pile jetty. But, when the stiff breeze drops, and the sea is once more like a mirror, and the sun warms up the landscape once more, then we gladly set out on a walk over hill and dale. The various hill ranges lie right across our direction and close to us. Some dozen higher and lower peaks project from the range, some crowned by most marvellously-shaped rocks. The highest peak, as already stated, harely exceeds after the relation of the relation of the ing the villages which nestle in the valley bottoms. The hard, rocky, and fezen paths are had for our

the approaching stranger. The Chinese seem to have left him alone formerly, not caring much for game. But now that buyers for the dainty reast are steadily to be found in Tsingtao, the Chinese are pursuing it with great energy, driving them into nets, as, fortunately, they do not possess fire arms. This will soon make an end of possess fre-aims. This will soon make an end of the hares in this neighbourhood and when our German forester arrives on the spot, there will be little for him to do; for it will be long before it will be possible to put in force game laws against the Chinese. Pheasants are also said to exist but I have so far seen none. On the other hand, linge flacks of wild geese are to be seen, as also the heron, a large handsome grey bird; one sees dozens of these beautiful animals in their long line of flight; it seems to take the place of the stock with us and, to judge by the appearance of the Chinese houses, here fulfils his delicate office far better than does his lang-legged brother in the old home.
Tsingtao, 13th December.

#### A NEW YAPANESE ENTERPRISE.

Much feminine attention has lately been directed to a novelty which illustrates nothing less than the fact than an altogether new and wholly unforeseen rival to the needlewomen, not only of our own metropolis, but of Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, has spring up out of the East, and that phicky, co-sourceful Japan is prepared to place upon our counters dressing gowns and bedroom jackets that may well effect revolutions alike in the fashions and the prices of these useful articles. This new trade (says the Daily Telegraph) is entirely the result of Japanese "push," and, although it has only been in existence about eighteen months, it is already assuming large dimensions. Furmerly these dressing gowns were not wholly unknown in London, but they were then imported by half-dozens, and sold at a high price as emiosities, Shortly after the conclusion of the war with China a young Japanese commercial traveller presented himself in this country, furnished with all credentials, and pointed out to leading firms that Euronean visitors had always expressed themselves peam visitors and aiways expressed themselves pleased with the warmth and comfort of the quilted and wadded silk dressing gowns they had seen and worn in Japan, and that some people were now in the habit of obtaining such articles though private channels. He had come, therefore, in the hope of opening up a trade in this direction, and he offered terms which considered the offered terms which considered the opening to the opening the constant the opening the vate channels. He had come, therefore, in the hope of opening up a trade in this direction, and he offered terms which proved bim to be quite conversant with the ordinary commercial practices of the trade. Some declined the risk, some lesitated, but Messrs, D. H. Evans, risk, some lesitated, but Messrs, D. H. Evans, who some years ago organised with marked success a scheme for giving the needlework of fine underwear direct into the hands of kish peasant women, took it up, with the result that a single slipment recently comprised no less than a thousand descine compared six land. a single shipment recently comprised no less than a thousand diessing-gowns and six hundred diessing jackets, whist an exact "repeat order" as to colouring, sizes, and numbers has been given. It should be added that there are two other wholesale importers of Eastern goods two other wholesale importers of Eastern goods in the City who are bringing over consignments of considerable bulk. Yokohama is the seat of the new industry, which engages men as well as women. The system by which English tastes and requirements are met is for the Japanese agent to for ward to his European principals the whole range of fine soft silks the has available for the gown itself, and for the linings. Sir Thomas Wardle, the President of the British Silk Association, and the leading authority on the chemistry of dyes, stated, in answer to direct inquiries on this subject, that the Japanese have now acquired a mastery of the subtlest secrets of aniline shading; while if they are substituting for the old-fashioned pure vegetable combinations the product of coal-tar, they are doing so with a remarkable perception of their best application. Certainly, there are scores of the most charming fints available, and when the of the most charming tints available, and when the of the most charming tints available, and when the Western expert has decided to order, say, half a dozen of the quies blue, lived with ceam, a dozen of delicate moss-green, allied with bright rose-pink and a like number of warm crimson, in conjunction with shot pearl and peach, the patterns are attached to specially prepared cards, and when the sizes are indicated there is no further trouble. Japanese taste may be confidently left to carry out the embolderies, either unit-

tieme partisan either of free trade or of protection to draw a moral from it. In the great market of cheap clothing we have suffered too long from the competition of the German pocket-money needlewoman and half a dozen other rivals to raise any cries about another nail in the coffin of poor women's homework; and if so much money has to leave this country annually that our drapers' windows may be filled with attractive, showy wares, it matters very little whether it goes to Berlin or Tokyo. Even if Japan does not supply us within our generation with "Paris model" dresses and millinery, with Savile Row frock coats and tall hats, it is perfectly conceivable that her daily improving silk throwing machinery and power-looms will send us in a year or two mainfactured silks that in colour and price will fight quite fairly the weighted and adulterated productions of Crefelt and Como. Men's ties, ladies blouses and fronts, and even petiticats, may well follow a year or two hence the dressing-gowns of to-day. The boot and shoe trade handly realises how fast a great industry in footgoar, saddlery, contempting apprains treme partisan either of free trade or of protecto-day. The boot and shoe trade hardly realises how fast a great industry in fobtgear, saddlery, portmanteaus, and leather generally is growing up in Campore, or how a touch of the magic wands of capital and energy might convert the city of the mutiny's darkest memories into a powerful commercial rival of Northampton. But many more such instances might be cited in which goods long the manupoly of European factories are being produced where labour is abundant and are being produced where tallott is absoluted and strikes do not occur, and in surveying them it can only be said now-a-days with extreme reservation that "East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet," so rapidly is industrial development bridging the gulf.

#### PIRATICAL ATTACK ON HAIPHONG.

The Courrier d'Haiphong of the 18th Dec. gives a detailed account of the attack on Haiphong that accured in the early morning of the 16th Dec. It states that several days previously information had been received by the authories and the European residents, through the Spanish missionaries, Annamite officials, and domestic servants, of the intended rising, but no importance seems thave been strached to the warning by the officials. The pirates had assembled eight days before at the Elephant's Hill, and had been regaling themselves with spirits and meal. They had made no secret of their intention to attack Haiphong, and had said that they had received orders from Heaven to exterminate the Europeans and the dynasty of Nguyen (the Annam dynasty), which was to be replaced by that of the Mac. On the morning in question they separated into two bands, each from 150 to 200 strong, and at 5 a.m. entered the town of different directions. One section made its way the Quan An's house setsection made its way \$\exist\$ the Quan An's house setting fire to the numerous matsheds and houses en rouse. The Quan An (a native military official) had been apprised of the intended attack and had left only the previous evening with about 100 militin, under the command of inspector Lambert, to meet the robels at the Elephant's Hill. His body guard, which was left behind, stubbornly defended the place and opened fire on the assailants, of whom a great musber were killed and wounded. The other band happened to pass the house in which Mr. Gauthier, of Mr. A. R. Marty's firm, was living. This unfortunate young man was awakened by the alarm and tried to escape, but was pursued by the pirates and backed to death. His features were so hortibly mutilated that they were unrecognizable. As section made its way = the Quan An's house setribly mutilated that they were unrecognizable. As employe of Mr. Faussemagne was also wounded. At 4 o'clock the troops were awakened by the alarm, but no one thought that the situation was so grave. but no one thought that the situation was so grave. Thinking that it was merely the question of a fire a small hody was sent out with a pump. As soon as this body realised the situation they hurnied lack to their quarters, and at six o'clock a company divided into two sections started in pursuit of the pirates. One of the sections came upon some stragglers from the bands and charged them with fixed bayonets. About fifteen of the pirates were either killed or severely wounded, and three banners were captured, hearing the following priates were either killed or severely wounded, and three banners were captured, bearing the following devices, "Let us obey the order from heaven. Exterminate the Buropeans, Exterminate the dynasty of the Nguyen. Dynasty of Mac." On each of the bodies of the slain was found a chip of bamboo bearing the characters "Soldiers of heaven." It is averted that the vising is general in the Delta and that exverted other pour have likewise been the sizes are indicated there is no further touble. The hard, rocky, and forcen paths are had for our ponties, but at times we come upon the sandy beds of watercourses where we can gallop our animals. Most picture-que are the ravines winding upwards between rocky walls, as they are cut deep into the earth; the broken rock material lends itself to most faminatic shapes. We have before us a model of the earth's evolution under the action of wind and water.

The sportamen, too, need not wander in vain over these fields and mountains. Our old German friend, the hare, is seen everywhere fleeing from heaven. Exterminate the devices, "Let us obey the arder from heaven. Exterminate the Buropeans, Exterminate the Buropeans, Exterminate the Buropeans, Exterminate the devices, "Let us obey the arder from heaven. Extending the characters where the notice is no further touble. Is panese taste may be confidently tentionally of the Nguyen. Dynasty of Mac." On each of the ling the colours or effecting a daring but has bodies of the slain was found a chip of the slain was found a chip of the Nguyen. Dynasty of Mac." On each of the logities of the slain was found a chip of the Nguyen. Dynasty of Mac." On each of the slain was found a chip of the Nguyen. Dynasty of the Nguyen. Dynasty

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branches of trees which broke his fall. As it was, the injuries he received were of a very serious

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TINES.")

#### MOVEMENTS OF THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

London, Dec. 20.

At the Admiralty it is believed that the British Squadron is in the vicinity of Port Hamilton, but the statement that it was at Chemulpo is officially discredited.

#### RUSSIA AND KOREA.

The last American mail conveys the text of the Russo-Korean agreement whereby M. Alexieff replaces Mr. Mc-Leavy Brown as Financial Adviser to Korea, Russia securing the financial control over the country for an indefinite FRANCE AND CHINA.
Later. period.

M. Pichon, French Minister at Rio de Janeiro, has been transferred to Peking.

THE PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

A serious recrudescence of the plague is reported from Bombay.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Lord Charles Beresford has been selected as the Unionist candidate for York in place of the late Sir F. Lockwood.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF CRETE.

Russia has proposed Prince George of Greece as Governor of Crete.

THE PANAMA CANAL CASE.

London, Dec. 31. The defendants in the Panama Canal Case have all been acquitted.

#### REPORTED OCCUPATION OF HAINAN DENIED.

The French Government regard the reported hoisting of the French flag on the island of Hainan as a fabrication.

#### THE INDIAN FRONTIER.

The Afridis are very active and pickets are maintained on both sides. The Fort Ali Musjid has been frequently attacked causing several casualties.

COLONEL HAVELOCK ALLEN KILLED.

London, Jan. 1. Colonel Havelock Allen, Royal Jrish, who had come out to India to investigate certain rumours of misbehaviour on the part of a regiment engaged in the present his fort on the 13th instant, and Adjutant Jones campaign, rode out from the Fort Ali Musjid when he was surprised and killed by Afridis.

#### ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE ADVOCATED.

Lord Beresford speaking at York regarded the situation in the Far East as alarming. He advocated an alliance

#### NEW YEAR'S HONOURS.

Mr. Lipton, tea merchant, and Mr. Ackroyd, ex-Judge at Hongkong, have been knighted, and Mr. M'Leavy Brown has been made a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

#### VICE-ADMIRAL SEYMOUR SAILS FOR CHINA.

Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, new

ron in China, has left for Hongkong by the steamer China.

#### BRITISH INDIAN FINANCE.

London, Dec. 31.

The Indian Council has notified that it is prepared to sell a limited number of telegraphic transfers at one-eighth the price of Council Bills.

#### THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

London, January 3.

The Warwick and Lincolnshire Regiments have been ordered to Wady Halfa, whence they will probably advance on Abu Hamed. The Cameron Highlanders have also been ordered to be in readiness to march to the front, and the Seaforths are to sail from Malta for Egypt. The movement is owing to the news that the Dervishes at Omdurman are preparing for an advance northward.

London, January 4.
The First Battalion of the Yorkshire
Regiment proceeds to Gibraltar to replace the Northumberlands who go to Egypt. The Second Lancashires and the First Irish Fusiliers will be landed in Egypt on their way home from India. It is stated that the British movement to the front is defensive rather than offensive against the Dervishes.

#### RUSSIA AND KOREA.

It is aunounced from St. Petersburg that M. Alexieff has been invested with authority to promote Russian commerce in Korea in competition with Great Britain and Japan. He is further authorised to erect an Orthodox Greek Church at Soul. THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

#### ENGLAND'S ATTITUDE.

London, Jan. 5. It is authoritatively stated that whatever privileges another Power may obtain from China, Great Britain will demandadequate compensation, and do her utmost to uphold her existing rights in China.

#### FATAL ACCIDENT.

While a meeting was being held at the City Hall, London, Ontario, part of the flooring collapsed, and twenty-eight persons were killed and a hundred injured.

#### (From "N.C. Daily Naws,"

#### THE BORNEO BRIGAND.

Singapore, Dec. 23.
The expedition under Adjutant Jones and Mr. Hewett against the notorious decoit Mat Salleh has been unsuccessful. They attacked and six Sikha were killed.

#### (PROM JAPANESS PAPERS.

#### RUSSIA'S GRIP ON CHINA.

Peking, Jan. 1 The Chinese Government is now neg tinting with Russia to taise a loan of 100 million taels, at the rate of 93 taels per 100 taels face value, at alarming. He advocated an alliance between Great Britain and Japan. He for the loan. The Chinese Government is also urged the acquisition of a British to concede to Russia the privilege of laying naval base in the neighbourhood of the Gulf of Chusan.

At the rate of 93 taxes per 100 taxes race value, at the race of 93 taxes per 100 taxes race value, at the race of 93 taxes per 100 taxes race value, at the race of 93 taxes per 100 taxes race value, at the race of 93 taxes per 100 taxes race value, at the race of 93 taxes race value, at the r Siberian Railway to a post which is not frozen up in winter. It is further stated that Sir Robert Hart, Inspector General of Cusioms, will be discharged and replaced by a Russian,

#### THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

Soul, December 31. The British flagship Centurion and seven other vessels entered the port of Chemulpo last evening

Peking, January 4.
The British fleet has suddenly arrived at Port Commander-in-Chief of the British Squad- Arthur, which the Russian Authorities have borrowed from China as a temporary navel

Soul, January 4. The British war-vessels now at Chemulpo

are reported to be watching for some emergency.

Nagasaki, Jan. 4.

The British cruiser Redpele left here for Port Hamilton last night,

Nagasaki, January 5.
The British cruiser Rainbow arrived here this morning from Chemalpo.

#### NAGASAKI NEWS.

Nagasaki, Jan. 4. The steamer Totome Maru, which arrived here on the 28th uit. In undergo repairs and regular official inspection, on entering Government service, is now taking in coal.

#### FISHING BOAT SUNK.

Sakai, Hoki, January 3. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer Ruma. mote Maru ran down a fishing bust yesterday off the coast of Izumo. The boat was lost but the fishermen were saved.

#### FIGHTING WITH INSURGENTS IN FORMOSA.

Taipeh, January s. Taipet, January 2.

The night before last about 300 insurgents made an attack upon Hokuto, two miles distant from Taipels. Fifteen Japanese gendarmes, comprising the garrison, faced them and fighting continued for about four hours, when the insurgents fled. Several rebels were killed or wounded. wounded.

#### RUSSIAN RELIEFS FOR VLADIVO-STOCK.

Negazaki, January 5 A Russian mett-of war conveying 685 soldiers strived here may from Odessa es route to Vladivostock. The vessel immediately left for her destination.

#### GERMANY AND CHINA.

Peking, January 6. The German Minister has made a proposal to borrow Kiao-chou Bay for a term of 90 years, to which the Chinese Government replied that Il was willing to grant the request for a term of 50 years. The German Minister is now awaiting instructions from his home Government.

The negotiations regarding other made by Germany are already settled.

#### RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Peking, January 6. Colonel Bensorloff (?), Russian Adviser to the Chinese Military Department, has arrived

With regard to the proposed loan by Russia of one hundred million dollars to China the British Government has opposed the measure,

#### ROREA SCARED.

Soul, January 5. The Koress Authorities are thrown into a state of consternation by the assembling of the British fleet at Chemulpo.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUR

From Hongkong	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	O, & O. Co.	Coptic :	Fri. Jan. 7
Surope	M. M. Co.	Yana e	Pei. Jon. 25
Atherica	O. At O. Co.	Darie 3	Th Jan. 16
Hongkong	P. M Co.	C. of R. de J'In	4 Th. Jan. 16
Canada, Ressure	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	M. Jan. 22
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohensolters	W. Jan. 39
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em, of India	Tu. Jan. 25

- s Left Kobe on the 5th inst.
  s Left Han kong on the 4th inst,
  3 Left San Francisco viá Honolulu on the 18th Dec.
- 4 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst,

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

	111416 111	WILL PEVAGE	3
For	Line,	Steamer.	Oate,
Victoria, B.C.		Braemar	Sa. Jan. &
America		Coptic	Sa. Jan, &
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Laps	Su, Jan. o
Shanghal	N Y. K.	Salkio Maru	Tu. Jan. RE
Portland, Qr.,	N. P. Co.	Megul	W. Jan. 18
Hong bong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Su. Jan. 16
Hongkong	C.P.R.Co.	Em, of India	36 Jan. 29
America	P. M. ( o.	Caof R. de Piro	Tu. Jan. 28
Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzoltern	Bri. Jan. ur
t'anada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Sm. of China	tri. Jan. at

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Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### CHRSS

All Communications to be addressed to the Greek Research

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (sext to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF	PROBLEM No. 351.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1-Kt to Kt 4	1-B takes R
2-Kt to B 6, ch	2—K mayes
3-Q or B mates	
	1—B to K B 4
2-B to B 3	2-B to K 5
3-R takes B, mate 3-B takes P, mate	if 2 B to Q 5
	if 2-Any other
3-Ki to II 3, mate	
	1—B to Q 5 if 2—B to K 5
2-B to B 3	if 2-B to K 5
3-B takes P, male	if 2-P takes B

2-B to B 3
3-B takes P, mate
3-Kt to 1 3, mate Correct solution received from J.W.E., D.D.,

P.E.F.S .- If after B to K II 3, P takes Ki there is no mate in three.

#### PROBLEM No. 353. By MAX KARSTEDT.

(First Prize, Tägliche Rundschen Tournament.)



White mates in two moves,

The Chess Editor of the Fapan Mail intends offering a small trophy to the solver of the largest number of problems appearing in this column this year.

#### CONCERNING PROBLEM 349.

The New York Evaning Past has some words on "Chess Problem Coincidences" and "unconscious imitation," which gives Mr. O'Hata the benefit of the doubt concerning the charge of plagiarism brought against him. We are told that the Judge had an idea that he had seen the that the Judge had an idea that he had seen the position or something like it, but he had no proof that it was a plagiarism. The Evening Post gives several positions where there is a "striking termiblance," but The Sporting and Dramatic Newsdeclares that O'Hara's problem is a facsimile of one by Pospisil. It is not difficult to understand how a composer may make a problem resembling another, but the plea of "unconscious imitation" will not convince the jury that a facsimile is an original work.—Literary Direct. original work .- Literary Digest.

#### "JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY. (To the Chess Editor.)

(TO THE CHESS EDITOR.)

SIR,—I noticed in last Friday's Chess column, someremarks concerning my game with Mr. Fardel, and should like to say that although you have finally decided the game in my lavour, I shall be very pleased to continue it with Mr. Fardel by private correspondence. For I regret that that gentleman should think that he has been unfairly treated and might otherwise have accounted defeat freated and might otherwise have escaped defeat from my hands. Should Mr. Faidel accept my proposition and turn the result of the game in his favour, I shall not fail to provide you with the score. "NEMO." I am &cc.

#### YOROHAMA CHASS CLUB.

The meetings in the first week of the New Year were well attended, several match games being played, new challenges in the I adder Tonnament were handed in, and last not least, two new members elected, one of whom, Capt. Weithach, will be one of the chub, which we have the been a walked required. Mr. Sachs promises to become a valuable acquisition, being foremost in the ranks of our pupils at the free instruction classes. Digitized by Google

At a committee meeting held last Thursday it was decided to commence the Championship Four-ney in the third week of January. Entries will close on the 15th inst, and will, we believe, com-prise eight of our strongest players, Mr. Griffin, on ex-champion however, excluded, who, we regret to say, will be unable to enter for the event this year,

#### THE GREAT JUBILEE TOURNAMENT.

The following from a Hamburg paper is the latest news concerning the great Vienna tournamont of 1898 :-

"In colebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the reign of Emperor Juseph the Vienna Chessplayers will arrange an International Masters' Tournament, to begin in May. The tourney is scheduled to last eight weeks, and only prizewinners in previous international contests will be allowed to enter, the number of entries to be limited to twenty. leasmuch as each competitor will have to play two games with every other man, thirty-eight rounds in all will have to he played. There will be six prizes, the first to be 6,000 kconers (about \$1,500). Entries will be taken up to April 31."

Reichelm, in The Times, Philadelphia, gives the

ones of the players who are eligible: America—Steinitz, Pillsbury, and Lipschutz. Great Britain—Bird, Blackburn, Burn, Mason, and Owen.

France-Janowski and Rosenthal.

Geimany-Bardeleben, Lasker, Lipke, Mieses, Riemann, Schallopp, Tarrasch, and Walbrodt.
Anstria-Hungary-Charousek, Berger, Grensberg, Makovetz, Marce, Marozav, Puges, Schlechter, A. Schwartz, J. Schwartz, Weise, and Wittek.
Rinssia-Alajein, Scheppers, Tschigorin, and Winawer.

The Philadelphia Times has discovered that the critical plays an important part in the game of Chest. As long ago as 1857, when Morphy played Paulsen, the former played badly in the opening games of the match through the persistent opening games of the match through the persistent concentration of his mind on the board during the entire game. In the later games, as if aware of his mistake, he withdrew his attention from the game when it was not his turn to move, and at once returned to his normal, beautiful, brilliant style of play. The theory of this was that Morphy, as a child of the South, was peculiarly susceptible to the stronger will of the Northern Paulsen, which the latter succeeded in imposing, unconsciously perhaps, on his more negaposing, unconsciously perhaps, on his more nega-tive opponent as long as Mr. Morphy gave him the opportunity of doing so by dwelling continuously on the game.

Messes. Crane and Jacobson are at present en-aged in a match for the championship of Austcalls. The Sydney Mail, says:-This contest appears to be one in name only, for Mr. Jacobson is scoring game after game without even a draw to break the monotony. Mr. Crane's play is dis-appointing to himself and his friends.

appointing to himself and his friends.

The fifth game, which was adjourned at an interesting stage, was resumed at the chess room, Hotel Arcadia. Mr. Crane's sealed move was 18—Kt to K R 2, to which Mr. Jacobsen made the powerful reply of Kt to Q R 3. The attack then passed into latter's hands, and he conducted it in his characteristic brilliant style to a successful issue. Mr. Crane seems to have made the best defence, but the position and weight of material were against him. Score: J. L. Jacobsen, 5; W. Crane, E.

We give below the score of this beautiful game,

We give below the score of this beautiful game ether with a diagram of the situation at its most critical period.

#### GAME No. 352. RUY LOPEZ.

V	Vhite.—(W.	Crane, Jun.).	(BlackJ. L. J	acobsen.)
	WHITE.	BLACK.	witte.	BLACK.
	P K <sub>4</sub>	P K4 .	18 Kt R2	
2	Ki KB3	Kt QB3	(sealed)	PxP
	B K <sub>15</sub>	Kι β3 ,	rg PxB	Ki Ral
4	P Q3	P Q <sub>3</sub>	20 B Q2	P Q <sub>5</sub> ]
5	OK̃ĭQ₂ PQB₃	B Q2	21 K+(K3)	
6	P QB3	B R2	K)4	Kr B4
	B R4	Castles	22 Q KK13	P Q61
	Kt KB ng		23 B K1 49?	
9	Ki K <sub>3</sub>		24 Kr Ró ch	
	B K 3	P QB <sub>3</sub>	25 P B4	Ki Ks
	Castles	Ki QR3	26 Q K +q	B QB4 ch
	P Q4	PxP	27 K R - q	K R <sub>4</sub>
	PxP	Kt(R3) B2	28 R B3	Q Q5!
	$Q$ $Q_3$	B K3 .	29 KI(R2)	Kt Kt 6ch
	B 82	P KKI3	<b>1</b> €14	(Kt×B!)
		(7 min.)	30 RxK+?	KtxR ch
	P KR3	PQ4	31 K R2	RxP!
17	P K <sub>5</sub>	P B <sub>3</sub>		

Position after Black's thirty-first moves :---R from K I sq takes P!

Black .- Mr. JACOBSEN. BLACK



WHITE.

White, Mr. CRANE, to play,				
32 KxKt	QR KB sq	30 PxR	B Q3 ch	
33 B K3	Q Ks	40 K Ba	RxP ch	
34 BxP	<b>Ø</b> xK₿	41 K K2	B B5 ch	
35 R Q sq 36 N B sq	O B <sub>5</sub> B K <sub>15</sub> l	42 K Q2	B Kt5 ch	
36 K B sq	B Kts I	1 43 K Q +9	Q Q6 ch	
37 Q K i sq 38 K i B6	Q K5		4. (In. 5m-)	
[38 K.(BO)]	K(B5)xKi!	(2h. 58	im.)	

Mr. Pillabury has started a correspondence thess association in the United States, the idea has taken on, and over 100 players are now engaged in playing a correspondence tournament. The only objection to this interesting form of playing chess is that any event must necessarily proceed at but a very slow rate. New York chess chubs have also combined for the first time into a competition similar to that which exists in London under the name of the London Chess League.

#### VARIATIONS IN CHESS GAMES.

The first player in Chess has twenty moves to on his first move, and whichever of choose from on his Brist move, and whichever of the twenty he lakes, his opponent has the same number of replies," said Browne of our Club the other day, smoking a Criterion cigarette as he stood with his back to the fire, "as of hat," con-tinued he, "there may be four hundred games of

he stood with his back to the fire, "so that," continued he, "there may be four hundred games of Chess, only one move played on each side, and yet each position different."

"Prove it!" said Jones.
"Prove it!" splied Browne, with a voice full of scornful disdain.

"Yes, prove it," cried Jones. Jones, was rather a big man, with a wonden leg, which he took off and placed by his side when playing a game of Chess. He generally won, for there was a great dead of noral smastion about that leg. Browne said it was the only soft part about him.

"Mr. Jones," replied Brown laftily—he was always polite when lotty—"after I have finished giving the Club the information that I have culled for their benefit, I will condescend to argue with you. When your moves have been played, "he went on, "there may be 318,979514,000 games, each position being different."

"Prove it!" shouted the insochle Jones, who looked as if he wished it done on the spot.

"Gentlemen," continued Browne, not noticing the interruption, "the two kings alone—alone, Gentlemen," with solemn emphasis, for the cigarette was nearly finished—"the two kings alone, though never standing on adjacent squares can be placed in 3,612 different positions."

"Prove it!" interaled Jones, now getting his wooden leg into position should it be required for the purpose of moral suasion."

"And finther, gentlemen," said Browne "seven Chessnen, say four white and three black may occupy 128,746,434,575 809—"

Chessmen, say four white and three black may оссиру 128,746,434,575 809— "

But the sentence was never finished. A booming noise, caused by a wooden leg in mid-air, sug-gested to us a rapid setteat, and the last we saw was Browne ducking his head as if to avoid moral

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 30th Dec.,—Hongkong via poets, and Kobr, 20th Dec., Mails & General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Wong Kai, British steamer 1,115, 31st Dec.,—Hongkong, 22nd Dec., Sugar.—Butterfield and

Swid

Swire.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellew, 30th Dec.,—Landon via ports, and Robe 30th Dec., General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Esmeralds, British schooner, 120, J. Turner Harrison, 31st Dec.,—Guam, Copra.—Jarding

Malesoin& Crom

Robe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 31st December, Shanghai via porta, 25th December, Mails and Gruetal.—Nippon Yusen

Laos, French steamer, 2,200, Flandin, 31st Dec.,
—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 30th Dec.,
Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Manus and General.—W. 18. 5.5. Co. Vermashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, James Jones, 31st Dec.,—Australia via posts, and Kobe 30th Dec., Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lok Sang, British steamer, 979, W. G. G, Leask, 31st Dec., —Iloilo, Sugar and Rice, —Jardine Matheson & Co.

Phys Nang, British steamer, 1,021, W. H. Walton, 1st Jan., Hongkong, Sugar and Rice.—
Butterfield and Swire.

Butterfield and Swire.

Helene Rickers, German steamer, 2,255, Brandstetter, tat Jan.,—Bankok via Kobe, 30th Dec., Rice.—M. Raspe & Co.

Priam, British steamer, 1,803, D. C. Baker, 2nd Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 31st Dec., General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Yemaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, S. Kawamuro, 4th Jan.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 4th January, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaishn. Kaishn.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,718, Geo. Dulling, 5th Jan.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Brasmar, British steamer, 1,876, Edward Porter, 6-h Jau., Hongkong via ports, and Robe, 4-h Jau., Mails and General. Dodwell Carilli & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. Smith, 7th Jan, -San Francisco via Honolulu, 25th Dec., Mails and General. -P. M. S.S. Co.

25th Dec., Mails and General.—P. Dr. S.S. Co. Pass of Leny, British Barque, 1,279, S. Vent, 7th Jan.,—Chili, Nitte.—C. Bies & Co. Cophic, British steamer, 2,744. Imman Sealby, 7th Jan.,—Hougkong via posts, 28th Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Comer, 7th Jan.,—Shanghaivià ports, 1st Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

#### DEPARTURES.

Empress of Fapan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 33st D.c...-Vancouver B.C., Mails and General.--C. P. R. Co.

Fau-Sang, British steamer, 1,410, Moncar, 31st Dec.,-Kutchinotsu, Ballast.-Jardine, Mathe-

Dec.,—Kutchinotsu, Sansa C. H. S. Tocque, son & Co. Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, Ist Jan.,—Hongkong via Kube and Shanghai, Mails and General,—P. & O. S.N. Co. Kaisow, British steamer, 2,529, E. Warrall, 4th Jan.,—Landon via ports, General,—W. M. Stra-

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, Pulford, 5th Jau., - Landon via ports, General, - Butterfield and

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,468, Sarchet, 5th Jan.,-Hongkong via Kobe, General,-Cornes

& Co. Petrarch, German stenmer, 1,252, Schall, bilt Jan.

Petrarca, German steamer, 1,252, Schail, 6th Jan.,
—Mojt, Ballast.—M. Raspe & Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T.
Smith, 8th Jan.,—Hangkong via ports, Mails
and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Empress of Fapan, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt, Stanley Lowe, Mr. O. Pollak, Mr. and Mrs. Melhuish, Mr. J. Collius, Mr. Valentinis, Miss E. E. Everall, Mr. H. Brithell, Miss Sutton, Mr. Woodward, and Mr. Towson and child, in canin; Mr. C. Cuctrin, and Mr. K. Goodchild, in second class, and Mr. Chan, in Asiatic steerage. In transit:—Mr. M. J. Canter, Mr. Lacy R. Johnson, Mr. J. Avery, Mr. P. H. Powers, Miss H. Mast, Mr. D. Furd, and Mr. And Mrs. J. C. Smith, in cabin; Mr. W. Perkins, Mr. G. N. Worthington, & Mr. S. F. Stubbs, in second class, and 211 Chinese in Asiatic steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Mark, from Shanghai via ports:—Paymaster H. Shiyama, Mr. A. Getacker, Mr. A. Philippol, and Mr. J. Briggs, in cabin; Messes. H. Dazai, T. Komatsubara, G. Ishigami, and Mr. Geo. Williams, in second class, and to in steerage.

Per British steamer Braemar, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Emanual, Mr. E. Krausen and servant, and Mr. A. Nicolle, in cabin.

Per American steamer City of Peking, from San Francisco via Honglui:—Mr. A. Segy, Mr. & Mrs. Weiser, Mr. Miton. S. Ray, Rev Abronik, Mr. S. Teshina, Mr. Albert Graff, and Mr. T. D. Stinson, in cabin. Digitizishing, in cabin. Swayne, and Mr. E. A. Sulman, in cabin.

Nagasaki:—Hoo. Chas B. Harris, Mrs. C. B. Harris, and Miss Harris, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Hon. Yn Shi Yi, Mr. C. L. Teung, Mr. Wm. M. Warner, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Taylor, Miss Seltan, Rev. Lonis Byrde, Miss Mary Brown, Miss Milly Millett, and Miss E. Hamburg, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Ward, Mr. Ho Bokwoon, Mr. C. A. Henlsy, Mr. G. S. Harris, and Mr. W. Helms, in cabin. Per British steamer Coptic, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. McNeil 2 children and amal, Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Thompson and child, Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Brett, Aliss Ross, Mr. S. Arnhold, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bytne, Miss Daisy Byrne, Master John Byrne, Master W. Graham, Master Allan Smith, Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. F. H. Olmstead, Dr. E. Evers, Miss Divers, Mrs. H. MacArthur, Mr. Paul Kleinwort, Mr. W. O. Hockridge, and Capt. Wilson Walker, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Parker, Lient, G. W. Logan, U.S.N., Lient, L. Reamy, U.S. N., Adminst F. V. McNair, U.S.N., Lieut. Connelly, U.S.N., Mrs. Connelly 2 children, and Mr. R. L. Dunn, in cabin, and Mr. E. F. Johnson, Mr. Peter Rush, and Mr. J. Fonckievies, in European steerage. For Honolulu:—Mrs. F. H. Olmstead and 2 children, in cabin. tead and 2 children, in cabin.

DEPARTED. Per British steamer Empress of Japan, for Van-conver, B.C.:—Mr. J. Avery, Mr. W. J. Canter, Mr. D. Ford, Mr. Ronald Harris, Mr. Lacy R. Juhnson, Mr. W. B. Kenwick, Mrs. Hilda Mast, Mr. Philip H. Powers, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, and Mr. A. Unger, in cabin.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

Nothing whatever has been done in either piece goods or yarns since the New Year opened, though there has been as usual at this period some settling up of old accounts. It is scarcely expected that anything transactions worth mentioning will be put through this mouth. Our quetations are COTTOR PIECE GOODS, nominal.

they Mintings-Bills, 384 yels, 30 Inches	\$2 50	to a.60
Grey Shietings-qh, 3Ht yila. 45inchas	4.80	to 3-35
I. Cloth-yib, 24 yarda, 32 inchas	1.60	to r.90
Indigo Shirtings-es yande, 14 inches.	1.95	to 3.90
Peints-Assurtad, 21 yards, 30 inches,	2 00	to 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Black,	FRE	TAMD.
32 inches		to 0.35
2s turnes man		elbek.
Velvets-Black, 35 yards, szinches	7.75 1	0 9.90
Victoria Lawne, 12 yards, 12-3 inches,	0.75	0 1,00
furkeyReds-2.0 to 2.4lb, 24,25 yards,		
10 lackes	1.50 (	0 1.70
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/25 yards,		
30 inches	1.75	u 2,10
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 40, 24/15 yards.		
32 inches	2.40	n 1.70
33 suches		*
Turkey Reds-4.8 to 5%; 24/25 yarda,	1.00	to 1.50
		to 3.50
WOOLLENS.	PRE	44804
WOOLLENS.	\$0.30	1 0.50
MOOLLENS. Flannel	\$0.30	44804
WOOLLENS. Flannel	\$0.30 0.35	to 0.50 to 0.41
WOOLLENS. Flannel	\$0.30 0.35	1 0.50
WOOLLENS. Fignael Italien Clath, 3a yanda, 32 inches heal Italien Clath, 3a yanda, 32 inches Madium Italian Clath, 3a yanda, 32 inches	\$0.30 0.35 0.30	tu 0.50 to 0.41
WOOLLENS. Flannel ttalism Gloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heal ttalism Gloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Madinus Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Commen	\$0.30 0.35 0.31 0.31	to 0.50 to 0.41
WOOLLENS. Plannel Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches heat Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches Madium Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches Common Mussaning de Laise—Craps, 2 yands.	\$0.35 0.35 0.31 0.85	to 0.50 to 0.41 to 0.31 to 0.37
WOOLLENS. Flannel  Flannel  Italian Cluth, 3n yanda, 32 inches heat Italian Cluth, 3n yanda, 32 inches Madinus  Italian Cluth, 30 yanda, 32 inches Common Musqualine de Laine—Crape, 21 yanda, 22 inches	\$0.30 0.35 0.35 0.30 0.85	to 0.50 to 0.41 to 0.325 to 0.275
WOOLLENS. Flannel ftalium Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches heal ftaliam Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches Madinus Italiam Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches Common Musgasline de Luine—Crape, 2; yands, 3; inches	\$0.30 0.35 0.35 0.31 0.85	10 0.50 10 0.50 10 0.41 10 0.325 10 0.22 10 0.50
WOOLLENS. Flannel	\$0.30 0.35 0.35 0.85 0.15 0.15	10 0.50 10 0.41 10 0.41 10 0.22 10 0.50 10 0.75
WOOLLENS. Flannel talian Cluth, 30 yards, 32 inches heal talian Cluth, 30 yards, 32 inches Mudiam talian Cluth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common Mussaline de Laine—Crape, 31 yards, 31 inches Cuthe—Pitots, 51 @ 54 inches Cluths—Presidents, 51 @ 54 inches	\$0.30 0.35 0.35 0.31 0.85	10 0.50 10 0.50 10 0.41 10 0.325 10 0.22 10 0.50
WOOLLENS. Flannel	\$0.30 0.33 0.33 0.85 0.65 0.35	10 6-50 20 0-41 20 0-32 20 0-32 10 0-32 10 0-75 10 0 85
WOOLLENS. Flannel	\$0.30 0.35 0.35 0.85 0.15 0.15	10 6.50 10 6.50 10 6.41 10 6.375 10 6.275 10 6.22 10 6.75 10 6.85

COLLOH YARRS.	PAR PICEL
:144. 15/24, Singles	\$38-50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41,00 to 43 00
Nos. 18'42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Not. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51 75 to \$4.50
Nos. a:60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 4/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100 00
Nos. a/60, Gassed	72 00 to 79 00
Nos. 2,80, Gassed	8g.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00
RAW COTTON.	PBR PiCUL.
American Middling	.\$19.75 <del>-</del>
Indian Broach	17-75 to 20.00
Chinese	
AUGUALS.	

Some business has been done in Bars and Sheet-but not to any considerable extent. There are also enquiries for nails and tin plates, but it is not expected that the trade will sevice before next mouth. Quotations are nominal.

	PAR PIL	Dr.L.
Round and aquate   inch. and upward.	4-15 to 4	.6a
Iron Plates, assorted	4.10 to 4	-50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5	.30
Galvanized from sheets	g.20 to 10	.50
Wice Naite, asserted	5.00 lo 6	.50
fin Plates, per bux	5 90 to 6	1-00
dig leng, No. 3 or mention or or or or	2.05 to 1	10
Hoop Iron (I to ra inch)	5-00 to 3	5.85
RERUSENE.		

The market was quite active just at the opening of the month, something like 17,000 cases being taken delivery of for despatch into the interior. The steamer Norman Isles arrived at the end of last month with 131,872 cases American oil. The amount of oil in stock at the Ishikawa godowne on the 3rd inst, was:—Chester braud 164,125 cases, Anchor 83,882 cases; Tank 80,125 cases; Hawk 38,839 cases; total 366,461 cases. 38,839 cases; total 366,451 cases.

Americal	1				\$2.04 to	2.10
Russian						3.19
Laughat	*** *** *** *			*** ******	_	1,96
		5	UGAR			

A very small business has been done during the past week, sales amounting only to about 250 piculs Brown. Arrivals since Dec. 29th consist of 290 piculs Manila and 4,172 piculs Clina and For-200 pictes trains and a 10 cents higher. Very little has been done in white refined. The total import of sugar, white and brown inclusive, to Yokuluman during the past year, is assimated at 2,765,685 bags, at increase of 543,200 bags on the previous year's figures.

		ABL CIVIES
Вгожи	lakes	14.35 to 4.40
	Manile	
Brown	Daitong	3.90 to 4.15
Hrown	Canton	4.00 to 4.50
White	lava and Penang	5.50 to 7.00
White	Refined	7.30 to 8.90

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

There has been a good demand for filatures and re-reels, for the American market principally since the opening of the year, prices being very firm with an upward tendency. Room the middle of December to the 3rd instant settlements amounted to no less them 3,931 piculs of all kinds. Stocks now amount to 9,410 piculs. Shipments consist of 203 bales by the Empress of Tapan, on the 30th ult. and 307 bales by the Verone on 1st January.

QUOTATIONS. 



This 1896.

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EYEBROWS, &c. GEO. COURTICE'S CONCENTRATED EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century.

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NOTE.—Thirty years Professor of Hair Specifies to the Honorouble Benchers of the Inner Temple.

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(Late 234, STRAND).
PRICES: 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s., 10s. 6d., £1 1s. per BOTTLE. This EXTRACT in INVALUABLE to LADIES OF TY TRESPORT CONTROL Close to the Skin.

#Habasaa - Na	
filatures-No. ri, ro/r4 deniers	. goo to gro
Filaturen-Clo, 14, 43126, 44/17 dan	850 to 860
Filatures-No. 2, 10/15 denters	650 to 800
Filatures-Ilo, 2, 14 18 deniers	8zo to 8gn
Re-resis-Ro. c, 13/19, c plat dans	8go tri goo
Re-reals-Ro. 14, 13716, 14/17 dans	870 to 830
Re-reals—No. 2, eg/ell deniera monocono	Soo to Sio
Re-reals-No. 26, 13'18 deniers	780 to 760
Re-reels-No. 3, 11/20 deniers	
Kakedan-Kutra	840 to 850
Kakedas-Nu. 1	820 to 830
# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #	290 to 800
Kakedas-No. 8	700 to 710
Kanadan-No. 24	

#### WASTE SH.R.

Not much has been done in Waste Silk since the end of the year, but settlements since the 16th Dec. to date amount in all to 4,480 piculs. Sinche are estimated at 7,015 piculs. Prices are very firm. Shipments consist of 998 piculs per Vernag and the 1st just, for Russes. Verona on the 1st inst., for Burope.

#### OBOTATIONS

gootations.		
Nonhi-Filatura, Bent	\$115 20	061
Noshi-Filature, Good	105 to	110
Noth: Ushu, Bell	Ho to	145
"Oshi — Ushu, Good	100 to	103
North-Oghy, Medigus	go to	95
Yoshi-Shimshie, Best	70 ta	75
Moshi-Shingho, Good	ős to	
Noshi-Bushu, Heat	115 to	130
Noshi-Busho, Good	roo to	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to	95
Nashi-loshu, Good	do to	65
Nashi-Joshu, Fair	55 to	574
Kihiso-Filature, Heat	to:	100
Kibiso-Filature, Seconds	85 to	90
Kibiso Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, Pair	20 to:	100

#### TEA.

No business has been done since the end of the year with the exception of the sale of a few hundyear was the exception of the sale of a few hand-red piculs of low grade ten to Chinese firms for shipment to Singapore. Stocks have gone down to 1,406 piculs, amongst which there is very little leaf of even fair quality. The Empress of Japan, on Dec. 31st took 103,666 lbs. for Canada, from earlier aettlements.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	Nominal
Choice Finest	\$ 4 14 2 3
Finest	487.4
The man and the second	(2 2 2
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Сонисы	19 te 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver 16 higher from London with the advance in steeling quotations from China has caused rates on Cities to be easier, whilst the advance in sterl-ing in India bas a similar affect as regards dusti-upon India. Gold rates; however, are unchanged closing rates of exchange for the mail being as follows:

	1/01
— Bills on demand 2	1/0
4 months' eight 2	0,4
	0
	/o#
On Paris Bank night 2.5	
On Lyons - Private 4 months sight 2.5	0 101
On Hongkong-Banknight 24 to 3	/ <sub>6</sub> d
- Private to days' sight. 4 to	5° ∫d
On Shanghai-Bauk night	6 10 5
- Private to days' sight ?	
	52
	156
On America - Bank Bills on demand., 4	19
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight</li> </ul>	o#
On Germany-Bank sight	.06
	1.10
Bac Silver (London)	16 <del>1</del>

### CARD.

#### REGINALD H. MARKS. WOOL BROKER AND EXPERT,

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1897.



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ic and Manuage Appara-led to the Vichy Co. latin (Berthe system).

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purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills. She Sakus Barra, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribut traine in Abysiola," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomete inform the Pakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In I short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Itoloway's Pills. These are most need to an applorer, as, pussessing unmistabable jurgative properties, they create an undentiable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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May 'stock."

## THE NEW TARIFF.

OPIES of the NEW TARIFF, as passed by the Imperial Diet, can be obtained at this Office in pamphlet form. Price, 25 Cents. Yekohama, April 27th, 1897.

Printed and Published for the Propietor, at 52, Main Street, Septlement, by Aspaus Breaky Brown, of "Nocklands," No. 110, 11101, Yokohama, -Satundar, Janoany 8, 398.

# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 3.]

JAN. 15TH, 1898. YOKOHAMA,

月三年五十二冷啊 Vol. XXIX. 可配合依備 RET

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#### The Japan Weekly Mail.

" TAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAUER, and Cheques he made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YORGHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 15TH, 1898.

#### BIRTHS.

On the 31st December, at 4, Des Voeux Villas, Peak, Hongkong the wile of HERRERT W. BELL. of a daughter.

At No. 34, Seechnen Road, Shanghai, on the

6th of January, 1898, the wife of M. A. SOPHER,

of a daughter.

At No. 1, Pei-Tai Ho Lane, Hungkew, on the Jith of 7anuary, 1898, the wife of J. J. JUDAH, of

a son.

At Hongkong Hotel, on the 30th December, the wife of Mr. J. W. Bollas, of a daughter.

At No. 3, Makalee Terrace, Shanghai, on the 5th of January, 1898, the wife of R. W. HEIDORN,

At 7, Kuntsford Terrace, Houghong on the 1st st., the wife of N. G. Majan, of a daughter

At Chinking, on the 5th January, 1898, from inflammation of the lungs, Minnin Maun, youngest child of Thomas William and Jassia

Bowarn, aged 11 months and four days
At Shanghai, on the 6th of January, 1898,
Theonore Exset, aged 35 years.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE plague has broken out again at Bombay.

A new Portuguese Club was opened at No. 168 Yokohama on the 9th instant.

THE Yokohama Electric Light Company has declared a dividend of 61 per cent. per annum THE Oraka Shosen Karalia s eleamer Forthern

Maru has been chartered by the Military Authorities to run between Wei-hal-wei and Osaka.

SUB-LIBUTENANT MATSUKATA TORAO, sixth son of Count Matsukata, died of consumption on

THE cruiser Kongo Kan is to leave Japan for a cruise to Australia in February, with a party of naval cadets on board.

THE state funeral of the late Prince Shimagu took place at Kagoshima on the 9th inst. with considerable pomp and ceremony.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA entertained Six Einest Satow, British Minister to Japan, at his palace at Kasumiganeki, at noon on the 7th inst.

THE first anniversary of the death of the late Empress Downger was observed on the 11th inst. The Court came out of mourning on the

THE official trial trip of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamship Inaba Maru took place on Wednesday afternoon. The steamer made an average speed of 14.211 knots an hour.

THE Tokyo Stock Exchange has declared a dividend for the latter half of last year at the rate of 32 per cent, per anunm, and the Osaka Stock Exchange a dividend of 16 per cent.

On the 7th inst. at 5.45 p.m. a train collided with some trucks on the line at Soma-gun, Fukushima Prefecture, and one person is re-ported to have been killed on the spot and three others neverely wounded.

THE first steamer of the line opened by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha on the Yangtsze river, the Tenryu Maru, arrived at Hankow on the 7th inst., with, it is reported, a full passenger list and plenty of cargo.

The following are the totals of the foreign trade of Japan during December: - Exports, ren 19,275.762; imports, yen 11,170.103. The export of gold and silver bullion amounted to yen 6.530.362 and the import to yen 676,182.

NEWS from the Soudan is to the effort that the Dervishes continue massing. The Nile force in being pushed forward. The army comprises a force of 18,300 Egyptians and several British battalions in addition to a flotilla on the river.

THE public trial of Nagai Keizo, charged with the murder in September last of a seaman belonging to the British steamer Glenericht, in Isezaki-cho, Yokohama, will take place at the Yokohama Local Court on the 21st instant at

VISCOUNT TSUTSUMI, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, was thrown out of a finrikisha in Kojimachi, Tokyo, on the 8th inst, and had his right wrist broken. He is now receiving surgical treatment at the Red Cross Hospital.

In the U.S. Consular Court, on the 12th inst. judgment was given by Consul-General Gowey, who sat with Associates, in a suit for breach of contract instituted by J. L. Meyers against A. H. Emanuel. Damages for 650 pen and costs were awarded to plaintiff.

THE cotton spinning mills in Kansai district, contrary to expectations, will declare (avourable dividends this year. The Setted Spinning Company will declare a dividend of 20 per cent, the Hirano Company 30 per cent, the Kishi-wada 15 per cent, and the Senshu 12 per cent.

Chefoo and Kobe. The steamer Takas Meru, now plying on the coast of Formess, will be placed on the run. The Company expects to secure a special Government subsidy for this service.

THE Russian proposals for a loan to China to enable her to pay off the balance of indemnity to Japan, and for other purposes, are reported to liave lapsed, and a loan of sixteen millions sterling is to be made to China by England, at 3 per cent., guaranteed by the British Government.

It is reported that, subject to audit, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will pay a dividend of £15/- per share, and add to Reserve Fund \$10 lacs. (one million), and carry forward to next half year \$3 lacs. The Reserve Fund will then stand at \$80 lacs. (dollars, eight millions).

A case in which Messre. F. Polzen and J. Allmacher, German subjects, were charged with having assaulted Mr. F. Schroeder, editor of the Eastern World, in his office a forinight since, concluded in the German Consular Court on the 13th inst., when the two accused were convicted and sentenced to 14 and 13 days' imprisonment respectively.

THE new Cabinet was installed on the 12th inst, and is composed as follows:—Minister President, Marquin Ito; Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron Nishi; Finance, Count Inouve; Home Affairs, Viscount Yoshikawa; Education, Marquis Saionji; War, Viscount Katsura; the Navy, Marquia Saigo; Agriculture and Commerce, Baron Ito Miyoji; Communications, Baron Suyematsu; Justice, Mr. Sone-Arasuke.

THE negotiations between Germany and China regarding the lease of Kiso-chou to the former Power have been completed, and it is reported that Germany will receive 200,000 tacls from China for building a church and 10,000 tacls compensation to each of the families of the murdered missionaries. Germany has also obtained a concession to construct railways between Kino-chou and Che nan-pho and to work mines situated within 3 Chinese miles along both sides of the route.

THE Import market, so far as piece goods and yarns are concerned, still remains stagmant with no immediate prospect of revival, though the financial position after the new year settlements is better than had been anticipated. The Banks for some months before the close of the year exercised great discretion in husbanding their resources, while at the same time granting absolutely necessary accommodation to their clients to enable then to tide over the settlements, A little business has been done in some lines of metals, principally bars and sheets and the prospects of the trade look brighter than for some months past. Not much has been done in augur, the transactions effected having been on a small scale for immediate requirements. The kerosene market is quiet and stocks have increased by one cargo from New York. In Exports the principal item has been silk, in which a fair business has been transacted at well sustained rates, holders being very firm in view of the small stock remaining, which is only half the amount of last year at the same time. Of the minor exports some small business has been done in rice, but the price is still too high to allow of any large shipments, while nothing is doing in copper, or in tobacco, the Government monopoly of which came into force on the 1st instant. The business of the spinning mills has panned out much better than was expected for the past helf-year and Daka Shosen Kaisha will shortly open at rates of from 12 to 20 per cent per annum.

The between Newchwang, Takul Theman Skittang College 1995 AT SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Jiji Shimpo, always quick to read the signs of the times, expounds a policy which has been of late very apparent to thoughtful observers of the situation in the Far East. It is that if Japan hopes for an alliance with a Western Power, she must endeavour to establish a community of material interests with her future ally, Our contemporary frankly declares its own earnest wish to see an understanding between Japan and England. The English, however, are people who carry a award in one hand and an account-book in the other. They will never move unless they can plainly discern profit for themselves. After all, the factors that really make for peace in the world are commercial and financial interests. The nations of Europe stand, to-day, armed to the teeth, jealously watching each other, and apparently ready to strike at a moment's notice. Yet peace is preserved. Complications that seem to necessitate an appeal to arms are amicably arranged. The chief reason of such patience, such an absorbing desire to avert war, is that immense material interests are always making for peace. The Alabama affair would certainly have plunged England and the United States into war had not the immense volume of British investments in America exercised a calming infinence. Nearer home, an example in the same sease may be seen. When the campaign between Choshiu and the Tokugawa disturbed the long peace that Japan had enjoyed for two and a half centuries. the excitement among the Japanese was in-tense, but foreigners gave themselves no concern whatever about the matter. But when the Imperial forces marched against the men of Aizu at the time of the Restoration, foreigners showed the nimost anxiety, and were keenly anxious to see tranquillity restored. What was the cause of the difference? Simply that the silkproducing districts being the scene of the fighting against Aizu, the foreign merchants III the open ports understood that their business interests were involved. These considerations indicate clearly that for political reasons alone the introduction of foreign capital would be a most beneficial measure at the present juncture. Japan raised a substantial loan in England, this country would at once occupy a place of importance in the eyes of the British. It happens, however, that the political argument is strongly re-inforced by economical facts.

Japan is grievously in need of capital. She wants it not merely to strengthen her navy—an imperative duty—, but also to develop her wealth-earning resources. Everything, therefore, suggests that she should boldly enter the field, and seek financial aid from England. Let foreigners be joined with Japanese in the enterprises started by means of the imported capital. It would not matter though even more than one half of the enterprises were controlled by foreigners. As for honds, shares in companies and so forth, let the privilege of holding them be freely extended to foreigners. Let them be permitted to own land also. In abort, get them to assist directly in developing Japan's resources, and then they will take a genuine interest in her well-heing, and have no hesitation in coming to an understanding with her. The apprehension entertained in some quarters that to contract any large indebtedness abroad would expose Japan to dangers like those which beset Turkey and Egypt, in based on ignorance. Such perils may be dreaded by semi-civilized nations, but need not cause any concern whatever to

The lesson taught by contemporary history is that wise alliances are the chief source of national strength. England, owing to her isola-tion, is steadily losing her position of eminence in the Far East. Russia, owing to her alliances, is steadily mounting to the throne of supremacy. The dominant influence that Great Britain once wielded in China has been stolen from her by wielded in China has been stolen from her by of the era. Since then, however, they have be-Russia. In Korea she has been similarly oust-come hateful to the nation because their plain ed. Her struggles to retain her place are purpose has been to trade upon their own paralysed by her isolation. No elaborate argu- activements, and make national progress a con
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ment is needed to show that where two countries have identical interests, they can best promote them by coalition. England and Japan are in that position. It is the common object of each to preserve the status quo in the Orient. England desires to secure her possessions from Hongkong to India against attack. Japan desires to ward off the approaches of strong and dangerous Powers. Their object is one, and by combining they can certainly attain it, while, at the same time, conferring on the Orient the blessing of peace. What, then, holds them apart? Nothing except a mutual want of understanding. England regards Japanese civiliza-tion as skin derp. She thinks, too, that Japan is an aggressive Power. Further, she is of the opinion that Japan threatens to become a formidable industrial and commercial rival. Some Englishmen hold, too, that it would be better to come to an agreement with Russia than with Japan. On the other hand, certain Japanese imagine that England has entered her period of decrepitude. Others believe that her interests being scattered over the whole world, she can not devote much strength to the Far East. Others, that her policy is too selfish to consist with an alliance based on fair grounds. Others, that her dislike for war is so great as to make it scarcely possible that she should be a stannch ally in troublous times m well m in tranquil. It is most unfortunate that these mistaken views of each other should exist between two Powers whose interests manifestly draw them together, and upon whose friendly cooperation the peace of the East, and therefore the happiness of the world, depend. How to unite them is the question. Evidently the matter does not rest with the two Governments alone. It rests in a far larger degree with the peoples themselves. No one should shrink from any effort calculated to remove misapprehensions and to effect a sounder mutual knowledge. These are the opinions of the Kokumin Shimbun.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun endeavours to awaken the political parties to a sense of the fact that their functions are not limited to des tructive attacks upon the Government, and that constructive responsibilities also devolve on them. The article, though not sparing the Liberals, is chiefly directed against the Progres-These came to a kind of agreement with Count Matsukata that he would put the finances in order before the fiscal year 1898-9. On that ground they base their opposition to the scheme of increased axation. But there is no possibility of concealing the fact that they are directly responsible for the situation which calls for such an increase. It was they that voted the continuing expenditures for the greater programme of Army and Navy Expansion, and it is for them to indicate how that programme can be carried out without imposing additional taxes. They have no right to talk now about financial economy and about cutting down the dimensions of the military scheme. Their voices were the agent by which the scheme became law. They can not shrink from the direct consequences of their own doings. If they oppose increased taxation, what other source of income have they to suggest? Blind to their public duties in this important matter, their thoughts seems to be bent solely upon securing portfolios and political positions for themselves. We need not follow our contemporary's auguments. Their drift can easily be guessed, and, besides, their chief interest lies in the political indication they afford. If there were any prospect of an alliance between the Ito-Cabinet and the Progressionists, we presume that such criticisms would not be found in the columns of the Nichi Nichi Shimbun.

The Nippon publishes one of its wonted attacks upon the clan statesmen. It makes a kind of tardy and reluctant admission that they did not play the part of traitors in overthrowing the Tokugawa Government, but obeyed the impulse

sideration quite secondary to their own tenure of power. They were driven by sheer necessity to seek alliances with political parties, but the unions could not hold because the clan states. men continued to obey their unconstitutional instincts. The Nippon, after rating them soundly, tenders them certain advice. First, that they should recast the programme of national armaments so as to being civil and military affairs into equilibrium. Secondly, that the portion of the Indemnity still owing by China be excluded from the ten-year armaments programme, since on no sound principle of finance can such an uncertain asset be set down as certainly accraing. Thirdly, that the heads of the Army and Navy Departments be no longer chosen from men on the active list, such a false system being limited to Germany and Russia. Fourthly, that the preservation of peace be made the first object of the country's foreign policy. Fifthly, that either a large part of the administrative duties be delegated to local governors, or that the number of such officials be reduced by one half. Sixthly, that the development of means of communications be treated as of paramount importance. Seventhly, that official interresence in the sphere of commerce and industry be abandoned. The Nippon is quite persuaded that unless these points be attended to, changes of Cabinets are futile.

Some advice is tendered by the Fominri Shimbun to Marquis Ito with regard to the formation of the new Cabinet. The gist of the suggestions is that a majority of the portfolion should be given to the young statesmen who have full confidence in the Marquis, and who may be counted on to work harmoniously with him. There is an opinion in some quarters that in order to command respect at home and abroad a Cabinet must include a large number of the elder Meiji statesmen, but the Yomiuri instances the Cabinet of 1892 as a proof that no such theory holds in practice. There is nothing particularly interesting in our contemporary's views.

the Liberal Party, we find an article the import of which is that Marquis Ito must either form a Cabinet with the support of the Liberals or decline the Imperial mandate. It has long been evident that no attempt to carry on the administration without the cooperation of the Diet can be successful. Marquis Ito recognised the fact three years ago, and finding himself confronted by the grave national problem of consummating the post-bellum programme, he formed an alliance with the Liberals and by their aid achieved that object. The Matsukata Cabinet acknowledged the same necessity by cementing a union with the Progressionists. The principle, then, being publicly accepted, Marquis Ito has now to consider what alliance he will seek. In the natural sequence of procedure he should turn to the Progressionists, by whom the Matsukata Cabinet was overthrown. It is evident that he did so and that the negotiations could not be carried to a satisfactory issue. It remains for him, then, either to re-new his relations with the Liberals or to announce to the Throne his inability to organise a Cabinet. The days of independent Ministries are finally past. Were an independent Ministry formed now, its life would be as short as was that of the Matsukata Cabinet. Murquis Ito, an eminently shrewd politician, the first statesman of his era, appreciates that fact perfectly. His plain course, therefore, is to again to his old allies. The Liberals will be ready to meet him half way. All that they ask is recognition for their progressive aims. The Tokyo Shimbun hints that the Party was more or less disintegrated by improper methods on the part of the Maisakata Cabinet, but asserts that such devices can never succeed with the true Liberal representatives. They are to be moved by principles only. The article virtually amounts to an invitation to Marquis Ito to take the proferred hand of the Liberals.

in vernacular newspapers on the subject of clanatatesmen and party Cabinets. The theme having been worn threadbare in the past, we re-The theme frain from any detailed analysis of these various dissertations. Brief reference may be made, however, to an article appearing in the Osaka Asaki. The point of the writer is that un-selfishness is absolutely essential to friendship. It is impossible for two men to be on terms of amity and confidence if either pursues his own selfish ends to the exclusion of the other's feelings and desires. That is the invariable rule of every-day life, and it holds with absolute truth in the case of a government and a nation. If there be one thing more certain than another, it is that the Sat-Cho statesmen have forfeited all popularity in Japan, and have even become objects of national dialike. What is the reason? It is simply that they have made personal aggrandisement their principal aim. The spectacle of such continued self-seeking has become so unsightly that the people have gradually united to correct it, and it is owing to that sentiment that the various political parties have been organized to over-throw Clan Cabinets. There is no denying, of course, that politicians also are more or less swayed by selfish considerations. Many of them are influenced by the prospects of office and emoloments rather than by the principles of honest progress. But on the whole they are comparatively free from such blemishes, and they represent a healthy impulse towards sounder bases of administration. Therefore they have the nation's support, and unless the Clan Statesmen are entirely lacking in the shrewdness which their political successes in the past auggest that they possess, they should no longer labour under the smallest doubt that the time for purely self-seeking administration has irrevocably passed, and that they can not remain within reach of the places of power unless they adapt themselves to the plainly indicated inatincts of the people.

#### FOREIGN TRADE OF THE YEAR.

With regard to staple imports into Isoan the Shogyo remarks that an abnormal increase in the import of sugar was noticeable during last year. Yokohama alone received no less than 3,035,982 yen worth of brown and 6,534,874 ven worth of white sugar. These figures show an increase of 36 per cent, for the former and 48 per cent. for the latter as compared with the previous year. Towards the close of last year, however, demand began to decrease, and a considerable amount of stock was brought over to the new year,

The large import of foreign yarns the year before last led to serious embarrassment both for foreign and native merchants, and its consequences were still felt at the beginning of last Nevertheless, trade revived gradually, and 8,117,518 cattles, valued at 5,221,739 yen passed through the Yokohuma Custom House in November last. Yet compared with the total import for the corresponding period of the year before last, the figures show a decrease of 2,509,687 cattles in quantity and 1,236,018 yes in value.

Turning to rice it will be found that the partial failure of the crop in the interior revived the import trade to a consider-able extent. In Nevember last, Yokohama alone imported 107,612 piculs, valued at 3,447,636 yen, showing an increase of six times in quantity and seven times in value over the figures for the year before last. With regard to flour, contracts have already been entered into by Mr. Abe and other prominent merchants for the import of flour to the amount of 250,000

Shirtings show a diminution of 20 per cent. last year m compared with the year before last. The import of calico and T-cloths together amounted to 614,650 tan, worth 2,351,250 yen.

Trade in these commodities was depressed towards the end of last year and still greater depression is expected this year.

Foreign woven goods appear to have shared the same fate as shirtings, on account of an the risible faculties. excessive amount having been imported the year

before last. Most of these goods remained unsold at the beginning of last year and formed ample stocks for sale in the interior without any fresh supplies. In September and October last, contracts were made for muslin, chintzes, and Turkey reds, as by this time trade began to show signs of revival. But owing to a serious de-pression in Osaka, the market again assumed a laigns of revival. deplorable aspect, and a big stock remained on hand until the new year. Unless the provincial demand revives, the goods now in stockare likely to be sold at "throwing prices."

Iron continues high in foreign markets, and native dealers had to withhold orders during November and December last. A deficiency of supply is likely to be felt in April, May or June, whenvalues will be considerably enhanced. But the manufacturing community in general having adopted a policy of economy, such activity as was noticed last year and the year before last can hardly be expected. The import of machinery last year shows a considerable increase, having reached 7,839,346 yen in value by November. The increase amounted value by November. The increase amounted to 25 per cent, over the year before last. The financial world, however, does not indicate any signs of improvement, and the necessity of disposing of stocks contracted for during the latter half of last year can hardly fail to produce serious effects upon demand this season.

#### " CONFUSION" AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

A mis-placed baby, the misunderstood present of a pug-dog, and the reading of private telegrams by people to whom they are not addressed man cause more disturbance to the philosophy understood and followed by members of a middle class family temporarily sojourning at Maidenhead-that delightful Thames side village—than ordinary folks dream of. At least that is the moral of the farcical comedy presented by amateur players at the public Hall, Yokobama, on Saturday evening, Fames (Mr. W. Y. Showler) and Maria (Mrs. H. M. Bevis), being married, are blessed with offspring, but being obliged to work for their living in the line of life to which they have called-domestic servants-have to send out the haby to nurse, and engage themselves m man servant and house-maid respectively under different surnames to a family living a short distance out of town. This family consists of a maiden aunt of uncertain age, Miss Lucretia Itekteoy (1913. 1910-1911)
liams), and Mr. Mortimer and Mrs. Rose
Mumbleford (Mr. W. G. Bayne and Mrs. A.
Carter Read)—newly married; Mr. Christopher
Blissard (Mr. A. C. Read), uncle to Rose;
Violet (Miss Thomas) engaged to Rupert Sunage, Miss Lucretia Tickleby (Mrs. McWilberry (Mr. E. C. Davis), young friends of the be-fore mentioned folks. Now Blissard, out of love for his niece Rose, promises to get her a pugdog; Mortimer, the husband, rather objects to the presence of such an animal, but uncle and niece resolve to secure the dog and spring it upon the family as a surprise. Meanwhile the baby belonging to Maria and James falls ill and an urgent telegram is dispatched to the mother which impels her to seek for an alternoon off to visit her offspring. Christopher Blizzard, who, by the by, has fallen in love with the old maid Lucratia, is likewise summoned to town by telegram to take delivery of the pug, and this leads to the thickening of the plot. For both telegrams are accidentally dropped, only to be picked up and read by the wrong people, so that what with the reasons for secrecy on both sides, the simultaneous arrival of the baby and the pug, and the placing of both in equivocal positions, the fun waxes fast and futious. We leave to our readers' imaginations the situations that are created and the devices pursued by all and sundry until the complicaence were worked up to a pitch of humourous appreciation that necessitated all through the evening peals upon peals of laughter to relieve

The honours of the piece fell to Mrs. McWil-Digitized by Google

liams and Mr. A. Catter Read, the old maid and the old bachelor uncle who discover "an affinity" in the autumn of their days. Nothing could have been better than the simpering humours of the former and the "old-boyish" joviality of the latter: both played their parts splendidly. Mrs. Read has been seen to better advantage—her rôle was not congenial, but her great charm as an actress redeemed a bald and uninteresting part from any suspicion of inanity. Mr. Bayne was extremely commendable in a very trying part, and he held the house time and again. Mr. Showler was capital as James, and his frequent allusions to "my hoffspring" were always hugely appreciated. We welcome Mrs. H. M. B vis (Maria) to our local boards; her debut was an undoubted success, the part being sustained in an inimitable manner all through. The secondary parts of Rupert Sunberry and Violet were well carried out, both Miss Thomas and Mr. Davis showing distinct advances upon previous appearances. Very satisfactory also were the characters of Dr. Bartholomem Jones (Mr. A. M. Chalmers) and Mussle (Mr. Eddison.) The piece was exceedingly well stage managed and passed off without a hitch, reflecting credit upon all engaged in its production.

But why cannot somebody tame the fierce energies of the Town Band? It is really painful to sit through the intervals of a performance in the Public Hall when these conscientions in the Public came when these up the spare musicians take a hand in filling up the spare momenta hetween the acts. They develop moments between the acts. They develop enough force to subdue and completely heat down the shouts of a Derby crowd when the favourite has got first past the post; such an exhibition of lung power is entirely misplaced within the confined space of the Public Hall. Surely with the amount of instrumental talent now available, the getting together of a small amateur orchest a such as that which so delightfully filled up the intervals of "The Passport, is not beyond the capacities of our amateur

Thespians' capable stage-manager!

#### THE BISHOPRIC OF SOUTH TORYO.

The death of Bishop Bickersteth, says a home paper, brought to a termination the arrangement by which the C.M.S. was responsible for a moiety of his stipend, the S.P.G. undertaking the other This arrangement commenced when the first Bishop of the English Church was appointed, Bishop Poole, and was renewed for Bishop Bickersteth. In each case the Society's engagement was limited to the tenure of office of the Bishop about to be appointed (the appointment resting with the Archbishop of Canterbury), or, more correctly, to the period during which he should be the sole Bishop of the Church of England in Japan. This latter condition ceased when in 1894 the dioceses of Kiushin and Hokkaido wete formed, and Bishop Evington took charge of the former; but the committee then undertook to continue their grant during the lifetime of Bishop Bickersteth. Since then Bishop Fyson has been appointed to Hokkaido, and the Diocese of Osaka has been taken from what remained of Bishop Bickersteth's diocese. The C.M.S. is responsible for the stipends of the Bishops of Kinshin and Hokkaide. Under the altered circumstances the committee have not felt able to renew the arrangement to provide a moiety of the stipend for Bishop Bickersteth's successor. Remarks having been made as to the causes of withdrawing the grant the Intelligencer states :- The committee's decision was taken wholly on general grounds of expediency, having regard to the general condition of the Episcopate in Japan, and without any reference whatever to the pending appointment of which his Grace the Archbishop had courteously given an intimation.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson is acting Chief Justice of H.B.M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, during the absence of Sir Nicholas Hannen at Bangkok. The latter has gone to arbitrate in a case that has arisen between the Siamese Government and the executors of the estate of a late American resident in Bangkok. Original from

#### THE NEW CABINET.

Monday, January 10th. An opinion has been gaining strength for the past few days that the new Cabinet will stand aloof from all party connexions and be composed wholly of independent statesmen. One of the most prominent difficulties appears to be that to establish relations with a political party on the eve of the general elections would create an embarrassing situation. The Liberals, for example, were very willing to join hands with Marquis Ito, as they did in 1895, but they considered that such an alliance should carry with it the portfolio of Home Affairs for their leader, Count Itagaki. The functions of the Home Minister, however, bring him into direct contact with the various local governments, and consequently impose upon him large responsibilities with regard to the preservation of peace and order at a time like that of the general elections. If the Liberal leader presided at the Home Office while his Party was engaged in a struggle to win the votes of the constituencies throughout the empire, it would be hopeless to convince the people that his attitude was entirely impartial. From that point of view it would evidently be more prudent to refrain from any entangling alliance until after the general elections, at all events. Hence the question has apparently resolved itself into this-shall the Cabinet be organized entirely with independent statesmen; or shall it include one of the Liberal leaders, as Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, for example, in a comparatively unimportant post; or shall a vacancy be left in view of future contingencies, the Prime Minister discharging the duties of the unfilled office ad interim. We do not know how this question has been answered. There was an impression that some decision would be quickly reached, and that Marquis Ito would repair to the Palace on the 8th inst., to submit the list of the new Ministry for his Majesty's approval. The latter expectation was not fulfilled, however. In a previous issue we stated our opinion that the 10th instant would be the earliest date on which a definite announcecould be expected, and the prediction has been verified in one sense, at all events. Meanwhile, from two different sources—the Chuo, representing the National Unionists, and the Mainichi, representing the Progressionists-we obtain identical forecasts of the new Ministry. They are as follow:--Minister President ..... Marquis Ito.

Finance ...... Count Inouve. Foreign Affairs Baion Nishi, Home Affairs Viscount Yoshikawa. War Lient General Visco Katsura.

Instice Marquis Saionji.
Education Baron Suyematan.
Communications Baron Ita Miyoji.
Agriculture and Com-

Tuesday, January 11th.
On the 10th instant, the elder statesmen visited the Palace, and were received in audience by the Emperor for the purpose of consulting about the constitution of the new Cabinet. It is understood that a decision has at length been reached, and, so far as we can ascertain, the Mini- audience by the Emperor. His Majesty stry will be composed on the lines indi- said that with so many important ques-

statesmen" we mean Marquis Ito, Mar- for a day, without the fullest ministerial having been officially indicated as the statesmen should unite to organize a Cabi-Empress Downger, the announcement of contingency of two or three changes of the new Ministry will be deferred until portfolios after the general election. Count the rath instant.

Wednesday, January 12th. There is little to add to what we have already stated with reference to the new Cabinet. It is expected, as we explained in our last issue, that the ceremony of commissioning the new Ministers will take place to-day (12th) at the Palace. Our readers may remember that our original forecast was the 10th or the 11th, but in mentioning the latter date, we failed to take note of the fact that it would be the first anniversary of the late Empress Dowager's death, when, of course, no official business of any kind would be transacted. Vernacular newspapers allege that Count Inouve, having been asked to accept the portfolio of Finance, made a frank statement of his opposition to the scheme of post-bellum measures, in so far as the expansion of national armaments is concerned. The Count is also said to be averse to the adoption of gold monometallism. Such, at least, in the construction attaching to a paragraph in the Kokumin Shimbun, which speaks of him as disapproving "the reform of the finance" (saisei kaikaku), a form of expression generally applied, now-a-days, to the demonetization of silver, though it may obviously bear many other significations. At all events, the main point is that Count Inouye advocates reduction of the scheme of military expansion, and it was because of that attitude on his part that Marquis Oyama received a summons to attend the council of elder statesmen in the Palace on the 10th instant, the Emperor being desirous of hearing the Field Marshal's views on so important a subject. As for the results of the Council, they are not yet publicly known, but a general conviction exists that the Cabinet is to be what is called a Chösen Naikaku, that is to say, a Cabinet independent of political parties. The Tokyo Asahi contains the fullest journalistic account of the Council's proceedings. We read there that, on the 8th instant, Marquis (to repaired to the Palace, and submitted to the Sovereign a detailed report of the efforts he had made to organize a Cabinet, adding that, in view of his failure, he must conclude himself incompetent to undertake the task, from which he accordingly begged the Emperor to relieve him. The Emperor, however, repeated his mandate, whereupon the Marquis said that he had only to bow to the Imperial will, but that as his unaided strength did not suffice to solve the problem, he begged his Majesty to summon whatever statesmen enjoyed the confidence of the Throne and to question them on the subject. The sequel was the despatch of messages through the Grand Chamberlain, Marquis Tokudaiji, to Marquises Ito, Yamagata, Saigo and Oyama, and Counts Kuroda and Inouye. These six statesmen assembled at the Palace on the 10th instant at 10 a.m., and were immediately received in

quis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Marquis attention, and that he invited expression Oyama, Count Kuroda and Count Inouye, of opinion from the six statesmen. Count It is possible that to-day (11th instant) Inouve stated that, in his opinion, the six first anniversary of the death of the late net at once, having in view the possible Kuroda, Marquis Oyama and Marquis Saigo are said to have endorsed that view. The Council remained in session from to a.m. to I p.m., when the six statesmen had the honour of lunching with his Majesty, after which the discussion was resumed and lasted until 3 p.m. It appears to have been acknowledged that all previous Cabinets, since the convocation of the first Diet, have had relations—growing closer as the epoch grows more recentwith political parties, whether such rela-tions were overt or covert, but the conclusion was nevertheless come to that an independent Cabinet should now be formed.

The difficulty of the situation is, of course, very evident. Not one of the so-called "Messi statemen" is an acknowledged member of a political party, in the English sense of membership. Even Count Okuma, though the Progressionists look up to him as their leader, has never attended their meetings, "stumped" the country openly in their interests, or discharged any of the functions ordinarily devolving on a party man. Would it be expedient, therefore, to draft into the Cabinet at the present juncture men who will offer themselves to the constituencies next month as Liberals, or Progressionists, or, it may be, National Unionists? Would it even be expedient to form with any political party such relations as would justify its candidates in presenting themselves at the hustings as acknow-ledged partisans of the Ministry? There is an evident element of fiction about the whole condition of affairs. theory of party cabinets may be said to have received recognition for legislative purposes, but all the Meifi statesmen shrink from allowing the fact to find expression in the mechanism of the parties or in the procedure of the Diet. It is difficult to foresee what kind of events are destined to break down these artificialties, but until they are broken down, party Cabinets, as the word is understood in England, are an impossibility. The members of a Cabinet which enjoys the support of the Liberals, for example, must be prepared to face the ordeal of a general election in Liberal interests, and must be prepared to associate themselves openly with the policy proclaimed by the Liberals to the constituencies. A constitutional change also is necessary. The Cabinet change also is necessary. Ministers must sit in the Houses of the Diet, either ex officio or by election, and must take part in the debates as exponents and defenders of the Government's policy. A Minister of the Crown has a Constitutional right to be present in either House and speak at any time on any subject, but he does not belong to the House, is always treated as an outsider, is listened to with more or less impatience, and finds his appearance in the rostrum welcomed as an opportunity for badgering or insulting him. It would be much better from every point of view, we think, that Ministers of the Crown should never enter called in our last issue, though uncertainty tions of domestic and foreign policy pres-the Diet at all than that their occasional still exists with regard to the holders of sing for treatment, it was most undesir-presence there should give rise to the one or two portfolios. By "the elder able that the country should be left, even scenes so often witnessed of late years-

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scenes which nearly always have the effect of embittering the relations between the Government and the Lower House. At all events, if there are to be party Cabinets, the members of the Cabinet must sit in the Houses as members of the party supporting them, and must be prepared to address the constituencies as exponents of the party's platform, as well as to canvass the country in its interests. Things seem to be a long way from that in Japan still, but who knows?

Thursday, January 13th. The members of the new Cabinet were duty installed yesterday (12th instant) at the Palace.

Minister of-Fureign Affairs ...... Baron Nishi, Finance Count Inouve.
Home Affairs Viscount Yashikawa,
Education Macquis Salonji, Agriculture and Commerce...Baron Ito Miyoji,

Count Matsukata is relieved of office at his own request, the Emperor ordering that the privileges of his previous position be continued to him; and the resignations of Viscount Takashima, Count Kabayama, Viscount Nomura, Mr. Kiyoura, Mr. Hamao and Baron Yamada are accepted. At this moment of writing the Gasette has not announced any new offices for the retiring Ministers, but it may be presumed that, in the case of some of them at all events, Privy Councillorships or Court Councillorships will be provided. Mr. Hamao's position is especially unfortunate, for he left the permanent and distinguished post of President of the Imperial University to take the portfolio of Education, and now, after a few weeks' tenure of the latter, he is without an appointment of any kind.

It has generally been the custom to consider the clan affinities of the statesmen forming a Cabinet, and though we think that such questions have ceased to possess any practical significance, it may not be uninteresting to make the usual analysis on the present occasion :-

Marquis Ito (Minister President)	Charlin
Canat Indaye (Finance)	
Visconut Katsura (War)	da,
Mr. Sone (Justice)	do.
Marquis Saigo (Navy)	Satsuma.
Baron Nishi (Foreign Affairs)	do.
Viscount Yosbikawa (Hunte)	Tasa.
Marquis Stionji	Kure
	t Noble).
Buren Ito Miyoji	Hizen, 🖟
Davide Commission	

Thus six out of the ten portfolios are held by Choshiu and Satsuma statesmen, four by the former and two by the latter.

Four of the new Ministers have never before been members of a Cabinet, namely, Viscount Katsura, Baron Ito Miyoji, Baron Suyematsu and Mr. Sone.

and in 1885 we find him a Counsellor of the Legislative Bureau. Subsequently he served as Chief of the Bureau of Archives in the Cabinet and as Secretary of the Legislative Bureau. He had by that time established such a reputation for acumen and tact, that when the Diet was convoked for the first time, he was nominated Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, and had to sit, ex officio, as acting President of the House during the stormy debates with which its proceedings opened. His conduct throughout that difficult time greatly increased the confidence reposed in him. After the second session of the Diet had ended in the dissolution of the Lower House, Mr. Sone resigned his official appointment, and offered himself as candidate for the fourth district of Yamaguchi Prefecture in the general elections. He was returned and the Lower House chose him to be its Vice-President. In May, 1893, he re-entered official life, receiving the appointment of Japanese Representative in Paris. Mr. Sone is strongly life with Marquis Yamagata.

Baron Ito Miyoji was born in 1857 in Nagasaki, and therefore enjoys the distinction of becoming a Cabinet Minister in in his forty-first year. In 1877 he received an appointment in the Kobusho-Department of Public Works-, and subsequently served as Assistant-Secretary in the Home Department and in the Cabinet; as Junior Secretary in the Cabinet, and as Secretary of the Senate. In 1882 he accompanied Marquis (then Mr.) Ito to Europe, visiting Russia when the Marquis proceeded thither as Special Ambassador. On his return he became, in succession, Assistant Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, Private Secretary to Marquis Ito and Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and when Marquis Ito went to China in 1885 as Special Ambassador, Mr. Ito Miyoji accom-panied him. Marquis Ito, after his return, became Minister President of the newly organized Cabinet, and appointed Mr. Ito to be his Private Secretary. In 1886, the Emperor of Russia conferred a decoration on Mr. Ito, and in that year he was appointed Secretary to the Privy Council, becoming, subsequently, Chief Secretary, and —in Sept. 1892 — Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. Mr. Ito was sent to Chefoo in May 1895 to exchange the ratifications of the Shimonoseki Treaty and was raised to the peerage with the patent of Baron for distinguished services on that occasion, and during the war with ability, and his entry into the Cabinet has guished himself so much as to receive a long been regarded as a mere question of life pension of 250 koku of rice annually. through his agency that the Liberal Party own charges for purposes of study, and gave its support to the Ito Cabinet in 1895. was fortunate enough to follow the Prusbe associated with the Liberals in the thus acquiring invaluable experience, eyes of people in general that when the After 3 years' study, he returned to Japan inexpediency of establishing any rela- in December 1873, and in January 1874 was tions with a political party at the present gazetted a captain of infantry, receiving his Mr. Sone may be said to have made his début at the Restoration. He served with distinction in the Government army, and in 1858 was appointed to the command of a company of the Imperial Guards. In 1872, the War Department sent him to study in France, whence he returned in always to be successively of the following have to be successively and the late Viscount Inouye Ki used 1882, he became a Colonel of Infantry, and always to be successively and the following near model his third to be command and the late Viscount Inouye Ki used 1882, he became a Colonel of Infantry, and always to be successively and the following near model his third to be command to Germany as military attaché in March, to Germany as military attaché in March, probability of Baron Ito's accepting a pointed, successively, Secretary and American Successively. study in France, whence he returned in always to be spoken of as the Four Deva the following year, made his third trip to May 1877, and two years later became a Kings (Shi-tenno) who served Marquis Ito Europe in the train of Marquis (then Mr.) Seventh-class official of the Department, as the supreme being. Viscount Inouve Oyama, Minister of War. After his receiving, in 1881, the additional post of was the first to obtain Cabinet rank, as return, in 1885, he was raised to the rank

confidently spoken of as the most probable Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Baron Suyematsu Kencho was born in the province of Buzen and received his education at the School of Foreign Languages in Tokyo. He became a member of the Nichi Nichi Shimbun's staff, and received his first official appointment as an employé of the Cabinet in October 1875. He accompanied Count Kuroda when the latter was sent at that time to obtain satisfaction for the Korean outrage and to conclude a treaty with the peninsular Kingdom, and after his return, he became an official of the Department of Public Works in 1876, being employed at the same time in the Legislative Bureau. He rose to be Assistant-Secretary in the latter Bureau, and then saw some service in the Satsuma Rebellion when he was attached to the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief. In January 1878, he undertook a series of investigations into English and French historical compilations, and was then transferred to the Foreign Office as Third Class Secretary and appointed to the Legation in London, but he soon resigned that post for the purpose of studying at Cambridge University, where he obtained the degrees of Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Arts. Returning to Japan in 1886, he became a Counsellor of the Department of Education, and was afterwards transferred to the Home Department in the same capacity, rising to be Chief of the Bureau of Local Government in that Department in 1887. Two years later, he obtained Chokumin rank, and also had the honour of being among the first batch of Japanese scholars upon whom the degree of Hakase was conferred, his title being Doctor of Literature (Bungaku Hakase). In 1892 he became Chief of the Legislative Bureau. For distinguished service during the war with China he was raised to the nobility with the patent of Baron. Mr. Suyematsu, like Mr. Sone Arasuke, resigned his official position in 1893 and entered the Lower House, where he showed considerable ability as a debater. He is recognised as a man of strong talent and great force of character, and he has an

exceptional faculty of winning friends.
Lieut.-General Viscount Katsura, like many prominent Japanese of the Meiji era, has had a career partly in the civil service, partly in the military. He began life as a soldier, and in his twentieth year (1868) commanded a company in the force that marched to Oshiu against the China. He is a man of extraordinary Aizu clan, on which occasion he distintime. The public understands that it was In 1870, he proceeded to Germany at his Indeed, so closely has Baron Ito come to sian forces in the war with France Secretary to the Cabinet, then called Minister of Education; Barons Ito and the Dajokwan. His next position was that of Governor of Oita Prefecture, Mr. Kaneko Kentaro was at one time Minister in 1886. His next post was Chief Original from

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General, receiving the command of the Third Division in the following year. He commanded a Division in the Army that marched from Söul *viá* Ping-yang and Wiju into Manchuria, in 1894, and he sub-sequently directed the operation of the wing of that Army in its campaign from the littoral of the Yellow Sea to the Liao River and Newchwang. His success in the field was very marked, and the Emperor recognised it by raising him to the nobility with the patent of Viscount. This distinguished officer was nominated Governor-General of Formosa after Count Kabayama's resignation of that post, but he did not proceed to the island and resigned the office when the Matsukata Cabinet came into power. He speaks German fluently, and has shown himself to be possessed of military and organizations of the history and organizations. ing capacities of the highest order.

It is worth noting that, out of the 10 Ministers forming the new Cabinet 9 speak foreign languages; thus - Marquis Ito (English), Count Inouye (English), Viscount Katsura (German and English), Mr. Sone (French), Baron Nishi (Russian and French), Marquis Saionji (French), Baron Ito (English), Baron Suyematsu (English) and Viscount Yoshikawa (English).

The policy of the new Cabinet must remain for the present a matter of conjecture. It has been generally understood that Count Inouve and Viscount Kalsura are in favour of reducing the scheme of Army Expansion. Not, indeed, to the extent of re-placing the Army on its old footing, as has been asserted in some quarters, their idea is less drastic. Count Inouye is reported to advocate an expansion of fifty per cent. compared with the former establishment, instead of a hundred per cent, as contemplated by the pro-gramme passed by the Diet. It was recently alleged that Count Inouye had insisted on that change as a condition of his accepting the portfolio of Finance, but the Jifi Shimpo denies that he did so, and explains that the advantages of such a measure would be few at the present juncture, while, on the other band, the circumstances of the time are opposed to it. Nevertheless Count Inouye and Viscount Katsura entertain certain views about reform of the Army administration, Irade. and to that they intend to give effect.

Marquis Ito, according to the Chuo Shimbun, has admitted very frankly that statesmen in power can no longer afford to turn their backs upon political parties. At the same time, the Marquis comments politicians in calling upon the Ministry to pleasanter or more satisfactory for statesmen than to shape their policy in accordance with public opinion, but the question is, where can an exact expression of public opinion be found. After the war with China the Japanese people's estimate the East, yet the statesmen that control it cannot not find themselves always in touch with public opinion. As for Japanese public opinion, it is far behind the point the nation at a dead loss to themselves.

The Nagasaki Press observes:—It is said that the secret shipping of women from Japan is greatly on the increase, and that new regulations with soon be promulgated for dealing with this question.

of a Bureau in the same Department, and attained by public opinion in Europe, in 1890 he was promoted to be Lieut. nevertheless Japanese statesmen have to keep their foreign policy in touch with the foreign policy of European nations. It is a difficult task, and the party politicians who claim for themselves the credit of representing public opinion, would do well to consider the facts with a little care.

#### Friday, January 14th.

It does not by any means appear that the relations between Marquis 110 and the Liberals have been severed. The Nicht Nicht Shimbun says that some mistaken ideas of that nature having circulated among the Party, a certain amount of excitement and agitation became apparent from the 11th instant. Count Itagaki was considerably disturbed about the matter, but owing apparently, to representations which he found himself in a position to make at a meeting of the Party's Standing Committee on the 12th instant, quiet was restored. Our contemporary adds that Count Itagaki had an interview with Marquis Ito on the evening of the 12th, and that he doubtless reported the result to the Party Committee on the 13th.

#### THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Vernacular newspapers announce, with some display of excitement, that the directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha intend to raise their rates of freight by 30 per ceut, from the 15th instant. Such action on the part of a company which is in receipt of a subsidy of 880,000 yen yearly, and which seeks to obtain a further annual reasonable to find fault with the railways if they, too, proceed to raise their fares to 14 sen a mile. We have no independent information about the intention of the company's directors, but we fail to see that sentiment should find any place in this question. It is a pure matter of business. If the company perceives that it can not place its transactions on a profitable basis without an enhancement of rates, why, then, rates have to be enhanced. No other exit from the dilemma is apparent. The remedy, if remedy be needed, lies in the hands of shippers themselves. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha does not enjoy any monopoly of the coastwise or over-sea carrying There is an open field for competition. Maritime enterprise is lively enough in Japan, and if cargo can be carried at lower figures than those about to be fixed by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, carriers will soon be forthcoming, we presume. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha with some severity on the habit of party differs from a company founded on a simple basis of profit and loss. respect public opinion. Nothing could be has undertaken certain services at the suggestion of the Government, and is entitled to a corresponding amount of consideration at the hands of the State. The Diet, however, appears unwilling to recognise that very obvious fact, and the alternative is that shippers of goods will of themselves was that they had made be obliged to put their hands into their great progress, but when the facts are pockets. It is certainly hard that one dispassionately considered, the so-called particular class should be taxed for the great progress" is seen to be measured support of steamship services which are means reach the level of Occidental progress. In no direction does the foreign of view of outsiders, that the House of policy of Western States show greater activity at present than in Africa and in anomaly. Certainly nothing the factors of the states are policy of the states and in anomaly.

#### THE CIVIL CODE OF JAPAN.

Mr. J. H. Gubbins, Second Secretary and Japanese Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation in Tokyo, has completed and published in book form an English translation of the Civil Code of Japan. Our readers are probably aware that the Code has not yet been fully promulgated. Certain portions still await the Diet's approval, and would doubtless have been passed speedily had not the House of Representatives suffered dissolution on the 25th of last month. The first three Books of the Code, having undergone exhaustive revision, were submitted to the Diet in its 1895-6 session, and having been approved by both Houses, were promulgated in March, 1896. These laws have not yet been put into opera-tion, however. Apparently the intention of the Government is to bring the whole Code into force at the same date-a date which can not be later than July next, unless the operation of the Revised Treaties be deferred. The three Books contain twenty-one chapters, which are divided into Sections and Sub-sections, the whole comprising 724 articles. We need scarcely say that, so far as we can judge, Mr. Gubbins' translation is everything that could be desired. It has not been possible for us, of course, to compare the rendering of each article with the Japanese original, but having selected various articles at random and made the comparison, we find the closest possible accuracy grant of over three million yen from the Crosset possible accuracy as becomes such a sub-the Treasury, is denounced as selfish, arbitrary and inconsiderate, and one structed phrases, and clear, forcible, Tokyo journal asks whether it will be simple English. The translator has greatly simple English. The translator has greatly enhanced the value of the work by adding the Japanese text in the margin of each article, so that direct comparison is at once possible. The volume is, of course, essential to every foreigner doing business in Japan. Mr. Gubbins' name is associated with many tasks of scholarship for which he possesses the grateful thanks of foreign and Japanese students. But he has not hitherto addressed himself much to the general public, being content rather to hold out a strong helping hand to the small section of workers who are toiling along the rugged paths that he has himself traversed with so much distinction. This new achievement will doubtless appeal to a wider audience, and ought also to receive some recognition from the British Government, for it renders immediately accessible to her Majesty's subjects in Japan information of the very highest importance. We strongly recommend the journalists who have hitherto been perplexing themselves and their readers with blundering and confused dissertations about leases and superficieswe strongly recommend them to provide themselves at once with Mr. Gubbins' translation, and to read attentively Chap. IV. Book II., and Sect. VII., of Chap. II., Book III. If their bewilderment survives the perusal of the clear and succinct provisions of law embodied in those portions of the Code, we shall be greatly surprised. We have only to add that the book is admirably printed-by the Sansho-do-and of

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#### GERMANY IN CHINA.

An interesting fact has been ascertained with reference to the German occupation of Kiao-chou. The Post, a newspaper which, in Bismarck's days, used to be regarded as a semi-official organ, stood forward, immediately after the news of the occupation had reached Berlin, and denounced England for harbouring hatred and cumity towards Germany, though expressing approval with a smiling face. The British nation, according to the Post, was longing to see Germany involved in complications with Russia over the Kiaochou business, and France shared the sentiment, but the two intriguing Powers might, perhaps, find that "in certain definite circumstances the whole German enterprise was carried to a conclusion in agreement with Russia." This "attempt to represent France and England as ranged against Russia, whose best friend and client is no other than Germany," to use the words of The Times' Berlin correspondent, seemed so striking that the correspondent "took the earliest opportunity of calling attention to the extraordinary tone of the article in the most authoritative quarters," and received an assurance that "the article was neither official nor semi-official." It has to be noted, however, that the Post is not the only German newspaper which shows a determination to regard England as an enemy in this matter. The Hamburger Nachrichten-a Bismarckian organ-also That has a good confident ring. We, at writes:—"It is even possible that the this end of the world, do not think that action of Germany is welcomed by Russia, because to have Germany as a neighbour in Asia is, in any case, preferable to having England." Moreover, although the Post's official inspiration is denied, its owner and controller is Baron von Stumm, "the great industrialist, who is the personal friend of the Emperor, and who frequently poses in the Imperial Diet and elsewhere as the direct and authorized exponent of his Majesty's views." This same Post, referring to the Indian frontier campaign, has just published a series of articles which are said to be "crammed full of slanders and calumnies directed against the Imperial administration of India."

Referring to the utterances, The Times' correspondent says:—"It must occur to any one who is familiar with German methods that these writings display the nervousness which attends uncertainty and experiment rather than the native hue of Bismarckian resolution. It may be that, in exchange for promises which must have been of almost unlimited extent, Germany has secured for herself in advance the approval and support of Russia for the occupation of the only remaining harbour affording access from the Yellow Sea to Peking and not excluded by express agreement from the active sphere of European Powers in the Far East. Even on this very large assumption, the sudden action of the German Government would partake of the nature of experiment rather than of cautious policy. The "neighbourhood of Germany" might, conceivably, be preferable in Russian eyes to that of any other Power-of Japan, for instance, which has still some thousands of troops in occupation of Wei-hai-wei on the north side of the peninsula, with the route across which to

eventualities both for England and for Japan which a German annexation of Kiao-chou under these somewhat improbable auspices would bring nearer, since it may very well be that the whole object of the German semi-official apparatus, if not of the occupation itself, is to evoke that very discussion with a view to advantageous results for Germany in the sequel. If a supposition which the present situa-tion of Germany in Europe does nor render altogether absurd may be entertained, and if the occupation has taken place without any definite assurance of Russian acquiescence, the excessive protests in the Post of submission to the will of Russia are easily explicable as *ballons d'essas*. But, in that case, it may yet require a more than Bismarckian skill to pilot the German Government and the German fleet out of the Bay of Kiao-chou without any serious loss of prestige."

The Deutsche Zeitung has the following, with reference to British potentialities in the Far East :-

"All that England could do would be to fomen "All that England could do would be to foment disturbance by inciting Japan. But even with England behind her, Japan will not venture to dety united Germany and Russia. As for China, she will be thoroughly cowed by the warlike forces of Germany which will be assembled in East Asian waters in December. In view of this aspect of affairs, only the grambling of France will be heard from afar, that ungrateful State which will have to be reminded that it could never have carried out its venturesome colonial policy in Africa, in spite of English jealousy, but for the benevolent incutability of Germany."

England and Japan in combination would take much account of Germany and Russia.

The following interesting remarks appear in the Berlin correspondence of The Times, dated Nov. 23rd:-

The German Government allows little or nothing to transpire regarding its intentions of the negotiations which may possibly have preceded the landing at Kiao-chou, Information concerning events on the scene of Germany's action is almost exclusively derived from the English Press. In this connexion it is worthy of note that the Reuter telegram nationing the steps which had been taken by the Chipsee Government. note that the Rearer telegram natisating the steps which had been taken by the Chinese Government by way of reparation for the attack on German missions ies has not, so far as I can see, heen reproduced in the official or semi-official Press. The journals which, after some delay, gave it a place in their columns have hitherro abstained from commenting upon the significance. I have reasons, however, for believing that the German Grastonient makes no secret of its intention to retain kine chom in its possession. intention to retain Kino choin its possession "as a guarantee against the recurrence of similar out-ragor." It is difficult to see how the occupation of this point by a force which must necessarily consist at the outside of some 1,000 German blue jackets could contribute in any way to the safety of German missions like its line of the force of the point of the safety of German missions is in the interior of the force. of German missionaries in the interior of the proce of Shau-tung,

Strennous endeavours continue to be made by certain journals to discover symptoms of a prior understanding with Russia. Thus it is noted that imerating wan Kussia. Annis it is more than two days before the arrivatof the news of the occupa-tion, the Russian Authasandor bad a long interview with Prince Hohenlohe. There are, how-ever, reasons for believing that the chapter of negotiations on the subject with Russis, not to speak of other Powers, has not by any means been closed. Although in some quarters it in asserted hat any diplomatic commencations which have have penceeded pari passy with an interchange of views between the German and French Governments, the attitude of the Temps and the acerbity of its recent comments upon German transmission policy point to anything but satisfaction is authoritative French codes. On the Russian side the only journal which appears to have touched the subject is the Novoye Vremya, which says that the German Press "appears to have aversholded the fact that Russia has contain indicated.

ment between China and Russia by which Russian ships of war were to have the right to auchor in certain Chinese harbours, including that of Kino-chan, when Vindivostock should be frozen up.

We fail to discover the grounds of Reuter's recent telegram that the Russia had expressed dissatisfaction at Germany's action in China. The comment of the Novoye Vremya, quoted above, may, perhaps, be read in that sense, and on Nov. 24th the Novosti published an article "urging the occupation of some points of Chinese territory by Russia, France, and Great Britain, with the object of effectually counterbalancing the German occupation of Kiao-chau should the latter be maintained." But the utterances of two journals can scarcely be regarded as representing the Russian press.

#### GREAT BRITAIN IN THE FAR EAST.

An attempt has been made by a local nelish journal to prove that Great English journal to prove that Britain's attitude towards China at the present juncture is not governed by principles of international morality, and that she is following the example set by Germany in seeking to exact territorial or other concessions from the Peking Government. The journal in question avowedly bases its judgment on a Reuter's telegram, sent from London and dated January

London, Jan. 5th It is authoritatively stated that whatever privi-leges another Power may obtain from China, Great Britain will demand adequate compensation, and do her atmost to uphold her existing rights in China.

With reference to this telegram, the comments made are these :-

By this it is made apparent that England is not better that it should be, for looking forward there does not seem to be anything to choose between the present policy of Germany pending the settlement of its demands, and that of England, which has determined to demand "adequate compensation." This, when interpreted, means that if Germany should be found to have successfully sinced by squeezing what it requires out of China then Great Britain intends to follow smit, or in other words both Powers intend to profit at the expense of China in that respect,—the parity is perfect. Alas, it does not appear in the face of the news by treggram, that the pharisaical attitude which the Mail has suggested, as one of which an Englishman ought to be ground,—that his country has not followed the wicked example set by Russia and Germany, has anything upon which it can be founded, because England is prepared to act in the manner. If the conduct of Russia and Germany has a superior of Russia and Germany be as bad as represented by the Mail, by grabbing what they can from weak and helpiess China, yet all these appears to be actuated by no other motive than that of their own agencies with he absenced that the avoider of grandisement.

It will be observed that the writer of this criticism says :-- " If the conduct of Russia and Germany be as bad as represented by the Mail, etc." But the fact is that our observations with regard to Russia and Germany were explicitly founded on the representations made by other journals. Our words were :-" If Germany nals. Our words were:—"If Germany and Russia have acted in the manner alleged by several of the English local journals, &c." There can not have been the slightest confusion on this point in the mind of the English newspaper which is new se anxious to drag England down to the lowest level of international lawlessness. At the outset of its article it quotes our precise declaration that the text of our remarks was the estimate which several local foreign journals had formed Kiao-chou the Japanese general staff is perfectly familiar. But perhaps it is best to refrain from any discussion of the state that Russia has centain rights to the Bay of Kiao-chou." In German naval cheles it is supposed that this may possibly refer to some agree. In possibly refer to some agree. and expressed with regard to the proceedings of Russia and Germany. Indeed, the

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astonishment that, while forming such an estimate - an estimate which, at the time, we ourselves refused to endorse -those journals should not have uttered a word of protest but should have accepted, with tacit consent and implied approval, the worst possible construction of Germany's proceedings at Kiao chou. Yet, in the face of such perfectly plain facts, this local slanderer of England quiet-ly writes "if the conduct of Russia and Germany be as bad as represented by the Mail." That part of the matter, however, is of very trifling moment compared with the singularly false complexion put upon England's action. If the Anglo-Chinese Treaty be consulted, this provision will be found in the 54th article:-" It is hereby expressly stipulated that the British Government and its subjects will be allowed free and equal participation in all privileges, immunities and advantages that may have been, or may be hereafter, granted by his Majesty the Emperor of China to the Government or subjects of any other nation." It is in assertion of the right secured to her by this provision that Great Britain has warned the Chinese Government against attempting to exclude her from any privileges or immunities granted to Germany. Her Majesty's Go-verment has not, as its local slanderer declares, announced an intention of "following Germany's suit" should the latter be found to have sinned successfully against China," or of "profiting at the expense of China." It has merely reminded the Peking Authorities that they can not, without violating the Treaty, grant exclusive privileges, whether industrial, commercial or not, to the nationals of another State, and that if privileges of any kind are granted to Germans, British subjects will be entitled to enjoy them equally. That is a procedure radically different from the course taken by Germany. It is essentially characteristic of England that she never seeks to obtain for herself by diplomacy or force of arms any monopoly of trade or industry in a foreign country. To whatever markets she opens, all the world has absolutely free access, and whatever privileges she obtains other nationals are allowed to share equally with her own subjects. What she has done in China is to recall the principle of fair play guaranteed by the most-favoured-nation clause, and to say that she will not have her subjects shut out from privileges granted to the subjects of another Power, whether that Power be Germany or Russia. To represent such natural and strictly legitimate conduct as " grabbing what she can from weak and helpless China" is to display either the crassest ignorance or the most unpatriotic malevolence.

#### THE TREATY AND LAND.

With reference to the question of the Revised Treaty and the tenure of land, the Japan Gazette raises a point which, if left find it distinctly laid down there that, in unexplained, is not unlikely to create misorder to acquire a right of property in apprehension. It says:—"The Treaty objects "over the ground" (chijo)—we mentions a lease; on the subject of super-ficies it is silent." That seems to be a complete shifting of the ground hithertotaken by our contemporary. Its contention, up to the present, so far as we of a superficies; whereas, if the tempounderstand, has been that the new rary use alone of the objects be desired, Civil Code of Japan does not create the ordinary method of letting and biring any means of holding land for a lengthy is resorted to. It follows, therefore, that period, short of actual ownership, and that, although the term "superficies" is not Digitized by COSIC

consequently, since ownership is forbidden secure building sites for a term of years factories and other structures for industrial or commercial purposes. That fallacy has now been completely ex-It was exploded long ago indeed. The reading public must be fully aware by this time that the new Civil Code provides two methods of land tenure, independently of ownership and agricultural holdings; one, the ordinary method of hiring, the other, the method to which the legal epithet "superficies" is applied; and must further be aware that, while the term for hiring is fixed at a maximum of 20 years, the term for a superficies is left to be settled at whatever number of years the contracting parties may desire. As to that phase of the problem, no shadow of doubt exists any longer. Still the Japan Gazette seems unwilling to abandon its position of protest, and it therefore takes refuge in the text of the Treaty itself, alleging that leases only are mentioned and that "there is silence on the subject of superficies." We are aware that our contemporary has often criticised the Treaty as a most defective document, and has frequently sneered at the incompetence or carelessness of its framers. the basis of the criticism, with regard to land tenure, has been that since Japanese law does not provide any satisfactory, method of tenure, short of actual ownership, some special provision to cover the defect should have been made in the It will not do, therefore, to pretext previous condemnation of the Treaty by way of accounting for the change of attitude now made. The ground of the condemnation was that the Treaty did not fill the lacuna left by Japanese law, and since it has been shown that there is no lacuna in the law, that particular form of censure has to be abandoned. Thus it is that the Japan Gazette has final recourse to the alleged silence of the Treaty about superficies and its mention of leases only.

Is the Treaty silent about superficies and does it mention leases only? Certainly not. Even though the British Treaty stood alone, there ought not to be any doubt on that point. Its words are

The subjects of each of the High Contracting The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties may, in any past of the dominious or pussessions of the other, own or hire and occupy the houses, manufacturies, warehouses, shops and premises which may be necessary for them, and tease land for residential and commercial purificase land for residential and commercial purificase. poses, conforming themselves to the Laws, Police and Customs Regulations of the country like native subjects.

Here we have two distinct privileges with regard to residential, commercial or in-dustrial structures: British subjects may either own or hire them, and such ownership or hiring must be in conformity with Japanese law. We have to turn, then, to Japanese law in order to ascertain the provisions relating to this subject, and we are speaking here not of crops, which belong to a special category, but of buildings and trees-, the site on which such objects stand must be obtained by means

actually inserted in the British Treaty, the to foreigners, they will not be able to right of superficies may be constructively read into the document, since Japanese long enough to warrant the erection of Law is explicitly indicated for purposes of procedure, and the method of procedure That indicated by Japanese Law is superficies, where the ownership of buildings is in question. We are not obliged, however, to fall back upon inference or construction in this matter. The German Revised Treaty, negotiated and concluded subsequently to the British, places the whole question on the clearest and most explicit basis. No change was made, indeed, in the body of the Treaty itself, for, as we have seen, the necessary privileges are constructively present there. But there was appended to the Treaty a note explaining that, with reference to the residential, commercial and industrial purposes mentioned in the text of the Treaty, German subjects should be entitled to acquire emphyteutical, superficiary and other real rights in land, as provided by Japanese Law. The German negotiators went even a step farther, for they obtained an agreement that the ownership of real estate by a Japanese company should not constitute any obstacle to the inclusion of German subjects among its partners. It is scarcely necessary to point out that whatever privileges have been granted to German subjects are enjoyable by British subjects also, under the most-favoured. nation clause. In other words, after the Revised Treaties go into operation, British subjects will be entitled to acquire land in Japan by emphyteusis -i.e. for agricultural purposes—by super-ficies, or by hiring. The same privi-leges are inferentially conferred by the British Treaty, but they have been me-duced, in the German, to terms establish-ing a direct verbal conveyion with the ing a direct verbal connexion with the provisions of the new Japanese Civil Code.

In view of these facts, it is exceedingly difficult to understand the uneasiness that exists in some quarters about the question of land tenure by foreigners under the Revised Treaties, and the persistent refusal of local English journals to recognise incontrovertible facts. We are told, at one moment, that the Treaties are defective; at another, that articles of Japanese Law which stare us in the face, have no existence; and at another, that unless the provisions of the Japanese Code be specially extended to foreigners, they may be excluded from its privileges. Well, we have now shown that every one of these contentions is absolutely chimerical, and it is to be hoped that no further attempts will be made to obscure so important a subject. Perhaps the most charming complaint of all is that of the journalist who alleges that the complexity of the question is established by the length of the explanations it has elicited. We are forcibly reminded of the dunce at school who declared that the fifth proposition of the first book of Euclid must be shockingly difficult since it had cost him a month's effort to master. For the sake of that unhappy journalist, who is to be pitied rather than chided, we here set down the facts in first-primer form :-

Rights secured to foreigners in Japan by the ex-plicit terms of the Revised Treates and correlated documents, such rights to be enjoyed in accord-ance with the provisions of Japanese Law,

1. Superficies.
2. Employtensis.

3. Hing.
Nature of the above Rights, as defined by the Japanese Civil Code.

I. Soperficies—"The right to use the land of

Only her serson for the purpose of owning

thereon buildings, or bamboos or trees;" the duration of the superficies to be fixed at the dination of the superficies to be fixed at will by the contracting parties; or, if left unfixed by them, to be determinable by a Law Court, at the instance of the contracting parties, within the limits of 20 and 50 years. (Civil Code, Arts. 265 to 269 inclusive).

2. Emphyteusis—"The right, on payment of rent as a farmer, to cultivate the land of another person, or to rear upon it borses and cattle;" the duration of the emphyteusis to be from 20 to 50 years. (Civil Code, Arts.

the from 20 to 50 years. (Civil Code, Arts. 276 to 279 inclusive).

3. Hiring—"The right to use and acquire profit from a certain thing" without owing it, the duration of the contract of hiring not to exceed 20 years. (Civil Code, Arts. 601 to 621,

Underlying all the criticisms hitherto penned on this subject there seems to have been an idea that the Japanese Government is reluctant to place the tenure of land by foreigners on a liberal and satisfactory basis. We have good reason to know that such a supposition is entirely contrary to the truth. There has been no reluctance of the kind. Indeed, had Japanese statesmen alone been concerned, the right of property in land would doubtless have been extended to foreigners without reservation. But unfortunately at the very time when the task of Treaty Revision was approaching completion, the impatience of the Japanese nation took a somewhat narrow-minded form, and simultaneously with the outcry for "strict en-forcement" of the existing Treaties, a strong prejudice was developed against the ownership of real estate by aliens, and against allowing them to engage in the coast-wise carrying trade. It was impossible for the Government to ignore that feeling when negotiating the new Treaties. Account had to be taken of it, and nothing remained except to minimize, to the utmost degree, its inconvenient consequences for foreigners and its injurious effects on the development of Japan's industry and commerce. We have seen how the problem was solved. Without Without becoming actual owners of land, foreigners will be able to gain possession of it for a term of years representing something like perpetuity; a term of years amply sufficient to warrant the employment of capital in any industrial or commercial enterprise whatever. In this matter, as in many other matters, the Government of Japan has proved itself to be more advanced than the bulk of the nation, though it is interesting to observe that were the terms of the Revised Treaties now under negotiation, there would probably be no difficulty, even with regard to Japanese popular opinion, in securing for foreigners the right of actual ownership of land.

#### THE CYCLISTS.

The round-the-world cyclists are now in Japan, making their way on their wheels from Nagasaki. They are certainly three remarkable follows. The physical feat of riding some fourteen thousand miles through all kinds of countries and over all kinds of roads-or no roads-is, in itself, sufficient to confer distinction on its performers. But they have also shown themselves keen observers and clever literateurs. Their notes of travel, which have appeared in the columns of a number of newspapers, not only convey much interesting information, but are also thoroughly consistent with the conditions under which they were compiled, showing avoidable where such a rapic method of tively stable Cabinet.

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transit is employed, and the spirit of seriousness that one might expect in men pledged to a performance so arduous. The cyclists were enthu-siastically welcomed in Shanghai. We noted in a previous issue how a crowd of brother-wheelfolks, gentlemen and ladies, went out to meet them and escorted them into Shanghai in grand procession, and we now observe that a dinner was given to them at the Shanghai Club on the 30th instant, Sir Nicholas Hannen presiding, and some sixty persons of various nationalities being present. Sir Nicholas proposed the health of the cyclists, and Mr. John Foster Fraser responded in a speech which fills a column and a half of it is, and it must have been still more attractive in the delivery. Indeed, we take it that Mr. Fraser, in addition to his remarkable power of physical endurance and his literary abilities, is a public speaker of rare facility. He ought to make his mark. We can not find space to reproduce the speech, but we quote one passage :-

When we get hime in another six months the one thing I personally will be really proud of is, not that I have gone round the world on a bicycle, for that is what anybody can de, but that I am a native of that hitle group of islands away in the north-west of Emope called the British Isles. I suppose we are all English and Scotch and Irish here to-night, and I tell you the great fact of this trip, as I am concerned, is being imbued with an enlarged patriotism. We have never been where the English name was not honomed and respected. It requires a journey such as we have undertaken to comprehend the tremendous position held on the earth by our own country. And When we get home in another six months the tion held on the earth by our own country. all over the earth there are Shanghais, settlements of Britishers, commercial men, scientists, financiers, arranging all the trade, carrying the goods of outloos, controlling the affairs of nations, in a word running the earth.

There is, perhaps, a soupcon of brassiness about the note of that trumpet, but the fanfare is softened by the evidently earnest sincerity of the speaker.

#### LIFE OF A CABINET IN JAPAN.

A Tokyo journal publishes an opportune statement of the life-span of Cabinets in Japan since the re-organization of the Government:-

Organization, Resignation, Years, Months, ... Dec. 1886 ... Mar. 1888 ... 1 ...

N.B.—This is a mistake on the part of our Tokyo contemporary. The Ito Cabinet to which it alludes took office in December 1885. The dates should be:-

Thus the average span of life is very nearly 2 years—or, exactly, I year II months. But the list brings out another interesting fact, namely, that whereas the average years and two months, the average duration of the Cabinets under the presidency of other statesmen has been only t year and 31 months. The difference is very remarkable. It is true that Marquis Ito had the good fortune to be in office at the time of the war with China, when questions of domestic politics were virtually dormant, but still nothing can deprive him her heavy stores and equipment. of the credit of being the only statesman who, since the re-organization of the Government in 1885, has been able to give at once the element of sketchiness un- his country the advantages of a compara-

#### FOREIGNERS AND THE OWNER-SHIP OF SHARES.

Our readers are aware that there has been talk lately of the ownership of shares in Japanese companies by foreigners. There is a strong tendency now-a-days to remove all restrictions against foreign participation in native enterprises, manufacturers and men of business generally having come to the conclusion that want of capital is fatally obstructing the development of the national resources, and that the introduction of foreign capital is the need of the era. Referring to this, the Chuo says that the projectors of the Formosan Railway, being particularly the N.-C. Daily News. Excellent reading desirous of placing a portion of their shares on the foreign market, applied to the Governor-General's office for permission. They received a negative reply. The Governor-General explained that one of the main objects of the principal Formosan line is strategical, and that the Government's promise to guarantee six per cent. interest was prompted by that consideration. It did not seem advisable that foreigners should be shareholders in such a railway. If the company were bent upon admitting foreigners, the Government's guarantee would have to be withdrawn. Our contemporary adds that the projectors are not satisfied with the Go; vernor-General's views, and have taken steps to appeal to the Prime-Minister.

#### PROPOSED BIWA CANAL.

Major Morgin, the French Engineer, who was present at the meeting of the Mitsui Club held on the night of the 5th instant, is reported by the Jiji to have made the following remarks with regard to the construction of the Biwa canal:—The scheme for cutting a canal from Lake Biwa to Tsuruga would require an outlay of 200 million yen. The work would lower the level of the lake from 86 metres to 45 metres, and thus in certain place would leave several extensive tracts of dry land. Europe abounds with works of this description, especially in Holland, were are to be found richly cultivated lands which, several hundred years ago, were but sea beds. Experience shows that land so acquired proves extremely fertile. According to the plan by which Lake Biwa I to be reduced to half its depth, reclaimed land to the extent of 160 million tsubs could be obtained. Although such an extensive area of land could not be sold at once, yet a prospect exists of obtaining, very readily, one yen per trube for the best portions. The proceeds would more than compensate for the expenditure incurred in the work. Moreover, from a military point of view it may be asserted that the canal would hardly fail to create facilities for converting a neighbouring lake into an inland port where docks and armament devices could be established. No enemy could reduce such a place. There is yet one more point that deserves mention. When the port is opened nothing can be more certain than an immediate development of commerce and industry in Kyoto. The proposed scheme is duration of the Ito Cabinets has been 3 therefore to be commended from both military and industrial standpoints. The Major conclud-ed his speech by saying that he was prepared to answer any question put to him with regard to further details of the scheme. Marquis Ito asked what would be the largest vessel that could be taken into the canal; the Major replied, a large ironelad of about 15,000 tons. The Suez Canal has a depth of eight metres and the warvessel Fuli was only able to pass by discharging now under consideration being nine mekes deep could be easily passed by vessels of the size of the Fuji.

> Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### ENGLAND, JAPAN AND CHINA.

<sup>a</sup>HE Japanese Representative in Peking is alleged to have submitted for approval by the Tokyo Foreign Office a "strong policy" scheme with regard to the complications now occurring in the Far East. It is by the Mainschi Shimbun that the statement has been advanced, and our contemporary supplements it by an assertion that although Baron NISHI is disposed to endorse the Peking Minister's views, no step in that sense can be taken by a Cabinet which is holding office only until its successors shall have had leisure to complete their preparations for relieving it. Baron NISHI having declared himself a thorough-going advocate of seems most unlikely that any intelligence of the kind published by the Mainichs can have emanated from the Foreign Office, and we should consequently leave the matter unnoticed were it not accompanied by an assertion that the talk of an Anglo-Japanese alliance is heard as loudly in Peking as anywhere else, and that a constant interchauge of visits is going on between the British and Japanese Representatives there. That may or may not subject. But we take the opportunity of referring to two ideas recently advanced in more than one quarter in connexion with the prospect of an alliance between England would be unwise to join hands with Japan since an understanding with Russia is quite feasible and far preferable; the second, that England has no mission to safeguard Japan's interests, and that she had better leave the Japanese to fight their own battles. These propositions appear different when thus stated, identical in the Far East. That, we think, is an entirely erroneous supposition. years has any policy been advocated in and Russia except the policy of a friendly understanding. We are not insensible to the immense difficulties standing in the ligations as Russia showed in the case of the Black Sea and in the case of Batoum, sword can ever be essential to the settleto engagements voluntarily concluded for will fully equal insistence, in the case of to Chilgin Terhaps we, who are so close to

the great purpose of averting a terrible and her interests in posse. There must be a otherwise inevitable collision. Without fair and open arena for competition with pursuing that branch of the topic, however, respect to any profits or advantages lawwe confine ourselves to noting that, as fully accruing from the development of consistent advocates of an entente between England and Russia, we can discuss the present complications without being suspected of any desire that does not make for peace. Thus much premised, we venture to call it an indisputable proposition that Japanese interests and English interests are identical in the Far-Eastern continent. Both Powers are anxious to threats. That, we take it, is a reasonable prevent any encroachment upon Chinese statement of England's position. Japan territories unless it has previously been is not less deeply concerned in securing made the subject of a common understanding. Nothing in the nature of an understanding for the partition of China is here reticence in all matters of diplomacy, it suggested, of course. To an iniquity of her that she should not be excluded from that kind no British Cabinet would put the neighbouring continent. But England its hand. What we mean is that if the is the one and only Power upon whose factors of unrest which China unfortunately seems unable to control, produce, from depend. She knows that wherever Britime to time, situations calling for armed tish sway is supreme or British influence interference by a foreign State, it should paramount, she can confidently count on be agreed that the consequences of such unrestricted ingress for her goods and on interference shall not be pushed so far as an open field for her enterprise of every to be unfairly prejudicial to the treaty kind. Russia, on the other hand, has shown rights of other States. England has very by her proceedings in Korea that what she large interests at stake in China, interests seeks is a monopoly for her own people in be true. We have no information on the in esse and interests in posse. Against any every department, and that she will reattempt on the part of another Power frain from no means of securing that end to exclude her from the markets of at the expense of either British or Japan-China, she is bound to offer strenu-ese subjects. Thus the identity of British ous resistance. Fair competition is and Japanese interests vis-d-vis Russia England and Japan. The first is that a question apart. But it is not fair seems clearly established. But that does competition, it does not begin to be fair not mean for a moment that there need be competition, when special concessions are any fighting of battles, or any abstention exacted by unwarranted exhibitions of from efforts to bring about an understandforce or by the application of diplomatic ing. The point is simply that, for the pressure which amounts to a menace, purpose of effecting an understanding, England may fairly be said to have opened | England and Japan in combination con-China to modern Europe. The Dutch stitute a much more powerful influence had access to China three centuries ago. but in reality they rest upon the same So had the Spainards and so had the to blink the fact that Russia, Germany basis, namely, the supposition that British Portuguese. But neither the Dutch, nor and France are a working coalition in the interests and Japanese interests are not the Spainards nor the Portuguese need Far East. There were some who regretted be considered in this context. The that England did not place herself in the question relates to Great Britain, France, At no time during the past seventeen Russia and Germany alone. It is extravagant to expect that England should regret any longer, now that they see the these columns with regard to England sit with folded hands while her rivals direction in which the boat has been steerseek to steal a march on her, by the aid of ed? Great Britain might have joined the devices which she can not conscientiously emulate, in a field to which she has inway of that consummation, neither can we troduced them. No Western State is in Englishman desire that his country should hide from ourselves the fact that a Power a position to take such wholesale and have been either a sleeping or an active which shows so little respect for treaty ob- immediate advantage of Chinese im- partner in the subsequent and still conpotence as England is, and there is not a tinuing scramble for compensation? At shadow of justice in the idea that her fordoes not inspire any strong wish for a bearance to turn her greatly preponderating that it is not operating in either English rapprochement. But it is not possible to strength to unlawful purposes should interests or Japanese interests must be imagine, at this period in the history of be suffered to inure to her disadvantage. patent to every one. That an explicit civilization, that the arbitrament of the She has, therefore, a plain right to insist understanding is the best, if not the only, that, except as a result consistent with the way of averting disastrous consequences, ment of international difficulties, neither recognised principles of international law, must be equally plain. England and Japan have we any right to assume that because there shall be no alienation of Chinese should unite to bring about such an under-Russia has trampled upon humiliating territory such as would in any way fetter standing. Readers of history know the engagements when she found her feet free the commercial privileges she now enjoys. kind of rocks against which Great Britain

China's resources, whether by working mines, building railways, establishing means of inland or coastwise transport, carrying on manufacturing industries, or what not. Such matters are not to be made the subject of special agreements extorted from China by armed demonstrations or by diplomatic coalitions constituting full and free access to China for her traders and manufacturers. It is, indeed, almost a question of commercial life or death to free-trade policy she can implicitly than either could exercise alone. It is idle same boat with them at the time of the Liaotung crisis. Can they entertain that union so far as it made for the preservation of China's integrity, but can any all events, the coalition is in the field, and to crush them, she would not be faithful Precisely the same position may be taken, has hurtled in the past by suffering herself the scene, will not be deemed presumptious if we say that something like a policy of drift may be laid to England's charge at present, and something unmistakably like it to Japan's.

#### GERMANY AT KIAO-CHOU.

HERE appears to be no room to doubt that Germany has asked China for a lease of Kiao-chou. Whether China has actully agreed, we do not know, but her consent may be taken for granted. In fact, from the moment when she allowed German armed forces to retain possession of portions of her territory pending a settlement of the questions at issue, it became evident that the concessions obtainable from her were to be measured simply by Germany's ambition. Had the final cession of Kiao-chou been demanded, China would doubtless have proved complaisant. In short, she has learned to count herself desenceless, and since her people are not sufficiently patriotic to hold the Government responsible for alienations of territory or other national humiliations, the statesmen in Peking seem prepared to purchase tranquillity at any cost short of their own displacement. There is, of course, a certain semblance of compromise in the idea of a lease instead of a cession. China, in the desert of her tribulation, has that one small stone beneath which to thrust her humbled head. But if we look a little closer the idea of compromise appears illusory. Germany does not proceed to the extreme point, does not demand actual cession, simply because she is not sure whether Kiao-chou will sait her purpose. She wants to make practical trial of the place's capacities and potentialities before seating herself there definitely. If Kiao-chou does not prove suitable, then a substitute is to be found for it. Such is said to be the understanding, and if we may credit it, Germany has acquired not only what she wants immediately, but also a prospective title to anything she may want bereafter.

Of course it would be quite idle to apply to the incident any of the recognised tests of international morality. Its sombre indifference to all civilized principles is not relieved by any scintilla of propriety. The Germans themselves know that thoroughly well, and are not at all likely to plead any excuse other than the exigencies of imperial progress. Had Kiao-chou been occupied in consequence of China's hesitation or reluctance to comply with Germany's demands for reparation, and had it been evacuated after the satisfaction of these demands. Germany would have merited the applause and received the thanks of all the Western communities in the Far East for her energetic and spirited action. But its nationals from her acquisition; but if the provisions of the new Civil Code. Nothing seizure in a time of peace prior to the latter, she will have to open it to the papibe more surprising than the attitude of formulation objemezdentand, a dies of

tention as a condition of settlement, constitute a line of procedure for which no precedent can be found in the pages of Nothing is yet known as to the views of civilized history. There is just one redeeming hypothesis, and we desire to make the most of it. It is that these extraordinary acts have been prompted by a resolve to inflict signal punishment upon China. During the past few years, murderous attacks upon foreign missionaries by Chinese fanatics, or mobs, or bandits or what not, have been numerous, and although a measure of reparation has invariably been sought and obtained in each case, it can not be said that foreign life and property are more secure in China now than they were on the eve of any of the cruel massacres that have so often shocked the civilized world. Wheduties that it has assumed by treaty, or whether it is indifferent to their discharge, the plain fact is that they are not discharged, and it is conceivable that, under her weakness places her at the mercy of any aggressor, her constant breaches of faith invite and justify aggression. If the Germany's method of procedure has been degree of her callousness, must now understand that her territorial integrity is and the forbearance of her Occidental chou certainly exists, and its topographical nations enjoy as a traditional feature of civilized intercourse, but must expect that every fresh outrage against foreign life or property on the part of her subjects will entail the loss of a section of her vanizing her into practical conciousness of her obligations, this very rude stroke from Germany's "mailed hand" should prominent items. The realization of such

Turning from the principles involved, tion, what does Germany intend to do at cal difference between a lease and a cesa cession of the place by treaty in 1860. But for practical purposes Germany will be virtual mistress throughout the district included in the lease, a district the exact dimensions of which are not yet publicly known but which is said to measure several square miles. Will the place be used as a mere naval station, or is it to be a

is precluded from obtaining from China any exclusive tradal privileges or facilities. the Berlin Government, but it seems quite certain that the German people, especially those resident in the Far East, regard Kiao-chou as a new centre of trade. The so-called "Kiao-chou District," stretches 60 miles from north to south and 30 miles inland, with a population of 200,000. It is not at all probable that such a great area has been leased to Germany. On the other hand, owing to the gradual silting up of the extensive bay, once a fine anchorage, the junk harbour of Kiao-chou is now 6 nautical miles from the city, in a swampy, unwholesome region, and the harbour for sea-going ships is distant 12 miles further, or 18 miles from the city. Hence, without ther the Chinese Government is really fuller particulars, it is impossible to form powerless to discharge the protective any intelligent idea of the locality or the extent of the area acquired. If it is to embrace the city of Kiao-chou and the harbour, it must be a very considerable tract; if it is to be the harbour alone, such circumstances, the German EMPEROR the concession loses much of its impormay have resolved to show China that in tance. At all events, the idea appears his opinion, she has forfeited all title to be to be that Kiao-chou, not Chefoo, is treated as a civilized State, and that, while the true centre of Shantung trade, and that the development of the new port would, in course of time, deprive Chefoo of all value. The doctrine can not be object has been to inculcate that lesson, accepted without reserve. If Kiao-chou were so manifestly superior to Chefoo it well calculated. China, whatever the is not easy to see why the former was not chosen in preference to the lattter by the British negotiators of the Treaty of 1858. a mere question of her own good conduct Still, a strong opinion in favour of Kiaofriends. She can no longer count on the advantages as one of the coastwise termini immunity from aggression that other of a system of North-China railways seems to be indisputable. There are, moreover, several important coal fields in the interior of Shantung, and in the large industrial programme inspired by the possession of Kiao-chou, we find that the tapping of realm. If any shock be capable of gal- these fields and the export of their produce over-sea as well as its carriage to Honan in the West and Peking in the north, are schemes must lie in a very distant future. but we mention them here to show that to we are confronted by the interesting quest the active-minded, enterprising German the acquisition of Kiao-chou commends Kiao-chou. There is, of course, a techni-litself chiefly because of its commercial and industrial potentialities, from which point sion. For instance, Great Britain obtained of view other nationals also may welcome a perpetual lease of Kowloon in 1850 and the event since they, too, are by treaty entitled to share the advantages.

#### LEASE AND SUPERFICIES.

UR readers will entirely endorse Dr. LÖNHOLM'S assertion that he has established a title to the gratitude of the foreign community by affording full and commercial port? If the former, Germany explicit information on the subject of the will be in a position to shut out other tenure of land by foreigners under the ede of all the Treaty Powers, since place the Japan Gazetta and the Kobe Chronicle

with regard to this question. Possibly the announces, with a semblance of quaint with them. former newspaper is now convinced of its error, but for a long time it clung with the in the controversy, but that really the to hold land so that he may be the abutmost tenacity to the idea that when the whole subject is sufficiently perplexing to Revised Treaties and the new Civil Code suggest grave doubts about the correctness go into operation, foreigners will not be of any hard and fast interpretation. That able to obtain land for building purposes is at once the silliest and the most disinfor a longer period than 25 years. It resolutely ignored every statement of the provisions of the Code put forward by beyond the range of a school-boy's comcompetent experts, and without having prehension; disingenuous, because the itself examined the Code or taken any steps to obtain independent information about the clauses relating to land tenure, it obstinately declared, again and the insufficiency of the term of land again, that 25 years was the limit, and it tenure possible to foreigners after the treated every one venturing to differ from Revised Treaties go into force, which is it as an impertinent prevaricator. The Kobe Chronicle has made an even more amusing exhibition of ignorance and mental has read Dr. LÖNHOLM'S last letter to this obtuseness. It seems to be absolutely journal with ordinary attention can labour determined not to abandon its false views. under the slightest misapprehension as It does not make the smallest attempt to to the Japanese law of land tenure which support its arguments by reference to the will be applicable to foreigners after the text of the Code, but is content to advance speculations, conjectures and jeers where an important question of legal rights is repeat the facts in the plainest language. under discussion. If either of these jour- According to the new Civil Code of Japan, nals has any genuine desire to discover there are two kinds of land tenure, apart the truth and enlighten the public, no from ownership. There is, first, tenure evidence of any such wish is betrayed by their methods. They have never heard of the kind of lease called a "superficies." There is nothing of the kind in English familiar to every one every where; the law, and consequently the two editors are either unable to understand that anything of the kind can exist in the laws of another country, or have made up their minds that lord. The law names a maximum limit whatever is not English must be radically for the duration of such leases, but their human voice. wrong and untrustworthy. The only excuse to be made for them—if it be an excuse-is that the term "superficies" does not explain itself, and that its ordinary meaning-the surface, or exterior, of a thing-gives no exact clue to its legal significance. Yet even WEBSTER is suf- the soil. The law does not fix any maxificiently explicit, for he defines "superficies" to be,

A real right consisting of a grant by a landed proprietor to another person of an area of ground for execting and building upon it, without parting with the ownership of the soil. In many respects this right hears a strong resemblance to the long building leases granted by land-holders in ling-land, in consideration of a rent, and under reservation of the ownership of the soil,

Even an ordinary dictionary like Wgg. STER'S, had these singularly obstinate journalists taken the trouble of consulting it, would have shown them that there may be provisions of law which, though not falling within the range of their own and practical. But without making any sufficiently lengthy period, perhaps . research whatever, or seeking any expert hundred years, perhaps five hundred. guidance, they have undertaken to controvert the clear expositions of a thoroughly qualified jurist, have ventured to expound a body of laws which they have frain from seeking, a superficies of fixed never even read, and have applied them- duration. But such circumstances need selves, as though of set purpose, to mislead not concern us: they are altogether ex-

exultation, that it has never taken part facts for the foreigner are that, if he wants genuous attitude of all: silly, because the the duration of such agreement are the subject does not present any features journal in question, though not actually engaging in the discussion, has been conspicuous in formulating complaints about the sole matter in dispute.

We do not imagine that any person who Revised Treaties go into force. Yet to avoid all possibility of error we may here by ordinary lease. This does not carry with it any right of property in buildings or trees. It is simply the kind of lease lease by which buildings and all other fixtures-as trees or shrubs-remain, like the land itself, the property of the landibterest for foreigners is confined to cases where the mere renting or letting of houses or other buildings is in question. The second kind of tenure is a "superficies." This carries with it a right of property in all buildings, trees or other objects above mum limit for the duration of a superficies: it leaves the period to be determined at will by the land-owner and the superficiary. But if they do not determine the period at the outset, then-and only then the law courts are empowered to fix the period subsequently, within the limits of 20 and 50 years, on application by either of the parties to the superficies. anything be simpler? Of course, if a man wants to rent land for building purposes, he will not dream of taking it under an ordinary "lease." He will obtain a "superficies," and in ninety-nine cases narrow ken, are still reasonable, logical out of every hundred, will bargain for a There are circumstances under which the land-owner might be unwilling to give, or the superficiary might have reasons to re-

The only really important solute owner of everything above its surface, he must enter into the kind of agreement called a "superficies" with the landlord, and that the sole factors limiting will of the landlord and the means at the disposal of the would-be superficiary. In short, so far as the tenure of land is concerned, no obstacle of any kind will exist to industrial enterprise by foreigners after the Revised Treaties go into operation.

#### THE DREYFUS CASE.

This extraordinary case which attracted so much attention at the time of its occurrence and which is again the talk of the hour, is certainly one of the strangest on record, facts in their original form are succinctly summarized in the following paragraph :-

The French Ministry of War was informed, by ame persons whose names have so far been kept secret, that a foreign government—the public is is not informed officially which government—had received copies of confidential documents on mitireceived copies in Contain Dieyfus was arrested upon information given by some person or persons whose identity is also kept in the background. He was tried by continuarital, his witnesses for the defense were not examined, and be was convicted upon the testimony of two out of five graphological expects who maintain that his handwriting in the same as that of an incriminating document said to have been "stolen" from the waste-paper basket of a foreign embassy by detectives. fus was publicly degraded, and sent for life to an unbealthy island on the coast of South America, where he is now kept in an immense wrought-iron cage. He is granded day and night by vetera soldiers, who are not permitted to speak to him.

The punishment is terrible to contemplate. For more than three years the unfortunate man is supposed not to have heard the sound of a That he retains his reason is wonderful, but it may be that hope supports What has now happened to re-direct attention to the affair is that Mr. Scheuren-Kestner, Vice-President of the French Senate, believing in the validity of certain proofs of Dreyfus' innocence, applied to the Minister of War to re-open the case. The Minister refused. Then a brother of Dreyfus openly accused Major Esterhazy of being the real culprit, and eight experts were found-two French, two English, two American, and two Swiss-who agreed in declaring that the incriminating document had not been written by Deyfus. Naturally the agitation grew more and more intense, and finally a new trial was ordered. But under what circumstances it was m be conducted we do not know. Apparently Dreyfus himself was not to be present at it. One almost incredible step has already been taken by the Authorities. A certain Colonel Picquart was summoned from Tunis to Paris to give evidence. He was to reach that city on the 26th of At 6.45 on the morning of the November. 23rd the police proceeded to the apartmenta occupied by him when in town, and made a minute search, carrying away a number of private letters. This step is believed to have private letters. been prompted by an anonymous communication to the War Office, saying :--" Search a bed-room on the sixth floor, No. 3, Rue Yvon-Villarceuve, and you will find a good deal on the Dreyfus affair." The search is reported to have disclosed matters injurious to the reputation of some ladies of high position. It must be remembered that no accusation had been preferred against Colonel Picquart, He was coming to Paris simply as a witness. It must also be remembered that the domiciliary visit was made in his absence and withthe public. Yet another local journal, ceptional, though a complete body of laws men such in late seems a shocking outrage. entering the arena stigling eleventh hour in contributions a method of dealing But in Paris, apparently people were UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT uncertain what to think of it. As for the Parisian newspapers, the part played by them has been miserable. They have devoted themselves chiefly to discovering motives discreditable to every person venturing to say a word on behalf of Dreyfus. If sentiment, passion and prejudice were the proper judges, the journals of the great city could not have worked more assiduously to organize the bench. Here is a paragraph conveying some idea of the general

The Libra Parole asserts that all the friends of the convicted man are either Protestants or Jews, or they have some Protestant or Jewish or at least foreign relatives. "It is a Protestant attack upon Resuce" have the pages. "The International of the Protestant attack brance, says the paper. The Intransigiant wants Schemen Kestner tried as a traitor for respaning the question. The Echa de Paris declared that Drayfing confessed, and it refused to insert a denial from Mme. Dreyfin. Domont, in the Libre Parole, exclaims: "Why does not a well-aimed bullet from one of Dreyfus's guards id us of the fellow!" The Gil Blus declares that a way of the tenow! The Git Bits dectates that a war will be the result if the finith is told. The Fournal assetts that Dieyfus's guards have been shown "the undeniable proofs of his guilt," but does not reveal what these proofs were. Esterhazy is equally attacked, merely because his name is not Brench.

Amid all this auxiety to discover motives, no journalist has indicated a motive likely to induce "a steady, home loving, rich man, married to a rich woman," to betray his country for a petty sum of money. It is not to be supposed, how-ever, that the field has been abandoned to journalism of the above type. Some eminent men have raised their voices in a manner worthy of France. M. Zola, for example, in an eloquent article, writes thus about the broad aspects of the affair and about the fierce attacks that have been made on the Vice-President of the Senate for venturing to assert Dreyfus' innocence:-

"M. Schourer-Kestner with his transparent M. Scheiter Kesteer with his transparent life is before its. Confront him with the others, those who accuse and insult him, and then judge. We must choose between them and him. Discuser any reason for his acts except his noble desire for truth and justice. Loaded with insults, heartbroken, feeling his high position tottering under him, ready to sacrifice everything to carry

under him, ready to sacrifice everything to carry out his heroic task, he is silent and waits. His attitude is of extraordinary grandeur.

"I will not say anything of the affair in itself, yet it is the simplest and clearest imaginable, if you will but take it for what it is. A judicial missake—the thing is deplorable, but always possible. Magistates make mistakes, officers may make mistakes. How is the honour of the army at stake in this? The only honourable part to play, if a mistake has been committed, is to repair it, and in this? The only honourable part to play, if a mistake has been committed, is to repair it, and blame would be incurred only by showing obstinacy, only by refusing, even in the face of decisive proofs, to acknowledge the mistake. There is at bottom no other difficulty. All will go well when the resolve is taken to acknowledge that a mistake may have been committed, and that there has been hesitation in confessing it. Those who know will understand me. As for the fear of diphomatic complications, it is a honey to frighten simplement. plications, it is a bogey to frighten simpletons. No neighborning Power has anything to do with the affair. This should be emphatically declared, We simply find ourselves before a public opinion examerated and worried by the most officus of

compaigns.
"The Press is a necessary force, and I believe, after all, that it does more good than harm, but certain journals are none the less culpable for certain journals are none the less culpable for allaming some, terrorizing others, and living on scandals in order to triple their sale. Blintic Anti-Semitium has inspired this craze. The purest and bravest date not do their duty for

should be said by all honest men mixed up in the affair; they should be unable to live unless they do justice."

Another utterance-that of Mr. Gabriel Monad—deserves to be quoted. M. Monad is one of the champions of Dreyfus and, of course, he has come in for a share of the passionate abuse meted out by the press to every one adopting such an attitude. The students of the Upper Normal School, of which he a Professor, seut to him an address of sympathy in view of these assaults, and in the course of his reply he wrote :- "It is your lot to live in times when the violence and corruption of a portion of the Press, always ready to impute the lowest motives to those who do not think like the crowd, deprive sensitive minds of all taste for public activity, force them to shut themselves up in the towers of science or in family privacy, and so produce selfishness and cowardice. shrink from assuming any responsibility from fear of attacks or calumines. You will guard against this weakness, and will form a new generation stronger than ours, in which men will have the courage of their opinions and respect for the opinions of others. be preserved for France her old name for generosity and courage."

In connexion with the Dreyfus affair it has been suggested that the abolition of military attachés would be a wise measure, on the ground that such officials are more or less precluded from neglecting any method, whatever its nature, of obtaining information for their Governments. Concerning this, the Paris correspondent of The Times writes thus:-In regard to certain Embassies it is admitted that the presence of military attachés is simply an act of international courtesy, and it is thought that their abolition would constitute a sort of breach of manners. For the nations of the Far East military attachés are in Europe of extreme utility, and I can vouch, for instance, having seen much of them, that the Japanese military attachés, without entering into any sort of mysterious schemings, have enormously into any sort contributed to the recent development of their army. England, for whom military attachés are less indispensable than for Continental nations, has, nevertheless, reaped many considerable moral advantages from them. The English attachés in Paris have been a model in bearing and discretion to the officers of all other countries, who have always shown them the greatest esteem and consideration. These are advantages which a nation appreciates, and the withdrawal of the English attachés, who do not excite the slightest distrust, would be an admitted loss for France even more than for England. The idea of such an abolition, however, in a symptom of the panic which can be created when interprets add to the avoicement of popular interprets." the excitement of popular imagination.

We invite the attention of the Japanese to this verdict about their military attachés, a verdict contrasting strongly with what was said about them some time ago in a French colony.

#### THE ASSAULT ON MR. SCHROEDER.

The case in which F. Polzien and J. Allmacher, were charged in the German Consular Court, upon various counts, with assaulting Mr. Schroeder, editor of the Eastern World, in his

#### OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Matsuoka Koki, who held the position of Vice-Minister of Home Affairs when Marquis Ito was last in office, has been gazetted again to that post. The same Gazette announces the appointment of Baron Senoda Yasukata to be Chief of Metropolitan Police, and of Mr. Sameshima Takenosuke to be Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. Mr. Sameshima used to be Private Secretary to Marquis Ito. Mr. Nakamura Motoo, hitherto Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Hirayama Natinobu, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Mr. Yamada Iken, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, are relieved from office at their own request.

#### THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

It has been announced of late that the completion of the Siberian Railway could be expected within ten years. With reference to this interesting question, the Vladivostock correspondent of *The Times* telegraphs as follows, under date of Nov. 22nd:-

I have just made the journey across Manchuria, generally along the course of the projected railway. I met engineers proceeding to their stations, escorted by a sufficient number of a med Cossacks powerfully to impress the Chinese. The work has been much retaided, and it is anticipated that another year will clapse before the preliminary surveys are completed and the route finally determined. Unprecedented floods have oblinerated the work already done between Chita and Nert-

chinsk, and its restoration will require two years.
The route at present favoured crosses the fron-tier to the south of Staro and Tsurukhaitu to Khailar, crosses the Khingan Mountains by a pass still undiscovered, descends the right bank of the Chol to Chalkhoton, goes down the west side of the Sungari to Kirin, and thence to Omoso, Niuguta, and Poltafka, avoiding difficulties by crossing the Nomi at Tsitsthar and the Sungari at Petine, also the mountains between Ninguta and Lalin,

On the route selected the difficulties are greater tan were expected. The completion of the railthan were expected. The completion of the rail-way within six years is impossible. Kirin is the chief centre of activity. Its advantages are a rich country, an abundance of coal and timber, and country, an abundance of coal and timber, and its position as regards Lushuan-kan, whither a preliminary survey is to be made. There is acti-vity also at Tsitsihar and Petune. It is under-stood that there will eventually be a branch line connecting them with Biagovestchensk. The Chinese officials are rendering every assistance.

Everything relating to this railway is of vital importance to the Far East. Its completion, should arrangements be made for carrying it to an ice free port, will materially change the situation by bringing Manchuria, and therefore China also, within the spere of Russian military potentialities. The massing of troops at Vladivostock and in its vicinity, so much talked off by newspapers in this part of the world, is comparatively unimportant. Vladivostock is not only much too remote from Manchuria, China and even Korea to be a serviceable base of operations, but its line of communications with the ultimate base lies over sea, and unless Russia were mistress of the ocean, she would be unable to throw reinforcements or stores into Viadivostock in the event of war. A base of operations that lies beyond the range of supplies of men, munitions or provi-sions would be of small use for the purposes of a great campaign. But suppose the Siberian Anti-Semitian has inspired this ciaze, the purest and bravet due out do their duty for lear of being hespattered with calumny. And we have reached such a trivible condition that all sentiments are perverted, that you cannot desire justice without being treated as imbedien or corrupt. Falseboods are paradel; the absundest stories are gravely quoted by serious newspapers; the whole nature seems sticked mad, when a fittle common sense would set matters tight. How simple will all be when the amounts will be an accurate on the case was appointed, and the propose of the case was adjourned for the defendants, had addressed the Court, the case was adjourned for incompliance of thousands of miles of country into the country not yet brought within the military sone, no massing of troops on a large volverby Polizenduring his visit to Mr. Schoeder's cale at points effective for attack could be a threaten there bas also been a desire to wait before acting till every one had probed his conscience. When he has spoken of his duty, which, even at the tisk of his high position, fortune, and happiness, had him speak out the truth as soon as he knew it, he used this admirable expression, "I could not have lived." Now this is what defendants were therefore discharged.

Digitized by TOSS Railway carried to an ice-free port in Korea, the Yellow Sea or the Gulf of Petchili—then,

#### THE BUDGET.

(Continued)-

CHAPTER IV .- PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF EXPEN-DITUEE.

The following are the most important classifications of the estimates of expenditure for the 31st fiscal year of Meiji.

FORSIGN DEPARTMENT.

1 .- Establishment of Legations.

In view of the necessity of establishing new Legations in Spain and Belgium, and Consulates at Hankow, China, and Odessa, Russia, sums of 96,777 yen in the Ordinary, and 38,000 yen in the Extraordinary Expenditure-134.777 yen-were included in the Budget for the Foreign Department.

As it was also considered necessary to establish six new Honorary Consulates in Europe and America and other places, an outlay of 2,400 yen was included in Class II. Ordinary Expenditures for the Foreign Department,

2.- Increase in Salaries of Diplomatic Officials.

The revision of the regulations for the expenditures of Legations and Consulates rendered it necessary to increase the salaries of diplomatic officers, and a sum of 249,959 yes as introduced for that purpose in Class II. Ordinary Expenditures of the Department.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

3 .- Revision of Official Organization.

Alterations having been made in the official organization of the Home Department, the Prisons and Hokkaido Bureaux were accordingly established, and changes made in official grades and numbers. A sum of 67,688 yen was accordingly set down in Class III. Ordinary Expenditure, in the estimates for the Home Department.

4 .- Police and Prison Schools.

Improvements in the management of affairs relating to police and prisons necessitated expenses amounting to 22.769 yen in the Ordiexpenses amounting to 22,709 yen in the Ordinary and 8,649 yen in the Extraordinary section, a total of 31,418 yen. This amount was included in Class XXI. Ordinary and Class X, Extraordinary Expenditure for the Home Department, 5.-Civil Administration of Cities and Prefectures and increase of Salaries of Officials

in Okinawa prefecture. The expansion of local administration of Cities and Prefectures led to an increase in the number of officials and salaries, and the sum of 354,760 yen was inserted in Class XIII, of the Ordinary Section for the Home Department.

Since Okinawa differs in its conditions from other prefectures necessity has arisen for in-creasing the salaries of officials, and for this a sum of 32,037 yen was included in Classes XIII. and XV. of the Section of Ordinary Expenditure.

#### 6 .- Examination of Medical Men and Prevention of Epidemics.

In order to complete the examination system of medical practitioners and pharmacists, it became necessary to extend the hospital attached to the Medical Examination Office in Tokyo and to establish a new one under the appervision of a similar Office in Osaka. With this object in view an estimate of 52,156 yen in the Section of Ordinary Expenditure and 54,725 pen in the Extraordinary Expenditure—a total of 106,881 pen—was included in Class XIX Ordinary and Class IV. Extraordinary Expenditure.

A Special Epidemic Inspection Bureau having been organised in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 171 of the 30th year of Meifi, a sum of 18,570 yen was required for expenses, and was accordingly inserted in Class XIII. of the Extraordinary Section of the Estimates.

#### 7.—Reclamation of Hokkaido.

An amount of 103,496 yen required by the increase of officials and their salaries in consequence of the revision of the official organization of Hokkaido was included in Class XI. of the Section of Ordinary Expenditure.

In view of the necessity for increasing the Kocho Offices and branch police stations in ed officers and first class men of the Gend various parts of Hokkaido, an outayof 17.475 amnerie Corps despatched to Furmosa in the Digitized by

en Ordinary, and 12,182 yen Extraordinary Expenditure—a total of 29,657 yen—had to be included in Class XI. Ordinary and Class IV. Extraordinary.

Works connected with roads and drainage necessitated a disbutsement of 505,340 yen, and this item was therefore set down in Class VI., Section of Extraordinary Expenditure.

To open railway traffic in Hokkaido a sum of 227,147 ren was required and was included in Class XXVI., Ordinary Expenditure, in the Estimates.

#### 8 .- Aids and Grants.

Owing to the enforcement of the Regulations for the preservation of old shrines and temples, special aids and grants became necessary, and for these a sum of 150,000 yen was inserted in Class XX. of the Section of Ordinary Expenditures.

Since the enforcement of Regulations for the prevention of epidemics necessitated an outlay of 50,790 yen for expenses in the various Cities and Prefectures became necessary. This amount was entered in Class I. of the Extraordinary Section of the Estimates.

Aids were also required for engineering works, for preventing landslips and for this purpose a sum of 70,000 yen was included in Class II. Extraordinary Expenditures.

Necessity having arisen for increasing the regular steamship services to the Ogasa islands, a vote of 10,000 yen was included in Class 1., Extraordinary Expenditure,

Necessity having also arisen for opening a regular service between Ogasawara and the more distant isles of the group, an estimate of 780 yen was included in Class I., Extraordinary Expenditures.

-Control of the election of Representatives of the Lower House.

A sum of 73,686 yen required as expenses for the control of the general election of Representatives of the Lower House was inserted in Class XI., Extraordinary Expenditures.

#### 10 .- Reconstruction of Prisons.

The reconstruction of the Hokkaido Penitentiary and its branch in Sorachi became absolutely indispensable. The cost of the work was estimated at 33,284 year, to be defrayed as continuing expenses until the 32nd year of Meiji, and the amount—20,902 yes—for the 31st year was included in Class IV. of Extraordinary Expenditures.

Owing to the limited area of cemeteries for foreigners in Hiogo prefecture, a new establishment became necessary, and a sum of 28 642 yen for this purpose was inserted in Class IV. Extraordinary Expenditure.

#### FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

11 .- Formosan Affairs Bureau,

The above Bureau having been established in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No 295 of the 30th year of Meifi, an ontlay of 25 040 year was included in Class X. of the Ex traordinary Section of the Estimates.

13 -Extension of covered places and platforms at Kohe Custom House.

As it has become necessary to extend the covered sheds, and platforms for dealing with articles of export and import, in view of the large development of trade in Kobe, the total cost of the work, 168,575 yen, was introduced as a charge to be continuously defrayed until the 32nd year of Meiji, and sum of 32,000 yen for the 31st year was included in Class III., Extraordinary Expenditures.

13 .- Revision of the System of Taxation in Oklnawa Prefecture.

In order to revise the system of land and general taxation in Okinawa, expenses amounting to 23 412 yen were included in Class II. of the Extraordinary Estimates.

#### WAR DEPARTMENT.

14.—Relief of the Gendarmerie in Formosa.

The term of service of the non-commission-

29th year of Meiji, expired during the current fiscal year, and a sum of 211,382 yes for the cost of their relief and return to their native prefectures was included in Class III., Extraordinary Expenditure.

#### 15 .- Construction of Batteries.

A sum of 487.373 yen being required for strengthening the batteries in Tsushima, the same was included as continuing expenses for four years. The first installment, for the 31st year, viz., 125,800 year, was therefore entered in Class I., Extraordinary Expenditure.

The construction of batteries for the protection of Kelung and the Pescadores requires an outlay of 457,360 yes for the former and of 456,320 yen for the latter, to be defrayed in four yearly installments. The first installments, for the 31st year, amounting to \$1,840 yen for Kelung and \$1,580 yen for the Pescadores, were included in Class I. Extraordinary Expenditure.

The batteries to be constructed in Tsu-shima, Kelung, and the Pescadores necessitated the manufacture of arms and ammunition to fit them out at a cost of 2,401,633 pen., to be de-frayed in four yearly installments, the first portion of which, for the 31st year-600,430 yen-was included in Class I, Extraordinary Expenditure.

15 .-- Repairs of Buildings and Purchase of Stores.

Along with the construction of batteries in Tsushima, Kelung and the Pescadores, the construction of barracks, as well as provision of stores, became indispensable, and the expenses for the preliminary equipment being required to the amount of \$20,191 yen, in five yearly installments, a sum of 332,001 yen for the 31st year was introduced in Class IV. Ex traordinary Expenditure.

17.-Reconstruction of Shooting Ranges for the Regiments in Tokyo.

Owing to the development of the range of firearms, bullets were often found to travel beyond the shooting ranges, causing no little damage so the neighbourhood, and the reconstruction of these ranges became a matter of absolute necessity. The gross cost of the work was estimated at 479.386 ren as continuing expenses till the 32nd year, the first installment of which, for the 31st year, was included in Class II., Extraordinary Expenditure.

## NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

18 .- Despatch of Artisans Abroad.

The necessity for despatching artisaus to foreign countries for the purpose of obtaining a practical knowledge of shipbuilding and the manufacture of arms led to an outlay of 64.453 ven being required in three yearly installments.
Of the first of these, 145,161 ven, for the 31st year, was included in Class XII., Extraordinary Expenditure.

#### 19 .- Coke Manufactory.

Since ordinary coal is unfit for direct use in military or naval purposes on account of its being smoky and soft, the establishment of a coke factory became indispensable, the estimated cost of which was 393.333 yes, to be disbursed in three successive years, and the first installment, for the 31st year, amounting to 145,168 yea, was included in Class XII., Extraordinary Expenditure.

so .- Reconstruction of No. 1 Dock, Sasebo.

Slight cracks having appeared in the cemented portion of the walls of the No. 1 Dock at Saseho Admiralty Station, defensive measures were adopted, but the crack having gradually extended to the side walls, the use of the dock had to be suspended, and radical repairs became absolutely indispensable. was estimated to cost 573.705 yen, which might be defrayed in three yearly installments. A sum of 160.500 yes, representing the 1st in-stallment for the 31st year, was therefore in-cluded in Class XIII., Extraordinary Expenditure.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

22.-Increase of Public Prosecutors and of Salaries for Clerks.

As it was found to be of paramount importance Original from

to distribute Public Prosecutors among various local Courts where such officers had not previously been appointed, and also to increase the salaries of Clerks, a sum of 273 828 yes, covering the whole expenditure, was included in Cisss II. Ordinary Expenditures.

23 .- Rebnilding of the Kobe District Court.

A sum of 296,994 yes is required for the reconstruction of the Kobe District Court, to be disbursed in four yearly installments. The first amount, 66, 162 yen, for the 31st year, was included in Class I. Extraordinary Expenditures.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

24.-Revision of Official Organization and other matters.

For the establishment of a Practical Education Bureau and Library, in accordance with the revised organization of the Department, and to carry out alterations in the personnel and in the ranks of officials, an outlay of 30.563 pen was introduced in Class I. Ordinary Expenditures,

In view of the necessity for increasing the number of teachers and officers and their salaries, for the various government schools, and of increased expenditure consequent upon the increase in the number of students in each school, a sum of 258,835 ven was inserted in Class IV. of the Ordinary Estimates.

25 .- Reconstructions of Class-rooms.

Necessity having arisen for constructing class rooms for instruction in anatomy, pathology, and medicine in the Medical Section of the Imperial University, a gross sum of 414,600 yes, to be defrayed in six yearly installments. was set down in Class r, Extraordinary Expenditure, the amount for the 31st year being fixed at 9000 yen. The construction of increased class-rooms and workshops for the Tokyo Technical School necessitated an outlay of 254,765 yen, payable in five years, the rat installment for the 31st year being 30,000 yen, which sum was inserted in Class I. Extraordinary Expenditure.

A sum of 79.915 ven, to be defrayed in three pearly installments, was useded for the esta-blishment of a shipbuilding section in the Osak4 Engineering School. The first install-Osaka Engineering School. ment for the 31st year, amounting to 15,000 yen was inserted on Class IV. Extraordinary Expenditure.

26 .- Representation of Japan at the Fourth International Zoological Conneil.

In order to despatch commissioners to the Fourth International Zoological Council to be hold at Cambridge in September of the 31st year of Meifi, expenses amounting to 7,000 year required and the sum was inserted in Class VIII. Extraordinary Expenditure,

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT. 27.-Revision of Official Organisation

The revision of the official organisation of the Agricultural and Commercial Department having led to the establishment of the Commercial, Industrial, and Marine Products Bureaux, in consequence of which alterations in official personnel and ranks became neces sary, the number of officers was increased owing to the expansion of both commercial and industrial affairs, an outlay of 45.512 yen expenses for the same was inserted in Class I., Ordinary Expenditure.

28,-Increase of Mine's Superintendence Offices.

The establishment of a new office for the above requires an outlay of 15,505 yen, and the item has been included in Class III., Ordinary Expenditures.

29 .- Inspection of Stud Sires and Silk Worm Eggs.

Owing to the promulgation of the Laws for the inspection of Stud Sires and Silk-worm Eggs, an expenditure of 114,507 was inserted in Class X. and Class XII., Ordinary Expenditures.

30 .- Encouragement of Deep Sea Fishing.

The establishment of the Law for the Incouragement of Deep Sea Fishing has necessitated a disbursement of 74,149 ven, and a vote therefor was included in Class XI., Ordinary Digitized by Google

31 .- The periodical inspection of Weights and Measures.

In order to undertake the inspection of weights and measures throughout the empire. in accordance with the Law for Weights and Measures and with Imperial Ordinance No. 116 of the 30th year of Meiji, it became necessary to make certain allowances to various local government offices. A sum of 392,070 yen for this purpose was estimated as a continuing outlay to be made till the 32nd fiscal year, the first installment, for the 31st year, be-146.720 yes, which was inserted in Class VII. Extraordinary Expenditures.

32.-Compensation for the prohibition of cutting trees in Preserved Forests.

Compensation being needed in regard to the prohibition of cutting trees in Preserved Forests, in accordance with the Forestry Law, an emimate of 4.530 yen was included in Class X., Extraordinary Expenditures.

33 .- Restoration of Government Forests in the Copper Mining District of Ashio.

The restoration of Government forests at Ashio required an outlay of 46,400 yen, which was inserted as a separate item in Class XI Extraorninary Expenditure.

34.-International Fishery Exhibition.

As commissioners are to be despatched to the above Exhibition to be held in Berlin in May of the 31st year of Mei/1, expenses to the amount of 15,632 yen are required, this sum, therefore, was inserted in Class XII. Extraordinary Expenditure.

35 .- Special Investigation of State Forests,

Expenses amounting to 45,297 yes for the investigation of the forests to be dispensed with by the Government were noted in Class XIII. Extraordinary Expenditure.

#### CHRISTMAS IN POOREST YOKOHAMA.

(CONTRIBUTED)

For this Christmas, we had to yen and some clothing contributed by kind friends of the poor; and a list of persons known to be in actual distress. Our Santa Claus spent half the money in a blanket and cotton flaunel cloth, and started. She visited first a blind man, formerly a teacher, whose wife, unused to manual labour, finds great difficulty in "keeping the wolf from the door;" their joy over the warm blanket and flannel was more than compensation for all the trouble, but she hastened on to where an old woman of seventy-nine, crippled with rheumatism, was lying in hopeless pain.

Next, to a poor, blind, old woman whose invalid son is in the charity hospital. She having no fire in her house, had started to find a warme place in the sunshine, but, having no one to lead her, had fallen and hurt her knee badly; she was suffering from the pain as well an from

the cold and hunger.

Another poor woman, not on the list, was found in the street, in very sail straits. Her husband, unable to pay his tent, had run away leaving her in delicate health and with a child of three to care for; the trate landlord refusing to let her stay longer in the house, she had left it for the streets, but a night out of doors had nearly been their death, and she was in despair.

The next was a poor widow with four children. Her husband, a jinrikisha man, had earned enough for their needs from day to day; but, in his effort to get enough shead for the extras needed in the New Year, he had run too bard; and died suddenly-of heart failure in December. She is earning six sen per day, and her little daughter of eight, three sen, embroidering bandkerchiefs.

The list included neveral others, a blind girl; an old woman descried by her grand-daughter; a scissors grinder and his wife, forced by his sickness to sell all their poor belongings; a rag-picker, whose eyesight had failed him; an old man, struggling hard to support his two old man, struggling nare to support the south British Insurance company, and an old man, helpless from theumatism—adheres to its partimilarly neat and serviceable Original from

were all remembered ; and it was worth a great deal, the acting Santa Claus declared, to bring a little joy into such poor homes. The gratitude of all, especially the poor women in the street, was almost painful; the rest of the money was spent in food and fuel; and in the

one case, in providing temporary lodgings. We feel sure that all who contributed in any way (the money was almost entirely given in the boxes kindly allowed for charity in the Grand and Club Hotels, in Nishimura's Hotel, the Station, and the Beverly House), must have found their own Christmas the sweeter for having done so; certainly we, who had the pleasure of seeing the needs and giving the gifts, voted it the very best Christmas we had.

#### CALENDARS.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Calendar for 1898 is certainly "a thing of beauty." On the face of a neutral-tinted card of spacious dimensions we have an exceedingly pretty sea-scape in a fan-shaped frame, a circular medallion enclosing pink and white cherry-petals in a blue field, and a square calendar printed in white on a coffee beau ground. The heading consists of the company's title in English and Japanese under crossed flags, and the tail-piece, to use a technical expression, is a tastefully arranged statement of the services performed by the Kaisha's steamers, 74 in number with a gross tonnage of 210,000 tons. This is certainly the prettiest and most artistic calendar among the many that we have received this year. Mr. Ogawa, of Tokyo, who is responsible for the chromo-colletype, deserves the highest credit for the technique of the work. The design, we presume, is due to some of the Company's officers.

Messrs. Bagnall & Hilles, Importers of and Contractors for all kinds of Electrical Apparatus and Machinery, have sent out a calendar which is a very pretty specimen of designing. It is in the form of a Japanese Kake-ji, or scroll picture, the calendar being at the bottom, in a frame flanked by two puppies to typify the zodiacal relation of 1898. The name and description of the Firm occupy the centre of the scroll, and in the remaining portion pictorial medallious and plum sprays are gracefully disposed. The printing and lithographing have been done at the office of the Box of Curios, and they deserve unstinted praise. The designer is evidently a Japanese artist. He seems to have been a little puzzled about the tint and dimensions of the border-always a subject of perplexity-and we are not sure that he has entirely succeeded. But perhaps such a reflection is hypercritical, At all events, the ensemble is pleasing, and one is obliged to confess that the capacities of Tokyo and Yokohama for art work of this nature are thoroughly attested by the calenders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha—spoken of above and Mesars, Bagnall and Hilles.

Although not belonging strictly to the cate-gory of calendars, Mr. S. Iida's decerative card for the New Year demands a word of com-mendation. Most, if not all, of our readers know the celebrated silk store in Kyoto called "Takashimaya," of which the proprietor is Mr. S. Iida; the store where so many beautiful ob-jects in the shape of embroideries, cut velvets, brocades and so forth are always to be seen, Mr. Iida's card, whereon, in the quaint phrase-ology from which English speaking Japanese find such difficulty in escaping, he "hopes you may have a Happy New Year and that all things may prosper to you," has for device a congeries of overlapping rectangular medallions of various sizes and various colours-red, yellow, blue, green, and white-, each enclosing an advertisement of his business, the whole set in a field of black profusely over-spread with clusters of cherry petals in silver. It is a gay and pretty conception, and we feel at ouce grateful and hopeful when we read the legend, "With many thanks for your past favours, expecting you for your future orders."

form of calendar, the characteristic feature of which is that it is made to look like a frame of solid leather supporting a block calendar in m silver case. These calendars, though the Company is kind enough to send out fresh company is kind edough to send out fresh copies every year, are, in fact, perennially useful week-days, numerals, and months being independently shiftable. The local agents are Messrs. Smith Baker & Co., and the Company, with a capital of £1,900 000, his a record of losses paid aggregating £2,982,725 since 1872.

The Calendar of the Lion Fire Insurance Company, of which the local agents are Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., is in the old familiar form, a magnificent head of the monarch of beasts overlooking a subscribed capital of £739,000.

The Royal Exchange Life, Fire and Sea Assurance Company is one of the veterans of its class. It was established in 1720, and it has paid claims totalling thirty-eight millions sterl-ing. Its funds exceed four millions sterling, ing. Its funds exceed four millions accoung, and the local agents are Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. The calendar is of simple but very tasteful design. A statue of the Queen occupies the centre, and is flanked by circular medallions, enclosing exterior and interior views of the Royal Exchange (where the Company has its offices), the medallions being framed with floral wreathes and arabesques which are led thence blended. These calendars bear eloquent testimony to the progress made in the art of decorative designing within the past twenty years.

#### VERNACULAR JOURNALS.

An interesting list of vernacular newspapers which circulate minimum aggregate of a million copies annually is given by the Japanese Statistician. A total sale of a million copies signifies a daily circulation of about three thousand four hundred. The list is this:—

NAME OF PAPER.	TOTAL ANNUAL SALES
	COPIES.
Yorozu Choko	24,458,240
Chuo Shàmbun	21.026.020
Shogyo Shimpo	14,704,355
Tokyo Asahi	
Miyaka Shimbun	10,926,077
Kokumin Shimbun	, 10,801,601
Yamato Shimbus	
Jije Shimpo	7,133,868
Hochi Shimbun	6,369,062
Yomiari Shimban	5,631,860
Nippon	5,506,957
Nichi Nichi Shimbun	5, 180,909
Meiji Shimbun	4,782,2113
Mainichi Shimbun	4,529,745
Yeiri Nippo	3,516,416
Taiyo	2,162,140
Beikyo Shimpo	2,083,499
Shonen Sekai	1,582,770
Shokyo Shimpo	1,447,533
Shōji	

The figures are in some respects surprising We can not tell how far they may be trusted.

#### EUROPEAN COALITION AGAINST ENGLAND.

Reuter sends the following to The Times from St. Petersburg, under date of Nov. 19th :--" Prince Mestchersky, managing editor of the Grashdanin, who lately visited Paris with the object of enlisting the support of French politi-cians and journalists in advocating the idea of a rapprochement between France, Russia, and Germany as directed against Great Britain, ad mits in a letter written to his newspaper that every one in Paris, without distinction of party, whom he addressed on the subject positively declined to lend countenance to any such scheme. Prince Mestchersky recognizes that his efforts have not met with a merely temporary check, and expresses his firm conviction that no rap prochement between France and Germany will be possible, even through the intermediary of

The foreign trade of Formosa, the Fiji says is increasing satisfactorily. Investigations made by the Governor-General's Office show the imports and exports from January to October last to have been as tollow :-

30th Years, soth Years, Increase, 

Thus the imports and exports for the 30th year amounted altogether to 21.812.939 other special occasions:—
yen, showing an increase of 4.832.913 yen, or Vessels of foreign style—From 10 a.m. to 4 28 per cent. over the previous year.

The increase of exports is chiefly attributable to six new ports being opened to trade, in consequence of which shipments of tice and lea have especially increased. The imports appear to have increased partly on account of the opening of the additional ports to special import and export and partly from great improvement in the export from China of cotton fabrics, pigs, kerosene oil, cut tobacco, opium, and lumber. The customs receipts have, to a certain extent, decreased, but if the import duty on opium be substructed from the amount the balance remaining, 611,748 yen, shows an increase of 111,870 yen over the previous year. The staple imports except rice and shirtings, are all on the increase, particularly Chinese cotton fabrics, pigs, cut tobacco, &c. In the staples of export a decrease is noticeable in camphor, sugar, and fruit, but rice and tea have largely increased. The export of the previous year.

The Chus states that at the meeting of practical business men held on the night of the 5th instant at the Mitsui Assembly Hall, Marquis Ito, in the course of his speech remarked :-Ever since my return from Europe last year I have been honoured with frequent invitations from the practical business community of Tokyo. But my stay in the capital having been very short, I was unable to fix a day for meeting them. It gives me great pleasure now to accept the cordial invitation of the practical business gentlemen, and to listen to their discussion of financial topics. While I was yet in retirement found the Cabinet resolved upon resignation, to my great surplies. I have in consequence received an Imperial message on the subject, and am exercising all my energy to obey it, I cannot as yet talk to you about all my thoughts and designs. Nor is it possible for me to furnish you with stories of my European trip that would prove of any interest. I have no lei sure to do this, and it is with great regret that I have to decline your request for a speech. Yet I have the plessure to say one word here in parting with Major Monzon, and request your attention to it. In my east trip to Europe in company with Prince Arisugawa, the country in which I first strived was Fisnce, from whence I proceeded to England. Returning again to France, I made a trip to lealy, Austria, and Belgium. In the course of these travels I entered thrice into France. Each time I was most hospitably treat d by the President, the Minister for Foreign Affaics, and other dis-I have also to remember that France is the centre of the fine arts and the financial administration of Europe. The Marquis then took cordial leave of Major Monzon.

The fees for apecial permission to land or ship goods, and for the special opening of the Custom House or its sub-offices in Formosa have

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS. ordinary and special days: - Vessels of foreign model - From 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. 30 yen; from 4 p.m. to 12 midnight, 90 yen; from 4 p.m. and after midnight, 190 yen; from sunrise to 10 a.m.,

Note.—This last provision, however, does not apply to cases when the House is kept open from the previous day.

Vessels of Chinese style-From sunrise to 10 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to sunset, 5 yen per hour; from sunset till sunrise, 7.50 yen.

Fees for special permission to open the Custom House or its sub-offices on holidays and

p.m., 50 ren; from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 80 ren; from 10 a.m. till III p.m., 140 ren; from 10 a.m. and after midnight, 240 pen; from sunrise

to 10 a.m., 40 yen.

Note.—This last provision does not apply to cases when the House is kept open from the

previous day.

Vessels of Chinese style. From sunrise till sunset, 7.50 yen.

The Fees for the discharge or shipment of cargo on ordinary days are calculated from sunset to sunrise, 3 yen per hour, for vessels of foreign style, and 1.50 yen for those of Chinese style. The fees on holidays are from sunset to sunrise, 2 yen per hour, for vessels of foreign style, and I yen and 1.50 yen respectively for those of Chinese style.

Since the Industrial Bank opened on August and up till the end of December, applications for loans poured in so continuously that the Bank found it impossible to comply with all demands, coins totalled 3.018.270 yen, indicating an its capital being insufficient. Great discrinicrease of 377.094 yen on the 1,641,176 mination was therefore made, only the most yen of the previous year. The import of coins trustworthy securities being accepted. Of the aggregated 5.507,486 yen, an increase of sum of 1,376.503 yen issued, 206.703 yen was 607,795. yen on the figures 4,899,690, yen for loaned to public corporations, 353,200 yen to criculturalists, and 816.600 years to desired. agriculturalists, and 816,600 yen to industrial companies. Loans which the Bank declined amounted to 2,708,888 yen, while further applications for 2.016,811 yes are still under consideration. Leans having been issued to the amount of 1,376,503 yes, the balance remaining of the paid up capital does not exceed 1,120 000 yen. Even this will be disbursed in loans within a few months, and then the Bank will be obliged to issue bonds. But there is scarcely any room for doubt, as the bonds are of 100 yen face value owing to the existing Bank regulations, that a widespread subscription is impossible. The regulations will therefore have impossible. to be revised to allow of the issue of bonds of 50 yen face value. The subscriptions for the first period will amount to two million ren, steps to of interest on loans redeemable at fixed periods will be nine per cent., and on loans payable in yearly installments eight per cent.

> According to the Jiji, the number of post offices throughout the empire (Formosa excepted) in March last year totalled 3,725; postal agencies and savings banks aggregated 551, making a total of 4 276. The average ares of each postal district extended over five square miles, comprising average populations of 9,988. Postal routes measured 12 748 rs, of which 11.769 rf represented ordinary roads and 979 rf railways, the whole distance being 14.736,139 ri.

Statistics published in the Nichi Nichi show that the amount of foreign and domestic loans tinguished personages. Nothing indeed was fine 1897 reached 638,733,500 yen, of which wanting in the way of my entertainment. I recollect, with deep gratitude, the rare hos pitality thus shown to me, and at the same time 572,582 yen. Loans to be raised during the raised from the 3rd year of Meiji (1870) till 318t fiscal year are estimated at 41,582,500 yen. and the amount to be appropriated for redemp-tion of bonds and payment of interest is 32 087,006 yen.

The scheme for the establishment of a Russo-Korean Bank was recently consummated and Russia, so long as the question of Alsace.

To House or its sub-offices in Formosa have the president is now staying in Soul to make Lorraine subsists, and this in spire of the hostility felt by a great part of the French public towards Great Britain."

The objects of the Bank, according to towards Great Britain."

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loan in Russia for the benefit of Korea; to secure the management and control of the Customs tevenue, and of all other funds coming into the Treesury.

According to the Tekyo Shimbun convertible notes issued up to the end of last year reached 220 million yen, while the issue above the legal limit aggregated a little less than 50 millions. Compared with 198 millions issued at the end of the 20th year, the amount shows an increase of 27,880,000 yen, which clearly proves how brisk the money market was in December. On the 4th instant, however, the Nippon Ginko is reported to have received a million yen in repayment of loans, and a is expected that a gradual return of funds will now take place.

According to the Toket Shuthi (Statistical Magazine) income taxes received during the past ten years were as follow:—1887, 80,383,330 yes; 1888, 80 860,755 yen; 1889, 78,881.863 yes; 1890, 81,047.372 yeu; 1891, 82,059,320 yen; 1892, 83 453.130 yen; 1893, 91,313,444 yes; 1894, 99,470,716 yen; 1895, 107,553.679 yen; 1896, 127,250.758 yen.

The foreign trade of Japan for December last as compiled by the Finance Department is as follows:—Exports in December, 16,275.762 yen; up till November, 146,859.206 yen; total, 163,134.968 yen; imports for December. 19,170.103 yen; up till November, 200,130,665 yen, tasking a total of 219,300,768 yen. The aggregate total of imports and exports for December were 35.445.865 yen, and until November 346,989,871 yen, making a total of 382,435.736 yen. The excess of imports amounted for the 30th year to 56,165,800 yen, of which 2,894.341 yen represent the figures for December, and 53,271,459 yen the total up till November. The export and import of gold and silver aggregated 19,219,163 yen and 81,465,74 yen respectively, the excess of exports in December last having reached 5,854,180 yen. The excess of imports however, amounted to 68,001,730 yen up till November, increasing to 62,247,550 yen by the end of the month.

Investigations conducted by the Bank of Japan and published in the Tokyo Keisai Zasshi give the prices of domestic staples as below:—

give the prices of domes			
De		November, D	
Daylow	1897. 260	1897	1896. 185
Bailey		227	_
Oil	245	243	204
	242	242	212
Coal	222	213	129
Matting	221	221	206
Wheel	218	205	_
Miso (bean sauce)	205	200	159
Wood	204	304	_
Leather and hides	186	184	169
Oil cake	185	185	169
Charcoal	181	180	190
Glass panes	179	179	134
Manures	159	156	141
Sugar	151	141	_
Fowls (for food)	134	129	170
Tea	127	127	120
Vegetable Wax	125	125	118
Salic	123	121	125
Silk floss	120	120	ČOI
Kerosene oil	100	100	118
Nails, imported	108	108	_
Timber	297	300	219
Dried bonito	246	257	207
Copper	202	207	190
Shirtings	200	202	100
Flour	197	198	150
Eggs	194	250	203
Iron	179	x88	174
Say	153	156	122
Cotton (spinning)	133	138	041
Saké	132	134	105
Yams, imported	126	130	113
Bleathed cotton cloth	122	123	120
Cotton yains	113	117	122
	113	115	100
Raw lacquer	102	103	102
	178	103	
Rice bran		_	159 166
Japanese cut tobacco	142	=	
Hemp			133
Average	172	174	153

(N. B.—In this calculation, prices of commodities in January of the 20th year of Meiji A (1887) are taken at 100). The appreciation and the commodities of the price of the commodities of the commodities

commodities in December last year exceeded 72 per cent, as compared with January, 1887, but a fall of 2 per cent, is noticeable as compared with the previous mouth. It may be worth while to give below the average values of commodities for each of the past ten years, and in each mouth of the 30th year:—

Avera	ge p ice.	30th year.	Averau	e price
1887	103	knuary		146
1888	107	February		147
1889	112	March		152
		April		
		May		
1892	115	Jane		150
		aly		
		August		
		September		
		"October "		
1897	161	November	46	174
1897		December	********	172

Prices last year had an upward tendency, the influences of the previous year being still powerful. Although they fell slightly in June and July, they again began to rise in August, cul minating in November. By December, however, a tendency to fall became apparent, and was regarded as a most pleasing phenomenon. Nevertheless, the volume of currency still continues to augment.

The Sun publishes the figures of rice production and the market prices during the past ten

$M_{\ell}$	riji.		Koku.		Yen.
20th	year		39 999 199		4 85
2111	13		38.645 582	******	5.01
2204	1,0	************	33 007.566	*******	7 96
2310	24	**********	43.037,809	*******	7 90
24 h	11	***********	38,123.548		7.17
25th	21	***********	41.378.955		7.09
26:h	5.0	************	37.199 663		7 96
27th	86	***********	41,865,895	*******	9 08
րֆւի	84	**********	39,878,629		9.17
291li	19	***********	36,199 771	*******	10 50

The public, says the Nichi Nichi, were disposed to attribute the present depression in the financial world to three causes—the expansion of currency, the augmentation of Government undertakings, and the boom in industrial enterprises. Different opinions were expressed and different schemes for amelioration were proposed. The number of attisants or workmen of various callings employed on continuing works undertaken by the Government is reported to aggregate 38,840.003 for the 30th fiscal year and 37.790.016 for the 31st. If the working days of each labourer are 300 per year, the amount of wages to be paid will not fall short of 18,185,136 year for the 30th year, and 16,822,761 year for the 31st.

#### HIGHWAY ROBBERY IN YOKOHAMA.

A young man named Massey, a Syrian by birth, who arrived here by the City of Peking, was set upon by a gang of Japanese lootpads in Honmura, near the bridge by the Engine and Iron Works, on Saturday afternoon, beaten insensible and robbed of \$80 in gold. It appears that the young man entered an exchange shop in Honmura Road and changed some money, of which he put \$80 in a bandkerchief in his trousers pocket, while he had \$400 more in a belt cound his waist. It seems that he was watched coming out of the exchange shop by some roughs who followed him and after he had crossed the bridge they jostled against him and then set upon him with stones, rendering the poor fellow insensible. When he came to his senses he found that the \$80 had been taken from his pocket, but the \$400 in his belt was safe. He took a jinrikisha and proceeded to report the assault and robbery to the police, but was sent from one station to another until, accompanied by Mr. Scidmore of the U.S. Consulate, he went to the Central Station, where the matter is now being investigated.

The Nagasaki Telephone Exchange, now in course of construction at Deshima, will, the Nagasaki Shimpo saya, be open to the public in a pril next.

#### KOREAN ITEMS.

There was a rumour in circulation recently to the effect that the editor of the Soul Independent found himself in danger of being deported, or, at all events, compelled to abandon the field of journalism. His "suppression" was generally believed to be an outcome of Russian influence, for the Great Northern Autocrat is not always well disposed to "pestilential penmen." The rumour had no sequel. It expired quietly, and we remain to this day uncertain about its truth. But on examining the latest numbers of the Independent, we are struck by the fact that the tone of the paper has undergone a radical change. From time to time in the past we have commented on the extraordinavy measure of liberty enjoyed by it. Scarcely an issue lacked some communication or some paragraph laying grievous accusations at official doors or recounting incidents highly unfavourable to the reputation of the Administration. Sometimes, as we took occasion to remark, the limits of wise discretion seemed to be exceeded. The correspondence columns of the paper were thrown open without restraint to persons writing anonymously from the provinces, and bringing charges of the most injurious character against local officials of high rank. That sort of thing could scarcely be suffered patiently anywhere, and everybody must have been inclined to think that freedom of speech would have had a better chance of longevity in Korea if its youth had been less lusty and self-asser-tive. Still the Independent was a most wholesome and comfortable production, entirely free, so far as the editorial department was concerned, from every trace of malice or prejudice. But suddenly, as we have said, the tone of the paper has changed. From the four numbers now before us every trace of citicism, comment or reflection unfavourable to officialdom has been expanged. The alteration may be a pare acci-dent. We hope so. But it looks very much as though the editor's lease of journalistic life had been prolonged on condition that he exchanged his fine courage of outspokenness for the bated breath of a muzzled observer. That would be indeed a pity and a misfortune;

The Japanese residents of Chemulpo have obtained permission to extend the water frontage of their settlement 175 feet sea-ward, and it is thought possible that the bund of the foreign settlement may be made to match.

Mokpo does not seem to have attracted European or American enterprise as yet, but a number of Japanese houses are in process of construction there.

We learn from the Independent that of the 70 Korean youths studying in Tokyo, 24 have been required to return to their country, and the remainder are to continue their studies at their own expense, the allowance of 15 year monthly hitherto made to them by the Korean Government being withdrawn from the end of last year.

A Korean Privy Councillor has memorialized the Emperor to make Lady Om Empress, in consideration of her virtues and of the fact that she tecently presented his Majesty with a sun. The Emperor, like Simon the Cellarer, replied, in effect, that there was no burry.

The Emperor of Korea is receiving memorials advocating the capital punishment of Kim Yunsik, who was Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ye Singo, who was Grand Master of Ceremonies, at the time of the murder of the Queen in 1895. Kim is said to have sent a despatch to the Foreign Representatives, announcing that the Queen had been deprived of her rank, and Ye is charged with having written the royal decree that reduced her to the level of a commoner. The two statesmen have been banished to Quelpart for life, but the Emperor seems uncertain whether they should not be decapitated.

will, the the public compiled rules and regulations for establishing post offices throughout the country. Important UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

districts are to have a daily delivery, and less populated places will get their letters every second or third day. The magistrate of each district is to be post-master, and the head citizens are to do duty m postal clerks. There seems to be an artistic element of arbitrariness in the whole arrangement, for the rules direct that the head citizens are to be sent to already established post-offices to learn their duties, and no account whatever is taken of the wishes of the citizens themselves.

Robberies with violence appear to be rife in the neighbourhood of Soul at present.

#### CHINESE NEWS.

A Catholic Church of exceptionally imposing dimensions was opened on the 2nd instant at a place some eight miles east of Shanghai. The exterior measurements of the building are 216 ft. by 67 ft., with a transept of 129 ft. It is in the Gothic style, and the cost of building it was supplied entirely by M. Gouraud, whose brother is missionary of the district where the Church now stands. The ceremony of dedication was performed by Mgr. Garnier.

The Korean correspondent of the  $N_c C_c$ Daile Name writes :-

Among all the Advisers employed by the Korean Government the most remarkable mobality has been Dr. Philip Jaisolm, engaged in the United States for the high post he has filled. Dr. Jaisolm a mative-born Korean, being a member of one of allest and most aristocratic families of the Korean nobility. His Korean name was Sō Jaisolm, and he was one of the four loaders of the Progressive comp in 1884, which terminated so disastronsly for Korea and alt concerned. With Kim Ot-kinn, Pak Yōng-bo, and Soh Kwampom he fled from Korea on the failure of the émente and went to America where ability of a high order and admirable plack carried him over all difficulties. Becoming a naturalised citizen of the Republic, he secured a good classical and scientific education and graduated as a physician from Johns Hopkins University and enjoyed a lucrative practice in Washington at the time of his call to his native land. Aside from his past as Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works, he has edited on behalf of the go d of Korea the well-known paper The Independent. In this paper he has fearlessly recorded the course of events, and especially has not failed to raise his voice against every deed of cruelty and oppression which came under his notice. One man who Among all the Advisers employed by the Korean voice against every deed of cruelty and appression which came under his notice. One man who came in for the leaders editor's ontspoken rebuke was Cho Pyeng-ik, who is now at the head of everything in Korea. It is now Mr. Cho's innings and as Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Cho served notice on the American Minister that as Dr. Jaischu had not been recommended for his post by the U.S. Government, Korea would dispense with his services. To this Dr. Allen replied that by the U.S. Government, Roze would adjusted that the U.S. Government never recommends its citizens to other Governments for employment (an utterance of significant bearing to view of the actions of our friend from the North), and that therefore no cause exists for the dismissal of Dr. Jaisobin. However, Dr. Jaisobin's contract having only eight years yet to run, possibly the Korean Government could induce him to resign by offering him the salacy in full for his contract. This action has rather non-phissed Mr. Clin and nothing more has been heard yet as to what they will do. I think, however, they will pay the money in order to get rid of Dr. Jaisobin, for as a Korean said to me to-night:—" Jaisobin fets in too much light on the way things are going to suit the Emperor, Speyer, or Cho."

A correspondent of the N. C. Daily News, writing from Post Arthur under date of Dec. 20th, says :-

It is not accurate to say that the Russians have taken Port Arthur. Russian ships are here, one in dock coaling, one auchored in the harbour, two anchored outside, and two at Talienwan. Three altogether have coaled here; they are encroaching little by little; at first they coaled from outside, but now they go inside and lave also anchored in the harbour. The Russian Admiral told the Chinese General here to put all the Chinese menodivar, of which there are only four. in the the Chinese General here to put all the Chinese the Chinese men-of war, of which there are only four, in the mouth of the harbour, as the Euglish were coming with a fleet to take Part Arthur; and this advice was followed. H.M.S. Daphne came in a day or two after this just to see what the Digitized by

Digitized by

Digitized by

The passage in 8 days, 0 hours and 15 minutes, baving left here on the 9th ultimo at 12.48 and to the effect that the British Consul has engaged two lawyers and that they are employed in the investigation of the administrative and police original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Russians were doing, stayed only three hours, and went away again, and there has been no other English man-of-war here until the arrival to day

of the Immortalite and Iphigenia.

of the Inmortalité and Iphigenta.

The Russians have one vessel in the dockyard here being repaired by the Chinese workmen. They are sounding all round the harbour, and putting out small marks. All telegrams they send go through the Chinese General here, but the Russian Military Attaché came here the other day in a small boat, and went back again to Chefoo; he returned yesterday by the Petoing, which called in here on purpose to land him, and he is still here, but its ofer no Russian soldiers have arrived. The Russian naval officers are very friendly with the Chinese, constantly inviting and entertaining them on board the Russian ships; but I fancy the Chinese see through this profuse contresy. If an Englishman goes on shore, he is shadowed everywhere by Russian officers. A China Merchauts' steamer called in here the other day, two of her passengers came on shore for a day, two of her passengers came on shore for a stroll; they were followed everywhere by two Russian officers until they returned on board their vessel. The Russians tried to get the Chinese General to issue an order that no Englishmen would be permitted to land here. I forgot to mention that the Russians are amount Talen. women be permitted to said need. It to got to mention that the Russians are surveying Talien-wan, with the reported intention of making that their winter anchorage, but there are no signs of their leaving here yet.

#### THE RECENT BAZAAR IN TOKYO.

We are asked to state that the sum taken at the Ladies Bezaar recently held in the Shorei-Kai Hell, Torano-non, Tokyo, in aid of the St. Hilda's Mission was 887.645 yen, the largest amount hitherto realized. The money was distributed im follows :---

The Members of St. Hilda's Mission beg to offer, through these columns, their hearty thanks in all who so kindly assisted at the Baznar.

#### SCREENS.

From a column of The Times wholly devoted to advertising the goods of the great furnishers and upholsterers, Messis. Hampton and Sons, we cut this :---

Screens, carved and inlaid mahogany, 3-fold,

We suppose that a screen which can be sold in London for 10/6 must have been purchased in Japan for not more than 2\frac{1}{2} yes. That is something to think of. A four-fold screen, covered with some kind of black silk on which a design is embreidered in gold, for 21 yen!

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Rev. Sidney Swann, formerly Chaplain of the Episcopal congregation in Kobe, has been appointed Vicar of Blackford, near Carlisle.

Commodore Dewey, the newly appointed Commander-in Chief of the American squad-ron in the Far East, hoisted his pennant on board the flagship Olympia on Jan. 3rd.

From the latest pension figures, the New York World calculates that one in every seventy of the U.S. population is now on the pension roll. "That is to say, of every fourteen families in the United States one family is partially of wholly supported by the Government.

The Pacific Mail Steamship China, on her last voyage from Yokohama to Honolulu, made

knots; 13th, 401 knots; 14th, 400 knots; 14th, 400 knots; 15th, 404 knots; 16th, 400 knots; 16th, 160 knots,-3,393. Average, 174 knots.

It is not improbable, says the N.-C. Daily News, that Mr. James B. Angell, formerly Commissioner-Plenipotentiary III China, and now U.S. Minister to Turkey, will be transferred to Peking as U.S. Minister, in place of the present nomines, Colonel Bryan.

We understand that, subject to audit, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will pay a dividend of £15/-per share, and add to Reserve Fund \$10 lacs. (one million), and carry forward to next half year \$3 lacs. The Reserve Fund will then stand at \$80 lacs. (dollars, eight million).

On Sunday morning an alarm of fire in the Settlement was raised at about 5 o'clock and the bells rang out, but upon Superintendent Morgin, with a party of firemen, proceeding to the reported scene of the outbreak-No. 202 Settlement-it was found to be a false alarm.

The official trial trip in the new Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamship Inaba Maru took place on Wednesday aftenoon, under the command of Captain Bainbridge. The steamer made three runs up and down the Bay, the average speed being 14.211 knots an hour—considerably above the maximum officially required.

In H.B.M.'s Court at Kobe, on the 11th inst., before Mr. J. Carey Hall, Consul and Judge, D. Kay, a seaman belonging to the ship Peter Iredale, was charged with refusal of duty, and Mr. Muxwell, boatswain of the ship Puritan, with absence without leave. Both men were convicted of the offence charged and sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment.

The personally of Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., who died on Nov. 2, was sworn at £8,544 tts. rd. His widow, Dame Lucy Alcock, in the executive of the will, power being reserved to grant probate also to Mr. Edward Acres Bagshawe. Sir Rutherford Alcock left all of his real and personal estate to Lady Alcock absolutely, or, in the event of her death in his lifetime, then in trust for his stepdaughter, Amy Hentietta, wife of Sir Lewis Pelly.

In connection with the death of Sir William Maxwell, Governor of the Gold Coast, it is strange to note, says the Singapore Free Press, that all three sons of the late Sir Peter Benson Maxwell, have died within a year. First Mr. R. W. Maxwell, in England, then immediately afterwards Mr. F. O. Maxwell (of Sarawak), in Japan, and now Sir William Maxwell, the last sarvivor. Sir William Maxwell leaves a widow and a family of seven sons.

A few months ago, a party of Burmese rebels, headed by a Buddhist monk, attacked the fort at Mandalay in Upper Burms, and committed murder in the insurrection, which ended in the death of their lender and several of his follow-Most of the rebels were captured. trial took place at Mandalay, last month. Judgment was delivered there on the 14th December. Out of the fourteen accused, thirteen were convicted of waging war and of murder. Twelve were sentenced to death, and one to transportation for life; one was acquitted.

The Sumatra, from Hongkong, reached London on 28th Nov. with Mrs. Carew. She was in charge of ex-Sergeant Phelps and a wardress. The convict was allowed a certain amount of freedom on the voyage, and treated as a saloon passenger, but was not allowed to speak to other passengers on board, and was, of course, kept under strict surveillance. She was in fairly good health, but was placed in a special cell in the female infirmary of Hollaway prison, where she was to remain about a week, when she was to be removed to Aylesbury Female Convict Prison.

systems with a view to postposing the operation of the new Treaties. It need scarcely be said that there is no truth in this. The paragraph having been brought to the notice of the British Consul at this port, the Chronicle has his authority for stating that it is a falsehood utterly without foundation. We (Japan Mail) should have deemed such a caused scarcely worth con-

Sir Robert Henry Meade, whose death is announced by Renter, had only recently retired from the position of Permanent Under Secretary for the Colonies, a post he had held since 1892 He was Registrar of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, being appointed in 1877. Previous in that he was an Extra-Groom-in-Waiting to the Prince of Wales. The late Under-Secre-tary was born in 1835, being a son of the third Easl of Clanwilliam.

Private advices from Hanoi, the China Mail says, state that the country round Hanoi is in a very unsettled condition. Chinese merchants from the surrounding districts are afraid of travelling to the capital, and there is a partial stoppage of trade with the provinces. Merchants will not order goods in large quantities; and appear to be waiting for the restoration of order and the reassertion of the power of the Executive. Small hands of subbers are still taiding the country, but the large predatory gange have been broken

The following paragraphs relating to Japan and Hawali appear in President McKinley's latest Message to Congress:---

latest Message to Congress:—

" the questions which have arisen between Japan and Itswaii by reason of the treatment of Japanese labourers emigrating to the island under the Hawaiian-Japanese convention of 1883 are in a satisfactory stage of actifement by negotiation. This Government has not been invited to mediate, and, on the other hand, has acught so intervention in that matter further than to evince its kindliest disposition toward such a speedy and direct adjustment by the two sovereign states interested as shall comport with equity and honour.

"It is graitifying to learn that the apprehensions at first displayed on the part of Japan leat the cessation of Hawaii's national life through amorxation might impair privileges to which Japan honourably laid claim have given place to confidence in the uprightness of this government and in the sincerity of its purpose to deal with all possible ulterior questions in the broadest spirit of friendliness.

A sad tragedy took place at Talay Baildings, Shanghai, on January 6th, when Mr. T. Eysel, the representative of Mesars. R. Telge & Co., shot himself through the head with a rifle. deceased, says the N.-C Daily News, and been peculiar in his manner for some days, and noticing that he seemed worse on the 6th inst., a gentleman connected with the firm went III consult Mr. Eysel's ductor, and on returning shortly before nine o'clock found the deceased atting in a chair in his private office, dead. Beside him was a newly discharged riffe, with which he had blown out his brains. Mr. Eysel had for some time been suffering from delusions, imagining that he had insulted people, and allowed this to prey on his mind to such an extent that it ended in his taking his life.

The Methodist General Missionary Conference Committee, which met in Philadelphia, appropriated for the work of 1898 the sum of \$1,129.910. Of this sum \$577,480 was given to foreign missions, divided as follows:—Ludia, \$129.066; Malaysia, \$9.100; Germany, \$36,-264; Switzerland, \$7.395; Norway, \$12,581; Sweden, \$16.490; Denmark, \$7,483; Finland and St. Petersburg, \$4,585; Bulgaria, \$9,000; Italy, \$40,438; South America, \$42,436; ern South America, \$28,812; Mexico, \$48,015; Africa, \$14,250; China, \$110.590; Japan, \$47,000; Koren, \$13,975. For domestic missions, \$151,876 was appropriated for non-English-speaking missions, \$7,411 for American Indians, \$283,143 for English work. To miscellaneous objects \$110,000 was devoted.

A telegram appearing in the Singapore Free Press, under date, Labuan, December 23rd, gives further particulars of Mat Salleh's latest exploits. The news runs :-- "A special expedigives further particulars of Mat Sanets states exploits. The news runs;—"A special expedition has been despatched by the British North Borneo Government against Mat Salleh, the Japanese on the advisability of suppressing the ab-Original from a nation peculiarly con the deviability of suppressing the ab-Original from a nation peculiarly con the nation peculiarly con the advisability of suppressing the ab-Original from a nation peculiarly con the advisability of suppressing the ab-Original from a nation peculiarly con the nation pecul

along with Messrs. Hewen, Percy F. Wise, and Geo. Ormesby. The force attacked Mat Salleh's jungle fort on Monday, the 13th December. The attack, which was delivered under heavy fire, proved unsuccessful, and the expedition had to retire, with serious loss. Adjutant Jones was killed during the attack, as were also six of the Sikh Military Police. Seven Sikhs were wounded. Mr. Hewett has returned, seriously ill." A telegram that appears in the N.-C. Daily News under date Singapore, Jan. 4th says: Limbawang, on the Pedas River in British North Borneo, was attacked and captured on the 29th of December, One Sikh was killed, H.M.S. Plover, Capt. de Horsey, has been dispatched to North Borneo.

There was a full attendance on Fridey evening at the first meeting of the year of the Yoko hama Literary Society at Van Schaick Hall: The programme included a pianoforte overture, one of Schubert's marches, by Mrs. Doering and Mrs. Thorn; a hoat song (Neid-Doesing and Mrs. Thorn; a hoat song (Neidlinger) by Mr. Hayward; a plano solo by Miss. Orth; two German songs, Schubert's "Unguld," and another, by Mr. Seel; two songs by Mrs. James Walter, "The Holy City" (Adems) and another; a duet for plano and violin, Grieg's sonata, by Mr. Mason and Mr. Poole; a cello solo by Mr. Schmid, and three recitations by Miss Schereschewsky—Long-fellow's "King Robert of Sicily," "The Tar Baby" (Joel C. Harris), and "Never mind Miss Lucy" (Anon). All the items were well received and applauded, several of the numbers eliciting encores. eliciting encores.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE JAPANESE "SOCIAL MORALITY" QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TAPAN MAIL"

Str. - A somewhat different phase of this subject having cropped up again in a letter and leader in this morning's Mail, will you allow me space for a few remarks bearing more especially upon the geisha subject, and its bearings upon the matters under discussion.

I can quite believe that, as stated in your leading article, the Geisha has more sides than one to her character according to circumstances, but I can also hear witness to the fact that, as you say, can also hear witness to the fact that, as you say, her performances, before a respectable audience are such as no lady need object to witness. I have had many opportunities of being present at geisha performances at the Maple Club in Tokyo; at the Miyado-Odori exhibitions at Kinto, and, even in the Ise Ondo dances at Yamada, which although given by the inmates of an establishment whose business I need not particularize, never

winds business three not particularize, never exceeded the bunneds of propriety and decourse. Would that the same could be said of the theatical and music half exhibitions of my own country! On one of my visits home! accompanied a young Japanese to a Melbourne theatre who wished to compare a foreign play with those of his own country, and as it mattered little what was the play, seeing that the greater part would be as unintelligible to him as is a Japanese play to the average foreigner, the selection was made more with the view of showing him the handsomest and most representative building in its interior decorations, than by referring to the programme for the night The play happened to be the comic opera of "Paul Jones," and whether some years 'te-idence in Japan had dulled my recollections of the ballet of comic opera I cannot say—but the I do know, that when the actrees who personated "Taul Jones" and her attendant ballet toope came on the stage shamelessly clad (or rather unclad) in about as much attire,—in addition to their flexis coloured tights, as is worn by the ordinary Japanese coolie in summer weather when pursuing his laborious work—then limbs and busts rounded by padding to the extremest point of voluptionsness,—I felt positively ashamed at having accompanied the young Japanese to such a spectacle, and could not have consequently to the contraction of the properties of help speculating on what thoughts and opinious on foreign ways must be passing through his mind, though hidden behind the impassive features of a ative of the East! Often as I had attended similar exhibitions in

the company of my own countrymen, I confess I never before felt such a keen sense of humiliation

every facility to Japanese heathen propagandists invading English-speaking countries, and inveigh-ing against the modern ballet girl, who also, like her sister in the East, plays more parts than one in the pussuit of her vocation. But let us hear in mind that when the Japanese geisha and the foreign ballet gift are alike suppressed, the jeunesse dors of both the East and the West will find their equivalents in some other way, for human nature will over be the same, so long as the world lasts. Presoning that your correspondent of the Hiogo News is a Missionary, and therefore probably an American, I would suggest to him, on his next holiday visit to his own country, to go through a course of Comic Opera at the principal cities in the States, where these plays are reproduced in precisely the same style as in England and Australia, and I think be will be more therefield than he has ever been at a Japanese find their equivalents in some other way, for human duced in precisely the same style as in cognition and Australia, and I think be will be more horrified than he has ever been at a Japanese hotel, and as I said in my last, will find plenty to occupy him at home, without going further afield.

In all probability, the missionaries who come to Japan, and express themselves so shocked at the immosalities of the Japanese, have lived in such a religious atmosphere hefore they came to this country, that the inconsistent indecencies of the amisements of Western life, as exhibited by the stage and elsewhere, have not been so forcibly brought under their notice as are the corresponding amisements of the East when they come here, and they forced that have not the corresponding amisements of the East when they come here, and aminements in the mass when they come nere, and they forget that many of the customs to which they take such exception here, have been handed down through centuries makered, while ours, of the nature referred to above, have been growing more glaring during the last few decades, in pandering to the deprayed tastes of a play-going public.

For I can remember the time when actresses playing boys' parts, as Rosalind in "As you like it," and others, and ballet dancers, never wore their skirts even as high as the knee, as may be verified from any old prints of celebrated actiesses and public danseuses of 50 years ago; whereas now, the skirts themselves have disappeared inch by such, until nothing has been left but a six inch feill; yet the foreigner looks on unshocked while railing against the modestly clothed geisha; and so long as such exhibitions are sanctioned by the consor of plays, and upheld by the patronage of a tently expect them to reform their national annexements?

While giving the missionaries every credit for being actuated by high motives in their afforts for the Japanese, the objection raised by those who take a common-sense view of the matter is that they undoubtedly do-unintentionally perhaps—(or if intentionally, as a means to an end) mislead the Japanese by concealing from them the fact that the very vices they wish them to amend, exist far more prominently in Christian cities than in their own, though practised in a different manner—thereby facilly leading them to infer that the people of Christian countries must be leading moral lives, because they profess the Christian

I have often been struck by the evident surprise I have often been struck by the exitient surprise manifested by notrawelled Japanese when spoken to of the iniquities going an in so-called Christian cities, and they have remarked, "Why, we never hear this from the missionaries—we thought all Christian people were good!" And by the Japanese that have travelled I have been told that when they shifted England. japanese that have travelled I have been told that when they visited England, or America, or wherever it might be, the same vices and crimes were as rife there as in their own country, and that for their part, they could not see much difference between the two.

Therefore I still maintain that the attempt to therefore I still maintain that the attempt to improve or after Japanese morality by the introduction of Christian doctrine and precept, will not result in anything but the failure which recent developments of Japanese scutiment and opinion are undoubtedly proving it to be, so long as these people can go almost as they are doing, with eyes to observe, early to listen, and brains where with to four indowers and or second to the second or and the second or any to the second or any to the second or and the second or any to the seco wherewith to form judgment, and can come back and tell their country-people of the great incon-sistency between Christian morality as taught by precept and the actualities of life as winessed by them in professedly Christian communities.

When the missionary propagandists can point to a single European city of ordinary dimensions that is perfectly free from the objectionable ele-ments they find in Japan—then, and not fill then, can they use it as a model for imitation by the Japanese; but mult they can do this, they are only laying themselves open to invidious crit Oriental! from a nation peculiarly competent to push such to dictate to the criticism to its extremest limit.

E. S. P.

#### LAND AND FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir, - In an article of the 5th of Jan., the Kobe Chronicls tries to refute my statement made in your paper that "a right of superficies may be acquired by foreigners not only for fifty years, but acquired by foreigners not only for fifty years, our for any term convenient to the parties concerned," but the arguments which it advances are quite untenable. Laws are generally written in such a way that a certain amount of logical reasoning is required to understand all their bearings, but for the point ed to understand all their bearings, but for me point in question the amount need only be very small, only one must not expect the Japanese to bring their laws into an English shape, especially as the English juridical system is widely different from that of all other civilised nations and appears—founded as it is on special national characteristics. to be unfit for adoption by another nation.

The first argument of the writer of the Kobe Chromicle is that "the right to make an agreement relating to a superficies rosts not on any definitive relating to a superficies rests not on any definitive provision in the Japanese law to this effect, but on the fact that there is no provision specially restricting the term." Now the Japanese law says that a right of superficies can be established by an agreement between the owner of land and any other person, and that, if the parties have not determined the time of duration, the latter is fixed on application by the Court. Is not this a definite provision? Does not the law clearly and definitely point out where the right of superficies is limited as to its duration and where not? Is there the least difference whether one says:—"If the time is not fixed by the parties, it is fixed by the Court." or: "The time may be fixed by the parties, and in case they omit to do so, by the cont."? Equally untenable is the further objection of the write that Japanese Courts might apply the provision limiting the lease to twenty apply the provision limiting the lease to twenty years to the right of superficies also. I do not admit, as the writer supposes, that a Japanese Court might take such a position "with considerable show of reason and justice," but I contend, to able show of reason and justice," but I contend, to the tentrary, that such Count could only do so by flagrantly and wilfully breaking the laws of its own country. For even a man who is not a lawyer ought to know that a special provision given in regard to one institution cannot be applied to another and offerent one. To say that the right of superficies can only be acquired for twenty years, because such time of duration has been fixed by the law for a lawyer would be the same as to have a third her face. time of duration has been fixed by the law for a lease, would be the same as to hang a third because such punishment is by law provided for a murderer. Even the place where the two rights are treated upon in the Civil Code is different, the provisions on the right of superficies being contained in the Second Book, Art. 265-269, and the provisions on lease, or better on hiring of things, in the Third Book, Art. 603-622. The Second in the Third Book, Art. 60s-622. The Second Book treats of real rights i.e. rights taking effect pook treats or rear rights. Let rights taking elect against anybody, as ownership, lier, mortgage ster, and the Third Book treats of obligations i.e. rights only taking effect between the parties as sale, donation, bire and other contracts.

Under the new law a person who has become a holder of a superficiary right may require such right to be registered in the Land Register of the Court—not of the Kencho—and by this he will be-Comt—not of the Kencho—and by this he will become the free proprietor of all the buildings standing on the land which is the object of the superficies. As such he may sell these buildings, motgage them, let them to another person, and when he dies, they will be transferred to his heirs. Of course his right ceases when the time fixed in the contract has elapsed, but even then he is not ablied to large the buildings to the assure of the the contract has stapsed, but even then he is not obliged to leave the buildings to the awner of the ground, but may dispose of them as he likes, taking them off or pulling them down, unless the owner of the ground is ready to pay him at once their full value. So it appears that the right of superfices—chijo-keu—it is a very important, nay the most important, eight for foreigners, while the lease is comparatively of much less significance. A man who wants a country-house significance. A man who wants a country-house for some summers, or wants a few rooms to live in, will make a lease; a man who wants to build a large residence, or in establish factories, warehouses, etc., will make a superficies. Thus I was not at all—as the writer kindly puts it—in a "confusion of man," when I compared the value of a lease in Large with the in Garagan. Japan with that in Germany.

I have for a long time refrained from writing again on this subject after the experience which I again in this singlet and the experience which is had with foreign newspapers last year, when I published a treatise's containing all necessary information on the future rights of foreigners, but the time of the enforcement of the treaties coming

nearer and nearer, I believed it my duty as well toward Japan, in whose service I am, as to-ward the foreign residents in this country, to put ware the foreign restaems in this country, to put an end to the more and more growing confusion of public opinion on this special point. It is in the interest of Japan, hecause no foreign capital will come in as long as foreigners believe that the will come in as long as foreigners better that the right of keeping houses, factories etc., is limited to a short period of time. It is in the interest of foreign residents, because they are hampered in their future enterprises, as long as they do not know exactly how far their rights on land will

Whatever I have said on the right of superfices in Japanese law, is not a subjective opinion on a doubtful question, but a statement of a clear and firmly established fact, which should be acknowledged as such by the foreign press, as there cannot be an earnest discussion on a matter on which I know everything and the other party nothing. I freely say that I believe myself to be entitled to a considerable deal of gratitude on the part of fo-reigners in Japan for giving them information which henceforth may be worth thousands of dollars for many a foreign firm.

DR. L. LÔNHOLM.

Tokyo, Sili January, 1898.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,-When a late correspondent in your coltimus said that the consensus of public opinion on the subject of mission work was that the time and money expended would be more beneficially employed in the home countries of the missionaries, the Rev. Mr. Garst, in reply, stated that "as matter of fact, about 97 per cent, of all money spent in Christian work is spent where it is raised, the small sum of 3 per cent, seems little enough for foreign fields for us," How does this statement of the reverend gentleman agree with a paragraph in your columns of to-day, which says that "The Methodist General Missionary Conference Committee which met in Philadelphia, appropriated for the work of 1898, the total sum of \$1,129,910, as follows:—To Foreign Missions (giving each item in detail) \$577,580; to Damestic Missions (giving also details) \$552,430; for miscellaneous objects \$110,000?

I am, Sir,

ONE WHO WANTS TO KNOW. January 8th.

#### IN THE U.S. CONSULAR COURT.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11TH.

#### J. L. MEYERS V. A. H. EMANUEL.

In the United States Consular Court before F 1. Gowey, Esq., Consul General and Judge, and Mesors. W. T. Payne, and A. L. Baguall, Associates, the case in which Joseph L. Meyers sies A. H. Emanuel for \$7,200, for alleged breach of continct, adjourned on the 21st ult., came an for bearing.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsii appeared on power of attorney for the plaintiff, and Mr. Scidmore for the defendant.

Mr. Uchiyama read the petition and answer which were as follows:—

In the Consular General Court of the United

States of America at Yokohama. Yokohama the 6th day of December A.D. 1897

Between JOSEPH L. MEYERS, of No. 41, Yokohama, Plaintiff,

A. H. EMANUEL, of No. 164, Yokohama, Defendant

To John F. Gowey, Esquire, Judge of the above Comt.

The petition of Joseph L. Meyers, the above named plaintiff, to this honomable Court showeth as follows:-
I.—The plaintiff as well as the defendant to this

petition are both American citizens and under the jurisdiction of this honourable Court.

purisdiction of this honourable Court.

Some time prior to the 7th day of July, 1897, the defendant represented to the plaintiff that he had entered into a partnership with one L. Mondan, a citizen of France, residing in Shanghai, to start a Grocery, Provision and Supply business, and made propositions to the plaintiff to enter his firm, and take charge of the shipping and Naws upplies besides making himself greater the Navy supplies, besides making himself generally

\*3.—On the 7th day of July, 1897, the defendant the Defendant had entered into partnership with E. L. Mondon, which latter and drew up an agreement setting torth the terms of the defendant denies.

3 Dr. L. Löndolm, The Japanese Civil Code. It is a superwent setting torth the terms of the defendant denies.

3 Defendant admits the statements made in the defendant admits the statement after having the third paragraph of the Plaintiff's petition.

been signed by the defendant in the name of Emmanuel, Mondon and Company, and in the presence of E. L. Mondon aforesaid, was thereupon confirmed by the plaintiff.

4.—The said agreement (a copy of which is hereto attached) was to remain in force for a period of three years, commencing from the 1st day of October, 1897, prior to which date the plaintiff was instructed to sever his connection with the firm of Carroll & Company, where he was then employed.

Carroll & Company, where he was then employed, 5.—Inmediately upon the signing of the agreement aforesaid, the plaintiff, relying thereon and in the performance on his part of the terms thereof, gave notice to Messrs Carroll # Company, and wrote to his business friends in America requesting their co-operation with the defendant's firm; and also save the defendant much perhaphs in and also gave the defendant much valuable inlormation as to the quality and stock of goods
required in Yokohama, and also agreed in endeavone to turn over to the defendant his agencies
for several American firms, such as Fleckinger's
Fenit Packing Company, the Pacific Meat Company, S. B. Hunkins, and the Walla Walla Flour
Mills, which he subsequently succeeded in doing.
At the same time, he also handed to the defendant
a private telegraphic code of the Pacific Meat
Co., which is still in the defendant's possession.
6.—On the 1st day of October, 1897, the plaintiff
entered the service of the defendant's firm, and
faithfully performed his daties therein, until he was
wrongfully dismissed from such employment by
the defendant. and also gave the defendant much valuable in-

the defendant.

-On the 13th day of October last, the plaintiff brought with him to the defendant's premises a Japanese merchant who was desirant of entera Japanese merchant who was desiruits of entering into a contract to buy soap, when one Edward Emanuel, who was in charge of the said firm during the defendant's absence at Shanghai, informed the plaintiff that before his departure for Shanghai, the defendant had instructed him to do no more business through plaintiff.

8 .- The plaintiff thereupon wrote to the defend-8.—The plaintiff the explanation of this order and atterwards from the same day until the 6th of November, 1897, when he was finally dismissed by the defendant, tendered his services to the defendant in pursuance of the said agreement.

9.—The plaintiff is ready and willing and always has been ready and willing to perform his part of said agreement, and to serve the defendant arranging the state of the said agreement, and to serve the defendant arranging the state of the said agreement, and to serve the defendant arranging the state of the said agreement, and to serve the defendant arranging the state of the said agreement, and to serve the defendant arranging the said agreement.

dant as required by the said agreement, and has tendered his services to the defendant in that behalf.

behalf.

10.—On or about the 6th of November, 1897, the defendant called upon the plaintiff and repudiated his agreement with the and plaintiff.

11.—In consequence of this the plaintiff or the 12th day of November last wrote to the defendant referring him to Article 12 of the agreement and on the strength of that Article requiring him to labout the matter to arbitistion. submit the matter to achitration.

submit the matter to arbitration.

12.—No answer being received to the above said letter the pisintiff on the 17th of November addressed himself to the Consul-General for the United States of America at Yokuhama and begged that gentleman to use his kind offices to bring about an understanding in the matter.

13.—At a meeting arranged by the said Consul-General between the plaintiff and defendant and which took place in his presence on the 22nd day of November 1897, the defendant finally re-

and women cook place in his presence on the 22nd day of November, 1897, the defendant finally refused to submit the dispute to arbitration or to come to any understanding whatsoever.

The Plaintiff therefore prays this Honourable

Court :

I .- That the defendant he decreed to perform the said agreement, according to the terms contained, or in default thereof that the defendant be decreed to pay the plaintiff 7,200 yen as com-pensation for the breach by him of the said agreement.

II .- That the defendant may be ordered to pay the costs of these proceedings and that the plain-tiff may have such further or other colief as the nature of the case may require and as to this Honourable Court may seem fit.

In the Court of the Consulate-General of the United States of America at Yokohama, Japan, the Ninth day of December, 1897.

between

Joseph L. Meyers, of No. 41, Yokohama, Plaintiff,

A. H. Emanuel, of 16t, Yokohama, Defendant,
The answer of the above named Defendant ec-

spectfully shows :- 1.-Defendant admits the statements contained

Defendant admits the statements contained in the first paragraph of the Plaintiff's Petition.
 Defendant admits the statements contained in the second paragraph of the plaintiff's petition, with the exception that the Defendant had entered into partnership with E. L. Mondon, which latter that part the Defendant that Defendant is the Defendant of the partnership with E. L.

4.-In answer to the fourth paragraph of the Plaintiff's petition the Defendant says:—That the agreement between the said Plaintiff and the said Defendant-copy of which is attached to the said petition-was only to take effect, as therein said petition—was only to take effect, as therein stated, upon the drawing up of a proper contract by Mr. Scidmore before the 1st October, 1897. That the Defendant did not instruct the Plaint ff to sever his connection with the firm of Carroll

5.—In answer to the fifth paragraph of the Plaintiff's petition Defendant says that he has no Plaintiff's petition Defendant says that he has no knowledge of the Plaintiff having given notice to Carroll & Co., as therein stated. Defendant believes that the Plaintiff wrote to his business friends in America as stated in the said paragraph. But Defendant denies that the said Plaintiff furnished him, the Defendant, with any valuable information as to the quality and stock of goodsrequired in Yokolama. And the Defendant denies that the Plaintiff turned over to him the denies that the Plaintiff turned over to him the agencies of the firms mentioned in said paragraph. But the Defendant admits having received from the Plaintiff a private telegraph code of the Pacific Meat Company, which the Defendant still

6.—The Defendant denies the allegations con-tained in the sixth paragraph of the Plaintiff's

7.- The Defendant has no knowledge of the truth of the statement contained in the seventh paragraph of the Plaintiff's petition, and, there-

fore, denies the same.

8.—In answer to the eighth paragraph of the Plantiff's petition the Defendant says that he admits receiving a letter from the Plaintiff of the nature of the letter mentioned in the said para-graph; but that the Plaintiff was not dismissed by the Defendant, for the reason that the Defendant had never perfected an engagement of the services of the said Plaintiff.

The Defendant denies the statement co tained in the ninth paragraph of the Plaintiff's petition,
10.—The Defendant denies the statement

contained in the tenth paragraph of the Plaintiff's petition.

II. -The Defendant admits the statement con-

12.—The Defendant admits the statements contained in the twelfift paragraph of the Plaintiff's Petition.

to the thicteenth graph the Defendant says that he attended the meeting, on the 22nd day of November 1897, before the Consul General, and was then disposed before the Constit General, and was then disposed to obtain an amicable settlement with the Plaintiff; but that the demands then and there made by the Plaintiff were so unreasonable that the Defendant could not acceed to them, and, therefore, withdrew, with the impression that the Con-sul-General was not disposed to give a decision as to the merits of the case. And the Defendant had the impression that the Plant II bad the intention to force him, the Defendant, to arbitrate the dispute in question before some person other than

dispute in question before some person other than the Consul-Greneral.

14.—And for further answer the Defendant says that the Plaintiff has not performed his obligations and duties under the terms of the said letter of the 7th July, 1897; and that the said Plaintiff has since the 1st of October, 1897, engaged in private business on his own account in competition with the said Paris. tion with the business of the Defendant, and has placed orders for goods with firms in Yokobama in violation of the letter and spirit of the said document. It was understood between the Plaindocument. It was understood between the Plaintiff and the Defendant at the time of making the said agreement, that the Defendant was about to enter into a partnership with Mr. E. L. Mondon, and that until the said partnership was fully confirmed the said agreement was to be held in a hey-ance. Such partnership has not yet been confirmed and the Plaintiff has received from the Defendant due notice of the fact. On the 2nd September 1897 the Plaintiff wrote to the Defendant in these 1897 the Plaintiff wrote to the Defendant in these words:—"I do not think that you want me in your business. If you wish it we will break the contract. From what you said I think you are sorry you went into it." On the 24th of Sept. 1897 the Plaintiff wrote to the Defendant in these words:—"Think you had better write me a letter and call the contract off and oblige." On the said 24th of September, in an interview between the said Plaintiff and the said Defendant in was agreed that the

said petition of the said Plaintiff be dismissed

Mr. Uchiyama then opened the case for plaintiff, relating the circumstances of the negotiations between the defendant and plaintiff which led to the contract between the two parties and the occurrences which followed the execution of the agreement, and then called the following evidence :

Joseph L. Meyers, the plaintiff, examined by Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—I havebeen a resident of Yakohama off and on for 29 years, and have been connected with the firms of Langfelt & Co., Yokohama and Kobe, Stobey & Co. and Meyers & Co., Yokohama. Shortly before the signing of the agreement with defendant I had some convention with him short a large agreement with defendant I had some convention with him short a large agreement. sation with him about a large grocery, ship-chandsation with tim, about a large grocery, ship-chandlery and liquor business he was going to start with Mr. Mondon, who was going to put in \$60,000 in goods, and \$15,000 in cash. He was himself to nut in \$25,000 in goods, and a bank overdaft of \$25,000. Mr. Thorn recommended me to go into the agreement saying that Mr. Mondon had a good business in Shangbai and was a good business good business in Shangbai and was a good business man. I would not have entered into any agreement unless Mr. Mondon was going to be in the firm. I was afterwards introduced to Mr. Mondon by Mr. Emanuel. They both told me they were going to enter into a partnership. In July I confirmed an agreement with Messrs. Emanuel and Mondon. The agreement was that produced (Exhibit 8, dated July 7th). The agreement was sent to me for perusal. A postscript was added at my request and the agreement was signed by Mr. Emanuel in Mr. Mondon's and my presence. Before that Mr. Mondon's and my presence. Before that Mr. Mondon's and bjected to the terms in the postscript for \$200 living expenses to be paid the postscript for \$200 living expenses to be paid the postscript for \$200 living expenses to be paid to me. Mr. Emannel held up a letter which he said was an agreement, between himself and Mr. Mondon. There was a lot of conversation about my severing my connection with Carroll & Co. I informed both Mr. Mondon and defendant that there was a remnant of goods at Mesars Carroll & Co.'s, on which I should get a portion of the profit when they were sold. I told Mr. Emanuel I would like to sell these goods before ordering any more of the same class of goods from America. more of the same class of goods from America. I offered the stock to Emannel, Mondon & Co., to take over. They did not accept the offer. There was nothing mentioned as to the amount that should be paid in by me as a sign of good faith under clause 11 of the agreement. I was to have 25 per cent, of the profits but not to share any losses. The \$200 a month was to be a guaranteed amount for thinks agreement. losses. I'm gao a monto was to be a guaranteed amount for fiving expenses. Immediately after the signing of the agreement I assisted both Mr. Emanuel and Mr. Mondon in making out their list of orders. Then Mr. Emanuel left for America. of orders. Then Mr. Emanuel left for America. In consequence of the agreement I gave notice of severance of my connection with Messes. Carroll Co. on the 1st Sept. to take effect on Oct. 1st. I had been with Messes. Carroll & Co. over two years. They financed my hasness and Inda one half the profits. It was a verbal agreement. When Mr. Emanuel left I wrote to all my agencies and informed them I had gone with Emanuel, Mondon & Co. asking them to continue their hasiness with me. I also asked Mr. Emanuel to call Mondon & Co. asking them to continue their linsiness with me. I also asked Mr. Emanuel to call on them while in America. I went to work for Emanuel & Co. on the 1st Oct., having left Carroll & Co. at the end of September. Mr. Emanuel had returned in September. During that mouth I wrote to Mr. Emanuel offering to cancel the agreement. I received no written cancel the agreement. I received no written answer but on the 24th Sept. there was a meeting at which I asked Mr. Emanuel to cancel the agreement, but he declined to let me off. My reason for desiring to caucel the contact was that I did not like the way things were going on. I had left my desk and office furnitine at Carroll & Co.'s as I had no office in defendant's premises but I went to the latter every day to do my business. Mr. Emanuel gave me as list of the goods he had brought from America, with prices, and I started soliciting business on same. I made several sales in Yokoliama and Tokyo. Mr. Emanuel told me he had wired Mr. Mondon to the effect that he was coming to Shanghai and Mr. Mondon wired back that if Mr. Emanuel did so, he, Mr. Mondon would go to Peking. Mr. Emanuel threatened to fix Mr. Mondon, I saw treuble ahead as the bank had shut down on Mr. Emanuel altered as the bank had shut down on Mr. Emanuel ment, but he declined to let me off. My reason ahead as the bank had shut down on Mr. Emagoods or money, and Mr. Emanuel appeared to be going crazy. There was a question as to Mr. Emanuel's travelling expenses to America. In November I received a letter from the Pacific ance notification generate with Mr. B. M. Mondon should be completed. These arrangements have not yet been completed. The Plaintiff has never furnished any security as contemplated in the said agreement, and the account of the said security has never been settled.

Wherefore the said Defendant prays that the Digitized by TOOS

November I received a letter from the Pacific Ment Company referred to Mr. Emanuel having written them about the agency. Emanuel having written them about the agency strip with one of the gentlemen, and then told me to return the samples.

Hunga Usaburo, examined—I am a dealer in the event of the firm failing to carry out the agreement. I did only written them are not converted to the said security has never been settled.

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no business on my own account after entering into the agreement with Emanuel, except in the case of the small remnant of goods at Carroll & Co.'s in which I was interested. On Oct. 13th I took a merchant, Mr. Montin of Tokyo, to Emanuel, Mondon & Co.'s to buy some goods. Mr. Edward Emanuel was then in charge, and he took me aside and told me he could take no orders through me, as his brother had left instructions with him to have nothing to do with me.

At this stage an adjournment was made for tiffin.

tiffin.

Upon the Court reassembling at 2 p.m. the examination of the plaintiff was continued:

I have never received any commission from the Pacific Meat Company on goods ordered for Emanuel, Mondon & Co. After the occurrence on Oct. 13th with Mr. Edward Emanuel I wrote to Messra. Emanuel, Mondon & Co. on the 13th Oct. on the subject. (Letter read and put in.) I got a receipt for the letter, signed E.E. and stated that the letter would be forwarded to Shanghai to Mr. A. H. Emanuel, as the firm of Emanuel, Mondon & H. Emanuel, as the firm of Emanuel, Mondon & the office as before and saw defendant when he returned from Shanghai. He told me to wait a tittle as he expected Mr. Mondon by the next boat. I wrote again on the 5th Nov., asking for a settle-I wrote again on the 5th Nov., asking for a settle-ment of account. I had received \$50 on account of October's salary. On the 6th Nov. I received a October's salary. On the 6th Nov. I received a letter from Mr. Emanuel, the only written reply I had received to my letters. In this letter defended renavment of the \$50 which he dant requested repayment of the \$50 which he referred to as a loan. In reply I denied having received any loan, but only \$50 on account of October's salary and expressed a wish to have the relations between us submitted to arbitration.

Cross-examined—I have no employment now. My business address is Carroll & Co., No 41. Since the 1st of October I have done a little meaning the control of the set of October I have done a little meaning the set of October I have done as the set

Since the 1st of October I have done a little melp Mr. Roberts to dispose of some of the remants of goods formerly referred to. One day I took a gentleman who wanted to hay some carpets, to Messes, Lane, Crawford & Co. I sold some of the goods from Carroll & Co., in which had an interest, to Mr. Pope. They were fruits. Emanuel & Co., had no fruits at that time. They had some on the way, but none landed, I sold some things to the Grand Hotel in December, for Carroll & Co. I have done no business with Ginsburg & Co. I have done no business with Ginsburg & Co. I have done no business with Ginsburg & Co. I have done no business with Ginsburg & Co. I have done no business with Ginsburg & Co. I have done no theo who are the agents of the Pacific Meat Co. in Yokolama now. It is pretty mixed. On the 9th Oct. I wrote to the Pacific Meat Co. but I am not sure whether I told them that I had not left Carroll & whether I told them that I had not left Carroll & Ca., though on the 1st Oct. I wrote telling them that affectly left them. I knew on the 7th July that acticles of partnership were to be drawn up between Mr. Emanuel and Mr. Mondon. I do not know whether such a contact was drawn up. You, Mr. Scidmore, told me you were going to draw up both contracts and that my letter of tract. Afterwards from the way Mr. Emanuel and Mr. Mondon acted I came to the conclusion that the contract would not be carried out. I never asked to have the amount of the sum I was to deposit fixed. There was no getting any explanation or arrangement from either Mondon, who was in Shanghai, or Emanuel, who was running about crazy. I remember Mr. Emanuel coming to my office and showing me a letter he said he had received from the Pacific Meat Co., he said he had received from the Pacific Meat Co., and saying he could do for me now. Another time he saw me at Carroll \(\bigcup \cdot \color \) for and called out to me "You—tricky—", immediately after running up the steps of Mr. Roth's office opposite.

Re-examined—The goods sold to the Grand Hotel and Club Hotel have been sold since the beginning of December. Of course I expect a commission on the sales.

To the Court-I sold a lot of groceries for Emanuel after October 1st. Mr. Emanuel paid me the \$50 on the 30th Sept. or 1st Oct., by

Mori Zengi, examined-I reside in Tokyo, Miori Zengi, examined—I reside in Tokyo, Ginza No. 1, and am a wholesale druggist. have known Mr. Meyers for about three years, Towards the end of Sept. or beginning of Oct. Mr. Meyers came to me soliciting trade for a from at No. 164, the name I forget. He showed me a sample of voap and left it at my house. Later on in Oct. I accompanied him to No. 164, with the idea of doing business. It was about the middle of Oct. I have two other foreign gentlement at No. 164. While I was there Mr. Meyers asked me to wait a little while, and he had some conver-

of doing business with him. About the end of September or beginning of Oct, Mr. Meyers told me of a change in his business arrangements. He told me he had changed from his formen firm and told me no list changed from his former than and had joined Rusaued & Co. and asked me to flour tinue my custom through him in the new firm. I did some business with Emanuel & Co. in October through Mr. Meyers. The hills for goods supplied from 1st Oct. to 1st Nov. amounted to \$125.

Cross-examined—I have paid a portion of the hills referred to.

bills referred to.

Kokawa Kitchitaro, examined, deposedhead clerk at the Nitso house. I have known Mr. Meyers for a long white. Towards the end of September or beginning of October Mr. Meyers told me he had joined the firm of Emanuel Co., and solicited business from me on their account, showing me their price list. After Oct.

through Mr. Meyers. Cross-examined--I only became buyer for the Niisa from about the middle of October last.

was banto before that.

Edward V. Thom examined—I am editor of the Box of Curios. I remember speaking to the plaintiff about the firm of Emanuel, Mondon and Co. I think I first told Mr. Meyers that Mr. Emanuel was going to form a partnership with Mr. Moudan and I advised him to apply for a position. I spoke to Mr. Emanuel about it. At first to be appeared to be averse to engaging, Mr. Meyers, but later on Mr. Emmunel said they night give him a position. I was not informed by Mr. Emanuel after his return from Asserica that the firm was after his return from America that the firm was formed. Mr. Homonuch instructed me to insert the advertisement in the Box of Curio of 2nd October. It was also by the instructions of Mr. Emanuel that the same advertisement under the name of Emanuel, Mondon & Co. was omitted in the next issue of the paper on 9th Oct.

Cross-examined—I was not, so far as I remember, instructed before the 2nd Oct. to remove the advt. It might have remained in by inadvertence, if it was the second insertion it ought to have

If it was the second insection it ought to have been left out. I concenber some talk about Mr.

been left out. I tensember some talk about Mr. Meyer's threatening to throw up his contract.

Beauchamp Roberts, examined—My firm is that of Carroll & Co., No. 41. Mr. Meyers was partner in the ship chandlery business of the firm for two and a half years. He received half the profits of of the goods he sold. It was a verbal contract, which was continued after my father's death. I which was continued after my father's death, I should have continued the contract had not Mr. Meyers asked me to cancel it. This was about the 1st September, and II was to be cancelled on October 1st. He left my from or the latter date and there were some goods in our firm at that time is which Mr. Meyers had an interest. Whenever these goods were sold from time to time Mr. Mayers would be entitled to his share of the profits. Mr. Meyers did not order any more of the same goods. After September 30th Mr. Meyers was not in any way concerned in our business except so far as the small remnants of stock were concerned. He kept a desk in a room in our premises but not in our office. He asked our permission, giving as his crasm that there was no room for his desk in Mr. Emanuel's place.

Couse examined—M. Meyers is not now in our employ. He has a desk in a separate toom, not in our office. He has sold some goods for us

recently.

recently.

Re-examined—Our firm are agents for the Pacific Meat Co. I believe Mr. Meyers got the agency for us. I have never been informed that the agency has been taken away and given to any anyone else.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned till 1 30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 12th instant.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12TH.

Alfred Henry Emanuel, the defendant, examined by Mr. Scidmore-We, Emanuel, Mondon & Ca., unade a provisional agreement that if the firm ever came into existence we should have drawn up a legal document with regard to the agreement with Mr. Meyers. We should then require a cash security from Mr. Meyrs, if the firm came into security from Mr. Meyers, if the frim came into existence. Mr. Meyers came to me, I believe, at the request of Mr. Thorn. He told me be knew all about the business and he thought be could so we out frim. To the first interview I opposed the engagement of Mr. Meyers and in the first instance should have required cash security. No partnership was ever consummated between Mr. Mondon and myself. No details for drawing up a deed of partnership between Mr. Mondon and myself, or an

told Mr. Scidmore I was rather put out that Mr. Mondon had not arrived in Yokohama to form the partnership with myself. At the time of drawing the contract with Mr. Meyers on the 7th July I told him I the firm of Brianuel, Mondon & Co. should come into existence the letter between us was only the outlines of a contract supposing the proposed firm should come into existence. I informproposed tim should come into existence. Informed Mr. Meyers right along of the true standing of affairs between Mr. Mondon and myself. On the 24th Sept. I had an interview with Mr. Meyers at the Grand Hotel, after receiving two letters from him asking me to cancel the agreement. Mr. Meyers referred to his letters requesting me to cancel the contract. I replied that as no ong me to cancer the contract. I replied that as no contract had ever been made these was no mecassity to discuss the point. He then asked how about Mr. Mondon, and I replied that nothing was settled about the pattership yet. He said if I was in a fix he would help me to sell the goods and I thanked him and told him I would give him buff profits a new notes he could obtain him half profits on any orders he could obtain for me. On the 30th Sept., I think, Mr. Meyers came to me and told me he had drawn \$150 through the Chartesed Bank on Mr. Mondon, and that the dealt had come back protested. He asked me to lend him enough money to clear himself with the Bank, but I told him I could not do so, but I he pane, but 1 to 10 the 1 could not do so, but 1 hearted him \$50. The money has not been repaid. Mr. Meyers went to Tokyo to sell some goods on half profits as agreed, and in the end of October, opon my refusing to pay him \$250 he said that onless I paid him he would join Mr. Pope. With the exception of goods sold to one customer to the extent of about \$250 hy Mr. Nevers, all the others were of about \$50 by Mr. Neyers, all the others were former customers of mine and my boy could have sold them as easily as Mr. Meyers. To giving Mr. Meyers credit for his half share of profits on sales Mayers credit for his half share of profits on sales he affected for me, including my own customers, his share would be in the neighbourhood of \$18. With regard to the advertisement in the Box of Curios I told Mr. Thorn to put in soything he liked, and I told him before the \$1.0 Cr. to take out the advertisement. He did not do so till after the 2nd. Mr. Meyers did not give me any substitute information me. walushle information as to goods required in Yokohama, nor make any arrangements as to the transfer of agencies. Praintif never entered my emplay. The only reason why I was disposed to come to some arrangement with the plaintiff was that I did not care to have my name licked with his in public. I havehad no difficulty in obtaining what accommodation I wanted from the Bank. Upon my return from Shanghai, about the 28th Oct., Mr. Meyers offered to work for me on salary and to find two securites. I declined his ı ffer.

Cross-examined-The agreement with Mr. Mey ers was understood to be pendant that partnership between myself and Mr. Mondon. There was nothing inserted in the agreement to that effect, because the letter was the outline of a that effect because the letter was the outline of a contract to be made only should the fluit go into existence. I signed it "moconditionally," I should required at least \$25,000 security from Mr. Meyers before taking him into our employ. The amount Ushauld was to be decided on my return from the United States. The agreement was only an outline of a contract to be made; the signature of Emanuel, Mondon & Co. was a facsimile of the signature to signed if the firm came into existence.

Mr. Uchiyama-As a merchant do you consider you are entitled to sign the name of a firm which does not exist? -- I can sign any name I like for

Mr. Uchiyama-I will leave that answer to the

Witness, continuing—I do not know whether Mr. Meyers would have had to give notice before leaving his former employ. My experience is that any one on monthly service out here goes and comes as he likes. Mr. Meyers got a loan of \$50 from me on Sept. 30th. He was to work it out in commissions. I did not think it necessary to in commissions. I did not think it necessary to get an I. O. Us from him for the amount. I cannot remember whether there were any witnesses present when Mr. Meyers offered to furnish two securities if I engaged him in my employ. With regard to the clause in the agreement regarding arbitration in the event of any dispute occurring it was intended to apply only when the legal contract was drawn up after the partnership was concluded. concluded.

Mr. Scidmore briefly addressed the Court for the defence, confining his arguments principally to the question of the damages and relief claimed partnership between Mr. Mondon and myself, m an agreement between Mr. Meyers and the firm were supplied by me to Mr. Scidmore as proposed, the arrangement between myself and Mr. Mondon never that in the damages he was alleged to have sustained, traving been completed. Between the 7th July and Oct. 1st, I had bever alimiter views with Mr. Scidmore dated 7th July and to the terms mentioned therewith regard to negotiations between Mr. Mondon and myself, and with regard to Mr. Meyers.

sent came into force, and on this point quoted. Chitty on Contracts " and other authorities.

Mi. Uchiyama, in summing up for the plaintiff, authmitted that it was unnecessary that a document should be drawn up by a lawyer to make it binding, provided the intention was proved, in which case even a verbal agreement was perfectly valid. In the present instance it was clear that defendant had understood that an agreement defendant had understood that no agreement had been arrived at and that plaintiff was to give notice to leave his former amploy to enter upon the new engagement. If was also clear from the wording of and the signature to the contract, which was effected in the presence of Mr. Mondon as well as plaintiff and defendant, that at that time at least there was an understandthat at that time at least there was an understanding of pattnership between Mondon and Emanuel, Abr. Emanuel had also at the same time held up a letter which he told plaintiff was an agreement of partnership between himself and Mr. Mondon, If no such pattnership was believed in at the time, a forgery was committed by the signature of the name of the firm which Mr. Meyers was induced to believe actually existed. There was no clause whatever in the agreement to the effect that it was morely a conditional contract, and there was nothing to show that it was ever intended to be conditional until the trouble occurred in September between Emanuel and Mondon. As laxe as the 23 d September defendant had refused to release plain-September defendant had refused to release plaint of from his agreement, and the same day had written to the Pacific Meat Company stating that Mr. Meyers was in his employ. With regard in the claim made by plaintiff, 7,200 yen, it was my the rate of \$200 per month, the minimum he was m receive for the three years of the contract. It was not usual in such cases to grant the whole of the claim put in, and plaintiff left it to the Court to decide what in, and plaintifi left it to the Court to decide what compensation he was fairly entitled to. Plaintiff had resigned a position in which he was getting a comfortable living on the representations of defendant, and was still out of employment. In conclusion, Mr. Uchiyama referred to defendantly statement that he would have required security of \$25,000 from plaintiff before taking him into his employment. This statement was on the face of it simply idiculous. Defendant knew very well that plaintiff was not in a position to pay down such a sum, and it could never reasonably have been expected from a salesman in the employ of the firm. the firm.

His Honour reserved judgment till 3 p.m. on Thursday.

#### JUDGMENT FOR PLAINTIFF

In the above case, adjourned from the 12th insta-judgment was given on Thursday afternoon by F. Gowey, E-q., Consul-General and Judge, as

This action is brought to recover damages from the defendant, A. H. Emanuel, for the alleged breach of a Cartain contract entered into on the 7th day of July, 1897, by and between the plain-tiff, Joseph L. Meyers and said defendant und a the name of Emanuel, Mondon and Company. By the terms and conditions of this agreement

plaintiff was on the 1st day of October, 1897, to plaintiff was on the 1st day of October, 1897, to enter the service of said Emanuel, Mondon and Company for a period of three years, to take charge of the goocety and slipping supply part of the business and devote himself to the interests of the bisiness and devote binness to the interests of said first in general. As may ment for such service he was to have 25 per cent, of the net profits and to be allowed to draw \$200 year per month of said profits for living expenses.

Plaintiff avers that pursuant to this agreement

Plaintiff avers that pursuant to this agreement he severed his business relations with another firm and upon the 1st of October last entered upon his term of service and the discharge of his duties under said contract and has ever since and date held himself ready and willing to do and perform his part as therein agreed by him; that on the 6th day of November, 1897, the defendant finally discharged plaintiff turn his service and refused to longer employ him, repudiating and agreement and declining to be bound by it.

The defendant avers that the contract referred to was simply a memorandum of an agreement

The defendant avers that the contract referred to was simply a memorandom of an agreement and was to take effect upon the drawing up of a proper contract and execution of the same before the 1st of October, 1897, and was to be field in ab-yance until a certain contemplated co-partnership with one E. L. Mondon was fully entered into and consummated; and that as such co-partnership was never parfected. was never perfected, the amount of the money de-posit plaintiff was to make as security for his good faith was never agreed upon, and said proper confaith was never agreed upon, and said proper con-tract never draws up and executed, plaintiff was never in the service of the defendant and con-sequently never dismissed from his employ, z.—The evidence submitted does not clearly

sustain the contention of either party. It shows

in our opinion, the following state of facts:
That at the time the contract referred to Original from

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was entered into, plaintiff was in the employ of Carroll & Company, and in consequence of said agreement severed his relations with them and entered upon the discharge of his duties in the service of defendant on the 1st of October, 1897, and continued to present himself at defendant's place of business and to tender his services until on or about the 5th day of November last, when he ceased to so present himself and offer service, for the reason that for some days prior thereto defendant and his agent had refused to recognise him, and defendant had on said last date sent him a letter demanding the return of \$50, alleged to have been loaned to plaintiff, and threatening legal proceedings in the event of was entered into, plaintiff was in the employ threatening legal proceedings in the event of the same not being paid at once.

2.—That at the time said contract was entered into (7th July 1897) and up to about the 15th of October thereafter, the defendant expected and believed that one E. I. Mondon would become his cu partner in the grocery and ship-chandlery business, and up to that date he had declined and activated activities. paymers, and up to that the man decimed and refused to consider plaintiff a sepeated requests to have their agreement caucelled, and not until defendant became fully satisfied that his proposed partnership with said Mondon could not be consummated, did he decide that plaintiff was not in his

employ.

3.—Admitting the delendant's contention that 3.—Admitting the delendant's contention that the contract and upon was a simple outline or memorandum of the terms of an agreement thereafter to be draws up and entered into by the patties, the facts are that by reason of delendant's representation and actions plaintiff was induced to leave and surrender a business he was engaged in with a reputable firm, in order to enter defendant's employ, and that in consequences thereof he has been without nrin, in order to enter defendant's employ, and that in consequence thereof he has been without employment since the first of October last, and has been damaged thereby. Taking into consideration the sum of 50 yen heretofore paid by defendant to plaintiff, we assess the plaintiff damage in the sum of 650 yen.

Independ its tendered in favour of the plaintiff and against the damage to the role of 500 year.

and against the defendant for the sum of 650 yen and the costs of this proceeding taxed to him.

(Signed) JOHN F. GOWEY, Consul-General, Acting Judicially, We concur. WM. T. PAYNE, A. L. BAGNALL, We concur. Associates.

After the judgment had been delivered defend ant's Counsel gave notice of appeal,

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.") THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST GERMAN DEMANDS AND CHINESE CONCESSIONS.

London, Jan. 6. According to official intelligence from Berlin, Germany has obtained the lease of Kiao-chou together with several square miles of territory, with liberty to erect buildings and construct defences, China ceding all sovereighty to the territory in question. The proviso is further allowed, that if Kiao-chou be found unsuitable, Germany is to be free to select another port, subject to China's appproval. Shanghai, Jan. 6.

The Chinese Government has acquiesced in Germany's occupying Kiao chou for the term of ninety-nine years, and the Emperor's sanction to it has already been obtained.

Following the example set by Germany, Russia has preferred a demand to China for a similar concession as to Talien-wan and Port Arthur.

FRESH LOAN PROPOSALS TO ENGLAND.

Fresh proposals have been made to the British Government to assist China to contract a new loan, and the Government is now considering the same. The Times in aleading article declares that Great Britain entertains no design of joining in any partition of China, but aims at preserving the Chinese Empire as a vast field for the

assistance being lent to China in view of the commercial advantages accruing from such a course, and cites the Suez Canal as a precedent.

London, Jan. 11. There is a growing impression here that the Government's intention is to lend the money direct to China, defraying the sum by the issue of consols, which course Parliament would be asked to ratify.

THE GERMAN CHINA SQUADRON

Prince Henry of Prussia, in command of the German China Squadron, has arrived at Port Said.

#### MARRIAGE OF PRINCE VICTOR DHULEEP SINGH.

Prince Victor Dhuleep Singh was married to-day to Anne, daughter of the Earl of Coventry.

#### ENGLAND v. AUSTRALIA.

In a test match played between Stod-dart's team and a Melbourne eleven, the Stoddarts were all out for 316, the Australians winning by an innings and 55 runs.

#### AN ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

It is rumoured here that Great Britain in combination with Japan has requested Russia to withdraw her troops from Korea, and to guarantee the independence of the Peninsular Kingdom on the guarantee of Great Britain, Japan, and Russia.

#### FRENCH OPINION

London, Jan. 7.

The French press regard the cession of Kiao-chou as a fair reward to Germany for securing the retrocession of the Liaotung peninsula by Japan.

#### REPORTED LOAN ISSUE IN LONDON.

It is rumoured on the Stock Exchange that a Chinese 3 per cent. Loan has been issued at 110.

#### THE PLAGUE IN BOMBAY. TERRIBLE MORTALITY.

One hundred and five deaths from plague occurred in Bombay during the last 48

London, Jan. 10.

There is a serious recrudescence of the plague at Bombay.

#### DEATH OF A BRITISH GENERAL.

The death is announced of General eatman Biggs. He succumbed illness brought on by the hardships of the Chitral campaign.

THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST. THE CESSION OF KIAO-CHOU.

London, Jan. 8. The Times is informed that the lease of that a branch of the German Asiatic to depositors or representatives. Bank will be established there.

London, Jan. 10. The French cruiser Duguay Trouin has been ordered to China.

[The Duguay Trouin is a second class cruiser of a displacement of 3,593 metric tons. Her length

#### RUSSIAN LOAN DECLINED.

A telegram has been received from Peking stating that China has refused to negotiate a Russian loan,

#### CANADIAN OFFERS OF HELP,

presses itself in favour of British financial event of trouble in the Far East.

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

BRITISH MILITARY ACTIVITY.

Brigadier-General Gatacre proceeds to Egypt in command of a brigade of British troops for the Soudan.

A force of 400 camel corps and 400 camp followers has arrived at Kassala from Suakim in fourteen days. A regular post has been established between Suakim, Berber, and Kassala.

London, Jan. 10. The Nile force is being hurriedly pushed to the front, and the Lincolnshire Regiment has started a week earlier than was arranged. The army operations comprise a force of 18,000 Egyptians and the Nile flotilia. Three more British battalions will be formed if necessary, with General Sir Herbert Kitchener in chief command. The Dervishes continue massing in the neighbourhood of Shendy and Matammeh, and much activity prevails at Omdurman.

The Times states that Khartoum is the present objective of the Soudan expedition, but the advance will be continued beyond, as far as may be judged necessary.

#### WHY RUSSIA'S PROPOSALS COLLAPSED.

It is stated that the Russian proposals collapsed because the German financiers refused their help unless the loan were constituted an international one.

#### FREE SILVER IN THE UNITED STATES.

There are numerous indications of the spread of the free silver agitation in the United States. The Democrats and Populists are united on the question, but the Republicans are divided.

### SERIOUS NEWS FROM UGANDA.

News has reached the coast of fresh serious fighting with the mutineers in Uganda. Lieut. MacDonald, brother of Major MacDonald, and the missionary, Mr. Pilkington, were killed. Troops are hurrying to the front.

DEATH OF SIR ROBERT MEADE.

The death is announced of Sir Robert Meade.

#### BRITISH INDIA.

#### A FINANCIAL MEASURE.

London, Jan. 12.

Tenders are invited for the 17th inst, for £1,000,000 India Bills for exchange, and a like amount in Bills payable on the 22nd. The Times believes that the Indian Government contemplates an arrangement with the Bank of England, whereby the Bank accepts deposits in gold, holding the same for Government account as security for an issue of notes to be made Kiao-chou is for a term of 99 years, and by the Indian paper currency department

> (Received by the Jiji). THE TERM OF THE LEASE.

Peking, Jan. 11. According to what Earl Li has informed Mr. Yano, the Japanese Minister to China, in 1877, at a cost of £132,116 Speed 15.9 knots, complement 311.] circles here is that the term is ninety-nine

#### DEFENCE WORKS AT KIAO-CHOU.

Peking, Jan. 11.

The negotiation to lease Kiao-chou having been satisfactorily arranged, Ger-Offers of services are being received many is going, it is said, to begin at once extension of trade. The Times further ex- at the Canadian Militia Department in the the defensive works at the mouth of the Bay.

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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THE GERMAN-CHINESE NEGOTIATIONS.

Peking, January 9.

The Chinese Government has acquiesced in the following points in regard to the Kiao-chou negotiation, viz., to lease Kiaochou to Germany for the term of fifty years at a certain rent, to pay 200,000 taels on account of building a church, and damages not exceeding 10,000 taels each to the survivors of those that were murdered by the bandits. As to redeeming the cost which Germany has incurred on account of dispatching the warships to Kiao-chou no arrangement seems to have been made. The question relating to the concession for laying railways in Shantung will be reported on subsequently.

THE TERM OF THE LEASE.

Peking, Jan. 11.
The report previously published to the effect that Earl Li had informed the Japanese Representative in China that the term of lease of Kiao-chou was for fifty years, is proved to have been groundless.

RAILWAY AND MINING CONCESSIONS.

Peking, Jan. 12.

Germany has obtained the concession to construct railways between Kiao-chow and Che-nan-pho and to work mines situated within 3 Chinese miles along both sides of the route.

(PROK JAPANESS PAPIRE.) RESIGNATION OF BARON NOGI.

Taipeh, December 31.
Govenor General Baron Nogi has again tendered his resignation and the Governor-General's Office is now in great confusion.

FIRE AT A COAL MINE.

Sapporo, January 6.
At dawn resterday the Yuhari colliery caught fire and a cottage attached to the mine was des-troyed. Though the flames intruded into the mine, the pit having been closed, the extent of the damage was small. The cause of the fire is not yet ascertained.

RINDERPEST STAMPED OUT.

Nagasaki, Jaumary 7 Rinderpest, which has been very prevalent here for a long time past, is now stamped out. THE SPINNING INDUSTRY.

Osaka, January Quotations for yarn for January 13.

Quotations for yarn for January delivery are .89.50 yen; for February delivery 90 20 yen; and for March delivery 91 yen. Export goods are being quoted at about 92 yen, though no transactions have yet taken place for delivery to China. Business prospects have considerably revived of late.

Osaka, January 13. The Osaka Cotton Spinning Company declared a dividend of 7 per cent, per annum at its general meeting held yesterday.

ARREST OF USURERS.

Kofu, Jan. 13. Ten or more usurers of this town have been arrested, and panic now prevails among their associates.

FUNDS FOR WEL-HAI-WEL

Ujina, Jan. 12. War funds to the amount of yen 101,500 despatched by the steamer Hino Maru to Wei-

down walls are being covered with clean new paper. Among our sailors, who are busy at the unaccustomed work, are shoals of Chinese work-men. As soon as the flouring of the nom is made good the sloves are set up and then the furnitare is brought in, and the whole is like a big ant-heap; and yet there is order and system, and and yet there is order and system, and it is wonderful to see the dirty sheds of the Chinese converted into respectable dwellings for Europeans. The largest building is what was previously the yamén of the Chinese General, an extensive mass of buildings in which the German administration is taking up its official abode. Through the door, painted with fearful mythical animals, leads into the hall, on the side of which are the guard-houses; after this a courty and in which the Commandatur is being installed, with extensive Commandateur is being installed, with extensive tooms for the Commander and contribute suc-buildings for the staff. The further court has been taken possession of by the Admiral in the same way. The pamén also furnishes room for the tele-graph staff, and a big hall has been opened as the graph staff, and a big hall has been opened as the Chinese office, with endless rooms for servants, washermen, and private dwellings for the general officers. Beyond, the hospital is being arranged, and, beyond this again, more contryards and gardens adoned with trees and fancy Chinese gardens. Although the buildings me arranged on a magnificent scale, yet decay is everywhere wisible. The mass of dirt is indescribable, and all this has to be carried out of the yaméns before Europeans date to make use of them. How very different is the theat of Chinese cleanliness from what Europeans expect to see under oriental magnificence! As to confurt it does not exist at all. Chinese officials live in hyuses which a German family would not even place their servants in. Rooms for the attendants are holes such as we would not stall our cows in. In the many villages in the neighbourhood which the many villages in the neighbourhood which I visited we were generally shown into the Hall of Ancestors, the whole familiare of which consists of a shaky table, a beach, and three or turn coffins piled one above the other. As to the private dwellings they are still worse off. As forme private themings they as and was our.

Coffins were used as backs for the hard seats whenever we had occasion to sit down. As some as the
dwellings have been conpentered and planked and
furnished with stoves the greatest discomfort will
have been removed, and the warm and comfort will
rooms be pleasant to look upon. Everything that rooms be pleasant to look upon. Everything that could be done has been done with the small means at command. The scenes that have taken place in the transformation of these buildings will be among the happiest temembrances of our camping in a foreign land. Notwithstanding the unfavour-able conditions the service goes its usual come; everybody does his best.

I remember going into the Eastern Camp, in

Tremember going into the Eastern Camp, in which the medical staff have their dwellings. The building was divided into three parts by two mind walls. On the right lived the physicians; on the left the official in charge who has the Unioese histores under his care. In the middle there was a small staff which occupied the greater part of the space. There was scarcely room for the physician to spread out his instruments. As I arrived the sick were conviting into the middle chamber. One was having his foot bound, another was having a wound in the bond attended to a another was having a known in tempera me taken by other was having a wound in the bond altended to; another was having his tempera ince taken by the doctor. Here was a Chinese official in charge, with the elder of the village. The physician was doing his work to undisturbed activity, and the Chinese took everything so quietly you might have thought that this had been going on for ever.

In a former letter I described the journey to Chino, which is the hardsomest town within the limits of our occupation, but the largest and must important town is Koan chon itself. The circuit of Chino word Kinocchon consists of two dependent

Chimo and Kan-chou consists of two dependent districts within one administration. The one condistricts within on animistration. The one contains some 1,000 villages and towns, and the other about 1,50. Several expeditions have already been sent in these places. The Admiral paid his visit to Riao-chou, of which the following is an account :-

Since the occupation of Ki in those Bay by the ships of the German squadron, the occupying to doops have been quartered in a Chinese camp at Taingtan at the moment is a scene of great activity. At the carpenters from the mensod was have been commanded to put the yamén and the forts in habitable condition. Beginning every morning at eight o'clock, carpenters plumbers, and workness of every kind go on until dack, and even late into the night. Papershangers and men working at the floors are busy. The broken-Since the occupation of Kim chon Bay by the

ceedingly faulty pilots. However, as the water rose the boat drawing the most water was able m rose the boat drawing the most water was able in proceed. In the how stood a sailor taking soundings, calling out the depth is we went along. "It mete," which made no rather nervous, as we knew the boat drew 1.2 metre. The pitotcame in for a few curses, which he fortunately could not understand. However, as the water rose so our spirits rose, and the voyage proceeded in the new deep and clear bed of the river up to Tahitao, past oumerous fishing boats, whose occupants looked on with asionished faces on the white boats and the peculiarly armed squadron. About midday we reached this place and landed. This was not easy on the muddy shore, but after half annot easy on the muddy shore, but after half an-hom's struggle the troops to the number of 250 men were landed and set in motion. A great men were landed and set in motion. A great crowd assembled in the village, who seemed only incited by curiosity.

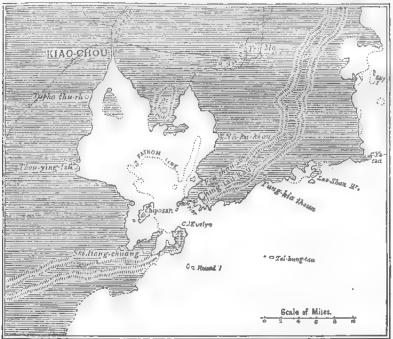
Taintao is a Customs station and during the shipping season from March to December is a very bisy place, the chief export being cabbage. Immunerable wheelbarrows packed high with cabbages and drawn by an oxor a mule were dragged over the rough streets which converge from every direction on the village. As soon as our proclamation was posted on the Customs station the proclamation was posted on the Customs statum the march in Kiao-clion was proceeded with, which was by no means pleasant, owing to the custom coads. We must give the Chinese credit for perseverance worthy of a better cause for the way they get their wheelbarrows over these abominable roads. A few small villages were passed, and at three o'clock the grey walls of the city of Kiao-chou came in sight. After a short journey over a road purely Chinese and bence cancely passable, the head of the marching column reached the gate of the marching column reached the gate and took possession of it without the slightest resistance. No signs of suddiers were apparent, and the population made a most peaceable impres-sion. After proclamations had been posted at the gate numerous readers crowded round, and the better informed read the contents to the more gate influenced read the contents to the most ignorant. Then our men proceeded to the city temple, which was taken possession of for the night's rest of our troops. Then the Almiral and Commandant made their call on the magistrate, which he immediately returned. The temple was very spacious and our men soon made themselves comfortable in it. The floor was covered with steaw mais and blankets taken out of our travelling bags. As it began to get bittely cold, hig five were burnt in each contravel, to keep up which everything combatilities was seized upon—everything that was not nailed too night to be too down. There sat our sailors round the bonfires eating their evening meal of bread, butter, and couned beef, and all seemed to enjoy themselves intatensely. A priest was soon dug up and ordered to keep hot tea going all night, which was a great comfort for our men. These pressant camp fires were the centre of groups of officers, non-commissioned efficers and the crackling fires and taking over the events of groups of officers, non-commissioned efficers and the crew, all at their ease among each other round the crackling fires and talking over the events of the expedition. Then a soldiers' song was song, in which all joined. Among the foreigners a long white-hearded priest moved round with his jug of hot tea, and accepted the chaff of the intruders with great complacency. At last the songs died down; a few groups still talked on, and then each down; a rew gamps sitt an action, and the action of the next day's work. The temple courly and were still, and nothing was heard but the steps of the sentries, who had charge of the different entrances, and nothing distincted the still startight high but their calls. To the outer court there stond the gnard, smoking and talking around the watch fices.

gnand, sinking and talking around the watch lies.
At six o'clock on the following morning we were
awakened by the reveillé of the bugles. Not a few
of us had sluvered during the coldnight, and glasses of furties telexed must offened limbs. Wheelbarrows had been hired for the transport of the
baggage to Tafotan. With the noise of durins and
fifes we then marched out of the low, with the war flag in front, which had waved formerly over the temple roofs. Here and therea brown Chinese face gazed at us out of a balf open door, called out by the unaccustomed sound of dram and fife. Other-wise the place lay in the deepest quiet. We found the magistrate again awaiting us at the city, and upon him the Admiral impressed the rules that be upon him the Admiral impressed the rules that he was to carry out. Then once more into the fine, fresh, smary maining. Our sailors struck the a joyful march and in quick time we went back to Tafutao, which the expedition reached at eleven o'clack in the morning. Being law water we had again to make a lorg junney over the sticky mad. Then the men were slopped on board and within the dead descended the river and so back to the ships. The symaments were taken off the boars; the outlong were raised; and once more the old the anchors were raised; and once more the old anchorage of Psingtao was taken possession of.

Tsingtan, 22nd December, 1807.



### KIAO-CHOU.



The Bay of Kiao-chan is a large natural harbour on the Southern Coast of the Shantung peninsula, and one of the best sheltered in Eastern China. Its local name in Chin-chu-fu. It has considerable advantages as well as disadvantages. While it possesses every other qualification for a valuable maritime station, it is unfortunately not always open. In the winter season it is usually frozen over, and the inhabitants say that the ice is then firm enough to walk across from Potato Island, at the north part of the bay, to Chi-po-so within the entrance. While the harbour is good, the country round about offers few attractions either to the traveller or the trader. It is barren in the extreme, and the dry, parched soil has a most uninviting appearance. The head of the bay consists of almost level land, about 180 feet high, faced by extensive mud flats, which lie out nearly three miles from and the dry, parched soil has a most uninviting appearance. The head of the bay consists of almost level land, about 180 feet high, faced by extensive mud flats, which lie out nearly three miles from the slove. The city which gives its name to the bay, Kinochou or Glue city, the local name of which is Chin-chu fu; stands at the north west front of the western arm of the bay, about eight miles above the opening of small river, where stands the Ta-pu-tur village, with Custom House. At one time Kinochon was the principal emperium in the east of Shantung. Twenty-eight miles eastward is another town, Ter-mei-hien, or Black link city. Both these towns have lost their commercial importance, owing to the gradual silting up of the Bay.—(Daily Graphic).

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Cursa Kniths

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

side.
The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Chib).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 352. WILLER 1-B to Q · q 2-Kt to H 7, ch I-K to B 4 1-K to K 3 3-R to K 4, mate 1-K to Q 4 2-B to Kt 3 3-R to B 5, mate 3-Kt to B 7, mate if 2-Any other t-Kt o B 3 2-K to B 4 2-Kt to B 7, ch 3-Kt to K 7, mate 1-Kt to Kt 4 (or R or 2-K to Q4 [P moves 2-B to Kt 4. ch 2-K to Q4 [F 3-Kt to Kt 6, mate Correct solutions received from W P.B.F.S., J.W.E., D.D., Skak and Voila. received from W.H.S.,

PROBLEM No. 354-By HLINBNY.



White to play and mate in three-proves. Digitized by Google

## CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNEY. YOKOHAMA CHBSS CLUB.

This Tourney, although announced to start at the end of January, has already begun, the Secretary having obtained all available entites early in the week. There are several absenters, we regret to say, several gentlemen who we expected to find among the contestants being infortunately prevented from playing this year. Still the list includes several of our best local players and we includes several of our best local players and we may expect to see some good games played. The following are the entries:—Messes. Fox. Friedlander, Hodges, Mendelson, Pollack, Tennant, Thomas and Capt, Weitbach. On Monday night lots were drawn in determine the order of play and the following were matched against each other in the first round:—

Friedlander v. Thomas. Weilbach v. Tennant. Fox v. Mendelson. Pollak v. Hodges.

Pollak v. Hodges. Weithach v. Tennant.

Each match is three wins first, draws not counting, the losers to drop out and the winners to play off in a second and finally in a third round. The first round (four couples playing) is to be finished by 28th February; the second round (two couples) by 31st March; and third round (one couple) by 30th April. We understand that the conditions for this Tourney will be strictly enforced and all games, from whatever cause, unfinished at the time indicated will be scored a loss to the defaulting party. But it is to be hoped that no occasion ing party. But it is to be hoped that no occasion will arise to enforce this penalty, as it would more

or less spoil the Tourney.
On Thursday afternoon Pollak met Hodges in a well contested game, and the former won after a brave struggle on the part of his opponent. At the same time Thomas suffered defeat from Fried lander. These are the only games finished so far; but Monday next should see all eight chempionship players a work, and we hope those members whose presence at the Club rooms we have missed for a long while, will show a renewed interest by coming up, even if it is only for a 4-look-

SINGAPORE.

The following is one of the games played in the Counditation Tournament now going on at the Singapore Chess Club, with notes from the Singapore pore Free Press :-

GAME No. 353. QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

White-Messra McIntyre and Craig.	Black-Messes, Chittenden and Masbergen.
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK-
and Craig.	and Masbergen.
17 R QK1sq P B4	36 P queeus RxQ
18 P B4 QR B sq	37 RxR and Black ulti-
19 P KKt4! BPaP	mately resigned.

NOTES.

(a) Kt to ■ 3 would be better here.

(b) A cisky attack on the Kt P, but White overhooks the obvious reply Q to Kt 5, threatening d. ch. B takes Q, though leading possibly to a dull game, or P takes Kt would be safer.

(c) Black has now a far superior development.

(d) Q to R 6 would gain a paws.

(e) Best.

(e) Best.
(f) If Q takes R mate speedily follows.
(g) The losing move, Q to B 3 would have left Black with a safe game.

(h) Black cannot now save the game.

#### Norss.

Black Bishop writes under date of 30th December:—"To-night at 8:30 at the Hongkung Hotel as many class players as choose to gather will have an opportunity of playing Mr. Souza or Mr. Hendley. Probably each of these will take a dozen opponents. Mr. Souza held the championship of the Colony for nearly a year, and Mr. Hendley is well known as a rapid and brilliant player." We hope the Y. C. C. will be able to give a similar treat to local Chess players before the close of the season. the close of the season.

An American Chess player on a recent journey through Europe writes as follows: - Much apathy prevailed in London chess circles during the proprevailed in London criess circles ouring the pro-gress of the recent Berlin touriney, as most of the players were in Germany at the time. I can against Mr. Bird, Mr. Lee and Mr. Van Viet, who were to be found every day at Simpson's Divan, the place which has been the head-quarters of cless for the past 150 years, and where the cless nen and hoards that Morphy and ready all the great players of the world have played with during that time are still to be found and seen by

wisters.

= Paris is not much of a class centre at present, and has not been for many years, Germany and England, if not America, taking the lead. At the Café de la Regance I did not see = prominent player. This café has been the head-quarters of player. This case has been the head-quarters of chess for the past hundred years or more, and at one time was the chess centre of the world. It refer to the days of La Boundinais, St. Amant, etc. It is not a chess club, simply a case; the recognized resort of chess-players where you call for hoards and chess-men, far which use a nominal sum is charged in addition to an order for coffee, wine, or hundred. There is one large room, beautifully freezoed, with the ornamentation entirely suggestive of chess. The ceiling represents the squares of a chess board, pieces and pawns, and the names of the greatest chess-players, both ancient and modern, are tastefully in evidence everywhere and modern, are tastefully in evidence everywhere upon the walls of the room-"

The cliess championship of Australia has been won by Mr. J. L. Jacobsen (challenger) from Mr. W. Ciane, jr. (the challenger), by six games to oil. Mr. W. H. Jones, of Sydney, intends to challenge the winner.

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

F. B. Walker, American Barque, 2,105, J. B. Wallace, 8th Jan.,—New York, 26 h June, Kensene Oil.—Standard Oil Co. Rosella, British steamer, 2,139, F. N. Tillard, 8th Jan.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 7th Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.N. Co. Jan., Malls and General. -- O. & O. S.N. Co. Mount Tabor, British steamer, 1,404, Jamson, 9th Jan., -- Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 7th Jan., General. -- Simon Evers & Co. Original from

Tacoma, British steamer, 2,662, Dixon, 9th Jan., Tacoma Wash, via Victoria B.C., 20th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co. Mails and General,—Dodweit Castill & Co.
Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harris,
10th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 8th
Jan., General,—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Hector, British steamer, 2,826, J. Bass, 1oth Jan.,
Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 9th Jan., General.—Butter field Swire.

eral.—Butterfield Maine.

Hanseat, Norwegian steamer, 2,177, Hamre, toth
Jan.,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, 30th
Sept., General.—Frazar & Co.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 10th
Jan.,—Australia via Hongkong, 4th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yarra, Freuch steamer, 2,084, Le Coispellier, 12th
Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kohe 11th Jan.

Yarra, Prench steamer, 2,004, Le Coispenier, 12th Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 11th Jan., Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Ca. Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, W. H. Wright, 13th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 12th Jan., General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Jan., General.—Bodwell Cartill & Co.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, Hull, 14th Jan.,
—London via ports, and Kobe 13th Jan., General.—Jarding Mathenon & Co.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, R. R. Pearce, 14th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe 13th Jan.

General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Amazone, German barque, 1,339; Morisso, 14th Jan., -- Caosaw, South Carolina, 20th July, Phosphate. -- Mitsui Bussau Kaisha.

Finospitate.—PRISSUE DUNSON RAISHON.
Senta, German steamer, 2,660, R. Voss, 14th Jan.,
—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 7th Jan.,
General.—Simon Evers & Cu.

Matsushima Kan (28), Japanese steel coast defence vessel, 5,400, Capt. R. Sawa, 13th Jan., -- Yoko-

#### DEPARTURES.

Brasmar, British steamer, 1,876, Edward Porter, 8th Jan.,—Victoria B.C. and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell Catlill & Co., Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 8th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Helane Richmers, German steamer, 2,255, Brandstetter, 8th Jan.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

ports, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,717, Geo. Dulling, 8th Jat.,—New York viz ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dudwell Cardill & Co.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellew, 9th Jan.,
—London via ports, Mads and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Laos, French steamer, 2,200, Flandin, 9th Jan.,— Marseilles via ports, Mails & General.—M. M.

Jan., Butterfield & Swire.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, W. Thompsen, 16th Jan,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Phra Nang. Butish steamer, 1,021, W. H. Walton, 10th Jan,—Hakodale, Ballast.—Butterfield

and Swire.

Wong Koi, Bilish steamer, 1,115, C. Stonban,
10th Jan., Mororan, Ballast. Butterfield &

Swire.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, A. Dixon, 11th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.
—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Emilie, German ship, 1,738, C. Oltmann, 11th Jan.,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—R. Isaaco

& B.o.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, S.

Kawamuco, 11th Jan., — Bombay via ports,
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loh Sang, British steamer, 979, W. G. G. Leask,
12th Jan., — Mororan, Ballast.—Jardine Mathe-

son & Co.

Andania, British steamer, 1,827, D. L. Mills, 14th
Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Pass of Leny, British barque, 1,278, S. Vint, 15th
Jan.,—Kobe, Nitrate of Soda.—C. Thes & Co.

### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Tacoma, from Tacoma Washington vis Victoria B.C.:—For Korea:—Mr. W. H. Holmes, in cabin. For Manila:—Mr. O. F. Williams, in cabin. For Calcuta:—Mr. W. W. Scott, in cabin. For Stanghai:—Miss Annie Young, Miss Louise N. McCully, Miss M. Quinn, Miss Ida Morgan, and Miss Sakan Poole, eachin and one language. At Chinese in sterraio. in cabin, and one Japanese, 47 Chinese in steerage,

Per British steamer Posetta, from Hongkong via ports :- Mr. John Robert, and Mr. Geoliegan, in

cabin, and 3 on deck.

Per French steamer Yarra, from Marseilles via ports:—Mrs. M. A. Alvarroneski, Mr. M. Delonne Mr. M. Bomley, and Mr. M. Longuita, in cabin. For Singapore:—Mr. M. W. S. Abate, and Mr. M. M. Allik, in cabin\_igiFigue-Hope one:

M. J. K. Gillinghitin, and two Chinese in cabin. From Shanghai :- Mr. Hojo, Zeng, Foozeng, Mr. Shu Chen Chong, Mr. Yung Fong, Mr. Lakahashi, Mr. F. Munakata, Mr. Guare, and Mr. M. Leng Lion Sung, in cabin.

#### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Coptic, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. W. Anderson, Mr. A. Azevedo, Mr. Lewin W. Barringer, Mr. Lewin W. Barringer Jr., Mr. D. M. Barringer Jr., Mr. W. A. Behrens, Mr. Gurney Buford, Mr. Otto Brannwell, Mr. W. E. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bryne, Miss Bryne, Master Byrne, Lieut. and Mrs. Connelly and two children, Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Davis and infant, Mr. R. L. Dunn, Mr. L. Eppinger, Mr. Aug. Genstacker, Mr. W. G. Hockidge, Mr. K. Kishimonye, Mr. C. L. Kopf, Lieut. G. W. Logan U.S.N., Mr. Juse de Murinelly, Admiral F. V. McNair U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Oldham, Mrs. F. H. Olmstend & two children, Mr. and Mrs. Parker, Lieut. L. L. Reamey U.S. N., Mr. Henri Schiffmann, Mr. Runaldo de Lunae Silvea, Dr. Stevens, Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Thompson, Mr. Gust. Toppe, Mr. A. B. Wallord, and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. R. Webster, in cabin.

Per French steamer Laos, for Masseilles via

Mi. and Mrs. Wm. R. Webster, in cabin.

Per French steamer Laos, for Masselles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. le Com. Monzin, Mdle Monzin, Captain and Mrs. Minner, Mr. B. Viranse, Mr. A. Emmanuel, Mr. K. A. Levens, Mr. John Hall, Mr. O. Pollak, Mr. A. V. O. Woodward, Mr. P. Sondel, Mr. A. Fringier, Mr. Stein, Dr. Richard Kidd, l'abbe D. Lecounte, l'abbe Rador, Mr. Stimmese, Mr. Geo. Schneider, Mr. Cheong On Lam, and Mr. Du Lun Chee, in cabin. in cabin.

Per American steamer City of Paking, for Hong-kong via ports:—Mr. F. B. Abenheim, Mr. J. J. Collins, Mr. M. Grote, Mr. W. W. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Bartinger, Miss Everall, Master S. R. Lowder, Mr. H. F. Meserve, Mr. G. A. Beaumont, and Capt. Wilson Walker in Cabin.

Per British steamer Tame for Landon via control.

Per British steamer Fava, for London via ports:
-Alies Bull, Master Bull, and Mr. Russell, in

#### CARGORS.

Per Beitish stenmer Coptie, for San Francisco via Honolulu :--

	4.574		B-RO*	
FR	pretincing	еинскор.	ENEY:	1 UTAL.
	31 ( 1.1	£ .		
Shanghai	1,520	305	_	5,827
Hyogo	4	_	_	4
Yokohama	3 28	_	_	328
Hungkong	480	_	84	568
Potal	2.333	ვინ	81	2:721
	SLK			
	61.6		WHITE-	
	rige,	HARTFORD,	Rear L.	1-11664
Shanghai	226	_	10	236
Hongkong	525	_	_	525
Vokobama	784	10	_	794
. Potat	1,535	1a	101	4,555
Tr Cilliana	Marie Lat	is a law as a second	v Buca	man for

Tex and Silk per British steamer Brasmar, for Victoria B.C., and Tacoma Wash. :-

		TE	A .			
	CR	ICAGO B	CEW TOR	IK.		TOTAL
4	CANADA	AND I	AND	PACIFI	CUTMER	PACE+
		raut.	BANT.	COAST	, CITTES.	AGES.
Hongkong		_	_	490	_	490
Shangbai	. —	_	_	3.44	_	312
Kobe	. 1,429	_	_	_	***	1,420
Total	. 1,429		_	801	-	2,231
		511	LK.			TOTAL
		NEW YO	RE.	HARIFO	RD.	BALEN
Hongkoog	************	40	101 (40.14		2012/11/24	40
Yokuhama			40110100		Air 142	-
				$\overline{}$		
Total		40	*** ***		*** *** ***	40

#### LATKST COMMERCIAL.

### IMPORTS.

The market for piece goods and yarus is still utterly stagmant. A few small transactions have taken place in Italian cloths and flaunels, and some shipments of raw cotton have been disposed of to the Spinning Companies, which have done very much better during the past year than had been expected from the general complaints published.

COTTOE PIECE GOODS.

Velvets-Illack, 15 yards, azimches ...
Vignuis Lawas, 12 yards, 12-5 inches.,
Lu key Reds-2.0 to 2.4h, 21 25 yards,

Furkey Rads-2.8 to 3th, 24/25 yards. Jurkey Name 30 inches ...

I'urkey Reds-3,8 to 4B, 24/15 yards, 32 inches ...

Furkey Reds-4,8 to 5B, 24/15 yards, 32 inches ...

WOOLLENS. 2.40 to 2.70 3 00 to 3.50 10.30 to 0.50 0.35 to 0.41 0.25 to 0.274 Anageting ge Lange-Legge, a garte, gette, getter, gett U.45 To o 22 0.55 10 0.50 0.60 10 0.75 0.50 10 0.85 LOTTON YARDS. 

American Middling \$19.75 = 20.00 Chinase 20 to 20\$ Some few transactions have taken place in barst sheets and nails, but not enough to make a marke.

price, quotations consequently remain numinal,

RAW COTTON.

The spart which occurred in delivery of stock for the interior at the beginning of the month has worked itself out, but there is still a little steady business doing at former quintations. The barque F. B. Walker arrived no the 10th from New York with a cargo of Kerosene for the Standard Office.

American Russian .	 	 ,	 				 	 411	2			
Langkat.	 	 	 		111		 4+	 	,	-	1.96	
			s١	1.0	i۸	14						

A small steady business in brown has been doing during the week at firm rates. Arrivals have been small and stocks are low. In white refined there has been a fair demand at former quotations.

					PER PROPER
Brown	Lakao	45 171		 	\$4.35 to 4.40
	Manile				
Brown	Daitons			 	3 90 to 4.15
Genwa	Canton	1		 P15404 114	4.00 to 4.50
White	lava an	d Pe	Burg	 	6.50 to 7.00
White	Helised			 	7.30 to 8.00

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

The demand for flatures and the higher grade re-reels continues and a steady business has been re-reets continues and a steady business has been transacted, total sales from 8th to the 14th aumuniting to 2,170 hoxes. The only shipment during the week has been 794 bales per Coptic, for America. Stocks amount to 12,263 boxes, Prices are from with a tendency to rise.

#### QUOLATIONS.

Bilatures-Batro gire, entre donn mann	Nominal
Eilatures-Bates +3/13, 14/16 dan	Some to our
Filatures No. 1 10/13 deniers	910 to 010
Filatures-No. 1' 13'15, 14/16 dau	880 to 8gg
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	900 to 010
Filntures-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 don	850 to 860
Fitatures-Ila. 2. 10:15 deniers	850 to 860
Filntures-Ho. 2, 1 ; es deniers	820 to 830
Re-ruels-Rose, egits, eqité deux	890 to poo
Re-resis-Ro. 14, 13:16, 14:17 den	820 to 810
Re-reels-No. 2, 14'18 meniera	800 to 810
Re-reals-No. 24, 14 18 deniers	780 to 760
Re-reels-No. 3, 14'an deniers	
Kakedas-Estre	840 to 850
Kakedas-Ho. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas-Ho. st	790 to 800
Kakedas-Ho. :	760 to 770
Kasedan-Ho. 11	

#### WASTE SILK.

A fair business has been done at current rates, stocks amounting to 11,634 boxes.

#### QUOTATIONS.

	45 5 5 4444 4 75 -		
	Noshi-Filature, Best	\$115 to	120
	Noshi-Filature, Good	Tos to	110
	Noshi-Oshu, Best	tro to	
	Yoshi-Oshu, Good	Too to	103
)	Andig Oshu Medinu	go to	
	Reblir-Shimilie, Bent	70 tu	75

Nashi-Shinshu, Good	65 to	674
Noshi-Bushin, Best	115 to	120
Noshi-Bushn, Gaod	100 to	611
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	ge to	95
Noshi-jusitu, Good	60 to	65
Noshi-joshu, Fair	55 to	574
Kihigo-Filature, Best	95 to	100
Kibiso-Filature, Seconds	85 to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20 \$0	234

No business to report. Stock amounts to 173,000 cattles of poor quality and there is no more leaf expected from the producing districts. The only shipment during the week consisted of 338 packages per Captic for America.

. QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	Nominal.
Choice Finest	후 (-음 음 교
Finest	7 6 - 8
	(Z ë s
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Rates remain steady without any change, though with Silver & higher sterling quotations from China are the same as yesterday.

re the same as yesterday.	
Sterling-Bank T.T.	2/0}
- Bills on demand,	2/015
_ 4 months' sight	2 0,4
- Private 4 months sight	2/08
— 6 months' sight	2/0
On Parts-Bank sight 2.	5410
. On Lyons - Private 4 months sight 2.	58100
tin Hongkong-Banksight 110	2 % d
"l'ilvate 10 days'sight, 410	µL°‰d
On Shanghai-Bauk sight	
Private to days' sight. 75	3 to 78
On India-Bank sight	
- Private 30 daya' night	157
On America-Bank Bills on demand.	49
Private 4 months' sight	50%
On Germany-Bank eight	2.06
- Private 4 months' sight	2.10
Bar Silver (London)	2611

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# Chicago, U. S. A.

Montgomery Ward & Co., lii to 120 Michigan Ave., Chicago, U. 🖺 A

CARD.

# REGINALD H. MARKS.

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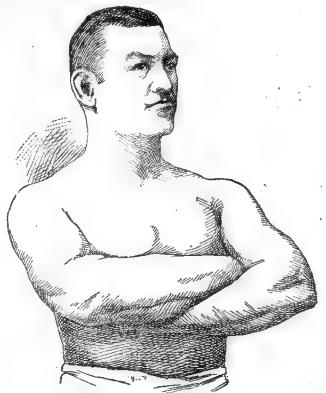
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Sin Sames Basse, in his work coulded "The Nile Tribut taries in Abyssinis," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahometo inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice graits. In I short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of followay: Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing numistatable purgative proporties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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is a certain emedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miracciously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arreating and subduling all indammations. Ms. J. T. Course, in his account of his extraordinary travels on China, sublished in 1871, says—"1 had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ontement. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk\_fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Olintment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the analt remaining "stock."

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OPIES of the NEW TARIFF, as passed by the Imperial Diet, can be obtained at this Office in pamphlet form. Price, 25 Cents. Yokohama, April 27th, 1847.

Printed and Published for the Propietor, at 51. Main Street, Settlement, by Aribur Belland Brown, of "Norklands," No. 130, Bluff, Yokohama. "Saturday, January 15, 1898.

Original from

# The Japan Weekly Itlail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE. POLITICS, LITERATURE.

No. 4.]

YOKOHAMA, JAN. 22ND, 1898. 引三年基本言語型 Vol. XXIX

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Christ-Chauch Rebuilding Fund
Latest Telegraphic News Chest Shipping ..... Latest Shipping .....

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

" PAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENHE QUE POURRA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insection in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business ion addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques he made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EUITOR.

VOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 22ND, 1898.

#### BIRTH.

At Mucrayknowe, Changking, on the 25th of December, 1897, the wife of James Murray, agent of the National Bible Society of Scotland, of a son.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BREAKWATERS are to be constructed at Muroran at a cost of yen 24,000.

THE Tokyo Gas Company has declared a dividend of 16 per cent per annum.

THE Kyoto local authorities are formulating a scheme for the extension of the limits of the city.

Four hundred and thirty-eight emigrants for Hawaii arrived in Yokohama on the 14th per N. P. steamer Mogul.

THE death is announced of the Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P., the "Father of the House of Commons" at the age of 95.

Toward the end of February the Commanders of various Army Divisions will meet in the capital for conferences on military matters.

H.I.H. LIEUTENANT Prince Kikumaro came to Yokohama on the roth inst. and joined the war versel Matsushima now lying in harbour.

On Tuesday morning a junk owned by Mr. Ina the purpose of opium smoking and was sentenced to three years' imprisonment; two China- Cuina and Hongkong.

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the Sumida River, was run down and sunk by by the steamer Toura Maru, which plies between Yokohama and Tokyo.

THE amount of foreign rice imported at this port during last year exceeded one million bags, valued at over yen 6,200,000.

THE Japanese steamer Arisoura Maru ran on a rock near Hiroshima on the 16th inst. and is expected to become a total loss.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR will give an entertainment to the Princes of the Blood, the Ministers of State and other high personages in a few days time.

MR. DEN KENJIRO has been appointed Vice Minister of the Communications Department in place of Baron Suzuki, who is released at his own request.

THE Kamakura Railway Company, promoted by Mr. Irokawa Seiichi and others, was granted a license through the Kanagawa Prefectural Office on the 18th instant.

THE ex-Parliamentary representatives of the National Unionists, at a meeting held on the 14th, are reported to have passed a resolution to support the new Cabinet.

THE Nagasaki Town Conneil has passed a vote for extending the limits of the town of Nagasakt and the decision has been submitted to the Home Department for approval.

THE Authorities intend to lay a cable between the Bonin islands and the Seven Islands of Izu and for this purpose a vote has been included in the Budget for the 3 rat fiscal year.

THE fire in the Yubari coal mine, which occurred on the 5th last., and caused the death or serious injury of 26 men and occasioned very heavy loss, was extinguished on the 12th lust.

Mr. FRANK LINCO: N, the best melo-m nolognist that has probably visited Yokohama, gave two most successful entertainments at the Public Hall during the week and left by the Empress

THE revised Tresty between France and Japan has been ratified by President Faure. The document is expected to arrive in Japan towards the end of February next when ratifications will be exchanged.

A very enjoyable farewell dinner was given to Mr. Richard Boyes, the late hon secretary of the Yokohama Yacht Club, at the Grand Hotel on the 16th inst., on the occasion of his depar-

THE date of the general election of members of the Lower House was fixed for the middle of March at a special Cabinet Council held on the 15th inst., and the session of the Diet will open about the middle of May.

In the Nagasaki Local Court the two sampan men charged with the murder of Frank Epps, an apprentice on the U.S. flagship Olympia, on the 12th Dec. last, have been found guilty of "fuvoluntary homicide" and fined 100 year and SO wan respectively.

THE Japanese war-ship Kasagi, now in course of construction at the Cramp Shipbuilding Yard, Philadelphia, is to be launched on the 20th inst. The Chisese, building at the Union Works, San Francisco, will be launched in February next,

On the 7th inst, a Chinaman residing in Caaka was found guilty in the local Court of lesting a room in his house to two other Chinamen for

men and one Japanese woman who were found smoking in the room, being sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

THE three round-the-world British cyclists, Messes. Fraser, Lunn and Lowe, arrived M Nagasaki on the 14th inst. and on the following day started for Kobe, Osaka, Kyoto and Yoko hama, via Bakan, which was reached on the 17th instant.

SIR MICHARL HICKS-BRACH, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has declared that Great Britain had no desire for any territorial acquisition in China but wished to open it to the world's commerce. But the Government was absolutely determined, even if necessary at the cost of war, not to allow the door to be shut upon it.

THE celebration of the coming of age of the Crown Prince Haru-no-miye, which would have been performed last year, but was postponed till this year owing to the Court mourning for the ate Empress Dowager, will be held in March next, when a State Ball will probably be given at the Palace.

LIET. GENERAL BARON ORV, Commander of the Imperial Guards, has been appointed Com-mander of the Tokyo Garrison; Lieut.-General Baron Hasegawa, Commander of the Third Army Division, has been appointed Commander of the Imperial Guards; Lieut. General Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, is to be Commander of the Third Army Division; and Major General Nakamura, President of the Military College, to be Vice Minister for War.

THE Import market generally continues dull. but some little improvement has taken place a few lines since the opening of year. For the first time for some mouths a few sales of grey shirtings have been reported and a fair business has been done in yarns of the finer qualities, while enquiries have been made regarding fancy cottons and woollens, which, however, have not resulted in any business of consequence. There has been a fall in the price of Bombay raw cotton, owing to heavy shipments on the way. In metals no fresh business is doing but the delivery of a quantity of recently arrived stock to former orders has been going on steadily. The kerosene market is dull for this time of the year and quotations for Chester brand have received a stimulant by a reported casualty to a ship, the Alexander Gibton, from New York, which is overdue at Yokohama, and a portion of whose cargo of 75,000 cases of Chester oil, damaged, has been sold at Sydney. The sugar market is steady and sales of brown have ex-ceeded arrivals during the past two weeks. For white refined there has been a good demand and the prices are hardening. Transactions in the export market, so far as staples are concerned, have been limited to some small transactions in tea and a moderate business in silk. The holders of silk, both raw and waste, are very firm and hold the whip-hand of buyers, as the stock is only half that held at the same period last year and in average years, and they know that they will eventually get their price, though these are now quoted above the rates at present ruling in the consuming markets. The export of silk handkerchiefs and piece goods has not been brise, and in fact the business, not only for the current month, but for all last year, shows a falling off from the figures for 1896. No further exports of tice have been made, but a very much larger quantity of Rangoon and Saigon grain has been imported than in ordinary seasons. In copper and fish oil little has been done. Exchange is slightly improved on

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Jiji Shimpo publishes a series of lengthy articles lutended to demonstrate two things; first, that the partition of China among foreign Powers is inevitable; and, secondly, that the Japanese are much better suited than any other people to undertake the task of governing the Chinese. As to the former point, our contemporary's writing conveys no new information. The gist of it is that although there have been a hundred and twenty-three changes of dynasty in China there has never been the slightest change of customs and systems in the sense of progress, and that it is now hopeless to expect anything of the kind. China, in short, is on the downward grade, and her descent can not be arrested. The last chance of ronsing her from her sleep was Japan's adoption of Western civilization. There is no room to doubt that the fact was appreciated by the people of Europe and America. The great assistance which they rendered in Japan in her modern efforts of reform deserve and receive this country's gratitude. But they were efforts lins country's grattude. But they were enorse dictated not solely by a desire to promote Japan's advantage: they were partly inspired by a hope that when the huge empire saw the results of its little neighbour's adoption of Occidental civilization, the long-deferred awakening would take place. That hope proved fallacious and China is doomed, It boots little to analyse the morality of the methods adopted by European nations in their assaults upon the huge country's integrity. They may be trampling under foot the principles upon which they insist in their intercourse with each other, but it is with the facts of their procedure, not the fashions, that the world is really concerned. The work of partition has commenced. Germany and Russia have set the example, and England and France will not be slow to follow. Not to-day, for the first time, does the Jili Shimpo insist upon the proposition that the die of China's fate is cast. Time and again during the past fifteen years it has enunciated the same belief. The history of the world establishes two facts, that a State, like everything else in nature, must either wax or wane, and that when progress and stagnation come into contact, the latter goes down. We are to-day witnessing the application of these principles to China's case. Western nations have long had an instinctive perception of the feast that awaited them when this garden of the Orient should be thrown open to their inroads-the garden without guards, They have been awaiting that issue, and, in the meanwhile, they have taken care that no outsider shall obtain a position of vantage. That was why Germany, Russia and France turned Japan out of Lisolung. They were de-termined that she should not gain admittance to the garden before themselves. Now that their own opportunity has come, however, they are not slow to seize it. Yet the Japanese are far more competent to govern the Chinese than any Western nation is. They thoroughly understand Chinese modes of thought and are in touch with the spirit of Chinese customs. Compare their successes in the recent war with the things achieved by France in the so-called "state of reprisals" twelve years ago. Had the Japanese been in the place of the French in 1894-5, had they possessed the ships, the weathe campaign in Tonquin have ended as it did? It may be urged, indeed, that Japan's failures in Formosa and Korea militate against the theory of her competence to administer the affairs of the Chinese or cognate races. Japan's failures in Korea and Formosa are due, not to want of innate ability, but to the fact that she has been using weapons which she does not fully understand; she has been working on the lines of Occidental institutions, with which she is not yet familiar, and her own genius has thus been cramped. Let her approach the task when to the systems recently adopted by her she can add the force of

assuredly accomplish great results. The Jiji stops there. It is too artistic not to leave anyrefrains from explaining whether its favourable analysis of Japanese capacities is intended to suggest an access of over-sea enterprise.

The Fomiuri Shimbun has too articles with reference to the relations between England and Japan. In the first place, our contemporary attempts to analyse Great Britain's policy towards this country. The line of inquiry to be pursued for that purpose, we read, is to consider Great Britain's policy in the Far East, and the index of her Far-Eastern policy is to be sought in her conduct towards China at present. Since the seigure of Kiao chou by Germany and the utilization of Port Arthur as a winter station by the Russian squadron, the British fleet in these waters has shown extraordinary activity. It has shown itself at one moment off Chusan; at another in Chefoo Bay; at another in Port Hamilton; at another, in Chemulpo. In short, it has been everywhere. But its movements have not There has suggested any aggressive purpose. been no evidence of any design against China's territory. On the contrary, the plain significance of these demonstrations has been that Great Britain is determined to preserve the peace of the East and to check any proceedings calculated to interfere with her interests. She has vast interests in China. At Hongkong, in the Valley of the Yangtze, in the Gulf of Petchili she carries on an immense commerce, and the Customs of China are under the control of her subjects. France threatens her at Hongkong; Germany has planted herself within striking distance of the Yangtze Valley; Russia menaces the Gulf of Petchili and is endeavouring to supplant Englishmen in their direction of the Customs. To one and all England's answer, traced by the movements of her ships, has been that she forbids any trespass on the sphere of her interests. Let the trespasser or trespassers be who they may, she will not suffer them. She is the Queen of the Sea. We see now what her "splendid isolation means." There is a tendency to mistake her quiescence for unreadiness or hesitation. That error was committed by the world at the time of the Transvaal complication, but England dispelled it by a coup that astonished the nations. It is not possible indeed, to speak with absolute certainty about her policy. Inferences alone can be drawn, but the inferences seem to be now pretty plain. Her views, then, are practically the same as those of Japan. This country also desires to preserve the peace of the East and to oppose any encroachments that might bar the routes of commerce. Such identity of aim existing, it is natural that the two nations should gradually draw together. England has shown herself markedly friendly to Japan during recent years. She declined to join with Russia, France and Germany in depriving the Japanese of the fruits of their victory in Lisotung. She raised no objection to Japan's acquisition of Formosa, though Japanese territory was thus extended to the neighbourhood of Hongkong. She showed the greatest civility to Prince Arisugawa at the time of his visit to London, and the Margnis of Salisbury received Margnis Ito and had a long consultation with him. Moreover, of late we have heard numerous reports about an alliance between England and Japan. The Times has advocated it; Lord Charles Beresford has advocated it; many English journals have advocated it; and the tongue of rumour has spoken of it as an accomplished fact. All these things indicate the mood of England towards Japan. What steps does Japan, on her side, intend to take?

The Aippon attempts to prove that the new Cabinet is not an Ito Cabinet, but an Inonye Cabinet. This contention is founded on the hypothesis that Marquis Ito's difficulty in organizing a Cabinet was due, not to any reluctance on his part to join hands with the leaders of

quis Ito, had he been able to carry out his own programme, would have formed a union with the party leaders and would have organized a Cabinet chiefly from the ranks of the younger statesmen. But Marquis Yamagata and his friends opposed the project of an alliance with the parties as well as the admission of young men to the Cabinet. Count Inouye, on the other hand, while endorsing Marquis Yamagata's objection so far as political parties were concerned, approved of Marquis Ito's desire to employ the younger statesmen. Thus Count Inouye represents a compromise and is the link between Marquis Ito and the elder statesmen, for which reason the Nippon calls the Cabinet an Inouye Cabinet. Its statements are purely conjectural.

An article in the Tokyo Shimbun (Liberal organ) confirms the impression produced by the recent doings of Count Itagaki, that the Liberal Party are supporters of the present Cabinet. It is explained in the article that the Party would have liked to see Count Itagaki holding the portfolio of Home Affairs, but the Count him-self objected for reasons which our contemporary, while pronouncing them sound, leaves its readers to conjecture. Indeed, there is a considerable element of vagueness in the whole explanation, but its gist is that the Liberals desire to set an example of disinterestedness in these times when the main object of parties making alliances with a Cabinet is to obtain for themalliances with a Cabinet is to obtain for them-selves a share in the sweets of office. That insinuation is plainly aimed at the Progres-sionists. The two parties are again at daggers drawn, if we may judge by the ulterances of their organs. It was the *Matnichi Shimbun*, one of the journals representing the Progressionists, that opened the combat. It roundly charged the Libergla with having made a complete the Liberals with having made a complete surrender of their principles and pledged them-selves to support an independent Cabinet. The Tokyo Shimbun replies that such an assertion must be regarded as a mean person's estimate of a large-minded man's views. The Liberals of a large-minded man's views. The Liberals understand very well that to tie a Cabinet's hands by requiring it to subscribe to certain hands by requiring it to subscribe to certain hard-and-fast, and petty, conditions is contrary to the broad spirit by which a Ministry must be animated and is inconsistent with good administration. Agreements of that kind are made merely for the sake of appearance, and can not fail to result in friction and disruption. The Liberals are setting an example of the pure heartedness and singleness of purpose by which genuinely patriotic politicians ought to be animated. It is enough for them that the Cabinet is in accord with the principles of liberty and progress for which they have always struggled. If the Progressionists can not appreciate a union on such terms, their's is the misfortune. The Liberals are no: in fault.

The Kokumin Shimbun does not think that the new Cabinet will satisfy the nation, but, on the other hand, has no disposition to attack it until its policy is plainly indicated. It is not a Cabinet that gives any promise of stability. Count Induye is understood to be a statesman of the autocratic school: he sets his face against party Cabinets. Baron Ito Miyoji believes in party Cabinets and has the Liberals behind him. Here is an immediate source of dispute. Then the difficulties confronting the Cabinet are im-It is true that they inherit them from the Matsukata Cabinet, but the Matsukata Cabinet, in turn, inherited them from the former Ito Cabinet, so that, after all Marquis Ito has to unravel a skein of his own tangling. The financial problem presses for immediate solution. What in to be done about it? Only supernatural economists could make ands meet without either reducing the Army Expansion programme or increasing the taxes. Even more important is the question of foreign policy. Marquis Ito has the reputation of showing a smiling face to everybody. His inclination would be to remain on the best be own untrammelled instincts, the quick, political parties, or on theirs to join hands with determs with Russia, with France, with England resolute, and, at the same time, sympathetic him, but on the fact that he could not induce and with Germany. But the time has passed impulses of the Yamato-damashii, and she will his Choshiu friends to endorse his views. Mar
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choose between Russia and England. Thus the circumstances with which the Cabinet has to deal are of unparallelled difficulty, and the Cabinet does not promise to have strength of union. Such are the Kohumin's viaws.

#### A QUESTION AND AN ANSWER.

Tapan Gasette.

Jane 12th, 1898.
In this connexion we should like in and to what occasion, the Yapan Mail when, and on what occasion, the Yapan Gasette ever denied the existence of such rights (the right of holding land by superficies). We have no recollection of any such denial having been made during the present editorship, and we object to being made the scape-goat of others. Can the Mail quote chapter and verse? chapter and verse

Japan Gatetter

Japan Gazette,

Jan 14th 1898.
The Japan Mail deliberately asserted that we have denied that foreigners would have the right of superficies. We have challenged it me quote chapter and verse and it has not replied to the challenge. It appears to have been guilty of a malicious falsehood for the sake of enjoying a momentary triumph. We have never denied the right of superficies because we could not deny a right of whose existence we had no knowledge. ledge-

Japan Gasette. Oct. 12th, 1896. There are many things in tr. Londolm's Treatise There are many things in Dr. Londoun's Treatise which the foreigner will be glad in know. One of these in the law with regard to land. The paragraph runs as follows:—

"The most important right which foreigners will be able to acquire in land under treaties will be the sight called superfices, &c."

\*Toon Gastie.

Japan Gazette.

Japan Garette.

Dec. 3rd, 1897.

We take il that the chief application of foreign capital when the new Treaties come into force will be to start industrial and commercial undertakings. Butcapital will be shy unless it can obtain security of tenure. For enterprises of any magnitude a twenty-five years' lease is not sufficient.

Five points are established by these quota tions :- first, that on October 3rd 1896, the Fapan Gasette editorially quoted a paragraph from Dr. Lönholm's book explaining exactly what "superficies" is; secondly, that, on Jan. 4th 1898, it declared itself without any knowledge of the existence of such a right as superficies; thirdly, that on December 3rd 1897, it asserted that the most permanent form of landtenure possible to foreigners under the new Treaties would be a twenty-five years' lease; fourthly, that on January 12th 1898, it protested against being charged with having denied that foreigners would have right to hold land under a superficies; and fifthly, that on January 14th 1898, it accused the Japan Mail of "malicious falsehood" for having attributed to it such a denial.

#### FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. BOYES.

On Saturday evening some thirty members of the Yokohama Yacht Club sat down at the Grand Hotel to the complimentary farewell dinner tendered by the Club to Mr. Richard Boyes, the late secretary, who is shortly leaving Kobe, Mr. G. Hawthorne Scidmore occupied the chair, having the guest of the even-ing on his right hand and Mr. J. O. Averill on his left. Mr. Herbert Rose, honorary secretary, was vice-chairman. An excellent dinner was placed on the table, the following being the bill of fare-several of the yachts of the Club, it will be observed, finding place in the names of the dishes :-

Sour. Printanier à la Royal. Poisson Folsson.
Filet of Sole à la Normandie.
ENTRES.
Petit Pâté à la Reine.
Filet of Beef à la Ideal.
Salmi of Snipe aur Canapé. Linguage.
Celary and Juice.
ROTI.
Spring Chicken with Dressing.
Salad. Salad.
ENTREMETS.
Pudding à la Tomioka.
Tuthan de Jelly à la Marie Louise.
Eclair à la Chantilly.
Vanilla Ice Cream.

expressed the hope that in his new home at Kobe prosperity would be ever with him, and that many prizes would fall to his share in yacht racing or other aquatic sport. On behalf of the members of the Yokohama Yacht Club, the Chairman then presented Mr. Boyes with pair of handsome silver mounted binoculars. He hoped Mr. Boyes would long live to use them and that he would, when looking through the glasses, always see a friend.—(Loud ap-plause.) In conclusion, the Chairman said that they would continue to call their guest "Our Boyes," for he was only lent to Kobe for a time he hoped.—(Applause.)

Mr. Boyes, in response, thanked the members of the Y.Y.C. for their handsome gift. He wished them all success in the coming season and hoped that they would always have the right amount of breeze with them when they went affoat. He raised his glass and drank to

the prosperity of the Yokohama Yacht Club.

The next two hours were spent in a delightfully informal fashion, many witty imprompts speeches-most of them having a decidedly nautical flavour, by the way—being made by various members at the call of the Chairman. The toasts included "The Founders"; the "Timescale makers"; the Chairman; the Secretary; the Press; the Officer of Day; the Sendo; Owners; Non-awners, etc. One speaker suggested that Mr. Boyes should endeavour to arrange an interport match between Kobe and Yokohama yachis—of the 17-rating class by perference—and the suggestion met with much favour. During the evening some songs were given, Mr. A. M. Delf, contributing several.

#### "CHINESE CHARACTERS."

Mr. A. H. Lay, of H. B.M.'s Consular Service has brought out a second edition of his useful volume, "Chinese Characters for the Use of We are Students of the Japanese Language." glad to see that the work has been sufficiently appreciated to warrant a second edition. and again we have ourselves been asked by correspondents to indicate some facile method of studying the ideographs, and we have always found in such cases that our questioners were ignorant of the existence of such a book as Mr. Lay's. It is wonderful that ignorance of that kind should exist, for the book exactly meets the student's difficulties by presenting to him the four thousand ideographs in most frequent use-four thousand ideographs which are all that need be committed to memory by any one not aiming at a very high standard of scholarship. We are inclined to think that her. Lay we title is not very wisely chosen. The average We are inclined to think that Mr. Lav's man is apt to be misled when he reads the description "Chinese Characters for the use of Students of Japanese." He imagines that there is question of some special line of study, some problem of comparative philology. "It is not Chinese characters that I want," he thinks; "it is Japanese ideographs." Probably a better is Japanese theographs. Thorson a better title would have been "Japanese Ideographs in commonest use." or some similar phrase un-equivocally conveying the fact that the volume contains characters selected by an expert with reference to the frequency of their occurrence in every day literature. Mr. Lay tells us in his preface that he has carefully revised the first edition, and it may fairly be assumed, therefore, that he has made the work virtually free from blemishes. His system is excellent, and he has succeded in getting the printer to use such fine type and to do the spacing so judiciously that everything is clear and pleasant. The book should be an incalculable boon to students. No such aids were procurable five-and-twenty years ago, but times have changed immensely for the better. It is most satisfactory to find that Eng lishmen retain their prominence in the field of Tapanese scholarship.

It is deemed significant in Berlin that 120 In the course of the evening the Chairman volunteers, including a number of the aristo-rose and proposed the health of the guest. In doing so he referred in graceful terms to the Thurn and Taxis, accompany Prince Henry of services rendered the Club by Mr. Boyes; and Prussia on his expedition to Kiao-chou Bay.

#### FAPANESE & BRAIN EVOLUTION.

An American journal says :- " Professor Marsh, of Yale, has ascertained that animals of the present day have larger brains than their predecessors, that the sizes of brains of animals in the same groups increased progressively from the Eccene through the Miccene and Pliocene periods. When a species of mammal died out it was found that it had a relatively small brain. He also found that the same theory held good in regard to birds. Finally he applied it to man, who has conquered allelse on the earth.
The development of the brain has gone on with he centuries, and one race after another has dominated-always by its larger brain. In modern man, the cerebrum overshadows all other parts of the brain combined. Down to the present time the largest brained race has outmatched the smaller, although the latter usually has greater brute force. Professor Marsh has weighed the brains of modern peoples, and discovered that the average brain of the Japanese is greater than that of any other people. Fifteen years ago he was satisfied that they were to figure as a great power among nations, perhaps an overwhelming force. His conclusions at and almost in the light of prophecy. They have the brain. It is a matter of speculation how it will be used."

#### MODERN SHANGHAI.

In Shanghai, which has of late been reported booming, a very curious state of things seems to be prevailing, says the correspondent of the China Mail. Huge high houses are being run up on all sides. No superstitious notion as to Fung Shui trouble the builders. They run them up irrespective of aspect or the width of the street they are to shadow. We have therefore cutting draughts down dark alleyways, and vaultlike entrances. Every third person just now has juffuenza. And one cannot wonder. It has been somewhat unusually cold for so early in the year. And the people no longer live in luxury, eschewing north rooms. With only Belgian glass between them and the blast straight from the Manchurian mountains, people sit and shiver, thankful to have a roof to cover them, for the house-hunger still continues, whilst rents have gone up out of all proportion to salaries. Coals have jumped up too, so that it is the meanest rubbish people are burning, whilst the fashionable subject at present for ladies' tea parties is the price of butter. With salaries steadily diminishing and prices rising it is clear that Europeans will not long be able to live in this climate, unless a change comes some way. And whilst to look at the factories all round belching out smoke, and the increased building, one would think the place was making atrides towards prosperity, yet never before has the struggle for existence been so severe amongst the white population. Chinese in soft silks and satins spring in and out of carriages driven by wonderfully liveried coachmen and footmen, whilst well-known Europeans, who used to drive good horses, may be seen resigning themselves to rickshas. Again and again one sees houses inhabited by Chinamen, and the Model Settlement has been invaded and is over-run by the yellow swarms its land regulations, never by the yellow swarms its land regulations, never yet signed by the Minister at Peking, were intended to shut out. Chinese are all over the Settlement now. One cannot walk fast for substantial Chinese figures stolidly strolling. One cannot drive fast for the rickshas and the wheelbarrows all progressing at their different rates of speed. How different from Shanghai of three years ago!

If things are bad in Shanghai, they are worse in Yokohame. Here house-hunger is intensified to a degree, rents rising by leaps and bounds, quite out of proportion to the money invested in their building; while the struggle for existence, with the steadily increasing prices of domestic commodities, is also, undoubtedly, worse than in Shanghai-for salaries, never inordinately lavish here, show no tendency to rise in proportion to the increase in the cost of living.



Coffee

#### FINANCIAL QUESTIONS OF THE HOUR.

It is very true, as vernacular newspapers observe, that several questions of great difficulty and importance present themselves for solution by the new Minister of Finance. These questions may be stated

1. Briefly speaking, the revenue now accoung falls short of the expenditures indicated in the estimates of the various Departments for next year by 23 million Where is the money to be obtained? yen. Where is the money to be obtained? The Matsukata Cabinet proposed to obtain it by increasing the taxes on land and saké, the former source yielding 12 million yen and the latter, to millions. Will Count Inouye adopt the policy of increased taxation; or will he cut down the projected expenditures; or will he have temporary recourse to the portion of the Indemnity

not yet appropriated?

So far as this particular question is concerned, the journals propounding it appear to forget that the Cabinet which has just assumed office will not have to deal with any new Budget for the fiscal year 1898-9. The Departments must work on the lines of the Budget of 1897-8. Past experience enables us to foresee, however, that the Departments having, in their estimates for next year, applied for appropriations considerably larger than those made in the Budget for the current year, and there being a necessity for these increased expenditures from a progressive point of view, the figures of the 1897-8 Budget will probably be exceeded in 1898-9, and the Government will have to seek the post-facto assent of the Diet, in its next regular session, to various outlays over and above the Budgetary appropriations. Still, no financial problem in connexion with the regular income and expenditure will present itself for solution until the Diet meets next December. And when the Government comes to frame its next Budget, it will probably be able to count on an additional income of some six million yen from the Customs. The new Tariff may go into operation on the 1st of September, or, perhaps, the 1st of October. But we do not imagine that any considerable increase of revenue will accrue from it during the first six months : its effect will be discounted by importers. From April 1st, 1899, however, when the fiscal year 1899-1900 commences, the new Tariff should give a substantial increment. Of course other sources of revenue will have to be found, but the question does not press for immediate solution.

2. The second point relates to Army Expansion. Count Inouye is believed to be in favour of reducing the number of Divisions from 12, as set down in the present programme, to 9. The approval of the Diet need not be sought in effect-ing such a change. If an increase of the establishment were in contemplation, the Diet would have to be asked for the necessary funds, but for the rest, such matters are within the Imperial Preroga-It must be noted, however, that considerable doubt appears to exist with tenance, the former Army cost 13 million regard to Count Inouye's views on this yen annually, and the expanded Army is subject, and also that the Minister of expected to cost 264 millions. There

Divisions and the Guards, has never been clearly calculated by any verna-cular journal. We ourselves are sceptical whether the number of Divisions would be reduced under any circumstances. What seems more probable is a reduction of the establishment of each Division. Without discussing that phase of the question, however, let us assume the broad fact of an expansion representing an increase of 50 per cent., instead of an expansion representing an increase of 100 per cent., and let us calculate, approximately, the saving that would be effected by the change. We must be content with an approximation, for in the absence of details not accessible to the public, exact results can not be reached. The total cost of the expansion scheme on the basis of an increase of 100 per cent., is 79 million yen, in round figures. Out of that total 231 millions are for the construction and armament of forts and the extension of arsenals, works that will have to be carried out, we presume, whether the strength of the Army be raised to five hundred thousand or three hundred and seventy-five thousand. Hence it results that the sum involved in the increase of the establishment-i.e., the sum required for building barracks, stables, offices, and purchasing arms, ammunition, clothing and horses—is 554 millions. may appear right to assume, then, that on the basis of an expansion of 50 per cent. only, 27% millions, or, let us say, 28 millions would suffice, and that the saving would be 271 millions. But a preliminary question has to be answered, namely, how much of that saving could now be effected. The expansion programme on the 100 per cent. basis began to be carried out in the fiscal year 1896-7, and has consequently, been two years in operation. That means that large sums have already been expended upon barracks, offices, and stables, and that these buildings have been carried long way towards completion in the case of all the 12 divisions. We think it very doubtful, indeed, whether the construction of the various barracks and offices could Probably the most now be suspended. economical plan would be to carry them to completion, since they will be wanted under any circumstances, whatever the size of the Divisions. Hence the safest method of calculation is to rule the barracks, stables, and offices out of our estimate altogether. Now the total outlay under those headings being 25 million yen, it follows that the difference between 551 and 25 millions, or 30 millions, is the sum to be considered for our present purposes. Thus, finally, one half of 304 millions, or, say, 15 millions, is a probable approximation to the total saving that would be accomplished by the proposed reduction. Of course that saving would not be effected in one year: it would be spread unequally over several years from 1898 to 1903. Thus far we have considered the question of extraordinary outlays onlyie. outlays not connected with the maintenance of the Army on its increased footing. As to the matter of main-Finance has only one voice in a Cabinet.

The amount of economy that would be million yen in this item if the expansion for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thoroughsion of the Army by 50 per cent., that is to say, making the establishment of Divisions and the Guards, instead of 12 the Army figures at 25½ million yen in the conference of the experts who are in the conference of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions and the Guards, instead of 12 the Army figures at 25½ million yen in the conference of the experts who are in conference of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions and the Guards, instead of 12 the Army figures at 25½ million yen in the conference of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions and the Guards, instead of 12 the Army figures at 25½ million yen in this item if the expansion for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions and the Guards, instead of 12 the Army figures at 25½ million yen in the conference of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions and the Guards, instead of 12 the Army figures at 25½ million yen in the conference of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions and the conference of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the thorough-sions are evidently supposed to involve destruction of the conference of the business.

present Budget, although the establishment must still be far short of the expansion standard, and it is consequently plain that the ultimate estimate of 261 millions for maintenance will be found too small when that standard is reached. can not, therefore, arrive at any hard and fast conclusion.

3. The next question is the floating of the various domestic loans contemplated in the post-bellum programme. The sums that have still to be raised, in the form of the Public Undertakings and Railway Loans, are:-

These are sums no part of which has yet been raised. The amount originally set down to be floated during the current year was larger than the figure shown above, but the Government has been able to buy some million yen worth of the bonds with surplus revenue, instead of placing them on the open market. This method of financing can not be carried on, however, and as there would be no hope of obtaining subscribers to such securities in Japan at present, the Government will have to think whether a foreign loan should not be sought at once.

4. There is also the problem of the great scarcity of capital from which the country is suffering at present. As to that, no inkling of the Cabinet's intention seems to have yet been gathered by

the vernacular press.

#### JINRIKISHA ACCIDENTS.

Mr. Tsutsumi, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, who was recently thrown from his jinrikisha, sustaining severe injuries, is progressing favourably towards recovery. His arm was fractured so badly that amputation seemed, at first, inevitable, but the sureons of the Red Cross Hospital, whither Mr. Tsutsumi was at once taken, have succeeded in setting the bone, and as fever has not supervened, it is expected that there will not be any troublesome complications. Jinrikisha accidents are frequent in Tokyo at present, and indeed we do not wonder at it. The engineers in charge of the Water-works can not be complimented. It really seems as though their object was to test the extreme limits of the citizens' patience. The fraud in connexion with the pipes must have caused great delay, and we do not doubt that many difficulties have to be grappled with; but whatever allowances be made on that score, and however leniently the affair be regarded, it must be frankly confessed that a record has been achieved in the matter of slowness, and that the condition of the streets, already bad enough, has become absolutely disgraceful. But apparently the citizens of the capital have no disposition to com-plain. We have not yet found a protest in the columns of a single vernacular journal. The truth is that the people have no standard by which to measure the competence of the experts who are in charge of the business. Preparations for water-works are evidently supposed



#### POLICY OF THE NEW CABINET.

A representative of the Tokyo Asahs reports an interview that he had with Mr. Sone, the Minister of Justice, on the 17th instant. The subject of discussion was has not yet evolved any definite financial the policy of the new Cabinet. His Expolicy, and will not attempt to do so until cellency did not speak very explicitly. he has become perfectly familiar with He explained that there had been only every phase of the question. That aptwo Cabinet meetings as yet; that no business had been transacted at the first, and that the second had not arrived at any decision with regard to general policy. The impending general election stood foremost among topics to be considered, and Mr. Some ventured to say that the Government would maintain an attitude of absolute neutrality. Second on the list of subjects was the Civil Code, which awaited the Diet's consent. The Minister did not by any means claim that it is a perfect body of laws, but he considered it an immense improvement on the Code which had been put back for revision in 1891. If any defects were found in practice, they could easily be removed, but, recent issue, the Cabinet is not likely to in the meanwhile it would be contrary to commit itself to any final policy without the nation's best interests that the promulgation should be delayed much doubt, at all events, that the extraordinary The Government, of course, might put the Code into operation by means of an Urgency Ordinance, but such a step was not likely to be taken except in a case of extreme necessity. With regard to preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties, Mr. Sone thought that they had already been completed in great part, but doubtless many arrangements had still to be made for an event so unprecedented in the case of an Eastern State. His Excellency refrained from any definite statement on the subject of increased taxation or reduction of the programme of Army Expansion, but he hinted, with regard to the latter, that even supposing Count Inouye to be generally in favour of a smaller military establishment than the programme contemplated, the special circumstances of the time were not favourable to such a change.

The Mainichi Shimban, on the other hand, alleges that Count Inouve is in favour of a form of procedure which will amount, practically, to a reduction of the Army scheme, though it does not take the actual shape of an imme-diate reduction. The projected number of Divisions - namely, twelve-would remain unaltered, and the organization of the whole would proceed up to a certain point. Three, or perhaps four, would then be left with their cadres alone completed, and the remainder would be pushed to their full establishment. Then, in the course of time and in accordance with the state of the Treasury, the incomplete Divisions could be raised to the same dimensions as the rest. Viscount Katsura and Marquis Yamagata are said to be in favour of that plan, and Marquis Ito does not oppose it. The Mainichi Shimbun having long been conspicuous as an advocate of reducing the expansion programme, we should not be safe, perhaps, in implicitly accepting its version of Count Inouve's views.

Vernacular newspapers contain several paragraphs with reference to financial affairs, and the problem of armaments expansion, but it is easy to see that the

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diligence, day after day, to master the details of the national accounts, to which, naturally, he has not paid any special attention for several years. It we may credit what the Tokyo journals say, the Count policy, and will not attempt to do so until pears very probable, though, on the other hand, we may fairly assume that when Count Incuye agreed to accept the portfolio of finance, he had already mapped out the broad outlines of his future plan. As for the question of military expansion, journals hitherto conspicuous for their advocacy of the original programme are now disposed to represent the War Department as resolutely hostile to any retrenchment, and as thus absolutely so claiming that to reduce the dimensions of his jus in rem. of the project at the present juncture would impair the prestige of the State. However, the whole question is evidently still in the air, and, as we mentioned in a commit itself to any final policy without quired the rights of a superficiary, nothing very careful consideration. There is no is less likely than that he would take the rise in the prices of commodities during the past two years must have falsified the estimate formed in 1895 as to the cost of maintaining the Army on its contemplated establishment.

#### SECURITY OF POSSESSION UNDER THE NEW CODE.

We observe that, in commenting upon the new Civil Code of Japan, a local contemporary asks how a superficiary will be secured against such a contingency as the sale of the land during the period of his superficies: in other words, supposing that a superficiary has erected building on land held under a superficies, what is to prevent the owner of the land from selling it, together with everything above it, to some one quite independent of the superficiary. It is a strange question. The writer propounding it seems to ignore the fundamental principle underlying all civil law, namely, that no one can transfer larger rights than he himself actually possesses. The buildings erected, or the trees planted, on a plot of land by a superficiary do not belong to the owner of the land; they belong to the superficiary, and the landlord has no more right to sell them in the manner suggested than he has to sell the watch which the superficiary carries in his pocket. We do not understand It will be observed that the above parahow, even in the absence of express provisions, there can be any doubt about this matter. But, in point of fact, there is no lack of provisions, as will be seen from the following :--

Act. 207.—The right of ownership of land ex-tends within the limits prescribed by law to what is above and below it.

Act. 265—A superficiary is one who has the right to use the land of another person for the purpose of owning thereon buildings, or bambors and trees.

Art. 176 - The creation and transfer of rights in ram derive their validity solely from the expression of intention of the parties.

From the portions italicized by us it will be

registration is considered-and it will be seen from Art. 177 that registration is necessary in order to protect rights in rem where an immovable is concerned. In the register, ownership of land and superficies are entered in different columns and under different numbers. Thus, for example, A, the laudlord, is registered as the possessor of right No. 17, and B, the superficiary, is registered as the possessor of right No. 18 (the ownership of houses, trees, &c.); and A can not transfer right No. 18 to a third party without B's "ex-pression of intention," neither can B transfer right No. 17 without A's expression of intention. All other rights are similarly entered in the register-as, for example, mortgages on the land, or on the buildings, &c .- , and every one is thus absolutely secured in the possession

The above remarks dispose of all doubt so far as superficies is concerned, and superficies is, in truth, the only kind of tenure that need be seriously considered by foreigners, for unless a man has acrisk of erecting costly buildings and planting trees on land owned by another. But the journal to which we have alluded extends its question to the case of a hirer. We are wrong, indeed, to say "extends, for the fact is that, even with the Code before it and in spite of all that has been written on the subject, our contemporary seems to be still unable to distinguish between a "superficiary" and a "hirer." Here is what it writes:-

With regard to the rights acquired by the hire, should the land he sold during his tenancy, as it may be, we are not clear how his interest is protected, and this is a matter of considerable imas it may be, we are not clear how his interest is protected, and this is a matter of considerable importance to persons electings buildings or making improvements. Acticle 58t in another section, states that "the right of a hieer which has been registered may be set up against the seller [of the land] during one year only of the anexpised term of, the contract of hiring and letting to line." But how is this to be interpreted? Can the lessee be regarded as having but one year's protection for his interest, and if the be ousted by the purchaser, what arrangement exists by which he will be secured Conposation for the value of his unexhausted improvements? We should like to hear from Dr. Lönholm, the champion of the Code, how the matter really stands. A somewhat cursing planes through it has given us no information with regard to what should be the proper unswer to these queries, the importance of which must be manulest, for if reasonable doubt can be entertained as to the measure of the protection of a ternant's interest, foreign superficiaries, at all events, would be not a negative to a furnisher of the protection of a ternant's interest, foreign superficiaries, at all events, would be not a negative to all invaries, but he measure of the protection of a ternant's interest, foreign superficiaries, at all events, would interest, foreign superficiaries, at all events, would be very properly shy of investing his money in the erection of huddings or making improvements on

graph sets out by talking of a "hirer; then goes on to speak of a hirer "erecting buildings; " then quotes an Article that refers explicitly to a "hirer;" then asks how a "lessee's" interests are safe guarded; then refers to the "protection of a tenant's interest," and winds up by saying that, in view of this doubtful state of affairs, "foreign superficiaries, at all events, would very properly be shy of investing his (sic) money in the erection of buildings on leased property." It seems hopeless to attempt to straighten out such confusion. Our contemporary jumbles up hirers, lessees, tenants, and superficiaries in the plainly seen that the ownership of land most blissful bewilderment, apparently does not extend to buildings erected on regarding their rights as identical, and it by a superficiary, and that the transfer evidently ignorant of the whole gist of writers have no definite information on of the land to a third party does not exthe question, namely that a superficiary tend to the buildings without the consent possesses one kind of right—a right Minister of State for Finance, is represented as working with extraordinary comes perfectly simple when the form of Original from

two rights are independently treated in different chapters of the Code. So far as concerns the right of a "hirer" against an owner's right of sale, it appears from Art. 581 that the former right, having been duly registered, is valid for one year only. The maximum limit of a contract of hiring is 20 years (Art. 604), but if within that period the owner of the hired property desires to sell it, the hirer may be required to give up his tenure within one year. All that has nothing whatever to do with a superficies. The superficiary is the actual and legally recognised owner of buildings erected, or trees and bamboos planted, by him, and his right of ownership is of equal validity with the landowner's right in the land during the period of the superficies. question is becoming weritable curiosity. The displays of mental obluscation that it has evoked are monumental. Critics who can not distinguish between A and B would really be wise did they abandon the attempt to read.

#### ENGLAND AS SHE IS DEPICTED.

The pictures of England painted by correspondents of American journals have long been a subject of amusement, and some chagrin, it must be confessed, to Englishman in this part of the world. One would suppose from the caricatures of these limners that the old country was in the last stage of decrepitude and that nothing remained for rival nations except to sing its dirge. But every ordinarily intelligent reader knows very well that the greater part of the foreign correspondence published in the columns of the United States newspapers is merely sensational romance. No people are more keenly sensible of the fact than the better classes of Americans themselves. They have ceased to take any stock in their journals, and the latter, awaking at last to their unconsidered position, are now discussing plaintively the causes of the disgrace. On the whole, it appears to us as outsiders that they have discovered the true cause, namely, their utter in-difference to truth. The discovery has not been made in connexion with their foreign correspondence but in connection with the neglect shown by the public towards their views on domestic affairs. For example, nearly the whole newspaper press of New York was vociferously opposed to Tammany during the last municipal campaign, but l'ammany won the fight by immense odds. In fact, nobody seems to have paid any heed to the utterances of the newspapers. As representatives or moulders of public opinion, they had to take a seat "away back." One of the critics who have applied themselves to analyse the causes of this humiliation, says frankly that the papers have lost their influence because "they lie too much," and the voters have learned not to believe what they say. Another says practically the same thing though in different lauguage "Fifteen years ago," he writes, "it was discovered by some clever speceverything that people would be likely to she is fated to block the path as effectualread, without regard to private feelings, or ly as though her nationals had the lion's discrimination and intelligence to their accuracy, or importance, and which above share of the trade. Digitized by Google

-a right of tenancy-, and that the all things, startled people, no matter how, by invention, by head-lines, or pictures. But perhaps the most interesting and artistically sarcastic comment of all is that of The Sun, which claims that the power of newspapers in influencing public opinion was never so strikingly demonstrated as in this very election, for they succeeded in "drumming up" the Low vote solely by means of a pure fiction, the "Plattism bogy," which was a veritable humbug, having no existence outside their own imagination. In short, by an astute exercise of their metier of falsehood, they accomplished a momentary resurrection of the power of the Fourth Estate, driv-ing, at the same time, another nail deep into its coffin. Perhaps it is unfair to cite the World as a sample of American journalism, for though its circulation is immense and its pecuniary success proportionate, its stands about as low down in the moral scale as a newspaper can get. However, it is in connexion with the World's London correspondence that we make these remarks. The correspondent, who understands perfectly that his first business is to be sensational, begins by declaring that "the long threatened European conflagration can not be much further delayed." Then he talks of "the plans for partitioning China being calmly discussed by Europe without even consult-ing Great Britain," and then, having discanted in hysterical terms on England's industrial troubles and the weakness of her Army, he quietly declares that "a British force larger than Wellington commanded at Waterloo is retreating before a horde of undisciplined hillmen in India," and that the disaster is entirely due to nepotism and corruption. To refute such folly in detail would be only a degree less foolish. So far as American journalists are concerned, it seems to us that their labours on behalf of the Press serve chiefly to push it down hill.

#### THE NEW TARIFF.

The confusion into which Austro-Hungarian affairs have temporarily fallen constitutes another obstacle in the path of the new Japanese Tariff's operation. Our readers are already aware, however, that the revised Treaty with Austria-Hungary provides for an interval of only one month between the exchange of ratifications and the operation of the Tariff. The French treaty provides six months, and as the French Treaty has only just received the ratification of the President, it can not reach Japan before the end of February. We may assume, then, that the ratifica-tions will be exchanged in Tokyo about the beginning of March, and that so far as France is concerned, the Tariff can become operative from, say, September 15th, or, more probably, October 1st. But the ratifications of the Austro-Hungarian treaty must be exchanged a month before the latter date; in other words, must be exchanged on September 1st, for, of course, the Tariff must be applicable to the trade of all the Treaty Powers simultaneously; no one of them can be left out. It would be rash to predict anyulators that there was great deal of thing about Austria-Hungary's doings in examine the Code, devoted itself simply this matter. The delays for which she is to revision. But, in point of fact, it has newspapers of the type introduced by the already responsible are almost comical almost re-written the Code, taking Gerland Repeats which made late James Gordon Bennett, which made considering the petty dimensions of her no pretence of earnestness, which printed commerce with Japan, but apparently

#### DR. LÖNHOLM'S CIVIL CODE.

Dr. Lönholm's translation of the first two books of the Civil Code has reached its second edition. These two books comprise 393 out of the 724 Articles already promulgated and translated by Mr. J. H. Gubbins in the volume to which we re-cently referred. The first edition of Dr. Lönholm's translation appeared in April, 1896—nearly two years ago. It represented a remarkable leat of scholarship. For the Code was not promulgated until February of that year, and since the printing and publishing of Dr. Lönholm's book must have taken fully a month, it follows that he accomplished his work of translation in twenty-five or thirty days. He must, therefore, have translated and written out an average of sixteen Articles daily-a veritable achievement, especially when we consider that the learned Jurist was, at the same time, discharging his functions as Professor of Law in the Imperial University. This calculation suggests another point, also. It would seem that the result of Dr. Löuholm's labours must have been accessible to the German Government before the conclusion of the Revised Treaty with Japan, or at any rate, before the conclusion of the negotiations relating to revision. If so, the work can not fail to have proved immensely valuable, and we shall probably be right if we assume that the explicitness with which the German negotiators ness with which the German negotiators were able to define the privileges they secured for their nationals—and therefore for the subjects and citizens of all the other Treaty Powers, also—was largely due to Dr. Lönholm's most timely translation. We presume that the Government in Berlin has not failed to recognize the translator's work. failed to recognise the translator's work. At any rate his own nationals have to thank him for his strenuous industry, and so have all the foreign residents, for truly without his expositions published in the correspondence columns of the Japan Mail, it is difficult to see how the persistent misapprehensions circulated by some of the local newspapers in Yokohama and Kobe with reference to the tenure of land, could have been dispelled authoritatively.

We observe that Mr. Gubbins in the preface of his book, makes brief reference to Dr. Lönholm's work. He says :--" I have consulted with advantage Dr. L. Lönholm's translation of the Code." We infer, from the cursory character of this indication, that the English sinologue did not make large use of the German's work, and, indeed, the fact is demonstrated by certain differences of terminology. On the whole it seems regrettable that some method of cooperation was not devised, for the question of terminology is of great importance, and a German jurist is naturally the best authority on such a subject. The Civil Code may be said to be altogether German. Nothing, or al-most nothing, remains of the original Code promulgated in 1890 and derived chiefly from French sources. The public has been under the impression that the Committee appointed by the Government in 1891, at the instance of the Diet, to man, instead of French, law as a basis. The result is excellent. The revisers, full sense of the conditions to which the laws have to be adapted, and at the same time, they have paid such careful attention to general principles that jurists will probably pronounce this Code one of the best, if not the very best, in existence. We trust that Dr. Lönholm will complete his translation. He must be perfectly familiar with the original laws and is therefore in a position to furnish authoritative renderings of the Japanese text.

#### SECRET INSTRUCTIONS.

The Kobe Chronicle re-iterates its fears as to the good faith of the Japanese Authorities in administering the laws of the realm when foreigners are concerned. It

Even if foreigners technically have the right to make a "superficies lease" for fifty, a hundred, or a thousand years, there is no guarantee, in face of the absence of specific provisions in the Trea-ties, restricting the Government from passing a ties, restricting the Government from passing a law to limit such terms, or discriminating against foreigners in future as in the past by the issue of secret instructions to the registration authorities, These points we shall continue to keep before the public until some arrangement has been arrived at between the Foreign Representatives and the Japanese Government.

Thus the position taken by the Kobe Chronicle is that the Japanese Government can not be trusted to discharge its treaty obligations; that, having pledged to extend national treatment to British subjects with regard to a certain privilege defined by law, it will discriminate against them by means of secret instructions to the judicial authorities administering the laws. There is here a a double-barrelled charge—a charge of deliberate mala fides on the part of the Japanese Government, and a charge against the judiciary of violating the laws at the beck of the Executive. Our contemporary intends to keep these chimeras before the public until some provision has been made against them by arrangement between the Foreign Representatives and the Japanese Government. We fear that the Kobe Chronicle has set itself a hopeless task. If any foreign Representative were to invite a civilized Government to give an engagement of such a nature, his passports would be handed to him within 24 hours.

The Kobe Chronicle is further apprehensive that though the Code, as it now stands, grants the right of superficies, there is nothing to prevent an alteration of the law, by and by, and it desires to have that contingency also provided against by a special diplomatic arrange-ment. We fear that no arrangement of the kind is within the range of practical politics. The most that foreign States can ask from Japan is national treatment for their subjects and citizens. It would, in fact, be quite futile to approach any constitutional Government in the manner suggested by our Kobe contemporary. In Japan the Diet has power to make or change the laws, subject, of course, to the Sovereign's approval. The Sovereign can not guarantee permanency for any law; neither can the Diet. Japanese subjects are liable to have the laws altered by the legislature. Foreigners residing in Japan must submit to the same liability. The Foreign Representatives and the Japanese Government would be willing, doubtless, to listen to and entertain any reasonable suggestion, but these proposals of the Kobe journal are quite beyond the range of reason or practical possibility. Digitized by GOOS

#### THE BANKS AND INTEREST.

We presume that the step taken by several Japanese banks—the Mitsubishi, the Third, the Fifteenth, and the Hundredth-in raising their rates of interest, has been officially recommended as a device for replenishing the store of floating capital; or rather, recalling it into channels where it will be available for the purposes of productive enter-prise. At all events, the Imperial Commercial and Industrial Bank has followed suit, and, since the 15th instant, has been offering 61 per cent. on deposits for six months and upwards, and 1.5 sen daily on current accounts. The Post Office Saving Banks, also, are said to have decided upon paying 42, or even 5, per cent., and it is rumoured that if they adopt the latter figure, private banks will compete with them by offering as much as 8 per cent. We regard the latter project, however, as very unlikely. Seven per cent. on fixed deposits is alreadyan extraordinary figure, and if it does not tempt depositors, neither will eight per cent., we imagine. Of course, the idea is that hoarding money has taken place on a considerable scale since the war. It always does take place when any feeling of financial insecurity is abroad. Apart from that, however, people who ought to be well informed allege that a part of the large amounts expended during the war went into the hands of folks who, being quite unaccustomed to possess any such sums, have not thought of anything better than to hide them away. The raising of the bank rate to seven per cent, is expected to attract so much attention that a bright idea will occur to these hoarders. At all events there is one thing pretty sure, namely, that if investors can get 7 per cent. from perfectly safe banks like the Mitsubishi, the Fifteenth, and so on, they will be reluctant to put their money into any enterprise that is not of the most satisfactory nature. Thus the banks' action should produce a salutary effect. Presumably, their lending rate will be 12, or even 13, per cent., so that another obstacle is placed in the path of bubble enterprises.

#### THE CROWN PRINCE'S MAJORITY.

The Prince Imperial, as already noted in these columns, attained the age of eighteen, in other words his majority, on the 30th of last August. Owing to the Court mourning, however, no steps were taken to celebrate the event publicly. It is now stated that the cerentony will take place at some time during March. The details are not yet published, of course, but there will presumably be some religious observances in the Imperial Sanctuary, followed by a levee and, perhaps, a State ball. Concerning the last part of the programme, the Nichi Nichi Shimbun observes that as electric lighting was abolished in the Palace in 1891, there would be great inconvenience in having ing the tenure of shares-as of banks and an evening entertainment there. Probably one of the detached palaces, Akasaka-Goten or Hama-Rikiu, would be they fully realize the value of their own used. The ladies of Tokyo will welcome the prospect of anything in the shape of a ball. From their point of view, the dullness of Tokyo during the past twelvemonth must have been deadly.

#### KOBE DIRECTORY.

Kobe has at length a directory of its own. It is somewhat surprising that a Settlement of such importance, a Settlement which is running Yokohama close for pride of place, has hitherto remained without a volume so essential. Of course, each of the directories published in Yokohama has invariable devoted space to Kobe, but that is a very different matter from having a special, unadulterated directory, if we may use the expression. The Kobe Publishing Company-which seems to be synonymous with the Kobe Herald-has now stepped into the breach, and produced a book of handy size, clearly printed, neatly bound, and doubtless accurate, though on the last point we are not qualified to pronounce an opinion.
The publishers have been fortunate enough to obtain 40 pages of advertisements, a fact which speaks highly for the business enterprise of Kobe. They have supple-mented the directory proper by a mass of information on all kinds of subjects, including a list of the local sporting events from 1871 to 1897; which list, curiously enough, is placed immediately after the enumeration of the various missionary bodies without so much as a dividing leaf. In fact, valuable as are the contents of the volume-tariff lists, tables of weights and measures, names of well known places, postage rates, jinrikisha and sampan charges, a calendar, Japanese eras, notes on tides, &c.,—we shall be surprised if the confused method of arrangement does not call down many anathemas on the heads of the compilers during the next twelve-month. In the first place, the directory itself and the alphabetical list of names are sandwiched between a quantity of foreign matter, and none of the usual marginal devices has been employed to enable readers to make direct reference to these essential parts. In the second place, 18 pages without numerals or lettering of any kind to distinguish them, are inserted after the front advertisements and before the calendar, which in turn, together with the notes on tides and the list of Japanese eras, makes another section of 36 pages, distinguished by Roman numerals, the whole prefatory to the directory. And in the third place, there is no index. How on earth people are expected to use the volume, we do not perceive. The familiarity resulting from long practice can alone obviate the inconvenience of such a want of system. However, these defects can easily be remedied in next year's edition, and in the mean time the Kohe folks will have to be content with the volume as it stands.

#### FOREIGN CAPITAL.

The question of the introduction of foreign capital continues to be discussed earnestly by the vernacular press. The advocates of effecting that end by legalizcompanies—by foreigners seem to be in-creasing, but it is difficult to think that arguments. The plain, incontrovertible fact is that no foreigner will put his money into Japanese enterprises unless he can have a genuine voice in their management and control. There are plenty of Japanese companies which declare fat dividends, and have declared fat dividends ever since they com-

menced operations. We have not the slightest doubt that many of them are perfeetly sound. But which? It is in the nature of things that they can not all be trustworthy. How is the foreigner to make a selection? An Euglishman, when looking for an investment, is guided in great part by the names of the promoters and directors. If he himself has a seat on the board of directors, the case is different; but if he is an ordinary person, merely seeking some profitable and safe way of getting a return from his capital, he attaches very great, even paramount, importance to the auspices under which an investment is commended to the public. That kind of safeguard is scarcely possible There are, indeed, a few names in Japan. of leading Japanese merchants and bankers whose association with any undertaking itself. would have much weight with foreigners; but, on the whole, it would be idle to ask Europeans or Americans to place their money beyond the reach of their own supervision. Of course a company guaranteed by the Government would be a different affair, and that is what the advocates of inviting foreign shareholders recommend. But how could the Government guarantee any particular companies? How could it, why should it, discriminate? And if a Government guarantee is the desideratum, why do not foreigners invest in five-per-cent. Government bonds? They would eagerly purchase five-per-cents issued by the Govern-ment of the United States, or of Gerfive-per-cent. Government many or of France, but they seem to have no liking for Japanese securities. If they will not buy public loan bonds, neither will they buy the shares of Companies. That is certain. In our opinion two things are necessary in order to find a market abroad for Japan's national securities. One is that they should be guaranteed against taxation; the other that they should not be redeemable unless the holder wishes to sell-that, in short, the Government's operations of amortization should be limited to bonds offered for sale, as is the case in England. If those two measures were taken, Japanese public securities would certainly find foreign buyers, but as to obtaining any large sum of foreign capital quickly and cheaply, a national loan will probably be found to be the only feasible method.

#### THEATRICALS IN TORYO.

The Tokyo Musical and Dramatic Society gives its first performance for the season on the 26th instant. Society has not lost much time in get-It was obliged to reting to work. main idle throughout the whole period of mourning for the late Empress Dowager, not, of course, because theatrical performances were interdicted, but because the relations which the Society has, through its patrons, placed it virtually under the necessity of observing the mourning rites until the end. The IIth instant was the last day of the period, and from the 12th the hall at the Shoreikai became accessible. It will be seen, therefore, that very little time has been lost in preparing an entertainment. We trust that the Society may have a successful season, and that it will organise as many performances as possible to make up for the long interval of idleness.

#### COUNT INOUYE ON FINANCE.

The fiji Shimpo thus epitomises a statement made by Count Inouye to its representative on the subject of finance:—

You want to know ony views about the financial problem, do you? You imagine, then, that I have views cut and dried? I held office in the finance. Department in 1873, and now, after twenty-six years, I find myself there again. The finances of the nation have changed greatly since that time. Even to read the Budget of 1897-8 ance through, is no small task, and every one of its details must be mastered before an opinion can be formed. So, your see, I have no views as yet. A friend called on me yesterday evening and said:—"I understand that you are in favour of introducing foreign capital." I replied:—"Do you suppose that such a question as the introduction of foreign capital can be decided off-hand? Throk a little. The first thing to be determined in whether a necessity to introduce foreign capital presents itself. Then, if there does appear to be a necessity, we have to consider the amount, and thereafter the method. The necessity admitted, the amount fixed and the method settled, it b-comes essential to consider what effect the introduction of foreign capital would produce on economical society, and whether that effect might not be in the name of an aggravation rather than an anchoration of the present state of affairs. All these points demand the most careful analysis. Were these question of the finances of a single humshold, I might be able to indicate a present product of procedure as a temporary measure, but when the finances of the nation are to be deat with, to temporizing course is permissible; or, at any rate, if a temporary expedient be resorted to, we must have a clear idea of what we are going to do afterwards." In that strain I answered my visitor. The fact is that such an empirical step as the introduction of foreign capital can not be tusted to restore prosperity under financial complications like those now existing. I do not may, of course, that it is not desirable to introduce foreign capital. I merely say that I do not yet see my way.

This has a decided ring of Count Inouye, and it tallies, moreover, with the general trend of the paragraphs published by Tokyo newspapers on the same subject during the past few days.

#### YOKOHAMA'S FIRST CRICKET MATCH.

We take the following from the London and China Express:—The annual concert of the Imps Cricket Club, which is composed of members of the staff of the Imperial Institute, was held in South Kensington on the roth Dec. The chair was occupied by Captain Sir Alfred Jephson, R.N., who said that one of the most exciting matches he ever experienced was when he took part in the first match ever played by Englishmen in Japan. It was in 1857. They had gone out on H.M.S. Sanspared with a large contingent of Royal Marines for the Indian Mutiny, and, after landing them safely, proceeded to China. On their way they stopped at Yokohama, where, by the permission of the swamp butside the town, but only on one condition, that all should go armed, so the country at that period was in a very disturbed state. The match came off, and it was lucky that they had all taken revolvers with them, for they subsequently learned that not more than three-quarters of a mile away a French officer had been cut up.

An Old Resident points out that Sir Alfred jephson, R.N., is a little out in his dates when the tent, therefore, that very en lost in preparing an Ve trust that the Society sful season, and that it many performances as up for the long interval many performances as up for the long interval that Yokohama in 1857, for at the earlier date it was in all verity a fisherman's hamlet set upon a swamp.

An Old Resident points out that Sir Alfred Jephson, R.N., is a little out in his dates when in active in his dates when in active in a little out in his dates when in active in the first cricket match in Yokohama: that is if it took place on the day when the French officer was cut down at Ota. This melancholy event occurred in October, 1863, the unfortunate officer being murdered as he was quietly riding into Yokohama first saw the "willow" handled in 1863 than in 1857, for at the earlier date it was in all verity a fisherman's hamlet set upon a swamp.

SIR NICHOLAS HANNEN.

Yokohama appreciated and liked Sir Nicholas Hannen so thoroughly that we are tempted to reproduce the speech made by Mr. Robert Little when proposing his health at a Club dinner recently given in Shanghai:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen. I assume the Chairman's consent that I should occupy your attention for a minute or two, though I have no real claim to do so, as I am not even a bicyclist. But I am sure you will forgive me enthusiastically, when I mention that I am about to ask you to drick the health of our Chairman. Sir Nicholas Hannen.—(Cheers.) There are many lights in which we can look on Sir Nicholas, and no one can appreciate him better than I, who have had the honour and pleasure of knowing him intimately since he first came to Shaghai some thirty years ago. In that period he has endeared himself to us all by his kindness and geniality and earned our respect by Bia ability and straightforward character: I need not say much to you on the subject of his social side. We all recognise that he has shown himself a thorough Shanghai mao, and nothing that interests Shanghais in different to him. He interess himself in all our sports, as well as in graver mattera.—(Cheers.) When the amalgamation of the Chief Justiceship with the Consul-Generalship was decided on, it was remarked that objectionable as the new departure was, it was alleviated to us by the appointment as the first occupants of the dual post of the two best meet that could have been selected, Sir Nicholas Hannen and Mr. George Jamieson.—(Cheers.) Experience has amply proved the justice of the remark, it would not become me to say much of Sir Nicholas Hannen as Chief Justice; but I may say that it would be impossible met that squeet endoubled force to the wave of indignation that spread over Shanghai when the recent gross attack was made upon him in that superlatively mixed Court.—(Renewed cheers.) But I wish specially to say a few words on the work that Sir Nicholas has done as Consul-General. Rudyard Kipling has made it a great point in the character of Lord Roberts—and it has become a proverb—that "he doesn't advertise," and I may say the same thing of Sir Nicholas. He doesn't go about with a placard on his back. "I'm the British Consul-General, and d

This speech is interesting, not merely for its own sake—and assuredly it is a capital oratorical effort—, nor yet for the deserved enlogium it bestows upon Sir Nicholas Hannen, but for the apeaker's splendid indifference to the reserve usually observed in alluding, at a Club dinner and in the presence of a number of nationalities, to the acts of a British official in his official capacity. It is easy to see that Shanghai has the advantage, or disadvantage, of lying far heyond the range of diplomatic influences. Sir Nicholas Hannen's answer is summarized in the most general terms, and we do not doubt that it was very "general."

Dr. Schmidt-Leda, German Consul-General for Japan, who is at present staying in Berlin ou leave, has been attached to Baron von Richtofen, in order to assist him in conducting the affairs of the Colonial Department.

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### ENGLAND IN CHINA.

NCREDIBLE as the intelligence sounded at first that the British Government was disposed to guarantee a Chinese loan, the course of subsequent events and the persistence of the rumour forbid us to dismiss it as a pure canard. An air of probability was imparted to it at the outset by the rate at which the loan was alleged to have been fixed, namely, 110, the interest being 3 per cent. Bonds bearing three per cent. interest and secured by the guarantee of HER MAJES-TV'S Government, would find eager purchasers in London at a premium of ten per cent., but of course such figures would be out of the question did not the transaction stand on an official basis. Since that first rumour reached us, there has been no contradiction. On the contrary, every fresh item of news has been confirmatory, especially the telegrams sent from Peking to the Jiji Shimpo, under date of the 14th, 15th and 16th instant. These telegrams indicate that certain conditions have been submitted to China by Great Britain, and of course nothing of that kind would be probable if the question of a Government loan were not on the tapis. Nevertheless many people will find very great difficulty in believing that Lord Salisbury and his colleagues have taken such . step. Parliament is not sitting at present -will not be sitting until Februaryand though Lord BEACONSFIELD negotiated the purchase of the Suez Canal shares in November 1875 without consulting the Legislature, the transaction differed radically in character from a loan to China, and was, moreover, of smaller dimensions, four millions sterling being the amount involved in the Canal affair and sixteen millions the sum in China's case. It has to be remembered, however, that the Russian Government already figures as China's creditor; that Russia and France are responsible for the invention and employment of this new diplomatic device, which, according to their method of employing it, serves primarily to threaten British interests, and that the been made by Her Majesty's Government. security offered by the Chinese Customs, although a great part of them is already mortgaged, amply suffices for an additional indebtedness requiring only some five amortization. Lord SALISBURY was a acquired, and he must have a very lively welcome such coups. There is a passionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world's trade. The world's trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world's trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade. The world is trade in the sionate love of enterprise and push the guardian of the world's trade.

most methodical Englishman, and he is ready at all times to throw his hat into the air and shout himself hoarse over every evidence of "the tight little island's" goaheadness. There is no room to doubt that the SALISBURY Cabinet will find them-{ries can be fitted to it, of course, but selves the objects of a popular poean if they take the step attributed to them by rumour. In truth, to every Englishman who takes the trouble to think, it must seem somewhat farcical that finance should be employed by an European Power as = weapon for forcing England out of the field. If Russia and France waited to challenge her to a trial of strength in the Far East, they might have chosen some arm which she is less competent to wield. We may say here, however, that, so far as we can ascertain-and we have made inquiries in responsible quarters-there is as yet no official knowledge in Tokyo of the measure proclaimed by the telegraph, and we must therefore dismiss as apocryphal the statement that Japan is supporting Great Britain. We entertain very little doubt that Japan would be quite ready to support Great Britain in all the steps thus far attributed to the latter, but steps thus far attributed to the latter, but in the political sphere, and of what our illustrious England scarcely needs any help in such father won by his sword on the battlefield; they a matter: she can score off her own bat.

This brings us at once to the question of the conditions said to have been laid down by HER MAJESTY'S Government, the opening of three ports, one in Hunan, one in Kwangsi and one in the Liantung Peninsula, and the construction of railways in the valley of the Yangtsze and in Yunnan. As to these railways, the same comment applies as that previously made by us in the case of Germany's alleged demand for the building of lines in Shantung. China is precluded by her treaties from granting any such privilege exclusively to the nationals of one State. She may adopt any course she pleases so far as individual Englishmen, or individual Frenchmen are concerned, but she may not pledge herself to British subjects, as such, or to French citizens, as such, to the exclusion of the citizens and subjects of other Treaty Powers. It is not imaginable that any proposal of the kind has The railway condition, if formulated, doubtless aims at nothing more than securing China's acquiescence in the general proposition that Yunnan and the Valley million taels annually for interest and of the Yangtsze shall be supplied with railway communications. As for the opening member of Mr. DISRAELI'S Cabinet in of three new ports it is a proposal worthy of 1875 when the KHEDIVE'S shares were special notice for it clearly establishes the distinction between the policy of Great recollection of the chorus of applause Britain and the policy of other European which the act evoked from the country Powers in the Far East. England simply and of the praises with which the air seeks to bring the whole of the Chinese rang for the courage and spirit shown by empire within the direct sphere of foreign the Conservative Ministry. The truth is commerce. She does not want any that the British nation is always ready to territory for herself or any new naval stations. She stands forward solely as in order once for all to give his protection to all who

Kingdom's resources is her programme, and she invites every country to share in the enterprise. The attitude of opposition attributed to Russia and France seems scarcely credible. Plausible theoit is not the business of a newspaper to discuss such a subject until the facts are fully ascertained.

#### THE KAISER AND PRINCE HENRY.

We have now before us the text of the remarkable speeches made by the German Emperor and Prince Henry at the banquet in Kiel Castle on the 15th December.

The Emperor said :-

My dear Henry,—As I arrived at Kiel to-day I was thinking how often I had entered this town with feelings of pleasure, whether I came for purposes of sport or, at your side and on my ships, to take part in some military undertaking. When I set foot in the town to-day it was under the influence of solemn feelings, for I amfully conscious of the task I have imposed upon you, and of the responsibility which falls upon me. But, at the same time, I am conscious that it is my duty to extend and enlarge what my predecessors have trqueathed to me. The junctey which you will indectake and the task which you have to fuffit imply in themselves nothing new; they are the legical consequences of what my grandfather, of blessed memory, and his great Chancellor founded we naught but the first manifestation of the newlyunited and newly-arisen German Empire in its transmarine mission. In the stupendous development of its commercial interests, the Empire has gained for itself such a wide sphere that it is my duty to follow the new German Hansestic League and to bestow upon it the protection it can claim from the Empire and the Emperor.

" Our German brethren in the service of the Church, who went forth to prosecute their tranquit chinten, who went into the state to stake their lives in order to give our religion a home on a foreign soil among a foreign people, placed themselves under my protection. What has now to be selves under my protection. What has now to be done is to create for these brethren, who have repeatedly been undested and often persecuted, a stay and a defence for ever. For this reason the enterprise which I have intrusted to you and which you will have to accomplish, along with the con-rades and ships which are aiready on the spot, is

ships of war our commerce, the German merchant, and German vessels must now obtain those rights which we may justly claim—the same eights which the foreigner concedes to all other nations. Our commerce is, indeed, no new creation. Hanseatic League in olden times was one of the mightiest enterprises that the world ever saw, The German towns were once able to fit out fleets such as the broad back of the sea had But the League probably never borne before. But the League decayed and inevitably declined because one of the two conditions of its maintenance was lacking—the Imperial protection. The times have ing—the Imperial protection. The times have changed. The first preliminary condition, the German Empire, has been created. The second condition is also present. German commerce flourishes and develops, and it can only develop in prosperity and safety when it feels safe under the Imperial power. Imperial power means naval. power, and naval power and Imperial power are implicitly dependent on each other, in such wise that the one cannol exist without the other.

"As a symbol of Imperial and naval power the squadion which your division goes to reinforce will now have to act. Let it maintain sincere relations and good friendship with all comrades be-langing to loneign fleets in those distant waters, and let it be a strong defence for the interests of our country against every one who would meddle with the Germans. Such is your mission and your task. May every European in those distant regions, may every German merchant, and, above all, may the foreigner on whose soil we are, or with whom we shall have to deal, be aware that the German Michael has firmly planted his shield

the protection of the German Empire implied by the German ships of war will be steadily vouch safed them. But should any one essay to detract from our just rights or to injure us, then up and at him with your mailed fist (fahre darrin mil so him with your mailed fist (fahre darrin mil gepanzerter Faust), and if it he God's will, weave for your youthful brow a wreath of laurel which no one in all the German Empire will guidge you.

one in all the German Empire will genoge you.

"In the firm conviction that, imitating excellent models—of models of conduct, God be thanked, our House can show plenty—you will fulfilling ideas and wishes, I raise my glass and empty it to mishing you a good voyage, a good your health, wishing you a good voyage, a good performance of your task, and a joylub return. Long tive his Royal Highness Prince Henry! Hurrah! Hurrah!

Prince Henry's reply was :-

Most angust Emperor, most mighty King and Lord, Blustrious brother,—We grew up together as children. Later on it was our privilege, as men, to look into each other's eyes and faithfully to stand by each other. The Imperial crown budded for your Majesty with thorus. I have tried in my nature solder and with my feelib goover. as ded for your Majesty with thorus. I have tried in my narrow sphere and with my feeble powers, as a soldier, and as a citizen of the State, to help your Majesty. A greater spoch came, an epoch of import for the nation, an epoch of import for your Majesty's navy. Your Majesty has most graciously made the sacrifice (die Enstangung gehabt) of intrusting me with this command. I thank your Majesty with a most (aithful, a brotherly, and a most limble heart. bomble beart.

most humble heart.

"I very well know the thoughts of your Majesty. I know what a great sacrifice is involved when your Majesty intrusts me with such a splendid command. And it is this that moves me most profoundly; it is for this that I thank your Majesty most sincerely. In the second place, I am profoundly obliged to your Majesty for the confidence which your Majesty reposes in my humble person. Of one thing I may assure your Majesty—neither Of one thing I may assure your Majesty-neither fame nor landels have charms for me. One thing is the aim that draws me on-it is to declare in foreign lands the gospet of your Majesty's hallowed person (dus Evangelium Eurer Maiestät geheiligter Person lans Evangetium Eurer Majestat geheiligter Person im Austande au künden), to preach it to every one who will hear it, and also to those who will not hear it. This gospet I will have inscribed on my banner, and I will inscribe it withersoever I go. The same sentiments which inspire me us I set forth are cherished in my commades.

I saise my class, and as for those whose heavy

I raise my glass, and as for those whose happy fate it is to be permitted to face forth with me call upon them to impress the image of our Kaiser their minds and to let the cry resound far over the world-Most august, most mighty, beloved Emperor, King and Lord, for ever and ever. Hurrab! Hurrab!

The Berlin correspondent of The Times, referring to these speeches; of which the above are his translations, says :-

The tone and phraseology of the Imperial and Royal speeches, which I have endeavoured faithfully to convey, are unusual, even if allowance be made for the difference between German and English idiom, a difference nearly as great on such occasions as that between English and Chi-In several senses the significance of the speeches is, however, only the more marked,

The Times, while making full allowance for the fact that every nation has its own conceptions of eloquence and good taste, and that the two speeches are not us be judged strictly by English standards, thinks, nevertheless, that "if a broad smile does not play over the Teutonic countenance as these august utterances are disseminated through the Fatherland, the wicked Frenchman's question whether humour formed part of the equipment of the German intellect, will be decided irrevocably in the negative." Noting that the voyage about to be undertaken by Prince Henry is "what most Englishmen and all English naval officers would think a very pleasant trip," it contrasts with this common place purpose "phraseology only worthy of the heroes of melodrama," and then goes on to say :-

It is the sort of jub which quite unconsidered Bitish commanders have done over and over again to the entire satisfaction of their countrymen and to their own without effort and without fuss. Indeed, the chances seem to be that Price Henry will have no fighting at all if abject submission on the Imperial perfection on the Imperial perfection words of his Imperial brother and his own words.

een high-flown to modern ears if they had been uttered by a Philip II, as he despatched the "In-vincible Armada," or by a Christopher Columbia about to carry the dominion of Spain over oceans which to keel had ever ploughed before. The Emperor evokes the memories of Metz and of Emperor evokes the memories of Metz and of Sedan to encourage Prince Henry to keep up a stout heart as he faces the perils of the Suez Canal and the terrors of the China Sea. He says it is his duty "to extend and entarge what his predecessors have bequeathed to him," and apparently he hopes to act as "Mehrer des Reichs" to the extent of a coaling station. He very tuity observes that the voyage and the task of Prince Henry are "nothing new." But he affects to see in this little numitive excedition, the commencement of a are "nothing new." But he affects to see in this little punitive expedition the commencement of a new era. They are, we are told, "the first manifestation" of the new German Empire in "its transmaring mission." The Prince's squadron will now "have to act." as "a symbol of Imperial and naval power" and about this part of the speech there occur a few words which perhaps speech there occur a lew words which perhaps reveal the true meaning of this astonishing display. "Imperial power," says the Emperor, "means naval power, and naval power and Imperial power are implicitly dependent on each other in such wise that the one cannot exist without the other." So far as Imperial power beyond the seas is concerned we cordially agree, but before Germany makes up her mind to under take the burden of such an empire she will probably sit down and count the charges which it entails. The Emperor insists that the aims who which he is despatching his fleet are purely defensive. But he wants everybody to know that "the German Michael has firmly planted his shield with the device of the German eagle upon the soil "—apparently upon the Emperor of China's soil—"in order once for all to give his protection to all who may ask for it." What would the German Emperor and the German Press have to say of any person unrighte-ous enough to formulate such doctrine as this, say, in South Africa? And he makes this, say, in South Africa? And he makes no secret of the means by which the German Michael with his German eagle are to fulfil their beneficent mission. Should any ill-advised person beneroon masain. Sooth any measures person be so rash as to injure that individual or detract from his just rights, the Emperor exhauts his brother to smite the offender " with his mailed fist, and if it be God's will "—piery was ever a grace of the Hobenzollerns—"to weave for his youthful brow a wreath, of laurel."

The feelings of Prince Henry, who has been hitherto regarded as a sober and quiet personage, when he was called upon to reply to this effusion are not to be envied. Doubless be felt that he are not to be envied. Doubtless be felt that he had little choice as to the character of his remarks and determined to "play up to" his senior. He seems to have fallen into the error so common with the imitators of great artists and to have exaggerated all the exaggerations of the master. After saluting his bruther in langu-age of salutation eminently suggestive of recent Oriental studies, he, too, reverted to the recullec-tions of childhood. He stated that he and his tions of childhood. He stated that he and his brother had grown up together—an incident not uncommon with children of the same parents of similar years. As he grew older, he said, he had enjoyed the privilege of looking into that brother's eyes. Perhaps it is this experience which enables him to assure us that "he very well knows the thoughts of His Majesty"—a knowledge which we had imagined past the power of mortal wit. He thanked His Majesty for the self-sacrifice the latter had shown in despatching him to China, and then he went on to set for this way in which he conceive he went on to set for tithe way in which he conceived his mission. Not fame nor lantels have charms for him. He has but a single aim, and it is an aim which we feel quite incapable of adequately expressing in any words of ours. He goes forth, he assures his brother, "to declare abroad the control of your Mainth's amplified persons he was "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Mainth's "Maint gospel of your Majesty's anointed person; to preach it to every one who will hear in, and also to those who will not hear it. This gospel," he protests, "I will have inscribed on my banner, and I will inscribe it whithersoever I go." An exhortation to his shipmates and comrades to "impress the image of their Kaises on their to "impress the image of their Kaises on their minds and to let the cry resound far over the world, Most August, Most Mighty, Beloved Emperor, King and Lord for ever and ever," closed this specimen of almost Byzantine self-abasement, unique in the annals of modern Europe. Yesterday Prince Henry got through the Baltic Canal without further accident. Europe. Yesterda The Emperor, who accompanied him part of the way, took his departure not unfittingly amidst the blaze of Bengal lights and hurried off to Friedrichstuh to pay a visit to Prince Bismarck. The private reflections of the old Iron Chancellor on the Imperial performace will be decidedly interesting. Unhappily we are hardly likely to get

That is all very true, no doubt, but The Times itself, in its mood of merriment, appears to forget the collateral issues involved in the Kiaochou proceeding. So far as the China of the moment is concerned, the Emperor of Germany must be thoroughly cognizant of the fact that he is sending ironclads to bomdard parapets of cheese. He knew, when he was speaking at Kiel, that China had already folded her hands in meek submission, and that anything like formidable resistance on her part, or even resistance of the feeblest kind, was out of the question. There were other issues to be considered, however, issues of the gravest character. Germany, by her Kiao-chou coup, has deliberately entered an arena where she can not possibly sustain herself by her own unaided strength, She is not equipped with means to play the part of an aggressor in the Far East. Her fleet does not begin to be sufficient for that purpose. She can not spare troops for a campaign at such a distance from home. She has no coaling stations, and, in the event of war, she would find herself, unless she had an ally, without dockyards, without a good basis of operations, and without sources of supply. The step that she has taken is thus seen to be one of the most daring in history. Whether it is the daring of genius or the rashness of unwisdom, we besitate te pronounce an opinion, but all thoughtful men must see that the safety of the position now assumed by Germany in the Far East, depends primarily on the good will of France and Russia. Suppose Germany confronted by the contingency to provide against which all her efforts have been directed during recent years, the contingency of an attack by Russia and France in combination, would not disaster be certain for her in the Far East? With the help of her partners in the Triple Alliance-Italy and Austria-Hungary-she could doubtless hold her own in Europe, but neither Italy nor Austria-Hungary would be of any use to her in the China Seas. She would be there at the mercy of her enemies, for let her ships be the best in the world and her sailors the stoutest, the odds against her would be simply overwhelming. Thus she has created a vulnerable point in her armour. China is nothing to her, but Russia and France are a great deal. It is not conceivable that the Emperor failed to appreciate any of these issues when he ordered the seizure of Kiao-chou and the despatch thither of a squadron which can not be spared from home waters without causing serious weakness there. Such considerations do not suffice to account altogether for the tone of the speeches delivered by his Majesty and Prince Henry, but they impart to the Kino-chou incident a complexion very different from that of a mere punitive expedition against an unresisting State. Germany has launched out in a direction where her weakness is conspicuous. and has undertaken responsibilities which the can not hope to discharge without immense danger. By Englishmen the fact onght to be welcomed, we think, for it points to an entente . with Germany. There have been causes of friction during the past two years, but the instincts and sime of the two nations draw them together. and it is very easy to conceive a cordial understanding between them in the Far East. After all Germany at Kiso-chou is posted between England and Russia in the Chinese empire. She may join hands with the Great Northern Power, but such a union must hold in Europe as well and Asia IT I Mat probable?

#### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In our last Summary we epitomised an article published in the Shukyo on the Reorganisa-tion of the Christian Church," in which the writer dwelt on what he conceived to be the evils attendant on the present system of propa-gandism. In the next number of the Shāiyō the discussion is continued, the following being the conclusion to which the essayist arrives.
(1) The theological seminaries now in existence need to be reformed. They deal too much with dry doctrines and theories and too little with practical Christian life. The students spend too much time in learning what theologians have said about Christianity and too little in direct and tangible proofs of the truth and power of the Christian religion. The scope of the teaching in achools of Divinity is far too narrow. The education given should embrace instruction on all general subjects, while impressing on the students the importance of religion. A study of the theology of the Christian Church in its entirety is quite unnecessary. Clurch in its entirety is quite unnecessary. One thing certainly should be impressed on the minds of theological students, namely, the importance of their becoming independent in This independence can be best attained by the young men receiving a training that shall qualify them to become teachers in schools and the like. (2) The second great change it is desirable to effect concerns each separate church. Instead of being as they now are, bodies of the nature of worshippers at temples with a priest at their head, I would leign have them constituted like a club, where the responsibility of keeping up the tone of the body rests with each individual member. The principal object of the existence of a Christian Church is not the observance of certain traditional ceremonies nor the defence of Christianity against hostile attack, but the manifestation to the world at large of the spirit of Christ. This object precisely corresponds with the motives that have actuated most of the founders and promoters of Clubs, A prosperous Club has a character, a principle and a tone of its own, and hence makes its influence felt in the world. The reforms I have proposed may appear in some too sweeping and to others quite unpractical, but to me they seem to be neither extreme nor fanciful. Given a number of Japanese Christians whose one object it is to present Christianity to the world in the most attractive form conceivable, the adoption of the course I have recommended is a step they would take without the least hesitation.

In an atticle entitled "Our attitude to Orthodox Christianity," the Shûkyo enunciates its principles in the following terms:—One of the causes of the stagnancy in the Christian Church, so widely complained of, is to be attributed to the spirit of compromise which has crept in among us. What we have always recommended is assimilation of religious thought derived from other sects, without yielding up a single iou of what we conceive to be true. Where agreement is possible the secis should unite, but to sink fundamental differences would involve emasculation. It may be well to enumerate the principal points on which as champions of the cause of liberal Christianity we differ from the orthodox. Briefly stated, these have reference to (1) the character of the Bible; (2) the nature of Christ, and (3) the subject of original sin. We do not think that the Bible is by any means perfect. We do not believe in the Divinity of Christ, and we do not regard the human race as suffering from the effects of the sin of Adam and Eve. us the final Court of Appeal for the settlement of all religious disputes is neither the Bible, the Church, nor tradition, but the reason of each individual Christian. Hence it follows that no Christian is under any obligation to observe ceremonies or conform to practices which to

the words and the character of Christ. We are earnest advocates of his doctrine of universal love, and we believe that it is quite possible for men and women to be so transformed as to become God-like. Hence we consider that we have every title to be ranked among Christ's disciples. . .

The Shukyo reports an interesting conver sation between Mr. Kuroda Sempo and Dr. Motora on the "Nippon Shugi" movement, which we give in the form of question and an-

Kuroda-It would seem that individual ism and nationalism are incompatible with each other. They can't both attain their objects.

What is your opinion?

Motora—Whenever no opposition to the State is involved, liberty should be given to in-dividuals to act as they please. If the State needs the house that I occupy it is my duty to give it up. This principle has been denied in America, however, from mistaken notions as to the limit of State power.

Kuroda—Does not what is known as the Nippon Shugi" emphasize nationalism rather S mailaubividualiam?

Motora-No. It emphasies Japan and things Japanese.

Kuroda-But does the Japanese exist who does not think highly of Japan? Is there any necessity for laying such stress on the subject at the present time?

Motora-Undoubtedly there is. Loyalty and filial piety have been practized in Japan from time immernorial, but there is still need of dwelling on the importance of these virtues. It the same with "Nipponism."

Kuroda-Does not "Nipponism" imply that the State is Supreme (至上)?

Motora-No. This is by no means the main purpose of "Nipponism." Kuroda-Is not the "Nippon Shugi" move

Motors—With the progress of the movement Motors—With the progress of the movement religion will disappear. What need is there to religion will disappear. What need is devise special means for its abolition?

Kuroda-If what you say is correct, most people entertain very mistaken notions of the true nature of the "Nippon Shugi.

Motora-That is most certainly the case,

According to the Shukyo, Christian propagandism in the Hokkaido meets with far more obstacles than are encountered in the South. In place of the indifferentism which characterises ordinary Japanese in the South there is manifested in Yezo a great aversion to Christanity. At Hakodate and Nemuro only is there a sign of life. In confirmation of this view the Shukyo furmshes the following table of Statistics :-- No. of Evange- Foreign Japanese No. Mission. Pastors, of

	hurches,	linea.	Minai	nu- Pas	tors, of Chris-
Methodist Kumiai (Congre-	6	12	5	7	715
gational) 墨公會 Sei Kö	5	7	-	7	183
正政會 Seikyō	13	22		14	475
Nilion Kiristo	7	8	1	€7	925
Kiōkai	5	8	_	8	320
Kai	4	10	- 5	5	397
Baptists	3	2	_	2	81
kuritsu-ha	ŧ	1	-	1	267
T-1-1	_	_	_	_	
Total	43	70	19	51	3,363
The schools established by the different hadies					

tablished by the different hodies are five in number with a total attendance of 405. The teachers at these schools number 31,

Mr. Kawasaki Minotatô has published a work called Jikkenjō no Shūkyō (Experimental Reli-giou) which is very highly spoken of by re-ligious magazines. Messrs. Uchimura, Kosaki, Uemura, Takenokoshi and others have furnish-

\*It has been representedly asserted by other 

ed prefaces. The book sells at 35 sen per copy at the Keiseisha, Izumo-chö, Kyobashi, Tokyo. The argument of the work is that experience is the only true test of the efficacy of a religion. The author quotes the experience of a number of persons of all ages, ranks and professions.

The Shukyo discusses the connection of literature and religion historically so far as Japan is concerned. The most productive periods in the history of Japanese literature were the ninth century (the Heian era) and the hundred years that followed the Genroku era, say from A.D. 1688-1788. The impetus to literature in each case came from a degeneration in morals consequent on the continuance of peace. One of the alter-results of war is a lapse into looseness of morals and luxurious living. This effect of the Japan-China war we are now feeling, and it is not unreasonable to expect a revival of letters at the present time. The writer of the article, Mr. Yamamoto Ryökichi, next proceeds to remark that the essence of literature consists of the existence in the mind of certain earnest convictions; which convictions, in that they concarn the invisible, the infinite, the spiritual part of this our human life, are essentially religious. All kinds of deep and earnest thought, in which the mind reverences certain great truths, is to Mr. Yamamoto a species of religion. The existence of literature and religion are alike dependent on the glimpses of the infinite which men see beneath the finite-on sympathy with the spirit of the Universe, whether it be called God or described in some other way.

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In No. 59 of his Hundred Short Essays, published in the Talyo, Dr. Kato draws attention to the undesirable consequences likely to result from the method of teaching Chinese sanctioned and encouraged by the Mombusho. Many of the text books used, as well as the men who are paid to explain them, says Dr. Kato, are out of keeping with the spirit of the age in which we live. Moreover, it constantly happens that there are in the same school Chinese teachers of the old type, who still believe in many of the superstitions alluded to in text books, and men trained in the Meijl ers, whose knowledge of science is sufficient to make them hold in contempt the so-called supernatural allusions of the books they are called on to explain. Thus it sometimes happens that in different rooms of the same school the most contradictory explanations of the same event or process are being given. To quote one instance, says Dr. Katō, one teacher tells his pupils how rate is made, giving its ingredients and describing the chemical process resorted to in its manufacture. His fellow-teacher next door informs his pupils that sake is only water transformed by the command of a certain god. The students must accept one of the two theories, and sneer at the other. The mind of youth ought not to be left to choose between the teaching of one instructor and that of another. If the learned world is agreed that certain explanations of events given by Chinese books are not trustworthy, school teachers should no longer he allowed to treat these passages as on a level with authoritative scientific statements that are capable of proof. A certain amount of liberty must be given to instructors, but surely it is the duty of the head of a school in see that theories that have been discarded entirely by all enlightened men should not be explained or alluded to by teachers in terms of approbation. And yet this is what is taking place all over the country at the present time. It would be quite possible to prepare Chinese text books that should contain no objectionable passages; but as yet this has not been done. Such as are now in use are behind the age. Of course, concludes Dr. Kato, if teachers confine their explanations to the meaning of words only, the out-of-date teachers could do no great harm. But this is not done; hence the abuses alluded

dividuality in the pupils and turn them out like no many factory atticles—all of one shape and type. The chief function of education is to develop judividual powers. But there is so much emphasis laid on serving the State and of making every mental power subservient to State interests that in many cases all natural development is rendered impossible. The source of all national progress is individual energy, purpose and general ability. To neglect to cultivate individual powers out of regard for the supposed immediate interests of the State, is the surest way of inflicting permanent injury on that State by depriving it of the guidance and enlightenment of those high class men whose individuality has been thoroughly developed. Hence it seems to me, says Mr. Kuzumi Sokuchu, the writer of the article, that modern educators are altogether on the wrong tack-that all the talk abut nationalism, Nipponism, and Imperialism spells retrogression, that the modern school teacher is a manufacturer rather than s true educator.

The Toyotetsugaku has some sensible remarks on the abstinence from meat and marriage, professed, if not practised, by Buddhists priests. All customs of this kind, says the organ we are quoting, have their origin in some decided opinion. In the present instance men were convinced in former times that the flesh ought to be mortified, that passions and desires need to be curbed, and that a vegetable diet and an unmarried life are conducive to this end. But it has been found in practice that the object of the res trictions on the liberty of priests has not been attained and, more, that the attempt to reach an impossible ideal has led to serious abuses Hence the continuance of the interdict is most undesirable.

The Tetsugaku Zasshi discusses at considerable length the attempt of the "Nippon Singi" party to make the State the ultimate basis of ethics, which it condemns in toto According to this theory, says the Tetrugaku-Zasshi, each individual is reduced to a mere State element and has no life and no interests of its own. The consciousness of every thinking man testifies to the existence of numerous interests that are in no way directly connected with the State, which are linked with his individuality. These interests nothing will pershade him to forego. The State has no claim to interfere with them.

In that portion of the Taiyo devoted to sociological topics there is an interesting account of Japanese mendicant friars, called in Japanese Kojiki dosha [[本]]. In ancient times men of real piety wandered all over the country content with a stone as a pillow and the branches of a tree for shelter, reading the scriptures and praying wherever they went, but at the present time this class of beggars usually settles in a special district and does not go beyond it. Their duties consist of pilgrimages to the different shrines of note, praying for the sick and reading the scriptures. The best known of these friars are those bearing the following titles. (1) The Saikoku-junrei (Pilgrims of the Western Provinces). (2) The Shikoku-hendo (Mendicants of Four Provinces); and (3) The Senga-ji mairi (Pilgrims to a Thousand Tem-The first class is mostly connected with the Zen sect, but the Jodo and Tendai sects are also represented among them. The Shikoku-hendo friars belong to the Shingon Sect and worship at shrines erected in honour of Köbödaishi. The Senga-ji-mairi belong to the Hokke Sect.

The first class of friars may be known by the boxes they carry on their backs, by their bags and their little bells. They visit some 33 places, beginning with Nachi-san and ending with Tanikumi in Mino. The second class worships at 88 different places, carrying fau-shaped drums (uchiwa dalko). They confine their union between Church and State liere as exists visits to the houses of adherents of the sect. in Russia. His doctrine of the necessary inter-The peregrinations of the third class often ex-

tend over three years. They visit a thousand shrines and bring away from each a charm, which is highly treasured in after-life. There is no doubt that many of the mendicant friars regard their pilgrimages as a means of making a living, but there are others who are quite sincere in all they do. In addition to these regular pilgrims, there is a large number of dis-eased persons, lepers and others, whose chief object in visiting sucred spots is to obtain a cure for complaints that have baffled the skill of physicians.

The Seikyö Shimpo (Greek Church) has an article entitled Shimbun to Shakai no Ryoshin (Newspapers and the Public Conscience) from the pen of Mr. Ishikawa Kisaburo, in which it is argued that the Yorosu Choho stands by itself in the way that it fearlessly exposes evil of every sort, and that though this exposure is only the first step towards reform, it is a very necessary step, for taking which the Yorosu Choho deserves credit. From the point of view of the religious reader, observes Mr. Ishikawa, none of the leading papers of Japan are altogether satisfactory, in that one and all devote more attention to politics, literature and such subjects than to discussing how best society may be purified. The Porosu Choho may be regarded, says Mr. Ishikawa, as the mouthpiece of the conscience of the public, which, though sometimes dormant, always exists. Hitherto little importance has been attached to religious and moral questions by the principal newspapers, but there are signs that the con science of the public is beginning to awake and realise the vital interest of these topics to every nation.

In 408 of the Magazine we have quoted above Mr. Ishikawa publishes an article entitled "The Silly Notions of officials in reference to Greek Church Propagandism," in which it is stated that so great were the suspicious of the Japanese Government as to the teaching of the Greek Church that a short time ago a apy was sent to Surugadai to dog the footsteps of a cer-tain Japanese priest. That ignorance of the attitude of Christians to the State should exist among uneducated people throughout Japan is unavoidable, but that in official ranks there should be men who are silly enough to be-lieve that Greek Church propagandism is a device for betraying Japan into the hands of Russia is certainly very surprising. But there seems to be a great want of clear-ness in the minds of outsiders as to the real relation of Church and State according to the teaching and practice of the Greek Church, I will discuss the question at length, says Mr. Ishikawa. The following is the gist of what he has to say :- In supposing that there is between the Christian Church and every State where that Church in established a close relationship which no government can afford to overlook, Japanese officials are right. Where they are wrong is in imagining that such a relationship is liable to make a man a traitor to his own country. In the case of a religion like Christianity, that is founded on Divine revelation, its authority is supreme in all matters. It occupies the position of a renovator of society and of a teacher of States. In defining the relation of Church and State it is necessary to observe that the three great branches of Christendom, the Roman Catholics, the Frotestants and the Greek Church atholics, the Protestants and the Greek Church differ considerably in both theory and practice as to what that relationship should be. The Roman Catholic holds that the Church should swallow up the State, that is, that the latter should form a part of the former. The Protestant aims at becoming a part of the State, The Greek Church Christian maintains that Church and State, while each retain its identity, are bound together is an indissoluble union, whose chief object is the regeneration of society. Neither can do without the other. Now there is no denying that in teaching Christianity in Japan the Missionary is desirous of effecting the same union between Church and State here as exists

to any one country. Hence he lanks forward to the time when Japan shall be sufficiently enlightened to do as Russia has done, ait at the feet of Christ, and be taught of him. But surely this is a different thing from siming at rendering Japan dependent on Russia. The connection of Japan with Christianity and her connection with the nation which has sent Christian missionaries to her shores is widely different. Failure to see this accounts for the wild statements which have been appearing in Buddhist magazines on the subject. If there were cases of disloyalty to Japan, our accusers would have something to go on, but not one instance of this have they produced, and yet they persist in repeating the silly slander, and, now we have educated officials coming forward and making it appear that they attach credit to the rumour. In the face of all this one sees how very limited is the extent to which real enlightenment has reached.

Under the add title of "Our Evangelists are Dacks" the Saikyō Shimpō takes to task certain Christian workers connected with the Greek Church. The point of the simile lies in the habitual neglect of their offspring said to be the characteristic of many of the paid evangelists of the mission. Like ducks which lay eggs hither and thither without concerning themselves as to what becomes of them, these evangelists treat the Christians who have joined the church with indifference: No attempt is made to develop their powers. There is more renown to be got by adding to the roll of members than by atrengthening the faith of old converts. This practice the Seikje Shampo condemns, maintaining that in Christianity as in other things quality rather than quantity should be the motto of all workers.

The Nihon Shukyo and the Shakai Zasski have been amalgamated under the editorship of Mr. Nunokawa, the latter title having been retained. In No. 7 of the new series of the Shakai Zasshi, the subject of government patrouage of religion is discussed. On all sides, says this organ, there is a clamour for government aid and protection on the part of the representatives of Shinto and Buddhism. Various are the arguments deduced in favour of government interference with religious liberty, some urging that religious teaching is a part of education, others that it is the best means of preserving moral rectitude, and others again that the prosperity of religions and the pros-perity of the State are inseparable from each other. From these views the Shakai Zasshi dissents. Its opinion on the matter, it goes on to add, was well expressed by Count Kabayama when he filled the post of Home Minister, who is reported to have said, "My policy in reference to religion is to give it all the protection we (the Government) can. But by this I do not intend that we should take an active part in religious affairs, but simply afford protection to all who are desirous of teaching religion."

It is important to observe that even among Buddhist organs there are not a few which contend that Buddhism needs no government aid, that she is fully qualified to stand on her own merits. Such are the E has sho horin. the Hansei sasshi, the Denio, the Mujinto. In other quarters, however, within Buddhist ranks the need of special preparation for the near future is urged. A Mr. Ishikawa of the Higashi Honganji proposes that a large sum of money be raised by the sale of forests belonging to the sect in Hokkaido. The Jiji Shimpo when commenting on the proposed 社会法 Shajihō, a law for the control of temples and shrines, argues that the Govern-ment will be wise if it lets the whole subject alone. To say nothing of the violation of the religious liberty which the passing of such a law would involve, it would be most undignified for the Government to figure = the administrator of physic to an extremely sick man. The restrictions that now interfere with free action in as of the third class often ex- defendence of the two institutions is not confined abolifying people to change their creeds, should all be Digitized by

ahould be allowed to go on till survival shows what form of faith is antitled to be called the "fittest."

The Shaka: Zasshi institutes a comparison between Japanese Buddhist Priests and Christian Ministers, of which the following is the gist:—

- (1) Views on beauty.—The Christian minister is taught to think lightly of external form of every kind and to set a high value on moral virtue. The connection between religion and art is closer in the East than in the West. The Christian Minister denies himself many of the pleasures enjoyed by Buddhist priests, in accordance with accordance principles.
- (2) Liveliness, cheerfulness, and activity.—
  In these characteristics the Japanese priest falls far short of the Christian minister. His nervous organization is not so highly strong and he is entirely oblivious to many of the influences that excite the Christian missionary. The latter is full of energy in his work or it could not succeed as it does. He neither spends his time in meditations among the tombs nor in seclusion among the mountains. His piety is objective rather than subjective, In contrast to this many of an country priests are the most melancholy types of humanity it would be possible to find.
- (3) Social intercourse.—In this respect there is the greatest dissimilarity. The teaching of Buddhism is that the priest should live apair from the world, that of Christianity is that the minister should mix with it in order to leaven it with his doctrines. The Christian minister is always regarded and regards himself as a member of society, who has social obligations like laymen, but the Buddhist priest is expected to seclude himself. The closeness of the intercourse between the minister of Christ and the outside world enables him to advocate and promote a number of reforms, political, social and moral with which in this country Buddhist priests seldom concern themselves.
- (4) Devotion, or feeling of gratitude for Divina favours received.—Both classes profess to be endowed with this feeling. The only way of gauging its depth in either case is to examine closely its methods of manifestation. If this be done it will be seen that the Christian minister hears the palm. His works of benevolence are more abundant, his whole life is laid out for the good of others. Unlike many Buddhist priests, his salary is not dependent on the number of ceremonies be performs. In receipt of a regular income, whatever he does is the result of devotion to his cause.
- (5) The gratification of desires.—In this particular Christian in ministers, being allowed to live like ordinary members of Society and having at their disposal the means to gratify a great variety of desires, undoubtedly lead as a rule more pleasant lives than Buddhist priests. But when we come to modern practices we find that in respect of the enjoyment of the pleasures of life the Buddhist priest is by no means surpassed by the Christian minister.

The writer promises to furnish his readers on a future occasion with an account of characteristics in which Buddhist priests specially excel.

A useful little work entitled "The World's Ten Great Religions" has been compiled by Mr. Kuxumi Sokuchü and is for a-le at the Fukyüsha, I Goluku-chō. Nihonbashi, Tökyō. After defining what religion consists in, the author proceeds to give a short account of the creeds of the ancient Egyptains, Greeks. Romans and Scandinavians. He then furnishes a short history of the founding and early propagation of Judaism, Mohaummedaniam, Christianity, Zoroastrianism, Brahmanism and Buddhism. Religion is defined as "faith in a supernatural power connected with the origin of the universe and with the destiny of mankind." Confincianism is excluded from the category of religions and Shintō is declared to be a very inferior type of creed, consisting of ancestal

worship and consequently too conservative to be of use to a nation bent on progress.

The Kyōrin, in reviewing the events of the year 1897 in their religious aspects comes to the couclusion that the influence of Christianity is declising, while that of Buddhism is on the increase. Shimlö it considers to be stagnant. One of the proofs of the decline of Christianity given is the secularisation of the Dōshishs, under the presidency of Mr. Yokoi. Evidences of Buddhist activity cited are the disturbances in the Sōō sect, the proselyising carried on by the Jōdo sect in Korea, the despatch of priests to Formosa by the Hongauji and the Sōō shū, the establishment of schools and the starting of new magazines.

Shinio only possesses one or two magazines. There is no activity within her pale and no opposition from without. She is indifferent to the world and the world is indifferent to her. Even the stir caused by the "Nippon Shugi" affords no satisfaction to her, for the movement can in no sense be called a Shinio movement. Her inactivity has reached its utmost limit.

#### DEATH OF GENERAL JONES.

The news of the death of General A. E. Jones, the United States Consul at Chinkiang, was received in Shanghai on January 13th. says the N.C. Daily News, with very general regret, the lowering of the consular flag to half-mast being the first intimation. General Jones. who was a native of Virginia, was about 65 years of age. During the Civil War he was an officer in the Southern army, and followed Lee in his campaign. After the war he went to Mexico and served the ill-fated Emperor Maxmilian, following which he was in the French army in Algeria. When the amnesty was proclaimed he returned to America and took up his home in Minnesota. In 1880 he was appointed Consul at Nagasaki, and six years later was transferred to Chinkiang. He was always prompt and efficient in the performance of his duties. Being retained in office by successive administrations it remained for the present to remove him at a time when long and faithful service could well have been rewarded by his retention, and when impaired health and age would naturally have been more appreciative of the recognition due to loyalty. The General was a most genial companion and his occasional visits to Shanghai were always a source of pleasure to his friends here. About two months ago he was in Shaug-bai. He was then looking feeble, but his unfailing vivacity left his friends unprepared for the sad news which arrived yesterday. A warmhearted, generous man is dead, and he has left only friends behind; friends who deeply sympathise with his widow.

#### RUSSIA AND GERMANY.

We noted in a recent issue that no detailed confirmation had yet been received of Renter's telegram, forwarded from London early in December, to the effect that the Russian press opposed Germany's occupation of Kiao-chou. In The Times of December 4th, however, we find the following telegram from St. Petersburg:—

the following telegram from St. Petersburg:

Most of the newspapers continue to protest against the occupation of Kiao-chou by Germany as calculated seriously to compromise the interests of Russian subjects in the Far Bast. Russia, they declare, should demand the execuation of Kiao-chou by the Germans, or at least obtain an equivalent compensation. Great teticence is observed in Russian official circles, but the opinion seems to prevail that Germany will not make the occupation per maneut.

On the other hand, a semi-official statement was published almost simultaneously in Beilin in the sense that the Kiao-chou incident had not furnished any occasion for a change in the good relations between Germany and Russia.

## JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The Cabinet organised by Marquis Ito, the Poresu considers, contains an element of failure at the very outset. The Marquis seems to have considered at first that it would be impossible for him to form a stable Cabinet without the support of political parties, in the present state of affairs. With this in view he took the trouble of consulting with party leaders in every direction, but failed to secure co-operation in the way he had expected. He was then compelled to form a Ministry having little or no relation with any political party, abandoning the scheme which he had originally conceived. The Matsukata Cabinet started with public support, but was unable to maintain it to the end. The prospects therefore of a Cabinet which is known from the outset to contain sources of failure, may easily be imagined. No great foresight is needed to predict the future of the new Ministry. (This paragraph is worthy of the Yorosu Choke, now a notoriously untrustworthy ioumal.)

The Banking Department of the Mitsu-bishi Company has resolved, assetts the *Porosu*, to faise its rates of interest from the r6th instant as follows:—

The Nippon Ginko's weekly report, as published in the Shogge, shows the amount of loans made and bills discounted during the pre-week to have decreased in follows:—

Jan. 8th, 1898. Der. 31st, 1897.

Ven. Yen.

Loans issued ... 47,683,409 55.593,160

Bills Discounted 42,935,095 45 601,278

Total ....... 10,548,504 19,494,438

According to the Jiji, coal imported into Kobe during December last smounted to 29,297,796 catties, and the gross aggregate from 29,297,796 catties, and the gross aggregate from 50 catties. These figures show a decrease of 15.037,954 catties as compared with the year before last. Stock on hand is not large, and the market presents the same aspect as in the previous month. At present Karatsu coal is quoted at from 48 yen to 58 yen per 100 picul; Chikuzen from 43 to 48 yen; Buzen from 41 to 51 yen; Wensan from 37 to 41.5 yen. No stock remains of Milke coal. The price of coal began to rise in January last year, culminating in October. The consumption of coal in Higgo Prefecture during 1896 did not fall short of 292.375.083 catties, of which 774.760 catties were for use of vessels, 39.701.750 catties for railways, 121.059, 720 catties for workshops, and 477.250 catties for manufactories. Information trom India and nonnees that Measrs. Murgen & Co. of Madras being desirous of importing Japanese coal there, recently applied to a certain coal metchant at Kobe through Consul Yamada at Bombay Original from

for a continual supply. The dealers, it is said, held a conference on the subject on the 9th instant, and decided to convoke a special gene-ral meeting of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the question.

Coins struck at the Osaka Mint during the month of December last and the gross aggregate from the opening of the Mint were, according to the Jiji, as follow:—Old gold coins—20 yen pieces, total from the outset, 945,400 yen; 10 yen pieces, 18,710,130 yen; 5 yen pieces, 47,208,100 yen; 2 yen pieces, 1,767,498 yen; 1 yen pieces, 70,668,193 yen; total 70,668,193 yen, equivalent to 141,336,386 yen in new gold coins. The figures for new coins

#### DECEMBER, 1897.

Denon	ninat	ion.	Pieces.	Value.	Total from
					the outset.
			Yan.	Yen.	Yen.
20 yen g	old			_	37,294,600
TO yes	10		158,700	1,587,000	25,607,000
5 70%	92		10,000	50,000	560,000
1 742 2			_		162,150,000
Trade d		*****	_	_	3.057,252
20 2911 8	ilver	,	2,868,000	1,434,000	6,839,855
20 S##		*****			1,433,098
III sen	27		5,066,000	506,600	17,600,508
5 sen	н	411101	_	_	2.527,968
5 sen l			621,000	31,050	6,747,431
2 Jan (	oppe	٠., ٦	_	_	5,514,055
I sem	31	110		_	4.881,744
5 7111	20	104	_		1.977.765
LTin	-	***	_	_	44,491
Those 6	ionre	a add	led to the	smount.	of ald gold

coins constitute a total of 430,469,156 yen.

The following notification was issued on the 12th inst. with regard to the engagement of medical advisers in the public schools :-

#### IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 2.

Art. I .- Medical advisers shall be appointed to schools under the management of the Hokkaids Office or any City, Prefecture, District, Town, or Village.

The local Governor may, under special circumstances, withhold the engagement of medical practitioners in a village school or in a school organised at the expense of a town containing a population of less than 5,000-

Art. III .- Medical advisers shall be appointed by the local Governor.

Art. III .- Medical advisers are entitled to express their opinions or present a memorial when enquiries are made of them by the local Governor ar by the Headman of a District, Town, or 

Art. IV.—Appropriate fees shall be paid to medical advisers out of the funds provided for lite maintenance of the school,

Act. V.—The rules for the engagement of a medical adviser, and for the specification of his duties shall be determined by the Minister of Education.

The Kokumin says that the sums received on account of the Indemnity during last year amounted to £26,074,026,of which £22,024,693 amounted to £20,074,020,07 which £22,024,093 were appropriated for payments in London, the London payments were:—Purchase of gold bullion. £7,733.516; silver hullion. £3 010-504; bills of exchange, £6,225.978; other payments, £4,974,693. Converted into Japanese currency, these terms represent 74,441.157 yen, 28,070,922 yen, 56,848,733 yen, and 48,-538,087 yen respectively, making a total of 207,899,801 yen. Of the balance of the indemnity remaining, £4,049.333, a sum of 2 million pounds appears in the ledgers of the Bank of Japan in the form of fixed deposits; £1,130,468 is appropriated for the purchase of appreciable bonds and other purposes; and £918,864 is deposited with the Bank of England.

The Nichi Nichi deplores the yearly falling off in arrivals of marine products in Yokohama, although prices realized by their sale are on the increase. The quotation for dried awabi was formerly eight or nine ven, but it has risen to

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1894, 9,429 piecen; 1895, 9,422 pieces; 1896, 8,307 pieces; 1897, 8,223 pieces.

A report compiled at the sub-office in Yokohama of the Tea Dealers' Central Council, and published in the Kokumin, shows that the tea trade during December was very quiet. The gross stock on the market amounted to 200,000 cattles, but the quality was poor, very little of it being fit for export. Arrivals from producing districts appear to have ceased, and dealers are deterred from entering into large contracts owing to insufficiency of leaf. The amount of tea exported from Yokohama to America and other countries during last month, is reported to have been as follows:—To San Francisco, 115,686 catties; New York, 96,393 catties; Canada, 394,311 catties; Chicago, 145,382 cattles; the Pacific coast, 9,799 cattles. To show the amount of teas received in and exported from Yokohama during the past two years, the following table is given :--

1807 1806. Average value per 28.24 11 21.75 p picul .....

Owing to transport being intersupted, Chikuho coal is said in liave accumulated in the mining district to the amount of 400 million

A report compiled by Mr. Hara Terutane, a now well-known philanthropist in Tokyo, and published in the Yokyo Asaki, shows that of the number of released prisoners-296-placed under his protection, 116 were enabled to obtain a living by their own exertions, 6 died, and 5 ran away, while 8 again resorted to a criminal life. The number of prisoners released whose whereabouts are unknown after their return to their native provinces, totalled 17, and those who are receiving protection in the capital, apart from the premises specially provided for their accommodation, exceed 34.

Mr. Takano, ex-Chief Judge of the Formosan High Court, who has suspended his movement in view of the dissolution of the Matsukata Cabinet and the formation of the new Ministry, is reported by the Yorosu to have determined to present to the new Government a protest urging that the proceedings of the former Cabinet with regard to his removal were unconstitutional. The ex-Judge seems to have resolved to continue his agitation until he succeeds in convincing the Ministry of the unconstitutionality of the measure lately taken against him. No official rank or title, or indeed anything can now induce him to swerve from the cause he has embraced.

The Communications Department has been engaged since last year in revising the regulations for Postal Savings Banks. A draft of the amended regulations recently completed has been presented to the Cabinet for approval, According to the amended rules, the rate of interest is to be raised to 4.6 per cent., an increase of 0.4 per cent over the present rate. The amount of deposits in the Postal Banks during the past three years was-in 1894, 13.590,760 yen, in 1895, 16,228,911 yen, and in 1896, 16,928.833 yen. There may be various in 1896, 16,928.833 yen. causes for this augmentation but on the whole it is attributable to the general development of the spirit of thrift on the part of the people.

Among the various functions of Government the most important is the adjustment of finances. It is by the financial administration alone that appropriate funds are provided for the conduct of affairs of State. Increased taxation leads inevitably to the embarrassment of the people to whom it is always a source of misery. country tends to decline under it. Excessive taxation has been an universal abuse both in aucient and modern times, and ought to be viewed

tendered his resignation. Whether the Count still recollects them is doubtful, but they may be taken, adds our contemporary, as a sign of the policy in which he may be disposed to resort in the financial administration of the country.

Rumonra have long been current with regard to the miserable treatment accorded to female operatives at various manufactories throughout the empire. On the afternoon of the 10th instant, a party of young girls, the Tokyo Shimbun reports, were seen wandering about Fukial village, in the suburbs of Kobe. On requiry they were found to be employes of the Naniwa Spinning Company of Osaka. The girls had been so rudely, and, in many cases, so barbarously, treated that they resolved to escape from their sufferings by running away. They were promised pay at the rate of ten sen a day, out of which six sen were to be deducted for board. On starting on their contract, however, they found that they were provided with only two meals per day, and that the food consisted of Chinese rice and salted vegetables only. Most of them were taken with dysentery and other ailments of the stomach. The unfortunate girls while wandering along the road, attracted the notice of a constable on duty and were taken to the Police Station, to be later on returned to their respective native places.

At an ordinary meeting of the Japan Trading Association held at Hiyoshicho, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo, on the afternoon of the 17th instant. Count Okuma, in the course of a speech, is said to have remarked :-- Prior to the Restoration this country was characterized by a sturdy pertinacity united with shallow judgment, such characteristics, in fact, as are now noticeable among the Koreans, who recently attempted to promulgate a law preventing the exportation of cereals. A variety of abuses existed and contributed to impede the export and import trade. The export of rice was considered likely to cause a dearth in the next year's supply, while the import of foreign goods was thought to be an unmistakable means of impoverishing the country. Moreover, antipathy to foreigners debarred the people from reaping the benefits of foreign intercourse. These queer ideas, however, have gradually passed away, for since the Restoration, the Government has always been disposed to pursue a policy of reform. The institutions of enlightened countries were copied, and the tide of foreign commerce was forced into progressive channels. Dividing the thirty years of Meiji into three periods of ten years each, it is seen that exports and imports for the first term awelled from twenty-five million yen in the 1st year to fifty millions at the end of the tenth, and that for the 2nd period they increased from 50 millions to 100 millions; while by the 3rd period the trade had risen from 100 millions to 320 millions. This expansion was conspicuous not only for the goods hemselves but also in regard to the appreciation of the coins in circulation. During the first period this appreciation was some to 50 per cent; during the second, 32 per cent., and during the third, double their original value. In predicting the foreign trade of Japan for the ten years to come, it may be confidently expected that the figures will be no less than 1,000 ed that the agraces will be no less than 1,000 millions should the nation continue to enjoy ever growing prosperity. With regard to the introduction of foreign capital, serious anxiety is entertained, and stormy arguments are advanced on the merits of the question. Foreign capital, however, has already been actually introduced. The introduction of foreign capital into Japan has already been effected, both physically, morally, and mentally, to a considerable extent, and the advantages derived from the use of such capital are already conspicuous. It should not for a moment be supposed that the introduction of loreign capital means only the circulation in the domestic market of metallic currency. Apart from these considerations there is one point to which the utmost attention over twenty pen. Other products likewise show a great rise. It is worth while to give the comparative stock of awabi during the past five years; it was as follows:—1893, 10,253 pieces; in May of the 6th year of Meiji (1873), when he of a complicated nature, and requires tact and judgment for its proper direction. Persons years; it was as follows:—1893, 10,253 pieces; in May of the 6th year of Meiji (1873), when he original from

learning, in as much = without such knowledge of various industries during the past few years, auccesa is impossible.

Since the first issue of foreign loans, hearing 9 per cent, interest, in the 3rd year of Azers (1870), up till the present day, twenty-two varieties of national bonds have been floated in Japan. They amount to 673,215,500 year, of per cent, interest, in the 3rd year of Meiji which 404,172,582 yen still remain for redemp-tion. Loans to be raised in future aggregate 195,025,444 yest. The redemption of these bonds is to be consummated by the 68th year of Meijl (1935). The Jiji publishes an interesting table, classifying the various loans issued during the past twenty-seven years and those to be raised hereafter :-

Bonds,	Interest.	Issue. U	medeemed.	pl gr
	per ceut.	yen.	yen.	wi
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Old domestic	(un iu-			Lo
		10.972,729	5,486,362	in
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Kinsatsu excha-		6 660,250		CB
Capitalized per		16 565,850	_	ye
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		08,242,785		re
	10	9,244,005		Pe
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13. 21	(crest)	22,000,000	22 000,000	th
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Total			404,172,582	a
Loans to be	raised here		404,172,582	Т
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Loans to be Public under takings.  yen. Year 1897—	Railway.	Hokkaido Railway. yen.	Totals.	th la lo be
Loans to be Public under takings.  Pen.  Yen.  42,704 000	Railway.	Hokkaida Railway.	Totals.	T the last to the the the
Loans to be Public under takings.  yen.  Year 1897— 42,704 000  Year 1898—	Railway. yen. 2,807,350	Hokkaida Railway. Yen. 1,000,000	Totals. yen. 46,511,350	th la lo be th
Loans to be Public under takings, yen. Year 1897— 42,704 000 Year 1898— 40 582,524	Railway.	Hokkaido Railway. yen.	Totals.	th la lo be th th
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Total-109,000,000 53,000,000 33,000,000 195,025,044

The Mainichi states that vegetable wax is most abundantly produced in Hiogo, Waka-yama, Yamaguchi, Yehime, Fukuoka, Saga, Oita, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, and Kagoshima, the annual output of these ten prefectures ex-ceeding three million yen in value. The export of wax is reported to have amounted to from 200,000 yen to 500,000 yen per annum, but the trade promises to increase. The principal foreign markets for this commodity are China, Hongkong, England, France, Germany, the United States, India, Australia, and the Philippine Archipelago, where it is chiefly used for the manufacture of candles, medicines and artificial flowers. It also serves as a preventative of rust. Prussia was formerly noted for us production, but owing to the control of the cont

manufacture of wax ceased to be fitable undertaking, and the amount produced decreased annually. The same industry undertaken on the coast of the Mediterranean suffered the same fate. For these reasons the demand for Japanese wax increases year by year.

#### MISSIONARIES AND THE COST OF LIVING IN JAPAN.

The Spirit of Missions contains the follow-

The Rev. ]. Lindsay Patton writes from Nara, under date of October 2nd last as follows:—"It is a great pleasure to be able to report that matters are progressing well in this part of the field, taking it as a whole. The case of most of our workers is really pitiable. The cost of living is so great, and is increasing with such rapid strides, that the future promises to be even worse for them. Their salaries must be increased, or duty to their families will require their entrance on some other employment. One of my catechists pays out of a monthly salary of eighteen yen over one-sixth for house-rent. Three-yen-and.a-half house-rent for a man with that income is enormous—and when we remember that this yearly rental of forty-two yen represents only about three per cent. of what it would cost now to build the house, we have plain proof that the rents will rise higher still. No new tenement houses are being built in Japan. Man with money find other investments more profitable. There will be no further building until rents pay a good profit on the investments, which is of curree far from being the case now.

"The increase of values and prices has been marked in all directions; but particularly is this the case with rents and with rice." The rice to the Japanese

"The increase of values and prices has been mark-d in all directions; but particularly is this the case rith rents, and with rice. The rice to the Japanese orresponds to bread with us, only than it forms a nuch more important article of his diet. It constitu es considerably more than half of every meal, the ther things that he eats being more in the nature of elishes to help him get down the rice. Rice is more han twice as expensive as it was a few years ago. It is a fine thing for the farners, but hard on the salaried lass.

is a nine thing for the natural, and it is also in price one can take our school ground rent. This rent is paid in a fixed quantity of rice. Last year it cost sevenly year, this year it was yen Ioa. Our catechists' salaries, on the basis of the price of rice alone, have within the ast twelve months decreased in value, according to ocality, anywhere from thirty to fifty per cent. "It is not reasonable to expect human nature to partial, and even for the most expect human nature.

earthis, and even for the most earnest of our workers he unendurable limit must soon be reached. Had his been true in the same proportion with the salaries f your missionaries, there would be considerable talk of going home, if not actual resignation. Can one expect more of our workers? One of these, who has been looked upon for some years as one of our most raluable men, recently resigned his position with us, valuable men, recently resigned his position with us, where he has receiving eighteen yen, and has accepted a position which pays him forty-five yen; and (any time after five years' service) gives him a pension when he shall be disabled or resign. Another, also a valuable man, did the same thing some months ago. I he effect, of course, will be to leave us for our workers only men who would have a difficulty in getting places anywhere else, and what is true in the case of the workers is true also with the schools; the only difference being the greater advance in salaries due to the scarcity of teachers.

#### SHIPPING DISASTER.

We understand that a telegram has been reeived by the Standard Oil Co. at this port, to he effect that the ship Alexander Gibson, which left New York on July 27th last for Yokohama with 75,850 cases kernsene, encountered a violent storm en route, and was blown ashore on a small island near Sydney, receiving considerable damage, but no casualties occurred. The Captain reached Sydney and cabled the head office of the Standard Oil Co. It is said that the repairs of the vessel will take two or three months to complete, and that some of the damaged carge will probably be sold by auction at Sydney.

#### STEAMER BREAK DOWN.

The steamer Norman Isles, which left Yokohama for Kuchinotsu last night, put back this morning owing to a bearing breaking. will cause her a delay of two or three days.

#### TRAVELLING WHEN THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY IS FINISHED.

We take the following from the Literary Digest :-

It is the opinion of the Russian Minister of Com-munication, M. Chilkov, who has just been visiting this country on a tour of observation and study, that when the Trans Siberian Railway has been completed the tour of the world can be made in thirty-three days, considerably less than half the time in which Jules Verne's hero accomplished it. This is the table given by the Zeitung des Vereins Deutscher Eisenbahn. Verwaltungen—

Bremen to St. Petersburg	14	days.
St. Petersburg to Vladivostock	IO	- 4
Vladivostock to San Francisco		
San Francisco to New York		
New York to Bremen	7	*,

In relation to this, a correspondent of the Reone Scientifique, who signs himself "A Sailor," contributes the following table, which he says will represent the truth it a few years, when our facilities for transportation are a little better. He says—

Paris to the Pacific via Asia	8	days.
Coast of Asia to San Francisco		
San Francisco to New York	3	**
New York to Paris	4 ₹	,,
_	- 10	

Total ..... 23 Commenting on these figures, Cosmos (Paris, Nov. 13) says--

13) says—
"These calculations suggest a remark; these tours, especially that indicated by the Russian Minister, are very improperly entitled 'tours of the world.' We should give this name only to a journey following at least approximately the course of a great circle of the terrestrial sphere; this is what was done by the navigators who doubled Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope. But in following the four-tieth parallel of latitude, approximately, we make only about three quarters of this distance. When an explorer succeeds in getting to the Pole, he can, according to this manner of reckoning, make the tour of the world as often as he pleases in a few minutes to a 'tour,' by simply walking around in a circle."

#### CHINESE NOTES.

The developments of the Bennertz & Company case seem never-ending. The latest is the sinking of one of the steamers which had been impounded by the Customs under the orders of the Imperial Government. Seventeen months of detention, without overhauling or repairs, proved too much for the mineteen year old ves-sel-the Kiangning-and when she had taken on board twenty thousand cases of kerosene oil, she quietly sank in the Shanghai river. It anpears that Mr. Bennertz had notified the Viceroy of the necessity of docking the steamer before putting her to work again, but no attention was paid to his advice, and being advised that he ought not to keep her unemployed as such a course would needlessly increase his claim for demuirage, he put her to load kerosene for Hankow. The vessel and her cargo were in-Hankow. The vessel and her cargo was aured. Apparently insurance is easy to effect in

The amateur actors in Shanghai have inaugurated the plan of auctioning the seals for their theatrical performances. Very good pecuniary results were obtained on the first occasion of the new departure. The nine front boxes, which had previously been let for \$12 each, fetched from \$19 to \$25; the dress circle seats averaged \$4.60 each, and the stalls, \$3.40.

The Changshuh (in Kiangsu) correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News, writing under date of the 14th instant, says :-

date of the 14th instant, says:

Coming nearer home, we are daily informed by different parties that in a few days we three are to be killed and our house hunned. Vague rumours of this sort have been after here to the part two or three weeks. These reports come from the Kanadawant forg Pang, who are very strong in this section, as we are only tern rules from the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Vangize. Our cook, while out marketing, was stopped by some of these men who told him he had best leave at once, as they would kill our servants also. At present we do not feel very uneasy but would not be surprised any night to find ourselves hurrying to the yamen. The Governor sent some sixty soldiers up from Southow to protect our city during these perifons times, but as usual they are stationed on the mountain about twenty minutes' walk from our house, too far to be of much use in case of a riot.

It must be comfortable for the three missionaries to be living under such a menance.

In the Red Book for Shanghai, just issued by the N. C. Daily News, the list of ladies covers or pages. That is something to think of. Why, we can remember the time when the names of all the ladies in Shanghai could have been fully set forth in 4 or 5 pages. Of course there was no Red Book in those days.

Here are two interesting paragraphs with reference to Hunan:—

A telegram received recently from Changsha by the local mandarins states that the gentry and merchants of Hunan and Hunah intend to tun a merchants of Hunan and Hupeh intend to our a line of steamers between Hankow, Shasi, Wuchiang, Ichang, and points in Lake Tringting as far as Changsha, the capital of Hunan. The steamers of the new company will be allowed to casty cargo in addition to passengers and tow junks in the waters not yet opened by treaty to foreign vessels. This prohibition to carry cargo for fear of evading likin duty has been the great obstacle to native merchants establishing successful steamship companies in inland waters.

In a confidential telegraphic dispatch from the

ful steamship companies in inland waters.

In a confidential telegraphic dispatch from the Vicerov Chang Chilhetung to Governor Chile. Paochên of Hunan, the former earnestly warms the latter to be prepared for the opening soon of Hunan to foreign international trade, and advises Governor Chile to succurage the Hunanese to be prepared to compete in trade with foreigness by having their own steamers and cargo transporting facilities. In conclusion the Viceroy Chang says in I am never far wrong in my political forecasts and I can assure you that the time has actived when neither your people nor the Central Government will be able to prevent Hunau province from being opened to international commerce."

"A prospectus," says the N. C. Daily News, "is being circulated among Chinese tea-mer-chants in Shanghai of a Chinese Tea Planting and Manufacturing Company, which is to have its seat of operations in the well-known district of Yanglantung, and is to employ foreign machinery in the manufacture of its tea. It under the direct patronage and protection of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, and its financial affairs are to be under the control of the Commissioner of Customs at Hankow, It bids fair to be a very successful enterprise."

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

M. Gerard, lately Minister for France at Peking, has been appointed to Brussels.

The Tamba Marn brought out to Nagasaki five tons of bar silver, to be transhipped thence for Shanghai.

Miss Nellie Wilcox, of Melbourne, has been awarded the annual gold medal of the Cobden Club for an essay on "Political Economy."

India is recovering rapidly from the effects of famine, bumper crops in nearly all the provinces having followed the late but well-distributed

The A.L.S.N. Co.'s steamer Filarcy was wrecked on the 11th ult. near Port Stephens. Passengers and crew were saved with considerable difficulty.

Admiral Baron D, von Sterneck d'Ehrenstein, Commander-in-Chief of the Austro-Hungarian Navy, who commanded the warship Ferdinand Max at the battle of Lissa, died of syncope at Vienna on the 6th nlumo.

Commodore George Dewey, now in command of the United States Asiatic squadron, the Civil War served on the steam frigate Mis.

Assistant Secretary Powell has instructed the sissippi at New Orleans, Por Hudon and Celectors of Customs at San Francisco and Digitized by Communing, two days UNIVERSITY OF HUMOIS AT

Commodore and placed at the head of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting.

For the salvage services rendered to the Glen Liner Gengyle off Gibraltar, the owners of the steamers Hermes and Nerva were, in the Admiralty Court, awarded £19,000. The value of the salved property was £76,596.

A subscription dance in aid of the funds of the Yokohama General Hospital is being arranged for the 10th February next at the Public Hall. The ladies who have charge of the arrangements are sufficient guarantee for the complete success of the affair.

The Owari Maru, the Hiogo News understands, has made a claim of over 1,000 yen for salvage services rendered to the Tancred after the stranding off Ishikagijima (Okinawa-ken). This claim, however, is disputed and, under the direction of the Norwegian Consul at Kobe, the matter is now under negotiation.

The appointment of Hiram Shaw Wilkinson, Esq., to be Judge of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan, and of George Jamieson, Esq., to be H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Shanghai, already reported by telegram, were gazetted on the 3rd Docember last, under dates of the 10th and 13th November respectively.

The suit instituted in H.B.M.'s Court for apan by Mr. B. A. Munster against Mr. E. Whittall for a settlement of account for professional services rendered by plaintiff, who is a mechanical engineer, was settled out of Court on Wednesday morning, in a manner, we understand, satisfactory to the plaintiff.

On Thursday morning a lighter engaged in discharging cargo from the steamer Puritan in Kobe harbour, capsized and went to the bottom, carrying with her one of the boatmen, a young man of 31 years of age. The unfortunate man never rose to the surface, but the body was recovered during the afternoon.

The Yokohama Ladies' Lawn Tennis Club have re-elected their old Committee for ensuing year. Mrs. Thomas is President; Mrs J. F. Allen, Hon. Sec.; Mrs. Syme Thomson, Hon. Treas.; and Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Hutchison, Committee. The Club has a balance in the Bank of \$105.18.

At the meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society to be held this evening at Van Schaick Hall, Mr. A. M. Gale will read an original paper on "London, its Slums, Beggats and Poor"; the musical programme will include a vocal quartette by Madam Henkler, Mrs. Bagnall, Mr. Darnell and Mr. Gale, and other items

Driven by necessity to earn a livelihood for herself, Miss Edythe W. Skerrett, daughter of the late Rear-Admiral Skerrett of the United States Navy, has entered the theatrical profes-sion. Miss Skerrett is but 18 years of age. The Rear-Admiral left his widow and children ill provided for, and Miss Skerrett's action is taken to decrease the strain on the slender family purse.

Dr. Abercrombie, for the last eight years U.S. Consul at Nagasaki, was relieved on Jan. 12th by Mr. Charles B. Harris, who, with his wife and daughter, arrived by the City of Peking. Dr. Abercrombie left for home the same afternoon by the City of Rio de Fanciro, a large number of friends assembling on board to bid him farewell, and to wish him a prosperous

Lord Charles Beresford was recently the guest of the new Vagabonds' Club in London and naturally had his health proposed. In replying he said that when he joined his first ship, he heard a quartermaster remark, "Bill, 'ere's a poor little beggar who won't last long in the Service," But he had survived this, and had to hear a fellow call out on Jubilee Day, " Charlie, what are 'you' doing on 'our' hoss?'

Donaldsonville. In 1889 he was commissioned | Port Townsend, Wash., to notify all persons in their respective districts contemplating engaging in pelagic sealing, of the passage of a bill prohibiting sealing in the Pacific ocean north of the thirty-fifth degree north latitude, under a penalty of forfeiture and a fine of \$2,000 and imprisonment for not longer than six mouths.

> The King of Siam arrived at Bangkok on the 14th ult, in the Royal yacht Maha Chakri from Singapore. Great preparations were made at Bangkok to receive him. All the steamers in port went down river to meet his Majesty; a special post card was issued by the Postal anthorities; there was a fancy dress dance on the 28th; and to the end of January there will be a constant round of festivities,

> A Chinese barber, residing at Nibancho Hon-den, Osaka, was charged in the Osaka Court with lending a room to two other Chinese for the purpose of smoking oplum, and on the 7th inst, the Court sentenced the prisoner to three years' imprisonment with hard labour, and a Japanese woman servant and the two other Chinese who were caught smoking were each sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

Some of Sir John Lubbock's experiments with his ants, as described in his lecture to the Zoological Society, would not please the teeto-tal party, remarks a home paper. In order to tai party, remarks a home paper. In order to test the loyalty of ants to each other, Sir John made fifty of them drunk and incapable, and then drew the attention of twenty-five sober ones to their condition. The twenty-five buckled to it, and carried the fifty home to bed. Sir John, Sir John, fie on thy "intemperants."

An itinerant vendor of buckwheat porridge named Nakamura Tetsugoro, of No. 3 Yoshi-hama-cho Yokohama, while engaged in his avocation close to No. 51 Main Street, on Wednesday, about I p.m., suddenly fell down and expired before any medical assistance could be rendered. The police, who were on the scene at the time of the man's death, removed the body to the Police Station, where it was found that death had resulted from the rupture of a blood vessel.

Prospects of a cold voyage north and lack of suitable clothing induced the Lascar crew of the Japanese ship Tamba Maru to leave off work in Hongkong harbour on Jan, 10th, says the Daily Press. Four of the ring-leaders were given into the custody of the police and they aired their grievances to the Magistrate. The Captain said he was quite willing to give all the men money to buy clothing and accused were thereupon released for an amicable settlement to be arrived at.

Judgment in the case of bribery of officials in the Delivery Department of the Yokohama Railway Station was given at the Yokohama Local Court on the 19th inst. Hoki Eizo and Yoshit Sakae were sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of 125 yen; Yasui Tomisaburo to four months' imprison-ment with hard labour and a fine of 25 ven; Kondo Shozo to 25 days imprison-nment and m fine of 5 ven; Nagasawa Chojiro, Kobe Mokichi, Kamiya Toyojiro, Kishimoto Kametaro and Nagao Toranojo to two months' imprisonment and a fine of 10 yes. Each of the prisoners appealed against the docision.

Admiral Makarof, of the Russian navy, has, according to the Marine Record, invented a species of ice plough capable of breaking through ice from twelve to even twenty inches thick. The experiments have proved so satisfactory that the Government has given orders for the immediate construction of two vessels of 10,000 horse power each, armed with these ploughs, by means of which it is expected to keep not only the river Neva, but also the various Muscovite ports open to navigation throughout the winter. The majority of Russia's ports and naval arseice bound during more than four

behind her schedule time; an unusual occurrence for one of these powerful steamers. The vessel left Vancouver in the 4th inst., one day late, but would doubtless have been able to have made up her time on the voyage had she not encountered exceptionally heavy weather-the worst, according to one of her officers, that she has ever experienced on the Pacific. One day only 105 knots were made, such was the violence of the head seas and wind. The Empress has not come scatheless out of the ordeal, the forward part of her upper works, bridge, etc., having been considerably knocked about.

Writing on January 10th, the Hongkong Daily Press said :- " From a reliable source we learn that the outstanding questions between Russia, England, and Jupan in reference to China and Korea have been satisfactorily arranged. The basis of the arrangement is not as yet known, but the British ships that went north have been ordered to return to Hongkong; the Powerful is not to go North and two cruisers, now on their way out from England will receive orders to return at the first port they reach. Consols have rises to 114, and a Chinese 3 per ceni. loan guaranteed by England is to be issued at (10. The last item is confirmed by Renter's telegram.

Only a few weeks ago the London papers chronicled the fact that Mrs. M'Crea, widow of the late Admiral R. C. M'Crea, who fought at Trafalgar as a midshipman on the Swiftsure, sent a wreath for the adornment of the Nelson column on Trafalgar Day. They now regret to have to report the death of this venerable lady, which took place at Guernsey on the 8th Dec., in her 103rd year. Mrs. M'Crea was a niece of another of Nelson's admirals, Sir James Saumarez, afterwards Lord de Saumarez; and her brother, General Dobiee, was engaged in nearly every battle in the Peninsular War under Wellington. One of her sons was killed in the Indian Mutiny, and all but one of the others died on active service; while she lost a grand-son only a month ago, viz., Captain M'Crea de Butts R.A., who was killed at the Sempagha Pass. The late Admiral M'Crea had five brothers killed in action. Truly a remarkable family !

The difficulties with which the Russian engi neers have to contend in the construction of the great Siberian railway would seem to be well-nigh insurmountable. A few weeks since a tremendous thunder storm visited the region east of the Baikal Lake, and did fearful damage, washing away embankments, bridges, and railway works for a distance of over 100 miles. The damage is estimated at £500,000 sterling. The waters of the Shilka, a tributary of the Amur, rose over 30ft., and work on immense sections of the line has had to be stopped. The branch line to Manchuria is being pushed on with great vigour, and the engineers' headquarters have been removed to Zizikar. Travellers who have been along the new line and have visited the workmen's camps speak of the drunkenness and immorality prevalent among the men, and of the heavy mortality in consequence.

What will the woman of the next century be? An eminent Frenchman, replying to this question, writes: -I am ignorant and cannot presume to be an oracle, but I wish solely that she may resemble the French woman of to-day such as she remains and such as I have often encounted among the less fortunate, perhaps, but nevertheless honest working-people. Not wonderfully instructed, but intelligent; not romantic, but good and sensible; knowing that marriage is above all a sacred compact to which she will be faithful, also that it imposes duties that little by little will become joys to her. Such a woman does not find the law badly made, it is a joy to be protected, and she obeys with pleasure, knowing that she holds a proper influence over her husband and has a voice in the family councils. She loves without grand demoustra-tion, but with a sentiment honest, tender, and deep, in the good days as well as the bad. If she is deceived she suffers cruelly, but in silence, and Japan for more than thirty years. He had bravery and self-devotion of Grace Darling may fearing the scaudal; tries to bring back the unhad a somewhat remarkable history. In his early be as properly immortalised on the walls of a Digitized by Google

she is admirable in her happy confidence. In general, she is not a devotee, but has enough religion to give to her children a Christian education, knowing that they will retain suf-ficient to teach them kindness to other and resignation to sustain them in their sorrows.

Dr. Edward Bickersteth, Missionary Bishop of Tokyo, formerly head of the Cambridge University Mission to Delhi, and in 1884-85 rector of Framlingham, Suffolk, who died at Chivelton House, Berks, on August 5th, aged forty-seven, by his will, dated September, 1893, gave such interest as he had in St. Andrew's House and St. Hilda's House in Tokyo to the Mission, and he bequeathed to the Mission library such one hundred volumes of his books as the librarian might choose. The testator left his land, Zaimoku Cho, and the remainder of his books and other effects in Japan, to his wife. residue of his property is to be in trust for Mrs. Bickersteth during her life, and subject to her life interest for his children, or, in the event of failure of this trust, for his brothers and sisters. The late Bishop's personal estate has been valued at £4.762. The executors of his will are his widow and his brother, the Rev. H. V. Bickersteth, of The Palace, Exeter.

In the judgment delivered by the Nagaszki Court in the Epps murder case, appear the following paragraphs, according to the Naga-saki Press translation:—"These facts are glean-ed by the examination—That on the 12th Dec., 30th year of Meiji at about 10 o'clock p.m., the defendants, Yomosaku and Hiakutaro, took in their sampanat Sagarimatsu Hatoba, Frank Epps first class apprentice of the U.S.F.S. Olympia, which was in the harbour at that time, having been asked by him to do so, and rowed to-wards the Olympia. That the evidence is not conclusive to prove that on their way to the Olympia the defendants began a quarrel with Epps and pushed him into the water. That the defendants were well aware that Epps was drowned, but they rowed away without rescuing him and caused his death, notwithstanding there was a full hour to rescue him if they had wished to do so. Nakamura Yomosaku, is fined yen 100 (one hundred yen). Kawada Hiakutaro, fined yen 50 (fifty yen). The boathook seized fined yen 50 (fifty yen). The boathook seized to be returned to Nagasaki Water Police Station."

An appreciative article in Blackwood's on the late Sir Rutherford Alcock, concludes :- It would be idle to speculate on the manner in which Sir Rutherford Alcock might have borne himself during such times as we are now passing through. Accustomed to play the leading part among his peers, the role of second fiddle in jangling orchestra could hardly have been congenial to him, nor its practical result satisfactory. But if the true statesman in the man of his own epoch, never behind nor yet too much in advance of it, then the deceased veteran's claim to that distinction is indubitable. though it may be said his epoch receded from him like a falling tide when the affairs of the empire fell into paralytic hands, he still did his best to maintain the manifer tradition. It does not come within the scope of this article to consider either the first or the last stages of his public life,-his early services in the Peninsula, or his honorary services in sundry social capscity during his twenty-eight years of retirement Suffice it here to say, that a man who for sixtyfive years, under the public eye, bore throughout a name unsulfied by a stain, and who, under the severest stress, ever held high the honour and the interests of his country, leaves an example of which his countrymen may be proud.

An old resident of the Far East, who had attained the advanced age of seventy four years, passed away on Tuesday, says the Kobs Chronicle. Mr. Schofield, who will be remembered as having for some years been connected with the Seamen's Home, had resided in China

faithful, nearly always succeeds, and knows youth he joined the first Buffs and saw con-how to pardon. When she is sure of her husband siderable service in India, including the camsiderable service in India, including the campaign known as the second Sikh War, Returning to England after his period of service service had expired he stayed there a short time and then determined to come out to Shang-hai, with the object of going into business. Shortly after his arrival in Shanghai he became acquainted with some of the leaders in the Taiping rebellion, and was instrumental in supplying the rebels with arms and ammunition during that formidable rising against the corruption and oppression of the ruling classes. After the rebellion was suppressed, Mr. Schofield went to Hankow, where he was engaged for some years in the lorcha business on the Yang-Later he returned to Shanghai, and in 1889 he came to Kobe, where he has since resided. He could tell many an interesting story of his adventures, and had a remarkable memory. Though for years he has looked extremely ill, few would have believed he exceeded seventy years of age,

> On January 15th in Hongkong, a first class boy, named Aloysius Mitchell (17) was iried by court-martial on board H.M.S. Edgar, for assaulting Captain Hall, by striking him on the chest with both fists. The Court was compos-ed of Captain the Hon. Hedworth Lambton, H.M.S. Powerful, President; Commandant Sparkes, H.M.S. Linnet; Commander Kingsmill, H.M.S. Archer; Commander Smith Dorien, H.M.S. Alacrity; and Commander W. H. F. Taylor, H.M.S. Tamar. Mt. V. Lawford was Judge-Advocate. The prisoner committed the offence after being tried on a charge of theft. He was found guilty, and when this decision was communicated to him he leaned over the table and committed the assault. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and handed in a written statement pleading for mitiga-tion of sentence. He had been brought before Captain King Hall, and convicted of theft, of which he was innocent, and the shock of being publicly branded as a thief threw him into sudden fit of passion, and he lost control of himself. He was heartily sorry and ashamed of the serious offence, and he entreated the Court to take into merciful consideration that he had been for over six weeks already prisoner, and his youth and inexperience. The Court sentenced the prisoner to twenty-four strokes with the birch rod, imprisonment for eighteen months with hard labour, and to be dismissed the service. - China Mail.

> Sir W. B. Richmond, R.A., made some novel and striking suggestions at a recent meeting of the Clergy and Artists Association for the Improvement of Art in Churches, over which the Bishop of Rochester presided. It may be gathered from his remarks, says the Globe, that if he had had a free hand in St. Paul's Cathedral the choice of subjects for its decoration would have been more comprehensive than it has been. Sir William sees no reason why paintings or other works of act in churches should be limited to what are technically called religious subjects, though even m to these there m room, as he says, for m great extension of the area of illustration. For example, the Psalms and the Proverbs have rarely tempted the artist, though they suggest subjects which could be treated so as to appeal to the roughest plough-man. Sir W. Richmond's chief point, however, is that art in churches should be an expression of our national as well as our religious life.
> And why not? If monuments to our heroes are not improperly placed in Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's, why may not their deeds be commemorated in them by the genius of the painter? There are numberless events in our Island Story, both in old and in recent times, which will occur to every one as highly suitable for such a purpose. We do not know why the historic hattles which have saved the Empire should be excluded; and it is easy to recall incidents which have burned themselves into the national memory, though their heroes and heroines were persons in humble life. The bravery and self-devotion of Grace Darling may

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church as the martyrdom of a New Testament or mediæsval saint. Some people will raise objections, no doubt, as they always do when a breach with time-honoured conventions is proposed, but Sir W. B. Richmond has good sense and right feeling on his side; patriotism and religion need not and should not be disjoined.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE "YORODZU" NOT TRUTHFUL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,-Permit me, as one of your readers for the past fifteen years, to take exception, through your columns—believing this to be the most efficacions means to produce the effect in a quarter where it is desired—to the scurribus attacks made in the English Department of the Porodan against one of the best and most prominent men of Japan. In its last Tuesday's issue, Marquis Ito is depicted in the blackest possible character that one has yet seenthe very statesman in whom the Sovereign puts unlimited confidence—the diplomat who knows the conditions of Europe well and can turn them to conditions of Europe well and can turn them to good account, if he likes—the most liberal type of the Japanese official, who is respected all the world over. Now, he, from his very exalted position, cannot reply to every and all criticisms appearing in the columns of the fifthwate newspapers given to blackmailing. This fact is shamefully but recklessly availed of hy the newspapers given to mackinating. This fact is shamefully but recklessly availed of by the Marquis' slanderers. Of all the "penny dreadfuls" which are now fast disappearing, the Yorodau keeps all the essential characters to itself and fattens by pandering to the diegs of the community. It certainly has a larger circulation than any other paper; but when one knows that it is patronized by the barber shops, those popular rendezvous of the lower classes of the Metropolis, the true tôle of the paper can be well imagined. Perhaps, therefore, the amount of mischiel done by it may be much less than is thought. One thing is, however, certain, less than is thought. One thing is, however, certain, that no respeciable man turns to its columns for wise connect, advice, or information. Its influence is practically mil. The Yorodau possesses a distinct character of its own, nevertheless. There is only one word in the whole English language to express it, namely, deceit. For some five months, an American citizen was writing for its English column, which effusions were palmed off as genuine Japanese productions! Even now a certain reverend gentleman is taking an active part in it. His work is, of course, advertized as part in it. His work is, of course, advertized as Jupanese. To prove this, one need but can through the file of the Yorodzu for some months back at random. What a disparity of quality, both grammatical and thetorical, one will find in the various English acticles, notes, etc. Usually, the notes signed K. U. (who is known to be the English editor) and other certain letters of the alphabet are not elegant productions, though fair specimens are not elegant productions, thought air spectimens of Japanese work. On the contrary, one often finds among the notes, comments, or articles not so signed very creditable pieces of writing, which show the unmistakable signs of foreign bands. Neither logic nor fact allows that one and the same person can be the writer of two things diametrically opposed to each other in form, in expression, and force. If necessary, the foreign pression, and force. If necessary, the foreign the Japanese. The Voradau need not beneatorhy tilde upon such high sounding themes as "morality," "humanity," "straightforward honesty," and so on. These are real nonvense so far as the paper is concerned. If the Voradau desires to command the least amount of influence, it must give up the present dishonourable practice. To barrow the words of the Yorodou's elected con-respondent, "there are hypocrites even in news-paper offices." This was, no doubt, meant to be applied to the Yorodsu, the secret being known.

Apologizing to you for trespassing so much upon your valued space,

I remain, etc.,

AN IMPARTIAL JAPANESE. Tokyo, Weilnesday, 12th Jan., 1898.

#### THE LATE MR. PILKINGTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL,"

Sig.—Should the telegram with regard to Uganda to to day's issue prove only too true, there will be added in the came of G. H. Pilkington one more to the long list of Coristian martyrs who have laid down their lives in Africa. Mr. Pilkington was educated at Pembinke College, Cambridge. To 1887 be was placed in the 2nd Division of the 1st Class of the Classical Prizes. This distinction opened thetized by

educational career, but after a brief term of service as assistant master at Harrow School, he offered himself to the Clouch Missionary Society and reached Uganda at the end of 1890. Here his inquisitic gills were of the atmost service in monpleting and revising the translation of the Scriptures into Uganda.

In a graphic and stirring pampillet which be wrote during his furlungh, 2 years ago, he remarks:—A hundred thousand souls brought into close contact with the Grospel-half of them able to read for themselves; two bundled buildings raised by native Christians in which to worship God and read Hs Word; two hundred native evangelists and teachers entirely supported by the native Church; ten thousand copies of the New Testament in circulation; six copies of the New Testament in circulation; six-thousand souly eagerly seeking daily instruction; statistics of Baptism, of Confirmation, of ad-herents, of teachers more than doubling yearly for the last 6 or 7 years, ever since the teture of the Christians from exile; the power of God shown by changed lives; and all this in the centre of the thickest spiritual darkness in the world! Does it not make the heart reel with mitigled emotions of layers of local and appreciation? 

time, of means, of life!" And he has given time, and means, and life. Yours faithfully, C. H. BASIL WOODD.

S. Andrew's House, Shiba, 13th January, 1898,

#### EXPENDITURE ON MISSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My statement about the amount of money spent in home lands and in foreign countries, included all funds spent at home. I did not make a comparison between Domestic and Foreign Societies. In America, there are often county organizations, having, for instance, twenty Churches. They might spend in the country, and mostly on their own local work, perhaps \$500 each per year, besides they would give say \$20 each to state work, and small contribution to the Home Missionary Society and another to the Roreign Missionary Society. The Society with which I am connected only receives about ten cents each per year from the membership that it hopes may work through it on the foreign field. If this may work through it on the loceign field. If this ten cents be three per cent, of what they spend in America, they would spend there only \$3.33 per member per year. Proportionately very little Christian money leaves the country where it is exised; most of it is spent on the local congregation and is not included in the Home Missionary The Home work grows in proportion to the Foreign work, as a ride. The anti-missionary Baptists are dwindling, with a fair prospect of becoming extinct. The very essence of the teaching of Christ is the love of others. Not to be missionary, is not to be Christian. I have never pretended that we missionaries are beyond criticism, but I think the talk about our staying at home is very illugical. To my mind, the Japanese style of dancing is superior to the foreign walez, yet one of your correspondents comes here to teach dancing. Why did she not take her own advice and "remain at home?" The real upposition is generally, not to missionaries alone, but to Christianity in general, That is the real point at issue. The question is, did Christ rise from the dead? I believe he did.

CHAS. E. GARST. 44, Tsukije January 13th, 1898

#### JAPANESE "SOCIAL MORALITY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL." SIR,-Will your kindly give space to your columns for a few remarks on the letter of E.S.P., that appeared to your issue of the 10 h January. This question of "Social Morality" in Japan seems

this question of "S chall Morality" in Japan seems to have wandered far from its original purpose, and letters I ke those of E.S.P., have tried to condone sin, by saying that it is as bad, if not worse, in Christian countries. Now we are told that "comparisons are odious," and certainly in this case they can help no one. A sin is a sin no matter in whom you find it, nor in what country

tempt for him. The wilfully blind man is the Christian, he has received light, but prefers to walk in darkness; the Heathen is still in darkness, and we cannot expect him to walk as though he were in the light. Therefore to the Christian he were in the light. Therefore to the Christian is the greater condemnation, he is a far greater sinner than his Heathen Brother. E.S.P. accuses the Missionary of "intentionally, or unintentionally, misleading the Japanese by concealing from ally, misleading the Japanese by conceasing from them the fact, that the very vices they wish to amend here, exist far more prominently in Chris-tian cities," and further remarks, "I have often been struck by the evident surprise manifested by been stated Japanese when spoken to of the iniquities going on in so-called Christian cities, and they have remarked, why we never heard this from the Missionaries—we thought all Christian people were good !"

New I think everyone knows that the Missionary goes to non-Christian lands to teach the people what Christianity is, and not to tell of the evil lives of so-called Christians, who have "crucified the Lord afresh, and put Him to so open shame." Furthermore there is no need that he should speak, nor yet is it necessary that the Japanese should travel abroad to learn these things, for their eyes are opened only ton soon, and practical lessons are given them by those who, from western lands, come to this country. The Japanese who can still say, "We thought all Christian people were good?" are those who have (shall I say fortunately for themselves), seen but few foreigners. I will quote from the letter of E.S.P. once more. "When the Missionary propagandists can point to a single European city of ordinary dimensions that is perfectly free from the objectionable elements they find in Japan-ther, objectionable elements they find in Japan—ther, and not till then, can they use it as a model for imitation by the Japanese." Now the Missionary as a servant of God, and a visionary, and he knows that were he to remain at home until he could "point" to such a city as E.S.P. speaks of, the world would never hear of a Saviour, so he obeys his Lord's command—to "go forth," and he points to the Mao Christ, and says to his people, "Here is your great example, you need no other. "Here is your great example, you need no other, Follow Hun!"

Yours, &c., January 16th, 1898. M.L.P.

#### ROUND THE WORLD A-WHEEL.

#### THREE LONDON CYCLISTS IN JAPAN.

The other day the three adventurous cyclists who set out from Landon in July of 1896 with the ambition of wheeling round the world, landed at Nagasaki from Stranghai and, after a twenty-four bours halt, started across the island of Kynshir tehours hall, started across the island of Kynstin te-words Shimonoseki, from whence they will ride to Kobe, Kyore, and so on to Vokohama. All English speaking wheelmen the world over, in America, In-dia, Australia, the Cape and elsewhere, have been following the ride of the tria-Mr. John Faster Fraser, Mr. Edward Lunn and Mr. F. H. Lowe. They are not professional cyclists, have never raced in their lives, but they were evidently affici-ed with the "cycle fever" which raged so strong in London eighteen months, are and which rages ed with the "cycle lever" which raged so strong in London eighteen months ago and which rages still. When it became public what they were about to attempt, it was prophesied they would never get beyond. Vienna, if as lar. Mr. Fraser being a well known journalist was extensively interviewed, to all doubts about the success of the adventure the answered, "Well, we will try."

When they set off from London not a soul accuration them.

When they set off from London and a soul ac-companied them, for the hour of their start was kept a secret. They were upon ordinary road-ter machines, with a special carriage behind for lug-gage, of which each rider carried about thirty pounds, inclusive of repairs, photographic ap-pliances, medicines and what not. The first after-mon they ran down to Harwich, took the night boat and landed in Antwerp in the morning and the same day saw them in Brussels. The King of the Belgians invited them to spend Sunday of the Belgians invited them to spend Sunday with him at the Chateau de Lacken. His Majesty took a great interest in the voyage, he himself riding a tricycle, and at the Belgian National têre on the afternoon of 19th July, he shook the three warmly by the hand, wished them God speed, and matter in whom you find it, nor in what country it may flourish; no two wrongs have ever yet here imade to prove a right; an having decorded that a sin is a sin, he it committed in the East or the actual Authorn, Mr. Fraser and his companions set off upon their long overland trip. Coossing a context that the sin is a sin, he it committed in the East or the west, let us leave that question alone, and turn marry who shall find vast shades of difference. If a blind Mr. Pilking-ling, Committention to the smoot, for there is where we shall find a pit we will in pity help him out, the side of the legendary Rhine to Coblenz and Mr. Pilking-ling. Cam place him on his feet, and lead him on his way, but if a man wilfully closes his eyes and walks into a pit, although we may help him out (if he will the language), we can not but have a feeling of con- it wo days ride in denthling rain and over

micy roads brought the wheelmen to Buda-Pesth, a ride of over a couple of bundled miles. All through Hungary they were received fraternally. Less than three days carried them across Roubest than three days carried them across too-mania, and on a miserably wretched set day, they bade good-bye to civilisation and crossed the frontier into Southern Russia.

Here trials were writing them. There were no

roads, only rough tracks across the eternal uninteresting steppes. There were no inns and the villages were poor: For more than a week at a villages were poor: For more than a week at a stretch the cyclists slept in their clothes on hare floors and for ten days they subsisted chiefly on eggs. They turned into the Crimea and wheeled over the field of Balaclava. Crossing the Straits of Azof they entered the Kuban province, the land the Crimea in the Crimea and the Crimea an of the Cossacks. It was a region of poverty and desolation. Once a band of maranding Cossacks attucked the adventurers and revolvers were drawn attacked the adventures and revolvers were having and fired in defence. Another time they were carried bodily before the police as spies, and frequently they were stoned. They made straight for Viaditavkas, lying at the foot of the mighty Caucasus mountains. They were the first cyclists who had ever traversed these mountains, and the day they rode into Tiffis, now the capital of Trans-Caucasia, they had been in the saddle for eighteen

hours.
From Tiflis Mr. Fraser and his friends struck into a fierce bandit-infested country, Armenia. They saw a good deal of the wild Knods from whom, however, they received every lindness. At Erivan, the capital of Armenia, had weather delayed them. They cycled past Biblical Mount Aracat, and then cached the classic Araxes river and passed into Persia.

If Russia was a tough country to cross on bicy clearlie Land of the Lion and the Sun was worse Nothing but dishemtening obstacles awaited the trio. There were breakages of the machines, snowy weather, sickness. Food was very scarce; often there was only a much but to rest in. With snowy weather, sickness. Food was very scarce; often these was only a mud but to rest in. With their clothes in tattera, famished and worn, they reached the capital city of Teheran in the middle of December twelve months back. For five weeks they rested at Teheran, where they were entertained by the Shah at his palace and spent a pleasant Christmas as the guests of Sir Mortimer Durand, the British Minister. They then struck right across Persia, through Kum, a fanatical city where they were stoned out of the place; ta 1-patian where the Zildi Sultan received them, and so to Shinaz, famous as the birth-place of the Persian poets Hafix and Sadii. Naturally there was the widest excitement among the Persians.

Snow lay deep on the mountains and once the cyclists hast their way. They were on the Kuh (Shoulder of Death) at an altitude of 9,000 leet and in four feet of snow. Darkeess overtook them. They wandeted laboriously seeking a track, and at last, utterly faint, had to abandon their machines. It was a howing stormy night and they had the atmost difficulty to keep awake. Wulves were prowling round. At daybreak they found a track and so reached the village of Derbid. They had been exposed and without food for twenty hours.

Arriving in India hardships fled. Toue there

ty hours.

Arriving in India hardships fled. was a nasty eight hundred miles to traverse through the sand of Scinde, that the heat was intense, and that Mr. Fraser was laid up for a mouth with small-pox. But from Lahore to Calcuta they travelled over the most magnificent road-1,200 miles—in the world, through the famous cities of Delhi, Agra, Lucknow and Benares. The reception given to the adventurous trio by the city of Calcutts was the most brilliant public event since Lord Dufferin was Viceroy. It is calculated that something like a hundred and fifty thousand people were in the streets. A great public banquet was given in their honour, the Viceroy's box at the was given in their disposal, they were breakfasted, funcheoned and disposal, they were breakfasted, funcheoned and dispetter most thoroughly lionised. It was more than bisted in one of the Calcutta papers that Mr. Flaver recoived two offices of marriage from over-enthusiastic young Anglo Indian ladies. But as Mr. Fraser m yet a bachelor be must have declined the honour.

When good-bye had been bidden to Calculta, when good-bye had been bidden to Calcutte, the adventurers went to Burma, which they traversed by way of Mandalay to Bhamo, the last frontier station in British Upper Burma. They were caught in the rainy season and eight nights they slept in their damp clothes. They crossed over the Chinese frontier at Nampong. There were no coalls to cycle over, only mountain tracks to climb and descend. Day after day they waded waist deep in water, Consequently there was to climb and descend. Day after day only waist deep in water. Consequently there was fever and sickness. But they never turned back. Rhowing no Chinese, travelling without servant or interpreter, laving no bedding or civilised food, being in a part of China where there are no inna, theirs was a dispitting match. To cross from the case enquired into by members of the Committee.

Bhamo to Talifu is one of the most dangerous Digitized by The sincere thanks of the L.B.A. are tendered industry of LLINC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINC URBANA-CHAMPAK

and difficult tasks. Twenty miles at the untside was all they journeyed in one day. They were going through an almost unknown region. As places the Chinese were offensive to the wanderers places the Chinese were offensive to the wanderers and frequently stoned them. Mr. Kraser and his friends struck down to Yunnan-fu and then worked towards the Yang-tze river, which they reached at Sinfu and then pedalled down to Chinig-king-fu. Messis Lunn and Lowe suffered severely from the constant hardships, the exposure and the bad food. By the time the party arrived at Ichang these two had competely broken down in health. All of them were haggard and worn, their clothes were almost in shreds and they were wearing native shoes. Messis Lunn & Lowe took steamer at once to Hankow where they could place themselves under a doctor but Mr. Fraser tode alone across the anti-foreign province of Hupsh. themselves under a doctor but Mr. Fraser rode alone across the anti-foreign province of Hupeh. Most of the time he had wretched weather and could get little besides rice and greens to eat, and he was frequently petted with mud by the natives. Starting mf again, the three kept to the Yang-ize bank as far as Wuhu where they struck across country to Stanghai. This they reached on the bank as far as Wuliu where they struck across country to Shanghai. This they reached on the 23rd Dec. having travelled 14,322 miles and taking just 151 days to traverse China. A magnificent welcome was accorded by the ladies and gentlement of Shanghai who met them some six miles out of the city and escorted them to the settlement. Messis. Fraser, Lunn & Lowe before leaving were entertained at a public dinner at which Sir Nicholas Hannen presided.

Of the travellers the name of Mr. Fraser is well known as a story writer in the leading magazines, though he also writes heavy and serious articles for the Contemporary Review and flippancies for the club gossio in The Idler. For some years he represented The Manchester Guardian in the Journalists' Gallery of the House of Commons, and he is still on the staff of The World. He belongs to he is still on the staff of The World. He belongs to the staid Authors' Club, that dilletante coterie of young artistic and literary Londoners. Mr. Fraser, before starting on the present excursion, travelled extensively in Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor and Turkey generally. He has also been to Tunis and explored the site of ancient Carthage. Still under thirty years of age, a fall, broad shouldered Scotsman, he has crushed a good many experiences into his life. Probably a book from his pen will be the upshot of the present tour. sent tour.

Both Mr. Lann and Mr. Lowe are younger than Mr. Fraser. Mr. Lann has travelled widely, espe-cially in Northern Russia, and was one of the few nglishmen who witnessed the coronation of the Czar at Moscow.

Now the three are cycling their way through Japan though when they will arrive in Yokohama is not known. They are taking their time because they are in no hurry to reach America before the snows have melted to allow them to ride across the Rockies from San Francisco to New York. They get back to England about July next having been away from home about two years.

#### LADIE'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIA-TION.

#### COMMITTER.

President.—Mrs. Irwine. Vice President.—Mrs. Ethidge. Hon. Treas.—Mrs. W. B. Walter. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Thomas. Managers.—Mrs. J. Walter, Mrs. James, Mrs. Whittall, Madame de Micheaux, Mrs. Kleinwort, and Mrs. Isaacs. Hon. Sec.—Tokyo. Madame Bourgarin. Bongouin.

Your Committee have the pleasure to lay before you the 25th Annual Report of the Association, They regret that the Funds of the Society are not in the flourishing condition that they have been in for some years past. The demands for assistance have been much greater this year owing to various causes, the chief of which has been the number of causes, the chief of which has been the number of cases in which assistance has been given in regard to passage money. Your Committee are obliged therefore to make a strong appeal to the kindness and generosity of the members of the Association, hoping that all present members will continue their subscriptions, and increase them where it is possible, and that others may be willing to join in this good cause. The Annual expenses are now greatly to excess of the Annual Income, and the Reserve Fund less hear merry exhausted. Further year Fund has been marily exhausted. Every year there is more povertly as the place increases in size and all needy cases are assisted irrespective of creed and nationality and many such have been called a fundamental transfer or a such as a

to the kind friends who have sent donations either from themselves personally or by giving entertainments for the benefit of the Local Charities, and to Mr. Schurr for educating the orphan son of a Bettish subject, at a reduced (ste; also for the donations of clothing, any father gifts of which will be thankfully received at the Parasonage by the President. The Committee gratefully acknowledge the kind help of the King's Devoktory. Circle tomselve the presidents are some

Daughters' Circle towards the maintenance of a destitute woman at the General Hospital.

The work done by the Association during the past year will be seen by the Hon. Treasurer's

J. P. THOMAS, Hon. Sec. L. B. A.

Yokohama, January 7th, 1898.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1897. DR.

DR.	
Paid out for keeping a helpless destitute widow at the Hospital for one year	\$365.00
widow at the Hospital for one year Paid out for milk supplied monthly to a poor family of six children	135.13
a poor family of six children	
widow with a large family	315.00
Paid out funeral expenses of a distitute	213 80
Paid out school feet for a poor girl for	25.00
one month	5 00
Paid out for printing reports, postal	3 00
cards and slamps	27.90
Paid mit for stationery & account book Paid out from Victoria School fund,	5.30
school fees for one boy	83 40
Paid out towards the passage to Co-	6 500
Paid towards passage of a poor woman to Seattle, U.S.	6.00
Paid towards the passage of a poor man	50.00
to America	50.00
to America  Paid to the Salvation Army  Paid towards passage to Hongkong of	100,00
Paid towards & Johnsonsberg pressure	30.00
Paid to a family in need, the father	100.00
being ill	92.00
S. Alette Paid towards passage to America of a	50.00
Paid for food for a destitute family of	80.00
seven persons	85.00
family	105.00
pital	30.60
Paid for boots for a poor boy	4-55
Paid out Mrs. Jaffray's deposit for her	
Paid for collecting subscriptions	20 00
Laid in concerning supersprings substant	15 18
	\$2,006.86
To balance	243.66
Total	\$2,340.52
Cr.	
Received in Subscriptions and Dona-	
Received from the "King's Daughters"	1,215.00
towards the keep of a poor sick woman	
Presided from the Kaba Inggranity Ca	100.00
at the Hospital	75 00
Subscriptions	32.79
Interest on Current Account	7-30
	1,430.00
Brought forward from 1896	910,43
Total	2,340.52
M. M. WALT	-
Hou. Tre	rasurer,

The first delivery of Bombay cotton this year, in expected at Kobs towards the middle of February next. The steamers Hydarpes and Hiroshima Maru, loaded with about 10,000 bales, left Bombay for Japan about the 10th instant. The price of Indian cotton this car is said to be about one yest per picul less than last year, the average quotations ranging

#### CHRIST-CHURCH REBUILDING FUND.

The following in the Subscription List to date . . . . . . . . . Christ Church Voko.

DANGLOS (HE LEGGHOTHE OF CORRES CHARLES)	
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Countess Festetics W. W. Till, Esq	200
Cecit Guinness, Esq.	20
A4: D Just I ob	20
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W. S. Stone, B.q.	25
Tom. Thomas, E.g	100

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM 186 "[APAR TIMES.")

#### THE ANGLO-CHINESE LOAN. PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS.

London, Jan. 13.

The parleying with China concerning the British loan is likely to be protracted. China is procrastinating and raising various difficulties. Moreover, it is uncertain whether adequate security will be forthcoming.

#### BRITISH INDIAN FINANCE.

The Times is informed that a Bill will be introduced at the Viceregal Council on Friday, empowering it to receive deposits in gold in London, and to issue notes against them in India.

#### THE GERMAN PRESS AND ENGLAND.

The tone of the German Press has latterly been markedly friendlier towards Australians made 550 for nine wickets. Great Britain.

#### GERMANY'S CARRYING TRADE.

Germany has chartered two trading steamers to ply between Kiao-chou and Shanghai.

#### THE TRANSVAAL. A STARTLING STATEMENT.

London, Jan. 14.

The Globe publishes a Boer plan of campaign, the execution whereof, it says, was only prevented by the outbreak of rinderpest. It alleges that it was arranged to declare war suddenly on some pretext. Then within 48 hours to seize Kimberley, Newcastle, and two other strategic points, and hold them until terms were made.

#### THE DREYFUS CASE.

#### PROSECUTION OF EMILE ZOLA.

The French Government has commenced the prosecution of Emile Zola for having published a letter in which he furiously denounced General Billot, Minister of War, and other Generals, and stated that they were combining to perpetuate the conviction of Dreyfus, and to exculpate Esterbazy.

#### THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

The Morning Post states that the Grenadier Guards, in garrison at Gibraltar, have been ordered to be in readiness to sail for Egypt.

#### LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Lord Charles Beresford has been elected member of parliament for York by a majority of eleven votes over Sir Christo pher Furness, Radical. Owing to the harrow majority, a recount has been demanded. Mr. Mendl, Radical, has been elected for Plymouth.

#### THE MURDER OF A LONDON ACTOR.

The man who murdered William Terries, the actor, has been tried and declared insane.

#### INDIAN FINANCE.

A Bill has been introduced at the Viceregal Council providing for the issue of Currency Notes in India against gold paid to the Secretary of State.

#### END OF THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE

#### THE MEN YIELD.

London, January 17. The engineers' strike is virtually over, and the men have resolved to withdraw

their demand for a 48 hours' week.

11,046.54

THE COMMAND OF THE FRENCH ARMY.

General Jamont has been appointed generalissimo of the French Army, replacing General Saussier, who has retired.

#### THE SITUATION IN CUBA.

Anti-autonomy riots of a serious nature have occurred at Havana, and the mob has been in possession of the streets for three days.

#### SERIOUS DISTURBANCES ON THE PERSIAN FRONTIER.

. A serious disturbance is reported as having broken out in the province of Mekran. Telegraph survey parties have been attacked, and many wounded. Troops have been dispatched thither from Karachi.

#### CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In a test match played between Stoddart's team and an Adelaide eleven, the

In the third day's play between Stoddart's team and an Australian eleven at Adelaide, the Stoddarts were all out for 278. The Australians following on, made 133 for one wicket.

#### THE ISSUE OF INDIA BILLS.

London, Jan. 18.

The tenders for the £1,000,000 India Bills for exchange have amounted to £9,770,000. Subscribers at £98 17s. 2d. receive a percentage of 75; those who have subscribed above that amount get allotments in full.

#### CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In a second test match played at Adelaide between Stoddart's team and an Australian eleven, the latter were all out for 573, and the Stoddarts made 177 for six wickets.

#### DEATH OF "THE FATHER OF THE HOUSE."

The death is announced of the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.

#### THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST.

London, Jan. 19.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Swansea, declared that Great Britain had no desire for any territorial acquisition in China, but wished to open the door to the world's commerce. But the Government was absolutely determined, even, if necessary, at the cost of war, not to allow that door to be shut against it.

#### THE ANGLO-CHINESE LOAN.

Sir Claude Macdonald, British Minister, has informed the Tsung-li-yamen, that England is willing to furnish a loan, conditional upon the opening of three treaty ports, to include Talien-wan and Nanning-Pho, the alienation from the Yangtsze valley of any other Power, and the right to extend the Burmah railway through Yunnan. These conditions are approved by China, but opposed by the Russian and French Ministers at Peking.

#### (R-ceived by the Fiji).

BRIT SH DEMANDS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHINESE LOAN.

Peking, Jan. 14.

It is rumoured here that the conditions proposed by Great Britain in undertaking to supply to China a loan are, among other things, that Talien and Siangtan, in the their demand for a 48 hours' week.

THE RUSSIAN WAR DEPARTMENT. Kwangsi should be opened for commerce, General Krapotkine has been appointed with the construction of railways in cluster of War. UNIVERS Yungar should be conceded. THE NEW GOVERNOR OF SHANTUNG.

Peking, Jan. 15

Chang Yin-wan has been appointed Governor of Shantung.

JAPAN AND ENGLAND.

Peking, Jan. 16.
It is persistently rumoured here that Japan is disposed to back up the present British movement.

#### CHESS.

All Commandentions to be addressed to the Cases Rettor

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creekside.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 353. WHITE.

I—O to R 6

2—Kttakes P (B 3), mate 1-R takes Q 1-K takes Kt 2-Q to Kt 7, mate 1-B takes Kt

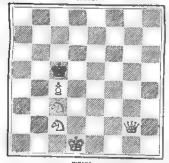
2-Q to H 2, mate I-R to Kt 6; B to H 2-Q to 11 4, mate S; or B to Kt 8 I-P takes P 2-B takes P, mate

2-Kt takes P (B6), mate

1-Kt (B 7) moves 2-Q to Q 3, or B to Q 3, I-Kt (Kt 2), moves -Q to K 6, mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S. Skak and Voila. P.E F.S .- I B to B 2 ch spails your key move.

> PROBLEM No. 355 By Mes. W. J. BAIRD. First Prize Hackney Mercury,



White to play and mate in three moves.

#### A CURIOSITY.

A CURIOSITY.

In the following position White has too much force; with the move he must loss—he cannot aven diam.

If however, one of his pieces be removed from the board, he can mate in four moves:—

White:—King at KKt 5; Q at KKt 3; Bishopa at KR 2 and 3; Knights at KB 4 and Q 7; Pawns at KB 6, K 7, QB 3, QKt 5.

Black:—King at Q 3; Q at KKt sq; R at KR sq and Q 6; Bishops at K sq and Q sq; Kt at Q Kt 2; Pawns at KR 5, KKt 2, KB 2, K 6, QB 5.

QKt 3; QR 4.

OK: 2; Fawes at KR5, KK: 2, KB2, K6, QB5, QB5, QB5, 3; QR4.

Remove one of White's pieces from the board, then White to play and mate in four moves. This ingenious puzzle is by W. S. Pavit, and was only lished more than thirty years ago in the Chess World.

#### JANOWSKI D. WALBRODT.

JANOWSKI v. WALERODT.

Walbrodt lost time in the fourth game, by adopting a timid variation of the Ray Lopez, and playing 4-P to Q 3, and then later on 7-P to Q 4. Black made good use of his opportunity to develop his game, notably with his seventeenth move of R to Q 3. White underrated the strength of Black's attack on the king's wing. He ought to have exchanged rooks, instead of which he played the tisky move of 20-P to K 3, to which Black very properly replied with R to Kt 3. The sacrifice of the piece on Black's twenty-second move was, we believe, perfectly justified. The latter, however, gave himself entirely away with his twenty-fifth move of Q to R 6. He ought to have played P to K B 4 at once.

WhiteWalbrodt.	Black.—Janowski.
WHITE, BLACK,	WHITE. BLACK.
1 PK4 PK4	To Kt Kt2 O Bs
2 Ki KB3 Ki QB3	19 Kt Kt2 Q B5 20 P Kt3 R Kt3
3 B K 15 Kt H3	21 K B -q Q R3
4 P Q3 P Q3	22 P K K 4 B P
5 Castles B K2	23 PaB RaP
6 Ki B3 Castles	24 Q K3 Q R4
2 P O4 K1 O2	25 K B4 Q R6 ch
II BxKi Px8	25 K B4 O R6 ch 26 K K2 P KB4
9PxP PxP	27 KKIXP Q R4
10 Q K2 B Q3	28 KINR PAKE
11 B K3 Q B3	29 Q K13 B R5
12 QR Q sq Rt B4	30 R KR +q B+O
13 Bake Bab	31 RaQ RxP ch
24 Kt OR4 B K2	32 K Q sq B B5
ISPOKIA BKKIE	33 Kt K5 BxKt
16 R Q3 QR Q sq	34 RxB P KR3
17 KR Q sq R Q3	35 ■ KB5 Resigns.
18 P KR3 B K4	1 33 = 1203 Kengus.
04	•

#### GAMB No. 354.

#### A TYPICAL PIECE OF STRATEGY.

The appended interesting game occurred in a rencently played match. It forms a good example of the evil effects of interior development when apposed to modern strategy:—

White-Mr. H. F. Dobell (Hastings).	Black-Mr. H. W. Trenchard (North London),
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE, BLACK.
1 P Q4 P Q4	19 QR Q q Cils. QR
2 P K3 P K3	20 B B-q P Kta(h)
3 B Q3 B Q3	21 Kt R3 P Kt5
4 K   O2(a) Kt KB2	22 Kt B2(i) P R4
5 P KB4 P B4 6 P B3(n) K1 B3	23 K: K:2 B K2
6 P B <sub>3</sub> (n) Ki B <sub>3</sub>	24 KtRq PR5
7 P QR3 P B5(c) 8 B B2 P OK4	25 KtaP BxKt
	26 PxB RxP
9 Q K1B3	27 Kt K13 QR R-q
(d)    Kt2	28 R B2 B Q4(k)
Io Ki R3(e) P QR4	29 R K-2 K- R4(t)
11 B Q2 P R5(1)	30 B Q2 K: B3
12 Kt B2 Kt QR4	31 B K-q R R6
13 R QKtoq Kt Kt6	32 R Q2 Kt K2
14 Castles Q B2	33 Q Q q K: K:3
15 Q K2 PKR3 16 P KK13	34 QR K2 Kt R5
IO P KING	35 KR B2 Kt Boch
(g) Kt K5	36 K B-q RxKt(m)
17 KBxKt PxB 18 KtK-q PKB4	37 RxKt RxRch
18 Kt K-g PKB <sub>4 .</sub>	38 Resigns

#### Notes by Gunsberg,

(a) Superior mortals like Pillsbury and Tchi-(a) Superior mortals like Pillsbury and Tchigorine may be independent of steretoyped forms of openings, but for the ordinary amateur it will liardly do to play Kt to Q. 2 before playing P to QB 44, or making provisions for placing the II on Kt 2.

(b) The poor queen's hishop is hopelessly critherly cabined, and confined; the never sees daylight.

(c) Now Black has gained sufficient time to reduce his opponent's position to the level of that

educe his apponent's position to the level of that

fa second player.

(d) If P to QR 4, P to Kt 5!

(e) The idea of playing P to Q 4 and P to KB is to play Kt to K 3, supported by the other night on KB 3.

(f) This move securely ties up the queen's wing.
(g) Anticipating P to KK1 4.
(h) Black's play from this point is exceedingly well directed.

well directed.

(i) Now the king's side is blocked also, and Black proceeds by hydraulic power to force the only remaining open point on his king's rook's file.

(k) Played for the scientific purpose of depriving White of all power of motion; P to Q 5 was by no means an improbable contingency.

(i) The movements of this knight form not the least instructive feature of a game full of fine strategy.

(m) A nice finish of a cleverty conducted and typical game. If 37-P takes R, R to R 8 ch; 38-K to Kt I, R to Kl 8, mate.

#### GAME No. 355. FROM THE BERLIN TOURNAMENT. BLACKBURNE W. MARCO.

Falkbeer Counter Gambit.

White-Blackburne.	Black-	Marco.
WHITE, BLACK,	WRITE.	
1 P K4 P K4	[-13 B K3(f)	
2 P KB4 P Q4	14 Q Bach	Q K <sub>3</sub> (g)
3 PrOP P Ks	15 QxQah	RxO
4 P Q3 Kt KB3	16 B B4	PxICt
5 Q K2 B QB4(a) 6 Ki QB3 Castles 7 PxP R K·q(b)	17 BxRdi	КВq
6 Ki QB3 Castles	18 B B8	P QR4(b)
7 PxP R K-q(b)	10 PxP	R R3
8 Kt B3 KtxKP(c)	20 R Begch	K Ksq
9 Kinki B B4	21 R B3	B Q5
10 Kt K5(d) Bx Kt	22 Ctl. QR	Ki B3(i)
11 QxB P KB3	23 BxP~	Resigns,
12 P Q6(e) OxP		-

#### Notes by Emil Kemeny.

(a) Q takes P was the purper play. The play adopted is more aggressive, but it does not prove sound:

adopted is more aggressive, but it does not prove sound.

(b) B takes Kt, followed by R to K sq, would bave been better than the play adopted.

(c) Black should have played B to K B 4, which would have regained a Pawn. The play adopted is quite brilliabt, but not sound, and it causes the rather speedy defeat. Back very likely overslooked the Rt to K 5 continuation of White.

(d) White, at this stage of the game, might have played K takes B, giving up the Queen for the Rook and two minor pieces. The continuation adopted by White is superior to Kt takes B

(e) Well played. Black can not captute the Kt in account of Q to II 4 ch.

(f) Brilliant and decisive play. White gives up the Bishop in order to relieve his Queen and Kt. The play is sound and leads to victory.

(g) He could not play K to R sq or K to B sq, for Kt to B 7 ch, followed by Kt takes Q or Q to B 7 mate, would follow. Had Black played R to K 3 a similar continuation would be adopted.

(b) To save the Rook. The game, however, is a lippeless one.

(i) It is save the Rook. The game, however, is a hopeless one.
(i) He could not play B takes K P on account of R to K 3 winning the Bishop. B to B 4 might have prolonged somewhat the battle, but evidently Black's game was a hopeless one. The move selected loses a piece. White answers B takes P, followed by B takes Kt ch and R takes B.

#### GANE No. 356

The following is a remarkably pretty skirmlate which occurred in Adelaide in 1895, the opening being a Charlick-Counter Gambit :--

	r. Apperley.	Black-Mr	· Charlick,
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE,	BLACK.
1 P Q4 2 PxP	PK <sub>4</sub>	8 K   Q2	Q K13
3 B B4 P	P Q3 Kt QB3	9 P KR3 10 KK1 B3	Ri KB3 KR Ksq
4 BxP	Q KB <sub>3</sub> KB <sub>x</sub> P	11 O OR4	RR2
5 B B-q?		12 Kt QK13	KUKS.
6 P QB <sub>3</sub> 7 P K <sub>3</sub>	B KB4	13 Kt KR4	Q Kiố!
7 : 153	Castles QR	14 PxQ	

And Black mates in two moves.

#### Notes.

Notes.

Beware, says Mr. Mason, of engaging in open combination before Casting, and especially in case you are second player. "You King may become directly involved, with disastrour consequences, Pitched battles interrupting the course of development are likely to favour the attacking party; that is, the first player. This is because, naturally, his development is superior to that of the defender, He has had more time to make ready." Be careful, also, and in particular when defending He has had more time to make ready." Be careful, also, and in particular when defending, to abstain from the making of unnecessary advances of the Pawns about a Castled King. "Until their movement is forced, leave them severely alone. In nine cases out of every ten your defence will be all the stronger."

Pillsbury is again at his old occupation of player in the automaton at the Eden Musec, New York.

The Hongkong Chess Club's exhibition of similaneous play came off on the 30th December at the Hongkong Hotel, and Mr. Sonza, the ex champion, at the rate of about four moves a minute, disposed of his seven antagonists in an four and a quarter, losing one and drawing one of the games played.

From an Australian Exchange, we take the Iollowing:—The championship of the Orago Chess Club (N. Z.), has been won by Mr. R. A. Cleland, who has now secured that title for three years in succession. Out of the ten games played he won eight; in the remaining two games Mr. Cleland felt a vicinit to Mr. Balk, a former champion of Yokohama.

The Ladies' scored a victory in a match sixteen a side against a minut team of the City of London Chess Club.

Chess Club.

The English Champion Mr. Blackburne's first public appearance in England upon his termination the Berlin tounament took place at the City of London Chess Club on Saturday, when he gave an exhibition of blindfold play, engaging eight opponents simultaneously. In reply to some words of welcome addressed to him by Mr. H. F. Gastinean, Mr. Blackburne said he had not done quite as well as he had expected at Berlin. Ha had suffered from ill health the whole of the time, and found himself quite broken down at the end of each week, so that he always did worst on Saturdays. The blindfold performance resulted in the champion winning five games and drawing the remaining three.—Bradford Observer, Ociober 16th. ber 16th.

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARKIVALS.

ARRIVALS.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 15th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, 6th Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co. Doric, British steamer, 2,036, Harry Smith, 16th Jan.,—San Francisco, 28th Dec., and Honolulu, 4th Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co. Polsyhemus, British steamer, 1,747, Guodwin, 27th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 15th Jan.,—General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Vyvyan, 17th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 14th Jan., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Olympia (14), U.S. flagship, 5,870, Capt. Gridley. 18th Jan.,—Nagasaki, 15th Jan.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 19th Jan.,—Vancouver, B.C., 4th Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Irens, German steamer, 2,145, Schneder, 19th Jan.,—Honburg via ports, and Hongkong 12th Jan.,
—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 12th Jan.,
—General.—Simon Ewers & Co.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,982, D. Davies, 19th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 18th Jan.,
General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 19th Jan.,—Hongkong, 14th Jan., Mails and General.—W. Aheus & Cu., Nacht.

Saint Ronald, British steamer, 1,985, W. H. Clements, 20th Jan.,—Batoum, Oil.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Norman Isles, Norwegian steamer, 2,180, Hansen,

theson & Co.

Norman Isles, Norwegian steamer, 2, 180, Hansen,
21st Jan,—Put back bearing boken, Baliast,—
Standard Oil Co.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, A. Gow, 21st
Jan,—Hongkong via ports, and Kohe, 20th
Jan., Mails and General,—Dodwell Carlitl &
Co.

Idaumi Kan (16), Japanese cruiser, 2,967, Capt. G. Hayashi, 21st Jan., -Yokosuka.

#### DEPARTURES.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, W. H. Weight, 16th Jan.,—Portfand Oregon via Hanolulu, General.

—Dadwell Carlill E Co.

Dadwell Carlill To.
Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 16th Jan.,—Australia via Kobe and Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,139, F. N. Tillard, 16th Jan.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. N. Co.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 18th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.

O. & O. S. S. Co.
City of Rio de Fansiro, American steamer, 2,246, Win. Ward, 18th Jan.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harris, 18th Jan.,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Hector, British steamer, 3,005, John Barr, 10th

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, John Barr, 19th Jan, London via ports, General, Butterfield

Hector, British steamer, 3,003, John Jan, London via ports, General, Butter field & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 20th Jan., Hongkong via ports, Maits & General.—C. P. R. Co.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, Hill, 18th Jan., Muji, Ballast.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Sonta, German steamer, 2,660, F. Voss, 20th Jan., —Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Norman Isles, Norwegian steamer, 2,180, Hansen, 20th Jan.,—Kuchinotsi, Ballast.—Standard Oit Co.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,723, R. R. Pearce, 22nd Jan.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Satuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nicei, 18th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

#### PASSENGERS.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer Empress of India, from Vancouver B.C.:—Mr. R. G. Balton, Mr. A. Babington, Count Gaspard de Torck de Kersbeek, Count de Torck de Kersbeek, Mr. Red Grafton, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gillett and child, Mr. and Mrs. Joline, Mr. R. W. J. H. Lengbergen, Mr. N. M. Pond, Mr. Ritson, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mrs. H. Warner, Mr. W. J. Whitaker, and Mr. Wong He Chong, in cabin.

Per German steamer Habensallern, from Hong.

Per German steamer Hohensollern, from Hong-tong via ports:—Mr. G. W. Lay & party, Mr. T. Saka, Mr. Ch. Asabina, Mr. Z. Hidaka, and Mr. O. Chohen, in cobin; Mr. H. Hewett, Mr. F. Bongull, and Mr. Nagamura, in second class, 2 Indians and 1 Chinese in third class, and 29 Chi-tess on deck. nese on deck.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, from Hongkong via ports :- For San Francisco:

—Dr. W. H. Abercrombie, Mr. Jas. M. William, Lieut. Kail Bohr R.D.N., Mes. C. G. Calkins, Lieut. L. Sanders R.N., and Mr. M. Mittog, in cabin. Mrs. S. C. Paine, Master S. Morgan and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Konnor infant and amall, Mr. W. G. Bayne, Miss Fanny Eldridge, Mr. H. M. Bevis and servant, Mrs. H. M. Bevis, Miss Bevis, Mr. C. Gibbens, Mr. E. Eddison, Mr. R. A. Whistler, Miss Cynthia Packenham, Mrs. A. A. Price, Mr. H. Bassett, Mr. and Ars. C. F. McWilliams, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Read, Mrs. L. Thomas, Mr. A. M. Chalmers, Mr. E. C. Davis, Mr. W. T. Showler, Mrs. A. M. Chalmers, and Mr. V. E. Abraham, in cabin.

Per British steamer Dorie, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leitia, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hewitt, Mr. and Mrs. Funakoshinfant and nurse, Col. Tamura, Mr. Tanaka, Mr. C. Beckloid, Mr. R. A. Studd, and Mr. G. M. Fisher, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. and Mis. G. C. Cobb and child, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Sherman and Infant, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Geddee, Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Hatlan and child, Mr. Wm. Martin, Miss Sarah Martin, Mr. Aloyse Lamm, and Mr. G. E. Sevey, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Denyes, Mr. and Mrs. I. Given, Mr. H. Burnett, Mrs. Jennie Ray, Miss Raymond, Mr. A. Imhoth, and Mr. J. T. Hawkes, in cabin.

#### CARGOES.

Per British steamer Rosetta, for Hongkong via ports :- Raw Silk for Europe, 332 bales; Waste Silk for Burope, 110 bates.

The following are the Silk shippers per P. M. S.S. City of Rio de Janeiro, which sails for San Francisco, to day, the 18th Jan.

			Bales.
			110
Vivanti Bros	***		83
Bayler & Co			20
Middleton & Smith	111	447	14
The Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha	111	***	144
The Kiito Shokwai			115
The Doshinsha			

P. r. American steamer City of Rio de Faneiro, for San Prancisco :-

	TRA			
	5 A Is		H ING*	
70	anninus.	CHICAGO.	LUGUI	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,543	-		1,654
Hyogo	_	4	_	_
Yokohama	161		_	161
Hongkong	44	_	_	44
_		$\overline{}$		
Tetel	1,850	_	_	1,850
	SIL	Κ.		
	SAN	NEW		
	FRANCIBO	V-81.	HARLFORD.	TOTAL .
Shanghai	15	449	_	404
Hongkong	_	454	_	454
Vokohema	4	540	_	544
4 444				
Total	. 10	1,443	_	1,462

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

A few sales of grey shirtings have been effected at former rates and there has been a fair business in pares and Italian cloths. There are several heavy shipments of Bombay raw cutton afford and quotations have dropped by about one dollar per sicula-

COTTON PIECE GOURS.

Grey Shirtings-84 h, 384 yds. 39 inches	\$1 50	to	2.8Q
Grey Shirtings-olb, 324 yds. 45 ieches	a.80	to	3.35
L. Cloth-7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	I.őu		
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 44 inches.	1.95	ξO	2.90
Prints-Assorted, a ; yards, 30 inches.	3 00		
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Black,			MD =
3+ inches	0.10	ı to	0.35
=			E4L
Velvete-Black, 35 yards, stinches	7-75	ţo	g.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yatils, 42-3 inches	0.75	LO	1.00
FurkeyReds-2.0 to 2.4 h, 24/25 yards.		4.0	
an inches	1,50	Ļ	1.70
fuskey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/45 yards,		h	
TO INCHES	1.75	CD	2,10
furkey Reds-3.8 to 4lh, 24/45 yards,			
32 inches	3.40	tu	2.70
Inikay Reds-4.8 to 5%, 24/25 yards,	4.00	Fee.	4 50
38 inches	3 00	Į III	7,20
WOOLLENS.			otp.
Hannel and the manufacture of the same of	\$0.30		
Italian Cloth, 30 yauls, 32 inches best	0.35	to	0.41
linffan Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches			
Madistra	0.30	U	0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches			
Сопиов жили		ŧα	0.17
- Manugeline de Luine-Claupe, 21 yards,			
11 inches			4 33
Clathy-Pilate, 51 of 55 inches			0.50
Cloths-Presidents, 51 of 56 inches	0.00	10	0.75

Clothe-Union, 54 of 55 inches
COTTOB VARUE. True come.
Has, 16 24, Singles Hammer \$38-50 to 39-50
Nos. 15/32, Singles
Nos. 38 42, Singles 44,00 to 45,00
Nos. 17, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles 51 75 to 54.50
reduct alone a seem feetilistation con
Nos. 2 80, Plain 75 00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain 99.00 to 100.00
Nos. afou, Gasted 72.00 to 79 00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed
Nos. 2/100, Gassed \$12.00 to 124.00
LAGE S. Ind. Catagon
RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.
American Middling \$19.75 -
Indian Broach 18 00 to 18.75
Chinese so-ne to sot
. MICLALS,

Very little new business has been transacted and recent arrivals have caused an accumulation of stock in some lines.

P P	en r	TELL .
Round and square   inch. and upward.4.15	to	4.50
fron Plates, assorted 4.40		
Sheat Iron	l to	5.30
Galvanized I ron sheets	Lo.	19.50
Wire Nails, asserted 6 oc	t to	5.50
l'in l'lates, per bux	i to	5 00
Pig lenn, No. 3	i to	2 20
Hoop Icon (# 11 inch)	o to	5.25
KOROSKNE.		

The market is decidedly dult and with a tendency to use owing to intelligence received that the ship Alexander Gibson, due here with 75,000 cases of Chester of hom New York, has met with a casualty at Sydney and part of her cargo is damaged and will be sold at that port. During last mouth the total quantity of kerosene dispatched to the interior from Yokohama amounted to 284,364 cases. It is stated in native papers that Sumatra oil will shortly be imported here in bulk instead of case.

Russian	a on to 2.19
Langkat	— ი,ენ
SUGAR.	

A steady business has been done in brown, sales amounting to some 21,000 piculs Takao and Taiwandon, and 7,000 piculs of Manila, at current rates. Arrivals since the 1st inst, comprise about 33.800 piculs Manila and 8,000 piculs China. White refined is in good demand at slightly hardening prices.

Brown Takao	
Brown Manilan	
Brown Daitong	
Brown Canton	
White lava and Penang	0.50 to 7.00
White Rafined	7.30 to 8.90

#### EXPORTS. RAW SH.K.

The demand has fallen off somewhat and the business done during the week amounts only to some 1,285 boxes at very firm, and in some instances, higher prices. Stock amounts to 13,167 boxes. Shipments have been 544 bales for America per City of Rio de Fanciro, and 332 bales for Europe per Rosetta.

UUDTATIONS.

Bilnturen-Baten g're, rofes den., mann	. Nominal
Filatures-Extra 13/15, 14/16 den	
Filatures-No. 1, 10/13 denieta	350 to 310
Filatures-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	88e to 8ge
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures-Ro. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	850 to 8mm
Fliatures-No. 2, 10/15 desiers	850 to 860
Flintures-No. z, 1 pus deniers	820 to 830
Re-reele-Ho. 1, 43/15, 14/16 den	8ge to goe
Re-recle-Hu. ch, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Re-reals-No. a, 1 1/18 deniera	800 to 810
Re-reels-No. 21, 11/18 deniers	280 to 760
Re-reels-No. 3, 1 ( 20 desiers	-
Kakedas-Katra	840 to 850
Kakedas-No. 1	820 to 510
Kakedas-190. 14	790 to 800
Kakedas-No. a	760 to 770
Kakedas-No. at	_

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet and prices from. Stock amounts to 11,365 boxes. The Rosetta took 110 bales for Europe.

	QUUINTIONS.			
Nos	hi-Filatura, Best	415	LO	120
Nos	thi-Filature, Good	105	ţο	110
No:	shi-Oshu, Bast	110	to	115
You	shi-Oshu, Good	100		
No	shi-Oshu, Mediam			95
No	shi-Shinalin, Best			75
No	shi-Shinshu, Good			67
No	ghi-Bushir, Best	115		
No	shi-Bushe, Good	100		
	shi-Bushu, Medium			95
No	shi-toshu, Good			-55
Νo	shi-joshu, fair			571
	risoPilature, Best			100
Kil	sino-Filature, Seconds			90
	siso-Joshu, Good			30
Kit	pino-Bushu, Fair	20	to	22

#### TEA.

A few transactions, amounting to about 53,000 catties, have taken place during the week, and stocks have been brought down to 163,000 catties, all of low grade. The only shipments have been 160 packages per City of Rio de Janeiro and 250 packages per Mogul, for the United States.

CONTATIONS.	
Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	( ± 2 ±
Finest	J'm 프랑
Fine	Sold a specific
Good Medium	\$17 to 28
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	10 to 22
	19 (8.20

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver a higher from London and China sterling rates a to a higher than yesterday, but the changes have been very slight locally. To-morrow being China New Year's day will be observed by the Foreign Banks as a holiday.

Sterling-Bank T.T. 2/01
- Bills on demand 2/018
- 4 months' sight 2 of
- Private 4 months' night 2/0fto
- 6 months' sight 2/02 to 2
On Parls-Bauk sight 2.543to
On Lyons -Private 4 months' sight 2.584
On Hongkong-Bank sight 3hto 4 % d.
- Private 10 days sight. 6 to 6 de/o d
On Shanghai-Bank night 761 to 78
. Private to daya' sight, 701 to 80
On Indian Bank siels
On India—Bank night
The state of the s
On America Bank Bills on demand., 49\$
- Private 4 mouths' sight 50
On Germany-Bank sight 3.06
- Private 4 months' eight 2.10]
Bar Silver (London) 261

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December 18th, 1897.

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purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

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May 181, 180\*.

## THE NEW TARIFF.

OPIES of the NEW TARIFF, as passed by the Imperial Diet, can be obtained this Office in pamphlet form. Price, 25 Cents. Yokohama, April 27th, 1897.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by Astrola Ballany Balwa, of "Nonhands," North Published Polyman, Tanuary se, 1866.

# The Jayan Weekly Mail:

## A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.]

YOKOHAMA, JAN. 29TH, 1898.

月三年五十二烷明 Voi. XXIX.

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## The dayan Weekly Mail.

" PAISCE QUE DOIS: ARVIENNE QUE FOUERA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CHRESPONDATIS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAR WARKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANASKR, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions he addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 20TH, 1898.

#### MARRIAGES.

MARKIAGES.

At Shanghai, on the 15th January, 1898, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, by George Jamieson, Esq., C.M.G., Consul-General, and afterwards at the Union Church, by the Rev. J. R. Hykes, D.D., Atberr Smith, eldest son of Hydrocont South Yarra, Mellourne, to Mark Sutherland Merrices, of the Statistical Department of I.M. Contons, Shanghai.

At Shanghai, and the right January 1898 and 1898.

partment of I.M. Customs, Shanghai.

At Shanghai, on the 15th January, 1808, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, by George Jamie son, E.q., C.M. G., Consul General and alterwards at the Union Church, by the Rev. J.R. Hykes, D.D., William Arthur Bradley, C. B. Clifton, England, to Annie Lickie Merrilaes, third daughter of Alexander Grant, Mertilees, of the Statistical Department of I.M. Customs, Shanghai. DEATH.

At No. 248, Bluff, on Thursday, the 27th Jan., William Henry Walker, aged 18 years and 10 months. The funeral will leave No. 248, Bluff, on Friday, the 28 h, at 3.15 punctually.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COAL quotations at Nagasaki are steadily ad-

THE fire in the Yubari coal mine near Sapporo alili continues to burn.

THE period of mourning for the death of the late Empress Dawager expired on the 11th inst.

PROFESSOR Burton has gone to Takamatau in connection with the construction of new Water

Two more French war-ships, the armoured craisers Dauban and Bruix, have been ordered

Serious anti-semitic disturba ces have broke out in France Chill their lines beet fine the

graceful scenes in the French Chamber, the military having to be called in to clear the

THE Japanese cruiser Chitose was launched at the San Francisco Ship-building Yard on the aznd inst.

MARQ IS SAIGO, Minister for the Navy, is undergoing medical treatment in the Red Cross Hospital.

THIRTY-NINE new banks were opened in Japan in December last, with an aggregate capital of 9.518,000 yeu.

A convention of the commanders of the various Army Divisions is to be held in Tokyo from the 14th proximo.

A residence for the Crown Prince is to be erected on the site of the ancient Akashi castle in Hyogo Prefecture.

THE construction of telephone lines between Hakodate, Otaru and Sapporo will be started in the coming Spring.

A RATHER severe earthquake was experienced in Nagoya and neighbouring districts on the morning of the zzud inst.

A collision between a passenger train and a goods truck occurred on the O u railway on the 24th. No one was seriously hurt.

T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress have contributed 500 yen toward the relief of sufferers by the recent fire at Nemuro, Hokkaido.

EMILE ZOLA is to be tried on a charge of defeming General Billot, Minister of War, in connection with the Dreylus affair in France,

In a gale on the 23rd inst, at Kagoshima eight fishing boats were wrecked and 14 men as missing and believed to have been drowned.

THE plague continues to give trouble at the port of Roka, Formosa. There were more than 60 Cases from November up to the 22nd inst.

With this week's issue of the Japan Weekly Mail is published the Index for the 28th volume, from July to December, 1897, inclusive.

A TERRIBLE carthquake occurred on the 6th inst. in the island of Amboina, one of the Molucca group, by which 50 persons were killed and 200 injured.

In connection with the Dreyfus case in France, Commandant Esterhazy was to be tried by court martial on the charge of which Dreyfus was convicted.

THE Minister of Finance has issued for public subscription ven 10,807,350 of Gavernment Five Per Cent. Bonds at the rate of ven 94.09 per 100 yen face value.

THE report of the Yokohama Duck Co. for the second half of last year shows a gross profit of 102,562 yen. A dividend at the rate of 10 per cent, per annum was declared.

Got D coins exchanged from the 1st of October to the 20th of January amounted to pen 17.736,-970—yen 3.443.576 for silver yen, and yen 14.290,394 for convertible notes.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA presided at a meeting of the Japan Fine Arts Association held on the 21st inst., at which the selection of exhibits at the Paris International Exhibition of 1900, was discussed.

Fuji, who has been in bad health since he office of the disadvantage of the sellers. Frought the vessel from England to Velocubes Exchange closes district.

being still unable to resume his duties, has been granted sick leave, and Capt. Shikano, of the Naniwa Kan, has been transferred to the Fuji.

THE days of departure of the P. & O. and M. M. Companies' mail steamers from Yokohama have been changed from Sundays to Tuesdays for the former and Wednesdays for the latter.

THE crews commissioned to bring home the Japanese cruisers Asamo and Tak sage from England, left Yokohama by the N.Y.K. ateamer Inaba Maru on the 22nd tuat. There were over 270 men in all.

THE British Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced that Britain will keep pace with the additions to the fleets of other Powers and that an increase of sailors for the navy will be provided for.

THE Japanese cruiser Kasagi was lausched at Cramps' Iron Works, Philadelphia, on the 20th inst. The vessel is of 3,378 tons displacement, 17,000 indicated horse-power, and has a speed of over an knots.

THE birthday of the German Emperor was celebrated on the 27th inst, by a reception at the Legation in Fokyo, and a dinner at the Club Germania in Yokohama, and was generally observed as a holiday.

THE profits of the Hokksido Coal mining and Railway Company during the second half of last year are reported to amount to 806 000 year. A dividend of 15 per cent, per annum will be declared, and 69,000 yen will be carried forward.

THE COMMANDERS and officers of the Japanese men-of-war Mattushima and Futo are now under examination before a Naval Court Martial in Tokyo, in connection with the collision between the two vessels which resulted in the sinking of the Fuse.

Mr. Hiranuma Senzo and others of Yokohama have presented a petition to the Kanagawa Prefectural Office for a charter for the construction of an Electrical Railway to run from Taka-hima-cho Itchonne, to Yoshida Bridge, Yokohama, via Takashima-cho and Bashamichi-dori.

For several months there has been a complete staguancy in the Import market, so far, par-ticularly. Il cotton goods have been concerned. But at last a move has been made and during the past week there has been quite a rash for grey shirtings, and the yarn market has be n almost equally active, a very fair quantity of business having been transacted at very firm rates. The despondency which appeared to exist in the import mark I generally at the latter part of last year appears to have been counteracted by a far more hopeful view of affairs and trade generally may be expected to look up during the next few mouths. The metal trade and the kerosene business have so far not participated to any appreciable extent in the general improvement, but may be expected to take their share before long. In the former trade, their share before long. In the former trade, already, there has been a big move in galvanized street iron, and other branches will doubtless benefit by the apart in the near future. A fair business has been done in sugar imports, and in some of the items outside the ordinary staples, such as machinery and other manufactured goods, business has been brisk. In Exports, the ailk business shows a steady advance at prices which, though in some cases showing a discussed.

slight reduction, give exceptionally good returns to producers and dealers, while the small Captain Minra, commander of the battle ship stock of tea remaining is gradually being worked

#### THE YOKOHAMA COMMUNITY.

The London and China Express has the following, with reference to a letter which appears in the Morning Post from its special correspondent in Japan.

It is an ill-natured small at the foreigner in the onen ports of Japan in general, and of the Englishmen in Yukuhama in particular. It withally says the foreigner in Tokyo is a different heiog from the foreigner in the Treaty Port. This is most inexact. Tokyo has less of the lower classes and of the beach-comber element certainly, but to givently insurate that foreigners even but to victually insimilate that foreigners, except the Tokyo community, received their education and manners after arrival in Japan is distinctly false, apart from bad tasts. A majority of foreigners, whether they go to Japan in the Diplomatic, Consular, as official world, or in that of Banking or Commerce, are picked men, and to describe them as they are several time with in the letter before us, is untrue in substance and fact. We hesitate to accept the verdict of the London and China Express upon this subject, but as we have not seen the original letter and know nothing of its contents, we are not in a position to form an independent judgment. It seems scarcely worth while to discuss a problem the solution of which depends, in some respects, on individual opinion. not be the least question, we think-and, indeed, the statement has been repeatedly made in these columns-that the foreign communities at the open ports in Japan are far above the average of their nationals. "A majority of them"—to use the words of the London and China Express, which are only an echo of our own often expressed opinion-are picked men; that is to say, men distinguished by qualities of energy and enterprise which have prompted them to seek fortune in distant lands under difficult circumstances. These are the men by whom the British empire has been made. It is not conceivable that a shrewd and observant writer, as the special correspondent of the Morning Post has proved himself to be, could fall into any error on such subject. We observe, indeed, that the editor of the Jopan Gazette refers to the Post's correspondent thus :-

I do not blame the correspondent. These things were told him in Toltyo probably by the Editor of that paper whose hatred of the Yoko hama foreigners is the best compliment he can pay them.

Vulgar and malicious falsehoods of that kind are, indeed, the only things that besmirch Yokohama's reputation, for they are a reflection at once on its intelligence and its impartiality. We are not con-cerned to defend ourselves against slanders obviously dictated by mean motives. What we doubt, however, is that the correspondent of the Morning Post can have made any reflection on the manners of the open-port communities. That would be too silly, unless he referred to the manners of some of the local newspapers, which are certainly miserable enough. He probably spoke of the difference in the occupations and proclivities of the foreigners n Tokyo and those at the ports. Everybody knows that there is a difference. The late Mr. Palgrave was the first to discuss it publicly in 1883, and his comment was that the community of Tokyo comprised a greater number of scientific experts of all kinds than could be found, so far as his experience went, in any other society of equal numerical size. hama, on the other hand, contains chiefly merchants, bankers and men of business generally, whose interest naturally centres

often engage attention in a place like Tokyo. It is a difference of kind, scarcely one of quality, and it does not constitute the smallest reproach to Yokohama or Kobe. One might as well say that because classical subjects occupy a larger share of attention at Oxford than at Westminster, the members of Parliament are intellectually and ethically inferior to the denizens of the University. The truth is that if Yokohama were to be judged by journalistic champions who consult their own sordid interests by pandering to its vanity and passionately resenting the calmest analysis of its condition, Charles Dickens' portrait of Mr. Hannibal Challop might at once be accepted as a photograph of the letter sent by Mr. Norman to the syndicommunity's mood.

Since the above was in type, we have had an opportunity of reading the letter in the Morning Post. We reproduce it elsewhere. The language of the writer does not appear to justify the criticisms of the London and China Express.

The editor of the Japan Mail appears to be regarded as a veritible Bricereus by some of his local confreres. They evidently imagine that he possesses an extraordinary power of throwing his arms about all litterateurs who visit Japan and drawing them within the sphere of his influence. A bad influence these journalists count it. Nearly all the writers who have discussed Japanese affairs, whether in the daily press, or in the magazines, or in the books of England, have found something to criticise and something to applaud. Why not, indeed? Nothing is wholly good or wholly had under the sun. The Yokohama community, we presume, does not claim to be any exception to the general rule. It has its weak points, probably as patent to itself as to others, and it is not without the grace to be able to acknowledge them when they are indicated by impartial observers. But our local confreres seem to be happily convinced that Yokohama is about as nearly perfect as anything human can be, and that the only person sufficiently prejudiced to discover a stain on its escutcheon is the editor of the Japan Mail. Thus when any tourist ventures to criticise Yokohama, he is supposed to have fallen under the moral sway of the editor of the Mail, and similarly when any tourist sees something to praise in Japan, he is suspected of having derived inspiration from the same source, Of course our confrères are unconscious of the compliment that such comments pay to the influence of the editor of the Japan Mail. They would probably be shocked to think that they, his perennial foes, had blown his trumpet so loudly, or made such naive confession of their own im-Well, we should be glad puissance. to accept vertent tribute, and we are wicked enough to admit that we should find a certain satisfaction in acknowledging the justice of their estimate of their own powers. But modesty and candour compel us to forego either pleasure. We are unfortunately without the Bricerean faculty attributed to us by our confreres, and when we observe the industry and perseverance with which they have discharged, through long years, their task of anti-Japanese censors, we cannot think that fate has condemned them to the insignificance under a sense of which they evidently labour vis.à vis the Japan Mail. in their own concrete affairs rather than They may take comfort. Not always have in the more or less abstract topics which the more with the more or less abstract topics which the more of less abstract topics are the more of less abstract topics.

and then an echo becomes audible, especially from what may be called the Inferno of the Fourth Estate, where the penny-aliner and the sensationalist suffer the punishment of contempt. To pass, however, from generalities to particulars. One of the first writers in connection with whose name our influence was supposed to have been exercised was Mr. Henry Norman. We should indeed be proud to claim any noteworthy part in a book which we regard as one of the most carefully compiled of all the works on Japan that have ema-nated from the press. But it was not on account of "The Real Japan" that we were arraigned. It was because of a cate of journals which he represented the first letter of the series. In that letter some barsh criticisms of Yokohama were embodied, and the hand of the editor of the Mail was at once traced. Well, the fact was that when Mr. Norman wrote that particular letter, he had not even made the acquaintance of the editor of the Japan Mail! Another instance worth mentioning, perhaps, is that of Sir Edwin Arnold. He, too, was supposed to have borrowed his particularly rosy spectacles from the editor of the *Mail*. There was, however, one chapter of Sir Edwin's book which met with the outspoken approval of our confrères: the chapter on Treaty Revision. They called it an eminently fair statement of the case. Now that chapter was actually written by the editor of the Japan Mail. In no other part of the book had he hand or part, except in the chapter relating to the Cha-noyw ceremonials. Finally, we have the last letter sent from Tokyo by the special correspondent of the Morning Post. It is not a very terrible letter. It does not contain anything that need shock Yokohama's susceptibilities, and we venture to say that the community of the Settle-ment are vastly tickled at the storm it has excited in the columns of certain local journals. But because it reflects upon the tone of those journals, they have laboured to prove that it emanated from the editor of the Mail, whom one of them, with charming ingenuousness of business enterprise, describes as a "hater of the Yokohama community." Where the Morning Post's correspondent obtained the views expressed in this letter we have not the remotest idea, but certainly he did not obtain them from the editor of the Japan Mail, with whom he never held any communication whatever on such topics. Of course our confrères will not be one whit disconcerted at finding that they have contmitted themselves to these foolishly false and reckless allegations. They will at all events have had the satisfaction of firing another shaft at the editor of the Japan their mead of inad Mail, who seems to be a very serious disturbance to their peace of mind,

#### PASSING EVENTS.

An Imperial Rescript was issued on the 21st instant fixing March 15th as the day for the general elections for the House of Representatives.

According to the Nichi Nichs Shimbun, the President of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Hamaoka Kotetsu, has addressed to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, a letter asking for explicit information about a Note attached to the Revised Treaty with Germany. The Note nave is said to provide that German subjects Now may become partners in Japanese com-UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

mercial or industrial companies, even though the latter own real estate. It is not apparent whether Mr. Hamaoka's inquiry is to be followed by a protest, in the event of the Minister's answer being in the affirmative, but we presume not. Public opinion in Japan at present is happily more enlightened than it was four years ago, when the cry about "foreign ownership of land" made itself so loudly heard. The general desire now is to have foreigners purchase shares in Japanese enterprises, and certainly that can not be effected if the shares allotted to foreigners are to be specially distinguished as carrying no title to a company's real estate.

The following officers have been nominated by the Emperor to serve on the High Military Board which has just been organ-ized:—His Imperial Highness Prince Akibito, and their Excellencies Field Marshals Marquises Yamagata, Oyama and Saigo.

The Constitution of Japan guarantees freedom of conscience within the limits permitted by law. Christianity is, of course, included in this liberty. Christian propagandists are allowed to preach and teach without let or hindrance, and congregations of Christians can worship when and where they please. Yet there is no State recognition of Christianity. Officialdom exercises a certain amount of supervision in the case of Buddhism and Shinto, but does not meddle with Christianity at all. Some leaders of thought appear to be directing their attention to this subject with a view to the operation of the Revised Treaties. The questions they propound are, whether Christianity should be placed in the same rank with Buddhism and Shinto vis-a-vis the law; whether religious instruction should be permitted in primary schools, and whether Christians, or foreigners generally, should be allowed to conduct schools. As to the first question, we think the soundest solution would be to withdraw all official supervision from Buddhism and Shinto, and in that way to place Christianity on the same plane with them. All experience shows that nothing discredits a religion so fatally as judicial or administrative control of any kind. With regard, on the other hand, to Christian instruction in schools, and to the control of educational institutions by foreigners, the Constitution The usual policy of civilized Governments now-a-days is to refrain from every kind of interference in these matters except where schools are wholly or partially supported by the State. The simple principle underlying such abstention is that public funds, which represent the proceeds of taxes levied indiscriminately on men of all religious persuasions, can not, with any semblance of justice, be devoted to further the cause of any one particular persuasion. Beyond that there is nothing to be considered, unless, of course, an immoral form of creed is in question. any section of the community professes Christianity, it would be simply an example of mediæval intolerance to deprive tion of Japanese girls has fallen, to a certain extent, into the hands of missionaries, and against that fact some conservatives may possibly gird. But the China, thereby conferring a distinct benething is inevitable under existing conditions.

#### THE FRENCH REVISED TREATY AND THE TARIFF.

The Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty, bearing the ratification of the President appears to have left Marseilles by the mail of the 19th instant, and may consequently be expected to reach Japan at the end of February or the beginning of March. We may assume, therefore, that the exchange of ratifications will be effected in Tokyo before March 15th at latest. An interval of six months must then elapse before the new Tariff is put into operation, but as it may be taken for granted that such a change would not be made in the middle of a month, we arrive finally at the conclusion that October 1st will be the date from which the new rates will be levied. That calculation may, of course, be vitiated by the Austro-Hungarian Treaty's failure to pass the two Diets. We have already explained, however, that, according to the provisions of the Austro-Hun-garian Treaty, the Tariff attached to it becomes applicable one month after the exchange of ratifications, so that if the Treaty receives ratification in Europe and reaches Japan at any time before, say, August 25th, it need not prove an obstacle to the operation of the new Tariff on October 1st. An interval of nearly seven months remains before August 25th, and it will be strange if the Treaty can not find its way through the Reichstag and Reichsrath and get out to Japan in that

#### GERMANY AT KIAO-CHOU.

The news that Germany has opened, or is about to open, Kiao-chou to the world's commerce will not surprise our readers; in view of the comments that appeared in these columns at the time of the occupa-tion of the place. We explained that although Germany might reserve Kiaochou practically for her own use alone if she contemplated making a mere naval station of it, she could not employ it for commercial purposes without rendering it accessible to all nations, since the mostfavoured-nation clause in China's treaties forbids the latter to create any commercial or industrial privilege in the interests' of one of the Treaty Powers to the exclusion of the rest. An absolute cession of territory does not, of course, appears to be sufficiently explicit, especi- fall within the range of the rule, and ally when combined with the Civil Code. we presume that had Germany been so minded, she might have insisted on regarding Kiao-chou as an addition to her colonial possessions, though she holds it under lease only. But she has evidently preferred not to adopt that line, and it must be confessed that her choice goes far to soften the aspect of her procedure towards China. Whatever excuse for violent methods may be furnished by the futility of any other line of action where Peking is the vis d-vis, there is something shocking in the idea of a great European Power's laying armed hands on the territory of a friendly State without warning of any kind in time of peace, and had Germany treated as an addition to her own empire the its members of the privilege of having territory thus seized, she would have private schools of their own. The educa- established a very ugly record. But by converting it into a commercial port for the use of all the world, she virtually establishes another foreign settlement in it has ever been supplemented, and certainly it China, thereby conferring a distinct bene- has not been rescinded. that such a line of argument smacks of

special pleading. Hongkong, it may be urged, is open to the trade of all the world, but is nevertheless British territory, and Kiao-chou will be a German Hongkong. That view does not appear entirely just, however. We presume that Germany intends to treat Kiao-chou just like a foreign settlement; that there will be a branch of the Imperial Customs there to collect duties on the trade; that the Chinese living in or frequenting the place will be under native jurisdiction, and that the foreign residents will have their own Consular Courts. If that be so, the conditions will differ very greatly from those existing in Hongkong, and it is hard to see how any other arrangements could be conveniently made. If will be very interesting to observe what kind of programme Germany adopts, for the conditions are quite novel.

#### SUPERFICIES AGAIN.

A few days ago, a writer signing himself "Scotus" propounded, in the columns of a local contemporary, various questions with regard to the new Japanese Civil Code, and the ights that foreigners will acquire under it after the Revised Treaties go into operation. The questions are addressed to Dr. Lönholm, but as he has not replied—in truth no reply in necessary in view of the very full explanations already published in these columns—, we ven-ture to submit one or two points for the consi-deration of "Scotus." His line of argament is that the rights secured by the British Treaty to Her Majesty's subjects are the owning, hiring, and occupying of houses, manufactories, ware houses, shops and premises, and the leasing of-land for residential and commercial purposes, among which rights he fails to see how "super-ficies" can be included, "superficies" being merely permission to use land for a particular purpose, which permission is not a lease but a licence. This is a question of terminology, a very captions question at that, we venture to think, which would never be allowed to have weight in international deliberations, and which the Japanese Government is not the least likely to raise. The plain, common sense interpretaher Majesty's subjects the right of acquiring tenure of land in any manner provided by Japanese law, ownership and emphyteusis ex-cepted. "Superficies" is one of the modes of land tenure thus provided, and "superficies" is specially designed to meet the case explicitly indicated in the Treaty, namely, the ownership of houses, manufactories &c. standing, or to be erected, on the land which is the object of the "superficies." Thus, even though the British Treaty were the sole exponent of foreigners' privileges in Japan, there would be no practical ambiguity. The British Treaty is not the sole exponent, however. There is also the German Treaty, which, having been negotiated when the revised Code had become accessible, was supplemented by a note declaring, in unequivocal terms, that the right of superficies under the Code is to be enjoyed by German subjects for the purposes mentioned in the body of the Treaty. Nothing could be more completely beyond the range of doubt or query.

"Scotus" further says :- "What law prohibits the ownership of real estate in Japan by foreigners?" So far as we know, there is only one law-Government Notification No. 18 of January, 1873. The eleventh Article of the Notification runs thus :-

No transactions whatever shall take place in the natural of selling land, or even the tide-deeds of land, to foreigners, or of mortgaging or piedging land to them, or of receiving or borrowing money from them in connexion with land.

That is definite enough. We do not know that

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#### THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

T is unfortunate for the interests of peace and international friendship that the business of constructing and despatching telegraphic items of intelligence for public information should be, for the most part, in the hands of men who, not troubling themselves much about the rules of inter-State procedure or the methods of legitimate diplomacy, do not pause to discriminate between possible facts and palpable fictions. We, at this end of the world, are experiencing the effects of that regrettable feature with special acuteness at the present moment, for truly if we believed all the stories sent across the wires by Reuter's folks during the past fortnight, we should be compelled to conclude that a condition of exceedingly strained relations-to use the mildest term-exists between Great Britain and Russia, and that Germany and France are supporting the latter against the former. Speaking broadly, the situation, as presented by the telegrams received in Tokyo on the 21st instant, was that the Chancellor of H.B.M.'s Exchequer had disavowed on behalf of the British Government any desire for territorial acquisitions in China. and had declared that Great Britain's sole object being to keep the tradal routes and markets of the Far East open to the whole world, Her MAJESTY'S Ministers were determined, even at the cost of war, to pursue and consummate that policy. As to the fact that Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH actually used the language thus telegraphically attributed to him, there could be no reasonable doubt. His speech at Swansea having been re-produced verbatim by the leading London Journals, Reuter's agent had only to epitomise its important passages and codify the result. Yet on the very same day the very same agent-or presumably the very same agent-forwarded a second telegram from London, containing intelligence that the British Minister in Peking had informed the Chinese Government of Great Britain's willingness to make a loan to China on condition, first that three new ports, including Talien, should be opened to foreign trade; secondly, that permission should be given to extend the Burmah Railway through Yunnan; and thirdly that "every other Power should be alienated from the Yangtze Valley." Now while the first two of these conditions are perfectly reasonable and consistent with Great Britain's general attitude, the third is obviously irreconcilable with the policy publicly announced by the Chaucellor of the Exchequer speaking at Swansea on the very day before Reuter's agent prepared the above summary of the British proposals to Peking. Any exercise of judgment, however slight, interpretations: first, that HER BRITANNIC should have showed the agent that a MAJESTY'S Government, in deference to Government which had openly disavowed representations from St. Petersburg, issued

limited itself to a policy of equal privileges for all, could not have proposed, with the same breath that a reversionary title to the Valley of the Yangtze should be secured to Great Britain. It is conceivable of course, that Reuter's agent never sent any such message, and that the blunder arose in expanding the telegram at this end. England may have asked, very probably did ask, that China should pledge herself not to transfer to a foreign Power any part of the regions forming the Valley of the Yangtze. The point is not of prime importance, for since the danger of serious misconception is averted by the language of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, we are able to be that, with the exception of the proposal relating to the Burmah Railway, England has not sought any concession the benefits of which would not be accessible to all nations equally. Still the obvious contradiction between the alleged condition and the declared policy of the British Government, might surely have occurred to Reuter's agent. We may note incidentally, with regard to the extension of the Burmah Railway, that it can not properly be called an exclusive privilege, since it merely signifies the opening of a new line of communications between the Chinese empire and southern Asia. now, the next telegram sent by Reuter's agent:--

It is stated that Russia has threatened reprisals if Talien be opened to commerce.

The agent guards himself, in this case, by recourse to the formula "it is stated," but is it possible to conceive greater want of discrimination than the despatch of such intelligence suggests? Russia is represented as threatening reprisals if China, at the request of the British Government, opens a new port to the world's trade! Under the shadow of what pretext could Russia assume such a position? She has no title of any kind to Talien, nor any right, even if she had an inclination, to stand in the way of China's commercial development. The threat attributed to her would amount to an open defiance of England, and to an expose of designs the present concealment of which-supposing that she harbours them-is essential to their achievement. Russia has not formulated any such threat. That may be confidently assumed, and Reuter's Agent showed bimself to be a sensationalist rather than a sober collector of intelligence when he used the wires to transmit a story so incredible. However, his crowning escapade is his last :-

Landon, Jan. 24. It is officially announced from St. Petersbur that the British men of war have received orders to quit Port Arthur immediately. It is understood that this course was taken in consequence of representations on the part of Russia.

This message admits, apparently, of two all exclusive motives and emphatically orders for the withdrawal of British ships. find an almost insuperable difficulty in

of-war from Port Arthur; secondly, that the Chinese Government, at Russia's instigation, called upon HER MAJESTY'S Ministry to issue an order in that sense. The second hypothesis is wholly untenable: it is, in fact, absurd. China is not in a position to prefer such a demand and is precluded by treaty from preferring it. If she places a port at the convenience of Russian ships, it becomes, de facto, accessible to British ships also. As for the first supposition, namely, that certain movements of British ships have been made in deference to Russian representations, it is not, on the face of it, inconceivable, but under the particular circumstances of the case in question, it altogether over-taxes our credulity. No one of the Treaty Powers is entitled to obtain from China an exclusive concession in the shape of the use of a harbour; and if Russia, having sent a squadron of her own to Port Arthur, then called upon Great Britain not to let her flag be seen in the harbour, she would be offering a deliberate affront to England and exposing herself to a painful rebuff. The whole story is obviously a canard, and if Reuter's agent had any judgment whatever he would not help to ventilate such silliness.

Are we to assume, then, that nothing has happened; that all this smoke is entirely without fire? Scarcely. The latest telegram probably contains the key to the

Lundon, Nov. 25.
It is officially explained that the visit to, and departure from, Port Arthur of the British warships, were merely ordinary cruising movements.

This can hardly be made out of whole cloth, seeing that it comes from London, and that Reuter's agent must have had some journalistic declaration, at any rate. before him when he wired. If Parliament were sitting it would be easy to conceive that a question had been put in the House, and that Mr. CURZON had replied in the sense of the telegram. But Parliament is not sitting, and we must fall back on the hypothesis of a paragraph in The Times, avowedly on official authority. Beyond that we can be quite sure that no official announcement of any kind has been made. The question then arises, was the announcement due, in any sense, to consideration for Russian susceptibilities. Did it appear to the Governments in St. Petersburg and London that such an explanation would usefully serve the interests of peace by correcting any Russian misconception about the action of the British ships? It is very difficult indeed to believe anything of the kind. Of course, when we remember that negotiations are going on in Peking, and that Russia and France are combining to thwart England's programme there, we have to be cautious about dismissing suppositions which, under ordinary circumstances, would be untenable. Still, for our own part, we



imagining that any public explanation of the movements of British ships has been given in answer to Russian inquiries, or out of deference to Russian susceptibilities. A very different explanation present itself to us. It is this. The Russian press, on receipt of the news that the British ships had left Port Arthur, published some statements of the nature embodied in Reuter's telegram of January 24th, namely, that the movement had been ordered owing to Russian representations. This fact having been wired to London, Her Majesty's Government addressed a communique to The Times in the sense of Reuter's telegram of the 25th, namely, that the comings and goings of H.M.'s ships had been merely ordinary cruising movements; in other words, had been controlled by the naval the only reasonable view of the case. It is absolutely certain that not a British ship has been moved a cable's length in Power, and it is almost absolutely certain that no explanation of the movements of British ships has been given in deference to the wishes or susceptibilities of a foreign nation. The pity of all this is that it perilous situation, whereas in truth no elements of danger are apparent. The tendency is distinctly in the direction of an amicable settlement.

#### YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

There was a full attendance on Friday evening at the Yokohama Literary Society's meeting at Van Schnick Hall and a very pleasant evening's entertainment was provided for the members and their frieuds. The pièce de resistance of the programme was an interesting paper read by Mr. A. M. Gale on "London ; its Sluma, Beggars and Poor," in which the writer showed himself well acquainted with the lights and shades of life in the great metro-polis. A vocal quartette, "Our Light Afflic-tions," was capitally rendered by Madame Henckler (soprano), Mrs. Baguall (contralto), Mr. Darnell (teaor), and Mr. Gale (bass), with plane and over a company to the Mrs. with piano and organ accompaniments by Mrs. Doering and Mr. C. I. Fraser. Mr. Kohn contributed a very artistically executed piano solo, an Andante by Beethoven, and Madame Henckler sang a charming German song, "Ton der Reiner," (Lowe). A short original poem, "The Song of the Cynic," by Mr. C. H. Denison, who was unable to appear personally, Denison, who was uname to appear personary, was read by Mr. Dearing, and another original poem, "The Night brings out the Stars"—instinct with deep poetic feeling and happy expression—was read by Mrs. Dearing. Mr. Gale sang "David, the Shepherd Boy," in good atyle and the evening's entertainment brought to a close with a piano solo by Mrs. Doering, the "Midnight Barcarrote," by Jerome Hopkins, which, it is needless to say, was most artistically and expressively interpreted by the The President announced talented pianiste. during the proceedings that he hoped to be able at the next meeting of the Society to arrange for a paper to be read by Mr. France, the leader of the round-the world cyclists

## "WHITE ASTER! . Our conception of Japanese poetry, as derived from the translations of Mr. B. H. Chamberlain

and Mr M. E. Aston-truly we can not con-

scientiously include Mr. Dickens in this group

of sinologues, his muse's wings are so clogged

with dry dust-may be summed up in the word "ditty." We use "ditty," in its old sense, that of a fugitive fancy, perhaps a mere conceiof thought, perhaps a passing emotion, caught in a linte net of neat diction, and deriving much of its attractiveness from the delicacy of the verbal meshes that imprison it. One can scarcely imagine the stirring of any profound passion or magnificent impulse by a Japanese verse. It gives us a transient glimpse of the poet's mood, and touches only the harmonics of feeling, without setting up any vibration in the great chords that thrill through the tragedies and triumphs of existence. Something of this meagreness of imagination is due, doubtless, to the language. Japanese poets found themselves, for many generations, in much the same position as an Englishman condemned to com-The difficulty pose verses in Latin or Greek. officer in command on the station and not of manipulating the medium of expression fatalin any respect influenced by inter-State diction came to be even more esteemed than representations. That appears to us to be nobility of idea. Versifying fell to the rank of a polite accomplishment, a test of education rather than of genius, and tricks of form did duly for originality of conception. Japanese poetry, in our opinion, must be classed with obedience to the interference of a foreign Japanese music. Each is an art acquired essentially by mechanical practice and making no appreciable demand upon inspiration. From an Occidental point of view the natural sequence of things is frequently reversed in Japan, and it is not altogether surprising to find that the the pact: we must say of him fil non nascilur, tends to create a false impression; tends During the past twenty years, however, a new to suggest a strained. if not an actually impulse has been felt in the world of Japanese poetry; an impulse evidently derived from studying the works of European and American It has come to be appreciated that poetry should have its origin in the heart, not in the lexicon, and some of Japan's modern literateurs have endeavoured to raise the noble art from its old level of jungle and vapidity. It would be flattery to say that they have succeeded. Poetry, like music and painting, is in great part a product of the time. The feelings that it appeals to must exist, in embryo at all There could not be a Tennyson in events. Japan at present. His genius would be chilled by popular indifference, by popular indifference. That admission, howcourage and enterprise of scholars like Mori, Toyama, Inonye, Ochiai and so forth, who have set themselves to sing in almost waste places. Among their works there is one called "The Lay of the Pious Maiden White Aster," an epic of Chinese origin which has been rendered into Japanese by Inonye Tetsujiro and by Ochi ai Naobumi, and is now before us in an English dress. Dr. Florenz, whose work as a sinologue has as been large in proportion to his oppor-tunities, rendered "White Aster" in German, in German, in the first place, and Dr. Lloyd, who has made an enduring mark by his admirable inter-pretations of Buddhiam, followed with an English translation, the two publications being separated by an interval of two years. We learn from the preface that Dr. Florenz confined himself to the epic of Inouye. He examined that of Ochiai also, but finding Inouye's "richer in delicate shades of thought," based his translation on it solely. We ourselves have not had an opportunity of examining the work of either scholar. Our acquaintance with "White Aster" is derived solely from Dr. Lloyd's English version, which is presumably an accurate rendering of the German. Thirty years ago, a couplet known by the same name had an immense vogue in Japan :-Tsuyu wo dani

Ito Yamato no Ominaveshi Furu America ni

meaning is that the tender blossom of Japan which shinks even from the touch of the dew, will never turn its face to the rain of America. A better illustration of the difference between the new and the old could scarcely be found than by comparing this verselet with the lengthy epic of Inouve Tetaujiro. The five lines we have quoted were evidently suggested by the fact that the first two syllables of "America" make the Japanese word for "rain" (ame). Around that central idea the patriotic poetaster built up his verselet, and I is to the paltry conceit "furu Ame (the falling rain) that the poem owes its chief charm in Japanese Dr. Incuye Tetsujiro's epic is quite cycs. free from such poor puns. It is a frank attempt to tune a sad story to the music of nature's moods. "White Aster's" father is one of the ill-fated Samurai who, esponsing the cause of the rebel Saigo Takamori, lost everything but life. The fair girl lives in great misery with her mother, whose anxiety on account of with nor motion, writes anately in account of the hisband gradually breaks her heart. White Aster is restored to her father only to be separated from him again: He goes hunting in the hills, and remaining about day after day, is sought by his daughter. In her wanderings "White Aster," finds a rustic shrine, tended by a priest who proves to be her brother, a repentant rout. She is subsequently rescued by him from the hands of bandits, and then, again, separated from him, after which she finds refuge with an old farmer, and is sought in marriage by the Governor of the prefecture. But "White Aster" knows that her mother had destined her for her supposed brother, to whom, in truth, she is not related, and seeing no way to observe her mother's beliest without bringing trouble upon the farmer, her benefactor, she at-tempts to commit suicide; is rescued by her brother, who comes upon the acene at exactly the right moment, and the two then set off for their old home where, to their unbounded delight, they find their father waiting, month after month, in the hope of seeing them return, We are not told what becomes of "White Aster." The poem ends with her father's relation of the manner of his rescue from a trackless gorge. He had given himself up for lost when a troop of monkeys taught him how to extricate him-self, and he describes the inference drawn by

Then came the thought that no blind chance had brought
The monkey troop, and that my strange escape,
Was caused by gratitude, for once it fell,
In wintertime, that as I hunted in the hills
Amongst the snow, a female monkey sat
Holding her babe, beneath a tree. I raised
My gun and aimed to shoot at her, but she
Bagan to cry, with such a human voice,
Praying for mercy, that my lifted gun
Sank harmless by my side. I sparest her life;
And she, in turn, secing my sorry plight,
Cried to me from the rocks, and showed the way
To flee from certain death. The silly beast
Knows how to show its gratitude, and shames brought To fice from certain death. The silly beast Knows how to show its gratitude, and shames Many a thankless man. For oh! how few. In these degenerate days, remain to show True Faith and Honour, and unselfishly To cling to duty! I alas! have fought A rebel gainst my rightful lord and king. Unmindful of my troth, and with black hands, Wasted my fatherland. Such men as I, Unfaithful and ungrateful, stand below The lower beasts. Ah! when I recollect All my base acts, my grieving heart is pierced With pangs of penitence. Your soul alone White Aster, still remains untouched and pure Only through you does my race still retain its costly gen of child like faithfulness. Wither the flowers in the garden all, The flower of thy heart shall wither no'er."

him from the incident :-

This extract gives a fair idea of the style and quality of the poem. The incidents are com-mon-place; the ideas never rise to any heights of inspiration; the narrative changes with exasperating fickleness from present to past and back again. Yet there breathes though the whole a spirit of piety and faithful love, and the poet's tender affection for nature enables him to weave her phenomena into the web of his tale with very admirable skill. When that

Ominaveshi
Furu America ni
Sode wo nurasaji.

Pis an almost untranslatable couplet hur its & White Aster?—a Japanese Puem tunuslated from the German of Dr. Florenz, by the Rev. Arithmetical Annual A

is said, however, there remains little to add. "White Aster," were it presented to the world as a German or English epic, would attract no attention. The public would recognise some scholarship in the diction and some tenderuess in the thoughts, but would fail to discover the divine afflatus anywhere. It would scarcely be worth the while of men like Dr. Florenz and Dr. Lloyd to devote their labour to the interpretation of such epics were poetry alone in question. But as guides to a knowledge of Japanese character these translations deserve grateful recognition. We add some verses from Mr. Uyeda's "My Beloved's Grave," the gem of the whole volume, in our opinion :-

f the whole volume, in our opinion
But when I heard
That lone, all alone,
Thou hadst gone home,
Leaving men-then I knew
That in this life
Objects of hope and love
Are not granted to man.
For thy sake,
Seeking far distant lands,
I travelled far and near.
For thy sake,
With tolksome behour sought I to obtain
W.sdom's ich store. See, see, now have I
Come home again.
See, see, now am I
Near to the wished-for goal; But in vain
Was all my fond endeavour.
Knewledge without love
Is but a curse. Crooked and cracked Stands thy poor tomb Stands on y Evil weeks Grow round thy grave!
And the priest himself hath forgot
The dead one's name! Over the dry dreat fields Autuen winds Blow melancholy. Wait for me, love, Under thy mossy stone; Soon shall I follow thee.

#### THE CYCLE RACE IN NEW YORK.

It turns out that the sensational stories circulsted with reference to the recent bicycle race In New York, when the winner, Charles Miller, covered 2.093 miles in six days, were wild exaggerations. Au American journal now says of the affair :-

The six-day bicycle race in Madison Square Garden, New York city, which terminated Saturday night of last week, has called forth considerable comment, and, it is thought may lead, as in Illinois, to a law in this State prohibiting such contests. The daily papers had sensational reports to be conditions of men a number of whom were contests. The daily papers had sensational reports on the conditions of men, a number of whom were said to be at times insane by reason of the prolonged exertion and the loss of sleep. Since the race, the men have expressed their indignation over these reports, which they declare were false, and on the day after the race all the men were up and around and insisting that they were feeling none the worse for their efforts. The pulice department kept a close warch of the race, and the police surgeous subjected the men to several examinations in the closing days, as a result of which four contestants were ordered off the track. The surgeons' official reports, on the others showed a fairly normal condition of temperature, of pulse, and of the heart. The Cycle Racing Association, however, has resolved that in hume contests several hours exched day shall be set apart for rest by all the each day shall be set apart for rest by all the competitors.

#### THE P. & O. JAPAN STEAMERS.

It will be noticed from the advertisement of the P. & O. Company in these columns that their next mail steamer will leave Yokohama on the 8th February, connecting at Hongkong with the accelerated services under the new British Postal Contract with that Company, There will be no mail departure next Sunday. The M.M. be no mail departure next Sunday. The M.M. Company's steamer will sail on Wednesday, the 2nd February and thereafter the P. & O. Company's vessels leave on the Tuesday and the M.M. Company's steamers on the alternate Wednesdays. The Sunday departure will Wednesdays. The Sunday departure will therefore be a thing of the past. This should meet with the approbation of residents, num-bers of whom have for a long time been debarred from their Saturday half-holiday, through the Hot Springs at Arima, where the Colonel, who We have already reported, says the Mainicht, Sunday departures. Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### THE NEW PLAY AT THE KABUKIZA

The Kabukiza theatre at Kobikicho, Tokyo opened on the 15th inst for the first performance of the new drama, "Sutenbune," by Mr. Kuroura. A certain incompleteness in the arrange ments and accessories is almost inseparable from a "first night" performance, otherwise the representation went remarkably well. Messrs. Nakamura Fukusuke, Ichizo and Onoye Kokujiro were the leading actors in the piece, the first named giving a most natural and finished representation of the part of the heroide, Sonoye, afterwards Baroness Tokuoura, while Mr. Ichizo made an excellent Colonel Kobuishi, and Mr. Kokujiro fi led the sôle of the Baron to perfec-The play consists of nine acts. first of these opens in a tavern on the sea front at Kobe, kept by the villain of the piece, Senji. Captain Tatsuta of the Tatsuta Maru enters the tavern to see if a letter has been left there for him by his mate. While in the tavern the Captain hears the mosic of a string instrument and learning that it is played by a mendicant singing girl noted for her beauty, has her sum-moned. The girl Sonoye enters the tavern accompanied by an old man, her tutor. The Captain takes a dollar from his bag to give to the girl, and in so doing discloses to the tavern keeper, Senfi, that he has a large sum in the The Captain, is then induced by Senji and a Taisuta man reputed to be Sonoye's father to stay the night in the tavern. The girl finds out that the two men have evil intentions regarding the Captain and expostulates with her supposed father, but is tied to a post in the room while the Captain is murdered and robbed. old tutor, however, releases the girl and the two together make their escape. The second act together make their escape. shows the girl Sonoys and her old blind tutor on the road in a heavy snow storm, the old man, almost dead from cold and exposure, when Baron Tokuoura comes along and takes the half frozen pair to his villa close by, where, in the third act, Sonoye appears as the Baron's wife and is introduced to his nephew and other friends. This nephew has devised a plot, with the assistance of a friend and confederate named Kawabayashi to obtain possession of his uncle's vast property by killing him. In Acta four and five Sonoye is inveigled from the villa to a cemetery by the villain Kawabayashi, and the Baron, sup-posing that she has fallen in love with Kawa-bayashi, divorces her immediately on her return home. Colonel Kobuishi, an old friend of the Baron', who has obtained some informa-tion of the piot, calls upon him to tell him what he has learned, but being seized with a severe coughing fit before he can speak, takes up a glass of water intended for the Baron drinks it, and is poisoned thereby. Act VI. opens in a tavern in the Kijima temple forest. Kawaoka, a professor of medicine, and one of the consultators against the Baron, enters the tavern disguised as a priest. Senji, the tavern-keeper, informs him that he knows all about the plot, and requires to be bought over to keep silent. The supwritten contract from the Baron's nephew hidden under the floor of the Kijima temple, and Senji goes out with him to get the document. When they get to the place Kawaoka, the priest, attacks Senji with a dagger, but the police atrive and arrest Senfi, letting the former escape, In the seventh and eights acts, Sonoye is found in the house of her old music-teacher, with whom she had taken refuge after her divorce by the Baron, to whom she has in the meantime borne a child. She is arrested on a charge of poisoning the Colonel, the Baron's friend, but is released on bail. Her step, father, whom she had quitted years ago, attempts to steal her child as a means of exterting money from the Baron, but the mother's agonised entreaties melt the stony heart of the ruffian, who for the first time acquaints Sonoye that she is really the daughter of a Marquis, from whom she had been kidnapped when only four years of age. The ninth and last act opens at the

water, is staying to recover his health. The Baron is also there, and is being assiduously courted by a Miss Konami, sister of a retired Major, whose ambition has led her to try to secure marriage with the Baron, and who had previously poisoned the Baron's mind against Sonoye and induced him to divorce her. She and her brother have come to Arima for the sole purpose of inveigling the Baron into marriage; but her charms fail to entice him and she is driven to go to Kawaoka for a love potion. This, however, is no love potton, but poison, though she does not know it. She puts it secretly into a cup of beer which is offered to the Baron, but just as he is raising it to his lips, the Co'onel, who has watched the proceedings, stops the Baron from drinking the beer, with the words, "Hold, the cup contains poison." After that sensational denouement, it is left to the imagination of the audience to straighten out the ravelled threads; to make the here and heroine happy and to punish the conspiratore.

#### FAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Thirty-nine new banks were opened in December, with an aggregate capital of 9.518,500 yen. As compared with 1896, last year showed an increase of 263 new banks and 76,458,470 yen in capital.

According to the *Nippon* the stock of rice in the Fukagawa granaries during October was 190,000 bags. The subsequent imports of foreign rice helped to supply the demand in the Capital, and the stock in the granaries has since increased to 264,000 bags. Prices, however, show scarcely any downward tendency.

The Tokye Azahi states that the site for the Japan Observatory to be established in Mizu-sawa, Iwate prefecture, under the auspices of the International Law Surveying Association, has recently been inspected by Doctor Tanaka, who immediately sent a report to the said Association in Berlin, specifying the location and other necessary arrangements for the institution.

According to the Chuo a scheme is in con-emplation to establish a new office in the War Department, to be designated the Military Edu-cation Inspection Department, the Army In-spection D-partment being abolished. The new office is to be placed under the supervision of . General, and Major General Terauchi, Commandant of the 3rd Regiment, is nominatto the post.

Although the date for the general election of the members of the Lower House is fixed for the 15th of March next, no definite decision is yet arrived at m to the date of convening the special session of the Diet and the period of its sitting. It is stated that the term of the sitting being probably short, only urgent measures, such as those connected with the operation of treaty revision and so forth, will be submitted to the session for approval, other subjects being put off until December.

The camphor oil trade of Kobe continues stagnant, no large orders having been received from abroad during the part few months. owing to the scarcity of stocks sellers remain firm, and prices show no tendency to fall. The quotation is at present slightly over 43 yer. The exports last month were 231,843 catties valued at 116,794 yer. Of this 166,277 cattles were shipped to Hongkong. 58,096 to America, and 5.346 to Australia.

In view of the steady increase of agricultural products in Hokkaido, the Government, says the Mainichi, has issued instructions to the Coal Mining and Railway Company to transport such products at half the ordinary rate of freight. The goods transported from January to November last amounted, it is said, to 57,008,387 kin, for which 33,161 yen were received as freight, the average monthly transport being 5,182,581 kin and the freight realized 2.105 yen.

a loan of three million yen to some capitalists to stimulate the export of cotton yarns. Informamation from Osaka announces that the three million yen under notice is only to be secured by free contracts with the Bank under the direction of the Minister of Finance, who seems to have issued a statement to that effect. The Spinning Guild has applied for a loan of 240,000 yen to be paid in Shanghai and of 600,000 yen to be paid in Hongkong.

Investigations were recently made by the Japanese Government with the view of ascertaining the amount of national bonds in the hands of foreigners. It appears that, apart from 43 million yen in War Bonds, a sum of sixteen or seventeen millions in other securities must be in circulation in foreign countries, the aggregate amount of loans abroad reaching sixty millions. The gross total of national indebtedness is at present 390 millions, and it may be supposed, remarks the Shogyo, that fifteen per cent, of this is floated on the foreign market.

The *Kokumin* contains a vigorous article on the Japanese armament expansion. It admiss that in the scheme formulated in the 28th year of Meiji the steady rise in prices and cost of production was not anticipated, and consequently the natural tendency is to curtail the original programme. But such a result, our contemporary thinks, would be most deplorable. If Japan is to retain her positon among the nations of the world an adequate defensive armament is a sheer necessity, and the Kakumin condemns as ignorant demagogues the advocates of economy at the expense of national safety and progress.

The Tokyo Asahi reports that the steamer Arisoura Maru, of Fushiki, owned by Mr. Minamishima, stranded on the evening of the 16th, off the coast of Tadotsu, Sanuki, east of the Habushi lighthouse. She was on her way from Otaca to Kobe with lumber. The damage being taken to get her off. She was built on the Clyde in 1882, and was first named the Rotherdale. The vessel, whose gross tonnage is 1831 and nominal horse-power 182, was

Count Okuma has apparently been very candidly criticising the policy of Marquis Ito.
The Hochi represents him as saying:—"The odious custom of regarding the Diet, the political organ of the nation at large, as something like an instrument for the furtherance of the Government's private interests, should certainly come to an end. The trickery which has been practised is perfectly familiar to the Marquis, and, instead of endeavouring to convert the members of the Diet by an evening entertainment he should assume the policy of consulting openly with Parliament on all important matters."

The Nichi Nichi gives some interesting details of the operation of the new gold coinage system. From October 1st to Jan. 20th silver and notes to the value of 17,736,920 yen were presented for exchange-3.443,576 yes in silver, and 14,233,394 yes in notes. The amount of silver presented for exchange during January was between 260,000 and 270,000 yen, and the notes presented aggregate over 2,900,000 yen. The gold returned after being once exchanged since October 1st reached 1,745,660 yen.

The death is announced of the wife of the Tai Wön-kun, which took place on the 8th instant. She had been ill since last year and was in a state of utter decrepitude, having attained the age of seventy years. Sixty years ago she was betrothed to the Tai Won-kun and bore to the latter four children-two sons and two daughters. The eldest daughter was married to the ex-Minister of War, and the first son was, until recently, Minister of the Royal Household; the second son is the reigning Emperor. The second daughter was given in marriage to a member of the Cho family. The Korean Emperor, on receipt of news of the death of his

mourning be observed in the Court for thirty

The Japanese Consul at Mokpho, Korea, has compiled a concise report on the trade of the poit. Korea's wants are apparently com-paratively simple. She chiefly yearns for shirt-ings, kerosene oil, matches, copper, pewier, nails, hardware, tin lamps, timber, silver, straw ropes, paper, rakt (strong demand!) and fish oil. Of shirtings "howak," "three horses," and " farmer" chops sell particularly well. American kerosene in tin cases has almost a monopoly of the oil market. The chief export, as might be expected, is rice, and others are cotton, cotton fabrics, ox hides, and gall-nuts. The rice crop this year promises well, and an unusual development of trade may be expected, the Mainichi thinks, by March or April.

A report from the Japanese Consul at Lyons, published in the Jokyo Shimbun, shows that the export of silk handkerchiefs from Japan to Europe and America during the 28th and 29th years of Meiji amounted to 5.399.955 yen and 4.617,720 yen in value respectively, while silk piece goods exported during the two years aggregated 5.997.801 yen and 7.394.828 yen respectively, the total for the two commodities reaching 15.207.801 eee in two commodities reaching 15,397,801 yes in 1895 and 12,012,548 yen in 1896. Thus a decrease of 22 per cent, is noticeable on the figures for 1896 as compared with those for 1895. One of the principal causes for the falling off is ascribed to the tradal depression in America, whereas the reduction of 26 per sity in view of the excess in imports. Coins and cent. on piece goods is the result of smaller bullion exported during November and Decemorders from Europe.

The Yorosu calls attention to the fact that freight for coal is from 1.20 to 1.30 yen between Yokohama and Karatsu, and 80 sen only between Moji and Yokohama. The failure of the rice crop in the Interior has necessitated the frequent despatch of vessels to Saigon other the producing territories. The Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha alone is reported to have chartered nine vessels for that purpose, in addition to three others secured by the Company until April or May next. The scatcity of vessels arising from these circumstances has naturally led to a rise in freights generally. The rate between Yokohama and Moji is raised to one yen per 1,000 cattles, and that between Yokohama and Karatsu to 1.50 ren. Coal must therefore be expected to rise in value.

Cattle breeding, according to the Tokyo Shimbun, is an industry well suited to the soil of Hokkaido. Applications for a lease of land for purposes of cattle breeding have increased considerably of late, the total area leased by the Hokkaido Government having reached 3.400, 358 Isubo. Of the land so granted the largest farm is owned by Mr. Yamagata, who has secured 9,070,000 Isubo in Nemuro; next comes Mr. Tamura's pasture, covering 3,520,000 Isubo and known as Aritama Farm. This is followed by the Toyen Pasture with 2,210,000 Isubo, while Mr. Sanoda's farm in Vilna tsubo, while Mr. Sonoda's farm in Kikyo district ranks fourth in magnitude with 1,640,000 tsubo. The provinces where cattle breeding farms are mostly found are Hidaka, Kushiro, Tokatsu, Kitami, and Nemuro. In Ishikari and Shiribeshi, in which the soil isexcellent there is little pasture.

According to the Shogyo the number of joint tock companies (banks and railways excepted) throughout the empire at the end of December totalled 2.180, with an aggregate capital of 314,581,862 yea. These figures show an increase of 34 companies and 2,173,850 yen in capital over the previous month. These comcapital over the previous month. prise :-

COMMBRCIAL CAPITAL. COMPANIES. Yen. 1,346,500 3 ...... 3 ....... Of the industrial companies 16 were new organ-

mother, immediately proceeded to the Un Hyon ization with an aggregate capital of 1,446,850 difficulty, therefore, of issuing Japanese bonds Palace in company with the Crown Prince, yen; nine increased their capital by 170,000 at 3 or 4 per cent, interest may easily be limited.

and having expressed his grief ordered that yen; three were dissolved, and three decreased their capital by 152,500 yen, while only three agricultural corporations were started with an aggregate capital of 203.000 yen.

Since the beginning of the new year the foreign firms in Yokohama have been buying very little tes. On the 19th instant, bowever, Measts. Jardine, Matheson, & Co. buying solely for themselves, took leaf to the amount of 15,600 catties. In spite of the arrivals of better class teas during the past few days, prices remain unaltered. Considerable sales are expected to take place in a few days. Tientsin hitherto has been a poor market for cotton yarns but last week we bear that it took up 3,000 bales of fine 20's and 2,000 bales of 16's Bombays at prices ranging from 63 taels per bale. Chinese yarns, too, owing to their chespness, have lately been in demand at Tientein, and 5,000 bales of 14's and 16's were sold at prices varying from 67 tacls to 74 taels. Sales of Japanese yarns m Tientsin do not come up to expectations on account of their price. The stock in the Tientsin market their price. is 40,000 bales from India, 20,000 bales from Japan, and 4,000 bales of Chinese production, amounting in all to 64,000 bales. It is sup-posed that unless serious fluctuations take place in exchange, prices will remain firm.

With regard to the nutflow of gold and silver the Nippon says that the excess of imports having ceased through the settlement of the Indemnity accounts, the market has been restored to its original condition and the export of metallic currency has become a matter of absolute necessity in view of the excess in imports. Coins and

ber last amount	ed to :		
Export. N		Dec., 1897. Yen.	Totals. Yen.
bullion many	4,220,846	2,550,936	6.771,782
Silver coins and			
bullion	729,661	3 979.425	4,709,086
Total	4,950,507	6,530,361	11,480,868
Copper coins &			
gold bullion Silver coins and	105,511	247,027	353,338
bullion	1.349.074	429,153	1,778,227
Total	1.455.586	676,181	2,131,767
Excess of ex-			
parts	3,494,920	3,834,180	9,349,100
Thus the outfl			ggregated
3,500,000 yen i	a Novem	ber and 5.8	50,000 yen

in December, making a total of 9,340,000 yen. The excess of imports which amounted up till October to 71 million yen was therefore reduced during last year to 62 millions, though in these figures were also included the yen pieces received in exchange for gold.

The Yorodau asserts the Count Inouye has formulated a scheme for obtaining loans in America to the amount of 100 or 150 million yen, through the medium of Mr. Dun, the late American Minister to Japan. The negotiations however do not seem to have progressed so far as to fix the rate of interest or the face value of the bonds. Some time must therefore elapse before the project is presented for discussion by the Cabinet. In the mean time changes may occur in the programme formulated, but it is impossible to make any forecast to such a contingency. Nevertheless we are informed, says our contemporary, that Count Inouye is disposed to sell 3% or 4 per cent interest bonds of 100 yen face value at 93 yen. Leaving aside for a moment the merits of the question of the introduction of foreign capital, it is still very doubtful whether the Count will be able to obtain the loans in he expect. The rate of interest in European markets seems to rise steadily in con-sequence of last year's failure of crops and the depression of trade, the expansion of armaments and the development of industry. The bank rate in European countries does not fall short of 218,000 three per cent., Germany, Russis, and Austro-343,000 Hungary paying from 5 to 9 per cent. 115,000 Two countries,—England and France—alone v organ-maintain their interest at three per cent. The

gined. But America, it is true, floats her capi an interest from 2½ to 3 per cent. per annum, as is actually the case in New York. But it must at the same time be remembered that even America's rate of interest is not to be expected to continue for any length of time at the rate of from 2½ to 3 per cent. The Congress now in session is likely in determine the course to be pursued in regard to the coinage system as well as financial administration, when expansion is undertaken for the various branches of industry From the summer time till October every year the money market in New York tightens as a rule, in consequence of the interval being the rute, in consequence of the interval being the harvest season, for wheat and cotton. The period in which the Count might be enabled to carry out the scheme would be just when such a pressure on money takes place. The Count must therefore expect, alleges the Yerosu, to confront serious difficulties in selling Japanese bonnes of 2014 per cent ties in selling Japanese bonns at 3 or 4 per cent. interest, in spite of the reduction in their face value. We (Fapan Mail) give this for what it is worth—very little we expect

According to investigations completed at the end of last year, the full and provisional charters granted for railways in Kinshiu were as follow:—Full charters—Chikugo Railway, from Kuroki to Okawa in Fukuoka prefecture, a distance of 20 miles 20 chains; Funakoshi Railway, from Funakoshi to Dazaifu in Chikuzen, a distance of 83 miles 60 chains; Naupo Railway, from Oita to Nagnau in Buzen, 70 miles 59 chains; Tohi Railway, from Kumamoto to Osu, 14 miles 40 chains; Chikushi Coal Transport Railway, from Nakanoma in Kurabe dis-trict to Kyase in Fukuoka prefecture, 3 miles trict to Kyase in Fukuoka prefecture, 3 miles and 50 chains; Kiushiu Railway, extention of Chikuho line, Kaneda-Iida section, 1 mile 60 chains, and Shimoyamada Kamiyamada section, 2 miles 18 chains. Provisional Charters:—Kurate Railway, Miyata-Tokagawa Section, 11 miles; Hokuchiku Railway, Dazaifu Yoshii Section, 25 miles 12 chains; South Western Railway, Nobeoka-Kokubu Section, 100 miles; Seisatsu Railway, Kagoshima Mukaida Section, Sessasu Railway, Ragosiima Mukawa Section, 22 miles; Kiushiu Railway, Moji-Tanoura Section, 2 miles 40 chains; Hoshin Railway, Tanoura Sone Section, 11 miles 37 chains. Thus full charters were secured for six lines comprising an aggregate distance of 194 miles 7 chains, and provisional charters acquired for an equal number of lines covering altogether 182 miles 9 chains, the total railway mileage represented by the above chatters being no less than 376 miles 16 chains.

The Jiji comments on the steady increase in the import of foreign rice. The rice crop in Japan having decreased about nine per cent during the year before last, and prices having risen abnormally last year, the import of foreign cereals reached the unprecedented amount of six million piculs, valued at twenty one million yen. Rice now occupies second rank among the staples of import. In the 3rd year of Mei/i the grain was imported to the amount of 5,377,108 piculs, valued at 14,598,115 yes, but in the 23rd year a slight 14.596,115 yes, but in the 23rd year a signi decrease was noticeable, the amount imported being 4.596,594 piculs valued at 12,302.883 yes. A further reduction took place in the 27th year, the figures being 3.304,628 piculs valued at 8,413,148 yes. The 30th year, however, saw the amount swelled to 6.301.394 piculs, of 21,528,428 yes in value. Nothing has yet heen ascertained as to the probable reduction in, last year's crop, but it may be conjectured that the diminution was far above 9 per cent. on that of the year before last, most of the anthoritie placing it at from 10 to 13 per cent. With this in view the native dealers hastened in make contracts with foreign firms in the open ports for the supply of cereals while foreigners were, in some places, also engaged in importing rice to a considerable amount. Under these cir-cumstances the amount of import for this year may be expected to exceed the figure recorded for last year. Not to speak of other staples of import, rice alone is sufficient to influence the foreign trade considerably for this year.

#### THE FRENCH PRESS AND THE DREFFUS AFFAIR.

Referring to the writing in the French press about the Dreyius affair, the Paris correspondent of The Times says:-

about the Dreyfus affair, the Puris correspondent of The Times says:—

This unbidled spirit of invention, indeed, which has never before gone such lengths, is one of the most characteristic symptoms of these controversies. An Alsatian barrister, it will be remembered, related that visiting the Palace at Potadam at the time of Dreyfus's arrest he saw pencilled on a French newspaper in the Emperor's study the words "Dreyfus est pris." Sanseless as this story seemed at the beginning of the campaign, it has now the air of childish simplicity. Anything, indeed, may be said in the French Press without the slightest risk. Individuals are powerless for even a duel may be refused them. The Government is helpless, for if a newspaper is imprudently prosecuted juries shrink from a verdict which would expose them to insult. The Press was certainly not ripe for the licence allowed it by the law of 88°. This is a pity, for such licence must eventually be at the expense of liberty. Nor does the cril end here. Racial animosity is bearing bitter fruit, and France, whose boast it was that she marched at the head of civilization, is daily relapsing towards ignorance and barbarism. There has for some days been shameless talk of a law excluding from all public posts Jews and foreigners not naturalized for two generations and this has raised so outcry. It will be said that such a fill will not be adopted, but that it should be proposed without evoking reproduction is diagraceful, and it is disquicting to see a country apparently inclined to belie its chivalrous traditions. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Government should contemplate legislation against an outbreak threatening public morality, but, whatever the urgency of such a step in view of the impunity enjoyed by journalistic perversity, it is and to see liberty abused in the service of a revived barbarism.

Here is a euphemism which may come in heardy

Here is a suphemism which may come in handy any day. "I don't say be is a liar," remarked the revising barrister in an English borough, "but he has represented a state of things which does not exist.

#### THE GERMAN NAVY.

The German Navy Bill makes demands which are thus summarized by the Berlin correspondent of The Times :-

16 The strength in ships of the German navy, exclusive of torpedo-boats, training ships, special service vessels, and gunboats, is to be fixed as follows:—There should be ready for service 17 line-of-battle ships, eight armoused ironclads for coast defence, nine large and 26 small cruisers. Two hattleships and three large and four small cruisers are to be provided as a reserve force.

cruisers are to be provided as a reserve force."

A fleet of this strength is regarded by the Ger man Government as adequate for the duties which man Government as adequate for the dittes when may devolve upon it, but at the same time the number of ships proposed is considered to be indispensable. At present, if the ships which will be available for service or which will be in course of construction on April 1st, 1898, be included, the German navy consists of 12 battleships, eight indicated for count defaults for count defaults. In the course when a 23

German navy consists of 12 battleships, eight innecteds for coast defence, ten large cruivers, and 23 small cruisers. It follows that, in order to realize the Government plans, seven battleships and two large and seven small cruisers must be built before the close of the financial year 19045.

In preparing the Bill, the Government has been guided by the following considerations. The navel interests of the German Empire require the presence abroad of three large cruisers, two in East Asia, and one for Central and South America; of ten amall cruisers, three in Hast Asia, three for Central and South America, and two for East Africa, and two for East Africa, and two for East Africa, and two for sets of constantinople. But in the present year there were available for But in the present year there were available for the purposes enumerated only two large and eight small cruisers, two gumboars, and one station ship, and in order to provide even this force for foreign service the home fleet had to be deprived of three

of its best conisers.

The total expenditure contemplated for the seven The total expenditure contemplated for the seven years for new constructions, including artillery and topedo armament, is, estimated at 192,000,000 milks. The cost of tenewals for the same period will amount to 211,000,000 marks. The instalments not yet voted for ships now in course of construction amount to 63,500,000 marks. When the cost of three gunboats and seven topedo-boat divisions, together amounting to 46,000,000 marks, as well as the additional expenditure for unsintenance and for increase in the personnel, in taken into account, it is estimated that the average annual increase in the ordinary expenditure will be 4,000,000 marks in the ordinary expenditure will be 4,000,000 marks in the coming seven years, as contrasted with 3,000,000 marks average yearly increase during the last seven years.

It will be observed that the contemplated squad-

It will be observed that the contemplated squadron for the Far East is to consist of two first class and three second-class—or, perhaps, thirdclass-cruisers and two gunboats.

#### HIGH MILITARY COUNCIL.

The following Imperial Rescript was gazetted on the 19th instant with regard to the establishment of a High Military Council:-

Having formulated schemes for the opening of the country in view of the growing prosperity attained since the Restoration, We purpose to consummate since the Restoration, We purpose to consummate the work of Our Ancestous by further promoting the welfare of the people and the development of the State. Accordingly, in order to secure assistance in the conduct of Our military and naval affairs, We hereby order the Gensuifu (High Military Council) to be established with the object of selecting from among the Generals and Admirals those of greatest area increased distinction to set as Our of greatest experience and distinction to act as Our Councillors in matters of warfars. The functions devolving upon these Councillors shall be specially determined by Us.

(Imperial Sign-Manual and Great Seal.) January 19th of the 31st year of Meiji. Marquis Iro Hironomi, Minister President of State, (Counter-signed)

#### IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 5.

We hereby sanction the Regulations for the Gensuifs (High Military Council) and order the same to be promulgated, (Imperial Sign-Manuel and Greet Seal.)

January 19th of the 31st year of Meifi.

(Counter-signed) Marquis Ito HIROSUM, Minister President of State.

Marquis Salgo Yorinitsu, Minister of the Navy. Viscount Katsura Taro, Minister of War.

REGULATIONS FOR THE "GENSULYU."

Att. I.—All Generals or Admirals appointed to the Gensuifu shall be specially granted the title of Gensui or High Military Councillor.

Art. II.—The Gensuifu shall be the highest Council in matters of warfare.

Art. III.—The Gensuif, in High Military Councillor.

cillor, may, under Imperial instructions, undertake the inspection of the Army or Navy.

Art. IV.—The Gensuifu shall retain a field or company officer as adjutant.

#### MR. SHIBUSAWA ON COUNT INOUYE.

Mr. Shibusawa has been giving his views on the political situation to a representative of the Bochi. He says the subject of financial adjustment seems to occupy the greatest amount of the present Ministry's attention, and as this administration is entirely different in personnel from the last it may be confidently expected that such "ignominious bungling" as was displayed by the late Cabinet will not be repeated. "Count Inouye," he added, "is decidedly opposed to the financial policy of his predecessors. He is regarded us the chief ms predecessors. He is regarded as the chief mover in the movement for the reduction of armament expenses. In all things, indeed, he advocates the principle of curtailment. He was hostile to the great expansion of business undertakings which took place after the Chiuese wer, and his was the loudest protest against the establishment of the Industrial Bank deviced by Viscount Watershape and Visited Aviendal was a supplied to the control of devised by Viscount Watanabe, ex-Minister of Finance. But though implacably opposed to the armament expansion scheme it is probable that in his present situation he will be unable to materially reduce the programme which has been laid down, and his principal aim will probably be to prolong the period during which that programme is m be carried out. He must of course expect to encounter serious opposition from military men and a certain number of Government officials; but he is not likely to acquiesce in the full and prompt carrying out of the expansion scheme in face of financial disorganisation and the embarrassment of the nation.'

At the auction sale of the Asburaham library in London, a fortnight ago, a new record was made in Caxtons, £2,100 for "The Book of Jason," 1447, which is £150 more than "King Arthur" fetched a few years ago. Twice during the present century this identical copy of "Jason" changed hands for less than £100.



#### LIBEL.

Mr. Maskelyne has been cast in his suit against the Manchester Guardian. It was, indeed, a most ill-advised recourse to litigation. The well known "magician" conceived, last year, the project of erecting a grand stand in St. Paul's churchyard for the accommodation of persons desiring to view the Jubilee Procession. The Manchester Guardian made fun of the enterprise in a mild way, saying, among other things, that "it was unfortunate that the architect should be Mr. Maskelyne, who had so often seriously deceived the public." It must be confessed that such jesting travels very close to the line of slander, and assumes, on the part of its butt, an unusually genial appreciation of hum-our. Of course Mr. Maskelyne has often "deceived the public." It is his metter to do so and nobody else has ever done it quite so well. Mr. Maskelyne, however, thought that a charge of serious deception, preferred in such a context, would be taken literally by the vast majority of readers, and in that supposition we can not but think that he was correct. He had, in fact, a plain right = call for an explanation, and the Manchester Guardian would have been perfectly ready to give one. But Mr. Maskelyne preforred to take the matter into Court, and pressed his suit, in the face of the great provincial journal's explicit assurance that no moral reflection of any kind had been intended. Naturally the jury decided in favour of the defendant, and the Lord Chief Justice made some useful comments on the abuses incidental to the operation of the present law of libel. Lord Russell's remarks are tolerably certain to commend themnelves to the common sense of the public, especially when they are read in connexion with two other suits tried before his lordship immedistely afterwards, in one of which the only ground of complaint was that a barrister had been accused of "shouting" in court. There is no doubt, of course, that the gentlemen of the Bar can generally dissuade their clients from the folly of bringing such suits but it wouth the folly of bringing such suits, but it must be confessed that although the law of libel may be unduly pliant in one respect, it is unjustly rigid in another. How often do we see flagrant abuses of the principle that the utterances of counsel in Court are privileged? A man who has given his testimony honestly and to the best of his ability, finds himself the object of attacks and insinuations against which he has no redress, It is not an attractive feature of our methods of litigation.

#### RAILWAY FARES IN JAPAN.

The Railway Council sat on Monday to consider the proposed increase in railway fares. Lient.-General Viscount Kawakami, President of the Council, was unable to attend on account of indisposition, and Mr. Kenjiro, Vice President, took the chair. The proposal to raise the fares to I sen I rin per mile was discussed at length and it was ultimately decided not to grant the increase for which the Nippon Tetsu-do Kaisha (Japan Railway Company) has applied. It was decided to grant licences for the construction of Buso Chuwo Railway and the extension of the Kansai Railway line,

#### A CORRECTION.

We were mistaken in saying that the first edition of Dr. Lönholm's translations of the Code covered only three sections, comprising three hundred and ninety-five articles. That is true of the revised (second) edition, so far as it has been carried, but the first extended to the whole 724 articles. The fact makes Dr. Lönholm's achievement all the more remarkable. He must have translated 724 articles in about 25 days, being at the rate of nearly 30 articles

Wrottesley Hall, in Shropshire, with its fine

#### INTERPORT RIVALRY.

The writer of "Stray Notes" in the Kobe Chronicle has the following appreciative remarks to make about Yokohama's modistes:

—I hear that the visit of the Yokohama amateura to Kobe has resulted in a great increase of the orders sent up to Yokohama dressmakers. Certainly the costumes worn by the ladies were entrancingly beautiful-dreams of loveliness that have not only haunted the Kobe ladies ever since, but have made a decided impression on even my insusceptible male heart. I don't know what Kobe husbands will say, but there is talk of a remonstrance being addressed to Yokohama on the matter, in which it is to be auggested that while interport contests in general not objected to, the line must be drawn at millinery competitions. But the dresses looked "real lovely" all the same, and there's no denying that the "contumiers" of the pieces deserve very great credit.

#### CHINESE ITEMS.

It is reported in Chinese official circles that H. E. Huang, titular Junior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, and Admiral of the Yangtze, recently offered to command in person the forces to be stationed at Woosung and other points at the mouth of the Yangtze river, and that the Viceroy Liu K'un-yi accepted the offer.

A Wuchang despatch appearing in Chinese papers reports that the Viceroy Chang Chin-tung has been empowered from Peking to raise a force of some 30,000 men, to be drilled by British officers. The personnel of the new corps British officers. The personnel of the new corps will be picked men from Kiangphen (Kiangsu), Ningpo (Chekiang), and Weihni (Honan).

The Chefoo correspondent of the Shanghai Mercury, under date January 7th, wrote:— Things do not seem very quiet here, for some of the disbanded soldiers from Kiao-chon Bay have started plundering in the surrounding country, and reports of their depredations, even within seven miles from here, have reached us. An old Chinese gentleman came into Chefoo a day or two ago. He had been shot in the head by one of a gang of disbanded soldiers, who endeavoured to sack his house,

Sports and Gossip has the following remarks in reference to the recent launch explosion at Soochow:—The explosion on the launch towing the "train" from Southow some few days ago, which killed those on board, is not to be wondered at. To expect that the machinery of a launch owned and run by Chinese should be kept in proper order is about as absurd as expecting the heroine of opera to go for the doctor when her lover is dangerously wounded instead of stopping to soothe his last moments with an elaborate vocal number. In all probability the sum total of the engineer's knowledge of steam had been acquired when he was second cook in a tea shop, in fact I suppose a Chinese-owned launch has to into until she "tnake spilum" in one way or another, and if the boiler "goes up" so do the unfortunate natives on board. Foreigners who take a tow should see that in the string of boats attached to the launch their own is not closer than say third or fourth. Distance lends enchantment when the boiler bursts.

The N.-C. Daily News publishes the following notes:—General Lin Yong-fu, the famous ex-Black-Flag, who it will be remembered was specially sent for by Viceroy 'I'an of the Two Kuang provinces, from the former's home at Ch'ingebou, on the borders of Annam and Kuangtung, will, it is reported command the Imperial troops in Hainan island. Some 3,000 Black-Flags have joined their old chief at Can-ton, where the General is at present occupied with daily secret confabulations with Viceroy year. T'an and Governor Han.

arrived on the frontiers of Kirin from the vicinity of the Russian Eastern outposts. There is much excitement amongst the high authorities of Kirin and Tsitsihar in consequence, and the Tartar General of the latter province has asked the permission of the Throne to raise 20,000 Tariars of Heilungchiang, the arms and amunition to be supplied from the Kirin and Moukden arsenals.

It is reported in native official circles that in view of the present unsettled state of the country in Chihii, Prince Kung has obtained the permission of the Throne to appoint General Tung Fu-neiang, the "Pacificator of Kansu" as he is called, to the chief command of a corps of observation in the vicinity of Tientsin. corps will consist of picked regiments from General Nieh's army m Lutai, H.E. Yuan Shih-k'ai's army at Hainochan, and the five regiments of horse and foot brought over by General Tung from Kansu.

Now that the Joint Anglo-Chinese Commis-sion is about in assemble at Bhamo for the demarcation of the Burma-China border it may be interesting, says the Pieneer, to refer to the Agreement signed at Peking on the 4th of February lest, under which the Convention of March 1894 was modified. The Agreement was duly ratified on the 5th of June, and as the work of demarcation had to be begun within a year from that date it was important that the = open " season of 1897-98 should be utilized in marking out the boundaries. The point on the extreme north from which the line is to be drawn is known to our surveyors m "the high conical peak." It is in latitude 25° 35' N. and longitude 96° 14'., and lies 50 miles E.N.E. from Myitkyina on the Upper Irrawaddy, to which the railway is now being extended from Mo-gaung. The nearest British post to it is Sadon. The general run of the frontier is indicated in the Agreement, but local investigation is required at various points where details have not been marked out in existing maps. Roughly, it may be said, the line follows a zigzag course to the junction of the Taping and Namkhan Rivers, east of Bhamo; then strikes off to the south-east until the Namwan stream is reached, the course of which is followed to its junction with the Shwell. At this point there is a small triangular bit of country which is rented on a perpetual lease from China, the object being to secure the best road from Bhamo to the Northorn Shan States. From the Shwell to the Salween at the Kunlon Ferry the border trends to the south-east. Under the Convention of 1894 the line was drawn much further to the south, and did not cross the Salween at all, but now the trans-Salween State of Kokang has become British territory. From the Kunlon Ferry to the Mekong, 20 miles south of Kenghung, the frontier agreed upon in 1804 remains unchanged, and its demarcation should not be difficult. Consular Agents are now to be posted at Molmein and Szemao, and their presence in those two commercial centres should stimulate trade with Burma. Mr. Hausser and Mr. Tratman, who have been appointed to these posts, are to be on the same footing megard correspondence and intercourse with Chinese officials as British Consuls at the Treaty ports.

Says the N.-C. Daily News :- We may mention that the Germans have decided to make Kiao chou Bay an open port for trade, as the regular treaty ports are.

At a meeting of Directors of the Shanghal Land Investment Co., Ld., it was decided to propose at the annual general meeting a final dividend for 1897 of 61 per cent, making 11 per cent, for the year.

The Peting and Tientsin Times of the 8th inst. says that a report is current that in order to replenish the Imperial Treasury, 30 per cent.

In its notice of the death of Mrs. Startseff. The local mandarius have received intelli- the P. & T. Times reminds us that her sister, library, has been completely burnt down. A gence from Manchuria to the effect that Ruswho had only been married a few days and had
copy of the first folio of Shakespeare was burnt, slan troops numbering some 10,000 men have gone into the suburbs of the city to tiffin with
Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

friends, was, with her young husband, one of the victims of the massacre in 1870.

The Diamond Jubilee Fund at Tientsin is to be used in founding a hospital, the building for which is to cost Tis. 9.000. It was stated that Dr. Irwin had promised to present his medical equipment to the new institution; Mr. James Wilson promised to present a complete equip-ment for a ward for residents only; and the Rev. Mr. Norris mentioned that the British Admiralty would probably give some assistance to the project.

The N.- C. Daily News learns from the Echo de Chine that General Jamont, the new French Commander in chief, is well known in Tongkin, where he held the command of the Corps of Occupation in 1885. On his return to France he was appointed Commander of the 1st Corps d'Armée, and subsequently succeeded General Miribel in the command of the 6th Corps. In August, 1896, after 66 years of active service, he was retained on the active list, m having held a command-in-chief in the face of the enemy. General Saussier, having completed 70 years of service in the army, has been obliged to retire; but as General Jamont has served 67 years, he can only hold his present high position for three years. The Echo is responsible for these details.

Much amusement was created among the Rattler's men quartered at Tientsin, says the discovering seats thoughtfully provided by the local carpenter in the new sentry boxes. Chinese ideas evidently could not grasp the awful reality of "sentry go" duty without any sit-down pidgin, and Tom-atkins Jacktar, or whatever the professional cognomen of the marine may be, was immensely tickled on discovering that evidence of Celestial consideration in his new shelter. If the carpenter had only been consulted in the matter of measurements, he would probably have suggested, "Spose makee littee more long can makee lie down. More better."

A correspondent writes from Newchwang to a Manchester paper :- " Yesterday afternoon E. and I, went for a long tramp out on the plain, and most enjoyable it was. Once you get some way out there is a great charm in the immense extent of red-brown earth, with tiny pools, blue as sapphire here and there, and the line of distant hills clear cut in purest violet against the great dome of sky. And then the sweet wild whistle of the plover, such lovely little birds that swoop down to swim on the little blue pools, and the cry of great flocks of wild geese travelling over head in their regular triangular flight, one behind another, in as perfect order as troops marching, each keeping in his own place as they follow their own leader. One gets to love those strong lovely wild birds, each with such a distinct individuality that they seem like friends as they pass. And then, as darkness begins to come down, you suddenly hear a rush over-head, almost like a violent shower of rain, and it is a great flight of teal swishing along, hundreds together, in perfectly regular order, too, but more semicircular than the geese. These wild birds have become so much to me since I have been out here; they are certainly one of the chief charms of the country.

The incredulous Korean Repository says :-A party of Britons from Shanghai visited the northern province on a hunt and report having had a good time. They tried to make us be-lieve they got five tigers, but—we are something on tiger stories ourselves,

M. Grille, an engineer of the great French works, of the Société Eves Lille, is at present in Shanghai, and according to Le Echo de Chine, his firm has secured a concession for a railway between Soul and a place on the Chinese border,

The new N.Y.K. steamer Tamba Maru discharged - Shimonoseki five boilers and about 340 tons of accessories for the Government Iron

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Kyber Pass was reopened for caravan traffic in the last week of December, all the Afridis' positions then being in the hands of the British.

The serious recrudescence of the plague is again paralyzing business at Bombay. Bumbay Races have been cancelled in consequence of the plague. The Poona Race Course is also forsaken.

The charitable bequests in Great Britain for 1897 have topped the record, totalling £2,000,000 (\$10,000,000). Without the Wallace art collection bequeathed to the nation, seven bequests to charity aggregated £1,000,000.

The North-China Daily News is informed that no money has been paid and none is likely to be paid on account of the Belgian loan, and that the Viceroy Chih-tung is against any loan being made with Belgium now, and wishes to effect one with American capitalists.

The conclusion of the French racing season for 1897 finds M. Menier, of chocolate fame, at the top of the list of winners, with £36,000. The next is the Vicomte de Harcourt, with £17,000. Then comes Baron Schickler, with £15,200. Among the owners of French steeplechasers Mile. Marsy, the actress, leads with £14,000.

An echo of the terrible catastrophe which fell upon Paris last spring in the burning of the bazaar of the Rue Jean-Goujon, is heard in the announcement that the succession duties which have just become payable by the heirs of the victims have enriched the French Exchequer by no less a sum than 2,200,000 francs, or about £88,000 sterling.

Mr. W. H. Talbot, formerly a resident of Yo kohams, has been dined and wined at the Shanghai Club as a public farewell before his departure to Hongkong, where he intends opening a branch of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York.

Mr. D McNeill, Messrs, Dowdall, Hauson, and McNeill, of Shanghai, is relieving Mr. A. B. Walford. Mr. Walford is engaged upon an important case at Honolulu, says the Mercury, and expects to be absent from Japan for about two months. On his return Mr. McNeill will leave Yokohama for England, and he proposes to be absent from Shanghai in all about 12

The imaginative American special correspondent has been at it again. This time he sends his advices from Seattle, but the English press accepts them quite as guilelessly as it does a San Francisco yarn. He writes,—The news of the wealth of the Yukon Valley has excited interest in Japan similar to that which it has aroused elsewhere. It is asserted that there will be an exedus of fully ten thousand subjects of the Mikado to Alaska and the adjacent gold regions as soon un communication is reopened in spring.

At the British Consular Court on Tuesday morning before James Troup, Esq., Assistant Judge, William Peterson, Simon Yunalla, and Charles Esterman, seamen, of the steamer St. Ronald, were charged with being absent without leave. Capt. W. H. Clements, the Master, said the men went ashore here and got drunk, the same they did at every port. The last that was seen of them was on Sunday, and the chief officer reported this to witness on Monday morning. Esterman and Peterson were steady men; Yunalla had given a great deal of trouble. The prisoners stated that they had been given leave to go ashore; and had exceeded it. They were each fined two days' pay, and a dollar and a half costs.

Pope Leo XIII, has expressed his desire that the whole Roman Catholic world should cele-Foundry. She has 4,000 tons of cement, from brate the close of the nineteenth century with and general cargo for Kobe and Yokohama.

cordance with this idea to inaugurate a great spiritual retreat, a religious awakening or revival, to continue through the entire period of the year 1899.

A London paper comes to the conclusion that it is more dangerous to be innocent in the United States than to be a convicted murderer. There were, argues the paper, forty per cent, fewer legal executions in the United States last year than lynchings. Of the men lynched, a much larger proportion than one in fifty was innocent, while not one convicted murderer in fifty was executed.

The city of Florence contemplates the establishment of a unique library: a collection of all the books prohibited by the Roman Catholic Church. A beginning has already been made, for Count Pietro Guicciardini has gathered most of the works regarding the Reformation that have been placed on the index. There are over nine thousand of them. These books are in the care of the Protestant congregation in Florence, though they have been placed in the National Library.

French shipping is slowly but steadily declining. All the subsidies and premiums paid to shipowners and shipbuilders seem valueless in preventing this decline, which is as difficult to account for un the disappearance of the Dutch flag from the seas during the last century, and the extinction of the famous American sailers. In 1860 there were still 500 candidates for master's mates, in 1890 only 125. Fewer French ships pass through the Suez canal than German, Italian, and even Dutch. The Dutch shipping, in fact, shows renewed activity.

It is interesting to note, in connection with the rooth voyage of the Pacific Mail Co's steamer City of Peking, that her commanders have been City of Ferring, that her commanders have been S. Griffin, H. G. Morse, Z. Tanner, J. Manry, G. G. Borry, J. M. Caverly, W. B. Seabury, D. E. Friele, H. C. Dearborn, R. R. Seatle, William Ward, and for the last eleven voyages Captain J. T. Smith. The chief engineers have been George Douglas, T. Barratt, S. W. Hauxhurst (the present superintendent of the company). J. C. Fraser, Frank Gough, J. Lynch, J. Stevenson, R. Forsyth, and for the last seventy-nine voyages Chief Engineer William McClute.

The land is changing hands rapidly in Russis. Statistics of land sales show, says the Echo, that in a single year 5,646,000 acres were sold, and of this about 2,700,000 acres passed out of the possession of the nobles into that of peasants, either individuals or co-operative associations, and local communes. Some purchasers were of the merchant class. But the important point is that by this continuous process the nobles are becoming landless, and the class of great territorial lords will soon cease to exist. The Russian census of the present year shows that the population has risen to 129,000,000, and it is the millions who are growing yearly in importance, not the few as heretofore.

The American Bible Society last year spent \$192,292.32, and circulated 767,528 volumes, Of these, more than half, 405,000 volumes, were distributed in China; 50,000 in Japan; 57,000 in the Levant; 60,000 in South America; 33,000 in Mexico and Central America; 32,000 in Siam and Laos; 40,000 in Russia; 20,000 in France; 12,000 in Spain and Austria; 10,000 in India, and smaller numbers in Africa, Micronesia, Arabia, and Korea. In accomplishing this work the agents and correspondents of the society employed 382 men, each working on an average more than eight months. The society issued an appeal to pasters and others, that in the special meetings for prayer held early in January, due emphasis should be laid upon the importance of "extending the circulation of the Word of God among all nations during the closing years of the nineteenth century, and especially in those parts of the world where the Bible is an unknown book."

Early marriages are a distinctive feature of thanksgiving and prayer. It is proposed in ac- Hungarian ing naccogning to the last census

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

exactly two-thirds of the people over sixteen years of age were married. Second marriages are also very numerous. The proportion of marriages per 1,000 persons over fifteen years old, from 1888 to 1893, is reckoned at 78, a very high figure indeed; and 40 per cent. of the brides are under twenty years of age. It is noticed that in this agricultural land the number of marriages stands in intimate connection with the abundance or otherwise of the crops. The actual birth-rate is very high as compared with Western Europe, and during a long period there has been an annual average of forty-four children born alive to every 1,000 inhabitants. The greatest number is found among the Ruthenians and Serba, who are poor and live a simple life; and in the country rather than in towns, At every period of life the mortality is greater than in Western Europe, and is especially high in the period of childhood.

A telegram appearing in the Hongkong Dails Press gives a little further information regarding the action taken by the Straits Settlements to establish a gold standard. telegram runs:—At a meeting of the Singa-pore Chamber of Commerce held to-day it was resolved that a two shilling gold dollar was desirable in the Straits. It was further resolved that the Government be requested to take the necessary steps to give effect to the resolution. An amendment asking for further enquiry to be made was defeated by seventeen votes to fourteen.

The appointment of General Kuronatkin to the Russian Ministry of War, in succession to General Vannovski, is very unexpected, says the N.-C. Daily News, as he is one of the youngest Generals eligible for the position. He is, however, a very able soldier, who has seen a great deal of war in all parts of the world. He was Chief of Staff to General Skobeleff in the last Russo-Turkish War, was with General Skobeleff in Central Asia, and in now Governor-General of Central Asia. The appointment will give great satisfaction to the younger generation of military men in Russis.

Mr. T. W. Hellyer, in the course of an essay read before the Kobe Social Circle on Friday evening, called attention to the evils of our present industrial system, and sympathised with the revolt of the people against the despotism of the capitalist. The time was approaching, he said, when most of the people would recognise that their rights and liberties were menaced by the every-growing capitalist monopolies. Mr. Hellyer announced himself, says the Chronicle, to be a Socialist, meaning by Socialism a gradual reconstruction of society with a view to secure a more equitable distribu-tion of property and labour, which he further said was the logical outcome of the teachings of

F.A.G., the cheery, optimistic gossiper of the Kobe Chronicle, in the course of some remarks on the recent highly appreciated visit of the Yokohama Amateurs to Kobe says :-"One from the north "expresses surprise that anybody should have had need to ask who were the gents with clean-shaven faces walking about Kobe last week. "Did they not walk in the middle of the road?" asked the man who knew them, cynically twirling one end of his elegant moustache; and before I could answer he fired another query, "Did you ever know a Yokohama man who walked on the pavement?" Come to think of it, I can't say that I ever did. (The reason is very simple, we have no pave-ments to walk on in Yokohama).

The Kobe Chronicle regrets to record the andden death on Sunday of Mr. W. Döbbeling of the firm of Messrs. Faber & Voight. Mr. Dobbeling was at the German Club on Saturday evening and apparently in the enjoyment of his usual health. He died at 6 o'clock next morning, almost without any premonitory intimations. Mr. He hoped he should not be misunderstood if him of immorality, and urged his subordinates to be put himself down as a scalliwag. As a boy pear, had been suffering for some years from repeated attacks of the smaller but no immorate but no i almost without any premonitory intimations. Mr.

children and a wife, for whom the deepest sympathy will be felt in the terrible blow which has fallen with such shocking auddenness. Mr. Döbbeling first came out to Japan thirteen or fourteen years ago, and joined the office of Messrs. Paul Heineman & Co. (now Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co.). He returned home after a residence in Japan of four or five years, and, after staying awhile in Germany, returned to Japan and joined the firm of Messrs. Faber & Yoigt, where he has since remained. Mr. Döbbeling was of a quiet and retiring disposiion, but he had many friends in Kobe who knew the genuine character underlying the un-assuming exterior, and who will deeply feel the

The question of foreign competition as affecting the United Kingdom was dwelt upon by Sir J. Wolfe Barry, the president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, in distributing the prizes at a London trades training school recently. He said that instead of the rails for many of the Indian railways being supplied from Great Britain, as they had previously been ever since railways were constructed, they were now coming from America. In spite of the enormous distance these rails were carried, they were being delivered in India at lower prices than British manufacturers could touch. Again. he knew perfectly well that in London an enormous amount of machinery was now being brought from America at lower prices than English manufacturers could quote. Locomotives, which also used III be supplied by Great Britain, not only for India but for the colonies and foreign countries, were likewise being sent out from Continental workshops. Touching on the disputes between capital and labor, he argued for a more accurate view of the former. which, he said, was too often regarded as consisting of money alone, whereas it represented the power of direction and the ability to study the markets of the world and to know what could be sold and what could not.

We learn from Shanghai exchanges that an attempt all suicide was made on the afternoon of the 18th instant by Mr. A. T. Woodward of Shanghai, who recently was connected with some legal proceedings in the U.S. Consular Court in Shanghai. Mr. Woodward is reported to have gone home that day as usual about noon and went to his room. Just as the other inmates of the house were sitting down to tiffin they were startled by hearing three shots fired in quick succession in Mr. Woodward's room. A gentleman living in the house at once rushed up to the room and found that Mr. Woodward had shot himself in the left breast, with a small revolver, which was lying on the floor. Medical assistance was summoned at once and it was found that fortunately the man had not succeeded in injuring himself much, as, although two bullets had taken effect in the region of the heart, they had been deflected by the ribs and had passed round outside to the back. The third shot missed its intended mark and passed through the back of the chair in which Mr. Woodward was sitting. He was removed to the General Hospital and was progressing favourably m last advices.

The Saturday Review speaking of an address delivered during the recent York election by Lord Charles Beresford, said that it was a most characteristic and most excellent speech, the like of which could scarcely be heard outside Britain, full as it was of practical wisdom and rollicking good humour. We have all wondered whether a volunteer army ar an army founded on a modified conscilption would give the best results. Lord Charles Beresford declared in favour of the volunteer force, and adduced from personal experience some new arguments in favour of it. He said "the best fighting men in the world were those who went into the army for love of fighting, the scalliwage of society. He hoped he should not be misunderstood if he put himself down as a scalliwag. As a boy

danger was apprehended. He leaves two young the life of the Navy or Army to any occupation at the desk. Those were the people who made good soldiers and sailors." We shrewdly suspect that Lord Charles Beresford is right; and his personal method of enforcing the argument is apt to win all sympathics. thing it is after all to possess a temperament and a personality! We note top that Lord Charles will "strenuously resist additional ex-penditure on the army till the public is sure of getting value for its money.

> The Maoris of New Zealand seem to be doomed to extinction in spite of the fact that all the conditions surrounding them appear to be favourable to their survival. The quarrel between the races is ended, and large tracts of land are reserved for them. Their young men are educated, ninety per cent. of them being able to read and write. Their chiefs in many cases derive large incomes from rents of land and are represented in the Legislature. A great Maori college stands at Te Auti, Hawke's Bay, and not a few of the cleverer Maori youths have passed through the classes of the New Zealand univer-sity. And yet, says the Australusian Review of Reviews, "the Maoris, under that mysterious law which makes a colored race vanish before the breath of the all-conquering white, are passing away." A conference of educated Macris was held a short time ago, and papers were read on the condition and prospects of the race. These are now published in pamphlet form, and make a very melancholy bit of literature. It is declared that ninety per cent, of educated Maoris go back from their schools to there savagery. The race, these representative Maoris declare, is lower both in morals and in vitality than it has ever yet been, and threatens to perish. Yet physically and intellectually the Maori is or was the finest coloured race in the southern hemisphere.

#### NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

H.M.S. Porpose sailed from Portsmouth for Sydney, to relieve the Pylades, on the 19th Dec.

The Portuguese gunboat Liberal, which is en route to Macao to relieve the Bengo, arrived at Columbo on the 13th January,

Mr. Hamilton King, of the State of Michigan, has been appointed U.S. Minister at Bangkok in succession to Mr. Barrett. Mr. King will arrive at Bangkok about the 1st of March.

The steamer Charterhouse, formerly the Stentor, left Singapore on the 3rd inst. for Kudat direct with a large supply of rifles, ammunition, shells, &c., for the British North Borneo Government.

The latest news from North Borneo, says the Daily Press, is that Mat Salleh has been shot in one of his legs and, like the man who would be king in one of Kipling's stories, has consequently lost faith with the natives. The information that Mat Salleh had been wounded and was looked upon as a mere man and not a God was conveyed in a latest section that was gentleman living in Hang. letter received by a gentleman living in Hong-kong. Inquiries on the steamer Descalion failed to satisfactorily confirm the news, although the people on board had heard the interesting mour. We hope it is true.

It is, the China Mail hopes, another sign of the in the China man hopes, another sign of the improved condition of things in the Colony, that the entries for the next Hongkong Jockey Club Race-Meeting are nearly double in money value what they were last year. The amount is, this year, \$6,275.

It is reported that the Kowloon Land and Build-It is reported that the redwood Land and authoring Co. will pay a dividend of \$r per shade for the past year, as against 80 cents, in the previous year; the Hongkong Land Investment \$2 (the same as in the previous year), and the West Point Company \$14, as against 90 cents in 1896.

A case which has been tried at Sioux City, Idaho, shews that it is not safe for a preacher to point to living and authentic "awful examples." Henry Woolsey quartefled with the local branch of the Salvation Army and removed his name from the rolls. The "Captain" afterwards accused

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN JAPANESE SECURITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL." SIR,-You have, on several occasions, called attention to the material difference in value between

securities which mature at a fixed date and those which are subject to annual withdrawal at the option of the Government or of the companies which issue them, but it does not appear that the Japanese yet realize the extent of that difference, or give sufficient heed to the reasons therefor. A comparison of the prices of annually redeemable bonds, in Western countries, with those of bonds which expire at a specified period, will show at once how great a disadvantage attaches to the former class. I have before me two mortgage bonds of a prominent railway company in the United States, one of which, maturing at a definite date, was quoted not long ago at 25 per cent, premium; while the other, bearing the same interest, but liable to the chances of sudden redemption, sold at only 5 per cent, premium, although the full term of the latter, if not called in, would be ten years longer than that of the former. The objections of European and American investors to abrupt and unforeseen disturbances of their capital are very strong, even when they have every facility for collecting their money promptly and placing it elsewhere; and it is natural that they should look with still greater disfavour upon bonds which are issued in a remote country like Japan, and are, apparently, so deficient in many important safeguards as those which have lately made their appearance here. Apart from the ques tion of optional redemption, there are several features of the securities now purchasable by aliens which must necessarily be unsatisfactory to Western capitalists, and which seem calculated to impair confidence, -not in the integrity of the parties issuing them, but in the propriety and regularity of their business methods. Inasmuch as it is reported that numbers of Japanese corporations are preparing for the admission of foreign shareholders, it may be well to compare the forms of bonds used here at present with those of other localities, and m indicate in what particulars the Japanese documents are seriously defective,

I take as fair samples of the best American bonds that are subject to annual withdrawal, those of the Cecilia Branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The conditions of the loan upon which investors especially require information are fully and clearly set forth on the face of each bond, to the following effect:-(1) The value of the bond is stated. (2) The exact date of final payment is given. (3) The rate of interest is named, together with the exact dates on which the interest will be semi-annually paid. (4) The total amount of the loan is amounced, and the mortgage security minutely described. (5) The provisions for amount redemption are explicitly set forth, and sufficient details are given to enable investors to calculate approximately the sum to be called in every year; the precise date of each withdrawal is designated, and it is expressly stipuwithdrawal is designated, and it is expressly stipulated that the railway company shall advertise in newspapers at least once a week, during the three months immediately preceding each withdrawal, the automato be called in, and the numbers of the bonds which have been chosen by lot to be redesired. redeemed.

Appended to the bond are conpons extending the entire term of the loan,

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being stated only that the loans will be wholly being stated only that the loans will be wholly redeemed within a certain number of years, is mention this because there are discumstances which indicate that the loans may perhaps be edeemed much earlier than the limit thus vaguely suggested. (3) The rate of interest is designated, but the exact dates on which interest will be paid is not fixed. One security says it shall be paid "during," the other "in," the sixth and twelith months of each year, instead of on the first days of those months. I do not pretend to say what the intentions of the authorities may be, but this prevision allows them the privilege of deterring payment twenty-nine or thirty days after it ought to be forthcoming, if such is their desire. (4) The total amount of the loan does not appear in either set of bonds, not is any guarantee of security deset of bonds, not is any guarantee of security de-clared. When bonds are issued by the governclared. When bonds are issued by the govern-ment of a nation, it may be that no quanantee is exacted; but I believe it is commonly set forth in the case of a municipal loan. (5) The arrangements for annual redemption are very imperfectly described, affording no basis for estimating the amount to be periodically retired, and giving no Instead of a pledge that the bonds called in shall Instead of a pledge that the bonds called in shall be paid for on a specified date and that the numbers drawn by lot shall be publicly advertised once a week for a period of three months preceding the liquidation, nothing more definite is announced than that, in the case of the Tukyo City Loan, the principal will be redecuted by means of annual drawings; and in the case of the War Loan, that "drawing shall take place at the Nippon Ginko, orawing shall take place at the Nippon Ginko, and after the drawing, the marks, animbers, denominations and amount of the bonds so drawn shall be advertised in the Official Gazelis or newspapers." No time is assigned in either case, and investors are expected to be satisfied with intelligence so restricted and indefinite as to afford them no means of insuring themselves against possible actions losses. I shall presently show, indeed, that the practice thus far followed has been not only to render these losses possible, but to make them to a considerable extent certain and inevitable.

With regard to the coupons, examination shows that while the full number is appended to the Tokyo City bonds, there is a great deficiency in those of the War Loan. Each of these fatter bonds should carry with it one hundred and ten coupons, begining with December, 1895, and ending with June 1950,—a term of fitty five years. It carries, in 1950,—a term of fity five-years. It carries, in fact, only forty coupons, extending to June, 1915, and leaving thirty-five years unprovided for. Whether this signifies, or not, that the Government contemplates the possibility of cancelling the either loan within twenty years instead of fifty-five, as ostensibly announced, is a question for financiers to consider. It no such idea is entertained, and if any of the bonds continue to be held in distant countries after 1015, the missing conin distant countries after 1915, the missing con-pons can hardly be made good without great in-convenience to all concerned.

So much for the unsatisfactory characteristics of the Japanese bonds, and their failure to meet requirements which foreigners are not accustomed to disregard. I have now to speak of the manner in which the business of redemption is conducted here,—by a process so loose and careless as to make investment actually nosafe, in some respects. The time for calling in War Loan bonds has not yet arrived, and I confine myself to the practice adapted with the Tokyo City Loan.

practice adopted with the Tokyo City Loan.
I have alluded to the absence of all information, in the wording of the bonds, with regard to the precise dates of calling in. The only reference to the subject is in this sentence:—"The principal of the said public loan will be wholly redeemed within thirty-three years from the twenty-ninth year of Heiji, by means of drawings." No intimation as to when or where the drawings will take place on how the bondaliders may learn at take place, or how the bond-holders may learn of them, is anywhere conveyed. Being interested to the extent of simall investment, and observing, to the extent of similar investment, and observing, first, that the twenty-ninth year of Meiji (1896) was mentioned, and, next, that the compous covered a period of thirty-those years from the twenty-ninth, including that year, I concluded that the drawings would begin in 1896, and endeavoured in make sure of the matter by inquiring at the bank which is understood to have these particular over the entire term of the loan.

On the Japanese side, I take the two bonds most familiar to foreigners,—those of the War Loan and the Tokyo City Loan. On the fage of these a brief and extremely meagre explanatory statement appears in Japanese. On the reverse a statement in English is given, which, though considerably fuller than that in the native tongue, affords very little of the information which a purchaser would naturally expect. Comparing the terms with those cited above, I find these results.

(1) The value of the bond—that is to say, the indebtedness which it represents, is declared. (2) The exact date of final payment is not named, its after I had endeavoured to ascertain the facts. As a purchaser would not provide the control of the

consequence, the principal of the seven bonds had lain idle for more than half a year. I do not blame anybody for that lapse. An advertisement may have been published, and might have been found, by diligent search, though I could not hear of R. I relate the circumstance as showing how little pains were taken, in 1896, to enable investors to protect themselves from loss. If the bank clerks most nearly concerned remained in ignorance of what had been done for half a year or more, there was fittle likelihood that the general public could be enlightened.

Determined to exercise greater caution in 1897. I caused frequent inquiries to be made at the bank a caused irrequent inquiries to be made active using in question, without arriving at any result until the month of December was well advanced. By this time, the employes were pretty thoroughly convinced there would be no redemption that year, at the post the property of the producers of the pr time, the employes were pretty thoroughly convinced there would be no redemption that year, at any rate, but with the most cheerful readiness to oblige, they continued the search, and were rewarded, about the 17th of December, by the discovery of an announcement in the Official Gazette, giving a list of bonds just called in. I then found that exactly the same amount of my investment had been withdrawn as in the preceding year. If I had not persevered against what seemed a more trustworthy judgment than my own, I should again have suffered a considerable loss. But that is a point of no public importance. What I do consider important is the extraordinary fact that the official notification was made more than half a month after it should have been, so that the sacrifice of that amount of interest was positively forced upon the holders of the cancelled bonds. Their income ceased with the 1st of December, and they were not allowed to know it until after the 15th. To small investors, such a deprivation might be a severe hardship; yet they would have no redress. It is not probable that large investors would patiently submit to such a proceeding. It would be interesting to watch the consequences, if the potent foreign purchasers of the forty millioum wouth of War Loan bonds should ever find themselves damaged by similar negligence.

There is yet one more feature of the redemp-

chasers of the forty millions worth of war Loan bonds should ever find themselves damaged by similar negligence.

There is yet one more feature of the redemption business that demands notice. That all bonds should be withdrawn by lot, and in no other way, is a proposition so self-evident as to forbid discussion. Only by leaving the selections to chance can anything like justice or fainess be maintained. In the natural order of things, the first purchases of bonds are made in blocks; but the idea of retiring them in blocks is contrary to all established usage. Are the honds of the Tokyo City Loan drawn by lot? My own experience,—and of course I have nothing else to go by—leads me to apprehend the contrary. Of the seven belonging to me which were redeemed in 1896, five bore consecutive numbers. Of those called in last year three bare consecutive numbers. Is such a thing possible, except on the supposition that the selections were arbitrary, and that chance had nothing to do with them? When a person buys redeemable bonds, he accepts the risk of losing a reasonable proportion of them answerter that to be demanded a continuous series. a person only redecting to the proportion of them am-risk of losing a reasonable proportion of them am-mally; but to be deprived of a continuous series, all in a lump, is what no investor bargains for, or considers fan treatment.

It is, I trust, unnecessary to say that this letter is written without the slightest intention of discrediting the soundness of Japanese securities or attriing the solutioness of Japanese sectiones of arth-haring any unworthy motive to those who control them. Nothing could be farther from my thoughts. But it seems probable that in issuing bonds for the first time on a large scale, the necessity of following judicious examples has been overlooked, and ing judicious examples has been oversooked, and the pains have not been taken to observe the precautions which would command confidence and respect. As the Mail has pointed out, foreigners will not, as a tule, take kindly to redeemable bonds; but even it tempted by high interest to invest in such, they certainly will not purchase unless properly advised as to what they are doing, and provided with incontestable guarantees against the seems which are inflicted upon the present helders losses which are inflicted upon the present holders of securities. If the Japanese wish to attract capital by floating boars abroad, they must conform to the practice of western countries, not only making their bonds intelligible and thoroughly explanatory, so that every reader may clearly understand their purpose and value. but in conducting every desired the business with such tigorous exactions. rail of the business with such rigorous exactitude and fidelity that no shadow of distrustful criticism can ever fall upon it.

A LEARNER BY EXPERIENCE. Yokohama, Jan. 19th, 1898.

• I ought, perhaps, to add that the War Loan Bonda mention that "for other particulars the Cosmolidated Public Loan Re-gulations promigated in 7356 may be referred to," This, how-ever, is not what is needed. The bonds should tell their own story, and certify to their t ue character. The Tokyo City bonds contain no suggestion — to other

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### THE DEBATE

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " lapan Mail."

Sir,—It was my privilege to hear the dehate between Mr. Takahashi, Editor of the Japan Times, and Mr. Snudgrass, Editor of the Shepherd's Voice, as to whether Christianity is a "glust of superstition." The debate extended through three

superstition." The debate extended through three sessions, the first two ressions occupying the aftermoon and evening of the 17th, and the last the evening of the 19th of January.

It is hardly necessary that a review of the arguments be made here, because they will probably appear in the two papers above mentioned, a fittle later. I limit myself, therefore, to some general impressions concerning the debate.

It certainly is a remarkable thing that a debate any kind should be held in a foreign tongue before a Japanese audience. Unless it be India, I supones there is no other country where such a

suppose there is no other country where such a debate would be understood.

But it was also remarkable that so many, especially of the mimerous student class, should artend this debate in English, and by showing an appreciawere generally understood. At the first ression the large half of the Imperial Educational Society was full, perhaps not less than seven hundred being present.

It was also remarkable that this large audience was a model of attention and good order. The writer has never witnessed a better behaved audience writer has the expected that something of the Yamato damashii would crop out, but there was none of it. Mr. Takahashii was tepenedly applanded, but so was Mr. Sundgrass. It is moverbial that when people argue politics

and religion they are won't to get mad. This de-bate was remarkable that from its beginning to its end the two speakers were entirely counteous and neither of them at any time showed a trace of

But as to the general merits of the debate the writer thinks it remarkable that Mr. Takahashi writer thinks it remains agree that the Lakanasan at no time made any attack on what Christians hold fundamental. The existence of God, the divinity of Christ, the reality of the resurrection, doctrines of the utunost impurtance, were neither directly nor indirectly attacked. This weakness in the affirmative Mr. Sundgrass clearly pointed out. One time Mr. Takahashi seemed to refer to Ree-masonry, mentioning the square and compass es-pecially as objects of reverence, thus confusing Freemasonry with Christianity.

Mr. Takahashi's definition of a Church as an

Mr. Takahashi's definition of a Clurch as an organization whose purpose in to hive an elequent preacher, fine singers and other appurtenances for the purpose of drawing acrowd, the purpose of the crowd being to make gifts to the Clurch, will drubtless cause some to wonder whether Mr. Takahashi modestands the genius of Christianity. The great purpose of the Church as an organization for teaching the truths which Christ taught as a means of producing faith and repentance and forgiveness of sin and a tody life—this ought to have exceived some attention. But really, in the writer's opinion, there is no solid foundation for instidelity to rest mr, and perhaps Mr. Takahashi did as well for that side as it is possible to do. The debate doubtless might have been better on both sides. But as it was, it was nevertheless a great sides. But as it was, it was nevertheless a great

Yours truly, A. D. WOODWORTH. January 25th, 1898.

#### THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The 17th semisannual ordinary general meeting of the Yokohama Grand Hotel Company was held on Monday afternoon at the hotel. The Chairman of the Board of Directors (Mr. J. F. Lowder) preor the Board of Directors (Mr. J. F. Lowder) presided, and there were also present Dr. C. H. H. Hall, Mr. R. Hewie, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. C. K. M. Martin, Paymaster McDonald, Captain Swain, Mr. James Walter, and Mr. J. Tornee (Secretary).

The report and statement of accounts were as

REPORT-

In payment of a dividend of 9 per cent-or the half-year.
Balance to new Account

11553-19

Acting on the suggestion made by a Shareholder at the last ordinary General Meeting,
the Directors have procured the opinion
of an expert as to the selling market value of
the ground comerised in Lors Nos 18, 10,
and 20, on which the Hotel stands; it is
estimated at yen 18,000.
Opportunity was at the same time taken
to have the buildings and furniture valued,
with the following results:

buildings and improvements, exclusive
of chaining and exclusive of chaining and electric light plant

with the following fittings, and steamheating apparatus

Your Directors have, as usual, preferred
to write of liberally rather than carry fest-

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 23th day of January, when the warrants will be issued.

]. F. LOWDER. JAMES WALTER, DIRECTORS. Yokohama, 1 th January, 1898.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND CIABILITIES ON DEC. 3187, 1897.

| Asseta | Chartered Bank of L A, and thins | Cash in hand | Cash 6,045.30 6,089 83 8,433-39 8,097-09 ¥- 306,381.56

Linbillties. ... Y. 230.000.00 ... 10,0:0 00 ¥. 280,526.07 25,853.09

V. 306,38x.36

PROPER AND LOSS ACCOUNT -- DECEMBER 318F, 2897. Dr.

Y. 16,196,48 Balance available for Division ;
Dividend 9 per cent...... ¥ . 28 500 00
Catrice forward to new s/c... 2 353.89

Y. 23,853.29 T. 59,979.77 V. 35,979 77 Y. 69.309 III

By Falance, brought forward from June 34th
Working Account
Rent Account
Share Transfer Fees
Share Warrant Fees
Sales of old Material ... V 10,813,13 37,581,40 630.00 Y. 69,309.xe

B. & O. F.
Vokohama, Occember 31st, 1893.
JAMES WALTER
G. K.-M. MARYER
Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company and certify them to be correct. O. Kms. Auditor. Yokohama, Jasuary zeth, 1898.

In commenting on the report the Chairman said the Company had now entered on the ninth year of its existence, and the return of Mr. McDanald, whom they were all glad to welcome back to Yokohama, reminded him (the Chairman) of the Yokahama, reminded him (the Chairman) of the first conception of the Company. Three gentlemen—Mr. J. R. Morse, Mr. McDonald, and himself—nearly nine years ago had the temerity to express a very confident opinion that the Grand Hotel as it then stood was worth an investment of a quarter of a million dollars, and that the whole of that money could be raised in Yokohama. The suggestion was met with derivino; and mi ignominour failure was predicted for any scheme which aimed at placing the holel on its present hasis. Well, despite all this it did not fail—(Hear, hem.). Within twenty-four hours the whole of the capital was subscribed; the shares went up to a premium, and they had remained at a premium ever since. Every one who ventured too dollars received more than 120 in dividends, and his 100 dollars share was now worth 200 to 250 too dollars received more than 120 in dividends, and his 100 dollars share was now worth 200 to 250 dollar. He thought that was a fair record for less than nine years of life. And he thought, also, that the figures before them told another tale. He thought they showed that the company was still successfully satisfying the requirements of its guests. The hotel was too well known all yen 23,353.29 its guests.

over the world to need adverrisement. Like good over the world in need advertisement. Like good wine it needed no bush. But he might recommend, perhaps with a little verbal alteration, for any establishment that did require a sign, an inscription of which a lady told him the other day and which was, he believed, displayed over an hotel at Tokyo. It read: "We wash our customers in the latest and most approved style. Ladies three dullars soo; gentlemen 2\frac{3}{2} dollars."—(Laughter). Mr. Howis formally moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet.

Mr. McDonald seconded, and the proposition

was carried.
The meeting then terminated, the directors alterwards holding a private sitting.

#### FOOTBALL.

#### YOKOHAMA V. "OLYMPIA,"

A match was played on Wednesday afternoon between Yokohama and a team representing the U.S. Flagship Olympia. A strong wind was blowing from the north end, and Yokohama, losing the ing from the north end, and Yokohama, losing the toes, had to play the first half in the teeth of the breeze. Consequently most of the time they were compelled to act on the defensive, though half way through Edwards made a capital shot for goal, and the point was only saved by O'Malley's smart play. Just before the close the Bluejackets forward got possession, and Hellings scared. On the restroption Kilby, senior, who had been in goal, was transferred to the forward line, and there he did some very useful work. The home team with the wind in their favour were not long in equalising. Edwards doing the needful. Soon after Drummond again scored, and Edwards just afterwards sent the ball through from a near pass by A. M. Wart, The visitus were near scoring, but Kilby just ago at goal struck the cross bar, and rehounded to Edwards, who sent is through. The whistle blew with the score: with the score :-

Yokohama... 4 goals [ " Olympia " ... I goal

Teans: —Yokohama; Kilby jon, god; Forcest and Pearson, half-backs; Hayward, Scott and Clarke, half-backs; Watt, Dommond, Edwards, Kulm, and Kilby seo. forwards.

"Olympia": O'Malley goal; Reynolds and Martin backs; O'Neil, Sweeney, and Forcew, half backs; Domn, Blanchard, Hellings, Hunter, and Mitchell forwards.

#### GERMAN NOTES.

"The beggars of Beilin," says the Post, "threaten to strike, unless they get better pay hereafter."-Now is this a joke?

The decisive action of the German Government in Hayti and China, has met with general approval throughout the German nation,

The Catholic, or Central party, seem rather per plexed as to what course to take with regard to the proposed increase of the German navy. Herethe proposed increase of the German navy. Heretofore they strenuously upposed, in the Reichstag,
the Government's proposition, and plainly intimated, that they could never agree to a material increase of the German navy. The powerful
protection, however, which the Government has
accorded their mission in China, has created a
strong reactionary sentiment, particularly among
German Catholics, and their party in the Reich
stag can scarcely do otherwise now than vote for
the proposed increase. the proposed increase.

Herr Emanuel Lasker, the noted Chess player, eccutly matriculated at the Berlin University. It in said that he entered with the object of passing a thorough course in mathematics, and attaining a doctor's degree. Herr Lasker was a student at the University some years ago.

The Berlin Echo says :-- The Germans in Manila are not only auxiously awaiting the arrival of their new Consul, Dr. Krüger, but also desire to see a German man-of-war for the protection of their interests in view of the distrobed condition of things.

Considerable interest is manifested in Germany with regard to the present conflict between Germans and Czechs in Austria. It goes without saying, that the sympathies of the Germans is with their German brethren in the neighbouring empire. On the whole they have remained calm enough, so far, but recent events in Austria tend to make them Pan-Germanistic and the movement can scarcely be streeted. It must be acknowledged, however, that the German Government does not encourage the sympathies of its recoile for the Austra-Garman. people for the Austro-Germans.

The Hamburger Korrespondent, in an article on



the Dreyfus case, takes occasion to point to the marked difference in the attitude of the great majority of the French toward Dreyins, on the one hand, and that of the Alsatians on the other. True, Dreyins hails from Alsace, but as he is of Jewish extraction the Alsatians have no personal interest in the man, and yet they clamour for a new trial, while the French, as a whole, stoutly oppose it. The French are first of all concerned about the it. The French are first of all concerned about the glory of the nation and the army; nothing must be done which might in any way reflect on either. The Alsatians on the other hand, insist that justice should be done to every man, and that no innocent being should suffer. This incharacteristic of the two peoples. "A few days ago," says the Korrespondent, "the whole Parisian press was up in a rms because the ex Italian Premier said, "The inhabitants of Alsace are Germans." Who in the world dare say such a thing? Have not the Alsatians in a thousand ways demonstrated that they are French? To-day the same press is singing a very different song. The Dreylus affain has caused a marveilous change of sentiment. It has caused a marvellous change of sentiment. It is clear that the French and the Abatians are neither of one heart nor one mind. It has always been so, notwithstanding pretensions to the con-trary. For a time, the people of Alsace sympabeen so, notwinstanding preferences to the con-trary. For a time, the people of Alsace sympa-thised with France, politically, but in Germany it is well known that the whole middle class, the wealthy included, were learning toward Germany. The mass of the people evince no particular inter-est in France. The pur-French Alsatians of 1871 sold their property and immigrated. The ties of relationship among this class were not very strong and thus intercourse between them and those left behind was of comparatively short duration. Meanwhile the people of Alsace have awakened to the fact that they are part and parcel of the good old German stock, and again begin to feel themselves one with the German sation. In places like Thann, Metzeral, Colmar, Münster, and other towns, formerly supposed to be the hot-beds of so-called "protesters," there are now thriving German societies, military unions, &c., to which many native soms of Alsace belong and in which they take an active part. As for those that have many native sons of Alsace belong and in which they take an active part. As for those that have gone over to France, it matters little how much they pretend to be French, unmerous incidents, and the Dieglus affair in particular, have demonstrated that they are not French at heart. Only the glory wound around the lost provinces, twenty-six years ago, had for a time screened the indelible race differences of the two peoples."

#### JAPAN SINCE THE WAR.

#### THE TREATY-PORT RESIDENT.

In writing for readers in Britain, it is difficult to In writing for readers in Britain, it is difficult to convey a just impression of a Treaty-port community in Japan. The subject has been deal with often before: sometimes the mode of life has been idealised, and semetimes roundly abused. It is all very well to say that the foreign community in Japan, for instance, consists of some many Britain, so many Britain, so many Germany, &c. That is true enough, but it fails to convey the right impression of the community in life and the property of the semental property of the semental property of the semental property of the convey a just impression of a Treaty-port com-

tween Japan and other countries. The great dif-ference between the British in the Treaty-port and the British at home is that the mind of the former is to a great extent narrowed by continually living among a small knot of people knowing all about each other's affairs, and especially all about each other's failings. Speaking generally, the Treaty-port resident is a man who has passed most of his life in Japan at all events, without a real struggle, for one can live well on a small sum, and one can be quite poor in comparative comfort. The great defect in Treaty-port society, from the point of view of the stranger, is the want of men of the world. There are plenty of good men, kind men, educated men, intelligent men, but there are few who have open minds.

who have open minds.

The foreigner living in Japan proper is an entirely different stamp of person from his compatibit in the Treaty-poit. He is broader in his views, and in himself, though not in his surround. views, and in linesel, though the first war country. I have often wondered how, if an earthquake or tidal wave were to swallow up Yokohama, and the Japanese Government were to send a request to British to replace the British residents destroyed in the catastrophe by a selection of new people destined after a time to develop into a community destined after a time to develop into a community as nearly as possible like the previous one, such a list should be made up. A man who has had a great opportunity of judging gave me the following pro formal specification of requirements:—Menof a certain social and financial standing, 3 per cent.; younger sous of rather good people, 5 per cent.; middle-class men. 25 per cent.; lower middle-class men. 55 per cent.; hangers-on and discontinuous men. 25 per cent.; and faller in punchases men. dle-class men, 55 per cent.; hangers-on and disceptiable men, 12 per cent.; and ladies in proportion 10, and to accord with, the above classes. The relative social standing of the people when they leave this country for Japan, however, is an uncertain criterion as to their eventual positions in Treaty-port circles. For, as in British Colonies, you often run across men who are or have been gentlemen occupying humble situations, and wealthy squarters and politicians who can barely nut pen to paper; so you find that many of the most influential and rich of the Treaty-port residents are quite uneducated or self-educated men, dems are quite uneducated or self-educated men and vice versa.

but that is practically exhausted now. I have also but that is practically exhausted now. I have also seen fishing-tods in some people's houses. He can debate, and recite, and lecture, and sing, according to his fancy; and he can keep a servant, a deg, a bicycle, and a piano. He can join a few friends in a charmingly-situated house, and live extremely well. And should be by any chance interlard a little serious business with all this, and if he knows his work and does not drink to excess, there is no reason why he should not eventually make a remunerative position for himself. tually make a remunerative position for himself.

tually make a remunerative position for himself.

Of course, there is nothing of Japan in this description, but there is practically nothing of Japan to be found in the Treaty-ports or in Treaty-port life. The foreigner has done away with it, and in effecting this I do not suggest that he has made a bad place of it—from his point of view. But it is not Japan, for even those of the Japanese who live in the Treaty-ports have so changed their methods that they no longer represent even a fairly good burlesque of the real Japanese. They, at all events, have deteriorated, both morally and otherwise, except perhaps financially. In their contact with the foreigner they have adopted many of his bad and lew of his good qualities. With regard to the general tone of these places, I trust I am not burting the feelings of many good people when I say that it is not high. It is impossible in a community so mixed that it could be otherwise. Bearing in mind, however, the ingredients which go to make up mind, however, the ingredients which go to make up the Treaty-port population, the general tone of the place is perhaps rather creditable than otherwise. Recrything must in cliques, and in very accentual-ed vilgues, and that which strikes the outsider more ed cliques, and that which strikes the outsider more forcibly than anything else about the Treaty-port point of view, apart from the general abuse of Japan, is the backbiting which is displayed. Local journalism is generally supposed to expound or effect the feeling of the people, but it is to be hoped that such is not the case as far as Yokobama newspapers are concerned—I mean those papers which are written as well as edited and published in Yokobama. It is true that the Yokobama resident is wont to houst of his entire ignorance of Japan and the Japanese, but most of his organs, without profeesing this ignorance, write precisely as if they had no knowledge of the subject. One of the London journals recently dealt with the subject of Treaty-port journalism, and was severely criticised for comparing it to the French journalism in Egypt. and vice versa.

The Treaty-port resident is essentially a man who is sorry for himself, and an outsider may be excused for falling to understand why. He tells you that he is unhoppy, because Japan is a horrible country to live in. But to all intents and purposes he does not live in Japan. He lives in a narrow chicle of his own creation, beyond which he refuses to move. He tells you that he refuses to move. He tells you that he would not nike the people of the country. But he does not nix with them, so this should not incomvenience him. He says that there is no money to be made in the country, but he lives in a fine house, and gives you a good dinner. He says that the Japanese coolies are rough and rude and dangerous to people going about among them, however, sent a guard to protect the foreign foreigner were to issue such a paper in England in war time he would most assuedly become a victim of the mob. The Japanese Government, however, sent a guard to protect the foreign people consected with these papers during the war. The better class Treaty-port residents recognise the folly and possible danger in issuing such publications, for this sort of thing can tend metely to lower the prestige of the foreigner, and diminish his chances of living amicably with the Japanese after the revised Treaties come into force. There is plenty of scope for censure in the Japanese methods without resorting to the tactics of wholesale abuse. I am afraid, however, that with one or two exceptions, the men who con-



yet he is not happy. Well, it is said to be the Englishman's privilege to gramble, and the Treaty-port resident amply avails himself of this privilege. A man who has a real grievance can worry over it and yet bear my, but, unfortunately, the man who has first to imagine or invent a grievance, and then to worry over it, finds the double strain too much and breaks down under it. And this is what kills the Yokohama-man. The foreignthis is what kills the Yokohama-man. The foreigners who live in Tokyo, who mix with the Japanese, and who have not, for a given amount of money, half the comforts of life, nor a tithe of the amosement, from a European point of view, do not complain of the country. And yet the foreign residents in Tokyo to day were probably used to more having a thome than were most of the Treaty-port residents before they left their native land.

A real guievance of the Yokohama people, which cannot be remedied, is that the Foreign Legations are all situated in Tokyo. No doubt Tokyo is the proper and only place for diplomatic people, but it is none the less a fact that when the Legations are in one place and the bulk

when the Legations are in one place and the bulk of the people who are under their protection are of the people who are under their protection are in another, they are to some extent out of louch with each other. For whatever the officials might wish to do they cannot always be away from their centre, nor can the people always be going to them. If the Legations were in Yokohama, the leading Treaty port, assuredly it would tend to take the tone of the place, and to check to some extent the reckless abuse of Japan which is now so prominent, and is as injurious to our interests as it is childish. In any care it might do comething to break through that barrier of resentment which for some reason seems to exist between the foreign of the people break through that barrier of resentment which for some reason seems to exist between the foreign residents of Tokyo and those of the Treaty-ports. The strikingly good feature about this British Treaty-port resident is his ardent patriolism. It is time that it sometimes takes the aggressive form of Down with everybody else," but it is none the less genuine for that. The patriolism of the Treaty-port Englishman often takes a boisterous turn, so that one hardly knows whether the patriotism is a feature in his conviviality or the conviviality a feature in his patriotism. However, it is there, and, to quote a somewhat worn-our popular ditty, "In spite of all temptatations"—he will tell you that these temptations are not numerous—"to belong to other nations, he remains an Englishman." Perhaps sometimes a somewhat extraordinary sort of Englishman—but still an Englishman.—Morning Post.

#### NEWS FROM KIAOCHOU.

(Translated from Der Ostasiatische Lloyd by the N.-C. Daily News.)

Our first Christmas here was celebrated by officers and men in true German fashion. Christofficers and men in true German Institut. Circistmas trees shone everywhere, which arrived from Japan just in time for the festivities, and the surnounding mountains contributed their green boughs to the adornment of the men's rooms. On boughs to the adoinment of the men's rooms. On board the vessels in the harbour the electric light glows upon the branches, and in the camps on shore groups of coloured candles shed their mellow light. Back friend contributed to the other's enjoyment by giving appropriate presents, and the food and drink soon put everyone in a joyful humour, when the thoughts which on this evening naturally turn to home and the longing for home which filled each head were stilled in the universal enjoyment, and all contributed to the common

which filled each heart were stilled in the universal enjoyment, and all contributed to the common fund of the evening's pleasure.

Acknowledgment is due to the Commandar of the squadron for his foresight in that the stamer with the mails from home and Shanghai arrived in harbour on the afternoon of the 24th. Congratulations from home and Shanghai did their part in stimulating the general enjoyment, and to drive away all feelings of sadness the letters were distributed before the Christmas festivities commenced, and they were the greatest pleasure that could be given. Great was the juy as it became known that the German ladies of East Asia, China, and Jean had not amitted to contribute in the and Japan had not unitted to contribute to the enjoyment of the festival, the first Christmas spent at Kiaochau Bay since the hoisting of the German flag on that spot. Large cases with various useful and acceptable gifts had been sent for the crews from Vokoliama, Kobe, and Stranghai (from this latter place no less than 53 cases), all of which latter place no less than 53 cases), all of which were received which the greatest gratitude. They showed that their countrymen and brave sailors if this solitary currer of the earth had not been forgotten, and that they desired to spend the day with them in spirit. Though as yet we have not enjoyed the advantage of the entertainment of the German hausfrast in these parts we did not forget to blass her. After his parts we did not forget to bless her. After his Majesty's health had been drund, glasses were And, fearless and without trembling, Digitized by

emptied to the health of the German women, and those who thus surprised us by their kind gifts and congratulations may rest assured that their kind-ness to some of our countrymen produced a deep response to our hearts, and will ever render memo-vable the Christmas spent in Kiao-chon Bay. To accordance with old sailor custom the decks of the shipping and the rooms in the camps were adorned with evergreens and floral emblems.

Natwithstanding the ceaseless work of the service which has been going on for the last few weeks the men had executed artificial decorations which must have demanded weeks of toil to bring to perfection. These constructions, illuminated with the electric light, produced a surprising effect. On one vessel we were struck with admiration by a stately lighthouse, under which were the words :-

> "O, wie herrlich strahlt dein Licht; Stäten wir dich eist in sicht? Wilhelmshaven,"

Alongside stood two figures, made of tin (the Alongside stood two figures, made of his (the material being taken from old preserve tins), engaged in sawing a block of wood in two, though their progress in their work was not apparent to the eye. A windmilt with mighty sails was turning a set of chimes. Naturally, Kiaochon Bay movided matter for many of the representations. One idea was that of the place a hundred years. One idea was that of the place a hundred years better, which the technical men and mechinists had most artistically worked out in groups. In the foreground of the Bay lay one of our cruisers; behind, wooded mountains, as it is to be hoped they will appear a hundred years from now. Sanatoria, botels, and similiar grand erections crowned the mountaintops, up to which led well-made roads and transways. In beautiful gardens with lakes and fountains playing were crowds of people. Another group in the engine-room of the ship showed the harbour works completed. A beautifully made harbour works completed. A beautifully made lighthouse illuminated the road for the ships cunuing in and out of the harbour. Numerous war and merchant ships lay alongside the high quay, and the movement in the docks bore witness to the and the movement in the docks here witness to the importance of the place. Work and activity were going on everywhere on land. The strokes of the hammer on the anvil rang out in a smithy. Heavily laden trains carried on the traffic. Porters works ed at the loading and unloading of the steamers. In the wheel-house was the picture of the new flourishing town of Kiacction Bay, a rival of Hongkong and Shanghai. Railway trains were running into the depôt. On the loot-bills were rows of villas, hotels, Governor's palace, seamen's home, refuge for nuns, cathedials as atonement for murdered missionaris, with parks and gardens untimited. Will it really be a hundred years before all these fine pictures become facts?

limited. Will it really be a bundered years before all these fine pictures become facts? Each party at the mess table had sought to rival the other in the beauty of their decorations, and paper chains, lanters, and transparencies combined to form a splendid ensemble. Many transparencies were so good that it was to be regretted that they were only made to last so short a time. The portraits of the Emperor and the Empress were often repeated, and one particularly fine idea were aften repeated, and one particularly fine idea sprang from the genius of a man of one of the ships. Patriolic and humorous proverts were also introduced into the transparencies. Among

them we read :-

" We German sailors in joy or need, Are devoted to the Emperor, true to the death." In the East Camp the following inscription was

"We are serving true on China's strand, For the honour of our Fatherland."

No. 8 room in the same Camp provided a Christmas poem, which, though it wanted poetical form, I cannot refrain from giving my readers, on account of its fine idea:--

"The Emperor calls Up, save Germany's honous!! over the seas A proud man-ol-war sailed, the Illis. But a year and five months ago, It is but one day too many, There in the heavy storm Almost every man found death. They have proved to us How Germans know to die. But they have left us Pinck, courage, and fidelity to strive for. Then true to the last breath They stood cound their Captalu,
The Commander spoke out; \*Comrades,
We must now end out lives,
Therefore, with your last breath
Shout to the honour of the Emperor.\*
We hould in Shouteness.

We marched though China's fields. So stand we now on this spot
To celebrate the festival in German fashion. To celebrate the lestival in German fashi We have left all our loved ones at home; Like the crew of the Ilita Will we throughout life Give honour to the Emperor."

No a room in another camp, on the other hand, ives a sad picture of our present condition :-

" All business is at an end, We could buy no pap, All things are at cross purposes, Boxes and baskets are empty. Do not be sad or angry, Next year we shall be better off." Tsingtao, 27th December, 1897.

As we took our seat at the table and the feeling

As we took our seat at the table and the feeling became jovial, a new surprise was afforded us, wis., the evening edition of the Kraochou Gasette, which was distributed for the first time.

You may be surprised, Mr. Editor, that anybody besides yourself is able to edit a German newapaper in China. You need not be afraid of competition with your esteemed paper, for this publication only appears annually, and, as is advertised, every subscriber has paid for it. Increase the circulation of your paper as much as you can with paying advertisements. Demand your mouthly dollar, and give the best you can for it. You may set assured that the official organ of Kiaochou and its environs will never call litself your competitor or draw away your readers, or influence politics in apposition to your paper, which is to us the source of our information and education. Let me tell you what a certain gentleman, who hides me tell you what a certain gentleman, who hides his identity under the pseudonym of Dr. N. Oer-gler ("Grumbler") dares to tell his readers in the leading article :

gler ("Grumbler") dares to tell his readers in the leading article:

"The Taking of Kiao-chou.

"Kiao-chou, 14th November, 1897.

"The many sad instances of stupidity and narowness of which Germany has been the theatre of late years have now reached their apogee in the unlawful and foolish seizure of Kiao-chou. How often have we commented in our columns on this hurtful ambition, which, not satisfied with what the Fatherland offers, wastes its best powers abroad? That colonial policy whose unworthy aims are indicated in the names of Peters, Wehland, and Leist is now again the order of the day. Shall we blindly shirt our eyes and not profit by the sad experiences of other people? Just look at England. Nothing but quarrels and riots, and for this it is obliged to keep up a giant fleet which just represents so much unproductive outlay. Or take Spain, the noble, unselfish country which is visibly being ruined by its colonial possessions. Or Russia, that hy means of the knowt has transformed the wild inhabitants of the Asiatic steppes into fawning deceitful diagon'steeth. We have now stepped into the ring with these tivials by slly taking possession of land from a people conspicuous for its good conduct and simplicity, as though it were pap. And on what ground? Surely you cannot take it ill of them that they slay a few missionaries. Why did not the gentlemen step at home where there is plenty for them to do? Why? we ask again. What, for instance, should we say if a Chinese were nurdered in Bavaria, and suddenly the Chinese fleet appeared to lay stege to Muttich or Wilhelmshaven? Such an excuse is a totally Chinese were mindered in Bavaira, and suddenly the Chinese fleet appeared to lay siege to Muffell or Wilhelmshaven? Such an excise is a totally false one, which only wants to be looked at for its hollowness to be exhibited. The true reason, as we have already said, is greed. Now let us see how far this greed is being satisfied. In the first place it is perfectly clear that neither England, Russia, nor France would have tolerally and recondings for a pint to late that neither In the first place it is perfectly clear that seither England, Russia, nor France would have tolerated our proceedings for a minute had they not been convinced that the land we have taken is a miserable corner, with no possibility of development, and which strategically is but a rat-trap in which, on the outhreak of war, to hold our ships prisoneers. We seem to have done no good in so often pointing out this development of militarism in purely political affairs. Now, again, numberless errors come to light, Just think how our home ports are divested of their ships, and the more ships that are sent out the more do our enemies rub their hands in ill-concealed joy at our misfortness, like augurs before the offering. And should Russia say, "Get out of this," it would be seen how quickly we should leave the place. It is true that for the moment they shily leave us to settle our affairs direct with the Son of Heaven, but it may be easily predicted that so open a breach of international peace will not be long permitted by the worthy Chineae. The news has sheady been brought us that a mighty army, inspired by glowing patrotism, is streaming together from all conners of the immensurable, empire to crush the tobber hordes. If measurable empire to crush the tobber hordes. If the liberal land served any better late according

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to our ideas, well, we have humanity enough to sound the war note in advance. Go back while it is yet time, and you can get away with a whole skin. Videant general-consules, neglid Rubicon jacit capitat! jacit capitat !

But we will extinguish this lucubration of Dr But we will extinguish this manuscript.

N. Oeigler by another Latin quotation: "Sapienti sat." And a paper like this calls itself the official organ of Kiaochou and environs! Look at the tone displayed in its local news. We learn the same of the and of December: from Tsingtoukon, on the 23rd of December :-

"The safety of our town is more than ever imperilled since the occupation. We receive daily worse news from Kian-chou. The night before last the pigs are up a live hare, notwithstanding the strict guard of the senties. Yesterday in broad daylight a duck was drowned. Ought not diplomacy to intervene?"

You see the spirit of the management, which is starmed by the drowning of m duck. In another place the editor comes back to this calamity, naturally with the intention of again troubling the authorities. He writes:—

authorities. He writes:—

"On the morning of the 20th, on board one of the vessels lying in port, whilst the ducks were being washed on deck, a duck was washed overboard. It drove astern and collided infortunately with the many empty hick bottles with which the fourth division of the ship, and one of the bunkers were filled. The valve of the pipe had been carelessly left open, as is often the case with ducks, and my got full of water. The animal got a list to port of 30 degrees, so that the starboard screw was out of the water, and, notwithstanding the attempts made to save life, it capsized in five minutes. It appears that the fire-stations were not drilled as they should have been, and as the safety of the duck required. This accident leads as the beauxious about the stability of the duck. We look anxiously for an explanation on the part of the Admiralty."

seen by the pancity of its market report. Just compare with the magnificent reports which fill your columns, the following short notice from the Official Gasette of Kinochou and environs:—

"Eggs flat, cheese lively. On the 31st of December great market in Tsintonka,"

That is all; nothing but bad eggs. And let us turn to the last telegrams, You bring us Renter's announcements, but bere there is nothing but bare telegrams from Peking. On the 23-d of December it was announced:—

December it was announced:—

"The wire informs Peking that since yesterday all communication has been stopped by the interruption caused by the war."

It is quite true that a stoppage of telegraphic communication set in, but we know that without the aid of a newspaper. It appears to us the rditor of this paper is entirely without journalistic training. For instance, look at this advertisement:—
"Lost in the evening, on the way from Shangshai to Kiao chois, a telegraph pole. To be given up at station No 12."

Above this we find an adventigement station.

Above this we find an advertisement which appears to the same incident :-

" Found, a telegraph pole, in Formosa Suaits Can be taken away on payment of the advertising charges and mess expenses of the expedition of the Rigochou Gazette."

Pwill on trouble you with more notices of this paper. Your readers will be easily consinced therefrom that they had much better subscribe to the Ostaziatische Lloyd than support this opposition paper.

The weather continues splendid. Fine summy days were nor mood fortune for the Chrismas feast, and were appreciated by every one.

Tsingtan, 27th December,

### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES,")

#### SIR MICHAEL HICKS BEACH'S SPEECH.

PRESS OPINION.

London, January 20. The press universally applauds the out-spoken statements of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his speech at Swansea.

#### CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In the match between Stoddart's team and an Australian eleven at Adelaide, the Australians have won by an innings and BRITISH NAVY WILL KEEP PACE. ENGLAND STANDS BY HER TREATY RIGHTS.

London, Jan. 22.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Bristol, announced that the Navy Estimates would provide for more sailors, and Britain would more than keep pace with the addi-tions to the fleets of other Powers. In the event of the Chinese loan not being accomplished, England would take her stand by her Treaty rights.

COLONIAL SECRETARY ON CRETE. THE IMPOTENCE OF THE EUROPEAN

CONCERT.

Mr. Chamberlain, addressing a meeting at Liverpool, regretted the discreditable impotence of the concert of the Powers in regard to Crete. He expressed the hope that Great Britain would not be compelled to take isolated action.

BRITISH INDIAN FINANCE.

CURRENCY BILL PASSED.

London, Jan. 23. Sir James Westland's Indian Currency Bill has passed with the condition that the Secretary of State be given the option of paying gold into the Treasury, provided that India pays an equal sum into currency here. The Secretary of State is prepared to sell transfers at a price not exceeding 165 d. per rupee.

THE DREYFUS CASE. EMILE ZOLA TO BE TRIED.

The trial of Emile Zola on the charge of defaming General Billot, Minister of War, and other generals, in connection with the Dreyfus affair, has been fixed for February 7th at the Seine Assizes.

GERMAN OFFICIAL DISCLAIMER.

London, Jan. 26. After the various interpellations in the Dreyfus case, the French Chamber adopted a vote of confidence in the Government by a majority of 243. Herr von Buelow, German Foreign Minister, has stated in the Reichstag that Dreyfus never had the remotest connection with German agents. This confirms the belief that Russia is the Power implicated in the Dreyfus affair.

#### THE ANGLO-CHINESE LOAN CONDITIONS.

ALLEGED THREAT BY RUSSIA. It is stated that Russia has threatened reprisals if Talienwan be opened to commerce.

RUSSIA AT PORT-ARTHUR. BRITISH WARSHIPS ORDERED TO QUIT.

London, Jan. 24. It is officially announced from St. Petersburg that the British men-of-war have received orders to quit Port Arthur immediately. It is understood that this course was taken in consequence of representations on the part of Russia.

ANTI-SEMITIC DISTURBANCES IN FRANCE.

FIGHTING IN THE CHAMBER.

Anti Semitic disturbances of a serious nature have broken out in France. The scenes in the French Chamber were indescribable. Blows were freely exchanged and troops had to be summoned to clear the lobbies.

#### FRENCH WARSHIPS ORDERED TO CHINA.

The French warships Vauban and Bruix have been ordered in China.

THE GERMANS AT KIAO-CHOU. PORT TO BE OPENED TO COMMERCE.

London, Jan. 25. The Times states that Germany opens In Digitized by Google

Kiao-chou to the world's commerce, like Hongkong.

#### THE BRITISH WARSHIPS AT PORT ARTHUR.

#### AN EXPLANATION.

It is officially explained that the visit to and departure from Port Arthur of the British warships, were merely ordinary cruising movements.

WRECK OF A STEAMER.

The steamer Cromarty, bound from Shanghai for New York, was totally wrecked off St. Michaels on Sunday. All on board were saved.

#### BOMBAY PLAGUE INCREASE.

The Plague epidemic at Bombay is greatly on the increase.

#### THE FAR EASTERN QUESTION. RE-ASSURING STATEMENTS.

London, Jan. 26.

Re-assuring statements are published regarding the situation in the Far East. No Power, it is said, contemplates the seizure of territory, and talk about war is altogether inappropriate to the situation. THE OCCUPATION OF KIAO-CHOU.

#### "LIVE AND LET LIVE."

Herr von Buelow, German Foreign Minister, stated in the Reichstag that the economic policy in connection with the occupation of Kiao-chou was based on the principle of "Live and let live."

#### ITALIAN WARSHIP ORDERED TO CHINA.

The Italian cruiser Marco Polo has been ordered to China.

[The Marco Polo is an armed cruiser of 4,583 tons displacement. Her length is 327 feet, beam 483 feet, Max. draught 19.6 h.p. 10,000 and she was built at Castellaurare in 2890 at a cost of was built at Castellamane in 1890 at a cost of £341 400. Her speed is 19.0 and complement 315.

#### THE GERMAN CHINA SQUADRON. COALING IN A BRITISH PORT.

The cruiser Gefion, accompanying Prince Henry of Prussia's China Squadron, has returned to Perim to coal.

RIFLE BRIGADE ORDERED TO MALTA.

The Rifle Brigade from Hongkong has been ordered to land at Malta.

SMUGGLING ARMS INTO MUSCAT. SEIZURE BY A BRITISH GUNBOAT.

The British gunboat Lapwing has seized the steamer Beluchistan off Muscat, for attempting to land arms and munitions of Her cargo was confiscated by the war. Consul.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

Free,	Line,	Steamer.	Date.
America		Belgic x	Th. Feb. 3
Hongkong		City of Peling a	Iti. Reh.
America minimum		Peru	Su. Feb. 13
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Dorle	Sa, Feb. 11
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Ca	Em. of Japan	M. Peb. 24
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohensallern	W. ceb, 26
Hangkong	C. P. R. Co.		eri. Feb. ng

2 Left Sau Francisca via Honolulu on the agth Inst, a Left flongkong on the soth inst,

The Omf Maru will leave Neganaki en the 19th inst., with

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date,
anada, Bec	C. P. R. Co.	Ben of China	tri. Jan. el
հայության		Snikie Maru	Tu. Feb. 1
erope, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Sydney	W. Feb.
merica	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Feb. 9
longkong	P. & D. Co.	Robilla	In Feb. 1
longkong	C. P. R. Co.	ken, of Japan	N. Feb. 14
merica		Doric	To. Feb. 25
arrivo 400 anno	N-PH	Hohaszpliern	Fri. Pab. 11

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#### CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Cours Kurpus

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-che Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

#### Answers to Correspondents.

E.R.S. (Hongkong).—Tuanks, will publish, Salution of Problem No. 354 is with-held until next Saturday.

> PROBLEM No. 356. By P. F. BLAKE.

First Prize Leeds Mercury Tournament.

This problem was awarded too points by the judges.



WHITE,

White to play and mate in two moves.

Y. C. C .- SECRETARY'S HANDICAP TOURNEY. As a side attraction at the Y. C. C. a novel Handicap Tourney has been arranged by the match committee to commence forthwith, the details of which are as follow:—All members likely to take part in the Tourney are divided into iy to take part in the Louiney are divided into five classes and the player who at the end of the season with the odds accorded to him, has won the largest number of games from the Secretary, will be the winner of a Trophy offered by Mr. Riedlander. Friedlander.

Class I. in this Tourney (Messra. Griffin and Tennant) are to play sceatch, Class II. to receive the odds of Pawn and move, Class III., Knight,

Like the "Cleland Ladder" this Tourney free from the chance of a failure through members not turning up at the proper time, as has happened not turning up at the proper time, as has trappeoed to a certain time or to a fixed number of games. If A wins five games out of fifty and B wins five games out of fifty and B wins five games out of six, their some will be exactly even, the number of games won from the Secretary by end of April being the only consideration to this Toutney. Those members who attend the arrestings regularly will, of course, have the best of the arrangement as they will play a greater number of games and consequently score more wins. And

arrangement as they will play a greater number of games and consequently score more wins. And that is just the object of this tourney, to add one more to the many inducements afforded to members of the V. C. to frequently visit the club. The Challenge Tourney ("The Ludder") is also in progress and affords members an opportunity for improving their positions. Only three games have been played so far in the first cound of the Championship Tourney which is to conclude at the end of February. We would urge players to begin their work in earnest before the best part of their time has elapsed. For no good chess can be expected in games hurried through in the last week allowed for play. week allowed for play.

#### CHESS-PLAYERS OF THE WORLD.

Reichelm, in The Times, Philadelphia, estimates the number of Chess-players belonging to Chess Clubs, in Europe and America, at 481,200, or, in round numbers, 500,000. He divides them into five classes, putting in Class A all those who are too strong to receive odds of Pawn and move from Lasker, as follows:—

Class A-200 players.
Class B-Pawn and move, 1,000 players.
Class C-Pawn and two moves, 5,000 players.
Class D-Olds of Knight, 25,000 players. Class E-Rook, or weaker, 450,000 players.

It is evident that he puts Lasker in a class by

The Straits Budget started a Chess column on December 28th. It contained a two-movers, local games, and Chess News.

Among the principal events in the Metropolis. during December last was a fine battle between those two old and biendly opponents, the City of London and North London, with thirty players a side, which was won by the City by 21½ to 8½. We append one of the games which is particularly

	GAMB	No. 357.			
White-L.	Serralllier.	Black-A. C. Jackman.			
. Cit	y.	N. Condon.			
WHITE,	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.		
rPK4	P K4	1 to P Q5	Ki King		
2 Kt KB3	K+ QB <sub>3</sub>	11 B K 5	P B3		
3 B K15	Q B3(a)	12 PxP	PxP		
4 Castles	O B3(a) B B4	13 R K-gab	K B-q(d)		
5 P B3	KKt K2	14 B R6ch	K Kisq		
6 P O4	PxP	115 P Q6(e)	K Ba		
7 BrKt	KixB	16 Kt K5ch			
8 P K 5	Q Q-q(b)	(0)	PxKt		
9 PxP	Q Q-q(b) B K(3(c)	17 Q Rósh	Resigns(g)		

Notes, by Gansberg.

(a) Whenever the Queen plays to B 3 early in the game it is liable to be harassed by White's minor pieces. The move, therefore, does not constitute a good defence to the Ruy Lopez.

constitute a good defence to the Ruy Loper. Theory is in this instance strongly supported by the result of practice.

(b) If Q to Kt 3, 9-P takes P, B to K 2; to—P to Q 5, Kt to Kt 5q 11-B to B4, &c. If after Q to Kt 3, White plays first 9-Kt to R 4, Q to K 5, to—P to K Kt 3, &c.

(c) If now B to K 2, then P to Q 5, followed by P to Q 6, favours White. Still it was Black's only defence.

defence

(d) If K to B 2, 14-Kt to K 5 ch, followed by 15 Q to R 5, winning.

(e) Terribly well played; there is no defence to

(e) Terribly well playe Q to K: 3 ch. (f) The artistic finish.

(g) If K to Ki sq, mate in five follows.

#### FIRKWORKS

A light game well worth playing over is given fielow. Mr. E. Thorold played the white men against Mr. J. Charleton with the black ones.

	WHITE.	BLACK.
	-P to R 4	I-P to K 4
	-P to Q 4	2-P takes P
	P to Q B 3	3-P takes P
3	-B to Q B 4	
		4-P takes P
- 5	5—QBtakes P	5-Q to K 2
- 6	i—Keto O B 3	6-Rito K B 3
2	-Q to O B 2	7-Q to Q B 4
8	I—8 to Ø Kt 3	8-Ruto Q II 3
	)—Castles	9-P to Q Kt 4
10	-Kt to K B 3	10-P to Q R 4
11	-P to K 5	11-P to O Rt 5
12	-Ptaker KK	12-P takes Pt
113	—Q B takes P	13-Ki to Q Ki S
14	—ΚR to K sq ch	14-B to K 2
15	-R takes B ch	15-Q takes R
16	-P takes P	Resigns.

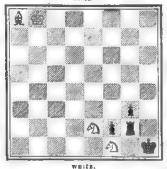
#### SUNDAY CHUSS.

Effic: "Please, Uncle Arthur, do come and play class with me?" Uncle Arthur: "Oh, Effic! Don't you remember? It's Sunday." "Well, we can let the Bishop win?"

#### DANGERS OF CHESS.

A Spanish nobleman at the Court of Philip II, came home one day to his children dissolved in tears;—" My dears, all is over with us; let us pack up and be gone. I ought to have resisted the temptation for your sakes, but it was beyond my power. I've beaten his Majesty at chess five games running. His openings were so bad I couldn't let him win." He was, of course, sent into evil. into exile.

> END GAME STUDY. By "C. W." of Sunbury. BLACK-



White to play and mate in twelve moves.

<ul><li>SOLUTI</li></ul>	ON.
WHITE.	BILACK.
r—K to Kt 7	L-Ranev #
2-K to B 7 dis cli	, 2-R to Kt 7
3-K to B 6	3-R moves
4-K to Q 6 dis ch	4-R to Kt 7
5-K to Q 5	5 - R moves
6-K to K 5 dis ch	6-R to Kt 7
7-K to K 4	7-R moves
8-K to B 4 dis ch	8-R to Kr 7
q-K to B 3	g~ R to Kt 8 (best)
10-Kt (Ka) takes Pich	10-R takes Kt
11-K takes P dis ch	It-R to Ki 7 ch
12-B takes R, mate	•

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 21st Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 15th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Karsha. Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, B. Darke, 22nd Jan.,—New York via ports and Suez Canal and Kobe, 20 h Jan., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Diomed, British steamer, 2,776. Thos. Bertlett, 23rd Jan.,—Liverpool via ports and Kobe, 22nd Jan., General.—Butterfield | Swire.

Tilania, Norwegian steamer, Tregensen, 23rd Jan., Antwerp via ports and Robe, 21st Jan., General. -- Samuel & Co.

Victoria, B. itish steamer, 1 991, J. Panton, 24 h Jan., -Victoria B C., and Tacoma Wash. 8-h Jan., Mails and General .- Dodwell, Cartill & Ca

Gaelie, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 24th

Jan.,—Hongkong via poets, 15th Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 25th Jan.,—San Francisco, 6th Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Lombard, British steamer, 1,658, C. W. Raison, 26th Jan., —Portland, Oregon, 4th Jan., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Robilla, British steamer, 2,216, Lockyer, 26th Jan., —Hongkong via ports, and Kole, 25th Jan., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Suchuen, Biltish steamer, 1,158, Pennyfather, 27th Jan.,—Hongkong, Rice and Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,082, Aubert, 27th Jan., -Maseilles via ports. Robe 26th Jan., Mails and General.-M. M. S.S. Co.

and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 12,417, Asquith, 26th
Jan.,—London via ports, Kobe 25th Jan.,
General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003 Hemy
Pybur, 27th Jan.,—Hangkong via ports, Kohe
26 h Jan., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Ramakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,797,
Trenut, 26th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash. via Kobe,
25th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 58, T. R.
Thompson, 28th Jan.,—Put back to port, Sealing Grat,—John Kennan.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W.

Saikio Marti, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Comer, 28th Jany,—Shanghai vià ponts, 22nd Jan, Mails and General.— Nippon Yusen Jan, M Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Daric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 18th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General,—O. & O.S.S. Co.

City of Riv de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Win. Ward, 18th Jan.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harris, 18th Jan.,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Steachan & Co.

Hector, British steamer, 3 005, John Bar, 19th Jan., -London via ports, General, -- Butterfield & Swice.

Hohermoltern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 22nd Jan.,—Hongkong via Kohe and Naga-saki, Mails and General.—11. Ahrens & Co., Nachi

Matsushima Kan (28), Japanese steel coast defence vessel, 4 277, Capt. R. Sawa, 21st Jan., - Yoko-

Inaba Haru, Japanese steamer, 3 800, C. Bain-bridge, 22nd Jan, London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Narsun, Varra, French steamer, 2,084, Le Coispettier, 231d Jan.,—Matseilles via ports, Mails and General, —M. M. S.S. Co. Norman Istes, Norwegian steamer, 2,180, Hansen,

23 d. Jan., - Kuchinotsu, Ballast. - Standard O I Co.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,589, Vyvyan, 22nd Jan ,-Kobe, General.-Samuel Samuel & Co.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, A. Cow, 23rd Jan.,— Victoria B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co. RobeMarn., Ispanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 26th Jan.,— Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,997, J. Truebridge, 26th Jan,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,747, Goodwin, 27th Jan.,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

& Swire.

Irene, German steamer, 2,145. Schneder, 27th Jan., - Havre and Hamburg via ports, General. - Simon Evers & Co.

Thompson, 27th Jan.,—North Pacific Ocean, Sealing Gean.—John Kernan.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 27th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Gadie, Beijish steamer, 2,600, W. B. Finels, 20th.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 27th Jan.,-San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and

General. O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mount Tabor, British steamer, 1,494. J. Jamson,
27th Jan., Kobe, General. Samuel Samuel

Embress of Chine, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pybus, 28th Jan.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer Columbia, from Hangkang via ports:—Mrs. Amesbury and child, Mr. T. Reeves, Mr. S. O'Dell, and Rev. Greene, in cabin, 57 Chinese in steerage, and 2 Japanese in second and third class.

and third class.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Maru, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Kron, Naval Capt. R. Funaki, Naval Surgeon M. Takeda, Mr. S. Mihara, and Mr. Thompson, in cabin; Mrs. T. Sudzuki, Miss M. Matsuda, Mr. O. Kasai, and Mr. E. Nesbitt, in second class, & 32 in steerage. Per British steamer Victoria, from Victoria B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—Mr. L. A. Day, and Mr. W. Lough, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mra. Horne and child, Miss M. McPuesson, Miss. L. Silley, Miss L. mm Weber, Miss R. McKenzie, Miss M. E. Standen, Miss E. L. Bennett, Miss M. Macdonald, Mrs. A. B. Ross, and Mrs. M. J. Hoelstad, in cabin.

M. Macdonaid, Mrs. A. B. Ross, and Mrs. M. J. Hoelstad, in cabin.

Per British steamer Gaelic, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. Wen. Hawarth, Mr. Aloyse Lamm, Mr. & Mrs. Capen, Mr. F. J. Bishan, Mr. W. E. A. S. Watt, Capt. and Mrs. Carew, and Mr. D. W. Deshler, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Sir W. Williams and valet, Mr. H. W. Daniel, Mr. J. C. Hartland, and Mr. H. Sutherland, in schio. Sutherland, in cabin.

H. W. Daniel, Mr. J. C. Hartland, and Mr. H. Sutherland, in cabin.

Per Hawaiian steamer China, from San Francisco:—Mr. G. Abrahamson, Lieut. W. S. Siddle Mrs. Biddle, Mr. Fransieca Borg, Miss M de Kantzeau, Mr. K. Inagaki, Mr. E. R. Jettell, Mrs. J. E. Labbam, Mr. W. A. Murphy, Mrs. Murphy, Mr. Walter Marcos, Mr. G. Wagai, Mr. K. Iaiowga, Mr. J. H. Stickney, Mr. Theo. Schwantz, Mr. K. Isuda, Mr. Fred Fales, Mrs. Fales, and Miss Mary Fales, in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss C. Jindson, and Mr. W. Schneider, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. S. E. Bower, and Mr. W. A. Janwiet, in cabin. For Hangkong:—Mr. J. W. Roberts, and Capt. W. W. Rich, in cabin. Per British scamer Rohilla, Irom Hongkong via ports:—Miss Gundy, Mr. Hunt, Miss Brood Mr. Shaik Ahrnold and native servant, Mr. Neville, Mrs. Marshall, and Mr. Kelsey, in cabin. Per British steamer Empress of China, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. M. Johnstone and walet, Mr. N. Holmes, Mr. G. W. Brown, Mr. W. Stephens, Mr. M. Nozaki Mr. J. Nichimma, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Alr. J. Faichney, Mr. & Mrs. Thwaites, and Mr. T. B. Pocklington, in cabin, & 5 in second class. In transit:—Mr. G. Taylor, and Mrs. H. L. Understoot, in cabin; 11 in second class, and 133 in steerage.

Per French steamer Sydney, from Marseilles via

and Mis. H. L. Understoon, in caun; If in second class, and 133 in steerage.

Per French steamer Sydney, from Marseilles via ports:—Miss Fliche and Mr. Fliche, in cabin, and 7 Japanese in steerage.

Mr. Bowe, in cabin. From Saigou:—Mr. Supoene, Mr. Turentin, Mr. Omboch, and Mr. Bal, in cabin. From Shanghai:—Mr. Hall, in cabin. cabin.

cabin.

Per Japanese steamer, Saikio Maru, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mis. Adams, Mr. Y. Takashima, Mr. H. H. Kuapp, Mr. and Mis. S. Takeda, Mr. K. Nozaki, Staff Engineer K. Matsushima, Mr. S. Hapner, Master Down, and Mr. T. Ataumi, in cabin, Mr. S. Miyoshi, Mr. K. Takatori, Mr. Z. Takata, Mr. M. Hoki, and Mr. P. Misatana, in second class. R. Miyahara, in second class. DEPARTED.

Per German steamer Hohensellers to Hong-

kong via parts:—Mr. J. C. N. von Rinbergen, Mrs. W. R. Bennett, Misses Hoar (2), Mr. Alb. Hofmann, Mr. and Mrs. H. Puckney, Mr. and Mrs. C. Nettleship and 2 children, Mr. I. Bunting and son, Mr. T. Nomura, Mr. M. Maisuzaka, Dr. M. Otsuki, and Mr. A. Gowstowski, in cabin, I European in steerage, and 1 Japanese & 4 Chinese on deck.

nese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer Inaba Maru, for London via ports:—Capt. Y. Shimazaki, Commander M. Sendo, Commander T. Yamazami, Commander M. Kaburaki, Inspector Takabe, Lieut. S. Tochinai, Chief Eng. T. Okamoto, Inspector O. Tanji, Inspector Y. Ola, Commander S. Fuji, Inspector M. Inonye, Lieut. Y. Sakurai, Lieut. K. Tanalia, Chief Eng. H. Tsukui, Paymaster K. Uchida, Lieut. K. Ogura, Lieut. S. Futukawa, Lieut. S. Takeuchi, Sub-Lieut. M. Sakurai, Chief Eng. Y. Maibara, Mr. K. Matsukara, and Mr. G. Matsukara, in cabin; Mr. T. Sakai, Mr. K. Yamakami Mr. H. Yamada, Mr. S. Fukunaga, Mr. T. Kuhoia, Mr. Y. Hayashi, Surgeou N. Ashihara, Mr. K. Yamakani, Mr. M. Mauno, Miss R. Squine, Master E. and Miss M. Squire, and Miss R. Squine, Master E. and Miss h. Squire, and Miss R. Annie Ravenscraff, in second class, and 380 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer Gaetic, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. K. Bohr, Mr. J. Cumningham Ford, Mr. H. W. Daniel, Mr. H. W. Hartland, Mr. H. Kawamura, Mr. N. Kobayashi, Mr. C. Lambton, Mr. H. Sutherland, Mr. S. Tateish, Mr E. A. S. Watt, & Sir Wm. Williams & valet, Per Hawaiian steamer China, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain and Mrs. D ake Brockman, Mr. S. N. Thomson, Ma-ter Alan Howard, Mi. M. Silva, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. M. Alix, Dr. G. H. Tiden, Mr. C. P. Rison, Mr. E. A. Ewers, and Mr. M. T. Hearn.

Per British steamer Empress of China, for Van Per Japanese steamer Inaba Maru, for London

and Mr. M. T. Hearn.
Per British steamer Empress of China, for Van

Course B.C.:—Mrs. Carrie H. Chase, Mr. Jas. Chrickshank, Mr. William Howarth, Mr. G. A. Taylor, Mrs. L. H. Underwood, Mr. L. Weiler, Miss Wilkin, and Miss M. Wilkin, in cabin.

#### CARGO.

Per British steamer Gaelie, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:-

	ERA			
	0.10	MEW		
	RAPPINE I	. NORK.	CHRISTON	FHEAR
Shanghai	407	754	540	2,701
Yokohama		_	_	337
Fatatanan - m	1,244	754	540	#4538
	MIL	K.	24-	-150-
	BAN	94 K 10		
	FRANCISC.	F01 L .	HAMIFORD,	LOCKE
Hongkong		345		345
Yokohania		403	_	403
	4000	-		
Total	_	745	_	748

## LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

At last a move has been made in the general At last a move has been made in the general mount market and now that it has come, it has come with a cush. A number of large transactions have taken place in grey shirtings, while great activity has been exhibited in yarns, at well maintained and in some cases increased prices. For fancy cottons and woollers there are enquiries, but so far little business has been done. There has been a good demand for raw cotton at slightly reduced rates, the fall resulting from the fact that there is a considerable stock of Bombay cotton affoat, for larger. COTTOR PRICE 60008.

a fåj ta a.15 Valvets--Hack, 35 yards, azinches ... Victoria Lawes, 12 yards, 44-3 inches, LurkeyReds--2.0 to 2.4h, 21 25 yards, Joinches
Linkey Heds—2.5 to 3%, 21/25 yards,
30 inches
Lurkey Reds—3.8 to 4%, 21/25 yards, 1.50 to 1.70 1 75 tu 2.10 inches ... ...... 3 00 lo 3.50 WOOLLENS. CONTARR.

Hannel			
talina Cloth, 3a yacds, 3g inches hest.	0.35	to 0.4L	
tulign Cloth, ju ymile, 37 inches			
Medium	0.50	la 0.323	
talian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches			
Common	0.25	10 0.071	
Manggeirre da Laine—Chape, za yarda,			
at inches	0.15	In # 31	
Cloths-Pilote, 51 @ 36 inches	0.55	10 0.50	
Clotha-Pranidanta, 5 pm 56 inches		10 0 75	
Clothn-Union, 51 of 55 inches	0.50	tn 0.85	
Binnigeta-Sentigt and facene, 3 to 3th,			
I per m	0.50	La # 60	

LOTTOD VARUS.	Fish in the equi-	
Top 16 24. Singles comper-	#38-50 tn 39.50	
Nos. 28-13, Singles	41.00 to 43 00	
Nos. 38'42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00	
Nos. 32, Doubles	45.00 to 48.00	,
Nos. 42, Doubles	51 75 to 54.50	
Nos. 2 60, Plain	61 no ju Q1.00	
Nos. 2 80, Plain	75.00 10 77.00	i
Nos. 2;100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00	
Nos. 2 for, Gassed	72 40 10 79 00	
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00	è
Nos. a/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00	ı
RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL	
American Midding	\$19-75	
Indian Groach		
Chinese	10-00 to 10.	

MKTALS.

With the exception of galvanised sheet, in which a large business has been done, the market is very quiet and there is little or no demand. Metals will probably however share in the improved tone of the import market before long.

PAR PICHA.
Ranad and square & inch. and upward.4.15 to 4.60
from Plates, assorted
Sheet Iran
Galvanized from sheets 9.20'to ro.50
Wice Hails, asserted 6.00 to 6.50
Lis l'lates, per box
Fig Iran, Un. 3
Hoop Iron (  to 1  inch)
KRROSETE,

The market is quiet and prices are unchanged. The Saint Ronald has arrived with 174,975 cases Rissian oil, a portion of which is for other ports, it is reported in native papers that a new cheap oil, "Tiger" brand, is about to be introduced by the Standard Oil Co. to compete with the Sumatra oil, but nothing definite is yet known of the scheme.

American		
Russian		3.19
Langkataiananiananananananan	-	1.96
SUGAR.		

A fair business bas been done in Brown, rivals since the 13th comprise 7.589 piculs China and Manila, and sales during the same period amount to 17,300 piculs China and Formosa. None of the latter is now in the market. Prices for Canton and Dailing are 15 to 20 cents lower, A fair business has been done in White Refined

			PAR PRINTER
Hrown	Takao		\$4-35 to 4.40
Brown	Manila	*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***	4-50 to 5.35
Brown	Daitong		3 35 to 3.90
Drown	Canton	*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***	3.85 to 4.50
White	Java and	Panang	0.50 10 7.00
			7.35 10 0.00

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

Since last report a small daily business has been Since last report a small daily business has been done, sales amounting to 687 boxes, at slight reductions in price. Japanese buyers for direct export have done some considerable business during the last few days. Stock amounts to 13,616 boxes. Shipments have been 220 bales by the Hohensollern and 365 bales per Varra, for Europe, and 167 bales per Columbia and 402 bales per Columbia and 403 bales per Columbia and 405 bales Gaelie for America.

QUOTATIONS.

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet at very firm prices, good qualities being very scarce. Settlements since 14th inst. amount to 935 piculs, and stocks are estimated at 7,430 piculs.

quotations.			
Noshi-Filature, Best	£115	to	120
Nashi-Filature, Good	Ie5		
Noshi-Oshu, Best	110	to	115
Yoshi-Oshu, Good	100	ŧο	103
Noshi-Osha, Mediam	90	to	95
Noshi-Shinshing Heat	701	to.	75
Noshi-Shinshu, Good	65	to	074
Noshi-Bushu, Heat	115	to	120
Noshi-Bushe, Good	100	ŧο	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medicut	90	to	95
Noshi-Joshu, Good	őg:	Ło	65
Noshi-Joslan, Fair in manning and and	55	ţo.	571
Kibiso-Filature, Heat	05	to	100
Kibleo-Filature, Seconds	85	ŧo	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	\$2	to	30
Kibira-Bushu Fair	30	to	281
[1][1][1][a][1][1][1][1][1][1][1][1][1][1][1][1][1]			-

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### TRA.

Very little business has been done since last report, sales only amounting to 26,000 cattles Stocks are estimated at about \$,100 piculs. Shipments consist of 2,833 packages (200,894 ths.), per Columbia and 337 packages per Gaelic, for America.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	Nominal,
Choice	1 ± 2 ±
Finest	Nomi-
Fine	(2 8 8
Good Medium	
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

No change in Silver from London but China quotations for sterling are a shade higher, which has caused rates on China to rule a little easier whilst otherwise there is no change.

B.	
Sterling-Bank T.T	2/0/8
- Bills on demand	2/01
- 4 months' sight	3 0
- Urivate 4 months' sight,	2 O, 4
← − 6 months' sight	1/0
On Parts-Bank sight	2.541
On Lyons - Private 4 months sight	2.58
On Honghoug-Banksight 4	1 % d
- Private to days sight C	រត្ត <sub>ិ</sub> d
On Shanghai-Bank sight	771
- Private to days' sight	791
On India-Bank sight	151
— Private 30 daya' aight	157
On America-Bank Bills on demand.	481
- Private 4 months' sight	50
On Germany-Bank sight	1.05
- Private 4 months sight	1.10
Bar Silver (London)	a6-3-

THE

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1897.

19th.

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# The Jayan Weekly Itlail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART

No. 6.]

" REGISTARED AT THE G.P.O. 48 A NEWSPAPER,

YOKOHAMA, FEB. 5TH, 1898.

月三年五十二治聯 Vol. XXIX. 可認者依確日三十 Vol. XXIX.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE OUR DOIS: ADVIENNE OUR POURRA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WERKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGEN, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the figures.

VOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 579, 1808.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE plague is increasing at Bombay.

HER Majesty the Empress is suffering from a cold.

THE Russian Press is resuming its attacks on England.

THE Naniwa Spinning Co. lost 24,000 yen during the second half of last year's working.

It is reported that a Russian force of 5,700 men, with field guns, has arrived at Kirin.

VICE-ADMIRAL Buron Tamboi, Commander of Yokosuka Port Admiralty, died on the 30th ult.

THE Japanese steamer Muko Maru (183 tons) was sunk in collision off Kuchinoten on the 30th ult.

CAPTAIN TIPPER, formerly in the service of the N,Y,K., in reported to have discovered a rich claim at Yukon.

The Foreign Department has issued-a proclamation to the effect that wader the evised years

with Holland Japanese subjects from the rat instant will enjoy patent and trade mark rights in that country.

A GERMAN expert has been engaged by the Imperial Railway Bureau in succession to Mr. C. A. W. Pownall.

AT a Prefectural election at Yokosuka on the 1st inst, one of the electors was shot dead by a political opponent,

THE interport football match between Kobe and Yokohama takes place at the first-named port on February 19th.

THE Kyoto Imperial University will this year add to its curriculum sections devoted to Literature, Science, and Law.

THE Eastern Extension Telegraph Company raised its rates for telegrams to all parts of the world on the rat of January last.

THE Sapporo Agricultural College, Hokkaido, has secured a large piece of land, containing 10,100,000 trube, for experiments in scientific

THE half-yearly meetings of Langfeldt & Co. Ld., and the Yokohama Engine & Iron Works were held on the 31st uit. and passed off most satisfactorily.

IT is reported that Vice-Admiral Samejima. Principal of the Naval University, will succeed Baron Tsuboi as Commander of the Yokosuka Port Admiralty.

Miss Broxham and her pupils, assisted by several local amateur musicians, gave a most successful and enjoyable concert on Tuesday evening at the Public Hall.

In is declared in St. Petersburg that if the candidacy of Prince George of Greece for the Governorship of Crete fails, Russia will concern herself no further about the island.

A CLERK in the Yokohama Post Office has been arrested on a charge of having opened letters passing through the office and stolen therefrom various cheques and drafts, which he cashed.

It is reported by telegraph that the Czar has stated that events in the East had weighed heavily on his mind, especially the difficulties with Japan, but he thanked God all was clear

In view of the prevalence of plague at Bombay and Roku, Formora, the Home Department will in a few days open quarantine stations at Nagasaki, Ujina, Kobe, Yokohama, and other principal ports.

TRE International Industrial Conference convened in Vienna last November, closed on the 14th December. Messrs, Isobe and Motono, the Japanese delegate, will return about the middle of March.

THE departure of the Standing Squadron from Yokosuka for a cruise to the West has been postponed for the present, as the Emperor pro-poses to inspect the new battle ships Fuji and Vashima at an early date.

A German marine has been killed by Chinese at Thi moh, near Kino-chou, and Baron von Heyking, the German Minister to China, has demanded from the Tsung li Yamen further concessions by China as reparation for the murder.

To meet the demands of all the Departments for a sky for a Preasury finds it necessary to ask for a benefit OF ILLINOIS AT

vote of yen 23.000,000 as a supplementary budget for this year. Out of this aum about yes 8,000,000 are to be spent upon new undertakings.

A PEKING telegram has it that China will, if possible, divide the proposed loan to be obtained by her, between Great Britain and Russia.

A Naval Court Martial has been opened in Tokyo to try Captains Uryu and Hirao, comcommanders of the war-ships Fuso and Mateushima, the former of which vessels was sunk by collision with the latter three months ago.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was held on the 31st ult. Mr. Litchfield was re-elected President, Mr. F. J. Hall, Captain, and Messrs. Schellenberg and G. C. Allcock Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Ir is reported, but not yet confirmed, that the Chinese Government has so far departed from conservative customs, as to order certain subjects of Western learning to be included in the examination of candidates for official positions.

FIRE occurred on board the N.Y.K. steamer Hiroshima Maru at Kobe on the night of the 31st ult. The flames were extinguished by half sinking the versel, after a large portion of the cargo had been destroyed or damaged. The hull of the vessel received little injury

THE Japan Fine Arts Association will open its usual Spring exhibition in Uyeno Park on the 1st April. The exhibition will remain open up ist april. The exhibition will remain open up to the zoth May. Carving, porcelain, lacquer ware, metal work, woven stuff, and embroidery will form the bulk of the exhibits.

According to latest telegrams the re-inforcements sent from England to Egypt will be wanted. The Dervishes are reported to be provided with Krupp gu s and to have blocked the Nile channels with chains. Gunboats despatched up the river were compelled to return, after reaching the sixth cataract, owing to the heavy artillery fire opened on them by the Dervishes.

THE Import market has received a considerable impulse during the past week, owing to a strong demand for grey shirtings, which has been fully supplied from existing stocks. Yarns have showed some activity, but the business done last week has declined to a considerable extend. Buyers are making enquiries with regard to fancy cottons and woollens, but the business done in these lines has been very limited. The question of funds to be obtained from the banks -at a very much increased rate of interest-still militates against any speculative trausactions. Metals are dead, and in the kerozene market buyers are waiting for a fall, as arrivals have been large, taking all the open ports in Japan, and more than one schome is on foot to supply cheaper oil to the various ports. The arrivals of augar keep pace with the demand, though for the time the stock of Manila is exhausted. In Exports raw and waste silk still take the first position. In raw, comparatively little business has been done during the past week for export, but Japanese manufacturers of piece goods and handkerchiefs have been buying freely. In waste silk there has been a large business done and stocks are considerably reduced. In tea, little has been done and the season may be considered over, the remaining stock only amounting to some 1,300 piculs, mostly of low grades. prospects generally appear to be reviving, and fro Mrichin aheronport market will principally

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Fifi Shimpo devotes no less than ten consecutive articles to the subject of naval increment. They are written in the clear, incisive style of the well-known journal, and will probably produce a considerable effect on public opinion. Briefly stated, the main point of contention is that the navy at present contemplated for Japan, namely, a navy of two hundred and fifty thousand tons displacement, is not nearly sufficient. The figure should be something like four hundred thousand. Recent events, notably the seizure of Kiso-chou by Germany, have completely demonstrated the fact that principles of morality are now atterly disregarded in the intercourse of States. There is but one effective rule, might is right. Any nation whose arm is not strong enough to strike down an aggressor, must count on being the inevitable victim of aggression. It is wholly futile to rely on the forbearance of others, or m look for assistance from outside. In the hour of danger a nation must be able to take care of itself; to fight its own battles independently. Side by side with that lesson another startling fact has to be placed: Russia, France and Germany are evidently allied for purposes of domination in the Orient. One need not pause to inquire whether an offensive and defensive alliance has actually been formed between the three Powers, or to discuss its terms. Events plainly point to such an alliance for practical purposes, and the Japanese would be blind indeed if they failed to reckon with it as an imminent contingency. The three European Powers combined to deprived Japan of the fruits of her victory in Liaotung, their pretext for interference being that the preservation of the Chinese empire's integrity was essential to the peace of the Orient. But they are now demonstrating that the integrity of that empire is of no account whatever in their eyes. Japan must read the manifest teachings of such experiences. It is a most unwelcome task to catalogue III possible enemies three Powers with whom the nation is now on terms of close friendship, but, after all, the best way to maintain friendship is to avert enmity, and that can only be achieved by developing such strength of resistance as shall dely attack. If Japan had possessed a strong navy, it is very doubtful whether the war with China would ever have taken place. Certainly if her naval forces had been indisputably superior to those of her opponent, the latter would have hesitated long before drawing the aword. China believed herself more than a match for Japan at sea, and so she entered the lists. be weak is to invite assault; to be atrong is to prevent it. However unpleasant the prospect may be, Japan must prepare herself to meet a combination of Russia, Germany and France. She must be ready to face the united squadrons of those three Powers. It will not do that she should win one victory. Three great European States will not acknowledge themselves worsted because their first naval line is defeated. They will send a second fleet to the attack. And even if Japan conquers a second time, there may remain England to deal with, England could scarcely afford to see Japan climb animpeded to such a pinnacle of power in the East as victory over Russia, Germany and France in combination would raise her to. England has her own interests to consider, and Japan might have to reckon with her. All these eventualities have to be taken into account. They point in the absolute necessity of raising the fleet to a strength of four hundred thousand tons. There would be nothing aggressive in such an increment. It would be merely a guarantee of peace. Half-and-half preparations are the most dangerous of all : they neither intimidate an enemy nor insure success when the struggle commences. The finer and more trenchant the weapon a man possesses, the more reluctant are others to insult him and the less disposed is he to have light recourse to a trial of strength. England possesses incomparably the most powerful navy in the world, yet no State is less prone to engage in a maritime

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for her strength is beyond dispute. is the standard at which Japan ought to aim. As to the contention that the country's reis to the contention that the country's resources are inadequate for such an effort, who is to gauge the country's resources? Six years ago, when the Cabinet asked the Diet to vote funds for the construction of two line of battle ships, and when m plan was propounded to raise the navy to a displacement of a hundred and twenty thousand tons, there was a loud outcry against the extravagance of the programme, and a wide spread declaration that the country's resources could not endure such a burden. Have those resources undergone any metamorphosis in the interval? not, how does it happen that, the nation unless-tatingly pledged itself to a scheme of naval expansion precisely the double of the scheme which had been declared unendurably costly in 1892 ? People who talk of the country's resources forget to look back to pre-Restoration days. In those times, the nation numbered 30 millions. Twenty-eight millions were producing classes, farmers and manufacturers, and two millions were the idle military class who had to be supported by the rest. There were some 270 Daimyo, la ge and small, who lived in the utmost luxury. Talk of a suburban residence built by some wealthy merchant or speculator now a days! Why, it is a mere but compared with the manaions of the former Daimyo-the three mansions that each of them had in Tokyo, to say nothing of the castles and palaces in their own fiefs. Think of the crowds of armed men that they supported, their immense retinues, their lavish expenditures. When the Daimyo of Kishlu wanted to purchase a foreign man-of-war (Komyo maru), he abtained famils for the purpose simply by selling the accumulation of silk garments and lacquer-ed utensils that lay in his store-houses, their use being interdicted because those to whom they had belonged were dead. In those days the rule of taxation was goko gomin, five parts to the lord and five to the people. Out of the thirty million koku of tice produced, fifteen millions went to support the shisoku. If the same rule held now, the farmers would be contributing land tux to the annual amount of 240 million yen. where they actually contribute less than 40 mil lions. And who can deny that the country is immensely more wealthy now than it was then? Yet, in those time, complaints of excessive taxation were heard only when dishonest of-ficials practised extortion in their private interests. The people's burden now is incomparably lighter than it was then. The farmer's manner of life has radically changed. He is now pro sperous and comfortable, wearing silk where formerly be could scarcely afford cotton, and eating rice almost daily whereas formerly he scarcely knew its taste. Still it is not upon the farmer that an increased weight of taxation should be imposed. His prosperity should be for ered, for the consuming of the agricultural class reacts upon the industrial, and thus contributes to the general benefit. The just and proper source of revenue is sake. It is almost a disgrace to Japan that alcoholic beverages should be so cheep here. In the West, economists recognise and act upon the plain principle that wine is an article of luxury, and that its consumers ought to be the chief contributors to the public revenue. But in Japan the sake tax is ludicrously low-only 7 ven per koku (less than 20 sen a gallon). It should be raised at once to 20 yen. There are four hundred thousand koku of pure sake (seishu) brewed yearly, so that a tax of 20 yen per koku would give a revenue of 80 million yen against 28 million, now collected. There is not the remotest doubt that the tax would be cheerfully paid. Drinkers of pure sale, that it to say, the upper middle and higher classes, would make nothing of paying such an amount (about one shilling per gallon). Some conservatives talk of old custom. Well, according to old custom, sake was not taxed at all, and it seemed a terrible violation of tradition when an imports of two ren was placed on it, tentatively and timidly, after the Restoration.

That they formulate the smallest complaint now that it has been raised to seven ren. there is the objection that the poor farmer wants his bottle of hot sate after a hard day's work, But the poor farmer does not drink clear sake (seishu); he drinks muddy sake (datushu), and that can be left comparatively untaxed. If m additional revenue of 52 million yes were thus raised 20 millions might be devoted to reducing penty local taxes which now bear hardly on the poorer classes, and the remaining 32 millions might be appropriated to the main-tenance of the navy. Of course, the building of the fleet would have to be effected by means of a foreign loan—say 200 million yew. There is just at present a good deal of talk about swelling the bulk of currency and inflating prices, but a foreign loan for the purpose of building a navy would not produce any injurious effect in that direction since the greater part of it would be spent abroad. As for the personnel of the increased navy, there would be time to train it while the ships were building. The acheme may look large, but how insignificant it becomes when we place it side by side with the integrity of the empire! Nothing less can insure that integrity.

> There have been of late some of the usual murmurs about the reticence of the Cabinet, Whenever a change of Ministry takes place, some publicists stand forward, and call upon the new occupants of office to declare their administrative policy in explicit terms. The Nichi Nichi Shimbun points out the nureason of such a demand. A Cabinet is under no general obligation to declare its policy. the contrary, high considerations of State are opposed to such a proceeding. When occasion arises or necessity presents itself, the acts of a Ministry furnish the best index of its policy, but nothing is less expedient or unwise than the compilation and publication of an elaborate statement which, unless couched in terms so vague as to convey little real informa-tion, can scarcely fail m became a source of subsequent inconvenience. To the Diet m the representative of the nation and as a part of the governing machine, the Cabinet may feel under an obligation to declare its views. It may also see the advisability of taking into its confidence the chiefs of the staff of the various Departments and the local governors, so that the administraand the local governors, so that the administra-tion may be conducted in accordance with a general line of motives. But beyond that it is neither prudent nor practical to go. The Matsukata Cabinet set the example of making a public exposition of policy, and it can not be said that the results were of such a nature as to commend that course for imitation by another Cabinet. In truth, the object of the Matsukata Cabinet was to attract the support of a political party. But the Ito Cabinet need not be swayed by any such consideration. The Liberals have already declared that they endorse the views of the Ito Cabinet, and the Progressionists have given the best possible proof of their consensus by offering to join the Cabinet. They actually proposed that one half of the portfolios should be given to their own party leaders. Hence they must be assumed to be well acquainted with the Ministry's views and to endorse thers. At present the main business of the Cabinet is to correct its predecessor's mistakes. In that field there is quite enough to occupy its attention for the time,

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN the Army, the extraordinary outlays on account of new barracks and so forth can not now be retrenched. The only resource is to raduce the proposed establishment. To thatend the Mainichi propounds a scheme with the details of which we need not weary our readers. The general result is all that need concern us, namely, that instead of having an Army of \$20,000 on a war footing, the strength would be \$50,000. Concerning the economy that would result, the Mainichi does not speak. We are unable to say whether, in this matter, the Mainichi represents the view of the Progressionists in general, or merely the view of the section headed by Mr. Shimaba Saburo, who is the editor of the journal.

The Yomiuri Shimbun writes enthusiastically about England's policy in the Far East, evinced in the demands recently preferred by her to China. She has asked for the opening of three new ports—among them Talien—; the neutralization of the Valley of the Yangtsze, and the prolongation of the Burmah Railway through Yunnan. No contrast could be stronger than the contrast between such demands and the proceedings of Russia and Germany. England aims simply at commercial expansion, and the preservation of the peace of the Orient well as of the integrity of the Chinese empire.

Russia, Germany and France aim at territorial expansion of themselves at the expense of China's integrity. It is indeed a fortunate thing for the Far East that the Lion has at length opened its eyes. It was said to be sleeping. Russia's aggressions, Germany's haughtiness, did not seem to rouse it. But anddenly it has awaked, and to signal purpose. Its ships have fisshed bither and thither, carrying a new atmosphere wherever they went, and it has atood forward as the defiant champion of a policy profound, far-seeing and eminently civilized. The Pomiuri dwells at considerable length on the significance of England's demand for the opening of Talien, and declares that such a project would practically secure the neutralization of the Lianuary Peninsuls, just as the foreign trade of Shanghai secured the neutralization of the Yangtize Valley during the recent war. We need not follow our contemporary's remarks in detail. They show a thorough appreciation of the liberal motives underlying England's acts. and indicate clear political insight on the part of the Progressionist organ.

The Kokumin Shimbun writes in the same strain, but confines itself chiefly to the question of the opening of Talien to foreign trade. It expresses astonishment at Russia's threat of reprisals in the event of China's agreeing to open the port, and asks what title Russia can possibly claim to impede a step plainly conducive to general tradal development and the peace of the Orient, unless she be influenced solely by projects of selfish aggression. The Kokumin has large ideas of the commercial future lying before Talien. It thinks that the place will prove to be the emporium of all the trade of Manchuria, a trade in which Japan is destined to have a material share, as witness the volume of the commerce already existing between her and Newchwang. At all events, the very best guarantee that could possibly be futnished for the preservation of the peace of the Orient in the opening of Talien. England shows consummate wisdom in advocating such a step, and the Kokumin hopes that the Japanese Government will throw its whole weight into the balance on England's side.

Charles Gates, a Klondyke millionaire who recently arrived at Victoria, British Columbia, is thus described:—The style he affects is, in say the least of it, peculiar. It is principally buckskin and diamonds. A buckskin suit he always wears. Stuck in his shirt is a huge diamond, an big am a man's thumbnail, and his fingers are ornamented with diamond rings of great value. He matried one of the La Monde Sisters, song and dance "artistes," two weeks after she got to Dawson City.

#### JAPANESE RAILWAYS.

"Railways are exceedingly convenient ma-chines," says the Shogro Shimpo, " but if one mistake be made in connexion with them, they are terribly dangerous. The upsetting of carriages, collisions, fires—if these things be enumerated in detail their number would be very large. Hence when railways are built, the greatest circumspection must be exercised with regard to the gradient and curvature of the rails, the solidity of the construction of the carriages, and the expertness of the officials, so as to avoid all risk of accidents. Railways have progressed so much in Japan that they are not now like the railways of other days. Still, since last year railway accidents have suddenly increased, and we feel obliged to invite the attention of the public to the fact. People are doubtless aware that many accidents occurred last year, but even in this year there have already been three accidents. One happened on the 7th of last month on the line at Kamimaki mura in the Soma District of Fukushima Prefecture, when a train of the Japan Railway Company collided with a truck, and one person was killed on the spot, and two were severely and one alightly injured. Another happened on the 19th of last month on the Chikuho line. A train of more than thirty empty coal wagons, which had steamed out of Wakamatsn station, was just about to cross the iron bridge over the Egawa, when a luggage train suddenly came up from behind and ran into it. Fortunately no one was injured, but 13 wagons were upset, and two of them fell into the river. Another accident was the second case of derailment on the Iyo line. What is the reason of these numerous railway accidents? Is it that the rails are badly laid, or that the construction of the carriages is bad, or that the engineers are unskilled? Whatever be the cause, there devolves upon the railway com-panies the responsibility of thoroughly investigating the reasons so as to restore public confidence. Above all, Government officials have the great responsbility of exercising rigorous inspection and control by way of precaution against catastrophes. We learn that the officials have been conducting strict inquiries, but we have not heard that any practical measures have been adopted and the fact causes us regret at this era of railway progress."

#### SEX IN FLOWERS.

Professor Kenjiro Fujii, of the Imperial Uni-versity of Tokyo, has recently published, says the New York Independent, a paper in the Proceedings of that Institution, explaining the law that determines the male or the female sex in flowers. His observations and experiments have been made on the prevailing pine-tree of Japan (Pinus densi fora). He gives, in full detail, the results of many observations, and comes to the following conclusions :- That the sex of the flowers is undetermined until a certain stage of their development, and that a flower that would otherwise develop into a male has a tendency to become a female when local increase of nourishment takes place at a certain stage, or during certain stages of its development. It is very interesting to note that this discovery as to the law regulating the production of the separate sexes in flowers was first made and reported some quarter of a century ago by Professor Thomas Mechan; and the paper read by him before the American Association for the Advancement of Science appears in the printed proceedings of the Salem meeting. The doctrine met with some opposition at that time, Professor Agassiz especially making a powerful protest against the sentiments of the paper. But it has since been adopted as a demonstration and is the accepted theory of sex in the article on this subject in the ninth edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica." The American view differs slightly from that of the Japanese scientist in this, that while the latter seems to regard the male characteristics as the normal condition, the accident of abundant nutrition only causing been beaten.

an advance to female characteristics, the former regards the female as the normal condition, and the cutting of the full supply brings about the male flowers. Again, the American exponent not only requires an abundant supply of nutrition to insure female flowers, but a high vital power in the nucleus to avail itself of the nutrition. Professor Fujii shows by his paper that he is in ignorance of the occupancy of the field before him by the American philosopher; and the fact gives additional interest to the paper in this respect that so nearly the same results should follow observations made in such widely separated quarters of the globe.

#### COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Photographic Society, held in the rooms of the Society of Arts, Professor Gabriel Lippmann described his system of colour photography, whereby a photograph showing the colours of nature is obtained by a direct process and with one exposure of the plate. The film, which might be of any sensitive subtance, he explained, was exposed, developed, and fixed in the usual way. Two conditions, however, must the usual way. Two conditions, however, must be observed. The film must, in the first place, be transparent and grainless, and, in the second, it must be in contact with a metallic mirror during exposure. The effect of the mirror, which was formed by running a layer of mercury in behind the plate, was to reflect back the incident coloured rays and thus make the incident light waves stationary. The stationary vibrations, falling in the interior of the sensitive film, impressed their own structure upon it, and by virtue of the structure thus imparted to it, the brown deposit of silver, when viewed by reflected white light, appeared clothed with the same colours as were possessed by the image in the camera. The colours were produced by "interference" in the same way as those of the soap bubble or mother of pearl. That this was their cause M. Lippmann said was proved by the fact that the tints of a negative changed if it were damped in consequence of the gelatine swelling slightly and thus aftering the struc-ture of the silver deposit. The colours produced by this process were true and bright, provided that exposure and development had been properly conducted; they were, moreover, completely fixed and resisted the action of light and time. He had not yet succeeded in taking prints from his negatives, but was convinced that to do so would be found possible. In the course of the lecture a number of the results achieved by M. Lippmann were exhibited in the fantern, including coloured photographs of the spectrum, stained-glass, landscape, fruit and flowers, and the portrait of a little girl. A reproduction of the spectrum of argon showed the characteristic lines of that gas in the most beautiful and distinct manuer,

#### NEW TYPE OF WARSHIP.

France has ordered a new armour-clad cruiser to be called the Montcalm, whereof the principal dimensions are as follow:—Length between perpendiculars, 452\frac{1}{2}

The Empress of India made her last run from Woosung to Hougkong in 40½ hours, and the N.-C. Daily News doubts if this has ever been beaten.



#### TOKYO AND THE IRKATY PORTS.

The special correspondent of the journal on the subject of the "Treaty Port Resident in Japan," speaks of "the barrier of resentment which, for some reason, seems to exist between the foreign residents of Tokyo and those of the Treaty Ports." Where, we wonder, are the evidences of this resentment to be found. There is a very great deal of truth and shrewd insight in the remarks of the special correspondent, but in this respect he seems to have "got off the track." Some years ago it used to be the habit of one of the Yokohama journals to speak of the "foreign employés" of the Japanese Government in terms of open contempt, as though to have accepted service in this country was, in some respects, a disgrace. It is possible, nay probable, that a certain measure of umbrage resulted in Tokyo from these remarks, and that the Yokobama community in general was held more or less responsifor them. But the one journal that distinguished itself by that kind of writing soon abandoned it, and the error of regarding it as an expression of local public opinion became quickly apparent. the exception of that short-lived ripple, nothing, so far as we know, has ever disturbed the serenity of Tokyo's mind to-wards Yokohama. Instead of applying the term "resentment" to the mutual mood of the two communities, we should be disposed to speak of them as cordially friendly. The residents of either place are always glad to see those of the other, and if Yokohama never shows any lack of hospitality towards Tokyo, Tokyo's disposition towards Yokohama is equally good though its opportunities are, perhaps, less frequent. Assuredly it seems that the special correspondent of the Morning Post has been misled in this particular respect.

Of course there is the missionary ques-The missionaries constitute the great bulk of the foreign population of Tokyo. In fact, the foreign settlement at Tsukiji may be said to be all missionary. Now every body knows that the Yoko-bama journal alluded to above—the journal which used at one time to sneer at the "foreign employé"-has never in all these years lost an opportunity of attacking the missionary in the harshest, most with Japan almost defies belief. Difficul-uncompromising termes. Wherever mis-ties with Japan certainly exist, in a certain sionary affairs are concerned, the tone of admirable reticence on the subject. The be actively opposing the proposals submit-quiet dignity of their silence is beyond all ted by the British Representative to the strongly against such displays of prejudice, but they answer nothing, which is the very best of all answers. They trust their work to speak for them. It can not be said, therefore, that the missionaries betray any resentment. Where is this "resentment," any how? It would need a long search to find it, we imagine.

Sexceedingly obscure, and although the For example, Japan might want to retain Wei-hai-wei and to hold some other points to place full confidence in it. It is possible, of vantage. Thus the proposal for an alliance will not easily be put forward. On the other hand, unless suitable arrangements can now be effected for an offenlocation with reference to the British proposals, but that would not explain the Czar's references to difficulties with Japan.

#### POKOHAMA UNITED CLUB.

We observe that a project is on foot to Morning Post, in a recent letter to that furnish for the use of the Yokohama United Club a larger and more commodious building than the present edifice. The plan seems excellent in every respect, and the estimates are remarkably reasonable in view of the contemplated accommodation, Yokohama undoubtedly can afford to treat itself to a better building. An interesting feature of the programme is the erection of an electric-light plant to supply The Electric the Club independently. Light Company has raised its charge to 221 sen per ampere unit, which means that the annual bill for lighting will henceforth be some six thousand yen, whereas the estimated cost of running an engine on the Club's account is 160 yen per month, or about 2,400 yen a year, allowing for rewhich will be of much better quality than those now available. We venture to hope that whatever may be the decision about the question of re-building, the installa-tion of electric-light plant will be vigorously pushed, for truly the electric light companies deserve to suffer for their want of enterprise, for their indifference to the comfort of the public and for their monstrous charges.

#### EMPEROR OF RUSSIA'S EXPRES-SION OF RELIEF.

Baron Reuter sends us a very remarkable message, this morning. It represents the Emperor of Russia declaring, in effect, that the difficult problems of Far Eastern policy which had been causing him profound anxiety, have all been satisfactorily disposed of, and that such is the case especially with regard to Japan. Reuter's recent performances on the wires have not inspired such confidence that we can accept this latest telegram without distrust. Its character is very peculiar. That the Czar should have made any declaration of the kind is sufficiently incredible, but that he should have alluded specially to difficulties with Japan almost defies belief. Difficulsense, but as they are not difficulties that that journal is bitterly rancorous. In this can be said to have actually entered the case, the evil-tongued newspaper certainly field of practical politics, we fail to underdoes not echo its own views alone. It stand why the Emperor of Russia should has a sympathetic audience, whether large have referred to them publicly; still less or small, in Yokohama. The missionaries why he should have spoken of them as of Tokyo, then, not having divested them- disposed of when they have not even selves entirely of their human feelings, been definitely discussed. If Reuter's premay be suspected of harbouring some vious message be correct, the complications resentment against Yokohama. Perhaps are between England and Russia rather they do; but this we must say, that they than between Japan and Russia, since the invariably preserve the most absolute and St. Petersburg Government is supposed to praise. Nobody could blame them, or Tsung-li Yamen. Altogether the message would be surprised, if they remonstrated is exceedingly obscure, and although the

#### THE GREAT POWERS IN THE FAR EAST.

The Mainichi Shimbun appears to be quite satisfied that it can read without error the sentiments by which the policies of the Great European Powers are directed in the Far East. There is no question, it says, that the purpose of Russia, England, Germany and France is to divide the control of the Far East before Japan has carried her post bellum measures to completion. Russia's aim is to obtain possession of the Liaotung Peninsula, thus securing command of the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili. After that she hopes to drive the Chinese Government from Peking to Nauking, and make herself mistress of the whole of Manchuria, as well as of the Korean Peninsula. Germany, aided by Russia, seeks to acquire the Shantung pairs. To this important mancial penear may be added the great convenience of ance with Russia in the Far gast. Ling having lights which can be turned on so land, aware of the plans entertained by soon as dusk approaches, which will be Russia and Germany, aims at placing obstacles in their path before their naval proportions, and, at the same time, seeks to secure for herself a share of power not inferior to that held by them in combination, so as to advance her own position in the Far East. As for France, without allowing herself to be drawn into the vortex of the struggle between Germany, Russia and England, she wants to stand in the position of an independent outsider, so as to secure, at the cost of compara-tively little toil, the most important points in southern China and a lion's share of

> Our contemporary then passes to the question of an Anglo-Japanese alliance. The views entertained by the various Powers, it says, being as above set forth, it is evident that the Far-Eastern Question cannot be easily settled. Since England's ultimate aim is to obtain a division of power, she may at any moment take steps to attain that end. But although she adopts a strong policy towards Germany and Russia, she has no desire to fight, but hopes rather to come to an amicable understanding with the two Powers for the purposes of a division. On the other hand, her traditional relations with Russia present an obstacle to the achievement of such a design, and she consequently entertains an idea of effecting a secret alliance with Japan. She has not, however, yet made up her mind to come forward and seek such an alliance.

> The next point discussed by the Mainichi is the time of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. It is not altogether unreasonable that England does not yet come forward to seek an alliance with Japan. If the proposal emanates from England, her responsibility will be correspondingly large, and Japan will ask for adequate compensation-will ask, for example, to occupy the equal position belonging to an ally. That might involve some not very welcome contingencies. For example, Japan might want to retain



their grasp upon what may be called the financial society of Japan:--"Having strongholds of the Far East, and the task ventured to assume the duties of the imof ousting them hereafter will be extremely difficult. Hence it appears that the present is the time for concluding the alliance. Such an alliance is by no means a matter of idle talk. The simple fact is that an occasion precisely favourable for cementing the alliance has not yet presented itself. When the details of the agreement between Germany and China have been published, and when Russia's procedure in the spring becomes clear, the affairs of the Far East may enter a new phase.

It is noteworthy that the Mainicht Shimbun says nothing whatever about Japan's policy, nor makes any attempt to demonstrate that an alliance with England would be for the benefit of this Empire. Perhaps our contemporary thinks that no demonstration is necessary. Well, we are inclined to think so too. But still, seeing that no résumé of the situation is complete unless it includes an account of Japan's point of view, something might have been added on that subject with advantage. We would further suggest to the Mainichi Shimbun that its analysis of England's world appear simultaneously diseased, policy in scarcely just. The British Government has made a perfectly frank declaration on the subject, and, though circumstances sometimes over-rule intentions, it is at least certain that when British statesmen say a thing, they honestly mean what they say. Great Britain's unique object in the Far East is to open China's markets to the trade of the world, and promote the peaceful development of goes without saying that if there be any China's material resources without any method nationally advantageous, I should alienation of Chinese territory. It is essentially a policy of trade and tranquillity. By treaty-to say nothing of long and costly efforts in which no other Power except France has taken part-Great with the leaders of non-official economical Britain has acquired a right of free access society, which purpose, it is to be hoped equal participation in all commercial or industrial benefits accruing from intercourse with that country. She means to stand by her rights. That is the measure of her selfseeking. The practical effect of her policy is to secure every other Treaty Power against injurious discrimination. If Japan, with her Liaotung experience to guide her, thinks that she can trust Russia, Germany and France to place her on the same footing as themselves in any partition of privileges and benefits, there is no special reason why she should not throw in her lot with them. Again, if Japan thinks that she is strong enough to stand alone, and, single-handed, to enforce her claims in the eventualities now looming on the horizon, well, let her stand alone-or rather try to stand alone, for neither she nor any other State can defy circumstances, and circumstances will assuredly put much stress on ber, by and by.

#### COUNT INOUYE ON FINANCE.

On the evening of the 1st instant Count Inouye entertained at dinner Baron Iwasaki, President of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Kawashima, President of the Industrial Bank, Mr. Soma, Head of the Specie, Bank Mr. Toyokawa, Director of the Mitsui Bank, Mr. Tsuruhara, Chief of the Business Bureau in the Bank of Japan, Mr. Naka-migawa, Manager of the Mitsui Bank, and the high-class officials of the Finance Department. Count Inouye made the following speech from his place on the subject of Digitized by

portant office of Minister of Finance, I State and the finances of the nation at large, and my chief care is to contrive that matters shall be well arranged for each of the two. Now I have been much disturbed of late by the fact that officials and people, being divided so as to stand at opposite extremes, are lacking in the fair habit of working in union and concert, the consequence being not only that their sentiments are unknown to each other, but also that in matters of trade with foreign countries great injury has been done. It results that when anything hap-pens in society, the air is filled with speculations and conjectures, disturbances most regrettable effects are produced upon the national progress and prosperity. Especially in economical circles has the want of accord been marked during recent years, so that both sections of the financial and it is time that those within and those without the Government gave deep attention to the matter. Happily the gentlemen assembled here this evening may be called medical experts in that line, and each, I am persuaded, has some idea about a remedy suitable to the disease. beg that, in the interests of the country, I may be informed of your ideas, for it method nationally advantageous, I should like to apply it to the purposes of reform."

We interpret this speech to mean that Count Inouye is anxious to elaborate the financial policy of the State in conjunction society, which purpose, it is to be hoped to the markets; of China, and a right of that, in the interests of the nation, his Excellency may be able to achieve.

#### A JAPANESE CONCEPTION OF GERMANY'S ACTION.

It is suggested by the Mainichi Shimbun that although China has agreed to lease Kiao-chou to Germany, the transaction can not by any means be considered as accomplished until the ratifications of the treaty relating to it have been actually exchanged. For, in the meanwhile, there is no knowing what objection may be raised by other Powers. In fact, the Mainichi alleges very plainly that Germany's declaration of a resolve to make Kiao-chou an open port was dictated by apprehensions of difficulties formulated by other States. But the Mainicki advances another theory also : it is that Germany has not definitely made up her mind about opening Kiao chou to the world's trade, and that her supposed intention of doing so has been prematurely inferred from England's known wish in that sense. We suspect that these comments of our contemporary's are the result of conjecture rather than of accurate information, Of course, it was from the first understood that unless Germany obtained a definite cession of Kiao-chou, she would experience difficulty in dealing to set in the other direction. Japan not unit it so as to avoid interfering with the leaving as yet any investments abroad.

#### INSURANCE IN YOROHAMA.

It is not palpably characteristic of busihave been engaged, night and day, inves-tigating the subject of the management less formidable competition engendered of the finance. There is a very close by a recent appreciation of local insurance of the finance. There is a very close by a recent appreciation of local insurance connexion between the finances of the rates in this Settlement, no authoritative explanation of the appreciation has yet been furnished to the public. The Agents of the great insurance compaines see themselves confronted by an influential attempt to alienate a large part of their business and place it on an independent footing; but they make no effort to check the movement. Such a semblance of apathy seems reconcilable with business principles on one of two suppositions only: either that the Agents feel no special anxiety to defend the threatened field of operations; or that they regard as foredoomed to failure any amateur in-cursions into their domain. Practically spring up like waves on a calm sea, and the two hypotheses are identical, for each rests on the same basis, namely, that no profit is to be realized from insurance transactions at rates lower than those charged by the established companies. Is that the case, we wonder. It can not be doubted, of course, that the Insurance Offices have an excellent reason for raising their old rates, and the only reason to which the epithet "excellent" can properly apply is that they have found those rates insufficient. They have been coming out on the wrong side of the account, and must either give up the work or alter the scale of remuneration. Such being the case, the question suggests itself-is there room for competition on lower terms? If the old established insurance offices have made a loss by taking risks at the former rates, how can a new office hope for profit from the same rates? A long lapse of years is needed to determine the average life of buildings under special conditions. What is the average life of a building on the Yokohama Bluff? Has it been ascertained with anything like certainty? The insurance agents alone are in a position to answer this query satis-factorily, and they refrain from answering it directly, though their action in raising their rates of premia affords an indirect indication that the estimate hitherto relied on by them has proved in practice too fayourable to the insurer.

#### EXODUS OF SPRCIE.

We read in the columns of the vernacular press that there has been a considerable demand for gold in exchange for notes since the beginning of the year, the quantity of paper offered at the banks for that purpose being from three hundred thousand to eleven hundred thousand yen daily. At that rate, the stock of gold held by the Bank of Japan will soon show a reduction of some thirty million yen. The thing is, of course, attributed to activity in the import market, large quantities with it so as to avoid interfering with the having as yet any investments abroad, treaty rights of other Powers.

having as yet any investments abroad, nor any large payments to make in foreign countries in consequence of a foreign debt or of foreign investments in Japan, her affaits are regulated by the eleniquingly from of supply and demand.

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#### DEFENSIVE ARMOUR FOR JAPAN. ESE SHIPS BUILT IN KNGLAND.

The results now obtained with defensive armour in England are very remarkable. We have before us some photographs and tables showing the effects produced upon two of Cammell's armour plates by artillery practice on board H.M.S. Nettle, at Portsmouth, last October. The subject sounds technical but the facts are intelligible to every reader. The first of the plates experimented with was of Cammell-Harveyed nickel steel, its dimensions were 8 ft. long, 6 ft. wide and six inches thick, and it had a timber backing 4 ft. to in thick at the top and bottom and 5 ft. to in, thick in the centre. At this target five rounds were fired from a 6-in. breach-loading gun; the projectile, which weighed 100lbs, being of Holtzer armour-piercing steel; the charge of powder, 48lbs.; the velocity, 1960 feet per second; the energy, 2,663 foot-tons and the range 30 feet. It seems almost incredible that a plate only six inches thick could stand five such stupendous blows, but, as a matter of fact, the greatest penetra-tion achieved was only 2% inches, or less than one half of the thickness of the plate, and the plate, so far from being destroyed, showed only slight surface cracks, and had no bulge higher than 12 inches on the back. The behaviour of the other plate was even more remarkable. Its material was Cammell's tempered nickel steel, and its dimensions were 4 ft. long, 4 ft. wide and four inches thick. The manner of setting it was remarkable, for though supported at the top and bottom by 6 inches of oak, a g-inch space separated the rest of the plate from the backing. In fact, the plate had no sup-port at the parts where it would have to bear the impact of the shot. gun used in this case was a 5-in. B.L., firing a 50lbs. Palliser chilled cast iron shot, and three rounds were fired, the charges being tolbs, 15½ and 15½lbs respectively; the velocities, 1406 f.s., 1750 f.s. and 1750 f.s., and the energies 558 f.t., and 1061 f.t. Here are the effects produced on the plate :-

Effect on front. Effect on back.
Round 1.—Yplash on face of plate. Nil.
Round 2.—Plate indented \$." Bulged slightly, do, do, Effect on back. Bffect on projectile.

We have never read of finer power of resistance than the above. The new Japanese battle-ships, now under construction in England, are to have the class of armour represented by this 4-inch plate.

#### THE " YOROZU CHOHO."

The English column of the Yorosu Choho is one of the curiosities of the capital of Japan. One does not know whether a nation can be taken seriously when even one of its units is found to pen such extreme silliness as that wonderful column contains from time to time. However, the explanation doubtless is that children who have learned a little of some foreign language are apt to lose their bearings in Japan, and to be appointed to tasks where they are entirely out of their times supplying material for columns like an undisciplined mob, whose powder was those of the Yoronu Choho. In either case the result is very lunny, but does not contribute much to the reputation of the Japanese as a grown-up nation.

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Ticles, says:—"Because of a victory over an undisciplined mob, whose powder was coal-dust and whose generals never reconstructed in the resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away, does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-away does the Fri really think that a large part of her resources to non-productive purposes, there is no gain-aw

#### ASSASSINATION OF A MARINE AT KIAO-CHOU.

In view of the explicit character of the telegram relating to the assassination of a German marine at Tsi-mo, it is scarcely possible to hope that the rumour will prove to be false on this occasion as was the case recently with a similar report. Without desiring in any way to minimize the heinousness of such occurrences, however, we may observe that the death of a marine belonging to what must virtually be regarded as a foreign army of occupa-tion, can not be placed in the same category with the murder of a missionary or a peaceful trader. The feelings aroused among the Chinese by the presence of German troops on the soil of their country are probably of such a nature that the Chinese Government can not reasonably be expected to control them, or justly held altogether accountable for their violent display. Of course, until we know the exact circumstances under which the alleged assassination took place, we can not form any definite opinion about its character, but, speaking generally, the German marines at Kiao chou represent an armed force hostile to China, and the responsibility of providing for their safety de-volves chiefly on themselves. That, of course, is the view that Germany will take of the matter. The Chinese Government is bound by treaty to protect the lives and properties of German subjects visiting China for purposes of commerce or religious propagandism, but is scarcely bound to protect the lives of German soldiers forming part of an aggressive expedition against Chinese territory. On the other hand, there is always the feeling that any display of leniency in dealing with such matters may lead to disastrous con-sequences in China, so that Baron von Heyking will probably adopt a stronger line than the mere facts of the case seem to warrant. It is very much in the interests of the Chinese empire that the people should treat the Germans with all civility and deference, but the people probably do not appreciate the fact.

#### JAPAN AND WESTERN POWERS.

The editor of the Jiji Shimpo will not be surprised to find that the series of articles recently written by him and epito-mized in our Weekly Summary on the 31st ult. have attracted some attention. Neither will he be surprised to find that their spirit has been misinterpreted. is almost inevitable that writers in the foreign local press should fall into errors when attempting to criticise the contents of vernacular journals which they can not read in the original. Elsewhere the habit of serious critics is to inform themselves accurately about the matter they are about to discuss, but foreign critics in the Settle-ments of Japan are seldom concerned about such troublesome preliminaries. They just go ahead, and if they can whip up their superficialities into a little froth of seeming smartness they are quite happy. For example, an English local

Japan to contend with Europe in arms. If the statesmen's thoughts run in this vein, then the madness which is the precursor of destruction has seized the nation and God help Japan." That, of course, is very smart, and we can imagine that its composer, when he saw the glowing words in type, experienced the pleasant sense of warmth down the small of his back which Captain Cuttle's "way of putting it" excited in Mr. Toots' vertibree. But he might just as well have been discussing a new method of scavengering for all the rele-vancy his remarks possess. The Jiji Shimpo's articles were the very reverse of bellicose. At almost wearisome length the writer insisted that the prime object of providing a strong fleet for Japan should be to avert the danger of war. To be well armed, he explained again and again, was the best possible guarantee against attack, and he instanced the case of England, who, with the most powerful fleet in the world, not only secures for herself immunity from molestation, but is also notably slow to put forth her great strength. He further expressed the profound reluctance that every Japanese must feel to contemplate such a contingency as a disturbance of the friendly relations existing between this empire and European Powers, but unfortunately such possibilities, he said, had to be taken into account by every thoughtful student of the times. In short, it would scarcely have been possible to advo-cate an expansion of armaments in a less truculent tone than that adopted by the Fiji Shimpo, so that when the Yokohama critic talks of the dementia which presages destruction, he simply shows that he has not read the articles which he undertakes to discuss. Nothing is easier, of course, than to preach platitudes from the editorial stool; to tell Japan that her true policy is to develop her material resources, and to admonish her to leave the business of war to those that are foolish enough to concern themselves about it. That sort of vapid talk is nothing better than venerable twaddle. The modern intercourse of nations teaches one unmistakable lesson, namely, that the measure of a country's safety is its ability to defend itself against aggression. It is a mere banalité to tell Japan that she alone among the States of the world may rely on the forbearance of her rivals. She has before her eyes plain evidence of the consequences of such fatuity. Had China possessed a squadron or an army of ordinary efficiency, would she now be undergoing vivisection at the hands of every Powerthat has an appetite for her territory? It is of no use preaching to the Japanesea line of conduct diametrically opposed to the practice of European States. We all talk of the gospel of peace and the brotherhood of nations, but we make ready unceasingly to cut one another's throats and to save our own jugulars against the murderous hands of our neighbours. The unhappy necessity confronts Japan also. That she could stand up alone against Europe sounds an extravagant proposition, but there can be no doubt that the duty of her statesmen is to make her so formidable that no European Power, or combination of European Powers, will readily molest

#### FOREIGNERS AND SHARES IN TAPANESE COMPANIES.

The well-known barrister, Mr. Masujima, contributes an essay to the latest number of the Far East, the gist of which is that the acquisition of shares by foreigners in Japanese joint-stock companies of limited liability is not forbidden by the Treaties. Briefly speaking, Mr. Masujima's contention is that the only veto imposed on the proceedings of foreigners outside the Settlements is that they must not engage in trade; that to purchase the shares of a commercial or industrial company is not engaging in trade, and that, consequently, such purchases are lawful. We should be glad to endorse Mr. Masujima's view, but his arguments fail to convince us. Take, for example, a cotton-spinning company with its mills at Moji. Such an association is unquestionably carrying on an important tradal operation outside the Settlements. Can it be honestly pretended that every one of the shareholders is not assisting to carry on the trade? If the acquisition of the Company's shares be lawful for foreigners there can evidently be no quantitative limit; if all the shares came into the market, all would be purchasable by foreigners. But we should then have a party of aliens running a cotton mill outside the Settlements. Does Mr. Masujima intend to affirm the legality of such # proceeding? Apparently his position is that shares are personal property, and that a foreigner can hold them "without becoming part and parcel of the corpora-tion"; "without his personality being merged in it": that, in short, the legal existence of the corporation is quite distinct from the legal existence of the shareholders. Well, that is a very nice point of law. Who are the owners of the corporation's property? Does it not belong to all the shareholders pro rata? If the corporation decided to wind up its affairs and sell its buildings and their site, would not the proceeds be divided among the shareholders? Again, would not the foreign shareholders be entitled to attend the meetings of the Company and vote for or against any proposition relat-ing to the conduct of the business or the sale or purchase of real property by the Company? Mr. Masujima's line is so fine as to be impalpable to us. He says, for example, that "the purchase of curios anywhere in Japan has never been con-sidered contrary to law," and that there is no difference between curios and shares. But we should like to know on what authority he pronounces for the legality of the purchase of curios in the interior. We are confident that no Japanese or foreign Court would recognise the lawfulness of such a transaction under the present treaties. If the purchase were not for purposes of trade, the case would be different of course, but if an export attaining. A funrikisha-man at Shimbashi enamels, and such things for the uses of his business, then assuredly his fellow-merchant is equally at liberty to go and buy tea at Uji or silk in Mayebashi. At any rate, the question discussed by Mr. Masu-jima has little practical interest, for the reason assigned by him in support of the the reason that would deter foreigners mischief, there is mischief in the air, and interference of such a nature must from engaging in them. If the property of counsel to our readers, ultimaginal phrome fatal to the service. If UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

invests money in a commercial or manufacturing company, he does not want to have a "legal existence" separate from it. He wants to be able to aid in controlling its affairs; organizing its business; superintending and assisting in its management and auditing its accounts. It appears to us that Japanese publicists do not appreciate the views of the foreigner in these matters. An Englishman, for example, who thinks of putting money into an enterprise, looks, in the first place, at the names of the men that figure as promoters or on the committee. that they are persons of established credit, he is already far on the way to being satisfied. Then he institutes inquiries, and after he has invested, he watches the affair closely, assures himself that the accounts are fairly rendered, or, at any rate, audited by credible experts, and takes care to be kept informed by his broker of everything affecting the value of the shares. How much of all that is possible to an Englishman where shares in a Japanese company are concerned? How many Japanese names does he identify as belonging to capitalists inspiring full confidence in the stability of any enterprise with which they are associated? How can be hope to obtain really trustworthy evidence about the state of a company's accounts or the conduct of its business? It is not for a moment our intention to deny that many Japanese merchants and capitalists are fully merchants and tapinanded deserving of every confidence. We could what we mean is that the average foreigner is quite outside the financial, industrial and commercial world of Japan, and that the time has not yet come when he is prepared to into it without trepidation. Certainly he is not likely, to purchase shares on the strength of a title so indistinct as that outlined by Mr. Masujima. Indeed, we do not believe that any Japanese Company would be willing at present to sell its shares to a foreiguer in his own name. We are acquainted with some rare cases of share owning by foreigners in Japanese companies, but the transactions all stand on that vicarious basis with which foreign holders of real property in Japan are familiar. Capital is a coy customer. The soil must be better prepared for it in Japan before it will trust itself here.

#### TYRE PUNCTURERS.

Cyclists in Tokyo, and Yokohama also for the matter of that, will do well to be on their guard when leaving their machines in a street. We have heard of three in a street. machines which were deliberately mutilated by wanton folk during the past few days. It is supposed that the mischief is done by jinrikisha-coolies who find that their chances of employment are injured by the vogue which the cycle is rapidly merchant may lawfully go to Nagoya, for sees a passenger arrive by train, take his example, and lay in a stock of porcelain, wheel out of the van, strap a parcel to the bar, and shoot off independently of all assistance. Thus the cycle comes to be regarded as an enemy of the jinrikisha, and the coolie is glad to have a slash at the tyre when an opportunity offers, of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique should This is a matter of hypothesis. No jin- be considered in the matter of the organirikusha-man has been caught in the act. zation of the Chinese Imperial Customs. legality of such transactions is precisely But whoever be the perpetrators of the Yet nothing can be more certain than that

#### THE IMPERIAL CHINESE MARI-TIME CUSTOMS.

It is alleged that one of the conditions -the chief condition, indeed-attaching to the offer of preliminary assistance now made by Russia to China, is that the control of the Imperial Maritime Customs should be placed in Russian hands. Such a condition would be perfectly natural. If the revenues of the Customs are to be hypothecated to Russia for a loan of 200 million taels, we cannot wonder that she should desire to have the management of the security in her own hands. The general supposition among Englishmen is that the change would be fatal to the splendid service which has been organized and gradually carried to its present state of high efficiency, chiefly by British sub-jects. The apprehension may be well or ill founded. We do not venture to pronounce any opinion. But one source of uneasiness presents itself to us very plainly: it is the tendency on the part of foreign officialdom to interfere in the affairs of the Customs. We observe with great surprise that the N.-C. Daily News not only fails to detect this danger, but even helps to aggravate it. Our contemporary lends its columns to the circulation of a statement, "on high authority," that successive British Ministers in Peking have been instructed to take no action without previously consulting the Inspector-General of Customs, and insists, very justly, that an instruction of the kind is imprudent and ill-judged, seeing that the Inspector-General is bound to work in Chinese interests before all things. But have such instructions really been issued? To us the thing seems quite incredible. Very possibly, indeed, Her Majesty's Representatives in Peking have been instructed to keep themselves in cordial rapport with the Inspector General as an enlightened and far-seeing exponent of Chinese views, but that they should regulate their acts by his advice is an altogether different affair. Such an injunction would be distinctly injurious to the Inspector-General's credit with the Chinese, for it would present him to them in an equivocal light. We are astonished that a statement of the kind should be lightly made in a public print. In the same columns we read the following :-

We write advisedly when we say that the mem-We write advisedly when we say that the mem-bers of the Deploratic Body at Peking do not quarted with the English lines of the organisa-tion; but they do desire some sufficient represen-tation on the Staff at Peking, and a less limited recognition than is now believed to exist there of claims to advancement apart from those of family, subserviency, or private friendship. It is indeed, admitted that on the whole the Impectorate-Geneadmitted that on the whole the Inspectorate-General has exercised his partonage with remarkable ability and impartiality; but the members of the D-plomatic Body have now come to consider that it is desirable that one or two more Commissioners should be added to the Inspector G-need, to form an advisory board primarily for all matters connected with financial management and promotion; they believe that this would be helpful to the service, and is a just concession in view of the increasing extension of the service, the many interests represented, and the inevitable change within the next few years in the personality of the within the next few years in the personality of the Inspectorate-General.

It really seems as though our Shanghai contemporary endorsed the idea embodied in this paragraph; the idea that the views

the Chinese find that by leaving the management of the Customs in the hands of December 23rd, says that Japan appears their foreign employés, a door in opened to be the favourite source of exciting agement of the Customs in the hands of for meddling by the Representatives of Western Powers, they will simply take the management into their own hands. That is as certain as anything human can be certain. The N.-C. Daily News does not appear to consider that phase of

that it has seemed that there must have been a mistaken notion at Peking that their influence was growing too strong, or involved some prejudice to the head of the service, or to younger men whom he wanted to promote. The British Legation at Peking might sometimes have taken more interest in these movements than it has done. While other governments have at times interested themselves on behalf of their nationals, we are unaware of a British Minister having orged the claims of any one of his countrymen.

The suggestion here made is still more startling-that the British Minister should interest himself directly in the promotions, appointments, and distributions of the Customs officers, as "other Governments have done." So far from approving such a recommendation, Englishmen who take the trouble to think will condemn it round-It is eminently to the credit of the British Minister's sagacity that he has re-frained from all such action. If other Ministers have been less discreet, their sphere of interference has happily been small, and Sir Robert Hart has known how to maintain his absolute independence without offending those that threatened it.

#### TAPAN AND THE FAR EAST.

Renter's Agent in Yokohama is responsible for the telegram sent to London on December 21st, to the effect that . large Japanese naval squadron had left Nagasaki. It was a pure "bunder," but naturally people in Europe regarded it as a simple statement of fact, and never doubted it for a moment. Truly the public has reason to complain of the extraordinary canards foisted upon it by Reuter's agents. Japan has been sitting perfectly quiet throughout the whole perfectly quiet throughout the whole course of the recent complications. She have not moved a ship or made a protest, yet the telegrams despatched to Europe has created such a false idea of her attitude that the proprietor of the New York Herald actually wired instructions from Paris to have a war correspondent sent out. The correspondent is now in Japan, very much surprised, doubtless, to find that not the slightest indications of war are apparent. Reuter's agents are not alone to blame, however. A correspondent of The Times in Kobe forwarded the following telegram on the 22nd of December :-

The news of the occupation of Port Arthur has disturbed the Monistry. Long Cabinet Councils have been held, at which unlitary officials have been present. The newspapers are nouplussed at the situation in the For East.

Where did this Kobe correspondent discover that " the news of the occupation of Port Arthur had disturbed the Japanese Ministry," that "long Cabinet Councils had been held" and that "military officials had been present at them"? We in Tokyo neither saw nor heard anything of these occurrences, Digitized by Google

The North German Gazette, writing on rumours, and continues thus-as quoted by the Berlin correspondent of The Times :-

"It is a matter of course that in the pushing island kingdom of the Far East the Government and people cannot be indifferent to recent events on the Chinese coasts. On the other hand, there would appear to be no adequate foundation for the little and a supplier which the course a bid. does not appear to consider that phase of the question. A little further on it writes:

Promotions and appointments have been undenthedly made in recent years that have been wised that the rolls of an autocrat is to act and creatically, and that have been, to say the least, surprising to the general foreign public in China; while able men have been shifted here and there, and induced to retire, or basished to outpott, so that it has seemed that their must have been smistaken notion at Peking that their influence was growing too strong, or involved some prejudice to

Referring to the above The Times' correspondent says :-

The organ of the German Government does not enlighten "the Press of Europe" as to whether Japanese policy would be altering its character if it were to take a leaf out of the German book and insist upon "permanent guarantees" for the security of its interests in the Shan-tung Promontory. Japanese interests in China are considerably greater than those of Germany, and the "mailed firt" of Japan, an represented by its powerful navy, is materially heavier than that of its newest rival.

We may append here the following telegram sent from New York to The Times on December 23rd :--

Times on December 23rd:—

Mr. Denby, American Minister to China for the last ten years, publishes a remarkable letter in the Herald on the present situation. Rew men have a better knowledge of China. He thinks that the action of Germany has produced a crisis earlier than was expected, and that Germany will remain at Kizo-chon, Russia at Port Arthur, and Japan at Wei-hai-wei, while England will probably seize Chusan and control Shanghai. It was known in Peking in 1895, says Mr. Denby, that Russia had promised to maintain the reigning family on the throne and preserve the Empire. This promises he now hreaks. He believes that Germany acts with the consent of Russia and Krance, that these three Powers will carry out their programme, and thus England will not interfere but recede, as formerly, before French and Russian aggression. China's autonomy he thinks gravely menaced, if not lot for ever. Mr. Denby arges the American Guvernment to protect American trade interests and insist on equal tariffs where now entitled to them. He draws a gloomy metare of China's future—the country divided, the dynaxty falling, "ber ports turned into nontrally bustle for resses, her provinces the camping ground of after soldiery"—but the Givernment is still expected to remain inactive.

#### INSTITUTE OF YOURNALISTS AND THE ENGLISH PRESS IN JAPAN.

The Institute of British Journalists has adopted, on the motion of Mr. Frederick Dolman, a resolution in favour of approaching the Foreign Office for the protection of British journalists in Japan, seeing that, when the Revised Treaties go into force, foreigners will come within the purview of the law which forbids the publishing, owning, or editing of a newspaper by any but a Japanese subject. Mr. Dolman, when introducing the resolution, quoted a letter which he had received from Mr. H. Tennant, editor of the Japan Gazette. The next thing we shall hear, of course, is that the Foreign Office, replying to the Institute, has stated that the matter is already under due consideration. There is no special reason why the Institute of Jour-nalists should not interest itself in this matter, for it doubtless believes that the business of its confrères in Japan is in there is no occasion whatever for any which was belief at the time of his decease,

action of the kind. The Japanese Government may be trusted to deal liberally with this problem of foreign journalism, as well as with various other problems of a far more complex character which are now awaiting solution preparatory to the operation of the Revised Treaties. Mr. Tennant, when he originally took up the subject, fell into the singular error of asserting that the clause in the Press Law limiting the profession of journalism to Japanese subjects, had been inserted by the Diet in its 1896-7 session with a view to the operation of the Revised Treaties. Had that been true, it would of course have turnished just cause for uneasiness as indicating an illiberal spirit on the part of the Japanese Legislature. But it was not true. The clause had stood in the Law for many years, and had been inserted without any reference whatever to Treaty Revision. We do not know whether the Institute of Journalists was misled in that respect, but the point is of little consequence, for the action of the Institute is quite belated and superfluous.

#### " HALF-CIVILIZED BARBARIANS,"

Captaid Mahan foresees a time when China, India and Japan will overflow, eastward or westward, and become a serious trouble to the white race. Mr. Pearson had already ventilated a similar view, and Mr. H. W. Wilson, reviewing Captain Mahan's work in the *Pall Mall*, says that the general soundness of Mr. Pearson's views is proved "by the meteoric appearance of Japan among the world-Powers." "We still wait, however," Mr. Wilson adds, "to see how the half-civilized barbarian will fight against the best European material."
"The half-civilized barbarian" is very good. It takes a Mr. Wilson to speak of the Japanese in such terms. However, that might be passed over as mere ignorance did it not assume extreme comicality in the mouth of a man undertaking to draw a horoscope of the Orient's future. The presumption of such men is magnificent. The danger of being misled by them is (the chief peril that the white race has to apprehend. Meanwhile, we wonder why it has not occurred to Captain Mahan, or Mr. Pearson, or Mr. Wilson that there are four cardinal points of the compass, not two only. Why should compass, not two only. Japan's overflow be limited to east or West? Why should it not take place in northerly or a southerly direction? Nations do not expand towards the north, it is true, though Japan was on the point of doing so two years ago if Russia, France and Germany had not stepped in. But the south is a natural direction for Perhaps the political proexpansion. phets might find that speculation worthy of consideration.

#### DEATH OF ADMIRAL TSUBOL

We regret to have to announce the death of Vice-Admiral Beron Tauboi, Commander of Yokosuka Admiralty. Deceased had been in a precarious condition since last Summer and is reported to have expired at his residence at Shirokane-dai-machi, Shiba, Tokyo, on the atternoon of the 30th ult. Vice Admiral Tsuboi took a prominent part in the late China War, especially at the naval engagement in the Yellow Sea, when he was in command of the first flying squadron, his flagship being the cruiser Yorking. After the war he took command of the Japanese some kind of jeopardy, and that to render Standing Squadron and was then transferred to assistance is a duty. But the truth is that the command of the Yokosuka Port Admiralty,

# A GERMAN INDIA IN CHINA.

HE Spectator would be untrue to its to cloud-land on the wings of Kiao-chou that he exercises in Shanghai or Tientsin. Great Britain has stepped into the arena potentialities. A stupendous horizon unfolds itself to the London journal as it takes a place at the Kiel banquet table perial Customs Service. and listens to the "Gospel of Majesty" pronounced by the lips of the KAISER. A as a precedent in an opposite sense. German sovereign holding sway over a But, as a matter of fact, so long as Macao hundred millions of subjects in the richest was only leased to Portugal, so long as section of the Chinese empire, a Teutonic Portugal paid a rental of 500 Tls. a year for India in China-that is what the dreamer the place, the Chinese posted their own of Wellington Street sees as the not im- customs officials there. Not until 1848, probable outcome of the Kiao-chou when FERREIRA do AMIRAL drove out the occupation. The Spectator does not pause customs officials by force and peremptorily to think that, from time to time during refused to pay any more reut, was Portuthe past 56 years, England too has been guese sovereignty really established. Nor making openings which might have served can we suppose that China would have far more effectually than Kiao-chou to acquiesced had not the peculiar situation contain the foundations of a British India of Macao obviated any inconvenient rein China, but somehow that result seems sults from the change. Macao is a tongue as remote as ever. If China is jelly-like of land 11 square miles in extent, running in the feebleness of her resistance to a south-west from the island of Heang-shan. powerful stroke, she possesses also the It is connected with the island by a narrow, peculiar property of jelly in being imper- sandy isthmus across which the Chinese vious to a permanent impression. She is built a wall in 1573, so that, in effect, the much more likely to absorb than to be place is completely segregated from the absorbed. A huge German-Chinese fabric mainland, and the Chinese are able to such as the London journal's imagination exercise full customs control of it from the want of accuracy displayed by men pourtrays, is a highly interesting specula- the island of Lappa, which lies directtion, and its realization might furnish a ly opposite its inner harbour. No such pleasant solution of one of the future's facilities offer at Kiao-chou. A customs greatest and most perplexing problems. cordon might, of course, be drawn round For it is contrary to all the suggestions of it, but such a proceeding would be reason and the teachings of experience to strangely unpractical and extravagant. suppose that an immense mass of highly The Germans are not at all likely to drive endowed people like the Chinese will re- the Chinese to any expedient of the kind. main for ever outside the pale of material There will doubtless be a customs station civilisation. They have to come within at the port and officials from the I.M.C. the pale sooner or later, and Germany's will discharge their duties there just "mailed hand" might be as safe and as they do at any of the settlements. satisfactory an instrument as any other for But where, in all these arrangements, admitting them. But it must be confessed that these visions assume a rather ludicrous character when we begin to think of the details of the task lying immediately before Germany at Kiao-chou. No India in China. That is not a matter for grand lines of Imperialist procedure, but exultation, of course. We should hope very perplexing work-a day problems, that few Englishmen are so narrowly ren educated on religious lines, if they be present themselves for her consideration, jealous as to grudge every colonial achieve-In the first place, she has not made a territorial acquisition. Kiao-chou has not setting down plain facts and eschewing become an integral part of her realm. It all sentimental comments. Certainly is only leased to her. It remains a section when we consider the steps that have led of the Chinese empire, and as such is up to this denouement—the armed descent accessible for residential, tradal and in- upon Shantung, the despatch of a special dustrial purposes to the subjects and citizens of all the Treaty Powers from the mand of the EMPEROR'S brother, the moment that it becomes accessible to speeches at Kiel and the magnifoquence German subjects. Germany evidently of the German press, and when we observe does not object to that. She might have that the outcome of it all is the opening placed her acquisition on another footing of a new settlement which might have had she been so minded, but she is willing been obtained at any moment if any one should be free to all. It follows, however, recognise a certain atmosphere of fiasco. Middle, Upper Middle, or Upper Schools, that nationals of other States will not be But, on the other hand, there is no mis- yet the graduates of the Christian institu-

would in any other part of China. So, obtained for foreign life and property in too, the native element of the population | China. From an English point of view, will be under native control. The Chin- also, we have to thank Germany. She traditions if it failed to pay a visit ese mandarin will exercise the same sway has stirred things up so effectually that We presume, further, that customs duties will be collected by officials of the Im-The case of Macao may suggest itself to the reader will evidences of German sovereignty be visible? It does not appear to us that Kiao-chou is likely to develop any features characteristic of the embryo of a German ment of Germany's. We are merely squadron from Germany under the com-

with a degree of briskness and alacrity very welcome to her subjects in the Far East.

# EDUCATION & RELIGION IN JAPAN.

OME views recently expressed by Marquis ITO on the subject of religion and national education were translated into the columns of the Japan Zimes, and being there read by foreign missionaries, seem to have inspired a feeling of uneasiness. Marquis ITO insisted on the necessity of excluding religion from the sphere of national education, but the dictum appears to have been interpreted in the sense that his Excellency is altogether opposed to any connexion between religion and education, whether the latter be national or private. We can well appreciate and sympathise with the disquiet that any such declaration emanating from the Prime Minister must cause in the minds of missionaries, but, on the other hand, we can not refrain from regretting who read into official utterances a significance which their language does not warrant. National education is one thing; private education, another, and a radically different, thing. Everybody, we presume, is agreed now-a-days that it is a moral outrage to employ public funds in promoting any particular form of creed. No tdistinction is made between tax-payers: all have to contribute equally whatever be their religious belief, and it follows that money thus contributed must not be applied for the purpose of inculcating a religion which some of the tax-payers certainly do not profess. Private education stands in another category. If the law grants liberty of conscience, it necessarily grants also the privilege of organizing schools where parents can have their childso minded. We can be perfectly sure that Marquis ITO recognises that principle. In fact, private education in Japan is entirely beyond the range of official scrutiny, and we fail to see why any doubts should have been suggested by the Marquis' statement.

There is, however, one point to which the missionaries might advantageously direct public attention. It is that private schools in Japan receive no official recognition. There are several admirable schools organized and conducted by Christians, where the students get far betthat whatever advantages the place offers had cared to ask for it, we are obliged to ter education than that obtainable at the subject to German jurisdiction within the taking the character of the object lesson tions are wholly ignored by officialdom. Iimits of Kiao-chou. They will retain that has been given to Peking, or the To have passed through one of the public their extraterritorial privilege just as they great increase of security that has been schools confers certain valuable rights

and immunities, but to have passed of a Western language has to derive his millions for maintaining the Navy at the through a Christian school counts for nothat of the Morning Star, for example. It has a staff of some fourteen foreign professors, all men of the very highest attainments, who would hold leading rank in the best educational circles in any European nation. It turns out every year a number of graduates admirably instructed; history and so forth; lads, in short, who as official recognition is concerned, the graduates of the School of the Morning Star might as well have received no educacations which are not admitted at all in public schools is authoritatively fixed, and the standard attained by a graduate being consequently known, there can be no doubt about the value of his certificate; whereas the curriculum of a private school is arbitrarily determined by the faculty, and the State having no voice in the matter, not unnaturally hesitates to acknowledge the result. But that is plainly a difficulty of a very partial character. The private schools would be perfectly willing to receive official inspection, and to submit their curricula for official approval, guaranteeing to maintain them at a standard at least as high as the curricula of the public schools. The effect of the present system is to impose a terribly severe handicap on private educational enterprise. As a general rule, Japanese youths can not afford to go to a private school since to have graduated there confers no title to the appointments which are in most cases the aim of education. Japan does herself great injury by this want of liberality. Education is of prime importance to her in her new career, but her resources are so slender that, in the great majority of cases, she can not afford to employ foreign teachers of foreign languages, and her youths have to be content to learn English, French, German and other Western languages from Japanese teachers. There are many Japanese who can claim to be well versed in a foreign tongue, but if all that are competent to teach it were collected, we doubt whether the whole empire could muster a score, and of these not one is engaged at the schools, for the emoluments otherwise procurable by men of good linguistic accomplishments are many times larger than the bonoraria of teachers. It results that in of every thousand, the Japanese student this had to be added a sum of about 133 proving as productive as was anticipated.

whole instruction from a man whose new standard. Thus the scheme of armathing. Consider the case of a school like knowledge of the subject is almost gro- ments expansion, when completed, would tesquely deficient and whose pronunciation is a burlesque. The idea of the regular annual expenditures. In addiemploying Englishmen to teach French, tion to this, since the development of the German and Italian in English schools mercantile marine was essential to the would be deemed irrational enough, but utilization of the army as well as to the such a device were brilliantly reasonable growth of national wealth, a system was compared with the expedients resorted to inaugurated for making State grants in aid lads with a sound working knowledge of in Japan. It is not for lack of appreciat- of ship-building and navigation. A sum English, French and Japanese, in many ing this cruel drawback that the Japanese of about 7 million yen annually had to be cases of German also; thoroughly ground- submit to it. Paucity of resources stands ed in mathematics, physics, literature, in the way. A Japanese so-called for the carrying out of various public un-"teacher" of English or French can be dertakings, the building of railways, the have enjoyed educational advantages far engaged for 25 or 30 yen a month; an completion of the armaments expansion superior to those offered by the best Englishman or a Frenchman costs 150. programme and so forth, public loans public schools in the empire. Yet, so far We do not intend to cast any manner of reproach in the teeth of the floated, and since an addition of 125 Japanese when we note these facts. The million yen had been made to the national inference we seek to emphasize is simply The graduation certificate of a that every possible encouragement ought public school confers on its holder qualifi- to be given to foreigners who come to 340 million yen, involving yearly payments Japan for educational purposes, after the the case of the graduate of a private manner of the missionaries; foreigners alone. Hence the various increases of school. There is, of course, a reason for who, partly because of their own devotion national outlays according to the postthis discrimination. The curriculum of the to a cause which renders them indifferent to gain, and partly because of the aid given by fellow-enthusiasts in Europe and America, are able to devote their services to education without making any demands of more than a merely nominal character on Japanese purses. Nothing should be spared to encourage these men. They are simply invaluable in Japan, and when, instead of hastening to recognise their labours, the Japanese Authorities ignore them completely, and treat the splendid schools organised and conducted by them as institutions unworthy of even official classification, they display a want of discernment which seems to us very inconsistent with their usual character. We do | yen, and if we compare that figure with the not know whether the missionaries have 641 millions shown in the above table, we ever taken up this subject earnestly and find a deficit of 38 millions on the revenue industriously. If they have, the public has side. But there are some facts to be never heard of the effort. We should at least have expected a monster petition ment's estimate did not include any apsigned by every missionary in Japan.

# TAX-PAYING CAPACITY OF THE JAPANESE.

N the opening essay of the last number political and financial situation of Japan with much thoughtfulness and sobriety, millions are deducted on these accounts, The absorbingly interesting fact is that there is still seen to be a deficit of 144 the nation now finds itself at the parting million yen. Besides, such deductions of the ways. It has to choose one of two can not be properly made if we desire to routes. Either it must abandon the pro- arrive at a just conception of the actual gramme of expansion elaborated by its state of affairs. We can not omit either statesmen and endorsed by its people after the expenditure for keeping the Navy up the war with China, or it must consent to to its new standard, or the grants in aid make larger pecuniary sacrifices. Speak- of navigation and ship-building, or the ing in round numbers, the regular expendi- assistance required for developing Fortures on account of the Army and Navy mosa, and we find ourselves confronted by on their increased footing were estimated a deficit of 38 million yen on the revenue at 42 million yen annually, against 161 side. Moreover, the four new sources of nine hundred and ninety-nine cases out millions, the ante-bellum figure; and to revenue devised by the Government are not

call for an addition of 39 million yen to estimated under that heading. Finally, aggregating 213 million yen had to be debt on account of the war, the total increase of the State's indebtedness would be of 17 million yen on account of interest bellum programme, would be :-

Additional cost of maintaining Army Navigation
Additional appropriations for service of National Debr(taking into account the gradual amortization) ...... 121 Geants to Formosa ......

Total ..... 641

To meet these additional outlays the Government proposed four fiscal measures, namely, two new taxes-a Registration Tax and Trades Tax-and two increases of taxes in the cases of tobacco and sake. The net estimated increase of revenue from these four sources was 264 million noted here. The first is that the Governpropriation for keeping the Navy up to its new standard, whereas we have allowed 131 million yen annually on that account. The second is that the Government's forecast of aids to navigation, &c., was only 3 millions; the third, that no allowance on of the Far East, the editor reviews the account of Formosa was set down in the Government's plan. But even when 231

Changes made by the Diet in the Registration system reduced the income from that source by 11 million yen; the Trades Tax seems likely to yield a million less than the estimate; the tobacco monopoly will, it is said, fall short of the forecast by fully 2 millions. Here then is a total difference of 44 million yen, and if we add it to our previous deficit (38 millions) we have an aggregate excess of expenditure amounting to 424 millions. Are there no new sources of revenue to be set against that deficit? Certainly there are. There is first a sum of from 6 to 8 millions from the new Tariff. There is secondly an addition of fully II millions in the income from State Undertakings-i.e. five per cent, on a sum of 126 millions which is to be spent on the development of railways and telephones under the new programme. And there is thirdly the natural development of the Ordinary Revenue. Omitting the last item, however, since it will probably be absorbed by the natural growth of the Ordinary Expenditures, we may summarize our results thus :---

Total additional annual outlays under all the headings of the pert bellum programme (including Formosa) ... Total addition to revenue from four sources devised by the Ito Cabinet in 1895, applying the reducition 641 applying the reductions made by the Diet and the Millions deficits indicated by ex-Additions on account of Tarill and Revenue from State Undertakings Aggregate additions of Revenue ...

Deficit on side of Revenue ....... We do not see how these figures can be traversed, or how the fact is to be escaped that an additional revenue of, say, 25 million yen has to be finally provided. The Budget compiled by the MATSUKATA Cabinet for 1898-9 shows a deficit of income amounting to 174 million yen, without taking Formosa into account, and 23 millions if Formosa be included. It may therefore appear to our readers that our millions is too small, but the fact must be noted that our figures include 18 million yen of revenue from the Tariff and from State Undertakings, neither of which assets are immediately available. By the fiscal year 1903-4, the deficiency of revenue would certainly not be in excess of our figure, unless the ordinary expenditures of the State in the meanwhile show increments not now anticipated. Still there is no gainsaying the fact that additional revenue must be provided or the post-bellum programme will have to be abandoned. Now is there any difficulty in obtaining additional revenue? That is the question which one hears perpetually propounded and from the nature of the answers would suppose that the taxpaying capacities of the people had gin that can be still drawn upon. We about 13s, sterling, the equivalent of 71 Japan wants to play the rôle of an import-

may consider this problem in various yen to-day. Hence the money value of ways. We may first compare the actual the land tax in 1863 was 165 million yen. sums contributed by the Japanese tax- The money value, however, is a fallacious payer and the sums contributed by the criterion. We must consider quantities tax-payers of other nations. The results rather. We must say that out of an of the comparison are startling, for we aggregate crop of 30 million koku of rice, find that while Japanese subjects pay only the farmer paid 22 millions by way of taxes. 2.30 yen per head in the form of direct taxes, British subjects pay 20 yen, French 221 yen, German 71, and Belgian 91. Such State. His barley, beans, tubers and figures are unsatisfactory, however, since other agricultural produce escaped scaththey take no account of the important factor, national wealth. An Englishman may have less difficulty in paying 20 yen than a Japanese has in paying 2.30 yen. Another way of considering the matter is to set down, side by side, the development of the nation's wealth during recent years and the rate of increase in the taxes. The Far East adopts that method, and furnishes the following interesting table:-

	1892.		
Railways	[,000,	1892	8,053
Steamers (tons)	1,000	1895	5.064
Capital of Banks	1,000	1896	3 364
Capital of Companies	1,000	1896	5 343
Exports	1,000	1896	3,123
Imports	F,000	1896	4.310
Correccy	1,000	898	1.573
Rice	1,000	1800	1,179
Silk	I,000	1896	2,458
Tea	1,000	1896	1.577
Coal	1,000	1894	4,588
Cetton	1,000	1896	15.920
(68 million yen)	1,000 (90 milli	011 <i>9#11</i>	1,324
Dat there Covers			

But these figures, too, are unsatisfactory since they furnish no information as to the incidence of the increased taxes. Thus when we say that the yield from taxes has grown by 33 per cent. during 15 years in a country where tradal and industrial enterprises of all kinds are developing by leaps and bounds, we assert a proposition so natural as to be scarcely worth consideration. But when we further note that the greater part of the increased yield has been due to the imposition of a tax on alcoholic liquors, which still escape with the absurdly small impost of 5 pence a gallon, we see at once that the people's tax-paying capacities have developed out of all proportion to the strain put upon them. estimate of an ultimate deficit of 241 to 25 All this is somewhat vague, however. The question we desire to answer is what: amount can the Japanese people contribute ing a tax of a shilling a gallon on refined to the State Exchequer without serious inconvenience? It appears to us that one of the simplest and safest ways of answering it now receives, and, as the Jiji Shimpo is to consider what they actually contri- points out, since the lower orders do not buted in pre-Restoration days. There is drink refined sake, they would not feel no difficulty in determining the main the impost. With regard to tobacco, we figure, at all events. In 1863, a table was entertain no doubt that the present system compiled showing the revenues collected of a monopoly will by-and-by be abandonfrom their fiels by 264 feudal nobles, ed in favour of the English plan of passgreat and small, exclusive of the Shogun. ing the leaf through Government storeamounted to over 4 million koku. Let us annually, instead of the 6 millions net obclasses paid annually for the support of nation are ample, and that the revenue of been stretched to their limit, whereas the feudal nobility 22 million koku of rice. the State might be raised to 200 million in truth there is an immense mar- The koku in 1863 was worth it bu, or yen without the least inconvenience. If

In other words, eleven fifteenths of his rice crop went into the exchequer of the less, but of his rice more than two-thirds were taken from him. The vield of rice to-day is about 39 million koku. Twothirds of that amount would be 26 million koku, representing over 280 million yen, whereas the land tax actually paid is only 38 million yen. The significance of such figures can not be minimized. It may be urged that out of taxes aggregating 91 million yen, the farmer now pays 38 millions, but if that proportion looks large, the fact remains that he paid more than seven times as much in feudal times. Nor does it appear that his lot was then particularly hard. On the contrary, the officials, recognising in him the chief source of the State's revenue, treated him with great consideration. II special levies had to be made for war purposes, the merchant, not the farmer, was required to pay, and, as a rule, there does not seem to have been any discontent among the agricultural class unless they were subjected to special exactions by dishonest officials. We see, thus, what the farmers actually paid before the Restoration, and we can have no difficulty in estimating their capacity to-day. The Land Tax might easily be doubled without causing any distress. Then there is the Saké Tax, concerning which the Fiji Shimpo writes so persistently. England raises a revenue of 250 million yen annually from taxes on beer and spirits and 100 millions from tobacco. The corresponding figures in Japan's case are 29 millions and 7 millions respectively. There can not be the slightest doubt that these sources of income will one day be exploited with more courage. By impossaké, the State could obtain an income of 80 million yen instead of 29 millions which The total was 18,580,593 koku of rice. houses and levying a tax on it in transit. According to the most accurate calcula- Twenty sen-or 5 pence-per lb. would tions, the revenues of the Shogunate yield a revenue of some 18 million yen put them as 31 millions, however. Thus tained by the monopoly. It is abundantly our final result is that the agricultural clear that the tax-paying capacities of the ant Power, she must put her hand in her pocket. Judging by the noise that is made about adding a couple of millions sterling to the revenue, one would imagine that her resources were already strained to the utmost and that she found herself in embarrassed circumstances, whereas among all the States claiming a place in the comity of civilized nations, her national burdens are conspicuously the smallest. In truth, comparison is almost impossible so great is the difference. Germany, for example, which is probably the most economical Power in Europe, takes 71 yen per head from her subjects in direct taxes whereas Japan takes only 2.30 yem; Germany's public income represents 134 yen per head of her people, Japan's 2.95 yen; the service of Germany's national debt costs each of her subjects 4.90 yen, whereas the figure in Japan's case is 71 sen; Germany spends 4.85 yen of each of her nationals' income on her army and navy, while Japan spends only 93 sen.

# FOREIGN CAPITAL.

IN a recent issue we translated from a vernacular contemporary the opinions said to be entertained by the foreign merchants of Kobe with reference to the introduction of foreign capital. We now find in the Kobe Chronicle a summary of the remarks made by Mr. WEALE, Vice-Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting of the Committees of the Foreign and Japanese Chambers, held on January aust :-

Without going into the details of the causes that had given tise to the monetary stringency now prevailing, Mr. Weste thought it was obvious that the crisis had now attained a stage where palliative measures of some kind were a necessity. It would be of considerable interest to the Foreign Chamber of Commerce to learn by what means and from what direction relief was viewed as eventually probable by the Japanese Chamber. Amongst other suggested measures they had of course heard of a proposed contraction in the armament extension proposed contraction in the attendent extension scheme, but so far as could be foreseen very little hope was to be entertained in that quarter. Not only would such a departure prove embarrassing from a political point of view, but it was doubtful whether the programme was not already too far advanced to permit of any modification of practical value.
The phase of the problem in which those present

were more directly concerned was trade, and it was naturally to a tendedy from that quarter that the commercial interests of the country would devote their chief attention. That this had to some extent been recognised, was proved by the recent agitation in both the Tokyo and Osaka native agriation in the granting of permission to foreigners to own shares in Japanese enterprises, and by the advocacy by one journal (namely, the Fifl Shimpo) that foreigners should have the right to own land under the same conditions as the Japanese them-

In connection with these two last-named pro-

was apt to be markedly exaggerated. The right to held shares or not was of far less importance to the average foreigner than was commonly sup-posed. He would go so far as to say that without absolute confidence in the securing of equal rights and an equal vuice in the controlling influence of any enterprise, it was in the highest degree im-probable that any foreigner would care to become extensively interested in Japanese ventures. The facility, therefore, was not one upon which it would be wise to base expectations of any important

influx of foreign capital.

To be perfectly sincere, the one and only condition, continued Mr. Wealer upon which such investment could be counted on was the granting to foreigners identically the same rights and pri-vileges regarding the tenure of land as were enjoyed by the natives of this Empire themselves. Even then he would deprecate the notion of there being any likelihood of a "rush" to secure being any likelihood of a "rush" to secure property on the consummation of Treaty Revision. There seemed to be in many quarters a wide-spread belief or fear that in the event of such a concession, an attempt would at once be made by concession, an attempt would at once be made by foreigners to acquire everything most promising in Japan—property, industries, &c., &c., ad infantum! He need scarcely point out to an enlightened body such as he had the honour of addressing, that this was a fallacy unworthy a moment's consideration. No better example of this point could be taken than Great Britain, where it was open to everylody or anybody having the desire and necessary capital to acquire as much property as they pleased. Indeed, the fact was that the benefit derived by the individual lone many, while Japan spends only 93 sen.

The fact is that the Japanese are a little childish in their ideas about finance. They will have to develop a modicum of courage and work on slightly more liberal lines if they really intend to come out of their shell.

They cannot, however, be taken away, and must always remain the asset of the soil in which they have been implanted. That the possession of an interest is any country constitutes as the demanding event effort lowed in the result. a stake demanding every effort towards its pre-servation from outside aggression or interference was purliage an argument that at first sight might appear far felched, but its value had been demon-strated many times ere this, and doubtless would be again before the history of the world came to a

There remained the further alternative of additional frevenment Loans, which, lowever, for various reasons did not appear to call for urgent consideration. The removal of Treaty restric-tions offered an opening for capital so much more natural and interesting that it practically ook precedence of all others

It could not but be admitted on both sides that recurring assistance of some kind was greatly to be desired at the present stage of the country's development. The question was whether it would not be wise to attract it while money in Europe was cheap and plentiful, seeing that capital might at any moment find an outlet for itself in other directions (as, for example, large toans to China) from which it would be difficult to re-divert it.

Owing, perhaps, to the loss of explicitness that all matter suffers in the process of WEALE'S leave something to be desired in points of clearness. They read as as a privilege which, if once granted, would go far to attract an inflow of foreign capital, independently of enterprises already started and organized by Japanese.

would be spent on the acquisition of sites, the erection of buildings, the payment of operatives and so forth. But only a fraction of the funds thus expended would be added to the stock of floating capital; by far the greater part would pass into the hands of the labouring classes, and while materially assisting to promote general prosperity, would not sensibly assist the Japanese themselves to develop the resources of their country. In short, the starting of new enterprises with foreign capital and under foreign auspices, however desirable in the interests of Japan's material progress, would not lessen the embarrassment now felt by Japanese capitalists, who find themselves loaded with shares and bonds which, though possessing a nominal market price and a real value, can not be converted into money because no money is available for their conversion. Hence the Japanese instinctively turn to foreign capitalists, and cast about for means to induce the latter to invest in shares and bonds which, so far as the returns they give are concerned, undoubtedly represent good investments. How do such transactions present themselves to foreigners, however? In the first place, there is the fundamental difficulty relating to the ownership of real property. The shareholders in an industrial, commercial, banking or transport association are pro rata owners of the real property held by the association for the purposes of its business. Foreign shareholders would be excluded from any such ownership. They would stand on a lower plane than the Japanese share-holders. That is a vital objection. In the second place, the foreign shareholder could not take an active part in the management of the enterprise so long as he was exempted from Japanese jurisdiction. He could not assume the responsibilities of control without being amenable to all the laws summarization, these remarks of Mr. that relate to its exercise. There is even a strong doubt whether he is at present entitled to legal recognition as a sharethough he referred to ownership of land holder. It is useless, under such circumstances, to talk to foreigners about buying shares in Japanese companies. Two preliminaries are essential: the first, that foreigners and Japanese should be equal That is not exactly Mr. WEALE'S mean- before the law; should have equal rights ing, we imagine. There are two avenues and be amenable to the same restraints; by which foreign capital can be introduced the second, that the foreigner's title in into Japan; they may be called the arti-the property of the association should be ficial avenue and the natural avenue. The just as valid as the title of the Japanese. artificial avenue is a public loan. With It is understood that a note appended to that we need not concern ourselves for the Revised Treaty between Germany the moment. The natural avenue is the and Japan secures to foreigners the right purchase of shares by foreigners in Japan of becoming partners with Japanese even In connection with these two last-named proposals, Mr. Weals said he should take the opportunity to make one or two hief remarks, more especially as the interest they possess undoubtedly applied more to Osaka and Kobe as forming—to to speak—the industrial backbone of Japan, than to speak—the industrial backbone of Japan, than to speak—the industrial backbone of Japan, than to say other section of the Empire. A very mistaken view was held as regards both these proposals by a large number of Japanese. In the first case, the value of the concessions advocated ese commercial, manufacturing, banking in an enterprise the prosecution of which



foreigners, they will never seriously think of purchasing the shares of Japanese companies. That objection does not apply with equal force to the inauguration of enterprises by foreigners themselves; in fact, it can scarcely be said to apply at all, for the foreigner will be able, as a superficiary, to obtain all the facilities of land tenure that are necessary for industrial or commercial purposes. What the Japanese earnestly desire, however, is, not that foreigners should start tradal and manufacturing enterprises on their own account, but that they should put money into enterprises already started by Japanese, and until the difficulty about real estate is removed, that desideratum will never be accomplished. There would still be something to overcome-the foreigner's distrust of Japanese business methods and Japanese commercial morality. Time alone can remove that obstacle, however, whereas the elimination of the real-estate difficulty is a mere matter of legislation.

# A GERMAN ENGINEER FOR THE IMPERIAL RAILWAY BUREAU.

We gather from vernacular newspapers that a German expert has been engaged by the Imperial Railway Bureau in succession to Mr. C. A. W. Pownall. The name is not given, but the qualifications of the new employé are said to be very high. This will be the first instance of a German engineer's engagement on the Japanese railways, we think. Hitherto, with one or two American exceptions, all the experts employed have been British subjects. It is not to be inferred, however, that any dissatisfaction is felt with Englishmen, or that an engineer of non-British extraction was originally desired. The fact is, we believe, that search was made in England, in the first place, but that, in view of the very high qualifications prescribed, no one of the necessary standing was found willing to accept the salary offered-£1,200 per annum. An Englishman of the desired type could scarcely be induced to give his services for less than £3,000. The Gerthat money being much more valuable their good men are willing to serve for comparatively small emoluments. It is just possible, of course, that the Japanese Authorities may have been to some extent influenced by considerations of military strategy. The German railway system is excellently organized for strategical purposes, and there may be a desire to contrive some similar organization in Japan. does not seem altogether probable, however, for the strategical conditions in Japan are essentially different from those in Germany. In the latter country the basis of all railway organization for military purposes is frontier defence, a problem which need scarcely enter into Japan's conquestions, however, there is certainly plenty of work to be done on the Japanfallen into a condition almost resembling it would be in every way for the country. disorganization, and complaints of traffic congestion are heard on all sides. The enlightened views as his deserve to be considered in the former nominer, goes to advertised in letters of gold.

A compromise has been enected in the sense has been enect trouble will not prove am nable to Ger Digitized by

man management, however. No foreigner, whatever his nationality or capacities, is entrusted with any administrative authority in Japan, and so long as that is the case, no foreigner can be really efficient. The Japanese employers are the sufferers.

# STATE PURCHASE OF RAILWAYS.

The talk about a State purchase of the principal private railways appears to be again reviving. It was heard pretty loudly a few months ago, but evidently had no solid foundation. We do not know that it possesses any greater claims to public attention now than it did then, but, at any rate, it is worth noting as one of the ways proposed for introducing foreign capital. The project is that the Government should raise a loan abroad at 31 per cent., and should devote the proceeds to buying up the chief private railways, as the Nippon, the Sanyo, the Kiushiu, the Kwansei and so forth, taking over their stock on the basis of 41 per cent, net pro-Thus a 50-yen share of a railway paying a dividend of 10 per cent, would be bought by the Government at 125 yen, and there would be a clear gain to the State of 1 per cent., which would serve for purposes of amortization. The main, indeed the only, argument of those advocating the measure is that, under existing circumstances, no money is procurable in Japan to build lines which are urgently needed, whereas if such a purchase were effected, the proceeds would certainly be devoted, in great part, to the construction of new lines. The Military Authorities are said to endorse the scheme, as the only available means of giving an impetus to railway development at present. even supposing that the Government were willing to adopt the proposal, it is by no means certain that the railway companies would consent.

# A NEW PROJECT ABOUT FOREIGN CAPITAL.

The new Minister of Justice, Mr. Sone Arasuke, is supposed to be one of the advocates of introducing foreign capital into the country. The Jiji Shimpo publishes a statement of the ideas said to be entertained by him on the subject. His plan is to increase the capital of the Bank of mans have a great advantage in the fact Japan from 90 million yen to 250 millions, and to allow foreigners to become shareamong them than it is in Great Britain, holders. As to the method of obtaining money direct by means of a loan, Mr. Sone is understood to have no objection were it possible to avoid putting a large profit into the pockets of the foreign lenders or agents. He does not think that possible, however, whereas he does think that if the shares of the Bank of Japan were brought within reach of foreign capitalists, they would find ready pur-chasers. Timid conservatives may object that, were such a plan adopted, the foreign shareholders would ultimately get the control of the Bank of Japan completely into their hands, but Mr. Sone does not regard that objection as worthy of being seriously discussed. His own view is that sideration at all. Apart from strategical the larger the interest obtained by foreign investors in the Bank-which is only another way of saying, the larger their

# THE "SATURDAY REVIEW" AND THE KAISER

The bitterness of the Saturday Review against the Emperor of Germany is vitrolic. Nothing can be worse than the tone of its writings. They do not show the very first symptom of the courtesy which is undoubtedly due from any foreign journalist towards the great nation of which the Kaiser is the head. Probably a good many Germans are considerably distressed and perplexed about their Sovereign's doings, not being quite sure whether his impulsiveness may not plunge the Fatherland at any moment into serious trouble. But no German could fail to be intensely angered and offended by language such as the Saturday Review employs about his monarch. It can scarcely be said, now-adays, that newspapers contribute much towards bringing about the reign of peace and goodwill upon earth. One comment made by the London journal, however, seems well worth quoting:—"Every one agrees now with Ranke that the reason why we beat France in our hundred and fifty years' duel with her was that France tried to do too much; she tried to keep the hegemony of the Continent while attempting to beat Britain at sea, and this double task was beyond her strength. In spite of this historical lesson the German Emperor has just committed the same blunder. Compelled to hold the hegemony of the Continent as a condition of national existence, Germany under his leadership is now striving to found colonies and construct a navy which shall dispute with ours the supremacy of the sea."

# THE KOBE-POKOHAMA CATTLE TRAFFIC.

The N.Y.K. steamer Nagoya Maru, which arrived here on Friday night from Kobe, exarrived here on friday night from Kobe, experienced very heavy weather when in the neighbourhood of Oshima, early on Friday morning—the same storm that visited Yokohama at about 3 a m. that day. We learn that the Nagoya shipped forty-two head of cattle at Kobe for Yokohama, but only aix were landed gives and these months in a mortile. landed alive, and these mostly in a terrible condition. It is full time some steps were taken by the authorities to enforce regulations for the proper saleguard of cattle shipped on cossting steamers, not only in the interes shippers, but out of simple humanity. The system adopted on the N.Y.K. steamers in shipping cattle is simply to tie them up by the horns, on deck, to the rails or bulwarks of the ship, with no rear or side support whatevernot even skids or fillets on the deck to give the poor beasts foothold. As a consequence, in heavy weather, or whenever the ship rolls to any serious extent, the whole of the weight of the cattle is thrown upon their horns, which in cases of very heavy weather, as on the recent trip of the Nagoya Maru, are simply torn from their heads, indicting excruciating torture on the animals and generally ending in their death in ghastly agony. A strong rail should be fixed at the rear of the cattle to afford support in the rolling of the ship, and fillets of wood nailed to the deck to give them some foothold, we is done on all cattle s'eamers between Ireland and England. It is strange that shippers of cattle in Japan have so far been content to pay for the transport of cattle by steamship companies which take no ordinary precautions for the safety of the live cargo shipped,

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# SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Japanese scholarship has sustained a great loss in the death of Dr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, so well known as a writer, at the comparatively early age of 52. Born in Yedo, early in life he devoted himself to the study of English and French. On his return from Europe at the beginning of the Meiji era he entered Government service, but at the same time opened a school of his own and engaged in translation. As a teacher he was very popular, and numerous are the public men of to-day and numerous are the public men of to-day who studied under Dr. Mitsukuri when boys. Among the books that he published, the best known are the 微量 , Kansen Kumnō, a treatise on morals; the Bankoku Mhinshi, a New History of the World; the Gatkō sūlron, a generalwork on the Management of Schools; and the Tōkeigaku, Siatistics. He nanslated the whole of the French Code and was one of the principal compilers of the original Japanese Code. In compilers of the original Japanese Code, 1896 he was made President of the Administrative Court (Gyosel Saibansho). He was crested a baron shortly before his death as a reward for his many services. There particulars are taken from the Kohumin-no tomo. Dr. Toyama furnishes to the Taiyo a fuller notice of the life and labours of this pioneer of western learning and civilisation, from which we call the following details:-Most people will remember Mr. Mitaukuri as the translator of the Code de Napoleon and the author of the first draft of the Ispanese Code, few know how proficient he was in English and how great was the impetus given to English studies by his labours. He was the first to compile an English Dictionary, which, after being revised and enlarged by one of his pupils, Mr. Horikoshi Aikoku, was given to the world, and for a long time proved most useful. Among his pupile were Mr. Kıkuchi Dairoku, Mr. Mi-taukuri Kakichi and myself. Dr. Mitsukuri, as teacher of English, was connected with three distinct institutions, namely the 開成所 Kaiseijo, (the former University), the Numazu Military School and the Shizuoka School (under the control of the Tokugawa Shogunate). Dr. Mitsukuri's influence on many well-known men of 10-day was very great. Among these may be mentioned Messis. Nakai Tokusuke, Oi Kentarō. Kishimoto Tatauo, Maejima Mitsu, Shimada Saburō, and Taguchi Ukichi.

Comments on the character of the exhibits at the Third Exhibition of Pictures held a short time ago appear in the Taiyo (No. 24) under the title of "The View of an Outsider." The exhibits amounted to 1,200, a larger number than has been received at any previous exhibias worthy of being forwarded to the Paris Ex-hibition of 1900. The following gentlemen were lavited to act as judges: Messrs Okabe Cho-shoku, Kaneko Kentato, Matsui Naokichi, Tsubouchi Shoyo, Isono Tokusabuoo. Mr. Kaneko is reported to have made the following observations—we do not profess to give the exact words, but their gist:—We are agreed in thinking that artists should be encouraged in producing pictures that show a blending of the three styles (Chinese,Occidental, and Japanese) in an original manner. To expect that the Meiji era should possess a style of its own is quite natural. But there is one point that does not seem to receive sufficient attention from modern artists. best painted scrolls that have been handed down to us the objects are so sketched that they can be seen distinctly from a distance. How clear are the dragon and the tiger in Yeitoku's famous sketch preserved in the palace of Momoyama, None of the objects portrayed in our modern pictures can be seen distinctly six feet away, Sufficient pains are not taken with colouring, nor is there any attempt to make the outline of objects clear.

Mr. Tokutomi said that the progress which had been made was most gratifying, but still despotson, arbitrariness, cruelty, and eventual there was a great want of harmony in the work of the artists. Many of the pictures relatively pears that will illustrate the manner origin of the subject of Foot-binding in China. The back fifty years that will illustrate the manner origin of the subject of Foot-binding in China. The Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

minded him of the awkward mixture of foreign and Japanese customs incidental to the revolution through which they had passed. The harmonising of styles must, he thought, be de-ferred to a later age. In portrait painting there was a distinct advance. Hitherto Japanese wasa distinct advance. Hitherto Japanese artists have too frequently made no distinction between the faces of men of character and ability like Yoritomo and Hideyoshi, and mere coolies, and not infrequently it has been hard to determine whether the artist intended to represent a man or a woman. In this year's exhibits there is marked improvement in this Many of the allegorical, and what may be called ideal, paintings are very well done.

Mr. Tsubouchi compared the tentative efforts of modern artists to the writers of the "New Style Verses" in literature, and criti-cised certain exhibits in detail. Mr. Okabe said that he was in favour of the greatest liberty being allowed as to style. The exhibits showed a great variety. He did not advocate limiting them. In 50 years' time it would be early enough to decide what paintings were worthy of being permanently retained. He was not in favour of artists explaining their designs to others. It is preferable to allow the public to find out for themselves. The more subtle the ideas embodied the more pleasure will the pictures give to the lover of art.

Messrs Hashimoto and Kawabata were of opinion that in some instances it was dangerous to urge on young artists the necessity of inventing a style of their own, that it was preferable for them to try and imitate some of the great masters in their early days, and not attempt anything new until they were thoroughly versed in the laws of art.

In the Kyōikujiron is published a statement of Mr. Fenollosa's views on the education of the lature, with special reference to the consequences of mixed residence in Japan, of which

the following is an epitome,

There is no denying that the prevailing ideas of Orientals and Occidentals are widely different and in some cases almost irreconcilable, If Japan had only to do as India and Egypt are doing, adopt Western civilisation en masse, her task would be comparatively easy. But abe has not sufficient faith in the perfection and universal superiority of our system of civilisation to follow this course. She has come to the conclusion that a judicious choice of elements is the only safe method to adopt. Now since Western civilization is the result of the keenest competition among different countries, it is undoubtedly very strong. we ask what its strength consists in, the reply is wealth. Our intelligence has all been centred on the one question of how to acquire wealth. Our laws, our governments, our armies, our science, our treaties with each other are all means employed to make ourselves rich. Our ethics are controlled by considerations of profit and loss. I have not included Christianity among the instruments utilised for enriching ourselves, m it is undoubtedly true that Christianity is the chief of all antagonistic influences to the dominant spirit of the agein illustrated by the class of persons who constirate its chief devotees. While welcomed by women and children, it is for the most part treated with cold indifference by the pushing business man of the world. If it could be asserted with truth that Western civilisation is in every respect superior to Eastern civilisation, then the sooner the former were transplanted to Japan the better. But the butth is that a close analysis of our Western system of civilisation reveals the fact that it contains some very weak elements. tendency of our modern civilisation is to place the control of the world in the hands of two or three nations. If nothing interferes with the progress of events, the outcome will be that America will be supreme in the West and Russia in the East. The monopoly of power means

in which the central principle of our civilisation is ant to work itself out. In checking the accumulation of wealth and its consequent power by a select few, even the much-despised socialists

are doing good service.

Our Western civilisation is essentially an external affair. The men who figure most on account of their wealth are not civilised in the true sense of the word. Turning to the East we find that with the absence of the power and influence which characterises Occidental nations, there is culture of the highest kind. The great teachers of antiquity, Christ, Confucina, Chwang-tez, and others all made a deep intpression on the Oriental mind. Christianity has effected nothing in the West compared to what it has done in the East. The same holds good of art and philosophy. In the West art is valued for the sake of the emotional pleasure it affords. In the East it is valued for the ideas it emhodies. If asked to state in one word the difference between the two systems, I whould say that Western civiligation is like an adult that is blind and Eastern like a child that can see. The two can help each other, but their relation to each other cannot be that of persons where one does all the leading and the other all the following. The experience of the adult and the clear vision of the child may be utilised in finding out what is the best path to follow. The experiment that Japan is engaged on is keenly watched by expectant eyes both in the East and the West. To this nation is granted the opportunity of harmonising in a new form all that is best in the two systems of civilsation we have discussed.

In an article on the Japanese fiction of the present day the Waseda Bungaku observes that the most prominent of all the characteristics of Nineteenth Century European literature is the faithfulness with which it portrays real life, This tendency has rendered the realistic novel the most popular of books. Among Japanese imitators of this class of writing Ozaki is perhaps the most successful. Rohan's covels are purely idealistic, and he does not aim at rendering any of his descriptions in a manner that represents real life. He gives the seins to his fancy, not only in the choice of ideas on which to write, but in the invention of methods of expression, which are far removed from all descriptions of actual life. The Waseda Bungaku is of opinion that every novel should have an ideal object, but that its narrative should be faithful to the occurrences of every-day life. The objectless realistic novel, according to the magazine we are quoting, no longer finds favour in Japan.

The Teikoku-Bungaku farnishes an "account of the principles and objects of the two Fine Art Societies known as the Bijulsu-Kyōkai and the Kwaigwa-Kyōshin-kai." The former is conservative, the latter progressive. The establishment of the Kwaigwa Kyoshinkai dates ten years later than that of the Bijutsu Kyokai. The chief object of the creation of the new society was reform. No outsider can regard with complacency the attitude of these two bodies to each other. Instead of recognising each other's merits, they indulge in mutual recrimination. Neither school can be said to have succeeded. the pro-foreign school has neglected to cultivate methods in which Japanese painters excel, and the conservative school has ignored all modern improvement on ancient art. result of all this is that Japan is at present without any real standard of art. Styles are so mixed as to be almost incapable of intelligent classification. The judgment passed on Japanese pictures in Europe many years ago led to a departure from old methods and a serious attempt to vie with Occidentals on their own lines. How far this attempt has succeeded will be made clear by the opinion pronounced on Japanese exhibits at the Paris Exhibition in .0001

At the November meeting of the Shigaku-kai

somewhat obscure. There are not wanting evidences that at times the Chinese themselves considered the practice injurious. For instance, it was forbidden about the beginning of the 🎁 Taing era (the end of the XVI. Century). The first record of the prevalence of the custom is said to date from about A.D. 618.

At the same meeting Mr. Minra Chikaynki read an essay on "The Rights of Parents under Military Rule," which treated of (1) The position of parents under the ancient civil rulers of Japan; (2) the introduction of foreign Chinese laws respecting the rights of Parents; (3) the military system under the Kamakura Shozuus and the way it affected family life ; (4) the systems of domestic government in vogue under powerful barons in Hideyoshi's time; (5) the various changes in respect of the rights granted to parents during the Tokugawa era. The most valuable part of the essay is that which discusses the ancient military system of Japan in its influence on the position of parents in

According to the Zeikoku Bungaku the attempt to improve the Japanese stage, of which we heard so much a few years ago, has practically failed. Even the influence of Mr. Fukuchi has not availed against the conservatism of the chief actors. The writers of dramas and the actors have little sympathy with each other. Hence the alow progress. It is now proposed to found a society to be called the Stage reform Society, whose members shall consist of actors, stage-managers, and play-writers. It is hoped that this combination will insure the carrying out of the improvement that the times demand.

The death of Mr. Morita Shiken, the wellknown writer and translator, is commented on in all the chief magazines. A native of Bitchu, as a boy Morita was a diligent student of Chinese. He subsequently entered the Keiögijnku and afterwards joined the staff of the Hochi Shimoun. Aftertouring in America and Europe. he returned to Japan and devoted himself to a literary life. He was a great admirer of Victor Hugo, many of whose works he translated. He was the master of a rate style. His method of translation was first to master the thought of the original and then to render it in as polished and accurate a manner in possible. Perliaps no one has succeeded so well in showing the capabilities of classical Chinese as a medium for conveying high class Western thought. Cut off at the early age of 37, his death has caused a blank in the literary world which will not be easily filled.

From the Shigaku Zasshi we learn that the Gunjoruiju (群書類從) has proved a great success and is now going through its second edition. In commenting on this work the Shigaku Zarshi saya that proof-reading in Japan is done very carelessly and that even in standard works like the one now under consideration there are a very large number of errata. same magazine notices favourably Mr. Aston's English translation of the Rojiki, recently published in Loudon under the auspices of the Japan Society. The Shigaku observes that though Professor Florenz and others have translated certain portions of the Kojiki, Mr. Asion has the honour of being the first to furnish a translation of the entire work. . \* .

magazine quoted above gives an account of an interesting discovery made at Dokan Yama, a place situated near Tabata Station, between Ueno and Oji, which, it is said, throws additional light on the much disputed question, the origin of the Japanese. A peculiarly shaped cave, called in Japanese tate ana, containing a number of utensils, has been unearthed at the above mentioned place, which found are both well known as belonging to the cave and the ntensils ancestors of the Malay race. The theory established by this discovery, a cordina 16-11-16. shows conclusively that secretain class of the ancient inhabitants of there islands were

Shigaku-zasshi, in that the people known as the Koro-pok-guru or Pit-dwellers of Yezo and the Kurile islands, also lived in various parts of the Southern islands of Japan, and that they were of Malay origin, probably reaching Japan through Formosa, where similar relics to those found at Dōkan Yama are most common.\*

The Shigaku Zasshi relates at some length the difficulties the Russians had in shipbuilding at Toda, in Izu, where they were wrecked in 1854, at the time of the great earthquake. By the aid of Japanese carpenters they succeeded in building a schooner in which they eventually set sail. The kindaess they received on that occasion shows that the anti-foreign spirit, which was so strong in the Shōgun's capital at the time, was by no means shared by the inbabitants of the provinces. The writer of the account has lately returned from a visit to Toda, where he collected a good deal of information bearing on Japan's first attempt at foreign shipbuilding. The carpenters who were employed in constructing the Russian schooner acquired knowledge that served them in good stead in after years. They subsequently scattered themselves throughout the surrounding provinces and became the pioneers of naval architecture in Japan.

The Shakai Zasshi gives an epitome of recently expressed opinions on the prevailing practice of certain newspapers as regards the publication of tales containing immoral details. The Shakai Zasshi suggests that newspapers and magazines should devote a certain portion of their space to the publication of the lives of men of merit and virtue or other matters calculated to prove morally beneficial to their readers. The Mainichi Shimbun has already commenced to adopt this course, and two or three other wellknown organs have decided to follow suit. The Fiyā tō tōhō asks the daily newspapers to devote a column of each issue to news of a moral type. Rare indeed are the occasions, sava this paper, when any prominence is given to virtuous actions. The deeds of the wicked are described in detail, but the good works of the virtuous men and women in our midst are seldom noticed save in a cursory man-On this subject the Waseda Bungaku observes that in its epinion the popularity of the literature which is considered so objectionable is not by any means to be considered as a proof of the depravity of readers. Tales of vice are more interesting than tales of virtue, because the former deal withrare incidents. Peoplegrowtired of reading of actions that are commonplace. It is the rare that captivates, whether it relate to virtue or to vice. Even in music, with the Japanese, it is not the gleeful but the plaintive that charms. If this quality of rareness can be maintained in tales of virtue as it is in tales of vice, the former would undoubtedly take with the public, but much of the so-called moral writing of the times deals too much with virtue in the abstract to form interesting reading to the majority of people,

The Waseda Bungaku has an article on Daily Newspapers, from which we take the following particulars :- The Kokumin Shimbun underwent enlargement and considerable improvement in October last. In the new series one side of a sheet is devoted to the discussion of literary and social topics. Current literature receives a large amount of attention, even the leading columns of the paper often containing notices of recently published works. In the importance attached to literature the Nikon follows close on the heels of the Kokumin. The Porosu Chôhô and the Mainichi Shimbun both make a poorshow when writing on literary subjects. The Yomiuri and Jiji Shimpo are not distinguished by any special attention paid to literature, though the former is often spoken of as a literary as well as a political organ. As regards the other papers literature occupies with them a very third-rate

is the decrease of daily newspapers in the metropolis. A few years ago they numbered over a score. They have now been reduced to 14 + It would seem an though the public refuses to support more. It is becoming the custom for some papers to publish the lectures of Koshakushi, even the Yomiuri having adopted this practice. The success of some of the novels that appear in the dailies is very astonishing. The Hinode Shima by Gensai (Murai), appearing in the Hochi Shimban, has already stretched over 400 issues of the paper, and is still unfinished, and the interest of the public, it is said, has never flagged throughout. The most remarkable of all the characteristics of the Japanese newspapers of the present day is the use made of their advertising columns. In this the Jiji leads. It is said that the Jill makes 10,000 ren per month by its advertise-ments alone. When it is remembered that 20 years ago advertising was always associated in the Japanese mind with charlatanism and regarded as an indication of the unsoundness of an enterprise, on the principle that "good wine needs no bush," we see how radical is the change that has come over the leading business men of . . . the empire.

In the Kyōiku-Kōhō, which is the organ of the Japanese Education Society in a new form, appears the report of an address delivered by Baron Suyematsu on "The Sublime and the Beautiful," of which the following is an abstract:—The Japanese term bifutsu is a literal translation of the English "Fine Art," but an examination of the various uses of the word the fulse shows that it does not precisely correspond in extent to the English word art. The Japanese term is used as the equivalent of art in the industrial sense, as denoting a class of skill in any kind of workmanship, and also in the sense of fine art, that is a knowledge of the accomplishments that are applied to the produc-tion of what is beautiful. The sense conveyed to the Japanese mind by bijutsu is not the same as is convered to an Englishman by the term Fine Arts, or to the Frenchman by Les Beaux arts. The term 🌞 bi, the equivalent of beautiful, does not include the idea of sublimity with which the European mind is so familiar. There is beauty that has no sublimity in it, and with that beauty the Japanese mind, according to Baron Suyematsu, is best acquainted. There is a great difference, says Baron Suyematsu, between 壯麗 Sorei, the sublime, and 盖麗 birei, the beautiful∶ There are those who say that even in Japanese scenery, with the exception of Fujiyama, there is little that is entitled to be described as sublime, though there is much that is beautiful. This is certainly the case with her literature and her art, her customs and even her language, concludes Baron Suyematsu.

The latest number of the Nikonjin has an article on education, religion, literature, arts and accomplishments, the tone of which is most despondent. The present educational system is denounced in unmeasured terms. As regards religion, among both Christians and Buddhluts sincerity and earnestness are the exception, hypocrisy and coldness the rule. There can be no real faith, says the Nihongin, where a Japanese Christian is content to be wholly supported by foreign money. In respect to literature Japan is still in its infancy. Among the crowds of volumes that are issued monthly there are few works of any real merit. In foreign countries we read of editions of 10,000 copies being sold where the price of one copy is 100 prs. The lately issued Standard Dictionary sells at 40 prs.; The booksallers have been trying to get the price reduced to 20 year by promising to take 15,000 copies. To sall 15,000 copies in Japan would be the very utmost that could be accomplished. This shows what the purchasing capability of the Japanese reading public actually amounts to. newspapers-50.000 copies per day is the highest

† This is incorrect, as was shown is these columns a few pit-tidwellers

† This is incorrect, as was shown is these columns a few woods ago. Writer of the Summary

It is to be that for all years bound in half merocco-

figure reached, while there are papers that do not issue more than 2,000 copies. In Western countries there are papers that circulate million copies per day. (?) The world of art is no less unpromising. Though there are two Exhiless unpromising. Though there are two Exhi-bitions of pictures held every year, nothing worthy of comparison with the choice productions of Western lands in exhibited. It is much to be feared that even our very best pictures will ex-cite ridicule at the coming Paris Exhibition. In foreign countries we hear of paintings fetching over 10,000 yes, but there is nothing to be found in Japan that would realise such a price. Music fates no better than art. There is no real progress in this accomplishment, because there is no real taste for it. Various have been the efforts to stir up enthusiasm on the subject of music, but the results have been most disaccomplishments there is the same stag-nation. There are artisans of skill and nation. There are artisans of skin and industry in abundance, but the demand for high class work is so small that they despair even making a living, to say nothing of establishing a reputation.

The Rikugo Zasshi has an interesting article advocating that Japan should in future make Switzerland and not England her model. The special points of excellence in the Swiss, according to the Rikugo, are the attention they considerate pay to education, their love of freedom, their follow:

respect for popular rights, the equal distributions. tion of property that is encouraged—out of 485,000 families it is said that no less than 465,000 are landowners-their freedom from all the taxation and distress attending the maintenance of a large standing army. The physical peculiarities of the two countries, as well - the character of the inhabitants, have much in common, says the Rikugo. Japan's attempt to make England her model is bound to end in failure, and to it the Rikugo applies the Japanese proverb, Kawazu ga ushi no mane wo seba hara ga sakeru.

Dr. Motora Yujiso contributes to the Nihon Shugi an article on suicide in Japan, of which the following is the gist. Cases of suicide are of two kinds. There are those who destroy themselves without any derangement of mind whatever. The act is a deliberate one, committed as a result of reasoning—of a considera-tion of the circumstances in which they find themselves. These cases may be subdivided ac cording to the prevailing cause of the act of destruction. (a) The mane lovers who prefer to die together if mable to live together in this world. (b) There were in olden times layal subjects and retainers who thought it their duty to accompany their masters to the land of shades, (c) There are those who put an end to themselves because in their estimation death is more honograble than life. They sacrifice themselves on the altar of fame. (d) There are those who die rather than be a burden, a hindrance, or a disgrace to others. (e) There are a few who die for the sake of the rewards that religion offers in the next world. In all these instances the sense of duty plays an important part. There is another large class of cases in which adverse circumstances, or crimes, are the real causes of self-destruction. These causes may be particularised as poverty, incurable disease, disappointment at the failure of some great scheme, consciousness of guilt and fear of discovery and punishment, and inability to bear disgrace. There are also suicides who are lunatics. The insanity may be permanent or temporary. These case-arenotequaliunumber to those enu merated above.

In very ancient times the usual modes of committing solicide were strangulation, poisoning or burning. From the days of the Taira, harakiri, and thrusting a sword into the mouth on horseback for samurai and drowning and hanging for women were the fishionable modes of self-destruction. The elaborate cere monies connected with the sacred rite of sep-puku, for so it may be called, were not Tokugawa era. Digitized by Google

As regards the practice in ancient times, there is much to be said for and against it, concludes Dr. Motora, but the world is now agreed in con-demning suicide. The conditions of life have altered. Man's ideas of his responsibilities and his duties have also undergone thorough transformation. Much of the pessimism which prepared men's minds for desperate deeds has given place to a more healthy state of feeling.

# TWO YEARS OF JAPANESE TRADE.

The Nichi Nichi gives details of the imports and exports during the past two years. The exports for 1897 compared with those for 1896 show a considerable increase in taw and waste silk and noshi, habular, cutton yams and fabrics, matches, straw matting, wheat straw braid, tea, dried cuttle fish, sea weed, fish and vegetable oils, camphor, crude and wrought copper, coal, &c., whereas in imports an increase is noticeable in iron nails, oil cake, rice, angar, peas and beans, kerosens oil, raw cotton, wool, machines, locomotives and cars, bar and rod icon, iron and steel rails, railway and shipping stores, and implements which are likely to contribute to the development of the country's industry in future. The import of articles of luxury has, the Nichi Nichi in glad to notice, considerably decreased. The figures are m

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ł	Верояти.	riiq?.	Yen.	decrease	М
ı				Yen.	13
L	Silk	55,630,469	sed or R. Re	1 25,700,848	ď
ı	Waste sitk (including	230-2-10-			1,
ı	noshi)	1,019,912	8,764,064	255,907	ď
1	Babutar	9,530,676	7,061817	+ a.478,458	
ı	Unher silk textiles	\$08,055	3 4.166	- 55,511	
ŀ	sitk handkerchiefs	3,390,645	4 817,710	- 1 247,514	
1	C tton yains	13,490,490	4.020,444	4 9,400,771	
1	otton fabrica	2,112.375	3,826,107	+ a86, st8	
П	Carpeta	973,871	1.15 .177	— 198.3 6	ı
ŀ	Matches	5,041,008	1,15,177	1 545.730	П
ı	Straw matting	3,832,738	3,056,738	1 275,979	
1	Earthen & po celain	31-3-173-	D4 - 9 - 7   1		1
1	Wares	1,819,c61	2,974,856	- 151,792	ıl.
J	Lacquer wares	767.440	248,733	- 181.211	ı I.
1	Straw braids	3.181,015	8,134,753	1 447,562	ш
1	Tes	7 800,400	6,371,398	† 047,561 † 1,488,131	П
1	Rice	6,145,750	7,957.294	- 1,811,044	
1	ried Cattle fish	144,045	1,151.143	† 16a,503	1
1	Sea weed	831,465	009,384	1 132,899	
-1	rish E veget-ble oils	684,938	377 093	9 307,848	3
-1	Mush o ms ishlitate).	609,553	£77,087	- 67,474	ı١
ı	Camphor	1,318,991	1,119,100	1 300,000	
1	tirade and wrought	4 P 2 + 4 2 - 14 -	-,,-,-	,,,,,	Ή
:	copies	5 174.69B	5 478,601	1 199,000	ś١
. I	t pal	11,544,800	8,879,#15	+ a,663,544	al.
1	Miscella: cous	29.450.5EL	Bo.983,748	1,467,711	i.
١	Total	163.131-077	1 7,841,760	45,799,300	
- 1	Intal		- 11-4-14	101.7.74	1
١	Cotton yarnam men	9,625 218	11,378,001	·· 6,746,743	ı.
4	Shirtings	3,783,808	4,057.703	- 973,455	
4	Other ention fabrica.	5,820,714	7.4 (8.646	- 1,725,922	
ч	Turkey-rede	3.831,880	0,498,26e m,813.096	- 2,662,28	ŧ١
4	Italian cloths	a.B15,58s	m.B i 1.006	- 007.517	71
1	Plannel	z 187,055	E,907,244	905,481	41
1	· loth	1.943.531	3,407,150	- x,403,010	9 I
П	Watches	1,901,813	1,897,450	4.331	4
'	bon made	\$ 450,016	1,141.519	16,496	6 (
ı	Iran and copper	3,691,339	1.0:7 341	34,000	٠.
١	Oil c-ke	3.315 :87 48 210.841	3,210,0 0	94 98 141 - 866	7 H
١	Miscellaneous	16 210 But	44,78,,023	1,41-,856	4 ]
ŀ	Total	86,535,083	90,900 032	- 6,264,946	1
1	Chase II.			- 114	1
ı	Sugar	20,003,600	13,853,843	6,149,25	5
ı	Rice	21,528,485	5,662,336	25,800,09	
Į	Peas and beans	5 883.616	3.475.0TE	2,414,50	
1	Kerosene	7 661.35	6 3 17 036	1,336,31.	á١
J	Total	55, 81, 196	99,328,832	115,205,20	4
1	CLABA ILL				- 1
ı	Raw cotton	43.620 114	31.571 359	31,046,86	
, 1	Worl	B,037.48m	988,305	59.17	
١.	Total come con	14,677.795	33.572.6;7	وه,6، ت	P
f	( 1.188   V.				- 1
, !	Maclenes	13,291.037	6,106.276	6,084 76	
•	Engines and curs	5,141,360	1,983,423	3+157+43	0
	fron (bar and rod)	3,046,133	3.359,704	68n,42	
	Ralls, iron and steel.	3,315,104	7,595.45E	7#9,54	5
	Railway stores	BII.100,E	1,280.479	<b>7≥</b> 0 63	
1	Shipping stores	7,194.841	2,651 701	5.540.13	7
•	fotal	33,999,496	100,805,410	16,918.44	3
,					<u>-</u> I
	Grand tetal	219,300,771	171,674.474	47,626,86	17
		Teast.	- Decrease.		- 1
	1 444				

# FIRE ON THE " HIROSHI VA MARU:

The Nippou Yusen Kaisha have received a telegram from their Kobe branch saying that a serious fire broke out on Monday night at 8,30 on board their Bombay steamer Hiroshima Maru, whilst at anchor at that post, and was not extinguished until 2 o'clock a.m. A quantity of cotton and rice is reported damaged. This confirms the telegram from our own correspondent published on Tuesday morning in the Japan Mail.

A telegram published in Jipanese papers on Wednesday adds that out of 500 bales of the cotton, 80 were destroyed. The total loss is Hahorated as known to the 47 Roule till the estimated at over yen 20,000. No injury was suptained by the hull of the vessel.

# MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for December last, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:-

trade of the Empi	re for the	month:-	
	x896:		alley.
B	ILVER YER.	11 145 -	LVER YEN.
Exports14,7	72,147.000	10,2	75,871,730
Imports	20,521.790	19,1	70,100.770
Paralamaners and i	maarte	. 44 -	4E 028 100
Receis of imports	mbattami	2.5	04 225 (142)
Ryports	COSTORS DOT		30,c84.373 28,368.684
Imports			28.368.684
Mincellaneous			29,387.136
			3.0 7.0
Total		(	596,840.193
TOTAL VALUE OF BEFORE	I IN AND IMP	ONIS FROM TAR	IOUS FORBION
	Exports, Silver Ven	Silver Ven	Total. Silver Yen.
Chine	1.407.626.020	2.644.408.600	
Hongkong	2,234,892.360	1,261,271,690	4,142,045.490 3,397,164 050 1,644,713 (00
Anna frother French	681,475.9XD	973,038.310	
India	1,710.510	2,601,925 190	1,603,645.800 1,488,471.390 151,344.640 324,307.110 100,910.330
6.0 e4	660,099 370	829,379 1 0	1,488,471 394
Russian Asia	00,860,980	\$21,437,900	151,344 040 924,307,180
Philippine letande	1 1 8 20 Epo	95,0,5.530	100,910.130
Great Britain	934,280.360	5,388,114 950	6.079,334 410
Germany	354,134.840	1,787,300.38n	2,081,625.180
Switzerland	208,751.090	271,087.710	100,910.336 6.071,334,410 3.765,503.160 9.081,605.100 379,839.330 898,749.350 198,063,110
Helgium	4,431.479	202.510 540	198,063,120
Austria	19,668 000	* F O de * * * *	48,643,110
Holland	7,307.800	12,007,230	27,820.040
Spain	6,460 000	11,379.350	48,641,116 24,820,846 20,815 030 12,832 310
Tanken and Norway	1.312.000	3,529,270	3,899,270 1,341 780
Portnead	_	2,243,540	5.943.549
Denmark		195.940	300.940
rica	5,546,365 490	9,687,146 650	8, 133,531,140
			155,060.730
Pett		299.8.0	193 889
Anstralia	211,598.300	103,197.350	344,789 550
Other Countries	38,574.750	75,747.470	193 Bao 344,789 550 27,328,190 284,326,229
AUGIL armining . In	15,071,172.990	19,170,140.770	35,042,879.700
Vokohama	D. 1100 Day Spo	1.481 Box one	IN DAY THE PORT.
Poho	4,084,649,690	9.8 4,800 730	13,915,452 410
Branc tressentierering			
Osnka	324,286.010	495,439.100	529,725.110
Nagasaki	668.813.100 883.334.451	1,359,886 4co	\$19,915.110 1,938,199.500 193,750.550
Nagasaki Hairodate Niirata	668.813.100 883.334.451	4,753.B:e	\$29,925,120 1,938,199,500 193,750.550 4.753.810
Nagasaki Hakodate Niigata Shimidzu	668.813.100 883.334.451	4,753.B:e	4.753.810
Nagasaki Hakodate Niigata Shimidzu	668.813.100 883.334.451	4,753.B:e 24,338.710 24,336.pro 219,166.mge	4.753810 24,538.710 700,388.548 4.0000.500
Nagasaki Hairodate Niigata Shimidzu Shimonoseki Maji	608.813.100 883.334.451 ————————————————————————————————————	4,753.Bze 24,338.7ze 24,336.rge 219,766.nge	4,753-810 24,338-710 710,381-540 4,70,909-550 1,046.5-0
Nagasaki Habodate Niigata Shimidzu Shimonoseki Moji Hugata Karatsu Kuchimotan	608.813.100 883.334.431 ————————————————————————————————————	4,753.8:0 14,338.7:0 24,338.7:0 219,766.mgs 5,77.00 6,374.000	4,753-810 24,338-710 710,381-540 4,70,909-550 1,046.5-0
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Nagasaki Hahodate Niigata Shimoroseki Maji Hakata Karasu Guigahasa Shishimi	668.813.100 883.334.451 ————————————————————————————————————	4,753.8:00 24,338.7:00 24,338.7:00 24,338.7:00 27,700.00 27,700.00 27,3390 27,4000 27,3390 27,4000	4,753.810 4,753.810 24,53.8710 700,388.540 4,50.909.550 1,046.5 a 37,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00
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Nagasaki Habodate Niigata Shimidau Shimonoseki Mol Hakata Karatsu Kuchinotsu Idangahasa Shishiml Sasuna Haugda Sakai Ajurotan	668.8:3.1oc 883.334.451 482.056.856.453.900.556 953.900.556 31,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63	473,820 4733,874 219,766,890 575,700 573,74,000 171,587,770 1 190,900 1,900,900 1,900,900 1,900,900 1,900,900	13,750.050 4,753.810 24,538.750 70,188.540 470.090 559 1,065.50 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00
Nagasaki Habodate Niigata Shimidau Shimidau Shimonoseki Mol Hakata Karatsu Kuchinotsu Idnigahasa Shishiml Sasuna Hauada Skai Alurbran Specie and Bullion	668.8:3.1oc 883.334.451 482.056.856.453.900.556 953.900.556 31,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63 81,299.63	473,820 4733,874 219,766,890 575,700 573,74,000 171,587,770 1 190,900 1,900,900 1,900,900 1,900,900 1,900,900	13,750.050 4,753.810 24,538.750 70,188.540 470.090 559 1,065.50 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00 137,533.00
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Nagasaki Hasodate Niigata Niigata Shimidau Shimonoseki Mol Hakata Karatsu Kuchinotsu Idnigahara Shishiml Sasuna Hauada Skai Ajurbran Specie and Bullion	668.8:3.100 883.33.401 481,056 850 893.900 330 893.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.300 873.300 873	472 38.16 4733.816 24,338.710 577 100 5314.000 571.390 571.390 505.140 506.140 506.1	43750350 44753820 244538220 200388544 450,000 556 130,654 a 27753370 131,833.100 10,777340 5,859.550 10,401.650 87,548.030 5,763.05 676,188.550
Nagasaki Hasodate Niigata Niigata Shimidau Shimonoseki Mol Hakata Karatsu Kuchinotsu Idnigahara Shishiml Sasuna Hauada Skai Ajurbran Specie and Bullion	668.8:3.100 883.33.401 481,056 850 893.900 330 893.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.300 873.300 873	472 38.16 4733.816 24,338.710 577 100 5314.000 571.390 571.390 505.140 506.140 506.1	43750350 44753820 244538220 200388544 450,000 556 130,654 a 27753370 131,833.100 10,777340 5,859.550 10,401.650 87,548.030 5,763.05 676,188.550
Nagasaki Hasodate Niigata Niigata Shimidau Shimonoseki Mol Hakata Karatsu Kuchinotsu Idnigahara Shishiml Sasuna Hauada Skai Ajurbran Specie and Bullion	668.8:3.100 883.33.401 481,056 850 893.900 330 893.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.350.300 873.300 873.300 873	472 38.16 4733 874 24,338 740 297,760 5,374 600 271,392 271,592,790 271,592,	43750350 44753820 244538220 200388544 450,000 556 130,654 a 27753370 131,833.100 10,777340 5,859.550 10,401.650 87,548.030 5,763.05 676,188.550
Nagasaki Habodate Niigata Namidau Shimonoseki Moji Habata Karatsu Kara	668.8-3.1-657 883.33.4-657 883.33.4-657 482.056 856 482.056 856 85.300 858 85.300 858 85.300 858 85.300 858 85.300 858 85.300 858 85.300 858 4 Export { Import	473-876-876-876-876-876-876-876-876-876-876	4753838 4,753838 24,534726 10,045,6 1,046,6 27,7332 31
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	Exports	Exports	Exports

# TAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The Nippon states that the policies issued by the Imperial Life Insurance Company in the capital have reached an enormous number, the amount insured being no less than 19,256,-700 yes, while the number of persons insured totals 63.372. The reserves of the Company aggregate 1,309,074 yen

About three years ago, the Foreign Department ment out a number of young men m student attaches to the Consulates of Peking, Soul, Vladivostock, and Mexico, their studies being partly commercial and partly diplomatic. The Department has now determined to extend the movement, and will send ten more students to China, Russia, Switzerland, &c.

The Chuo publishes the investigations made un to the impouse of deposis received and toans

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issued by the seven influential banks in the capital, the Bank of Japan excepted. The 1st Bank is represented as having received 4,389,308 yen in deposits; the 3rd Bank 3.557.535 yen; and the 15th Bank 3.822, 556 yen; and the 15th Bank 3.822, 556 yen; and the 16th Bank 3.875.595 yen. The amount held by Mitsui is the largest, being 8,222,182 yen; the Mitsubiahi accupies a prominent position in the list with 5,270,956 yen; while Yasuda is scarcely less conspicuous, its vaults containing a sum of 3,795,998 yen.

The Nippon announces that over 2,000 Formosan insurgents were discovered to be hiding in the neighbourhood of Tapentsong and Honkiangtan. Rumour was soon current that they were about to allack the gendarmerie in the latter district. The frightened inhabitants resolved to fly to Kimpaoli with their money and valuables. One of the ringleaders, arrested at Kimpsoli, is said to have confessed that, having established their head quarters in Pasentsong, they indulged in plunder, and on the 4th December extorted a sum of 500 yes. They made an assault upon the gendames in Hen-kiang, but were repulsed by a volley, losing eight in killed and over twenty wounded.

The profit realized by the various banks in the capital during the latter half of last year was really considerable, the Shogro asserts. Had dividends been declared in proportion to the profits acquired, the rate would have been the highest yet paid. But the greater the profit the more quickly have the houds in possession of the Banks fallen in value. At the settlement of accounts at the end of the year before last, the bonds were calculated at the rate of 98 ren per 100 yen face value, but last year it was considered necessary that the appraisement of public securities should be made between 94 yes and 96 yes. Thus the profits, though considerable in smount, were mostly absorbed in discounting the bonds in question.

The following comparative table is published in the Tokyo Asahl showing the difference in the prices of commodities in Tokyo and Osaka for the 30th year of Meiji, the value on the 10th January, 1887, being taken at 100:-

18 <i>07</i> .	Average price	lo Oreika	Average	in Tokyo
January	************	163	******	146
February.		175		147
March		175	*******	152
Aprilaces		182		ıór
	***********			
	***********			
August		184		160
Septembe	f	182	*** 100 ***	163
October	************	184		173
Novembe	Г	101		174
December		101	******	172

From the above it will be perceived that though the enhancement of prices in Tokyo did not exceed 72 per cent, since January, 1887, it reached 94 per cent, in Osaka. During last year the appreciation of commodities in Tokyo was scarcely above 26 per cent, but Osaka ex-perienced an increase of 3t per cent, above the

According to investigations completed by the Finance Department and published in the Shagyo, the amount of national loans affoat at the end of December last, compared with the figures recorded for June, was as follows :-

Bonds.	June, 1897.	Dec., 1897.
	Yen.	Yen.
Consofs	174,564,250	174 564,250
War	121,724,000	123,324,000
Pension	29 509,370	29.509 370
Paper Redemption	22,000 000	22,000,000
Railway	3,000 600 1	41,000,000
Naval minimum	9,288,600	9.288,600
Oid	5,486 362	5 266 908

tion except in regard to old bonds payable in yearly instalments. Nor were purchases made for that purpose, while two varieties of bonds— War and Public Undertakings—were issued to the amount of 29,600 000 yen.

Rumour is current that Mr. Kaneko, ex-Vice-Minister of Finance, has formulated a scheme for organising a bank with both foreign and home capital. His project, says the Shogro, seems to have been based on the investigations which he carried out for three years while in office. He specially despatched two envoys to Europe and America for the purpose of ascer-taining the actual condition of the financial market. One of them lately returned to Japan with elaborate reports on the subject, and Mr. Kaneko himself will probably sail for America about May next. His programme in regard to the introduction of foreign capital does not involve the usual employment of commissioners or the deposit of shares in the hands of foreigners. The object is, in fact, to obtain funds in the form of loans, so that the same may be distributed among minor capitalists in the interior. To carry it out, thowever, a certain revision of the laws is necessary. Whether the foreign funds so introduced should be employed in industrial or mining enterprises, or for the organization of a bank, is a question which remains to be solved by direct negotiation with the American capitalists. The question was brought upon the tapis at the Cabinet meeting of the 25th instant.

The Chuo calls attention to the fact that apanese tea has found great favour in America. The amount exported to trans-Pacific ports from Japan and Formosa exceeds 45 million and 15 million pounds respectively; two-thirds of the total consumption in America. The dealers in Indian and Ceylon teas have vigorously attempted to compete against the Japanese leaf templet to compete against the Japanese leaf-by dint of advertising, the expenses of which are reported to have reached 200,000 dollars a year. "They have even" the Chuo adda, published such artful expressions as to entice "the public to infer that the Japanese tea is spurious and atterly unfit for a beverage. The reputation of the Japanese leaf was serionaly impaired through these mean devices." Having acquainted the Government with these facts, the ten dealers of Japan succeeded in obtaining a aubsidy of 70,000 pen to be appropriated in repudiating the allegations and in counter-advertisements in American journals. But the amount proved insufficient, and the dealers have therefore again combined to petition the Government for a fresh subsidy of 150,000.

In spite of the fact that a considerable amount of Government paper has been burnt from time to time and so withdrawn from circulation, a sum of four million yen still remains floating on the market. A bill for prohibiting the circula-tion of Government paper was to have been presented during the 11th session of the Diet, but, the Diet having been dissolved, nothing was done. The amount destroyed is to be amplied by 50 sen silver pieces, in producing which the Osaka Mint is now busily engaged. of the Government is not only to have its own paper redeemed, but also to have one ven convertible notes withdrawn from circulation, five yen notes convertible into gold being floated on the market. Notes below five yen denomination will, it is said, be withdrawn in favour of ailver; but the substitution of silver for notes is a question, remarks the Foniuri, which must be solved with reference to the degree of people's desire for subsidiary coins. So long as the public is disposed to regard the white metal as inconvenient for purposes of circulation in comparison with notes, the Government's exertions, however earnest, will certainly end in failure.

ren. This was to be supplied by old shates on which 1,800,000 yen were paid up, and new shares on which 3,280,000 yen were paid at the rate of ten yen per share. In addition, the shareholders are to be required to pay 1.28 yen for each new certificate, contributing in all 420,000 yen. The number of new shares, 328,000, is now again to be reduced to 140,000, a special general meeting for that purpose being held in a few days.

The Maintshi reports that the revenue of Korea for the second year of Kwang-mu amount. ed to 4,527,476 yen, while the expenditure totalled 4,525,530 yen. Of the revenue 2,227,508 yen are derived from land tax, 150,000 yen from poll tax, 40,000 yen from gold mining dues, 750 000 ren from customs duties, and 229,558 yen from house tax, the remainder arising from mis-cellaneous duties.

Three influential Powers of Europe-Russia, France, and Germany—have lately striven, re-marks the Chuo, to increase their squadrons in Far Eastern Seas. More than ten vessela are reported to have left the countries men-tioned for the Orient. Surely there must be a motive in all this. Immediately prior to the conclusion of the late war with China, each influential Power in Europe despatched its vessels to places where their presence had hardly been previously considered indispens-All of audden, the mysterious array was understood to be the result of a triple alliance against Japan's occupation of the Liaotung peninsula. Are not the squadrons being mustered at present destined ma prelude to some future emergency of a similar import?

In the 26th or 27th year of Meiji (1893 4) an excess of exports caused specie to flow in, augmenting the bank of Japan's reserve to 80 million yen, whereas in the 22nd or 33rd year of Meiji (1889 1890) the metallic currency went abroad, and the Bank found its reserves reduced to 30 millions. From these facts it may be inferred that it specie is left to its natural abb and flow, the amount of sixty million yen being the mean between the two extremes, will suffice to be held as a reserve. To maintain the system of convertible notes without risks it is necessary to hold one-third of the total issue in specie as a reserve. That being so, a reserve of sixty millions justifies the issue of notes to the amount of 180 millions only. The convertible notes circulating at present exceed 210 millions, in addition to those above the legal limit, which now amount to 35 million yen. Such being the case, when the reserves held by the Bank of Japan falls below 83 millions, it will be short of the prescribed onethird. On the other hand, it must be noticed that as the demand for funds generally decreases considerably by March every year, while de-pression of trade now characterizes the market, there is scareely any room for doubt as to the possibility of the Bank's over issue being reduced to some ten million per between March and May. A slight diminution in the amount of the reserve is not, therefore, to be taken as a serious cause for anxiety. Even supposing that the reserves have fallen far below the prescribed hmit, steps may be taken to raise the rate of interest or to sell bonds abroad, so that the outflow of gold may be effectually prevented. In short, there are various means for supplying the deficiency in the specie reserve.

The views of Mr. Taurahara, Superintendent of the Trade Bureau, touching the outflow of gold, are represented in the Jiji as follows:—Anxiety, it seems, is now universally entertained that since the excess of imports necessitates an outflow of gold and at the same time tends to decrease the specie reserve of the Bank of 

stability of the coinage system does not depend upon arguments or dissertations of such a na-ture, and the results apprehended by the critics can scarcely be expected to occur.

The rise in the price of silk has naturally led to the appreciation of cocoons throughout the empire, alleges the Mainichi. Purchases were recently made in Yamanashi prefecture at the rate of 71.5 momme per yen. Silk manufactured out of such cocoons will not fall short of 950 or 960 yen in value per picul. Unless the quotation rises to 1,000 yen the product will involve a loss of twenty or thirty yen per picul. The warp for the Kai silk consists of a peculiar thread, and is quoted at present III one yes per 15 momme. 100 cattles being valued at no less than 1,066 yes. But as the stuff finds good sale abroad the manufacture is carried on with success.

Some persons are disposed to imagine that a collision will take place between the Govern-ment and the Bank of Japan in regard to its financial policy. Such considerations, however, are entirely fallacious. The Government may hope to retain a reserve of 100 millions for military purposes, and in case the hard metal flows out, may resort to the process of exchange or other preventive measures. The central banks of various nations of Europe are always possessed of immense reserves, but they are impelled to hold them, in most cases, by political necessity. Maintaining a system of convertible notes by means of accumulated reserves in not within the scope of their financial operations.

The so called Satsuma coalition, according to the Hachi, consists of Messes. Haseba Junko, Nakamura Motoo, Tamura Sei, and Tokutomi lichiro, with Count Kabayama at their head. Secret meetings have been frequently held of late to discuss the best means of attacking the Ito Cabinet. Rumour has it that Mr. Haseba earnesily suggested the advisability of forming a new party under the name of Seigusha (Political Friends' Club), so that men of the same spirit might be combined to oppose the present Ministry. This proposition was unanimously approved, and after several subsequent conferences it was decided that lecturers should be sent to the interior to propagate the principles of the Club.

The scheme to amalgamate the various kero sene oil companies in Yechigo seems to have matured. According to the Shogyo, the annual output in Higashiyama, Koshi district, amounts to 300,000 koku, valued at 750,000 yen, the capital employed on the industry being 1,500,000 ven. Business being thus flourishing, sufficient profits ought to have been realized. Facts show, however, that most of the companies, except three or four, have fallen into a grievous state of embarrassment, some of them being even compelled to dissolve. It is asserted that the decline now noticeable in kerosene enterprises is due to the existence of numerous small companies, and to the unevenness in the quality of the oil produced, as well as the want of means of transport. The advantage of amalgamation was rapidly recognised, and rules for forming the various small associations into one large company were lately drawn up.

The price of cement, which in the 26th or 27th year of Aleift had fallen to three yen per barrel, rose in June last to seven yen, in consequence of the expansion of various public undertakings. It now begins to show a downward tendency, owing, it is said, to the noiversal apathy of the business world and the sudden increase of supply. When the price of cement had reached its climax last year, steps were Nippon, Osaka, and Hokkaido—to make the greatest possible extension in their business, while importers did not hesitate to send large orders to England, Germany, Italy, and Belgium. Arrivals from these countries did not fall short of 250,000 barrels. The ware-

As to quality, none of the brands are first class except the "Algen" brand. Messrs. Morioka & Co. have failed to receive official approval for 5,000 barrels of cement which they had specially imported for delivery to the Railway Bureau The stock of 250,000 barrels is not likely to find customers in a month or two, and a steady fall in price must be expected.

Information from Korea published in the Shogyo announces that in pursuance of the edict issued by the Korean Emperor the year before last, the Department for Agriculture Commerce, and Industry recently forwarded a representation to the Privy Council urging that no stipulation should be made with foreigners for union or co-operation in regard to railway or mining enterprises in the kingdom. This representation met with the Imperial sauction.

We have frequently drawn attention to the probability, says the Shogyo, of considerable tightening in the money market. The issue of convertible notes above the legal limit at the end of last month exceeded 39 million yea, showing an increase of seven millions over the minimum, 32 millions, recorded for the month. At the beginning of last month, the Bank of Japan was in receipt of a considerable amount in repayments, on the one hand, and experienced the withdrawal by Government of notes exchanged for gold on the other. The pressure of loans is felt more keenly than ever, but the amount of over-issue is still comparatively insignificant. The increase of discounted bills. the reduction of specie reserve consequent upon the Government's withdrawal of gold, and the settlement of Indemnity accounts-all these have led to the expansion of the volume of

The complications in the Osaka Rice Exchange appear to have reached their climax. The trouble arose in a competition between sellers and huyers for time bargains, the result being that a difference of two yen per koku became apparent in the Quotations of rice. Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, in his instructions to the Governor of Osaka, attempted to settle the affair by the withdrawal of the decision given by his predecessors, and by the collection of securities from brokers whose deposit fell short of the prescribed amount on account of the cost of rice having risen through competition. But the Minister's order was not duly conformed with, and was followed by another order withdrawing the suspension of the brokers' business and requiring the payment of securities up till the 31st January. The Governor of Osaka, on receipt of this second order, immediately despatched officers to the Rice Exchange to have it enforced. Of the two things required by the order one was readily executed, but the other was held in abeyance on the ground that no compromise has been made between buyers and sellers.

According to the Government Railway Regulations, all the Ministers of State are granted free use of the trains on Government railways Marquis Ito, however, has always preferred to pay the fare. One day be was advised certain station master to look into the regulations.
"I know them very well," replied he calmly; " I suppose my payment of the regular fare will not put you in fault."

The idea at present prevails in some of the tea producing districts that sericulture is a far more profitable industry than the manufacture of tea. Some tea growers have converted their farms into mulberry plantations, though Shizuoka and neighbouring districts on the sex coast do not show much change, as the soil is better suited to tea than mulberries. Yenshiu and Ibaraki, however, have completedly changed their character, and while Izu was until recently noted for its abundant tea plantations, it is now a silk district, the tea industry having nearly beaggregated 242,090 chests, but the amount decreased to 239,971 chests by the 30th year, while a further reduction of five or six thousand chests is expected this year.

The Rice Exchange had evidently violated the instructions of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who, in his second memorandum, clearly pointed out that farther resolute steps should be taken in the case of his order being disobeyed. Article VII. of the Rice Ex-change law provides that whenever the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce deems the proceedings of a Rice Exchange contrary in Laws and Ordinances, or prejudicial to the public interests or the welfare of the people, he may take steps to dissolve the Exchange, suspend its transaction, for dismiss its officers, and suspend the brokers or strike out their names. The Minister has now to carry out one of the measures so specified, and the dissolution of the Rice Exchange would, remarks the Foresu, be the most appropriate punishment. But as such a violent measure might bring serious disadvantages upon the members of the Exchange as well as upon the Minister himself, the officials of the Exchange should be dismissed and fresh ones appointed.

At a recent general meeting of the Omeislia (Politicians' Club), Mr. Kaneko, ex-Vice-Minister of Finance, is said to have apoken as follows:-" The clamour for a constitutional government was first raised in the 11th year of Meift (1878) by three political Clubs—the Omeisha, the Kyoson-doshu-kwai, and the Ködan-kwai. The Ködan-kwai soon became extinct and the present Constitution and Diet are really the offspring of the energy displayed by the two remaining clubs. The Omeiaha has the credit of having produced one of the Ministers of State, an honour never before attained by any other political society. We have long asserted that England alone ought to be followed in parliamentary lines as having the perfect constitution we require. The superiority of the English constitution lies in the fact that any Minister of State is allowed the liberty of expressing his views on political subjects without molesta-tion in public meetings, etc. Nine years have elapsed since the Constitution was established in our country, yet no Minister has ever been known to have resorted to such a liberal course as that just described. With Baron Suyematsu alone lies the credit of having broken the monotony. He writes asking us to express our views on matters falling within the scope of his official duties as Minister of Communications. His act in doing so adds a step to the development of our Constitution. The Baron remarks that although the mismanagement in the com-munications, noticeable in the accumulations of packages, as well as delays in telegrams and mails, may be ascribed to the want of suitable means of supervision, the direct and most palpable cause is surely the deficiency of annual allowances for the Communications Department. Scarcity of funds is indeed the universal grievance throughout the country."

# FATAL AFFRAY BETWEEN COOLIES.

An exciting affair took place on January 22nd (Chinese New Year's Day) at the Choja coal mine, Matsuura O-gun, Saga Prefecture. The chief contractor (Mr. Komine Gensaku) entertained all the Korean employés, and they took the amplest advantage of his hospitality. In fact, they appear to have got madly intoxicated, and immediately after they returned to work they attacked Mr. Komine's house, armed with all kinds of impromptu weapous. Mr. Komine fell a victim to their violence, and was beaten into an almost lifeless condition. A few policemen were quickly summoned, but their presence only further excited the fury of the Koreans. The Japanese mine coolies soon joined in the fray, and at one time as many as 100 men were Belgium. Arrivals from these countries did come extinct. The augmentation of mulberry not fall short of 250,000 barrels. The ware plantations has naturally led to a considerable force of police arrived that order was restored. Houses in Kobe and Yokohama are now, according to the Forosu, filled with casks of cement. In Yokohama during the 29th year of Meiji were wounded on both sides.



# OUR GLOBE TROITER.

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE " JAPAN MAIL,"]

We all liked the General-at first. He was a portly, bluff, rough and tough old fellow, with an expansive waistcoat and an equally expansive smile, and altogether, to use his own pet phrase, was an awfully july chap, By Jove, don't you know? But after we had had the General for breakfast, the General for tiffin, the General for tea, the General for dinner, the General for between meals for a whole fortnight, we began to feel that there was rather too much of him.

He was too full of information-that was the fact. He knew rather more about Heaven than an Astronomer Royal; considerably more about earth than Whittaker's Almanack; and vastly more about the other place than Marie Corelli's more about the other place than Marie Corell's refined and melancholy hero. If he had kept it to himself it wouldn't have been so bad. True, he would probably have hurnt like an overcharged balloon, but then if wouldn't have been any of our funeral. We shouldn't have minded in the last. But the mischief was that the General would pour out his knowledge indiscriminately.

I was his first victim. He lassoed me two

minutes after I came aboard.

"Going to Japan, eb?" he said. "Ah, fine country that: I was there in '67—spent two years there. Let's see, though—was it '67? I think it must be, because I remember meeting Smith at Tokyo-Smith of the Engineers-and be died in '68. Did you know Smith? Awfully good fellow, by Jove. Man with one eye-used to quarrel terribly with his wife, and she poked his other eye out with m knitting needle. Of course, though, that's quite entre nous. Don't mention it on any account to Smith's people if you should meet 'em. He used to say he lost it through a mine exploding at Lucknow, and they made him a K.C.B. for it. I dareasy you met Smith in Town."

As I was just twenty-six years old, and had limit in Evelone it.

lived in England all my days, it was scarcely likely that I knew anything of these interesting events, which happened in early times and on the other side of the world. I modestly confessed my ignorance. But the General didn't mind. He ambled screenly on.

But Japan isn't half the place that Khams-ka is. Of course you know Khamskatka? katka is. Of course you know Khan No? Well, you ought to go there. climate, most interesting country. The worst of it is the lauguage. You see there are a lot of words in it you can't pronounce without standing on the top of your head and sneezing. Well, in the higher circles they don't consider it polite to do that at table, and so at dimer there is always a screen handy, and when you want to speak you go behind the screen, and do it there. Jolly funny to see the company run-ning backwards and forwards when the conwersation's lively. And awkward too, by Jove. Why, I remember when I was there Cheddar, of the 3rd Double Gloucester, had a very masty accident. Cheddar had a fine set of false teeth he'd had made at Timbuctoo—and develish dear they were too; they awindle you up hill and down dale at Timbuctoo. Well, as I was saying, he had these teeth, and one day be was dining with the Panjandrum. Did you ever meet the Panjandrum? Very fine fellow, by Jove; spoke splendid English. You see, when he was a young fellow he was caught by Chinese pirates and they sold him to an agent of the Westminster Aquarium. You may re-member him there as the Real Original Wild Man from Borneo. They got him up in a bearskin, and he had to eat raw mutton in public three times a day for twenty five shillings a week. That's how he learned the language ao well. Well, as I was saying. Cheddar was dining with him, and when he was behind the screen trying to get out a very complicated bit of Khamskatkan his teeth give way under the strain, and down they dropped all on the floor like

"Hongkong, eh!" he said. "Ah, nice place Hongkong. Not so good now, though, as when I remember. I was there in McGullish's time. Ever met McGullish? Jolly fellow, by Jove. I knew him when he was plain Mr.—no Governor or K.C.B. shout him then. He's related to me somehow. I believe his nucle's grandmother's cousin married my father's maternal mother's cousin married my father's maternal great-aunt. Any way, we were most intimate. Poor McGullish! He was one of kindest hearted men I ever knew. Great fan we had together, when I was only a young captain, potting at the Chinese coolies in the sampans. We used to try and see how many fingers we could snick off at twenty-five yards. We paid for them after at the rate of twenty-five cents a finger. Unpleasant for the coolies, ch? Oh, I fancy they used to like it. They surned a lot more like that than they'd have got in a year in their own work. In fact, they were m eager as possible after it. I daresay it's all different now; prices have risen wonderfully all over the East. I remember beating McGullish to finger, and he got so cross that he shot wild.

I believe we had to pay five dollars for that coolie, besides the funeral expenses. I don't believe the proper price of a Chinaman is more than two-fifty, but we were new hands at that time, and I daresay they imposed on us.

" Is there much sport there now?" asked the Hongkong passenger, who had an air-gun among his luggage.

" No, I expect that's all over now. civilized now, sir. Give me the good old days. By the way, McGullish was murdered a good many years afterwards by his boy. He's got a beautiful tombstone in Hongkong cemetery-Happy Valley they call it: because you are really happy if you get there—you'll see his stone, with 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant' in big gold letters on the foot."

Then he seized on another man.

"Smellipore? Oh, I know it quite well. I was there in '45, when the old Potwallopernot the present one, but his father-was on the throne. You'll find plenty of fever there, sir, was in Smellipore three months, and I'm dashed if I didn't have fever twice a week regularly. Fellows get used to it. If you asked a man to dine with you he'd take out a pocket calcular, and calculate a bit, and then Wednesday, because that's my fever day. But I'll come on Friday with pleasure." Hot, did you say? I should think it is hot there, by you say? I should think it is hot there, by Jove. Why, when we went out shooting we used to have two coolies to carry each man, another to hold up the rifle so that we could sight it, and another to pull the trigger. No, there are no tigers round Smellipore. There were before I came, but there are none now. But there are snakes. Plenty of 'em. You see the Government tried some time ago to stamp 'em out. So they offered a reward of half a bunkee—there are a hundred bunkees to our penny, but it is a big coin out there-half a bunkee for every snake sent in. Well, what did the natives do? They gave up growing rice, and look to snake farming. They bred em by thousauds, sir. And now if you go down the streets of Smellipore, and see a lot of things like electric light cables lying coiled up on the pavement, don't tread on 'em. They're just

In this way the General prattled on to every miserable sinuer on board. All day long every porpoise, rock, steamer, flying fish, and seabird reminded him of some unpacalleled adventure of his in the Arctic Ocean or the Sahara, and at night we had the horrors of a lecture on as-tronomy. In my heart I believe he knew no more of stars than a Digger Indian, but he talked about Orion as if Orion had been one of his oldest and most intimate friends, and patronised the Pleiades if they had been mere tradespeople.

So we fared as far as Port Suid. Here another passenger came aboard. He was a mild mathles. Cheddar was awfully mad about it."

So I should imagine," I said.

Just then another passenger lounged up. The happy one the General, sighing for new andiences to bore, descended instantu.

In ten minutes he was telling a wonderful lie about Equatorial Airica.

"I remember being up the Damboshwe," we heard him say "about ten years ago. There were three of us in a canoe. The chief of us was Neal— I daresay you've met him—great African explorer—fine fellow—very intimate friend of mine."

"I don't think I have had the pleasure," said the little man with a pleasant smile.

"Well," said the General "we had an awful time up that river. Hot I By George, sir, purgatory would have been chilly after that. Neal tainted right away one day. We tried brandy to bring him back, but it was no good. Then we bathed his head with water, but the water of that river was hot enough to boil a ham, and so that didn't work either, that some powerful stimulant was wanted. An idea struck me, and, dragging him to the side of the boat, I hung his feet over in the water. Why? Why, my dear sir, I saw nothing but a big shock could bring him round, and I couldn't think of any bigger shock than an alligator snapping at his toes. So I hung him over the boat and waited. It wasn't long before a big slimy brute came up. He couldn't make it out quite at first, because I don't suppose he'd ever seen a while man before, and it puzzled him a bit. But presently he made up his mind pretty vigorously. There was an awful rush, a scream from Neal, and I had all my work cut out, to haul him up again. Poor Neal lost all his toes, but before we parted he thanked me with tears in his eyes for what I had done, and said General, you're a true brick; and you saved

my life."

"Oh, a very interesting story," said the stranger, "Will you allow me to take a note of

The stranger took out his pocket book, made a few notes, and then looked up again.

"Thanks very much. By the way, here's my

The General took the pasteboard, and glanced at it-and the most extraordinary combination of colours and expressions ever seen on a human face overspread his features. He dropped the card, and fairly fled for his cabin, I picked it up, Here it is:-

MR. PATRICK NEAL,

ROYAL GROGRAPHICAL SOCIETY,

LONDON.

The General did not nome in to dinner for week, and we never heard any more of his remarkable adventures.

# RELIANCE WHEELMEN'S CONCERT.

The smoking concert given some time ago by the Reliance Wheelmen's Club was an earnest of even better things to come, and it was no matter for wonder that the Public Hall was crowded on Friday evening; for the fame of the smoker had been noised abroad. pectations were realised in nearly every item. As we noted on the last occasion, the glee-singing and the chorus work generally were the best portions of the entertainment demonstrating how careful had been the preparation and the patience of both singers and instructors. The patter of the cornermen was full of local allusions, many of which "caught on" wonderfully well, but some of the more subtler allusions were, we are afraid, lost before they were found,—which saying may anund a paradox, yet really states the case. Several encores were accorded, more particularly in the "nigger" half of the programme, and the singers very kindly acceded to the insistent requests. The pianoforte selection of Mr. M. M. Ellis was a very fine performance, tions of the entertainment demonstrating how

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# SILK TRADE OF FAPAN & CHINA.

Last year the silk trade of the East presented out satisfactory results. The export from most satisfactory results. The export from Japan and China, as compared with the past three years, was as follows:—

Exports.	JAPAN. Catties.		CHINA. Bales.
1897	6 919,861 3,918,994	*******	78,330 59.764
1895	5,810,046 5,484 059	********	84,142 71,354
[194			

A considerable increase is noticeable in the export from Japan. The expansion of the silk trade is attributed to the depreciation of silver the failure of the crop in Italy, and the revival of trade in America. Previous to the enforcement of the gold standard in October last year, the free coinage of silver was suspended, and it is supposed that the increase in the export of silk, from Japan was the result, not of the depreciation of silver, but of the stability of the exchange rates secured by the adoption of the gold standard.

Now that Japan has joined the gold standard countries, the decline in the exchangeable value of silver will give to China an advantage in her rivalry with Japan in the export of silk. The Japanese Consul at Shanghai remarks that a fall in the exchange rates induces purchases and creates a tendency to a rise in the value of commodities. Sellers are also enabled to reap the profits of the appreciation in the market value of silk. While this is the case, the gold-using country secures an advantage in commerce by being free from fluctuations in exchange, while in allver countries immense discretion must be exercised in view of the changes in rates for all transactions. Such views, however, are only

applicable when the value of silk rises.

With cheap silver China is able to acquire more profits by the export of silk, and to pro-mote the development of the silk industry in the interior. There can be no room for doubt that she will eventually encroach upon the

foreign markets for Japanese silk. The Japanese Cousul referred to sums up his remarks by saying that silver's depreciation is conducive to the development of sericulture, and that the increase of supply on the part of China and the consequent fall in the price of silk will have no small effect upon the silk trade silk will have no small effect upon the silk trade of Japan. In view of these facts we endeavoured, says the Shogyo, to induce merchants to take every possible precaution with regard to silk and other staple exports competing with China, before the gold system was put into operation. Yet it seems that the public disregarded our advice through their unexpected success in trade, and were even disunexpected success in trade, and were even disposed to attribute their success to the operation of the gold system.

# INSURANCE IN TAPAN.

Of the profits realized by the various instrumes companies in Tokyo and Osaka during the latter half of last year, the maximum rate is stated by the Hochi to be 30 per cent and the minimum 8 per cent. The following are the

details :-	Profit for the	
	latter balf	Divi-
Paid up	offlast	dent
capital.	year.	Per
Japan Marine and yea.	yen.	dent.
Land 750,000	142,146	8
Imperial Life 250,000	426,470	24
Meiji Life 100,000	289,662	24
Domestic Life 125.000	145 000	8
Imperial Marine 750,000	147,670	10
Tokyo Fite 125 000	220,828	10
Osaka Fire 180,000	30,847	10
Patriotic Life 750,000	7.403	
Japan Education 750,000	5.840	5
Imperial Fire 125 000	7,127	10
Osaka Life 725.000	7.127	7
Copper Dealers' Fue. 20,000	4,830	30
Japan Life 120,000	1,306,077	15
National Defence Life 25,000	(mocertain)	)

Insurance, in fact, is regarded as one of the most profitable undertakings in Japan. It was supposed by some that marine maurance enterprises in Japan would be beset with serious difficulties, but the profits realized last year are so considerable as to warrant the stability of this hunimens.

# CHINESE NOTES.

The Nanking correspondent of the A.-C Daily News writes :-

The natives of Nanking are full of gossip over the present situation, and it is interesting to note how complacent they are over the conviction that the Empire will be divided. The general feeling seems to be that the Yangtze River would go to Eugland and that then there would be general prosperity in this section.

While talking to-day with a retired official who was telling me of seinforcements that were being made to the army because of the dangers that made to the army because of the dangers that seem to be threatening, he dropped into a serio-comic mood and remarked: "At Yah! China has great ability! It is something immense! When she wants an army there is no need of drilling or any kind of preparation at all! All she needs to do is to yell to the crowd 'Come! Come!!' And then when she is through with them say! Clear out!!' That is the way China has of making and unmaking armies," Alas! It is only too true, and it now looks as it this ancient Empire could be unmade quite as easily.

Here is an exquisite example of "olo custom " as related by a Shanghai contemporary :-

A large number of Buddhist horzes and Taoist A large number of Budthist borzes and Taoist priests were engaged by Mr. Huang, the Shanghai Magistrate, on Chinese New Year's day to repeat prayers and heat gongs for "the protection of the sun," whose eclipse is popularly said to be caused by a "wild and roaming sun" swallowing our natural one. The prayers and gongs and guns apparently proved too much for the "wild sun" for by 5 n'clock he had to release the "tame sun," unharmed.

Writing from Port Arthur, under date of annary 18th, the correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News says :-

January 8th, the correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News says:—

Port Authur is at present very quiet. The Russians have not taken it, but by all appearance (they have taken charge of the dockyard. Their two steam pineaces are being repaired by the Chinese of the dockyard. They are having built davits for buisting up large boats, not ordinary davits but large dericks. Eight hundred tous of coat, for the Chinese ships, have just been landed and one steamer is at present alnugside, in dock, discharging 1,000 toos of coat for the Russian ships and another one is expected toomorrow, with the same annual from Robe. The name of the one here now is the Chow-chow-fut. The wave-ships at present in the hathom are four Russians, one English, and these Chinese; at Talien Bay one Chinese and two Russians. H.M.S. Immortalité left here on Saturday morning, destination unknown. The Iphigenia still remains outside. There are no signs of soir diers, but the comour is that they are coming. The English gunboat came in with mads. The officers of the Immortalité invited all the Chinese efficers to dine on board, but the weather was so bad, that the boats could not be lowered. We had a severe gale which lasted two days, and debarred the officers from wisting the English ship, which they all wanted to see, but if the Immortalité comes back again they will then have it. No leave is given to men of the Inreign warships, and an order has been issued that all Chinese sallors are to be no board, that is fine provided.

General Song is still getting more solders, and order the officers from the fire large warships, and an order has been issued that all Chinese sallors are to be no board their ships by o'clock.

General Song is still getting more solders,

Chinese sailors are to be on board their ships by 9 o'clock.

General Song is still getting more soldiers, a great many joining, and troops are being sent from Talien Bay. On Thursday last the troops were put through a course of tifle firing, and very bold they were when firing blank cartridge, but when it came to ball they were a bit scared, some of them having never fired a rifle before. The targets they fired at were on the bill, and there was no marking of shi-ts, the only indication being the plonghing up of the sand. They were very proud of themselves and left the ground feeling that they had done splendidly. that they had done splendidly.

The Anti-foot-binding Society seems to be really accomplishing a good deal. Mrs. Archibald Little is indefatigable in her propagandism of its doctrines. She recently addressed a large sudience in Kinkiaug, and at the close of her speech, a branch society was formed for that city. More than one half of the men present at the meeting promised to unbind their daughters' feet.

# NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The death of Doctor Ernest Hart is announced.

The round the world cyclists, Messrs. Fraser, Lunn, and Lowe, have arrived in Kobe. last two were exorted into Kobe from Akashi by ten local wheelmen. Mr. Frazer, being ill, was detained at Himeji until Saturday.

The British trade returns for December show that imports decreased two and-a-half millions and exports one million. For the whole year, the Imports show an increase of nine-and-a half millions and exports a decrease of five andthree-quarter millions.

The Department of Communications has issued the following Notification:—" From the 1st of March next, the four-sen post cards, and eight-sen return post cards of the International Postal Union will be issued. Specimens may be seen at the various post offices."

Mr. Kunota, of Tokyo, and some gentlemen of Yokohama have presented a petition to the Kanagawa Prefectural Office for the construction of an Electric Railway in Yokohama. It is proposed to run one line from Oye Bridge to Isezakicho, and the other from the Oye Bridge to Yoshihama Bridge via Fukutomi-cho.

The decline of population in France, about which so many gloomy prophecies have been uttered, was apparently only temporary. During the year 1896 the births exceeded the deaths by the respectable number of 94,000. This information the Pelit Journal heads "Une Grande Nonvelle.

Bishop Burdon, who resigned the see of Victoria, Hongkong, a few months ago, is (according to The Times) returning to China an ordinary missionary. He is 70 years of age, and has been in the mission field for 44 years, during 22 of which he has acted as years, during 23 of which he has acted as Bishop. He proposes to settle m Pakhoi.

A cablegram has been received at the Yokohama Agency of the C. P. R. that the Congress of the United States have definitely decided that the discriminating duty of 10 per cent, will not be levied on foreign goods entering the United States by way of Canada. This news will be very reassuring to local shippers.

About 8 p.m. on the 28th instant a portion About 8 p.m. on the 28th tostant a portion of the slope at the rear of the house occupied by Mr. Jas. Troup, H.B.M. Consul-General, M 292, Nakamura Bluff, gave way and fell to the extent of about 12 ken, inflicting some damage on two Japanese houses below. The inmates of the houses fortunately escaped without injury.

After two years in gaol, varied by periodical pearances in the Californian Law Courts, appearances Theodore Durraut, the condemned murderer of Blanche Lamont, a young San Francisco girl, was hung in the prison of St. Quentin, on Jan.
7th. He died protesting his innocence. The 7th. He died protesting his innocence. The deed was committed in the vestry of a church, the dead girl's body being found secreted in the belfry.

The Nagasaki paper reports an outbreak of babies" in the neighbourhood of the town. Six cases have been reported already. In-structions were issued by the Governor warning the public to take precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the disease. It this a piece of deliberate, cold-blooded jocularity, or s it another specimen of the fell work of the Japanese compositor?

A clerk formerly employed in the Yokohama Post and Telegraph Office, named Hasegawa Ichiro, aged 24, has been arrested on a charge of having opened letters passing through the post containing money, and stealing their con-tents. In this way he is reported to have possessed himself of a draft on the Missui Bank, sent by Mr. H. A. Clarke of Tokyo to Mr. H. Gun, of Yokohams, a cheque for 31 yen addressed to a resident on the Bluff, and two other cheques for yen 187.87

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and yes 87 25 respectively, some, if not all of which he appears to have succeeded in cashing. The stolen money was, however, found in his house and returned to the owners.

Our renders will remember, the telegram sent by Reuter in the closing days of December referring to a holocaust that occurred in Bethnal Green, London, wherein a whole family of ten people were burut to death. Their name was Jarvis, and it seems that several of them were engaged in match-making. Mrs. [arvis and her nine children, whose ages ranged from 16 years to 8 mouths, were suffocated in their sleep. The father died from consumption in the hospital on the same day.

The banto of Messrs, Favre-Brandt of Osaka, who has been arrested at San Francisco, is still detained there by request of the Japanese Consul, as the necessary steps have not yet been taken to extradite him. The Osaka Asahi, from which the Chronicle takes this information, adds that it is calculated that the prisoner must have in his possession 15,000 yen, but the amount of money found upon him did not exceed 4,500 He is being examined as to the whereabouts of the balance.

It may interest cyclists to know that Dr. Lucas Championniere, of Paris, does not consider 400 miles in 20 hours, the record of the Paris-Bordeaux content, too much for a healthy, well trained ilder. MM. Riviere and Cordang, who rode the race, did not est nitrogenous food, and the French doctor thinks they were right. They drank enormous quantities of tea, beeftes, and milk to replace the liquid lost by perspiration. It is uncless to eat during violent exercise, and if the body is in good working condition abstinence from food only causes loss of weight.

A Jubilee Commemoration Fund having been raised by the Wealeyan Methodist Church at Hongkong for the erection of Soldiera' and Sailors' Homes, a sum of \$7,000, the China Must says, has been allocated for the purpose of erecting in Hongkong a Home which will be dedicated to the use of the men of the naval and military services, irrespective of religious denomination. The Rev. W. Musson, Wesleyan Chaplain in Hongkong, has perfected the ar-rangements for the erection of the Hongkong Home, and judging from the plane, the proposed building will be very suitable for the purpose. It is estimated to cost \$14,000.

The Ameer of Afghanistan is m great a humorist us Gilbert's Mikado. few specimens of the manner in which he makes the punishment fit he crime :- "One old man got his beard pulled out by the roots in public durbar for some offence against the tenets of the Ameer's autocracy; another, who was a baker, and had sold short weight, was sentenced to be rosated in his own oven; a third, who had mentioned to his friends that the Russians were advancing on Cabul, was placed on the top of a tall pole, upon which had been fastened a small stool, where he was commanded to shout vociferously 'The Russians are coming ! Should be lack in his energies or give way to a doze, there was a sentry below who would remind him of his duty by a prod from his fixed bayonet."

The record of rapid marriages must certainly be awarded to a couple in Hoboken-across the river from New York. The bride and bridegroom met for the first time at a reception at a friend's house. She was a widow of thirty, and as handsome as all widows should be; he was an hotel proprietor. As soon as he saw her he asked to be introduced. Exactly half an hour after he proposed and was accepted. The next minute he informed her he did not believe in long engagements, and saw no reason why they should not be married without delay. The lady acquiesced. The gentleman explained that "no delay" in his case meant immediately. The host and hostess were informed of the matter, and the then prospective beitegroom proposed that the recepting shoul be the instruction

wedding party. They telephoned to a neighbouring Justice of the Peace, and he hurried to the house. Exactly fifty minutes after they had met the Magistrate had concluded the ceremony, and they were joined in haste. The date of the divorce is not yet announced.

There is a Gilbertian ring about this paragraph, which we take from a Hongkong paper:-The Sultan of Sulu having arrived on a visit to Sandakan with 80 armed followers, the British North Borneo officials recognised in his Prime Minister, Lepai, a notorious murderer, who had escaped from prison at Sandakan some years ago, while under sentence of death. The available, who were outnumbered by the Sultan's followers, were supplied with ball cartridge, and surrounded the Sultan's quarters, and Lepai was given up, and put on trial again.

Says the Nagasaki paper :- The European renidents of this port will be pleased to hear that Nagasaki is at last in possession of a hospital The building, which will be known as the St. Bernard Hospital and Sanitarium, is pleasantly situated on the higher level of the Settlement just above the boating club, is well sheltered from the wind, and commands a fine view of the harbour. The services of a trained nurse have also been engaged. The hospital is specially adapted to the use of the naval and commercial marine of the foreign shipping visiting this port, but European residents will also be received at rates in accordance with their means. Full particulars may be had on application to Dr. Bowie, to whose exertions the opening of this institution is in a great measure due.

The Revolving Palace at the Paris Exposition is to consist of a hexagonal shaft 350 ft. in height divided into twenty-five storeys. The entire palace in to be covered with nickel plate, aluminium, ornamental tiling, and glass. Illu-mination will come from 20,000 incandescent and 2,000 are lights. In the loftiest part of the pelace are to be a chime of sixty-four bells and a powerful organ played by compressed air. Above these, and crowning the whole, will be a gigantic rooster fifteen feet high—an appropriate emblem, by the way. The entire arructure is to turn on a pivot and be moved by hydranlic apparatus, always at the same speed, making a complete revolution once an hour. Speciators may thus occupy the same position and see, spread out before them, the entire panorama of the Exposition, with the city of Paris and its environs.

Mr. Holt Schooling in Pearson's has chosen Mr. Flort Schooling in Fratron; has chosen a rather diverting topic. He heads his paper, "To all Named Smith—Greeting," and proceeds to explain that the world denoted "smiter," not only in metals, as blacksmith, silversmith, the like, but workers in wood also, the United Kingdom 1 person in every 79 is a Smith. Scotland, of the three Kingdoms, bas the largest proportion of Smiths, 1 in every 70 England and Wales having only t in every 72 and Ireland tin every 148. In Ireland it stands fourth in frequency, Murphy standing first, Kelly next, then Sullivan and Walsh. There are, in round numbers, half a million Smiths in the United Kingdom, a number equal to twice the personnel of the Army and Navy. Every day 42 Smiths are born, 21 marry, 26 die. Mr. Schooling reckons that at this rate of departure it will take the existing family of Smiths 52 vears to die ont.

The greatest show on earth, the present address of which is Olympia, South Kensington, contains some queer specimens of human-ity. Among the 'freaks" are Mr. Eli Bourne, who was born without legs, and cheerily asks you to "excuse his not rising" me he shakes hands with you. There are young gentlemen who swallow swords as though they enjoyed it, and dance upon flaming coals with apparent delight. Young Hermann bares his manly chest and, pretending to confine it with a situation of conleathern thong, he swells with the pride of conscious strength, and the band snaps like a gold of the feeting to the lecturer, the meeting adof paper. Then there is Jo Jo, who proudly journed to the lecturer, the meeting adof paper. Then there is Jo Jo, who proudly journed to the lecturer, the meeting adof paper.

claims that he is "the marvel of the nineteenth century, the only living dog-faced man!" Jo-Jo has indeed a mane very much like a long-haired dog. Another novel feature is a party of eight howling and four dancing Dervishes, and four Bisharceus, from the neighbourhood of Assouan, 12 Bedouins, and 16 Sondanese. Their horrible yells, with the beating of drums and tambourines, and the shrill whistle of a Pan's pipe, make a terrific din, and they roll their heads about until they reach a state of frenzy.

# GERMAN ASIATIC SOCIETY.

The regular annual masting of the German Asiatic Society was held on February 1st, in the room of the Club Germania, Yokohama. Baron von Treutler, the German Charge d'Affaires, presided, and there was a large attendance.

Messis. F. Poll, E. Stuck, and G. Papert, of Kobe, were elected ordinary members.

On the proposal of the Council a paragraph of the Society's Bye-laws was changed so as to allow members residing abroad to pay their subscrip-tions at the rate of 12sh, or 12 marks or 15 francs

The Chairman then read the report of the Council for 1897. The general membership of the Society has increased to 254, the highest number ever reached. During the past year 43 new members have been elected, while seven resigned and four died. Ten general meetings have been held alternately in Tokyo and Yokohama.

The papers read to the Society during the session of 1897 were:

"Recent Literature on Japan" by Dr. M., Christ-

lieb.
"On Catalepsy, teligious eostasis, and similar phenomena in Japan," by Dr. E. Baelz.
"On apparent sexual metamorphosis of the domestic lowl," by Prot. F. Janson.
"An Ascent of Mount Morison in Formosa," by Dr. S. Honda.
"The Manufacture of Shoyn sauce in Japan," in Dr. O. Low.

by Dr. O. Loew.

by Dr. O. Loew.

"A New Year's excursion to Im no Oshima,"
by Dr. L. Riess.

"Girls' play and pastimes in Japan," by Mr.
R. Lehmann, Honorary Member of the Society.

"Leptusy in Hawaii and the home for Lepers
at Molokai," by Dr. E. Haberer.

"The Banking system of Japan and the advisability of founding a German Transoceanic Banking institution," by Mr. R. F. Stoepel,
"Poisonous soakes in Japan," by Dr. J. Taka-

"On Prof. Lange's Introduction to the Japanese system of writing," by Dr. K. Florenz,
"The truth about an alleged Datch intrigue

gainst the Portuguese in Japan," by Dr.

"On Psalmanazaar's description of the island of Formosa" by Dr. L. Riess.

Three new parts of the Society's Transactions (58, 59, and 60) have been published during the year, and a third instalment of Dr. Florens's translation of Nihongi, and two parts of Mr. Elimano's Japanese Proverbs have been printed as supplements to the Society's publications.

The Treasurer's statement, carrying over a balance of over 1,500 yen to the new account, proves that from a financial point of view the Society is in a flourishing condition,

In the list of exchanges a number of European and American Societies have been cancelled on account of their failing to send publications. On the other hand a few newones have been added, among them the Zoological Society of Japan in Tokye.

In future the Transactions of the Society will be printed in octavo size, the present form being inconveniently bulky.

On the motion of Dr. Backs the report was accepted. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows :-

Libeacians ......Dr. L. Riess, Mr. H. Kessler,

Dr. BARLE gave a lecture on the physical fea-

After the President and expressed the thanks

# SILK TRADE OF JA

Last year the silk trad NDENCE. most satisfactory resul-Japan and China, as MONEY SPENT ON Japan and Comment WORK AT HOME EXPORTS. AND ABROAD,

1897 To THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—So far as the Methodist Church is conceined, the figures desired by "One Who Wants to Know" can doubtless be given him by one of the missionaries of that denomination. Our eading his letter, I felt curious to know exactly how the case stood in regard to our church, the Reformed Dutch Church in America. I therefore took up the year-book published in June, 1897, and turned to the Minutes of the General Synod, and this is what I found:—

and this is what I found :-Page 755, Summary of Contributions :--

Other Objects ... ... 100,805
Congregational ... ... ... ... 1,038,321

Total ... ... ... ... ... 1,344.105

Total ... ... ... ... ... 1,344.105
Pethaps a word of explanation is required. Denominational Objects," in this statement, includes Foreign Missions, Domestic Missions, Church Building, Education, Publication, etc., enterprises that are not entrusted to any single congregation but are conducted by agencies established by the denomination at large. The figures quoted by your correspondent evidently refer to objects of this class only. "Other Objects" are such as contributions to the Bible and Tract Societies, and for benevolent objects so far as they pass through the hands of the church officers. "Congregational" expenses include the salasies of pastors, Repairs, Building, etc.

"Foreign Missions" is included in the category

pastors, Repairs, Building, etc.

"Foreign Missions" is included in the category of "Denominational Objects." Turning to the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions, we find (p. 95) that the total amount received during the period under review was \$105,666 (cents are discarded). Division of this figure by the total contributions of the denomination gives as the percentage spent on Foreign Missions, 078+, say 7\$ per cents of the whole.

This is a alightly legger parameters they have

This is a slightly larger percentage than that given by Mr. Garst, although perhaps the difference is immaterial to his argument. But in forming a fair judgment the following circumstances must be remembered.

(1) That in our church, for various reasons, the secentage of Foreign to Home expenditure is larger than in most other denominations.

(2) That the category "Other Objects" contains, as stated above, only such a portion of the general contributions of our people for benevolent purposes as passes through the hands of the congregational treasurers. It necessarily omits, therefore, considerable sums for local charities, hospitals, schools, asylums, etc. etc., that are trained directly by the donors to the recipients.

Exactly how much this sum is, cannot, of course, be known, but it must be large in the aggregate, and would probably nearly, if not quite, justify what Mr. Gaist said. (2) That the category "Other Objects" con-

Yours very truly, ALBERTUS PIETERS. Nagasaki, Jan. 18, 1898.

# YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS

The half-yearly ordinary meeting of shareholders

The half-yearly ordinary meeting of shareholders of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ld., was held at Keil's Building on Monday afternoon. There were present Messes. Jas. Walter, Chairman, J. F. Lowder, F. H. Bull, B. H. Pearson, J. J. Johnstone and G. Charlesworth, Secretary. The CRAIRMAN explained that under the articles of association it was only at the annual meeting in June that the accounts had to be presented and passed. But as the Company had been doing very well the Directors had had a balance sheet made out till the 30th November last, for the information of the shareholders, but not to be laid before the meeting for adoption. On sheet made out till the 30th November 1981, for the information of the shareholders, but not to be laid before the meeting for adoption. On the 31st October last an interim dividend of \$1st per share had been pard. The large balance of \$63 598, which had been wrongly stated in the accounts presented at the last annual meeting in the accounts presented at the last annual meeting, and had been carried forward, would be wiped off the current account and placed to capital reduction account before the next annual meeting. He might add that the business of the Company had been very satisfactory even during November and December, which were generally the dullest months of the yeal.—(Hear, hear.)

This concluded the business and after a vote of thanks to the Chairmen that streeting diversed.

Digitized by Digitized by Contact of the contact of the contact of the matter. In the interests of the Club, and of yeals and donations 675 00.

# YOKOHAMA ROWING CLUB.

# ANNUAL MERTING.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Amateun Rowing Club was held last evening at Keil's Build-ing, 61 Main Street. Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Pre-sident, presided over a large attendance.

THE REPORT.
The report was read by the Chairman.
It stated that before the Committee elected at The report was read by the Committee elected at the last annual meeting could get to work, Messis, McLaien and H. S. Goddard resigned, as they found themselves mable to undertake the duties of office, and Mr. Mair also intimated that he would not be able to carry on the duties of Hon. Secretary. Mr. Hayward was invited to join the Committee as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Campbell to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. McLaien's resignation, Mr. Goddard's place on the Committee being taken by Mr. Mair. Mr. F. J. Hall had been appointed one of the Trustees of the Chub's property in place of Mr. Boag, deceased.

The accounts showed a balance in favour of the Ciub of \$1,760.39, in addition to which uncollected subscriptions and Bar chits amounted to \$158.77. The Bar had produced a profit of \$675.58, a decrease as compared with 1896, which was accounted for by the increased cost of liquors, an increase in wages, and new fittings.

The interest in rowing had been well sustained.

The interest in rowing had been well sustained, The interest in rowing had been well sustained, and the Regattas had been well up to the standard of the past few years. At the Spring Regatta a crew from the First Higher School of Tokyo competed against the Club in the four-oased boats, but suffered defeat at the hand of the "four" selected to represent the Club against Kobe. The visitors were, of course, heavily handicapped by their want of knowledge of sliding seats, but nevertheless they rowed a plucky race. What may now is called the annual laterport Regatta took place at Kobe on 22nd May. The representatives of the V. A. R. C. were successful in winning the two scalling caces (double and single), but were defeated in those for "fours" and "pairs,"

At the Autumn Regatta the chief interest

but were defeated in mose for "outs and "pairs.

At the Autumn Regatts the chief interest centred in the four-oated tace for prizes presented by Mr. Rickett and styled the "Rickett Farewell Cups." The hearty thanks of members were due to their old Captain for so kindly presenting these cups.

After references to the Swimming Races and Aquatic Sports the report proceeded to state that in December it was found that the pontoons were both leaking, one badly and the other slightly. In 1895 the Yokohama Engine and Iron works effect-1895 the Yokonama Engine and ron works effect-ed considerable repairs to the Barge, and guaran teed their work for three years from the date of its conclusion, "damage caused by typhoons, menfi-cient moorings, hauling up, or launching except ed." The Committee had applied to the Yok hama ed." The Committee had applied to the Yok hama-Engine and Iron Works to carry our their guarantee, and had received a reply to the effect that they were prepared to do so, should examination prove their work to be faulty. A rangements were being made for hauling up the Barge, so that she could be thoroughly examined. The Committee had built a second sampan at a cost of \$1.41 and the Chib was now independent of the sampan men at the French Hatuba.

The old blue and red boars had been sold to the

The old blue and red boats had been sold to the Nagasaki Rowing Club in \$90 each ; and the old green boat had been offered to the Imperial University for \$100, but so far no sale had been effect-ed. The remaining four-oxied boars were to serviceable condition, but the incoming Committee serviceatie condition, but the incoming Committee would do well to order three sets of oars for these boats, as the present stock was only sufficient to supply one set to each boat. The pair-corred and double-sculling boats might be replaced by others better suited to the rough water so often experienced here. The Committee would suggest that the Cale attain three pair and heat each experienced here. The Committee would sup that the Club obtain three pair-pared boats two double-sculling boats, and consult with the K. R. & A. C. as to the type of hoats to be procured, with a view to each Club obtaining similar boats, and so improving the interport contests.

The House was in good order. The typhoon of oils Sept. did a good deal of damage to the two slips, necessitating repairs costing \$100. A new Band-stand had been constructed, and a new and

nion of the Committee, to keep this scheme of registration strictly in force.

registration strictly in force.

The principal items on the debit side were as follows:—Wages, 479 14 yen; working account (sampan hire, extra coolies, &c.) 211.45; Honsa account (including 237.50 reaction of band stand and repairs), 753.35; Bithing Barge and Landing Singe account 243 20; Boat Account, 471.90; Regatta and Aquatic sports, 400.42; Interport Regatta, 212.53; Diamond Jubilee, 124.16; Printing and Stationery, 186.00; Brizes, 650.58; Stop watch, telescope, and starting gun 319.38; Rawing costumes 226.92. On the credit side the chief entries were the following:—Balance from 1896, 912.97; subscriptions, 3,415.00; enfrom 1896, 912 97; subsc. iptions, 3,415,00; entrance lees, 540.00; race entrances, 168 50; rest for private boats 25.00; interest 13.04; boats 30d 227 77; bar profits 584.81; other items 250.42. Balance, yen 1,760.39.

250.42. Balance, yen 1,760.39.

A GOOD FINANCIAL RESULT.

The CHAIRMAN said he was glad to say they could show a good financial result for the year 1897, and also, he thought, a fair working year in rowing. They would observe from the report that the Committee had grave trouble in filling up their quata of officers, but when their places were filled up he was glad to say they found the Committee worked together conduitly, and they had been well supported by the members of the Club.—(Hear, hear.) And he hoped this support and this cordinity would be continued to the Committee's successors in office, as the zeal and energy of the officers were of very little use if they had not the hearty sympathy and support of committee's successors in office, as the zeal and energy of the officers were of very little use if they had not the hearty sympathy and support of the members. The fact that 52 new members had juined during the year was in itself sufficient proof that the Chub was appreciated. The only fresh item in the report was that unfortunate bathing barge. It seemed they would have very nearly to have a new barge. However, the old one had done very good service, and had been in existence for nearly ten years. The Committee suggested, and he thought their suggestion should be carried into effect, that the Club was urgently in need of some new pair oar boats and sculling boats. Their members had increased, and they must now provide them with good materials for their use. He thought pair oar and sculling boats were very desirable for forming a really good style of rowing. Pair oar-rowing, properly understood, was really the best school of watermanship young men could take up and also the great test of skill among older and more practised oarsmen.

Mr. G. H Schworz moved that the report be

Mr. G. H SCIDWORE moved that the report be adopted. Dr. TRIPLER seconded, and the motion was

ELECTION OF OPPICERS.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Chairman amounting that Mr. Hayward had resigned the Secretaryship and that Mr. Schellenberg had declined to act as Treasurer. A ballot was then taken, and resulted as follows:—President—Mr. H. C. Litchfield; Caprain—Mr. F. J. Hall; Secretary—Mr. M. Schellenberg; Treasurer—Mr. G. C. Arlocok.

Another ballot was afterwards taken for the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN expressed regret that the Club had lost the services of Mr. Campbell, who had been called to another place, and that Mr. Mair, had also been obliged to give up his place on the Committee. Both gentlemen would be a great

Committee. Both gentlemen would be a great loss to the Club.
The ballet was declared thus:—Mr. W. Goddard, Mr. H. E. Hayward, Mr. H. Rose, and Mr. J. Macenthur.

The meeting shortly after terminated,

# UNION CHURCH.

The annual meeting of this church was held last Wednesday night at Van Schaich Hall, the Rev. E. S. Booth presiding.

The following were elected as church officers:—Elders, Revs. E. S. Booth, J. G. Cleveland, and Mr. A. J. Wilkin; Deacons, Messes, G. Booth and C. V. Sale; Deaconesses, Mrs. E. S. Booth, Mrs. Cleveland, and Mrs. G. Meacham; Organist, Mr. C. V. Sale; S. S. Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Wilkin; Trustees, Rev. J. H. Ballagh, Messes, C. V. Sale, G. Booth, Pollard, and C. G. ffin.

# LANGEELDT & CO.

The half-yearly general meeting of this company was held on Monday afternoon at No. 61, Main Street, Yokohama, Mr. J. F. Lowder present Messars. E. S. Edwards, Meyerdirks, Bleifus, F. Retz, F. H. Boll, O. Keil, and J. Feicke (Secretary).

## THE REPORT. The report was as follows :-

The Net Profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 30th June, 1897, and after providing for General Expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, Depreciation and Losses, amounts to yen 24,244.58, which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

and the second second second	y = 10.
In payment of a Dividend of yes 15 per	
ahase	22,500 00
In payment of a Boaus to the employes of	_
the Company	00.000.1
Balance to be carried to new account	744 58

Total...... 24,244.58

Messrs. Lowder and Retz retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Cacil Gainness having resigned the office of Auditor, the Directors have requested Mr. E. Hutchinson to succeed him. The appointment requires the confirmation of the shareholders.

The accounts were as follows:	The	accounts	were as	follows :-
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BEATEMENT OF ASSETS AND DIABILITIES ON DEC.	Szer	, 1898. Yen.	1
Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery and Coal	1	815,097.58	l
Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	1+4	3,000.00	L
Cash in hand Fire Insurance Policies	1+4	2,08a 85	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		7.574.75 9.179.73	ľ
Sundry Debtore	411	18,016 02	13
	-		ı

		lbilitie	ī.			Yen.	ŀ
Capital 1,500 Shares	iat \$200		110	1.00		150,000 00	Ł
Bundry local Credit			416		100	4,054.00	Ł
Bills Payable to Ba	nk	***		***	ps. 0	64,951.34	ı
					_		ı
						228,307 23	ı
Baiance, Profit	974 411	1 44	491	114	104	nq,nq4:5B	ı
					_		Ł

-						_	- 1- 1- 0
PMOPLE	AND	Loss	ACCOUNT,	DEC.	Star,	rBg8.	241,551.8
To General Expe	:Gies		Dr.	***			30.155.4

To General Expenses .			***	***	174	30,155.45
Rent	14.0	644		844	12.0	1,878 50
		445	411	PHH.	166	837.32
Plant, Fixtures, etc., writi	en ol	W	491	444	191	41.80
	***		41	844	+16	600.00
_ Auditor's Pees	14.0		491	***		3 50.00
Balance, available for a	di vi al	ดถ	Y.	24,2	14.58	
to be dealt with as fol-	lows	5				
Pet tiland an abandan						

ividend at the rate
of Yen 15 per chare...Y. 22,500.00
Sonus to employes... 2,000.60
Reat carried forward

7,	413c - 1 md2md	4+24	=15=64-34
July t. By Salance forward from DEC. 31. 35 Gross Profit on trade 50 Share transfer fees 36 Interest	June 30th, 189	7	38,908 03 Yen. 2,900.70 35,758 24 56 00 199 09

	Interest	•	***	4+>	480	b-ea	1119	199 09
								38,908.03
Jan, z	By Belance	140	111			410	H h	744,58

Tokohams, December 5181, 1892.
ASSITOR'S REPORT.
Lawreness and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be Vokohama; January 1981, 1898.

B. Hutchinson, Auditor.

The Chairman, is opening the meeting said:
Gentlemen.—In presenting this report and
these accounts your directors feel the satisfaction
that they availly experience at the period of the
year, and I shall be very glad if one of you
would propose the adoption of the report and ac-

Mr. MRYSROIRKS proposed, and Mr. Bleifus

seconded, that the report he adopted.
Carried unanimously.
The CHAIRMAN said the next business was to confirm the appointment of Mr. E. Hutchinson to succeed Mr. Cecil Guiness as auditor. True to their policy they had requested one of the officers of their own hankers to act as auditor.

Mr. MEYERDIRES proposed, and Mr. Blairus seconded, that the appointment be confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN and Mr. Retz were re-elected as directors, and the meeting, which lasted exactly three minutes, then terminated.

# AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sydney, December 24th.
The protest of Mr. T. J. Nakagawa, Japanese
Consul in Sydney, against the Aliens Bill introduced by the New South Wales Government into the colonial parliament, has not excited much come rise both in civilisation and in actual incluss—

bour of Japanese cooles is selling in their countries, and for several reasons, one being that there hard names, or making insulting comparisons at higher rates than are obtainable here for localists no real feeling against Asiatic races at about it. By the way, it is significant of the coal. That is to say, the Japanese coal-miner is such, but against the wholesal importation of the progress that Japan has made, that while for realistively better off than his Australian competitively of the coal inclusion.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

class Syrians, Aighans, Chinese, Kanakas, and others, under contract to employers who farm oumacket rates. market rates. For the Japanese, as a people Australians entertain no other feelings than those market rates. For the Japanese, as a people, Australians entertain no other feelings than those of esteem and respect, as shown by the cordial relations existing among the various Japanese merchants and store-keepers in Australia and their customers. Moreover, the possibility of an Angla-Japanese alliance against Russia and other encroaching Powers in the Bast is not being overlucked, especially at the present moment when the dismemberment of the Chinese empire appears inevitable sooner or later. Mr. Nakagawa's protest has been widely reproduced in the colonial papers, and the facts adduced by him have created a favourable impression. The Hongkong Daily Telegraph regards the objections taised to the proposed measure as largely of a sentimental character. "The Japanese at present do not want to come here in any considerable numbers, as they can do better at home, and instead of the Mikado's Government being anxious to get rid of its subjects, it is distinctly opposed to their leaving the country. Practically speaking, the restrictive legislation proposed here suits the present policy of Japan better than if we were to encourage the influx of its people to our territory. The grievance is, therefore, one of pure semiment, and nothing alse. And this arises chiefly from a misunderstanding of the bottom ground on which our policy of alien exclusion is based. It implies misunderstanding of the bottom ground on which our policy of alien exclusion is based. It implies no contempt of the Japanese, or of any other people; it simply recognises the physical fact that European and Asiatic blood dees not blend in such a manner as enables the two races to form a homogeneous community. Where they exist tegether as segregate elements, therefore, that which is the weaker will be subject to the stronger, a state of things inimical to the common interest and destructive of the tie of patriotic clitzenship by which all the members of any State should be bound. This is not because Asiatics are necessarily inferior to Europeans. Rachrace possesses characteristics which the other may admire, and conspicuous amongst the intelligent and progressive peoples of the world are the Japanese, who in their own country and their own way need misunderstanding of the bottom ground on which and conspictors known to the intengent and progressive peoples of the world are the Japanese, who in their own country and their own way need fear nothing from comparison with the most civilised branches of the Caucasian family.

The reference made by Mr. Nakagawa to the recent efforts on the part of Japan to develop traderelations with this colony do not touch the question at all. There is no doubt that we have derived benefit from this enterprise, and have a prospect of deriving much more. But this is not the sole reason why Japan spends £70,000 m year on an Australian steam servier, or has abolished the wool duty, or is preparing to take home cargoes of frozen meat. All this is done to said itself; that we are also suited by it is merely incicargoes of frozen meat. All this is done to suit itself; that we are also suited by it is merely incidental. Nevertheless, it would be a matter for general regret if the friendly development of trade relations by which we mutually benefit sustained any check. There is no reason why our alien immigration policy should produce that effect. The trade referred to by Mr. Nakagawa soes not require the existence of an Asiatic colony here, and it is only against the establishment of such that the Aliens Bill is directed. The anxiety of the Japanese Government is to promote trade with Australians, not with their own people settled in Australians, not with their own people settled in

Australians, not with their own people settled in Australia; consequence what immigration law this colony chooses to adopt."

The Sydney Evening News points out that the sting of the Atiens Bill consists in the fact that "the Japanese are therein deliberately classed with the Chinese, whom they have lately beaten in a war (the lessons of which were not disdained even by the great European Powers) and whom they hoth have and despise." Probably, continues the News, "a Japanese of the present day feels about as hurt at being considered on a level with a Chinese as a Southerner of the old type would have been at being mistaken for some man showing "a touch of the tar brush." By all means let the Japanese be kept on, but for the fair and anderstandable reason that Australia is wanted for white men, who do not desire to have the comfor white men, who do not desire to have the com-petition of men of a different race and scale of living. A bill of this kind could be based on a friendly arrangement, and could be put through without any insulting references to a people who, taking the average, are certainly not mentally inferior to many white populations. There is no need to be frightened of the Japanese, or to consider them as a sections danger except as competitors in them as a socious danger except as competitors in industrial fields; but still there is no sense in calling a rising people—a people which intends to rise both in civilisation and in actual incleas—

hundreds of years she was keeping Europeans out and often getting into trouble for so doing European Australians are now endeavoring keep Japanese out of this country, and have got slight snub about their methods of going to work."

The Australia Star, the organ of the New Sourie Wales Protectionist party, which is ways decrying importations from Japanesem other countries, true to its exclusive policy, remarks that "In his protest against the Aliens Bill, Mr. Nakagawa, the Counsul for Japan, gives some information that will be of interest to those engaged in the Newcastle coal-mining industry. The Consul points out that there are considerable supplies of coal in Japan, but owing to the increase of manufacture. castle coal-mining industry. The Consul points out that there are considerable supplies of coal in Japan, but owing to the increase of manufacturing, coal raised in Japan is selling at more money than here. The coal miners, who declare that the fiscal question does not concern them, and who vote for labour members pledged to "sink" it, might profitably mark the statement of the Consul that the increase of manufactures has sent up the price of coll in Japan. Such an increase here would mean, of course, an increase in wages. Under free-trade we are enabled to compete with Japanese coal, and our miners are remunerated in a sum that, taken with interruptions to work all the year round, amounts to little more than a living wage. If it pays Japanese steamers to come to Newcastle and buy coal to run Japanese factories it should certainly pay us to run manufactories with our own coal; but, apart from this aspect of the question, it is evident that our coal is being sold far too cheaply. Japanese labour is abundant and cheap, and it follows that coal raised in Japan should be considerably chesper than coal obtained in Newcastle by white labour that, if intermittent, is still paid union chesper than coal obtained in Newcastle by white labour that, it intermittent, is still paid union rates. In view of the statement of the Japanese Cousul, an effort should be made to raise the price of coal, but that is easier said than done. There is too much coal easily accessible, too many collieries at work; in a word, too much cut-throat competition, to permit this mb edone under existing conditions. In order to raise the price of coal to its proper level concerted action is essential, but this appears to be almost impossible. It is a coal to its proper level concerted action is essential, but this appears to be almost impossible. It is a good thing to have a market for our coal in Japan, but that our coal should be cheaper there than local coal is a vast industrial lumiliation. Probably in a few years the articles wrought in Japan by the power of our coal with return to us, but that is free-trade; always to be hewers of wood and drawns of water for the industrial aristocrats of the earth is the destiny of the people of this country, according to the law of Cobden."

Taking up the same points of Mr. Nakagawa's protest, but in a more liberal spirit, the Newcastle Morning Herald, after describing the development of the Japanese coal mining industry, and its threatened competition with that of New South Wates, observes that the economical position of Japanese

observes that the economical position of Japanese and New South Wales coal has become reversed," and New South Wates coal has become reversed. How this came about was clearly referred to in the protest recently made by Mr. Nakagawa, the Japanese Consul in Sydney, against the passing of the Aliens Bill. In that document the representative of Japan pointed out the considerable trade relations which have sprung up during recent years between his country and Australia. Among other statements made is one that wages Among other statements made is one that wages have nearly doubled in Japan within the last three years, consequent upon the marked development that has taken place in many industrial pursuits. It has recently been locally stated, as explanatory of the present position of the coal trade in Japan, that the Government of that country, knowing that its coal resources were limited, preferred to keep its coal rather than sell it at unprofitable prices. This artitude is both nossible and terred to keep its coal rather than sell it at impro-fitable prices. This artitude is both possible and reasonable. But in Mr. Nakagawa's protest nothing such as this is advanced as the reason why Newcastle coal is now being sent to Japan. The consul explains the matter thus:—"There are concoustl explains the matter thus: -- There are considerable supplies of coal in Japan, but, owing to the increase of manufacturing, coal raised in Japan is selling at more money than New South Wales coal is selling at here. That is formally stated to be the reason why the steamers belonging to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha are now calling monthly at this port for cargoes of our coal. That fact may be used as a basis for two arguments which are not quite parallel. On it may be founded the statements that competition is the soul of business, and that the great reduction in noice of our stable statements that competition is the soul of business, and that the great reduction in price of our shaple during recent years was the only means which would have been effectual in-meeting the product of the mines of the land of the Mikado. The argument which will be most in favour with the mines of this district, however, is the undoubtedly correct one that coal raised by the low-priced aly bour of Japanese coolies is selling in their countriate higher rates than are obtainable here for locational. That is to say, the Japanese coal-mines is

tor. Doubtiess, too, the Japanese colliery owner makes much more out of his property than does his Australian brother in business out of his. That the white man has for the present heaten the brown man off the industrial field should therefore the tegarded as an argument against further local reductions. No stronger statement as to the low tost of out local coal could be made than this that it is cheaper lot the Japanese to import New South Wales coal—notwithstanding that to its cost is to be added a freight which cannot be valued at less than, say, 8s a ton—caster than to use their own, which is won by native workmen, probably assisted by convict labour. Swely such a result is one with which the local admirers of atill cheaper coal should be abundantly satisfied."

The Melbonne Argus thinks that the words of Mr. Nakagawa see entitled to more consideration than they are likely to receive. "Japan is a rising Power—almost m great Power already, measured by European standards. She is advancing fast on the path of Western civilisation, and is alming just as a resolutely to expand her trade as to increase her weatilest attention.

on the path of Western civilisation, and is alming just as resolutely to expand her trade as to increase her warlike strength. Her national pride is likely to be all the more sensitive because her admittance to the comity of civilised nations is hardly yet accomplished. Under these circumstances the action of Australian colonies indiscriminately classing the Japanese with the Asiatic races whom they consider far beneath them must rankle deeply. The New South Wales measures make no distinction between Chinese, Afghans, or Japanese. All are victually barred out, the only difference being that the Indian subjects of Her Majesty are to be excluded by an educational test instead of by more direct means. Supposing for a moment that the assurance of the Japanese consul is literally correct, this affiont is needless. test instead of by more direct means. Supposing for a moment that the assurance of the Japanese consul is literally correct, this affiont is needless. Japan would, he says, he willing to negotiate on terms of equality for such a restriction of immigration as New South Wales desires. But instead she is to be subjected to the humiliation of a general exclusion bill. He points, by way of emphasising the argument, to the disposition shown by Japan since the war to hold out the hand of frieadship in Australia, and to he activity in opening me commercial relations with this country. A year or two ago, it looked as if we were no less eager to secure what the Japanese market could offer, but the attitude of our politicians belies us. On the side of Japan it is claimed that the duty on wool has been removed, for it is the policy of the Government to encourage such innovations as the wearing of woollen colling and the consumption of mutton. For this purpose a substantial subsidy is paid to maintain a regular steamship service with Australia, and the fine vessels in course of construction are being fitted with refrigerating appliances for the carriage of frozen meat. This trade may require some building up, for a people do not abandon moment habits in a day, but it has at least possibilities of great expansion. The idea which obtuides itself uncomfortably is that these overtures are being requited in very injudicious fashion. We should like to feel that New South Wales and other Australian Governments were driven by shees compalsion before they contemplated putting a slight tralian Governments were driven by sheer compulsion before they contemplated putting a slight of this sort upon a progressive nation, which is showing unusual enterprise in developing commercial intercourse with these shores. As matters stand, such a conclusion seems by no means justified. New South Wales has not suffered as yet from an influx of Japanese, although the question may have become a live one in Northern Queensland and Thursday Island. If its consideration is forced hereafter upon the southern colonies, we are assured by Mr. Nakagawa that there are other ways of achieving our end than the summary one adopted across the Murray. It would be satisfactory to know whether this is or is not the case before other colonies follow the inconsiderate, if not reckless, lead of New South Wales."

These extracts, which might be multiplied indefinitely, fairly illustrate the general tone of public feeling in Australia. The attempts made, with the assistance of the Japanese Government, to foster trade relations between Japan and Australia, have naturally tended to increase the friendly feeling evinced by the colonists towards the Japanese, and but for the persistent efforts made by the protectionists, in their eagerness to secure trade restrictions of the most objectionable character, some way would be devised of omitting the name of Japan from the Bill. But of one thing we may be certain, the B-itish Government will never allow any of its colonies to adopt unfriendly legislation towards a friendly Power. tralian Governments were driven by sheer com-pulsion before they contemplated putting a slight

# LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(PROM. THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN. DERVISHES FIRE KRUPP GUNS: BRITISH

GUNBOATS COMPELLED TO RETURN. London, January 30.

It is stated that the gunboats despatched up the Nile had reached the sixth cataract, when they were compelled to return owing to the Dervishes firing on them with Krupp guns. The Nile channels have been blocked with chains.

# THE GOVERNORSHIP OF CRETE. RUSSIA'S LAST WORD.

It is declared in St. Petersburg that if the candidacy of Prince George of Greece for the Governorship of Crete fails, Russia will concern herself no further about the

# THE TSAR'S MIND RELIEVED. NO DIFFICULTIES WITH JAPAN.

At a private gathering of officers, the Tsar is reported to have said that events in the East had weighed heavily on his mind, especially the difficulties with Japan, but he thanked God all was clear now.

# THE WORLD'S COMMERCE. ENGLAND'S DETERMINATION.

London, Jan. 31.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham, emphasized the determination of the Government to prevent the closing of open markets, especially in China and West

# FIGHTING THE AFRIDIS.

BRITISH FORCE CAUGHT IN A GORGE.

The Fourth Brigade, operating against has been appointed Premier. the Afridis in the region south of the Khyber Pass, became entangled in a gorge. In the encounter with the enemy, Col. Haughton and Lieut. Turing (?) of the 36th. Sikhs, Licutenants Dowdall, Hughes, and Walker, of the Yorkshires, and eight men were killed, while Major Earle, Lieut. Hall, of the same regiment, and seventeen men were wounded. The force had been engaged in joint operations with three other brigades.

# PUBLIC FEELING AGAINST THE CAMPAIGN.

London, Feb. 1.

The Liberals are drafting an amendment to the Address condemning the frontier The Standard demands a full inquiry into the conduct of the campaign, and the Daily News protests against the continuance of hostilities.

increase.

# CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

London, Feb. 2

In the fourth test match played at Melbourne between Stoddart's team and an Australian eleven, the Australians made 323 in the first innings and England In the second innings England made seven for one wicket.

# ANGLO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT DENIED.

COMMON DESIRE FOR FREE COMMERCE Loudon, Feb. 2.

Reuter learns that the stories about an Anglo-Japanese agreement for active co-No agreement exists beyond what arises out the fire and a large quantity of the from a common desire to secure free com- cargo was lost and otherwise damaged. Digitized by Google in China.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS AND ENG-LAND.

The Russian press is resuming its attacks on England.

# LORD WILLIAM NEVILL COM-MITED.

Lord William Nevill has been committed for trial, for forgery and fraud, bail being refused.

# THE DREYFUS CASE

ITALY DISCLAIMS RELATIONS.

The Marquis Visconti-Venosta, Minister for Foreign Affairs, declared in the Italian Chamber, that Italy has had no relations with Dreyfus.

# BI-METALLISM IN AMERICA.

The Washington House of Representatives has rejected by 182 votes against 132, the resolution passed by the Senate providing that all bonds shall be payable in gold or silver.

# (Received by the Jiji).

# BRITAIN'S DEMANDS ON CHINA.

Peking, Jan. 30.

The rumour here goes that irrespective of the nature of the issue of the negotiations concerning the proposed loan, Great Britain will ask China for permission to lay railways along the valley of the Yang-tsze-kiang, and to prolong the Burmese railway into Yunuan.

# IMPENDING CABINET CHANGE.

Söul, Jan. 31.

Signs of Cabinet change are observable. Cho Pieng-sik has been relieved of the acting Premiership, and Yun Yongson

# GERMANY'S NEW DEMANDS.

Peking, Feb. 1.

Having regard to the murder of a German marine at Ishimoh, Germany intends to make new demands to extend the railway line in Tsinnaufu to Icho and to enlarge the limits of the leased land in Kiaochou.

# NEW FOREIGN MINISTER.

Söul, Feb. r.

Cho Pyönsik has been relieved from the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and Ye Dochai has been appointed in his place.

# THE CHINESE FOREIGN LOAN.

Peking, Feb. 2.

The British and Russian Governments insist each on its own part, on taking up the whole amount of the Chinese foreign THE PLAGUE AT BOMBAY.

The plague at Bombay is greatly on the Chinese Government is in a perplexing and trying situation.

# RUSSIAN TROOPS IN MANCHURIA.

Shanghai, Feb. 2.

A Russian force of 5,700 men with 28 machine guns and 22 field guns has arrived

# BIG FIRE IN KOBE HARBOUR.

"HIROSHIMA MARU'S" CARGO ABLAZE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, Feb. 1st, 8.50 a.m. Fire was discovered among the cotton forming part of the Hiroshima Maru's cargo, now in harbour. About thirty

The sleigh is springured. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# CHASS

All Communications to be addressed to the Coves Raigus

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

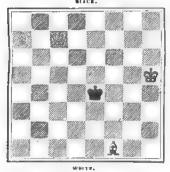
SOLUTION OF PRO	BLEM No. 354.
WHITE.	BLACK.
t-R to Q ?	1-K to K 3
2-Kt takes P, ch	2-K to K 4
3-B to Kt 7, mate	
	I-R to R 3
2-B to Kt 7, ch	
3-Q takes R(K7), mate i	
3-Q or Kt takes P, mat	
	1-R to R 4
2—B to K 7, ch	2-K to K 3
3-Q takes P (Q5), mate	
a-Brakkin (as O6) als	1—Rany other
2-Bio Ki 7 (or Q6), chi 3-Kt takes P, mate	2-K 10 K 3
2 Far ranca E l livere	1-P to K(3
2-B to Kt 7, ch	2-K to K 3
3-Q takes P, mate	
3 35	1-Kt takes P
2-B to Q 6, ch	2-K to K 3
3-Kt takes P, mate	
elc., et	C.

Correct solutions received from W.H.S , P.E.F.S., D.D., Yolfa, and Miss S.

Skak .- You overlooked Black's ceply Kt takes But for that your Key move B to K 7 would he correct.

W.H.S. Las also sent in a correct solution of W. S. Paviti's chess puzzle, which we reprinted in this column of 22nd January.

# PROBLEM No. 357. By J. ORRQUIST, Helsingfors.



White to play and mate in two moves.

# CRESS BY TELEPHONE.

Telephonic class by Talephone.

Telephonic class is not a new thing in the provinces. In London, however, but one or two matches had been played before last Saturday. On that day the City of London Chess Club engaged eight players of the Yorkshire County Chess. Club in a match at Leeds by telephone. The result was a great success. Play proceeded without a hitch, and was finished in seven hours. The City of London Club gained a decisive victory by a score of 5\frac{1}{2}\$ to 2\frac{1}{2}\$, consisting of three wins and five draws. We append one of the games played on that occasion: on that occasion :-

CITY OF LONDON C.C. V. YORKSHIRE C.C.C.

GAME (	No. 358.
White.—H. H. Cole.	Binck.—T. R. Clifford. (Yorks):
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE, BLACK.
rPK4 PK3	16 Kt R3 Kt R4(f)
2 K1 KB3 P Q4	17 Q K12 K1 B5
3 P K5(#) P QB4	18 BaKt PaB(g)
4 P QKt4(b) PxP	19 Kt Q2 Castles KR
5 P Q4 Kt QB 3	(h)
6 B Q <sub>3</sub> P KR <sub>3</sub>	20 R B6 K K12
7 Casiles B Q2	zt QR KBsq Q B3
8 B K3 KK1 K2	22 Kt(R3)xP B Q-q
9 Kt R4 P KKt4 (c)	23 R(B6) B2 P B4
to Kt KB3 Q B2(d)	24 PxP(e.p.)
11 P QR3   Kt B4	ch BxP
m PxP BxP	25 Q R3 QR Ksq
13 P B3 B R4(e)	26 Kt K5 B K2
TAQ KI3 KIXB	27 RxR(i) Resigns.
15 PxKt → B K+3	

NOTES (by Gansberg). (a) We are opposed to the early advance of P to K 5 in the French defence in any shape or form

(b) The originality of this move is not to be denied; but its value is very doubtful, for if Black takes the pawn it keeps to the White Q Ki, and the pawn can well be defended.

(c) As Black has his development much retarded, some such plan was best for him.

(d) The natural complement of P to K Kt 4 would have been R to K Ktsq with a view to playing Kt to Kt 3.

(e) B to K 2 was a much better move.

(!) A useless move.

(g) Black has no prospect of successfully defend ing this pawn, and the exchange has greatly weakened his centre.

(h) If to II 3 was imperatively necessary; moreover, Black could have had no hope whatever to defend his king's side against White's cook, therefore castling king's side is worse than useless.

(i) A bright finish, if B takes Q, R to B 7, mate; or, if B takes R, 27—R takes B.

# AN INSTRUCTIVE END GAME.

The following position occurred the other day at the Sydney Chess Club.

Mr. W. J. Miles. BLACE.

1 å £ 040

Mr. W. H. Jonas. The average proceeded they

THE BASSICS DESCRIPTION OF	
WHITE.	BLACK.
	I-R takes P
2-P to R 5 (a)	2-P to KR 31 (b)
3-P to B 6 ch	3-K to R 2
4-P to Kt 6 ch	4-P takes P
5-P to B 7	5-Kt to K 5 ch
6-K to B 4	6-Riakes Bub!
7-K takes R	7-Ki in Ki 5 ch
8—K to B 4	8-Kt takes P
9-R to Q 7	QK to Kt 2
10-P takes P	to-K takes P
11-R takes P, and the	game ended in a draw.

(a) 2-K to Kt 4 would win.

(b) Not 2-P to B 3, breams of 3-P to R 6

ch-K moves, 4-P to K 6 ch-P takes P, 5-P

to R 7, and wins for White.

The American Chess Magazine in its current issue states that the prospects for another match hetween Harry N. Pillsbury and Jackson W. Showalter are very bright. Mr. Showalter is desirous of playing and Mr. Pillsbury is not averse. The details of the match are now being considered, and the terms, alless and agreement are likely to and the terms, tules and agreement are likely to be arranged so that the match can be finished in time to allow the players to aftend the Vienna tournament in May. Mr. Showalter states that he would like to begin about the middle of lannary.

There is a rumon affast to the effect that Janowski and Charonsek will in all probability play a match, either in Berlin or Vienna, and that a similar contest between Charcosek and Burn will be played in London. To the latter case it is also planned to match the amateur champion, 11. E. Atkins and Charousek.

Another match by telegraph has been started between Vienna and St. Perersburg.

"Are you a chessplayer?" asked the landlord of a prospective tenant. "I much prefer to have my houses occupied by chessplayers."

"No, I am not a chessplayer, and I can't account for a such a singular preference." "It is simple enough. Chessplayers move so seldom and only after great deliberation."

THE PLEASURES OF THE GAME. Sing not to us of passion, plot, or plan, Of woman's love or beauty bright; Give me the joy that thrills a man Who finds a brilliant win in sight,

# KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

In the present day many these players feat to offer a King's Gambit, became it is likely to be accepted. In days gone by the theory mervailed that all gambits were meanind, and, therevailed that all gambits were unsound, and, therefore, you had merely to accept gambits to win games. The world, however, grows wiser (perhaps) as it grows older, and it has, therefore, come to pass that although most authorities still maintain that gambits are mosund—in theory—they are sound enough in actual practice to be daugerous; and, therefore, they prefer to decline them. In the case of the King's Gambit, however, we vary much doubt whether the proffered pawn can be declined with impunity. The two methods of declining generally most feared by the attacking party are 2...... Pto Q 4, and 2...... B to B 4; but we think we can show that in both cases White should ultimately emerge from the opening with some advantage, either in position or material. Let us examine the first variation, known as the "Falkbere Gambit:—

1 P K4 1 P K4 P K4 2 P KB4 P Q4 . 3 PxP

2 P KB4 P Q4 I
White has now several montionations. He may continue, 4-B to Kt S chl or Kt to Q B 3 or Q to K 2 (suggested by Steinitz), or B to B 4; and last, but not least, 4-P to Q 3. In the latest addition of the "Handbuch" tree present writer is credited with having invented this move, and the variations which spring therefrom. As a matter of fact, however, the move was suggested by Löwenthal in his book of Morphy's gaines, published more than 30 years ago. But Löwenthal gives no continuation. Suppose them—

4 P Q 3 Ki K B 3 7 B Q 2 B x K t 5 Q K 2 1 Q x P 8 B x B B K t 5 6 K 1 Q B 3 B Q K 5 1 18 ..... Castles, 9 ~ B takes K 1, P takes II or 9 ..... P takes P ? to—Q to K 5, Q to B 3 ! 11—B to K 7, &c.).

g PxP! BxQ BxB 12 BxP R Kts 13 R K sq ch K Q2 14 B K5 10 PxQ K-xP

White has a Pawn which, with a little skilled manipulation, he can probably maintain, but in any case he has probably sufficient advantage to win the end-game. Hereford Times.

# YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

We are glad to notice the increasing interest exhibited by members in the work of the Club, the meetings during the past mouth and the beginning meetings during the past mouth and the beginning of this mouth having been exceptionally well attended. A considerable number of Tomosomeout games have been played, in the "Ladder," the Secretary's Handicap, and the Championship, some of which were exceedingly well contested and are worth recording. We hope players will in future favour us with the scores of their games, for we are some that our readers will welcome local specimens of Chess as malesant changes from the specimens of Chess as a pleasant change from the usual master games clipped from home papers.

The score in the first round of the Champion-

ship Tourney stands now :-

	GAMES.	
PLAYER.	WON. I	ost.
F. x		
Mendelson		
Pollak	2,	0
Hodges	0	2
Friedlander	2	n
Thomas	g	2

It will be seen that Mr. Tennant and Captain Weilbach have not yet mel, but we believe these gentlemen will begin their match at the next meeting.

# MAIL STEAMERS.

	THE N	EXT NA	AIL IS DU	K
From		ine.	Steamer.	Date.
Вигоре	R1.	81, Co. 1	Natal s	Th. Feb. 1
America .	Р.	M. Co. F	Peru s	Su. Feb. 1
Hongkong	O.	& O. Co. I	Doric 3	Su. Feb. 1
Canada, &	c C.	P. R. Co 1	Em. of Japan 4	M. Feb. z.
Kurrpe	N	D. f.loyd 4	lohengoilgin	W. *ch. ti
Ашегісь	0.	# O. Co. C	Coptic	Th. Feb. s
Hongkong		P.R.Co. 1	Em. of India	Th. Feb. s.

- s Left Hangkons on the rat inst.
- a Left Son Francisco via Honolulu on the soth Jun. 3 Left Hongkong on the 3rd last.
- 4 Left Vancouver on the grat Jan.

# THE REPORT OF THE PERSON

LHE	MEXT W	AIL LEAVE	S
For	Lines	Steamer,	Date,
America	F. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sn. Feb. 4
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	In. Peb. \$
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Nagato Mare	Tu. Feb.
Hongkong	41. P. R. Co.	Em, of Japan	M. Feb. 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Perm	M. feb. 14
America	O. & O. La.	Dorie	To Valence

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# LATEST SHIPPING.

# ARRIVALS.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, Hannah, 29th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 27th Jan., General.—Batterfield & Swire.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,453, Wallace, 29th Jan., London via ports, and Kobe, 27th Jan., Jan., London via ports, General. Cornes & Co.

Astrid, Norwegian steamer, 976, Elligers, 30th Jan., Hungkong, 20th Jan, Rice. Becker & Co.

Shanghai, British steamer, 2,163, E. P. Bishop, 30th Jan., —London via ports, and Kobe, 29th Jan., General. — P. E. O. S. N. Co. Puritan, British steamer, 2,628, Ewans, 30th Jan., —London via ports, and Kobe, 28th Jan., General. — Samuel Samuel E. Co.

Itsukushima Kan (31), Japanese steel const defence vessel, 4,278, Captain F. Hirao, 1st Feb.,— Yokosuka.

Volkosuka.

Canton, British steamer, 1,110, S. Wilde, 2nd Feb.,—Hongkong, 25th Jan., Sngar and Rice.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Nerits, British steamer, 3,155, Daniel, 2nd Feb.,—Batoum via ports, and Hongkong, 26th Jan., Bulk Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lyderhorn, Norwegian steamer, 2,014, Hammeras, 31 Feb.,—New York via ports and Suez Canal and Robe 1st Feb., General.—Frazar & Co.

Belgia, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 3rd Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 15th Jan.; Mail and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Nomia, German ship, 1,925, Rowehl, 3rd Feb.,—New York, 14th Sept., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Blatty, 24th August, Coal.—R. Isaacs & B.o.
Buccleuch, British ship, 1,934, Robbins, 3rd Feb.,—New York, 14th Sept., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Elsa, German steamer, 747, Peterson, 4th Feb.,—

Elss, German steamer, 747, Peterson, 4th Feb.,— Boilo, 22nd Jan., Sugar.—Jardine Mathieson & Co

& Co.

Deike Richmers, Gennan steamer, 2 361, Mürker,

4th Feb., Hamburg via patts, and Hongkong,

26th Jan., General.—M. Raspe III Co.

Ornell, British steamer, 2,449, Gibb, 4th Feb.,—

New York via ports and Suez Canal, and Kobe

3rd Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T.

Smith, 4th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, 25th

Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Matsupama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F.

Allen, 3rd Feb.,—Seattle, Washington, Gene

ral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru. Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.533, C. Young, 4th Feb., Australia via ports, and Robe, 2nd Feb., Mails and General. - Nippon Yusen

# DEPARTURES.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,982, D. Davies, 29th Jan.,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Strachan & Co.

Idzumi Kan (16), Japanese cuiser, 2,967, Capt.
G. Hayashi, 30th Jan.,—Vokosuka.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 58, T. R.

Thompson, 30th Jan.,—North Pacific Ocean, Sealing Gear.—John Kernan,
Glenesh, Hriish steamer, 2,275, E. Darke, 33st
Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Seechnen, British steamer, 1,158, Pennylather,
1st Feb.,—Otaru, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swine.

Hasseat, Norwegian steamer, 2,177, Hanne, 1st
Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Puritan, British steamer, 2,628, Evans, 1st Feb.,
—Otaru, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Ambert, 2nd Feb.,
—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—
M. M. S.S. Co.

Diomed. British steamer, 3,005, Thos. Bartlett,
2nd Feb.,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lombard, British steamer, 1,658, C. W. Raison,

field & Swire.

Lombard, Bitish steamer, 1,658, C. W. Raison, and Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—

Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Astrid, Norwegian steamer, 976, Elligars, 3:d

Feb.,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Becker & Co.

Saint Ronald, British steamer, 1,985, W. H. Clements, 4th Feb.,—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, Hannah, 4th

Feb.,—London via ports, and Manila, General.

Butter field & Swire.

Belvie, British steamer, 2,608, J. H. Rinder, 4th

Bittish steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 4th Feb.,—Hongkong via port., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Muncaster Castle, British ship, 1,992, William Griffith, 4th Fob.,—Manila, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mume-2010, 3rd Fab.,—Otaru via poits, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

# PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Belgic, from San Francisco via Hanolulu:—Mrs. G. C. Waldo, Mrs. J. A. Norris, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Walson, Miss Anita Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Fielder, Rev. and Mrs. A. M. Brooks, Mr. Daniel Johnson, Mr. R. G. Johnson, Mr. E. N. Osborne, Mr. E. D. Gerwig, Mr. H. N. Robson, Mr. William Bass, Mr. Henry Binley, Mr. H. W. Commons, Mr. R. M. Kopp, Miss M. G. Humphries, and Miss Z. E. Lighter, in cabin. For Nogasaki:—Mr. Alex. Tereschenko, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Jno. Carroll, in cabin. cabin.

Per British steamer City of Peking, Hongkong via ports:—Capt. H. W. Peck, Miss M. E. Staley, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. C. Bampfylde, Mr. C. W. M. Birch, Mr. F. Gausen, Mr. H. I. Chopard Mr. M. Gadner, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Lieut. V. Deaconoff, and Mr. B. Chopheren. korsey, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer Sydney, for Marseilles via ports:—Lord Henry Thynne and servant, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Laidley, Mrs. Goldsmith, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Roberts, Miss House, Miss Laidley, Mr. C. Bitrovo, Mr. J. Ramsey Parsons, Mr. Foulon, and Air. Dessolles, in cabin, and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer Belgie, for Hungkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Kron, Mr. H. Burnett, Commander A. Henderson, R.N., Mr. J. M. Mautland, Mr. S. Landermann, Mr. F. Borge, Mr. A. L. Koch, Rev. and Mrs. A. M. Bronkt, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. A. Maconillan, Mrs. Chun Seng, child and servant, and Mr. V. Lavacry, in cabin. cabin.

# CARGO.

Per British steamer Gaelic, for San Francisco, via Honolulu :---

	1 1 1 1	•		
	9.674	NEW		
	MA NOTESTA	YORK.	ENICASO.	DDFaL.
Shanghai	907	754	540	2,101
Yokohama	337	_	-	337
		$\overline{}$		
Futal	1,244	754	540	2,538
	> LI	. 2		
	SAN	NRO		
	PRANCISC	サー民工。	HARIFOND,	10751.
Hongkong	_	345	-	343
Visitohaina	_	403	_	403
Total many		748	_	748

Per French steamer Sydney, for Marseilles via bales.

# LATEST COMMERCIAL.

# IMPORTS

A strong demand for grey shirtings, particularly in long lengths, has continued during the week, and has led to a fair business being transacted. The activity in the yarn market noted last week has somewhat abated, but a fair business has been done. There have also been enquiries for fancy cottons and woollens, not, however, resulting so far in any considerable business.

# COTTOD PIRCE GUODS.

Park Cinch,	
they Shirtings-3h, 384 yds, grinches \$2 \$5 to 4.85 Grey Shirtings-3h, 384 yds, grinches 3.80 to 3.35	
Indigo Shirtings rayards, spinches. 1.05 to 2.90 Prints-Assorted, 21 vards, to inches., 2.00 to 3.75	
3a inches o.18g to 0.25	
Velvets-Hinck, 35 varile, azinches 1 75 lo 9.90	
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches, 0 75 to the	
Furkey Reds-2.0 to 2.4 B, 24/25 yards,	
30 inches	
Furkey Reds-2.6 to 3h, 24/25 yards.	
30 inches 1 75 10 2,10	
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4th, 24745 yards,	
32 inches 1.40 to 2.70	
Furkey Reds-4.8 to 3 h, 24/25 yards,	
32 inches 3 on to 3.50	
WOOLLENS. PRETABLE	
Flannels in minimum manufacture for to be to be to	
Itulian Cloth, no yards, 32 inches lest   0.35 to 0.41	
Italian Cloth, 30 yauls, 32 inches	
Malian Cloth, in yards, 32 inches ate 0.324	
Italian Cloth, 30 yacis, 32 inches Afedium	
Italian (Joth, 30 yards, 32 inches Atedium (Lolb, 30 yards, 32 inches Common (Common (	
Ralian Cloth, 30 yauls, 32 inches   Afedium	
Italian Cloth, 30 yavis, 32 inches   Afedium	
Ratian Cloth, 3n yavis, 32 inches   Afelium	
Ratian Cloth, 3n yavils, 32 inches   Afelium	
Rating Cloth, 30 yavis, 32 inches   Afedium	
Ratian Cloth, 3n yavils, 32 inches   Afelium	
Rating Cloth, 30 yavis, 32 inches   Afedium	
Ratian Cloth, 3n yavis, 32 inches   Afelium	
Ration Cloth, 3n yavis, 32 inches   Afelium	

Nos. 32, Doubles	
Nos. 42. Doubles	51 75 to 54.50
Nos. 1 50, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	gg.oo to 100 00
Nos. alfo. Gassed	72 00 to 79 00
Nos. 2 80. Gassed	80.00 to 95.00
Nos. #/100, Gassed	111.00 to 134.00
RAW COTTON.	PRE PICULE
Aion Midding	\$10.75 mm

American Middling \$19.75 Indian Broach 18 no to 18.75 Chinese 20.00 to 201

The market is stagnant, the recent demand for galvanized sheet having been fully supplied.

PER PER	
Round and aquain & inch. and upward-4.15 to 4.	6a
iron Plates, assorted 4.20 to 4.	50
Sheet Iran	30
Galvanized from sheet a	50
Wire Nails, assorted	50
fin Plates, per box 5 90 to 6.	<b>0</b> 0
Fig lenn, No. 1	20
Hoop from (  to rhinch)	28

## REROSESIC.

The market remains unchanged and demand is far from brisk. A cargo of American oil has sirived by the steamer Buccleuch from New York and a cargo of Tank oil by the Nerite from Batonm. Dealers appear to expect a fall in prices and only buy for immediate requirements.

American	
Russian	2.00 to 2.19
Langkatanaanaanaanaanaanaanaanaanaan	1,96

## SUGAR.

Sales of Brown have been fairly brisk and com-prise 14,891 piculs Manila and 7,809 piculs other soits. Arrivals of China amount to 7,230 piculs. The stock of Manila is exhausted, and prices both for that and China sorts have alightly tisen. No new business has been done in Formosa. A small business has been transacted in White refined at

				PROPERTY.	
				\$4.35 to 4.4	ŧ
	Maniless				
	Daitong				
	Cantona				
	Java and			0.50 to 7.0	
White	Rational	 	- h = 4 h-4 i	 7.35 to 9.0	Đ

# EXPORTS.

# RAW SILK.

The market has been very quiet during the past week, settlements only amounting to some 390 piculs, at unchanged prices. There has been a good lead demand for the native looms. Stocks are estimated at about 8,830 piculs, only a little more than half the amount et same time last year. Shipments comprise 178 bales per Sydney for Europe, and 131 bales per Empress of China, for America.

# QUOTATIONS.

Filntures-Erlie 9'tt, eufra fan.,	. N	anima)
Filuturen Entra 13/15, 24:16 den	030 t	0 040
Filaturus-io. 1, 10/13 daniera	920	0 0 10
Filalures-No. 1, 43/15, 14/16 dan	áao t	0 800
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	000	to 91a
Filatores-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	ðs⇔ t	0 860
Filatines-Ilo. 2, 10/15 donterb	850 t	о Вби
Filatures-No. 2, 140H deniers	820 1	■ 83a
Re-10016-Hu. s. 13'15, 14'10 4en	Sgo t	4 900
Re-reels-tio. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 1	0 810
Re-reels-No. 2, 17/18 denters	800 I	0 810
Re-reels-No. 24, 14 18 denteis	780 I	0 750
Re-reels-Ho. 3, 14/20 deniers	_	-
Kakedas-Eates	840 (	0.850
Kakedes-No. r	820 [	0 810
Kakedas-No. 14	70n i	0.800
Kakedas-Ho. a	700 1	0 270
Kakedas-No. 24	_	

# WASTE SILK.

The market has been quite active during the past week or ten days, settlements from the 25th all, amounting to 2,175 piculs, at very firm prices. Stock is estimated at 7,640 piculs. The Sydney took 424 bales for Europe,

# QUOTATIONS.

Noshi-Filature, Best	£115	to	120
Noshi-Filature, Good			110
Noshi-Oshu, Best	110	to	115
Noshi-Oshu, Good	001	to	101
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	90	to	95
Noshi-Shiushu, Heat			75
Noshi-Shieshu, Good	őş	to	671
Nashi-Bushu, Best	215		
Noshi-Bushe, Good.,	100	to	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	QĐ	ta	95
Noshi-Joshu, Good			ő,
Noshi-Joshu, Fair	55	to	571
Kibiao-Filature, Beat			100
Kibiso-Filature, Seconds	85	to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25	to	30
Kibiao-Bushu, fair			221

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### TEA.

Very few transactions have taken place during the week and those principally in the lower grades. Stocks are said to amount to 1,300 piculs only and no new arrivals have taken place from the country. The only shipment during the week has been 1,545 packages for America by the Empress of China.

## QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	7 + 2 :
Finest	487.2
Eine	(조절중
Good Medium	
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	10 to 20

# EXCHANGE,

Silver  $\gamma_{0}^{2}$  lower from London and sterling quotations from China  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{8}$  lower, which have caused rates on China to advance, though no change

Sterling-Bank T.T	2/034
- Bills on demand	2/01
- 4 months' sight	2 0
- Private 4 months' eight	2 016
- 6 months' zight,	2/011
On Parls-Bank sight	2.54
On Lyons - l'rivate 4 months' sight	2.58
On Hongkong-Bankuight 54 to 6	54 % d.
- Private rodaya'sight. 74 to	9 % d.
Oo Shangbai-Bank sight	78
- Private to days' sight	8oto
On India-Bank sight	151
- Private 30 days' night	157
On America-Bank Bills on demand.,	
- Private 4 months' sight	501
On Germany-Bank sight	1.051
- Private 4 months' sight	2.10
Har Silver (London)	26

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# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 7.]

YOKOHAMA, FEB. 月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 首型者保護日三十 Vol. XXIX.

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# The Iapan Weekly Mail.

" FAISCE QUE POIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WREKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHANA: SATURDAY, FBB. 12TH, 1808.

# BIRTHS.

On the 30th January, at Hongkong, the wife of Captain Jackson, steamer Leosok -ot a daughter At Peking, on the 29th January, the wife of E. GUY HILLIER,-of a son

At Shanghai, on the 3rd February, the wife of E. LARKINS, -of a son.

# MARRIAGES.

On Jan. 26, at St. Stephen's Mission Church, West Point, Hongkong, by the Rev. W. Banister, William II. Hirwall, eldest son of the late Abraham Hipwell, Esq., Monutrath, Ireland, to KATHLEEN ISABEL, second daughter of the late Thomas G. Power, E q., Milverton, Temple Road, Dublin, Ireland.

On the 28th Janua y, at John's Cathedral, Hangkong, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M. A., Alerrad Norton Huka to Katz, daughter of the Rev. Alexander Finser, Oban, Scotland.

# SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE situation in Uganda was considered grave on the 7th inst.

SEVENTY-TWO houses were destroyed by fire at Mayebashi on the 8th inst.

THE Yokohama Water Works will shortly commence the construction of a supplementary reservoir at Nogeyama.

An Imperial Ordinance has been promulgated An Experion was held by H.I.M. the Emperor on the market is of very poor quality, and prohibiting the carrying of swords, sword-sticks, on the 5th inst. which was attended by the urrivals from the country have practically cessed. clubs or other lethal weapons dwing the forth. Imperial Princes, Ministers of State, officials of Excelling excellences steady.

Digitized by

coming elections, under a penalty of imprisonment.

GREAT BRITAIN and Russia are agreed in the candidature of Prince George of Greece for the Governorship of Crete.

SERIOUS anti-Semitic riots occurred in Paris, Lyons, Marseilles and other cities in France on January 17th and 18th.

THE Kaussi Railway Company has adopted electric lighting on its cars, and the system is reported to be working successfully.

An International Sanitary Conference is to be held at Madrid in April. Japan is sending three officials of the Home Department.

CONSOLIDATED Bonds to the amount of 707,000 ven were redeemed by the Government on the 28th ult. at the rate of 94 yen per 100 yen face value.

THE Tax Collectors' office at Shinchiku, Formosa, was looted by insurgents on the night of the 7th inst., and an official and a policeman killed.

A very auccessful subscription dance in aid of the funds of the Yokohama General Hospital took place on Thursday evening at the Public

A FIRE occured in the Yokohama Dock Co's. compound Kuigan dori, in Thursday night, by which two godowns were destroyed and another

THE performance on Saturday of the farce, "Naval Engagements" by members of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society was greatly appreciated.

A PROJECT is on foot for the construction of a harbour at Unoshims, Kyushu, to facilitate the shipment of the coal produced in the neighbourhood.

On the night of the 3rd inst. a maixed train from Hyogo, while at Okayama Station, caught fire, and baggage valued at 1,000 yes was destroyed.

SOME anxiety is felt lest the Soudanese mutineers cross the Nile and affect a junction with the Dervish garrisons. The Europeans are gathered at Fort Kampula.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged, with the Emperor's consent, between Prince Komatan Yori hito and the Lady Kane-ko, elder daughter of Prince Iwakura Tomosada,

An Imperial Ordinance was issued on the 9th inst sanctioning the adoption of the current year's Budget for the purposes of the next fiscal year, commencing 1st April next.

On the 8th inst. a collision occurred in Nagasaki harbour between the Russian gun boat Zabiaka and the British steamer Ecangi. Neither vessel sustained serious damage,

THE funeral of the late Vice-Admiral Baron Tauboi, commander of the Yokosuka Port Admiralty, took place on the 5th instant at the Zuishoji Temple at Shirokane-daimachi-

MR. ICHIKAWA DANJURO, the famous actor, is said to have been engaged for 40 performances at the Kabuki theatre, Osaka, at the modest honorarium of 50,000 yen for the period.

BARON NISHI, Minister of Foreign Affairs, on Monday evening entertained Marquis Ito, the Premier, the Ministers of State, and all the foreign Representatives at his official residence.

the Imperial Household and the local Governors now in the Capital.

THE rebels at Makranon the Persian frontier, who recently attacked an engineering expedi-tion, have been completely routed by a British force, sustaining heavy losses, including their

THE Japanes steamer Bankoku Maru, with a cargo of coal from Moji, ran on to the Sarataga Spit in entering the Bay on the 7th inst., but after being lightened of part of her cargo, floated off on the 11th.

A TEL GRAN from Peking to a vernacular paper states that to avoid difficulties with Russia or Great Britain, in accepting a loan from either, the Chinese Government has decided to fall back on a domestic loan of 100 million tacls.

On the tatinat., a luggage train on the Kyushu Railway, while approaching the Futsukaichi Station, was derailed. A passenger train coming up behind met a similar fate. More than 30 passengers are reported to have been iniared, one man severely.

TRAFFIC on the Tokaido railway between Yamikata and Oyama was stopped on the 7th inst, by a fall of rock either in a tunnel or cut-It was expected that the line would not be clear for several days, but arrangements baving been made the mails got through on the ath.

In connection with the recent Kobe Customs frauds, two of the accused, Funahiki Hyoda, editor of a daily report of Imports and Exports, and Nagai Kotaro, a clerk employed in the Foreign Chamber of Commerce, have been convicted of complicity in the frauds and sentenced to two months' imprisonment and a

DURING the trial of a case in the Kobe District Court a few days ago, proceedings were brought to a deadlock through the Procurator refusing to obey the Judge when the latter demanded to know the name of a "secret service man" who had assisted the police in arresting some defend-ants accused of gambling. The Procurator withdrew from the case and proceedings were anapended.

THE Import market during the past week has been fairly brisk as regards cotton piece goods, yarns, and raw cotton, but little has been done in metals. In view of considerable shipments in transit, buyers appear to be waiting for a fall in prices, but whether this will occur appears doubiful, as reports from home show a very firm market. Some considerable transactions have taken place in kerosene, among others 10,000 cases out of 40,000 of Sumatra oil in arrive. having been placed. Arrivals of American oil both at Yokohama and Nagasaki have been fully equal to requirements, and a reduction in prices is anticipated by buyers. A fair business has been done in sugar, both brown and white refined. Arrivals of Manila brown, of which none remained last week, have amounted to some 40,000 piculs. There has been a very considerable import of China and Saigon rice, at very firm prices, as the grop in Cochin China has not been a full one and there is a good demand for Europe. In Exports, there has been a fairly good daily business done in Silk, both raw and waste, but the boom in the latter line, reported a fortnight ago, is over and buyers are getting wary in view of the high prices maintained. Scarcely anything has been done in tea, and in fact there is little chance of much transpiring, as the small stock still remaining

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The object for which Japan has worked so long, namely the recovery of her turiff auto-nomy, being now at length within sight of achievement, the fift Shimpo has something to say on the subject. Considering that the United States derives 160 million dollars, or nearly fifty per cent, of its total revenue, from import duties, and that even Italy, essentially a poor country, obtains fifteen per cent. of its revenue from the same source, whereas the figure in Japan's case is only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., there cannot be much room to doubt that a change of rates is urgently needed. The necessary arrangements have now been made after infinite difficulty, and since there is every prospect of the speedy conclusion of the only two remaining treaties, namely, the French and the Austro-Hungarian, it is expected that the new tariff will come into operation from September or October next. The duties chargeable will be levied in accordance with two bodies of regulations, the Conventional Tariff and the Statutory Tariff, the latter being supplementary to the former in the case of countries that have treaties with a most-favoured-nation clause. There is no doubt that these new tariffs represent a great step in advance, m compared with the tariff now in force, but, on the other hand, their provisions are by no means perfect. It is an accepted principle in Japan that import duties should be levied wholly for purposes of revenue and not at all with a view to protection. The tariff ought therefore to be drawn up in such a manner at to obtain a maximum of revenue while opposing a minimum of obstacle to the development of the import trade. It is questionable whether that aim has been kept fully in view by the drafters of the new schedules. Then, again, every encouragement should be given to the growth of domestic manufactures, and all raw materials required for industrial enterprise should be admitted duty-free. From that point of view the placing of raw cotton on the free list was a wise step, but there are other articles that ought to be similarly treated. Another important point is that whereas Germany a d England, for example, retain absolutely unlimited power to impose what duties they please on Japanese products and manufactures, Japan's power to tax British and German goods is suictly limited. That cannot be called an equality of rights. Thus, though there is much cause for congratulation on account of the progress represented by the new tariffs, it will not do to suppose that the situation is entirely satisfactory. Something still remains to be accomplished.

One of the most remarkable features of Far-Eastern politics is the growth of China's foreign indebtedness during secent years, says the Nichi Nichi Shimbun. Up to a very modern date she was virtually free from all pecuniary obligation to Western countries. In 1887 she contracted her first foreign debt, a paltry sum of five millions of marks to Germany. Then she barrowed a silver loan of £1 635,000 from English in 1893, and a gold loan of three millions sterling from the same country in 1894, to gether with various smaller loans, aggregating about two millions sterling from sundry sources The total was paltry, and was amply secured by the customs revenue. But in 1895 and 1896, respectively, China made two big loans of £15 820,000 and £26 000,000, and now she is negotiating another foan of sixteen millions. On the other hand, her state income is small. According to the calculations of Herr von Brandt, the total sum collected from the people is 100 million tacls annually, made up of land tax (35 millions), customs dues (23 millions), transit dues (12 millions), likin (10 millions), selt tax (10 millions) and miscellaneous taxes (10 millions). Of this total, however, only about one-third finds its way to Peking, if Herr von Brandt's figures be correct. He probably estimates the receipts of the Central Government at too low a sum, but it is certain that they

fore, China is not in a position to borrow money abroad. She has already pledged her customs dues for all that they are worth, and, her national credit not being a particularly valuable asset, she has to look round for a new security. Meanwhile, Western Powers find their opportunity in her impecutiosity. They press their money upon her, not indeed without security— England, for example, seeks to have the land tax hypothecated to her in connexion with the new loan -but still with a readiness that would be unaccountable were not other conditions attached. conditions providing an increase of commercial privileges and an improvement of political position for the creditor. When the Shimonoseki Treaty was concluded, a great many critics said that the Japanese negotiators had made a mistake; that they had exacted from China a pecuniary promise which she would never fulfil, and that her engagement to pay 200 million tacks was not worth the paper on which it was writ-ten. Those critics have long lapsed into silence, and are now replaced by commentators who express great satisfaction at the prospect of China's paying off the remnant of the Indemnity. the former were pessimistic. For it's very plain that one of the objects which induce Western Powers to offer money to China is that she may be able to pay Japan off, so that the latter shall be deprived of all special claims upon her neighbour. If Japanese publicists looked a little more intelligently into the events of the time, they would perceive that to be paid off is not, perhaps, the most desirable result for their

The Osaka Asahi has four articles in series on the subject of national isolation. Undoubtedly there are advantages connected with isolation. Japan reaped them in the middle ages and they were so fully appreciated by the Tokugawa Government that it adopted and enforced the most extreme form of isolation. On the other hand, isolation has its drawbacks. From them also Japan suffered. She found that, owing to want of intercourse with other countries, she had fallen far behind in the race of progress. She has been strug-gling hard during the last thirty years to recover her lost ground, and to some degree she has succeeded. But geographically speaking, she is condemned to isolation. It takes her people days to reach the shores of any other country. That fact, however, coafers many benefits. England illustrates them. It is not a question of "sour grapes" with Englishmen when they boast that their country stands alone, They know the advantage of being able to remain beyond the range of international collisiona and frictions. Japas, occupies in the Far East a position analogous to that occupied by England in the Far West. But it must be confessed that the benefits of isolation become very doubtful when a union of Powers has to be faced, Japan has had bitter experience of that truth. The opening of her intercourse with the outer world placed her vis d-vis m phalaux of fourteen Western States, and they held her in a vice. Sir Harry Parkes, Great Britain's Representative, stood at the head of the phalanx and wield ed its forces. Japan was powerless in the face of such a union. It was for that resson that Count Induye failed to revise the Treaties. Count Okuma appreciated the fact. He adopted the policy of breaking up the phalanx and negotiating with each Power indepen-dently. His programme of revision was faulty, but his method of procedure deserved full praise, It is true, indeed, that he did not originate that policy: Count Terashima had set the example. Still, to Count Okuma belongs the credit of having made practical application of the principle. Count Mutsu, following in the same lines, was at length able to achieve the country's zim. The lesson taught by these incidents was that a single State can not succeed unless its dealings are with a single State. A ruder and more forcible illustration of the same principle was afforded in connexion with Liantung, Russia, Germany and France combined against

combination. Italy attempted to help her, Italy has no great stake in the Far East, but she would be pleased to extend her interests there, and her position in the Mediterranean makes her a special friend of England's. She, therefore, approached England on Japan's behalf. But England declined to move: her policy at the time was one of neutrality. Thus Japan stood finally alone, and had no choice but to yield. She was one, not merely against three, but against lour; for had she defied Russia, Germany and France, she would have had China again on her hands. It is a source of perpetual pain that the Imperial Rescript of April 1895 had to be issued, but there was no help. At that time it did not appear to politicians that the union of the three European Powers could be durable. Russia and France might work together in the East, but Germany could scercely stand in permanent bne with them. Germany, however, has clung to her allies with singular tenscity, and recent events show plainly that these three Powers must be regarded as a coalition for aggressive purposes in the Orient. Germany has taken Kiao chou, Russia has occupied Port Arthur, and France is re-inforcing her squadron to assist these two States, Japan's interests are seriously involved. So are England's, British policy may have been an object of doubt to some Japanese observers in former times, but it is so no longer. Evidently Eugland's aim is to preserve the integrity of the Chinese empire and to secure the tradal routes of the Orient for the use of the whole world. That is precisely Japan's aim also. As for China, she can not desire anything else. She has no other hope of safety, The situation points plainly to an all between England, Japan and China. un alliance true that China has always imagined herself superior to every other nation, and that the idea of an alliance has been repugnant to her pride. But her eyes must be opened by this time. Such an alliance need not involve any complicated procedure. On the side of England and Japan, there should be occasional combined movements of their naval squadrons and each aquadron should have full information of the other's whereabouts. As for China, she should agree that, with certain exceptions, all her northern and southern ports should be available to the ships of the allies. union of that kind would completely secure the peace of the Orient.

The Nippon declares that the twentieth century is evidently to be an era of brute force (inryolin). The lesson taught by the events of the past few years is that the so called civilization of Western Powers has progressed in the direction of the law of might. Wearied by the weight of the armaments that they have been carrying as a protection against one another's violence, European States seek to relieve the strain by excursions into far-distant fields. South America, Central Africa and the Australian islands are still included among the uncivilized quarters of the world, and thither the Powers of the Occident have directed their aggressive attention. But the arena is not wide enough for their purpose, and they have consequently turned to China, Korea and Japan, which countries also are to be classed, it would seem, with the "flesh of the weak" awaiting consumption by the strong. International law is the law of Christianity. Its observance is confined to Christendom. Oriental countries lie entirely beyond the range of its application. They have no share in its privil ges, are not allowed to plead its provisions. The extraterritorial system practised against them is a plain proof of the fact, but the recent action of Germany is a still plainer. If a deed of violence is committed by some lawless subjects of a State against the persons or properties of strangers, the duty of apprehending and punishing the offenders devolves upon that State. Only in the event of its does the Power whose nationals have suffered become entitled to take the law into its own are insignificant when compared with the size Japan. The situation was hopeless for the latter hands. But Germany did not wait to see and population of the empire. Evidently there-unless she, on her side, could contrive some whether the Chinese Government would dis
Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT charge its duties. She had immediate recourse to force and seized a portion of Chinese territory. Such procedure would be wholly out of the question within the pale where international law applies. There are violent characters in all countries, and if every act of lawlessness were made a pretext for armed aggression, no weak nation would be secure for a moment. Russia, Germany and France combined to expel Japan from Liaotung and the banks of the Yalu, because, apparently, they regarded her develop-ment as a recrudescence of the spirit of Ghengis Khan or Tamerlane. Have their own doings in the East since that time been worthier of civilization than were the doings of the Mongols and the Tartars conturies ago? The universally accepted doctrine of the time seems to be that to be strong at sea is to possess the right of using one's strength to the detriment of others, and that to own vessels of war is to be entitled to seize whatever territories appear convenient as naval bases or coaling stations. The twentieth century approaches the horizon as the era of brute force. And strange to say, many Oriental publicists find nothing to be surprised at in the prevalence of such a doctrine, but are rather disposed to rejoice that the era of violence and aggression has dawned again upon the world.

The Femiuri Shimbun publishes two articles urging the advisability of emigration to South America. It quotes many figures showing the remarkable progress that the Argentine Re public has made during recent years, and speaks in glowing terms of the opportunities presented by Brazil, Pe u and Chili. Our contemporary's statistics being accessible to all, and its articles being composed chiefly of figures, we need not give any detailed resume. The Yomiuri's object is not merely to encourage its nationals to emigrate to South America, but also m induce the Government to negotiate commercial treaties with the Argentine Republic and with such other States in that part of the world as have not yet outered into conventional relations with Japan. It thinks that one of the features of the twentieth century will be the material development of South America.

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# DAMAGE BY WEDNESDAY'S GALE.

The severe gale that swept over Tokyo, Yokohama, and neighbourhood on the 2nd just, caused a number of casualties in Shinagawa and Yokohama waters. The Asahi reports that a large junk called the Inari Maru, owned by the Induye Shipping Company, Yokobama, while on her way from Yukobama to Tokyo with 434 bags of foreign rice, was lost, together with three sendo. The junk Kiuchu Maru, loaded with 100 rails, sank in Yokohama harbour, but the sendo were saved. The Enju Maru, with 200 bags of foreign rice, had a narrow escape, and had to jettison some 80 bage of rice. The lighter Toraichi Maru, with 229 cases of foreign salmon, went to bottom, and her sendo are still missing. The cargo boat Sanshu Maru, owned by the Oits Shipping Co. also foundered off Yokohama. The Shinryoku Maru, of the Maisushita Shipping Co., Yokohama, was lost with 908 cases of kerosene, together with the crew, off Haneda. The following junks also broke adrift while being towed by the steamer No. 2 Hoson Maru off Haneda, near Shinagawa :- The Urayoshi Maru, with 700 cases of kerosene; the Myojin Maru, with 1,600 cases, the Kannon Maru with 600 cases of oil; the No. 3 Matsu Maru with 500 bags of Chinese rice; the Hachiman Maru with 278 bags goma; the Ishidaka Maru with 350 bags of rice; the Myofin Maru with 100 bales of American cotton; the Inari Maru with 547 bags of sugar; the Myojin Maru with 42 bales of drugs 35 cases of provision, 17 cases of wine, and 33 cases of foreign paper. The steamer Sumidagawa Maru and No. 3 Hoson Maru are now engaged in searching for the missing junks. It is added that several other vessels belonging to the Inouge and Ota Shipping Companies. Vokuhana, met with initial disaster.

# AN ANALYSIS OF PRICES IN JAPAN.

According to the investigations completed by the Bank of Japan and published in the Fiji, the prices of domestic staples in January this year compared with those of January and December last year were as follow :-

an	. 1898	B. Dec	. <b>18</b> 97	. Jar	1. 1897
Coal	224	****	222	*****	152
Cotton yacus	I21		131	*****	
Saké	136	41111	132	*** ***	140
Oil cake	193		185		172
Rice bran	182		178	*****	144
lapanese cut to-					
Бассо	157		172		_
Bean sauce (mao)	210	*****	265		150
Fowls (for food)	142		134	48.1.1.1	142
Flow	203		197	141141	152
Copper	197	*****	202		187
Iron	174		179		-
Shirtings	100		200		187
Lumber	273		267		213
Keinseite	108		109	*****	117
Sity	136	*****	153		100
Sugar	136	145445	151		83
Sait	240	446148	242		237
Foreign yarns	125	101044	126	*****	120
Floor matting	207		22 I	******	194
Oi	637	1 ** * * 4	245		200
Imported nails	100	144144	108	111111	111
Lining stuffs	100		102		IOI
Glass panes and					
wares	170	*****	. 179	*****	-

Fourteen other commodities remain the same in their prices as in the previous month, the comparative figures for January this year and for January last being as follows:—Cutton thread, 133 and 120; silk floss, 120 and 98; charcoal, 181 and 185; wood, 204 and 153; dried bonits, 246 and —; barley, 269 and 135; wheat, 218 and 163; bleached cotton stuff, 122 and 104; vegelable wax, 128 and 131; tea, 127 and 123; leather and hidea, 186 and 150; silk thread, 123 and 119; eggs, 194 and 191; hemp, 148 and 145.

The average of prices on the whole was 170 for January, 1898, 172 for December, 1897, and 146 for January, 1897, the value in January, 1887, being taken at 100.

From the above it may be perceived that Japanese cut tobacco represents the highest appreciation, owing probably to the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Law being put into operation, whereas the rise in the value of oil cake, rice, bran, &c., is attributable to fluctuations in the sardine fishery. Floor and fowls have risen on account of scarcity of stock; coal is recently increasing steadily and still shows an upward tendency cotton yarns, which were in a depressed condition at the end of last year, have begun to revive; in short, the appreciation of most of the com modities above mentioned is traceable to certain special causes.

# COLLISION IN A JAPANESE COURT.

A passage of arms occurred the other day between the Judge and the Procurator at the Kobe District Court. During the trial of a gambling case in which several respectable residents were concerned, the Judge insisted on knowing the name of a man who accompanied the officers when they made the arrest,

The Procurator interrupted and said that the man who accompanied the police was a "secret service man," whose name it was against the public interest to disclose. He had given in-structions to this effect by virtue of his official authority. The Judge retorted that he insisted on the question by virine of his official power.

As a result the Procurator retired from the Court, saying he would not attend the proceedings further, and the Court had to be adjourned.

On Sunday the trial was resumed in presence of Procurator Kato, who demorred to the Judge's trying the case further on the plea that he had adopted a prejudiced attitude towards the pref secution, and the proceedings well as the proceedings will be proceeding to the proceedings will be proceeding to the proceedings will be proceedings and the proceedings will be proceeding to the proceedings will be proceeding to the proceeding to the proceeding the proceedings will be proceeding to the proceeding the proceeding the proceeding the procedure will be proceeding to the procedure of the proceeding the procedure will be proceeding to the procedure of the procedure will be proceeding to the procedure of the procedure will be proceeding to the procedure of the pr

# THE MITSUI BANK AND THE MONEY MARKET.

A correspondent writes:-The raising of the deposit rate has been the general feature of Japanese banking since last year. Recently, the Fifteenth Bank, the Mitsubishi Bank, and other trustworthy and respectable establishments, have all raised their deposit rates, and offer 7 per cent, per annum for a fixed deposit for one year -that is, 2 per cent, higher than the interest on any Government Loan Bonds. Other banks, with a comparatively small capital and of less credit, have been compelled to do the same. 72 per cent, for a deposit fixed for one year is nothing but usual now adays, some banks having gone so far as to offer 8 per cent. Indeed, there is now keen competition among Japanese bankers to attract money by advancing the de-posit rates. Is such a high rate as 8 per cent. to be considered a reasonable figure? Is there any cloud threatening the economic world that drives almost all banks to resort to this measure in order that they may strengthen their reserves or, rather, not drive their customers away? Is this a felicitous phenomenon-this competitive advance of the deposit rates-when we remember that such deposits in those for a fixed period are made as much for the sake of security as of profit? Will this step, followed by all at the same time, bring about a satisfactory result to all? What will they do if the demand for money becomes slack after they have succeeded in tempting much from their neighbours? These are financial problems that require close study. We are told that the Mitsui Bank, one of the greatest monetary establishments of Japan, is looking on this remarkable phenomenon with indifference, and is not going to offer a higher rate of interest for any kind of deposits, whether fixed or otherwise. Why does not this establishment follow the step taken by almost all Japanese banks? Possibly it has on hand large surplus funds in want of employment, possibly the directors do not consider this upward movement of interest as other than temporary. Possibly they apprehend something serious to come as the consequences of this keen competition for deposits. The attitude of the bank is the more interesting as it has been the leader in most financial movements in Japan. It was the Mitsui Bank that first abolished the fraction rin in all banking accounts. It was the Mitsui Bank that first gave their customers the convenience of using cheques instead of cash in paying Customs Duties. Last summer when other bankers, on account of the tempo-rary expansion since the war with China, made loans and advances most freely, the Mitsui Bank took an entirely opposite step, and raised its rate of discount and interest on loans and advances. The bank is a kind of barometer of the money market, and considering this its present attitude is significant, and claims the notice of the public. But whether other bankers are taking a right step in raising the deposit rate, or the Mitsui Bank is acting properly in going the other way, is a question that cannot be decided in matters stand at present.

# TOBACCO IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The trade in tobacco in Japan for the last four years has been as follows;

# Exports.

ı				
	1897.	1896	1895.	1894.
I	Yen.	Yen,	Yen,	Yen.
ļ	Tobacco leaf 104,665	151,583	216,613	259 675
ĺ	Cigarettes, 221,611	81,937	115.764	56,877
	Other kinds 21,169	21,858	57.070	31,722
		-		

# Total .......357,449 254.383 379 743 348,274

	TMLLO	KIS		
	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen,	1895. Yen.	1894- Ven.
Tobacco leaf	149 660			
Cut tobacco				
Cigarettes E.	,001.553	574,235	303,871	232,344
giriai from _	322,715	40,034	17.019	11,576
V A EVIII I IN A				

# THE EXTRADITION CASE.

arrangements have been completed for tion. Or, again, if the body of the pro-the extradition by the United States of missory notes had been fraudulently the Japanese clerk who, having robbed Messrs. Favre Brandt and Company, of Yokohama, effected his escape to San Francisco. The circumstances of the Francisco. fraud, so far às our information goes, were very peculiar. It had been the custom of the foreign firm to draw up in the French language certain documents for transmission to the Japanese Authorities in connexion with contracts to which the latter were parties. The clerk one day in- it must be said that the use to which the formed the firm that, owing to a change defendant's signature was applied was in necessary to submit the documents in been accepted without question, and he thereupon submitted for the firm's signature documents which he represented to which were in reality receipts empowering him to draw a sum of about twenty. one thousand dollars. The firm apparentthese Japanese documents were what the clerk stated them to be. They affixed his part, and the Lord Chief Justice entheir signature, solely on the strength of the man's assertion, and he at once pro- hama firm, they were dealing with an emceeded to negotiate the documents, obtaining some lifteen thousand yen, with tremely difficult to imagine that any charge which he fled to America. Telegrams of reckless carelessness, or contributory were sent to San Francisco, however, shortly after his departure from Yokohama, and he was arrested as soon as the steamer entered the American port. About four thousand dollars were found in his posses-He had apparently spent the remainder, or otherwise disposed of it. His extradition has been effected on a charge of forgery, but it will be seen that the peculiar features of the case invest it with special interest. The recent action in the Queen's Bench Division of the English High Court of Justice is very much in point. Lord William Nevill induced an intimate friend, Mr. Clay, to append his signature to a document which purported to have reference to the marriage settlements and divorce of Lord William's sister, Lady Cowley. Lord William did not allow Mr. Clay to read the document, but kept it. carefully covered up, with the exception of the spaces for the signatures, explaining that, if Mr. Clay insisted, he should be made acquainted with the contents, but that it was desired to keep them private. Mr. Clay, having full confidence in Lord Nevill, signed his name, imagining that he was merely acting as a witness, whereas in reality he appended his signature to promissory notes for over eleven thousand pounds sterling. The notes were duly negotiated by Lord Nevill, who then pas-sed over to the Continent, but when the notes were presented to Mr. Clay for payment, he naturally demurred, and action was brought against him by Mr. S. Lewis, who had cashed the notes on the strength Foreign Office in London on the subject of Mr. Clay's signature. 'The action went in favour of Mr. Clay, the Lord Chief Justice ruling that Lord Nevill had been, vised Treaties go into operation. That is in effect, guilty of forgery. "Mr. Clay," all very well of course, but, in point of his Lordship said, "had no contracting fact, such action is belated, for the mind and his signature obtained, by untrue matter received official consideration statements fraudulently made, to a docu-ment of the existence of which he had no ment may be regarded as certain. Our

ferred by delicate contrivance from one and publishing journals in this country, document to another, and so skilfully as and it denounces as "gratuituous impertidocument to another, and so skilfully as We learn that the necessary diplomatic to escape notice under ordinary examinawritten above, and after his signature had been made, it would have been forgery, and in such case it is clear no recourse could be had upon it. Can it make any difference as to resulting contractual obligation that the body of the note was without his knowledge filled up before he was fraudulently induced to put his name in the belief that it was something wholly different? I think not. In plain reason of regulations, it would henceforth be substance and effect forgery, whether or not it amounted to the criminal offence of Japanese. His statement seems to have forgery?" There was, however, another point to be determined, namely, whether Mr. Clay, in signing his name as he did, had been recklessly careless; whether, in be mere specifications, or tenders, but short, he could be considered guilty of contributory negligence. That question was answered in the negative. The jury decided that Mr. Clay had given his sigly took no steps to assure themselves that nature in "misplaced confidence"; that there had been no want of due care on dorsed the finding. In the case of the Yokoplaye whom they fully trusted, and it is exnegligence, could be substantiated against them. Still the incidents are evidently of a nature calculated to invite discussion. The clerk, while he showed himself to be a man of singular daring and craftiness, broke down signally at the most critical point of his enterprise. Had he quietly left the mail steamer at Honolulu and waited there for a ship to carry him to Australia or South America, it is in the last degree improbable that he could ever have been apprehended. But by passing over to San Francisco, he entered the territory of a State having an extradition treaty with Japan, and, moreover, placed himself within range of the fatal telegraph, which could not have reached him in Hawaii. Happily there is generally some defective link in the chain of a villain's devices.

# FOREIGN JOURNALISM IN JAPAN.

Truly it seems that there is a determination on the part of the Japan Gasette to create a "situation" in order that it may pose as a saviour. Our contemporary persists in thinking itself bound to stand forth as the champion of the foreign press in Japan, but we venture to suggest that the foreign press will not gain much from such championship. A member of the Institute of Journalists, instigated by the present editor of the Japan Gazette, has induced the Institute to address the of the rights that will be enjoyed by foreign journalists in Japan when the Revised Treaties go into operation. That is

nence" or subsidized pusillanimity the contention that the enjoyment of such a right requires any concession on Japan's part. We are not concerned to reconcile the amusing discrepancies displayed by the Japan Gasette's mental processes. Otherwise we might point out that if the Revised Treaty confers the right in question, there is no occasion for the Institute of Journalists to take any action, nor any ground for the sweeping charges of insufficiency preferred by this same Japan Gasette against the Treaty. The plain fact is that the whole of this storm in a tea pot had its origin in a false statement circulated by the Japan Gasette itself and repeated by the editor of that journal in a letter addressed to the London Times. The falsehood was that, on the occasion of the reform of the Press Law by the Japanese Diet in its session of 1895-7, a clause restricting journalistic enterprise to Japanese subjects had been inserted with view to Treaty Revision. In other words, the Japanese Legislature and the Japanese Government were accused of deliberately enacting a law for the suppression of foreign journalism in this country after July 17th, 1899. Of course the Japan Gasette did not intend to mislead its readers, neither did its editor deliberately set himself to mislead the readers of the London Times. We must assume that much at any rate. But in truth no statement could have been more misleading. For had such action been really taken by the Legislature and the Government with a view to Treaty Revision, the public would have possessed emphatic evidence of Japan's resolve to extinguish foreign journalism within her realm. Astonished at so gross a blunder and appreciating the injurious impression it must produce, we pointed out that nothing of the kind had taken place; that the restrictive clause had stood in the Press Law for ten years; that it had been inserted originally without any reference whatever to Treaty Revision, but simply because so long as foreigners were not subject to the penalties prescribed by the Press Law of Japan, they could not be allowed to enjoy its privileges, and that, for the rest, the Government of Japan was known to entertain most liberal views on the question of foreign journalism. It might have been supposed that the fapon Gazette would then have acknowledged its very serious blunder and withdrawn its false accusation against the Japanese Legislature and the Japanese Government. On the contrary, our contemporary fell into an access of indignation at the idea that the Japanese Government had any voice in the matter, and insisted that foreign journalists would not be beholden to Japanese charity but would demand their Treaty rights. A fine phrensy no doubt, but less ludi-crous were it more consistent. If the Japanese Government were disposed to dispute the point, it might claim that journalism, not being a "trade," can not be said to be textually included in the privileges secured to foreigners by the Treaty. But the Japanese Government is understood to have no such disposition. It entertains perfectly liberal knowledge, cannot bind him. It is as if he contemporary girds indignantly at the had written his name for an autograph notion that the Government of Japan collector or in an album. The case differs in no material respect from one in the subject. The Japan Gazette, however, or in the subject. The Japan Gazette, however, or in the subject of think that which a genuine spiritized shierly tank the right of owning, editing the property of should be affair.

solution. Of course we appreciate and commiserate our contemporary's alarm and florry. It understands that its own record does not confer any claim to Japanese consideration, and it has probably the grace to acknowledge to itself that could it change places with the Japanese Government, a Japan Gazette would receive short shrift at its hands. Our contemporary may dismiss those conscience-begotten fears how-ever. It will come in with the "ruck." Its labours have doubtless been arduous and, from its own point of view, agitating, but they have neverattained the magnitude of calling for hostile discrimination, or sug-gesting the need of suppression. The principle of freedom is too strong to be disturbed by petty abuses.

We may refer here to a comment made by the Kobe Herald in the sense that it would have been advisable had the Japanese Legislature removed the restrictive clause from the Press Law with a view to the operation of the Revised Treaties. At first sight that appears a reasonable criti-But we must remember that the task before the Diet was to modify the Law solely for the purpose of Japanese subjects, and that the modifications introduced were to go into effect immediately. Had the restrictive clause been removed, it would have been necessary either to defer the enforcement of the modified Law until the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, or to empower foreigners to become proprietors and editors of Japanese journals two and a balf years prior to that event. We can not yet tell whether the privilege of engaging in Japanese journalism will be extended to foreigners after July, 1899. They will certainly be allowed to own, edit and publish journals in a foreign language, but as to journals in the Japanese language, we do not know whether a decision has been reached. At all events, the Japanese Press Law refers solely to Japanese journals, and if that fact be noted, the retention of the restrictive clause ceases to have any significance so far as foreign journals are concerned.

# MR. CLEMENT ACOTT.

Mr. Clement Scott seems to have a bee in his bonnet about female morality. When he was in Japan he discovered, by frequenting some low-class tea-houses and other haunts of refined pleasure-seekers, that all the fair sex in this country is frail. Probably he never met a Japanese lady in his life, but that didn't matter in the least. He had a coup d'æil that enabled him to infer the manners and customs of the aristocracy from the methods of the social castaways in the purlieus of the foreign settlements. He has now made It is that all the another discovery. females connected with the stage in Eng-land are morally degraded. The immediate result for himself is that he has found it prudent to pass over to the Confact that dementia very often takes the torm of Mr. Clement Scott's complaint.

His Excellency Sir William Robinson, G.C. M.G., Governor of Hongkong, bade official farewell to the Legislative Council on Jan. 25. and two months without one leve of absence.

# LONDON INTELLIGENCE RE-CEIVED FROM FAPAN.

Somebody telegraphed from Kobe to The Times, in December, that "the news of the occupation of Port Arthur had disturbed the Japanese Ministry" and that "long Cabinet Councils had been held in the presence of military officials." We recently referred to this intelligence as misleading and said that people in Tokyo had neither seen nor heard anything of such occurrences. The Kobe Chronicle, however, defends The Times' correspondent, and in support of his assertion quotes a paragraph from our own columns. The paragraph, which appeared in the Mail on December 22nd, was avowedly a translation from the Asahi Shimbun. Here it is:-

This paragraph is actually adduced by the Kobe Chronicle as justification for a tele-gram sent by The Times correspondent to London that "the Japanese Ministry was disturbed" and that "long Cabinet Councils had been held in the presence of military officials." We would observe, in the first place, that if a paragraph appearing in a vernacular journal is considered sufficient basis for a telegram to The Times about the mood of the Japanese Cabinet, The Times is apt to be very greatly misinformed; in the second place, that a Cabinet meeting on receipt of such important intelligence, is a perfectly natural and almost inevitable step which does not warrant any such inference as that the Ministry is "disturbed;" and, in the third place, that when a correspondent converts one Cabinet meeting into "long Cabinet Councils" allows his imagination to outrun his facts. The Kobe Chrônicle can scarcely be serious in taking such a line. What the correspondent of The Times did was to send to London a telegram implying that the Japanese Government had been much excited by the Port Arthur news; that Japanese statesmen contemplated necessity of an appeal to force, and that several long meetings of the Cabinet had been held to discuss the question. Such a statement conveyed a most exaggerated notion of the facts. No well informed person in Tokyo would have dreamed of sending it, and that the Kobe Chrouicle should insist upon its accuracy is surprising.

# A GRADUATED IDEOGRAPHIC READER.

We learn that Mr. Basil H. Chamberlain tinent. It is a curious but well established is engaged compiling a work on the lines indicated in our recent paragraph with reference to the speedy acquisition of a working knowledge of the ideographic script by discriminating between the characters in common use and those rarely employed. This will be good news to students of written Japanese, for Mr. Many landatory speeches anitable to the occasion were delivered. The departing Governor Chamberlain's competence to provide has established a record—a reign of six years such an aid is beyond question, and there s great need of the book.

# THE BUDGET.

An Imperial Ordinance issued on the 9th instant, sanctions the adoption of the current year's Budget for the purposes of next year. By the "current year" is to be understood the year ending March 31st 1898, and by "next year," the year com-mencing April 31st, 1898. This, of course, is a mere matter of routine. The Constitution provides that in the event of the Budget, as submitted to the Diet, failing to come into existence, the Budget for the preceding year shall be adopted. Commenting on that prospect some time ago, we expressed doubts as to whether the adoption of the old Budget might not embarrass the Government seriously, since the sanction contained in the Constitution refers to the Or-dinary Expenditures only, whereas the Upon receiving official information from Russia that the Russian Pacific Squadron had occupied that the Russian Pacific Squadron had occupied programme depends upon extraordinary port Arthur and Talien Bay with the consent of the Chinese authorities, and that the French Squadron had also been put into motion, the Musisters of State and others convened a special meeting of the Cabinet. During the proceedings Count Matsukata proceeded to the Palace, and telegrams were dispatched to Japanese Ministers sanctioned the corresponding extraordinatoral. sanctioned the corresponding extraordinary outlays as "continuing expendi-tures," and that, consequently, the sums needed for carrying out the programme year by year need not be again approved by the Diet so long as the original figures are not changed.

# CARRYING OF WEAPONS AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

The following Imperial Ordinances were issued on the 9th instant :-

# IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

In view of the existence of urgent necessity, We, with the advice of the Privy Council and maccordance with the 8th Arricle of the Imperial Constitution, hereby authorize the prohibition of the carrying of swords, fire-arms, spears, sword-arms, gun-canes, bambon-spears, chibs, or other lethal weapons, and direct that the authorization be proclaimed.

# IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 12.

Att. I - Persons taking part in the election of members of the lawfully organized Diet are hereby torbidden to carry swords, fire arms, spears,

by lookidden to carry swords, five-arms, spears, sword-canes, gun-canes, hamboo-spears, clubs or other lethal weapous.

Art. II.—Persons violating the prohibition of the preceding Article, shall be punished with minor confinement for a period of not less than eleven days and not more than two years, together with a five of not less than 5 yes and not more than 200 yes, and shall have the weapon ronfirested.

200 yen, and shall have the weapon confiscated.

The term of prescription laid down in the 104th Article of the Law of Election of Members of the House of the Law of Election of Members of the House of Representatives shall be applicable to the possity prescribed in the above clause.

Act. III.—This Ordinance shall become operative from the 20th day of the 2nd month of the

31st year of Meiji.

This Ordinance, if vigorously enforced, should be the means of putting a stop to the acts of violence which have hitherto proved only too common at elections in Japan. The soshi without a stick, a swordcane or a pistol will be a comparatively helpless individual, and no one will find it worth while to employ him. It can not be denied that the present Cabinet is adopting wise and resolute precautions to secure the preservation of peace and good order at the general elections, and to guard against any display of partiality by local officials. The latter point is very important, for since it is understood by the public at large that an alliance between the Cabinet and the Liberals is likely to take place before the the Diet

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zealous officials in some localities might abuse their power to further the Liberal cause unless they were distinctly instructed that nothing of the kind would be tolerated by the Government.

# THEN AND NOW.

A correspondent of the Fapan Times, discussing the state of affairs likely to prevail after the Revised Treaties go into operation, draws a very deterrent picture of the interferences and inconveniences to which people in France and Germany are subject at the hands of the police, and auggests that, although there will be plenty of cause to regret the change from our present life of freedom to an existence of official espionage and restraint, it will be our duty to remember that things are no better in some of the leading countries in Europe. We do not think that there is much comfort to be drawn from the comparison. It is something to have companious in misfortune, but the most satisfactory condition is to be without the misfortune. For our own part we do not look forward to the unpleasantness foreshadowed by our contemporary's cor-respondent. Many a time the question has been propounded to us, " Do you anticipate trouble after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction," and we have always replied that we do anticipate a certain amount of friction and misunderstanding, but that we have no apprehensive of police interference or official tyranny. Why should the foreign resident suffer discomforts that find no place in the life of the Japanese themselves? The police do not make arbitrary visits to the houses of the Japanese, nor is the collection of the taxes attended with any vexations greater than those incidental to such operations everywhere. An idea used to prevail that foot passengers are required to carry lamps after sunset in Japan, and that the police can arrest any one violating that regulation. But such is not the case. There is no law of the kind. Wheeled vehicles must be provided with lamps when moving at night, which is quite as it should be. It has also been insisted that foreigners engaged in an after-dinner game of cards will be liable to have their liouses raided by the police, and a solitary instance has been discovered of a party of clerks meeting with some mishap of the kind in Kobe. Card-playing is common enough all over Japan, but the police never enter a private house for the purpose of checking the pastime. They have no authority to do so. Gambling, indeed, is forbidden by law, yet if people care to gamble in the privacy of their own homes, they need not fear police interruption any more than it is to be feared in London of Paris. Why disquiet ourselves in vain? Certainly it would be pleasanter to preserve Consular Jurisdiction and to be continued in the enjoyment of comparative immunity from taxation, but a Frenchman or a German residing in England would feel the same predilection, mutatis mutandis. There are no evidences that official-There are no evidences that omerat-dom makes irksome and arbitrary incur-sions into the every-day life of the Japanese people, nor do the laws of Japan contain any provision suggesting that officialdom is competent to thrust itself disagreeably into the existence of quite impalpable, Digitized by Google

# TALIEN.

It is difficult to credit the news said to have been telegraphed from Peking to The Times in the sense that Great Britain has definitely abandoned her demand for the opening of Talien to trade. We are not certain, of course, that such a demand was preferred. No official announcement having yet been made of the conditions n connexion with the new loan, it is posfind a place among them. Assuming that so important an item be ruled out now. we fail to see how any objections offered by them to the opening of Talien could possess even a semblance of validity. Russia and France can not reasonably place obstacles in the path of the commercial progress of the Orient. They are at liberty to impose any restrictions they please on the prosecution of trade within their own dominions, but it is impossible to conceive them standing forth as advocates of China's isolation. Many people suspect, indeed, that Russia looks forward to carrying her Siberian Railway to the Liaotung Peniusula, and that Port Arthur is the ice-free harbour which she anticipates acquiring. The forecast seems likely enough, and, if credible, would explain Russia's alleged objection to see Talien thrown open to the trade of the world, for that step would virtually have the effect of neutralizing the whole of the Liaotung Peninsula. But reasons of that character could not find a place in any diplomatic discussion, or, indeed, be openly formulated at all. Besides, if England has proposed the opening of Talien, it is not merely because of her general interest in the tradal development of the Far East, but also because of her particular desire to secure for her subjects free access to the markets of Manchuria, which aim would certainly be imperilled if Russian authority became supreme there. Thus the very considerations that may be supposed to have weighed with England in formulating the demand are the considerations that impel Russia to oppose it, and if we credit the rumour that the demand has been withdrawn, we are driven to suppose that England has made a complete change of front in deference to objections which she must have plainly anticipated from the first, and which, if disclosed by Russia, should tend to strengthen rather than to break down Great Britain's resolve. From every point of view it appears to us that this Peking news is extremely apocryphal.

Since writing the above the somewhat vaguely worded telegram which we publish elsewhere, has come to hand. It conveys no distinct information as to the Talien question, but we gather from it that discredit is thrown upon the statements of the Peking correspondent of The Times, and that it will be well to refrain from arriving at any conclusion until some authoritative intelligence is forthcoming.

The profits made by the Iwaki Coal Mining Company during the latter half of last year amounted, according to the Hochi, to 33 998 foreigners under the new Treaties. The yen, of which 24,000 yen were distributed ma bases of some persons' fears seem to us dividend at the rate of twelve per cent. per

# THE NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY.

The Chancellor of the University of Oxford recently entertained at dinner in the hall of Queen's College the scholars concerned in the compilation of the New English Dictionary on Historical Principles. The occasion was the completion of the third volume of this colossal work. The first volume appeared in 1888, and it proposed by Her Majesty's Government is expected that the last will be published in 1908. From the speeches made at the sible that the opening of Talien did not dinner and the paragraphs published by Oxford and London journals, we gather it did, however, the question is, why should that the public remain singularly indifferent to the progress of the great Russia and France are said to have opposed dictionary. People, as a rule, seem to the position taken by England, but truly ignore it. There can be no doubt that the book will by-and-by be one of the greatest treasures a student can possess, but interest is difficult to arouse in the case of a lexicon requiring twenty years for its compilation, ten years of which have still to run. Who can be sure that he will live to receive the last volume if he becomes a subscriber at this stage? Yet all must long to possess the dictionary. The Times says of it :-

"It is the greatest enterprise which has ever been undertaken by the Clarendon Press, the greatest effort probably which any University, it greatest effort probably which any University, it may be any printing press, has taken in hand since the invention of printing. An eminent Dublin professor notlong ago defined a University as an institution for the promotion of treeless learning. A University press in an analogical sense might be defined as one which exists, parily and events for the production of treestance. at all events, for the production of unremmomentive works which, however, will tend to the benefit of posterity and envich the language and literature of the country. An exhaustive dictionary intended to equal or surpass the work which Little completed for the French language was beyond the scope of private enterprise. It will be not the least of the glories of the University of Oxford to have completed this gigantic task."

It may interest our readers to examine the following comparison relating to the contents of the 3rd volume of the dictionary:

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We are not in possession of any information with respect to the cost of the dictionary, or the advantages gained by subscribing to it from the outset, nor do we remember that anything has been published on the subject by our local booksellers. If Messrs, Kelly and Walsh can remedy the defect, as they certainly should be able to do, we trust they will take some steps to inform the community, for there may be in Japan many people who would like to put down their names for the work.

# CYCLES.

We have received very pretty catalogues from Messrs. Humber and Company and from Messrs. Osmonds. as we are aware the Osmond cycle is not well known in Japan, but it seems to be very much in demand in England, for the catalogue states that "despite the undeniable slump existing in the cycle trade, the whole output of the Osmand Works for 1898 has already been booked by the various agents of the company." It would, of course, be a great aid to intending purchasers of cycles if catalogues were compiled so as to convey a clear impression of the distinctive features of the various types. But no such appeal is made to public intelligence. Each maker

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claims that his own machine is the acme of perfection, and we are left to credit or discredit the statement as we please. The Osmond Company, it is true, speak with exceptional ingenuousness. "Although and Itelement of 25, have lived togeexceptional ingenuousness. "Although Osmond cycles," says their catalogue, "have admittedly led in design since the very date of their introduction, we willingly admit that we cannot claim for them equal pre-eminence as regards that finish of enamelled parts which is the sine quâ non of a perfect machine; we can safely claim that the finish of our machines has been equal to the best, but we are not satisfied with this-we strive for priority, not equality." That is a cleverly worded assertion of superiority in essentials and at least equality in non-essentials. The Humber Company are less artistic in their manner of advertising. They manufacture three kinds of cycle, the Beeston Humber, the Wolverhampton, and the Coventry, and here is what they say about them, all in the same page under the heading "Hints on Selection:"— "The Beeston Humber cycles are better the Wolverhampton Humber is equaland in many respects superior—to all other high-class cycles." "It must not be imagined that Coventry Humbers are inferior in durability to the more expensive types made at Beeston and Wolverhampton." These descriptions are all sufficiently tempting, but when we turn to the prices we find a marked difference, the Roadster safety costing £31 in the Beeston Humber type, £26 in the Wolverhampton, and £21 in the Coventry. A similar machine costs £30 in the Osmond type. The figures are high, but we learn from the catalogues that experience has established the advantages of the expensive machines and that the public buy them in preference to the cheaper. Doubtless the Beeston Humber and the Osmond are the finest machines manufactured, and those that can afford to use them are fortunate. The Beeston Humber Chainless Safety is pro-bably the prince of all, but it costs £36. The catalogues from which we quote are well worth procuring, for they are beautifully illustrated and contain clear and minute information about all the parts of the machine and the manner of keeping it in order. We are unable, however, to give the name of the Yokohama Agents for the books have reached us without any information in that sense.

# TOKYO DRAMATIC & MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave its first performance for the season on the evening of the 4th instant, before a fairly large audience, in the Shoreikai Hall, which, as usual, was lent for the occasion in view of the charitable objects of the Society. The piece chosen was "Naval Engagements." It had been specially adapted and greatly improved by Mr. E. H. House, to whose well-known literally skill the Society is much in-debted. There were hopes originally that Mr. House would kindly lend his in-

ther on terms of the closest friendship, was played by Captain Brinkley. If there carrying their unanimity of sentiment is any criticism to be offered, it is that even to the point of agreeing that either the ladies did not always succeed in ther on terms of the closest friendship, shall be perfectly free to marry whom he pleases provided only that the ages of the the piece was a decided success, and in bride and bridegroom be suitable. Lieut. recording the fact we must note the debt Kingston, going on service to the Mediterranean, meets a charming widow of 40, Mrs Pontifex (Miss Münter), and obtains her promise to marry him, the Admiral meanwhile falling in love with and getting engaged to his ward, Miss Mary Mortimer (Miss von Fallot), a pretty girl of 25, whose romantic predilection for the rank of Admiral is encouraged by her father. The son returning on leave, accompanied by Mrs. Pontifex, puts up at a hotel in Portsmouth preparatory to driving out to his father's house, some ten miles distant, to break the news of his intended marriage. Admiral Kingston and Miss Morthan the best, being the most perfect timer happen to be stopping at the same cycles which it is possible for money and ingenuity to produce." "We claim that the Lieutenant; their mutual explanations and recriminations; the efforts of the ladies to reconcile father and son; the transfer of the Admiral's affections to the widow, and of the Lieutenant's to his former play-fellow, Miss Mortimer, and the final agreement of all to recast the marital programme in accordance with these newly developed dispositions-these are the materials of which the plot is constructed. It is a piece very well suited to amateur acting, its only fault being an absence of scenic effects, for since the whole action takes place in the parlour of a fifth rate hotel, there is no opportunity for any display of the decorative skill with which Mr. Conder has delighted the public on previous occasions. The ladies' parts were capitally sustained. Miss Münter's rendering of the captivating widow being excellently conceived and carried out with spirit and piquancy, and Miss von Fallot, as Miss Mortimer, showing talent of an ex-ceptional order. The rôle of Mrs. Pontifex is the more effective of the two. Its emotional effects are stronger and its general tone less subdued, whereas Miss Mortimer, though a young lady not without arts and airs, is nevertheless demure and self-contained, on the whole. The contrast between the two was pretty, and each of the fair débutantes-for neither Japanese newspapers and documents, the had been previously seen upon the stage -won hearty applause. The same distinction has to be noted between the parts Herod played the former in a manner that kept the audience in good humour from first to last, and Mr. Conder succeeded in imparting its full value to the less highly coloured rôle of the young officer, who, while he has inherited a rich legacy of his father's obstinacy and independence, is nevertheless compelled to observe the restraints that govern filial conduct. We have had occasion before to speak of these two gentlemen's acting, and we need only say here that their performance in "Naval Engagements" enhanced their already high reputations. Dr. Clay McCauley, who kindly took the valuable assistance in placing the farce minor part of Schortt, the master of tavo pages. In these the total number of upon the stage, but indisposition and the inclement weather unfortunately prevented him from undertaking the task. "Naval invest an originally insignificant rôle with version of the New Testament used there Engagements" is a capital play, full of features of great interest and amusement invest features of great interest and amusement investigation and Digitive door unteresting a common-place English of these only 3,13 were different.

making themselves heard. On the whole of gratitude due to Baroness Sanno-miya, who acted as stage-manageress and rendered much valuable assistance in other ways. Thanks have also to be accorded Miss Nishikawa, who discharged the onerous but inglorious duties of prompter.

The musical part of the programme can be too highly praised. The instrunot be too highly praised. ments were four violins and a piano, the violins played by the three Misses Page and Master Page, and the piano by Mrs. Page. From a technical point of view it was highly finished performance, and to the beauty of the music was added a charming spectacular effect, for the three young ladies wore exactly similar costumes, as artistic as they were picturesque. They shared the ovation given to the actresses and actors after the fall of the curtain, and in common with the actresses received hand-

some bouquets.

The evening wound up with a stage supper given by the actors to the actresses, the lady members of the Society's Committee, and others who had assisted in putting the piece upon the boards. During supper, the healths of Monsieur le Baron and Madame la Baronne d'Anethan, of Baroness Sannomiya, of Mr., Mrs., the Misses and Master Page, of Miss Nishi-kawa, of Mr. Conder and of Captain and Miss Münter, were drunk with enthusiasm, and hearty thanks were tendered to Mr. Conder, without whose thoughtfulness, tact, technical knowledge and unwearying good nature the performances of the Society would scarcely be possible.

# THE STUDY OF CHINESE CHARACTERS.

There does not seem to be the slightest probability that Chinese characters will be dispensed with in this country during the life-time of any foreigner now residing here. Hence, for those to whom it is a matter of moment to be able to read study of Chinese is as imperative as it was thirty years ago. We have often been asked to suggest a method of curtailof the Admiral and the Lieutenant. Mr. ing the immense labour involved in this study, and it occurs to us that the statement of a few facts relating to the frequency with which the same characters occur in standard works may give encouragement and guidance to inexperienced students. About thirty years ago, Mr. William Gamble, when superintendent of the Presbyterian Mission Press in Shanghai, undertook and carried through an extremely interesting and useful investigation. He employed two Chinese scholars for two years each in examining and collating the characters found in the Bible and 27 other publications printed at the Mission press. They went over 4,166 oc-

三經集字 (a collection of the characters in the Shili-san-king), which contains some interesting information bearing on the frequency with which characters occur in standard works. According to this authority, the "Four Books" (四書) contain only 2,326 different characters, and the Five Classics (五經) contain 2,426 characters which do not occur in the "Four Books." The whole number of different characters found in the Shih-sanking (Thirteen Classics) is 6,544; 928 of which are rare or obsolete characters, with which it would be useless to burden the this way, or they are insensible of the

memory. Mr. Gamble's investigations established the fact that five or six thousand well selected characters are sufficient for all practical purposes in China. We should say that even half that number would enable a student to read and understand most of the articles which appear in the newspapers in Japan, and that an additional thousand would place him in a position to read magazine articles with ease. The conclusion at which Mr. Gamble arrived was that in most books the majority of ideographs occur very frequently and that the number of different characters is comparatively small. In order to demonstrate this more clearly, he selected from the characters collected by his Chinese assistants those ideographs that occur most frequently and arranged them in 14 groups, according to the frequency of their use, Group I. consists of 13 characters only which occur over 10,000 times each.
They are 不, 之 人, 以, 其, 我, 於, 日, 為, 獨, 者, 而,耶. Group II. consists of 224 characters, which occur from 1,000 times to 10,000 times each. Group III. has only 16 characters, which occur from 900 to 1,000 times each, and Group IV. 19 characters which occur from 800 to 900 times each. Mr. Gamble's fourteenth group consists of 547 characters which occur from 24 to 49 times each. Adding the characters in the 14 groups together, we have a total of 3,285 different characters. Making every allowance for variety of topics treated, we should say that between four and five thousand characters would prove ample for all ordinary purposes. The best way to acquire these would be to read books composed with the object of familiarising the student, first, with the characters in most frequent use and then gradually extending his knowledge to more rare ideographs. A set of readers published by Mr. Fukuzawa many years ago professed to be modelled on this plan, but our recollection of them is that they were not altogether consistent. There is not the slightest doubt that as a rule the Chinese ideographs are studied by missionaries and others in this country in a very unsystematic manner, and that as a consequence of the employment of unsuitable methods the learner makes little headway and eventually in some cases gives the

thing up in despair, Another point to be noticed in connection with this subject is the necessity of studying fukuji, or ideographs in combination. Mr. Lay's dictionary would prove of far more value had the compiler given the principal combinations into which so many characters enter. Not a few of the ideographs furnished are seldom used except in combination, and in many cases

There is a Chinese work called the + rendering of these ideographs while they are divorced from their lawful wives or husbands, as the case may be. In Mr. Gubbin's excellent work this defect is remedied. There is no doubt that constant reading with a teacher is the best way of learning, but the difficulty hitherto has been to find books graduated in a manuer suited to the purpose of the foreign student. Is there no hope that somebody will compile a set of readers based on the principle of the ideographs' frequency of occurrence? The Japanese do not seem to study their language in need of curtailing labour as we do. But if once they were put on this new track, we doubt not that they would follow it eagerly enough, and consequently the compiler of such a set of readers would certainly find a ready sale for them in every part of the country.

# STATE BANQUET AT THE PALACE.

During the year of mourning which expired on the 11th of January, all entertainments at the Palace were, of course, suspended, and the Emperor refrained from his custom of occasionally inviting the Ministers of State to dinner or luncheon. On the 5th instant, however, his Majesty gave a State banquet to virtually all the leading statesmen of the time. Invitations were issued to their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa and Kanin, and their Excellencies Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Matsukata, Count Inouye, Count Hijikata, Marquis Tokudaiji, Viscount Yoshikawa, Marquis Saionji, Baron Nishi, Count Okuma, Viscount Katsura, Mr. Sone, Baron Ito, Baron Suyematsu, Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Takashima, Count Itagaki, Viscount Nomura, Marquis Saigo, Marquis Oyama, Baron Okazawa, Baron Yamada, Mr. Kioura, and Mr. Hamao. Among these twenty-six invités, five were unable to attend owing to illness, namely, Marquis Saigo, Marquis Oyama, Count Kuroda, Count Kabayama, and Viscount Shinagawa. Vernacular journals are disposed to attach considerable significance to this affair, regarding it as an indirect expression of the Emperor's desire that union should be effected between the Meiji statesmen of all camps. Certainly it bears that construction. His Majesty has never before invited to the same banquet all the members of a displaced Cabinet and of the Cabinet by which it has been displaced, especially when the invitation included political rivals nominally so hostile to each other as are Count Okuma and Count Itagaki. In the shadow of the Throne, however, all disputes among political parties are supposed to disappear.

# THE " TOKYO PUNCH."

The first number of the Tokyo Punch has made its appearance. It is to be a bi-monthly publication, issued on the 5th and the 20th, and will apparently contain eight pages of pictures and text, the size of each page being to in. by 14 in. The Japanese are essentially a laughter-loving people. Witty sayings, plays upon words, and jests of all kinds plentifully season their social intercourse. The Imperial family excepted, nothing is secure from merry ridi-

their gravest journals often descend to frivolities, and are not less careful to amuse their readers than to instruct them, so that they frequently seek to lighten a crisis by the aid of ridicule. Looking back twenty-three years, we recall an incident that illustrates this trait of Japanese character. In 1875, Morita Mokichi, editor-in-chief of the Hochi Shimbun, was thrown into jail for publishing an article which preferred accusations of immoral conduct against the Governor of Sakata, Mr. Mishima Michiyasu-afterwards Chief of the Metropolitan Police-and a short time subsequently Mr. Kato Kuro, editor of the Saifu Shimbun, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, because, in an article entitled "Craving for a Parliament," he declared that unless a republican form of government were adopted in Japan, a Patrick Henry would certainly appear upon the scene. Of course the publication of the two journals had to be suspended after the incarceration of their editors, and it might have been expected that such an event would arouse 🔳 good deal of indignation and anger among newspaper men. But the Japanese treated the matter differently. The staffs of the ill-starred journals, and of other lead-ing papers in Tokyo, held a meeting and decided to perform a funeral ceremony in memory of the defunct sheets, observing all the rites of the Buddhist ritual. The Temple of the Goddess of Mercy at Asakusa was chosen for the purpose. Copies of the proscribed newspapers were placed in a coffin of white pine, of the exact size and shape required at the burial of a corpse; a number of white-robed bearers were employed to carry the catafalque; prayers were offered by priests in full canonicals; journalists and other literateurs, in the capacity of mourners, burned inceuse and pronounced funeral orations; all the paraphernalia were on an elaborate and costly scale, and thousands of spectators thronged the temple grounds and approaches during the ceremony. Thus the whole affair was turned into a huge joke, the laugh being entirely against the Government. It will readily be supposed that a nation so prone to look at the Indicrous side of events did not remain long without a comic paper after the inauguration of journalistic enterprise. Indeed, nearly every one of the leading journals published, from time to time, sketches depicting current events in a laughable light, and running through the comments of all was a vein of humour which sometimes betrayed foreign readers into an erroneous idea that Japanese character had no really serious side. The Charivari of Japanese journalism in its early years was the Marn Maru Chimbun, a publication generally good-humoured, always lunny, sometimes decidedly coarse, and never distinguished by much artistic skill. The Maru Maru Chimbun was not a success. It raised an occasional laugh, but did not appeal strongly to educated people. The Tokyo Punch-or Ponch as it is transliterated—seems to be a much more ambitious production. Its pictures are well drawn and carefully reproduced, and the letter press contains a great deal of keen satire and rollicking fun. Of course a great many of the allusions are incomprehensible to foreigners, but the political cartoons are easily understood. The frontispiece—the only coloured picture—is the least happy of all. It is supposed to the characters to which they are coupled affect the meaning they bear in a material manner. Hence it is almost impossible to give anything like and accurate the least happy of all. It is supposed to their credit the least happy of all. It is supposed to manner. Hence it is almost impossible to be laughed at as to be laughed with, to give anything like and accurate to be supposed to find, therefore, that who has a charming face to turn in every

direction, but without consulting the legend one could not possibly identify the face. The artist has been somewhat happier with Marquis Saigo, whom he represents dancing to the music of geisha and claiming that he has accomplishments of his own and does not depend solely on the reputation of his elder brother, as rude people say. A still better likeness is that of Baron Nishi, Minister of Foreign Affairs. He is depicted on his hands and knees, the perspiration pouring off his face, and three foreign Representatives—those of Russia, Germany and France—standing astride over his back, while the Chinese Minister watch-the performance with a face of pensive gravity. Scarcely an effort has been made to produce likenesses of the three foreign Representatives: they are after the manner of the stereotyped caricature of the "hairy alien." There are two very suggestive cartoons. One is a halfvery suggestive cartoons. One is a half-page representation of a dragon-fly with a lion's head. The dragon fly is Japan of course, and the lion, England. Under-neath is the legend, "A strange monster now wandering about the Orient," and above is written:—"I should like to see this monster quickly. I suspect that the big eagle would fly from it." The second cartoon is a full-page picture of a huge, open-mouthed ogre, stretched out at full length, one hand resting on Korea, the other on China. In the foreground is Japan, tiny men-of-war cruising about its coasts, liliputian railways traversing its territories, and batallions of pigmy soldiers marching about everywhere. The ogre's soliloquy is printed in the margin:—"I am the giant from Europe that has crushed ten thousand miles of fortresses under his thumb and drunk the sea at a mouthful. Who are these people that boast of their Fuji-yama and their rice? Their Fuji tooks to me a mere grain of millet and their rice would n't fill my maw. They have no money and they spend their time disputing among themselves. Call them a loyal people! They would all sell their country. Sending out men of war, for sooth! Pil blow them into space with the breadth of my nostrils. Marshalling twelve divi-sions of troops indeed! How comical! They have no money to support their troops and they think of making a costly campaign. In my eyes they look smaller campaign. In my eyes they look smaller than ants. Why are they buzzing about like mosquitoes? I could swallow them all at a mouthful if I wanted to. Pigmies, hide away in your holes." There is, of course, a picture of Marquis Ito, in ideographic allegory a boar, holding Count I hand if a montant with his right hand Ilagaki (a monkey) with his right hand and touching the shoulder of Count Okuma (a bear) with his left. The bear, his ton-gue protruding and his eye angry, turns away and declines to be made a foot-stool of as the "monkey of Shikoku" has been. Our readers will gather from these brief notes some idea of the kind of humour in which the new Punch indulges. It is not very brilliant wit, nor are the illustrations of a high order. Indeed, the latter go far to confirm a theory which we have always held, namely, that the art of caricature is still in its infancy in Japan. The Japanese do not know how to exaggerate special features of a face while preserving the likeness. A draftsman in the West would not think of putting Marquis Ito into the form of a boar, or Count Okuma into that of a bear, or Count Itagaki into that of monkey, without contriving that each animal should be a portrait of the

personage it represents. But the Japanese artist seems incapable of any such achievement. Often, too, the faces that he limns, as likenesses pure and simple, defy identification. Blemishes of that nature are fatal. They reduce the whole thing to the level of school-boy work. But it is a question of time, we presume. Nothing in the way of caricature was ever practised in Japan in former days. The talent may exist, but as yet there are no evidences of it, and we must wait to see whether it will be developed. Until it is developed, publications like the Tokyo Punch can not hope to win much applause.

# OUTRAGE BY SOLDIERS AT HIMEYI.

A serious disturbance, says the Kohe Chronicle, is reported to have occurred among soldiers at Himeji. It appears that barracks are in course of erection close to Himeji castle. cash allowance is made to the cavalry men for firewood in their barracks, but the amount being insufficient, the soldiers were in the habit of obtaining waste wood from the carpenters' Lately they began to help themselves to good timber, even after it had been planed.
On the night of the 29th ult, the carpenters were keeping watch for the thieves. A soldier presently appeared and was caught and roughly handled. Subsequently a sergeant and three privates visited the carpenters' shed to demand au explanation of the rough treatment that had been meted out to the soldier. The foreman carpenter went to the barracks, and an officer ordered him to appear again on the following day with all the carpenters concerned in the affair. On the 30th an officer visited the carpenters' shed and informed the foreman that in future if the soldiers asisconducted themselvas the matter should be reported to the officers on duy. Shortly after 5 p.m., however, about 10 soldiers under the command of a sergeant surrounded the carpenters' shed. The carpenters were surprised, and attempted to run away, but their escape was prevented. The foreman carpenter was willing to accept responsibility and surrender himself to the soldiers. But all the other men dissented from this, thinking it best to deceive the soldiers by saying that the fore-man had gone home. He was instead put into a tool box. Towards evening, about 40 soldiers broke into the shed, violently assailing the carpenters and smashing all the fixtures. In the course of the disturbance, a lamp fell down and the shavings were ignited. A bugle was blown as a fire alarm. A large number of soldiers came to the scene and put out the fire by pulling down the shed. A soldier paid some attention to the tool chest in which the foreman was hidden and tried to open it. But the cover being nailed down the soldiers rolled the chest about until it was broken and the man emerged. He was recognized by the ser-geant, and the soldiers beat, kicked and otherwise ill-treated him. Eventually they brought him near a well and noured cold water on him. An officer on duty appeared and released the man, who ran to the sawyers' shed, where he fell down unconscious. The sawyers carried him to the Himeji Hospital, where it was found that he had been injured on the head, hands and legs. Four other carpenters were also more or less injured.

Information was given to the police, and inspectors and policemen were sent out to the scene of the fray, but they could not obtain access to it because it was within the compound of the barracks. Information was also given to the gendarmerie, who are stationed about I ridistant, but when they arrived the row was finished. Investigations are now being made into the matter by the authorities.

# ELECTORAL CORRUPTION IN JAPAN.

STRONG SPEECH BY THE HOME MINISTER. At the Local Governors' Assembly held on the 2nd instant Viscount Yoshikaws, Minister for Home Affairs, is said to have spoken as follows in regard to the enforcement of the Law of Election :--That the House of Representatives is absolutely indispensable as a political machine is beyond question, and laws touching the election of members must therefore be administered with great judgment and discretion, insamuch = any defects in the law of election of representatives might lead to the return of persons utterly unfit for the service required. The duties imposed upon the members of the Diet are extremely serious, and failure to discharge them would expose the whole country to immeasurable risks. Since the inauguration of the Imperial Diet, various causes for anxiety have become apparent. Does not the Law strictly prohibit the receipt or presentation of money, goods, or promissory notes in elections? Is it not illegal to commit violence upon the person of voters, or to force them to act against their will, or to riot in the place of voting or at the election hall? Yet these odious practices are frequently resorted to by the candidates under the influence of temporary election mania. Thus wealth is squandered, property is lavished, or the use of unprincipled bullies, better known by the name of soshi, is indulged in. In some cases armed bands are formed and rivals are openly challenged to fight. Persons possessing the power of control should exercise their duty strictly. There is another thing, however, which not only hampers personal freedom, but also corrupts the heart. Preventitive measures against bribery are absolutely indispensable. Without national morality no society can maintain its strength; no national development can be expected. Bribery is a vice too serious to be overlooked in any healthy society. I do not doubt that in previous elections you adopted suitable measures for the repression of such malpractices. Yet serious abuses on these occasions appear to increase continually. What is the reason for all this? Those who have the responsibility of enforcing the Laws and Ordinances ought to give their fullest attention to this point, date of the general election is at hand, and the task of enforcing the Laws with rigour devolves upon the local governors. You will, I hope, take all these matters into consideration, and endeavour, by giving proper directions to your subordinates, to discharge your functions as they should be discharged.

# ROBE CUSTOM SCANDAL.

The Kobe Custom House Scandal is being investigated, and two sentences have been inflected. Funshiki Hyoda, editor and publisher of the Daily Report of Imperts and Exports, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and ordered to pay a fine of five yen.

It appeared that during July an arrangement was made with the accused by which he was to receive 100 yen every month for inserting in his Report shipments which had passed the Customs without official registration of the payment of duty, the object being to avoid inquiries by shippers.

Nagai Kotaro (the Japanese clerk in the Foreign Chamber of Commerce) has been sentenced to imprisonment for two months with hard labour and ordered to pay a fine of 5 yes for complicity in the frauds. The Court found that during September the prisoner received 175 yes out of the money derived from the missppropriation of Customs duties, well knowing this money to have been stolen.

The indemnity to be paid to Great Britain by the United States in respect of the Behring Sea claims amounts to 357,000 gold dollars, with interest at the rate of 7 per cent., extending over a period of 16 years.

# WEST AND EAST.

THE immense problem of which recent incidents in China seem to be initial factors naturally attracts considerable attention in Europe, and fires the imagination of writers like the editor of the Spectator, who live in a subjective realm peopled by gigantic phantoms of their own creation. The Spectator is always pleasant to read. Its articles introduce us to the society of a philosopher whose views of men and things are bounded by the four walls of a well-stocked library, who muses placidly "while the fire burns," and who, working daintily and artistically with straws of fact and stacks of fancy, builds up imposing edifices of eventualities and peoples them with moral precepts and stately prejudices. It cannot be doubted that the Spectator represents a section of British public opinion-"the clerical section" would, perhaps, be the best term to apply to it- a section com- at the same time, Englishmen should posed of most excellent folks, charitable and philanthropic within their own sphere, but imbued with an inveterate horror of every non-professing Christian, and quite persuaded that since the " heathen " who, being offered the good, reject it, are bound to be beaten with many stripes hereafter, the duty of the elect is to deny their title to human privileges here; to despise them immense difficulty in fitting its theories to and stand apart from them as severely as may be in this world by way of preface the - imperial destiny of nations, but to the everlasting discrimination of which feels a coy reluctance to act upon its they will be the victims in the next. The belief. The partition of China, and the Spectator has devoted much space in recent issues to the Chinese question. The opportunities for picturesque speculation offered by such a question were certain to attract the London journal. There is something stupendous in the notion that the destiny of a huge empire peopled by by the destiny which seems sometimes to four hundred millions of inhabitants-two bundred and seventy millions would probably be nearer the truth, but, of course, the more striking number is taken-, and forecasts of the result can not fail to be interesting. When the Japanese were winning victory after victory in their struggle with China, the Speciator spoke with awe and horror of the contingency that a yellow race might be about to wield a strong arm in the struggle of the nations, and its writings to-day continue to be permeated by that disturbing dread. It shrinks from the notion of an all liance between England and Japan, because the latter is not European, and because Europe "claims to lead the world." Conscious, however, that a prejudice so unreasoning cannot faito provoke opposition, it attempts

honest retrospect, it would see that the share in the partition of empires," and it worst sins attributed to the Japanese at ascribes that coercion to the "Providential Port Arthur were less shocking and barbarous than the sins habitually committed by British soldiers at the sack of cities in Europe, and sanctioned by British generals, within the present century. But it would appear that the nature of a sin weighs far less with the Spectator than the personality of the sinner. For in an article immediately preceding, that from which we have quoted these Port Arthur nation may become a brigand with a comments, it declares itself averse to the clear conscience when it perceives that assumption of any ruling functions by Great Britain in China, because it "believes that Christian men cannot govern Chinamen without spasmodic outbursts of cruelty." Thus, according to the Spectator's views, Englishmen should "regard an alliance with the Japanese with the utmost repugnance." because the Japanese were guilty of an outburst of cruelty against the Chinese at Port Arthur, but, eschew governing responsibilities in China because they would certainly be betrayed into spasmodic outbursts of cruelty against the Chinese. It is not often that a newspaper, especially a newspaper of the Spectator's calibre, falls into such flagrant self-contradictions. truth is, however, that the Spectator finds any working programme. It believes in consequent addition of vast tracts of territory to England's area and great masses of Asiatic people to her population, is a prospect from which it shrinks as a moral philosopher while secretly hankering after it as a follower of the star of empire. "If Fate has suddenly set herself to determine in the long run," it writes, "we are forced men in the East because they, too, advocate coerce States to share unwillingly in the partition of Empires, so be it. We cannot contend against what would then the partition of Asia, we can be certain of seem to be the Providential Government of the world." There is, however, no such destiny for non-Christian States. The Providednce which compels a nation to proceed reluctantly to the consumption of alien empires is a Christian Providence. "An Asiatic and a Pagan people" like the Japanese are not subjected to any such pressure by destiny nor exposed to any such aggressive compulsion by Providence. How quaint it is when we come to reason it out calmly! In fact, nothing emerges from the analysis except the old doctrine "one law for me, another for thee." The Spectator rails against the Japanese because it supposes that they "want England to sanction the partition to justify its racial antipathy by re- of China by helping in it," and it rails ference to the excesses committed by against "the English in Asia because they the Japanese at Port Arthur; excesses that are always in favour of annexing the uniproved their perpetrators to be "still an verse as a hint to mankind that British settlement, speaks in strong terms of the

government of the World" against which it would be vain to contend. So then the whole question turns on choosing the paychological moment rightly. International brigandage is inevitable; we have only to decipher the season when Providence wills that the thieving shall begin. How is the discovery to be made? The Spectator has a theory about that important point. A a mood of larceny has seized its rivals. If Europe is definitely bent on the general subjugation of Asia-and the Spectator thinks that Europe does harbour such a design-then England must follow the direction indicated by the finger of Providence. Does not this doctrine recall the case of the Cornish parson who preached vehemently against the sin of wrecking, but stopped his sermon and slid down the banisters of his pulpit in order not to be left behind when his congregation streamed off to plunder a castaway? The struggle between the Spectator's instincts and its principles must be very diverting to Oriental readers. It is not agreeable to Englishmen, however. When we find a leading London journal declaring, at one moment, that England should "ask for, and, if necessary, seize, the position in China which the Admiralty consider best adapted for a great naval station, and should hold that station, by battle if need be, against all the world"; affirming, at another moment, that the partition of China, against which England ought to contend, has practically commenced because Germany and Russia have seized stations on their own account; denouncing, at a third moment, Englishsuch seizure on their country's part; and asserting, finally, that Japan is to be held at arm's length because she desires one thing alone, namely, that British statesmanship does not derive inspiration from any such welter of doctrines. England and Japan have a common policyto maintain the integrity of the Chinese empire, to bring about its material development by peaceful means, and to keep its markets open to the whole world. Racial prejudices will not interfere with the mutual prosecution of that aim.

ANTI-FOREIGN DEMONSTRATIONS BY COOLIES AND STUDENTS,

\*HERE appears to be considerable feel-I ing in Kobe on the question of the rude demeanour displayed by coolies towards foreigners. Moreover, a correspondent, addressing one of the journals of that Asiatic and Pagan people." If the Spectoods are best," yet it talks solemnly conduct of students in certain Normal tator could reconcile itself to a moment's about the destiny which coerces States to Schools in the interior, who call out Keto-



fin (hairy Chinamen), Akuma (demon), the faculties of all the schools and colleges and other opprobrious epithets when having public status or receiving official foreigners pass. Complaints of a similar recognition throughout the empire, in the nature have reached us, and although we sense that the duty of refraining from can not say from personal observation rudeness towards foreigners should be that any access of discourtesy is observable impressed upon students as a matter towards foreigners on the part of the affecting the international reputation of student and labouring classes in Tokyo the country and therefore having concern and its environs, we certainly can say that for every patriotic Japanese subject, there the feeling of absolute security which can not be the slightest doubt, we think, existed among the foreign residents a few that a signal change for the better would years ago is no longer present, and that be speedily brought about. So far as our ladies hesitate about going alone into the experience goes, a child in Japan is never streets. There is not much to be gained, chidden for calling out neko papa, tojin perhaps, by discussing the cause or causes baka, and so forth when a foreigner passes. of such a state of affairs. Opinions neces- Parents exercise no restraint; adult bysarily differ on the subject, and, if a con- standers utter no remonstrance; the police troversy were started, its effect might be remain quite indifferent. Is it not natural to obscure the real issue. The vital points, that children and students should be misas it seems to us, are that undoubtedly led by such immunity? A little authoritathe old courtesy of the people has tive instruction would alter their demeanour diminished, and that Japan herself will be at once. We offer the suggestion to the the chief sufferer unless a remedy can be Educational Authorities. They have the found. Of course there is room for in- remedy in their hands, if they choose to teresting and curious speculation. In the apply it. With regard to the coolies, it youd the military class. Its exponents were police, of course, can do a great deal. kindliness and courtesy, so that travelling per, and their authority is not disputed. in the country was really a pleasure. It is One abuse should be speedily checked. Nevertheless, there has been an unfor-(commoners) have become more or less we have no doubt as to their results. surly and unfriendly. That is a difference inviting speculation, but we do not propose to advance any speculations here. Our desire is simply, first, to affirm the facts-about which there can be no doubt. we think-; secondly, to point out that it will be a grievous thing for Japan if, instead of being celebrated for courtesy, she becomes notorious for impoliteness; and thirdly, to indicate a remedy which commends itself to us as the most effective. Let us say at once, in order to avoid any semblance of prejudice, that foreigners do not pretend to be free from all responsibility. They readily admit that some of their number formerly showed towards fusion. Some very artistic effects were pro-the Japanese a demeanour which could duced, vividly suggestive of the ingenuity of the not fail to provoke resentment. But, with very rare exceptions, no instances of such conduct occur now-a-days, and if, in the absence of visible provocation, the Japanese behave with rude and rough deese behave with rude and rough de- Supper was served in the rooms at the back fiance, the discredit will belong entirely of the stage, the ladies' cloak room having been to them. What, then, is the remedy? It suggests itself to us very plainly. Just as military discipline begins in the barrack, so the morals of the student class are founded in the school-room. If the Mini-libeand, and other stewards. Financially, we ster of Education issued an instruction to hear the affair is also a great success.

days when a "barbarian-expelling" (10-1) is pretty certain that were this precept sentiment made itself murderously ap-linculcated in the Schools, from the Primary parent, the comment of foreign observers to the High Class, it would be quickly was that the prejudice did not extend be- communicated to the lower orders. The the Samurai. The middle and lower orders They have means of letting the people everywhere greeted the foreigner with know what is proper and what is improstill a pleasure indeed, for, on the whole, It is the growing tendency shown by the politeness and urbanity are the rule, tru- coolie class to come violently to the culence and rudeness the exception. assistance of the police when the latter experience difficulty in arresting a fotunate change, and, strange to say, while reigner. That ought not to be permitted the representatives of the former Samurai for an instant, unless a constable is in peril are now courteous and affable, the Heimin of serious bodily harm at the hands of a These are simple steps, but foreigner.

# THE HOSPITAL BALL.

The Subscription Balt in aid of the funds of the Yokohama General Hospital came off at the Public Hall on Thursday evening. It was a pronounced success. Despite the heavy fall of anow during the day and the thaw that set in soon after dusk the hall was overcrowded, and the dances up till supper-time were one continued crush. The limitations of the Public Hall in regard to dancing space are very apparent now-the community has outgrown its only public ball-room; still, as everyone who attends these functions goes in the best of tempers, the utmost good humour prevails and much pleasure undoubtedly results. Last evening the hall was tastefully decorated, feathery bamboo being used in prolittle band of workers who had the task in hand. The floor was excellent and dancing, which began about half past nine, continued till two o'clock, the original programme of 14 dances being expanded by many extras. Music was supplied by the Town Band.

arranged in the smaller hall; half of which was also fitted up = a cosy drawing room. The whole of the arrangements worked most smoothly, and thanks are due for this in great measure to Mr. C. M. Duff, who had charge

JAPANESE ARCHITECTURAL DE. CORATION.

Japan is shortly to have a visit from one of the most emineut American architects, Mr. Ralph Adams Cram, of Boston. His purpose in coming here is interesting, inasmuch as he will be one of the first American experts prominent in his profession to make a special study of Japanese architecture with a view to its adaptation to Western uses. As the result of his errand may, perhaps, be the introduction of many of the dainty details of the domestic architecture of this country into American dwellings, it is fair m expect that there will follow a demand for the products of the skill of Japanese domestic artisans, thus opening up a new line of exports to America. Mr. Cram being also a Bostonian of much literary repute, comes as the representative of leading Architectural Journals. He is expected to arrive by the steamer Peru, due on the 13th inst, and will be the guest of Mr. Arthur May Kuapp, of whose Japanese house in America he was the architect. Of course Mr. Cram will not be the pioneer in this field. Japanese decorative art has already been applied to the interior of foreign buildings with remarkable success by Mr. J. Conder. Pro-bably His Imperial Highness Prince Arisngawa's residence at Kasumigaseki in Tokyo is the best example. But Mr. Conder's work has naturally been confined to Japan, where he has resided for the past eighteen years. United States and in Europe adaptations of this kind do not appear to have been carried nearly Indeed, unless an architect possesses very intimate knowledge of Japanese decorative art he can not hope to utilize intelligently for such purposes.

# ANOTHER GERMAN MISSIONARY ATTACKED IN CHINA.

The Cauton correspondent of the China Mail, writing on [annary 25th, said :- I have to report s murderous attack, on the 12th inst., upon the Rev. W. Homeyer, of the Berlin Missionary Society, whilst he was proceeding from his station near Nam Hung, in the North of the Kwangtung Province, to the District City of Yan Fa. Mr. Homeyer was making the journey on foot, and was accompanied by a servant who carried the baggage. On the night of the 11th, he reached a market place called Ch'i Hing. There he spent the night, leaving early next morning. He had not gone very far when he was overtaken by three Chinese, who apparently had come from Ch'i Hing. They addressed Mr. Homeyer by his Chinese name, and walked with him in a familiar but yet respectful manner, After walking several miles, a ferry had to be crossed. The road then lay along the bank of the river. Suddenly and entirely unexpectedly one of the Chinamen seized Mr. Homeyer by the neck. A second one attacked the coolie who was carrying Mr. Homeyer's baggage. Mr. Homeyerwas getting the better of the man who had attacked him when the third Chinaman came up to the assistance of his friend. No knife was used, but a bamboo pole proved quite an effective weapon when applied to the head of the foreigner. Mr. Homeyer received a deep cut over one of his eyes, and one of his legs was beaten very severely. The robbers carried away money and clothes to the value of about thirty dollars. After some trouble Mr. Homeyer was able to get a chair. He then found his way to his station as fast as he could. He is now pronounced to be out of danger. It is very difficult to account for this outrage. Plunder could scarcely be the only reason, for when Mr. Homeyer offered to give them everything he had, they still continued to best him. The German Consul here has taken up the case, and is dealing with it in a most energetic way. He is leaving no stone unturned to get proper redress for this outrage and to prevent the occurrence of others.

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# MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RE-LIGIOUS PRESS.

The Kirisutokyō Shimbun speaks in high praise of the character of English and American students, as compared with the students of Japan. The writer quotes Dr. Wadsgaki, who is said to have stated that during his stay in England nothing impressed him so much as the earnesiness, the steadfastness of purpose, and the brotherly feeling of English students. They realise what are their responsibilities : citizens of a great country and do their very best to fulfil them. Their generosity of sentiment and their readiness to help people in dis-tress are beautiful traits, which are worthy of imitation in this country.

It is stated in the Kirisutobjo Shimbun that the Young Men's Christian Association con-nected with the Imperial University is in a flourishing condition, and that a short time ago learned address delivered by Dr. Christlieb in one of the Hongo Churches on "German Theology in the Nineteenth Century." The meeting ras attended by about 60 persons, Mr. Yabine Danjö and others taking part in it.

The Kirisutekye Shimbun insists on the need of reforming Japan's prison system. The in the opinion of this paper out of all proportion to the money spent. During the past three years the total number of prisoners is stated to have been 170,000. It is said that the number of prisoners at any one time is never less than fo,000, that the number of officers in charge of these prisoners is 13,000 and the number of religious teachers 100, the cost of the whole business being about 44 million yen. According to a recently issued report of the Home Department, out of every hundred discharged prisoners some 70 return to a life of crime. The Kirisutokyō Shimbun gives statistics bearing on the amount of crime committed in other countries, according to which in England the proportion of cominals is a in every thousand of the population, in America there are 90,000 criminals in a population of 65 millions. It is said that not more than half of the 90,000 are naturalized Americans. So that it is seen that the proportion in Japan is very large. In the opinion of the Kirisutehyō Shimbun no change can be expected till private persons take up the matter here as they do in England and elsewhere. It condemna the indifference shown to the whole subject by the mujority of the public.

The Kirisutokyo Shimbun has of late printed a few pages of the paper in English. In the copy that now lies before us is an article by Dr. De Forest, of Sendai, on "Mixed Re-sidence and Christianity;" "Reflections on the New Year" by Dr. Gordon; and a short paper on "Social Christianity" by Mr. J. S. Motoda.

The Kokumin-no Tomo, in reviewing the present state of Christiauity in Japan, states the following facts and expresses the subjoined opinions. The long-desired and exmestly worked for independence of the native church is gradually becoming a fail accompli. This is specially the case with the Kumisi Churches (Congregational) and the Itchi Krôkai (Presbyterian). The aums of money collected for special purposes by various bodies are very large compared with what they used to be. For instance, in Ocaka alone the Nihou Kirisuto-dendo-Kaisha a short time ago raised the sum of 2,500 yes for evangelistic purposes. At the large meeting of the Itchi Kyōkai, held on the occasion of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the church, a very decided stand was taken in reference to the desirability of getting rid of denomi-nationalism in the native churches. The churches promised to do their best to effect this end. But while there are signs of progress and prosperity, there are some objectionable practices still resorted to. Such objectionable practices still resorted to. Such is the habit of introducing politics into the pulpit, so common among a certain class of in Rikuzen and Rikuchu. Mr. Anezaki Masaharu under the new régime?

young preachers, specially those under the leadership of Mr. Matsamura Kaiseki. It is quite common to hear from the lips of these professed preachers of the gospel trades against living sixteamen or discourses on the merits of an Oliver Cromwell or a Garibaldi, and the enunciation of revolutionary principles. All this is contrary to the spirit of the Gospel. The Temperance Association is not so prosperous as it might be. The Methodists do the lion's share of such work as as accomplished in this line, the Kumisi and Itchi Kyōkai churches being in the hackground. This is to be regretted. The Fukuin Gomeikai has not till lately aitracted much attention, but during the past six months it has shown great energy, open-ing preaching stations and holding lecture meetings in various quarters. Since one of its great objects is the union of the sects, its efforts are watched with great interest and sympathy by all earnest Christians.

Mr. S. Gulick, now of Matsuyama, Iyo, formerly of Kumamoto, recently published a work designed to influence young men, called "The Growth of the Kingdom of God." Instead of marshalling arguments in favour of Christianity, it gives an account of Christian experience and furnishes statistics bearing on the progress of missions. The book is for sale at the Kyöbunkan, Ginza, Tökyö, at t yen 25 sen DEL CODA.

A work, the Japanese title of which is Shisen oyobi Choshisen (The Natural and the Super-natural), by Dr. Bushnell, has been translated into Japanese by Mr. Harano Hikotaio, and is for sale at the Keissisha, Kyôbashi, Tokyo, at 60 sen per copy. It is said to be a vigorous attack on materialism.

In a long stricle, Mr. Tanaka Chigaku replies to Dr. Katô's 55th essay, in which, it will be remembered, Dr. Katô asserts that religious devotees are slaves. Mr. Tanaka affirms that Dr. Kaiô does not distinguish between true and false religion and that he writes in the spirit of one who is annoyed by the actual existence of religion at the present time. Mr. Tanaka maintains that there is no derogatory sense in which the word "slavish" can be used that applies to the sincere Christian or the sincere Buddhist. If to follow in the footsteps of one's betters be slavery, then Christian and Buddhist believers are slaves. If dependence on the will of another be in all cases slavery, then the men and women who bow to the will of the founders of the secia to which they belong are slaves. But what is there that is discredittable about such subserviency?

The Shakai Zasshi discusses the religious aspects of the Kino-chou affair, asserting that the action of the Germans is the greatest blow that Christianity has received for many a long day. Hithertomany Japanese have been rejuctant to believe that the gospel of Christ is backed by the cannon and the sword, but the Kiso-chou incident places this beyond doubt. It is imposaible to estimate the extent of the injury done to Christian propagandism by the step the German Emperorhastaken. The time worn accusation, current in China and Japan, that missionaries are nothing but political agents, designed to serve the purpose of aggrandisement, can no Unless we are much mislonger be rebutted. taken, says the Shakai Zasshi, every missionary in China and Japan will feel the effect of this untoward incident for years to come.

The Meikyo Shinshi (Buddhiat) writes in the same strain, saying that for the emissaries of a religion which professes to teach universal love and to establish the reign of justice to be used as a means of gratifying the covetousness of a European Power is perfectly outrageous, and more than justifies all the hard things that have been said sa to the connection between the Christian religion and European political interests.

months ago was sent by the Imperial University to the above-named provinces for the purpose of collecting information bearing on the religion of the inhabitants of the places visited. We give, in as concise a manner as possible, the particulars furnished in Mr. Anezaki's report. Among the districts traversed special attention was paid to the old Sendal and Namba daimiates, on account of the conservatism of the inhabitants in those parts. Ancient forms of worship are more carefully preserved in these localities than anywhere else in Japan. Speaking generally, the objects of worship of the mass of the people are in every case endowed with personality. It is plain that their notions of supernatural beings are all based on what they know of human beings and their attri-butes. Whatever be investigated, there is no getting away from anthopomorphism. According to the popular belief the world is peopled with spirits whose existence resembles in many respects that of all human beings. The worship of the people in these parts may be described me partly a worship of nature and partly the worship of divinities concerning whose claims tradition has much to say. Most of the motives for prayer are personalto be cured of disease, protected against calamity, and made happy. Mr Anezaki gives a classification of the various objects of worship under the following headings:—(1) Gods of Hindu origin; (2) Tutelary gods; (3) Animals and Plants; (4) Mountains and rivers; (5) Natural phenomena of various kinds; (6) Petiahistic objects of worship; (7) The 生殖器 Seishokuki(symbols of reproduction);"
(8) Spirits and demons. Mr. Auezaki's essay is of great length and considerable interest, but we have no space for more than a brief outline.

In addition to the above the Tetsugaku Zasshi discusses a number of ethical and religious questions. There are articles on "Cause and Effect;" "Ideal and Rational Morality;" and other subjects. The Teisugaku Zasshi and the Nihon Shugi have of late been engaged in a warm controversy over the question of the State as a basis of ethics, the Tetsugaku Zasshi denying that a state has the necessary qualifications for fulfilling the functions of a final Court of Appeal in moral questions, and hence that the position taken by Mr. Takenouchi Manzo, one of the leaders of the "Nippon Shugi" party, on this question is entirely indefensible.

The new Vice-Minister of Education, Mr. Kikuchi Dairoku, is reported by the Jiji Shimpo to have given utterance to the following opinions respecting the effect of mixed residence on education and religion:—In view of the near approach of mixed residence, will the Home Department place Christianity on the same footing as Buddhism and Shinto? Upon the decision of this question the action of the Mombusho will largely depend. In France the teaching of religion in elementary and middle achools supported by the State is strictly forbidden, and in a country like Japan, where so many religious are represented, it seems to me the best policy is to confine education to secular subjects. Then there is another question to be sattled. Under the new treatles will foreigners be entitled to become professors and directors with the same status is possessed by the Japanese filling these posts? † In France only such foreigners as have electoral rights are al-

\* The Greek Phallus, corresponding to the The Greek Challes, corresponding to the Semitic Ashtaroth and the Linga of the natives of India. Like the Greeks, the Japanesa have two symbols, both of which are worshipped. The male symbol, however, in Japan, as in India and ancient Greece, has more worshippers than the fewale. female.

† It may not be generally known that at present It may not be generally known that at present the foreign professors in Japanese employ are on an entirely different footing from their Japanese confières. The foreigner has no voice in the management of the school or college, does not attend faculty meetings, or express an opinion on attend faculty meetings, or express an opinion on any course the school may choose to adopt. He is



lowed to become teachers in government achools. As foreigners in Japan will not have electoral rights under the new Treaties, the French law does not apply here. Of course it would be possible to make the payment of a certain sum of money in taxes a necessary qualification for office in Government schools. This probably would be the best course to adopt. By far the most important subject connected with the approaching change is the policy to be adopted by the Department of Education in reference female education. At present the education of women is mostly in the hands of the Missionaries. This is by no means desirable for many reasons. It is most important that prior to the commencement of mixed residence the attention of the public should be directed to this subject -and a line of policy adopted.

Considerable space is devoted in several important magazines to reviews of the two great works on religion that have appeared in recent years. Both have been already noticed by us, but their scholarship and thoroughness call for Anezaki Masaharu's "History of Indian Reli-gion," and to the "History of Japanese Bud dhism," by Messra, Murakami Sensel, Sakaino Tekkai, and Washio Junkei. The former may he had for I yen at the Kinkölö, Honciö, 3 choms, Nihonhashi, Tötyö, the 1st volume of the latter costs I yen 70 sen, and is for sale at the Tetengaku Shoin, Hongo, Tokyo,

Mr. Anezaki has for many years past made a specialty of Oriental religious, and is possessed of all the ardour and ripe scholarship necessary for the task he undertook when he sat down to compress into 300 pages the vast amount of ma-terial he had collected bearing on the creeds of The Tetaugaku Zaszki, the Toyê Tetsu India. gaku Zasshi, the Rikugō Zasshi, and other magazines all apeak of the work in terms of warm approbation. The Rikugō recommends it to Christian ministers as a profitable study.

The new history of Japanese Buddhism is nndoubtedly a still greater work than that of Mr. Anezaki. The names of the authors are a sufficient guarantee of scholarship and accuracy. The first volume covers 700 pages. This history, being the first exhaustive work of the kind, ought to prove of great value to learned investigators of all nationalities. We subjoin the comments of several of the magaziner on this new effort.

The Tetsugatu Zasshi says :- The first volume of the "History of Buddhism" furnishes a well-arranged account of Buddhist doctrine as first taught in Japan, together with the changes it underwent, and a history of the temples erected in early days. There are two reasons for the non-publication of a work of this kind before;—(1) Japanese historians have not studied Buddhism; (2) Buddhist priests have taken no interest in historical research. If there is a fault to find with the volume that has been published, it is that more space has been devoted to describing what was introduced from abroad than to tracing Japanese developments.
The Topo Tetsugaku Zasshi observes: It is

now some 1,300 years since Buddhism was introduced into this country. There are 12 sects (余 shu) and 36 sub-sects (液 ha). The histories of any importance that have hitherto appeared are the 三國佛教傳通報題 Sankaku-Buk-kyō dentiu-yengi, the Sankaku-Bukkyō ryaku shi (路史) and the 佛教小史 Bukkyō shoshi, by Mr. Fujii. But these make no pretence to being thorough. Hence the publication of the new work is a subject for congratulation among all scholars. The volume now issued deals with the early history of the sect, commencing with the year 553 A.D. and ending with the year 781. This period is subdivided into two eras, the first covering the period from 552-644 A.D.—and the second from 645-781 A.D. The history aims at showing how the customs, the government, and the civilisation of those days were influenced by the teaching of the emissaries of the new sect. The Shigaku Zasshi says the printing of the work is all that could be desired.

The maps and pictures are by no means well Time religion is not designed to fix our thoughts done, which is to be regretted, in in many cases the authors have furnished a large number of very rare drawings. The work is minute to the extent of overflowing. Its chronology gives evidence of the most careful study and arrangement. Upon no work of modern times has more scholarly labour been expended. The public owes a debt of gratitude to the compilers.

The Shinri (German Church) from month to month maintains a high standard of excellence an exponent of Christian thought of the more iberal type. Nos. 93, 94, 95 that lie before us contain a number of carefully written articles on a variety of subjects. In No. 93 the titles are "Parents and Children;" "The relation of the old Christian dogma to Greek Philosophy;" "The Decalogue;" "Baptism," "The Religion of Israel before Moses;" and "The Modern Theory of the Evangelisation of the World," the latter by Prof. Dr. G. Warneck. Dr. Christlieb, Mr. Schiller, Mr. Minami, and Mr. T. Hiroi are very regular contributors and articles written by acholars residing in other parts of the world are constantly being published. In Mr. Minami the German Mission possesses a writer of considerable power, the lucidity of whose style make his articles well worth perusal apart from the theories advocated. There now hes before us an easay covering 22 pages on the "Relation between Religion and Morality," contributed by this writer, which is a most thorough and scholarly discussion of the subject; history, practice, and principle each furnishing a heading for investigation, and for the enunciation of a fixed opinion. Among the miscellaneous items which appear in No. 95 is a note celling attention to the prevalence of "ism" in and outside the church. The outburst of sentiment know as the "Nippon-Shugi" is nothing but the appearance of another "ism." Before the leaders of this movement aspire to the position of teachers of the nation on the subject of religion, they would do well to be a little less violent in their abuse of Christians. The writer whose con tributions on the Nippon-Shugi movement so often appear in the Taiyo (Mr. Takayama) would be more likely to gain a hearing if he treated the subject in a more quiet and scholarly manner than he has hitherto done, and dealt less in abusive epithets.

In a recent number of the Nippen Shugi, Mr. Takenonchi Nanzo reverta to the much discussed subject of religious education as carried on by Buddhists and Christians. He asserts that the girls trained in Christian Schools are more foreign than Japanese in their sympathies and feelings, and adds that from a national point of view the education that is imparted in such institutions is a perverter and a corrupter of youth. Mr. Takenouchi thinks that Sectarian Schools should not be permitted to teach anything but religion. He objects to the State allowing the general education of youth to be entrusted to persons whose main purpose is to proselytise. This is a view which is held by a very large number of influential Japanese at the present time, and it is not at all unlikely that it will affect the policy of the Mombusho very considerably within the next twelve mouths.

. . The Fukuin Shimpo, writing on definitions of religion, says that none of those made by Japanese are satisfactory; they are either partial or founded on misconceptions. Mr. Fukuzawa's remark, "Religion is to be compered to tea "; and Dr. Kato's observation, "Religion has its source in tear," are instances in point, and tend to show how shallow are the views com-monly entertained on the subject. The writer, Mr. Yebina Danjo, quotes the definitions of Kant, Herbert Spencer, and Schilling to show how deeply foreign thinkers have explored on this subject. Mr. Yebina then reviews the teaching of the three ancient creeds of Japan and points out various particulars in which their

on the future nor to teach us how to worship, but to teach us how to be perfect as our father in Heaven is perfect and how to love our neighbonrs us ourselves.

A writer in the same paper refers to a remark made by an English Bishop while travelling in Japan, to the effect that the Japanese are lacking in seriousness, and that this defect displays itself in the manner in which religion has been treated in this country, and to an observation of Mr. Fukuzawa in which he declared that he could not understand how a Japanese could seriously believe in Christianity. From these views the writer dissents. He says that the lives of earnest Buddhists in former days and the lives of Christians in this Meift era are a sufficient refutation of this accusation. The eleven Christians who in the early days of the Meiji era confessed their faith in Christ at Yokohama have remained steadfast believers ever since. The country is dotted over with men and women in all classes of society whose Christian conduct forms a remarkable contrast to the lives of those who surround them, This contrast is specially manifest among the lower classes, where all kind of wickedness is perpetrated in a most open manner. The charge that the Japanese are a non-religious people has never been proved, nor is it capable of proof, concludes the Fukuin-Shimpo.

In the Toyotetsugahu Zasshi, Dr. Inouyo En-ryo ban a good deal to say on mixed residence and the preparation to be made for it. Inouye is inclined to agree with those who think that there will be no great rush of foreigners to Japan. By the majority of Occidentals the Inpanese are regarded as uncivilised, says Dr. Inouye, and hence there is no likelihood of people coming in large numbers. What we have most to fear is the arrival of an unscrupulous and immoral class of foreigners. It must not be forgotten that there are hundreds of places in the interior of the country where foreigners are quite unknown and where they are still regarded as barbarians. In out-of-the-way places people think to-day as they did in the Tokugawa era, If, then, a bad class of Occidentals should settle in such places the anti-foreign feeling would be intensified and might lead to serious results. As regards the preparation that it is desirable to make for the coming change, it should, Dr. Inouye thinks, consist principally of strengthening the moral side of Japanese business life. The attention of teachers has in the past been too much centred on family morality, and com-mercial integrity has been seriously neglected. If the family life of the Japanese is superior to that of Occidentals, their business life is certainly inferior.

The advice Dr. Incope gives to his Buddhist friends is to reform their lives and adopt better methods of teaching and organisation. With the exception of the Shin and the Nichiren Sects there is a great want of union among the Buddhists. Then in the matter of doctrine the way in which they habitually lay stress on the evanescent character of this our human life produces the impression that the prevailing tone of Buddhism is pessimistic and consequently its teaching is regarded as injurious to youthful minds, as executated to damp the natural ardour of youth and turn it saids from those enterprises and pursuits which should engage its whole attention. Buddhism has its message concerning the things of this world as well as concerning those of the next. What is needed is that more prominence should be given to the former than has hitherto been done.

We observe that the Bukkyo and the Hansei Zasshi also have articles on the same lines as that now quoted from the Toyotelsugaku Zasshi, specially urging the importance of centring teaching on the affairs of this life and of seeking to reform existing abuses.

The Buddhists have just published a work the new sect. The Shigaku Zasshi says the deficiencies are supplied by Christianity. In printing of the work is all that could be desired, breadth of view and ability to belp the distress-but the same cannot be said of the lithography. ed, Christianity has no rival, says Mr. Yebina. Buddhist Subjects," which covers 400 pages

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and is for sale at 80 sen per copy, at 14 Kagachō, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō.

Vol. II. of the Tsusoku-Bukkyo gimon Kaito shū, "A Collection of Replies to difficult ques-tion concerning Popular Buddhism" has aption concerning Papular Buddhism" has appeared. As stated by mi when noticing the issue of Vol. I., the work has been compiled by Mr. Takami Döken. The second volume is for sale at 20 Atago-chō, Shiba, at 90 sen per copy. It covers 600 pages. The first volume has sold so well that the author has ventured to issue another on the same Whatever may be said about the defunct state of Buddhism as a whole, there are certainly some quarters where great activity is shown.

The Kvoikujiron gives the result of an interview with Marquis Ito which was held for the purpose of eliciting from the Premier an expression of opinion on education, mixed residence, and religion. The interviewer, one of the staff of the paper, observed that it had been stated in public that the Cabinet were discussing the advisability of including religion in the educational system to be followed under the new treaties and asked what were the views of the Marquis on the subject. To this the Marquis is reported to have replied follows:—There has been no discussion of the kind you refer to in the Cabinet, nor is there likely to be. That religious devotees should endeavour to spread the doctrines in which they believe by means of education as well as by other means is quite natural. But for statesmen and educationalists in the employ of the Government to meddle with religion would be contrary to the spirit of the Japanese State and Constitu tion, and contrary to the genius of European civilisation as exemplified in its latest and highest developments. Persons must be extremely ignorant not to be aware of this fact. Though the countries of Europe, no less than America, may be called religious countries, we find that with the progress of thought there has been a persistent expulsion of religion from the precincts of government and state education. Japan of the Meijl era has adopted European civilisation, has decided to make wealth power foremost among her possessions, and will not allow herself to be hampered by religion in the attainment of her objects. Our rapid progress in the past is to be attributed to our being free from the trammels which have bound surround ing nations and which still constitute the great obstacle to their advancement. Religion being a thing that has to do with a man's own con science, the State allows each subject liberty to accept what form of faith he pleases, as long as he obeys the laws of the land in his outward conduct. To interfere with men's choice would do more harm than good. In all state affairs, in government organisation and the rules of departments there must be no mixture of religion. When all the laws and rules bearing on public life are free from the religious element, when religion is placed beyond the pale of politics and state education, then does it become a real subject of interest and investigation to a certain class of minds.

The Koye, the Roman Catholic organ, seems never to finish its say on the subject of "Baptism." We think we are not mistaken in assert. ing that it has already been discussed in more than a dozen issues of this monthly periodical. Among other topics that occupy attention in the numbers before us are "Confucianism" and the faith and lives of Japanese Christians of bygone ages. The paper shows no signs of improvement in tone or literary excellency, and does not even furnish anything like a full statement of statistics bearing on the extensive labours of the Roman Catholic Missionaries.

We read in the Seihyō Shimpō (Greek Church) that the Rev. E. R. Woodman and others have lately started a new religious periodical called the 講經資料, Kökeishiryö, which is designed, as the title implies, to aid stud-ents of the Bible by furnishing them with ex-

as the Expositor, the Biblical World, and the Homiletical Review in the West. The Kokei Shiryo, we are told in the opening number, does not purpose to play the tôle of a defender of the Christian faith by answering the objections of sception or by discoursing on the evidences of its truth, but only to publish material designed to throw light on the meaning of the Bible. The publication will be conducted on non-sectarian principles. The chief writers for it will be Messrs Woodman, T. T. Alexander, and H. H. Koisu. The names of Messrs J. T. and H. H. Kötsu. The names of Mesars J. a., Swift and R. L. Miller appear among the memsine will be published monthly, cost 75 sen per annum, and will be for sale at the Kyöbun Kan, Ginza, Tokvo.

# JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The mails between Tokyo and Yokohama are collected nine times for the down trains and eight times for the up trains. The mail matter has increased considerably of late, the number of letters for daily transmission being reported to exceed 12,000. In view of these facts four new collections have been added, and the hours of delivery have been entirely recast.

Kerosene oil at Kobe has begun to show an upward tendency, on account of fresh arrivals not being expected. Moreover quotations have risen by two or three sen. The stock brought over from January consisted of Pine, 287,832 cases; Sumatra, 14,669 cases; Tank, 100,086 cases; Anchor, 6,205 cases; a total of 408,792

The Nippon states that telephones are to be established in Otaru, Sapporo, and Hakodate, during the 30th fiscal year. Purchases of posts to the number of 1,600 were recently made at the Sapporo Post and Telegraph Office. It is said that the instruments will shortly be sent from Tokyo, the plans for the telephone exchanges being completed.

The Yokohama Municipal Council recently decided, the Tokyo Asahi alleges, that on the revised treaties coming into operation foreigners in Yokohama shall be charged the same rates for the supply of water as natives are now required to pay. This decision has obtained the quired to pay. This decision has obtained the sanction of the Minister for Home Affairs and the Minister of Finance.

A journal to be entitled the Diplomatic Times (Gwaiko Jiji) is expected to appear shortly under the chief editorship of Mr. Ariga Nagao, M. A. It is purely, the Yomiuri remarks, a political magazine devoted to the publication of diplomatic news and matters concerning international law, treaty revision, the Red Cross Society, &c. The first number is to be published in Tokyo on the 10th instant.

The coal imported into Kobe during last year amounted to 140,666,966 cattles, a considerable decrease as compared with the figures for the 29th year of Meiji, which aggregated 333.159,400 catties. The amount imported for January this year did not exceed 14.807,200 catties, showing a decrease of 16.993.560 catties as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The stock at present is very insignificant, and prices remain as firm as ever.

The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce has at last issued an order to the Osaka Rice Exchange to the effect that the chief Director and Directors of the said Exchange should be discharged from office in accordance with Art. XXVII of the Rice Exchange Law, and that a special general meeting should be convened within two days from the receipt of the order, according to Art. XXXVI of the local Regula-tions for the Exchange, so that new Directors may be elected.

For the exchange of one yen silver and

is hoped, will fill the place of such organs financial rules were established and funds provided. In the 30th year of Meiji sales of bullion were fixed at ten million yen, approval being obtained from the Imperial Diet, By December last, however the funds were found insufficient, and special Imperial sanction was obtained on the 7th instant for another ten millions over and above the aum voted.

> A special meeting of Public Procurators of all grades and from various parts of the empire was held recently to receive instructions from the Minister of Justice onsecuring uniformity in judicial administration, arrangements for the operation of the revised treaties, and the control of elections. With regard to the latest point, the Minister stated that offences of bribery and intimidation ought not to be dealt with on the same footing as ordinary misdemeanours. In all such cases resolute steps must be taken against offenders, Il whatever party they might belong.

The tightening of the money market since last year has brought about serious embairassment both for new enterprises and undertakings already established. The universal failure to meet calls on shares, remarks the Hochi, has led to reductions in capital or the dissolu-tion of companies. The unhealthiness of the business world became more serious last month, as is clearly shown by the fact that the number of commercial and industrial companies dissolved was 13, while those compelled to reduce their capital numbered 10, the total amount of the reductions being 304,200 yen.

The amount of fish manure transported from Wakanai and Oistu, Hokkaido, to the port of Akamagaseki is really considerable, the Osaka Asahi assetts. Statistics of the year before last show that the transport of manure, which con-sists of herrings, codfish, solefish, dried sardines, etc., totalled 3.555.941 kwamme, valued at 651,754 pen. the import of dried sardines from Korea also seems to have reached several millions of cattles. The fertilisers imported from Hokkaido and Korea are chiefly sent to the central provinces, and to Kiushiu and Shikohu, to be employed on indigo plantations in spring and on cotton farms in summer.

The census returns show that the number of foreign residents in Kobe in January this year was me follows :-

Nationality.	Families.	Men.	Women.	Totals
British	204	306	193	499
American	62	66	70	130
German				
Russian	/5	105	42	147
In the second	2	5	7	14
Italian	—	3	-	3
Dutch	10	01	3	23
Portuguese	14	25	14	39
Spanish	4	7	4	15
Chinese	235	944	306	1,250
***				
Total	628	1.404	648	2 106

The Mitsui Bank's report for the latter half of last year, prepared immediately after the meeting of the managers from the various branches in the empire was closed, shows that the net profits amounted to 440,030 *yen*, of which 80,000 yen were distributed as dividend, 4,000 yen carried over to the next account, and 360,000 yen set aside as reserves. The total 300,000 yen set aside as reserves. The toral reserve is now no less than 2,170,000 yen, representing nearly two and a half times the amount of the capital registered. The Mitsui Bank has already secured the atmost public confidence, and is the first among banking corporations to accumulate reserves above the amount of the capital.

The warehousing business in Japan during the latter half of last year was prosperous on the whole. The Osaka Warehousing Company is reported by the Hochi to have secured a profit of over thirteen per cent, while a similar institu-tion in Tokyo is somewhat elated at having declared a dividend at the rate of twelve per cent. The want of development in warehousing enterprises in Japan is chiefly attributable to the immaturity of the fire insurance business. Inents of the Bible by furnishing them with exobliterated coins simultaneously with the endifference to the business of issuing loans on
positions of its meaning. The magazine, it forcement of the gold monometallism, special the security of goods arises from the same cause.



As to the profits realized by undertakings connected with docks, canals, and marine transport, the rates are widely different, 10 per cent. being paid by the Yokohama Dock. 7 per cent, by the Tone canal, 20 per cent, by the Kobe pier, and 16 per cent, by the Union Tug-ship Co.

According to the Shogvo, the Bank of Japan has raised its interest on loans by one rin, the new rate coming into force from the 9th instant at the main office and branches throughout the empire. This measure seems to have been taken in view of the pressing demand for funds for the payment of taxes and shares, while the condition of trade grows worse than ever. The disbursement of Government deposits and other circumstances have brought about a reduction in the specie reserve, and the issue of notes above the legal limit continually increases. The financial situation boded no good for the bankers, and serious precautions became imperative.

The Kokumin publishes an interesting article with regard to the financial situation. It says the depression in 1890 and the position at pre-sent are much the same, but appear to have arisen from different circumstances. In the former case the direct cause was the complete change consequent upon the enforcement of the system of convertible notes, and the sudden expansion of business enterprises, the result being an unusual tightening of the money market and an extravagant fall in the price of shares: Private enterprises crumbled to dust and lahourers were altogether deprived of their em-ployment. Things are different in the present case. The chief factor in the present depression is the issue of War Bonds, while the embarrassment was greatly increased by the extravagant expansion of all undertakings before and after the War, the result being a grievous deprecia-tion of shares and the steady dissolution of private enterprises. In short, the depression is really limited to private undertakings; Government enterprises are unaffected.

Kobe's trade with Italy is still very small. According to last year's statistics published in the Firi, the imports and exports did not exceed 2,666 106 pen and 182,923 yen respectively. It is said that the Italian Government recently resolved to attempt an extension of its commerce with Japan by granting annual subsidies to the Italian Trad ing Company in Yokohama and to a firm in Kobe Settlement. The principal productions of Italy consist of tools and instruments, arms, wheat, cheese, leather, perfinnery, etc., whereas staple exports from Japan are rice, silk, and other miscellaneous articles. As Italy auffers from scarcity of coal there are prospects in that direction.

The trade of Kobe in general remains stagmant except in bamboos, for which large orders are constantly received from England, America, and Australia.

The amount of silver collected by the Government from the public exceeds fifty million year, asserts the Mainichi, According to the programme originally formulated, the coins were to be minted into aubaidiaries of fifty sen denomination for circulation in the interior and the Osaka Mint was required to continue its work in this direction up till March next. The Mainichi has, however, frequently pointed out the excess as well as the unpo planty of subsidiary coins, and has even alleged that a difference of value would occur between the standard silver and itsanbaidiaries. This forecast has begun to be realized. The evils arising from the over-production of subsidiaries became apparent, and the Government was obliged to consider new monetary schemes for the future. Rumour has it that negotiations have been opened with a foreign merchant in Shanghai for the sale of silver yen pieces. It is impossible to place entire credit in this rumour but in any case the sale of silver will prove a fact at no distant date.

Since the inauguration of the patent system post-bellum undertakings, especially in regard in Japan protection for a large number of new to the expansion of armaments, the administra-

inventions has been granted from time to time. But the inventions of scientists and professors have, says the Jiji, been grievously few. The patents granted to titled as well as untitled protessors of engineering since the operation of the Patent System are as follow:—In 1885, 3; in 1886, 4; in 1887 none; in 1888, uone; 1889, 3; in 1890, 6; in 1891, 6; in 1892, 11; in 1893, 5; in 1894, 8; 1895, 6; 1896, 6; 1897, 2; total 60. Classified more minutely, these figures show that thirty five patents were ed by Professors of Engineering and Physics and other personages from the Imperial University—6 for shipbuilding, 2 for civil engineering, 9 for mechanics, 11 for chemistry, 3 for electricity, 3 for mining, and 1 for metallurgy. Ten of the inventors above enumerated acquired more than two patents each. Compared with the total number of inventions patented throughout the empire, that of the so-called learned men bears a ratio of only 0.02 to 1. The Jifi thinks it regrettable that these professors have contributed so little to the advancement of the country's industry and resources.

The regular meeting of the Japan Industrial Bank took place on the 3rd instant. The Bank has failed to realize profits to the amount expected. Five per cent per annum is the rate of dividend fixed by law, but even this rate will not be paid for the current term, the actual profits realized being less than 3,000 ren. The transactions of the Bank, however, are steadily progressing. It is said that the applications for loans received since the commencement of its business total 8,500,000 yen, of which 1,500,000 yen have been already negotiated. This, added to the amount now under negotiation, exceeds two million yen. The paid up capital being only 2,500,000 yen, the Bank will soon find itself deprived of funds for further loans, and recomes to the issue of bonds is absolutely indispensable. The debentures are of 50 ren face value each instead of 100 ren, as prescribed in the regulations. The change was considered necessary in order to attract the money of small owners-a system well suited to the financial condition of the country at present. The Nobles' Assembly Hall, which was purchased by the Bank at the end of last year, is now in course of repair, and the Bank's removal is expected to take place shortly. This we gather from the Fiji Shimpo.

Statistics published in the Nippon show that the number of foreign residents in Tokyo at the end of December last was 761-504 males and 287 females. The following are the details:--

	MIRLIM	TREAT	L.A.	LIMITS		
Mationali	ty.	Men.		Wome	n.	Totals
Chinese						
-  finglish						
Italian						
Spanish						
German						
French		9		15		24
	******					
American		40	11111	• 55	*****	95
	A					

- Tale - 141 49 4 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	~		.,		
American	40	1 1 1 10 10	55	*****	95
OUTSIDE	TRE	ATY LI	MIT:	S.	
Chinese,	45	*****	3		48
Knrean	8		1	*****	9
English	124		46	114111	
French	55	*****	15	*****	70
Griman	55	*****	21		76
Russian	10	****	4	******	14
Austrian a mann	2	*****	$\overline{}$	*****	2
Italian	1.1	*****	_	*****	11
Dutch	5	144444	-6		1.0
Spanish	-2	****	_	*****	2
Partuguese	5	4 8 6 4 8 1	ι	*****	6
Danish	1	*****			. 1
Belgian,	- 3	140114	1	******	4
Swiss	- 6	*****	N-Marie	*****	6
American	67	*****	34	*****	101
Hawaiinn	2	*****	1	*****	3
Brazilian	4	*****	3	144144	7
Mexican	3	******	_	*****	3

Persons stopping in hotels and inne are not included in these figures.

The Tokyo Atahi says the Government formulated gigantic schemes under the name of

tion of Formosa, and the development of communications. These measures, however, were only intended to conceal the bungling in connection with the return of Liantung peninsuls, and were consequently strongly criticised. That the authorities have failed to carry out their expansion programme may be perceived from the fallowing figures:-

	Batimaten.	Amount brough
Department.		over to next year's account.
	Yen.	Yen.
War		11,573,333
Naval		22,991.724
Celonial		1.713,342
Сантинисяціоня	10,043,636	4,820,195

The amount carried over to the next year's budget reaches 20 to 50 per cent. in the different ilems, whereas in ordinary years six or seven per cent. is the highest. Classifying the esti-mates for the 20th year an Ordinary and Extra-ordinary, the following figures are obtained:—

| Restinates. | Yen. |

Government are chiefly involved in the extra ordinary estimates. But of an estimate of 98 million pass over 44 millions were carried over to the next account, representing 45 per cent. of the whole. From these facts it must be inferred, remarks the Asahi, that the Government's expansion programme is nothing but a great financial bungle.

Now that the Ito Cabinet is restored, the question of Formosan administration has again been brought upon the tapis. Viscount Nogi, Governor-General of Formosa, is to atrive in the capital in a few days on business connected with the proposed reforms. The clamout for reform has indeed been loud since the last Cabinet, but despite some alteration of the official organization, the disorder remains, the Nippon tematks, as bad as ever. The Tokro Asahs, commenting on the same subject, says that although the frequent change of a chief functionary in any administrative department m not advisable, a resolute step must be taken in regard to the new territory, and no man is better fitted for the post of Governor General than the Crown Prince, whose installation could hardly fail to inspire the Formosau officials with respect. The Nipponseems to coincide in these views, as it advocates the appointment of Prince Komatsu or another prince of the blood-if the Crown Prince's appointment is considered impracticable. It insists on the propriety of imposing the duties of civil administration upon Prince Komatsu instead of securing his services

a high military councillor.

The Yomiur's suggests as a matter of prime importance the immediate reform of the financial administration. It points out that the revenue and expenditure of Formosa for the current year aggregate eight million and twelve million odd yen respectively, and that a sum of 4,280 000 yen has to be supplied from the Home Treasury.

The Fominer is in hearty sympathy with all plans for developing the resources of the island, but it does not think these need be curtailed by economy in expenditure. Our contemporary refers to the necessity of introducing alterations into the administrative machinery, of limiting the number of the garrison, and of maintaining the judicial system on a firmer basis.

As for the Fiii, it remarks that a matter of

paramount importance in any uncivilized territory is the construction of railways, inasterritory is the construction of ratiways, mass-much as without recourse to such convenient means of transport, no administration can be ancessfully carried on. "Look at foreigners," it says. "The first thing they do for colonial purposes is to provide the best means of communication." The teports which are con-stantly received from Formosa with regard to risings and insurgent outbreaks reflect disgrace upon the nation. Riots ought soon to be suppressed by the utilization of railways. The scheme for increased taxation, or for loans, either domestic or foreign, is commendable.



# PIRACY IN CHINESE WATERS,

A special correspondent of the Hongkong Zelegraph, who is making a trip up the West River, writes as follows on the subject of piracy:

River, writes as follows on the subject of piracy:—
During a very pleasant run through the Delta, and up the West River to Wuchow, (a distance of 226 miles over the course) on board the Steamboat Company's well-found steamer Lung Shan (Capt. G. F. Monison), I saw and heard a good deal of piracy both in the thickly populated Delta and on the West River and its large tributaries. We had been steaming down river and through the Delta only about five homs (we left Canton at 9 s.m.) when we approached the village of Yung Kee, on the bank of a creek running into the channel through which we were travelling at the rate of about o knots per hour. As soon as we got near it that go which we were travelling at the rate of about 9 knots per hour. As soon as we got near it the Captain called my attention to the men and children on the shore. "This," said he, "is a well known village where desperadoes of every description dwell. I consider the best name for that creek is Firste Creek because the majority of the inhabitants of the desperadoes of every description dwell, I consider the best name for that creek is Pirate Creek because the majority of the inhabitants of that village are either pirates or persons connected with or descendants of pirates. You just wait until we are steaming pretty close inshore and you'll then hear them cursing us for all they are worth. Been the little children will revile us." The startling allegations of the gallant officer seemed thoroughly justifiable, for no sooner were we within ear-shot of the villagers than they indulged in volleys of the most offensive epithets, the children joining in and making, the while, indecent jestures which are well understood in China to indicate intentional insult, contempt, and bitter hatred. As long as we were in sight in China to indicate intentional insult, contempt, and bitter hatred. As long as we were in sight the people howled at us, demonstrating thereby their ill-will in no uncertain manner. Asked if this sort of thing was usual, the Captain answered in the affirmative and then went on to relate how a steam-launch towing a large passenger boat had been "held up" and looted only a lew days previously not very far from this notorious pirate town. It is not pleasant to contemptate what our fate would have been had our engines broken down near that homest frest. No other steamers were in sight, neither was a narive Custom House. Lekin station, or guard boat to be engines broken down near that homets' nest. No other steamers were in sight, neither was a native Custom House, Lekin station, or guard boat to be seen. We would have been at the mercy of these desperadoes, and little mercy would have been shown to the foreigners or to our 150 native passengers in the event of the fight for tife proving a victory for the invaders. Fortunately our engines (as was only to be expected) ran like clockwork, and we soon found ourselves miles away from the pirates' lair. and we soon pirates' lair.

Going up tiver we passed several large rafts of Going up (iver we passed several large rafts of timber in logs and firewood cut ready for use flying what is known in these regions as the "pirate, flag," If indicated to the look-out men of the piratical gauge that infest the rivers in the southern provinces of China that they had paid their dues to pirate chiefs far up the river and that they should therefore. that they should therefore allowed to proceed nomolested to their destination. It may be said that when once a raftsman has paid blackmail and obtained in consideration thereof one of the

nomblested to their destination. It may be said that when once a raftsman has paid blackmail and obtained in consideration thereof one of the flags that will protect him from further extortion he can hoist it whenever he pleases and thereby avoid much squeezing. That, however, is not so. The raftsmen know only too well how impotent the native authorities are, and they have had many a lesson demonstrating their inability and disinclination to grapple with the pirates, and they accordingly pay toll to them regularly. That is the only sure method of procuring immunity from savage attack encourse, while to look to the properly constituted authorities for protection, although Lekin is paid at certain barriers, would be suicidal fully of the most glaving description.

A few days ago a launch towing a passenger boat containing upwards of 200 people who were going to their homes to spend the New Year boildays was stopped by pirates while passing through one of the creeks that intersect the Shuntak district. The Chief Engineer (Chinese) was shot because he showed fight and refused to cut the rope to which the passenger boat was attached and thereby place the hapiess passengers at the mercy of the blood-thirsty villains who were eager to rob them of all their valuables. As soon as the engineer was riddled with bullets another member of the launch crew obeyed the pirates' order, The rope was cut in twain, the pirates left the launch after beaching her, and, boarding the passenger boat, terrified the inmates with their firearms and threats of violence and were soon in possession of The 20,000 in silver and much valuable clothing and jewellery.

One of the most daving piratical outrages committed in the Delta in recent times occurred last muted in the Delta in recent times occurred last muted in the Delta in recent times occurred last

week near Shekki, a town about 5 to 6 honrs' steaming by ardinary passenger launch from Canton. It is in the populous and wealthy Hemgshan district. According to the reports that have reached this city one bundred pirates were engaged in the raid. They commenced by seizing in broad daylight a launch, and with it towed to the town of Shekki a hoat filled with pirates all armed to the teeth. A landing was easily effected, the Lekin and river goords were promptly subdued, and the township was soon in their hands. Their object was to place themselves in an advantageous position to lost two or three luge passenger boats that were then due to week near Shekki, a town about 5 to 6 hours! hings passenger boats that were then due to arrive at Shekki with valuable cargo and hundreds of passengers. The district magistrate, hearing of the moplessant turn of affairs, summoned his guards and endeavoured to put the pirates to flight. His men were defeated, several people were killed and wounded, and the dastardly villains succeeded in doing exactly what they pleased. They held up the passenger boals and steamed away under cover of darkness with a large amount

away under cover of darkness with a large amount of plunder variously estimated at \$30,000 to \$60,000. As usual, there is no news of the pirates being in to earth.

The holding up of a passenger boat by about a dozen pirates or the robbing of a trading junk is a pretty common occurrence in these regions, and creates very little excitement outside the district in which it happens. It is only when a big gain takes a town, kills a few people, and gets away with a considerable amount of plunder that the general public evince much interest in the subject of piracy in the Delta. It seems to be regarded by the natives as one of those evils which by the employment of drastic measures may be checked, rimployment of drastic measures may be checked, but cannot be completely eradicated.

# THE MINISTER OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

The Official Gasette of the 9th inst. announces that Viscount Hijkata is relieved, at his own request, of the office of Minister of the Imperial Household, and that Viscount Tanaka Milsu ski is appointed to succeed him. The retiting Minister is to continue to receive the treatment due to the position he resigns. Viscount Tanaka held the post of chief of the Bureau of Imperial Archives up to the time of his promotion. Until January of the present year he was Vice Minister of the Imperial Household. He is a Major General on the Reserve list.

# FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

About a quarter past 10 on Thursday night fre broke out in a carpenters' shed of the Yokohama Dock Co., formerly owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in Kaigan dori, and quickly spread to other buildings in the compound. A party of firemen of the Yokohama Fire Brigade under Superintendent Morgin, with one of the steam engines, and two hose-reels and stand pipes, promptly pro-ceeded to the scene, and upon their arrival found that two of the godowns were in flames. The steam engine and one standpipe were quickly got to work from hy-drants, but it was 2 a m. before the fire was completely extinguished, two of the godowns being entirely and a third partially destroyed. It is supposed that the fire originated from some burning embers having been left in the carpen-ters shed when the workmen left the premises in the evening.

# LIVELY SCENE IN TOKYO.

On the afternoon of the 1st instant a salt dealer, named Sait: Yoshijiro, of Gofukucho, Tokyo, was assailed by fire-brigade men, twenty-eight in all, who immediately unroofed his house and rendered it uninhabitable. This is the second instance reported in Tokyo of the destruction of a house by pugnacious fellows since the Murai cigarette scandal. One of the fraternity of which Saito is the head had previously had an affray with a fireman whom he had severely beaten and the assault on Saito's house was taken in revenge. The disturbance twelve ruffians supposed to have taken a prominent part in the outrage.

# NEWS OF THE WEEK.

One hundred deaths occurred in Nagasaki during January. Of these, the bodies of 84 persons were cremated.

Mr. Inouye Kataunosuke has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Germany and Belgium, in place in Viscount Aoki, resigned.

In our last monthly Summary of Current Japanese Literature, Mr. Aston was represented as translating the "Koji-ki," instead of the "Nihou-ki"; Mr. B. H. Chamberlain is the translator of the former work.

Among recent appointments made by Preaident McKinley we find the following:—Her-bert G. Squires, New York, to be Secretary of Legation at Peking; James W. Ragedale, Cali-fornia, to be Consul at Tientsin.

The Kobe Cycling Association has started on a new lease of life. The funds in hand amount to \$32 54. Mr. King has been elected Captain, with Mr. Wheeler, Secretary, and Messre. Woolfall, Mancini, and Clarke as Committee.

The Cam, an English steamer from New York with a cargo of kerosene oil, arrived in port at Yokohama on Wednesday morning. She had rether a nasty experience the previous night, grounding on the Spit at Futsu, down the bay. With assistance from Yokohama the fore part of the ship was lightened and she got off at high water next morning.

A lighter containing fifty-five bales of American cotton belonging to the China and Japan Trading Company was stolen on the 4th inst, at Kobe. Detectives put off in a launch and the thieves were overtaken at Wada. They at first hid themselves among the cotton, but changed their resolve and rowed towards shore: They succeeded in getting away from the lighter, but one of them was arrested during the night.

The Hongkong branch of the Navy League have sent a chart to the head office of what they consider should be the extended boundaries of Hongkong. The msp was made by the Public Works Department. The acquisitions suggest-ed by the Navy League include the whole of the numerous islets near Hongkong and the strip of mainland cut off by a line drawn from the rivermouth north of Starling Inlet to Tyshan Bay.

A Kobe contemporary says that "the President of the Doshishs recently petitioned for this wellknown School to be granted the privilege, common to the private schools that are graded with the Middle Public Schools, of a postponement of the call for military duties in favour of the students until they reach the age of 20 years. The petition has been rejected because in the Trust Deed of the Doshisha it is laid down that the moral teaching of the School is based upon the principles of Christianity."

The fate of an unfortunate woman named Amy Hall has been affording some sensation at Shaughai. Her body was found by the French police in the water off Kiniceynen Wharl. It was stated at the inquest that Stephen Hart, who is well known in Yokohama, first as an amateur journalist, next as a pseudo-artillery officer, and next as a prisoner at Port Arthur during the China war, had been living with the deceased. When called, he could throw no light on the affair, and a verdict of suicide by drowning was

In the Official Gasette tenders are invited by the University Gasette tenders are invited by the Branch at Ujina of the Unyubu (Transport Dept.) of the War Office for 30 miles of 9lb. Rails and 180 Trucks with all the necessary fittings, to be delivered at any place within the City of Kobe indicated by the officers in charge. Samples and particulars as to tenders house was taken in revenge. The disturbance and contract are open to inspection at the same was with great difficulty quelled by the arrest of office until the 22nd Feb. Tenders should be submitted before 11 a.m. on the 25th Feb., and they will be immediately opened. Tenders for

Oregon Pine are invited by the branch office at Kobe of the Treasurer's Office of the Railway to be opened at 10 a.m. on the 21st Feb. The Yokoliama Naval Arsenal (Zoheisho) invite tenders for 300 teak-wood legs and 12,500 kilo. of angle, bar and other from which are to be opened on the ztat Feb. at r p.m.

On Friday afternoon a fracas occurren between the police and a party of med belonging to the U.S. flagship Olympia, outside No. 80, Settlement. The police had warrants for the arrest of certain leave-breakers from the Olympia, and tackled the tars, who made a stout fight for their liberty. Reinforcements of police soon arrived on the scene, however, and with the assistance of a crowd of finrikisha men and others, the blue-jackets were overpowered and five of them dragged off to the Police Station.

At about half past twelve on Monday afternoon Mr. Morgin, Superintendent of the Yokohama Fire Brigade, was notified by a messenger from the Club Concordia that smoke was issuing from beneath the fireplace in one of the rooms of the Club. Mr. Morgin sent a couple of firemen to see what was wrong, when it was found that the woodwork beneath the stone slab of the fireplace in the Library was on fire. The stone and fire grate being removed the smouldering woodwork was easily extinguished without any further damage being done. Had the accident occurred at night, however, it is prohable that the results would have been serious.

Owing to the anarchy that prevails in Nagaaski harbour, remarks the local Press, captains and pilots berth vessels where they please, with out regard to the public convenience. At the present time, and for many days past, we oil-ships from Philadelphia have been seriously impeding the business of the harbour. When the wind blows from the East or from the West they block almost the whole of the fairway. As these vessels are likely to stay for several weeks longer, one, at least, of them ought to be moved to a more suitable berth. If they both remain where they are, we are likely before long to hear of a collision in the Harbour.

A fisherman, named Miyasaki Yasutaro, aged 34, a native of Nushima, Mihara district, Awajii Island, who was condemned to death on the 25th November last, in the Kohe Chiho Saihanalso, on a charge of having murdered four men and women and injured three other inhabitants of the village, was executed on the morning of the 4th inst. in the prison on the Minatogawa bank. There were present Procurator Fakuda, Secretary Yamaoka, of the Kobe Chiho Saiban-sho, Mr. Nishimura, the Governor of Hyogo prefectural prison, a prison chaplain and doctor, and about 50 prison warders were on guard. After the Governor of the prison had read the order for the execution, the prisoner was placed on the scaffold, when he made a few remarks scknowledging his guilt, but affirming that he was neither a robber nor a beggar, and his act therefore was not a mean and contemptible one The tragedy, the Kobe Chronicle adds, arose out of a love affair.

A familiar figure to the residents of Kobe will be seen no more among us-Mr. John Merrison died at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, a'ter an illness that confined him to his bed for about three weeks past. Mr. Morrison was sixty years of age, and had spent a long period of his life in the Far East. He came out first, we be-lieve, from the head-office in London to take charge of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's branch at Amoy; he was there only a short time, however, ere he was transferred to Saigon. His third move quickly followed, and it brought him to Kobe in 1877. He remained in the Bank as Agent for about three years, and since then has been in business for himself — Hyogo News.

The members of the Yokohama Literary

principal item on the programme was a lecture by Mr. E. B. Clarke, who has recently returned from England, entitled "Undergraduate life at Cambridge." Mr. Clarke's effort was largely of an anecdotal nature, and was aufficiently bright to render interesting even a subject which has been pretty nearly exhausted by the creator of Verdant Green. A college song tendered by Mr. A. M. Gale came in appropriately, and others who assisted in the programme were Miss Webb, Miss Pratt, Mr. M. M. Ellis (pianoforte), Madame Henckler (song), and Mr. G. H. Denison, who recited an original poem entitled "The Devil's Rock."

The following verses, says the Nagasaki Press, appear in a children's Christmas bock just published. They apply admirably to the singing of the lower orders in Japan:—

"I found a person singing all alone in foreign

parts;
His voice was not melodious, it came in fits and starts;
I asked him what he did it for, and he this answer gave,
I is the custom of my country in this manner

to behave.

And when you go a-harvesting (a sight you musn't miss)
There are fourteen hundred of us and we all shout out like this.'

I thanked him for informing me, I praised him toneful air.

tuneful air, But when they go a-barvesting, they will not find me there,"

The Robe Chronicle reports that about midnight on Tuesday fire was discovered to have broken out in a block of four houses in Sakaimachi Ichome. Two of the houses were occupied by Chinamen, the other two by Mr. R. Bergerand Messrs. Gomes Bros , respectively. The fire originated in one of the houses occupied by Chinamen, the end one apparently, and the flames, having once got to the roof, soon secured hold of the entire black, which burnt like matchwood, despite the efforts of the foreign and Japanese brigades. Fortunately there was not a breath of wind at the time, or the conflagration would certainly have been far more extensive. Mr. Berger managed to save zone of his furniture. We learn that the losses of Measts. Gomes and Mr. Berger are covered by insurance.

A "fish story" that will probably make the members of augling clubs writhe with envy is narrated by the captain of the British steamship Wilderspool, which recently arrived in New York from Java. While the vessel was making her way through a fierce north-easterly gale a wave of enormous proportions broke over the fore part of the steamer, and immediately afterwards a futtering sound was heard. Believing that a sail had been blown adrift, the captain ordered the watch on deck to go forward and ecure the canvas, when it was quickly found that no sail was loose, but floundering on the deck and lashing its tail was a shark eleven feel long, which had been swept on board by the big sea. With some difficulty a rope was make fast about the body of the monster, which was happily despatched.

Under the title of "Musical Reflections of a Chinese Philosopher," Mr. Granville Bantock, in the Musical Standard, makes some very pertinent temaiks on musical matters. Here ere some spacimens :-

" It is a criminal off-nce to indulge in frivolous conversation during the performance of good

"Those who enter noisily during the playing of the music should be delivered up to the 'Street god' (policeman.)"

"A professor of music is one who professes his set; a composer is one who practises it."

"Technical skill dues not always imply good

"Technical skill dues not always imply good musicianship, for the blows of a hammer can make no impression upon the sout."

"Envy and jealousy in every department of music should be carefully avoided. It is refreshing to hear one vocalist speak well of another."

"The musician com-puses; the pupil pro poses; the teacher dis-closes; the fistener re-poses; the critic ex poses; the public dis-poses."

new Korean port, Chenampo, just opened to foreign trade. Chenampo has been selected as the port of Ping-yang, which gained notoriety in the west as the scene of the first great Chinese defeat in the late war. Mr. Willis, who has been travelling through the neighbouring region, de-rived an impression that it is rich in agricultural and mineral resources. Ping-yang, which is a city of some 35,000 inhabitants, is the trading centre, but can only be approached by vessels of lightfidraught, whereas Chenampo, which is 40 miles lower down the river, affords good auchorage for sea-going ships at any state of the tide. The Japanese laid down a light railway between the two places during the war, using Chenampo as a landing place for stores, which were convoyed thence to Ping-yang as a distributing centre. The fact that the Customs have acquired a considerable plot of ground there in anticipation suggests the question who will pay costs? For it is one of the anomalies possible only in the East that the Korean Customs staff, which was organised originally by Sir Robert Hatt while Korea was a Chinese fiel, is still paid by China with a disregard of accomplished facts that is little short of sublime.

In H.B.M.'s Court at Kobe, on the 7th inst. Alfred Winter, a seaman belonging to the steamer Orwell, was brought up before Mr. J. Carey Hall, Consul and Judge, on charges of obstructing the Police in the execution of their duty and assaulting . finribisha man. From the evidence adduced it appeared that on the 31st ult, a little before 7 p.m. the accused and a ship-mate named Matheson entered the police box close to the American batoba in an intoxicated condition and created a disturbance. After some time the two men left the police box, but Matheson returned almost directly and as he again caused trouble, was arrested and while being taken to the station, called out to the accused to come to his assistance. the latter did and a scrimmage ensued between the two seamen and four constables and some finrikisha coolies who came to the assistance of the police. Sticks and stones appear to have been freely used, Matheson received a rather severe cut on the head and two of the constables and a jinrikisha man—who stated that the police called on him for assistance, were less seriously hurt. His Honour found accused guilty, and sentenced him to one month's imprisonment with hard labour for obstructing the police, and a fine of \$3 for the assault on the finridisha man, and costs.

A rather amusing atory of the arrest of a Chinese opinin smuggler is going the rounds. The enterprising Celestial—whom we will call for convenience Chang-arrived at Yokohama on board a large steamer, and managed to get a quantity of opinm through the Custom House. He then proceeded by /inrikisha a to a large business house in the Settlement, where he hoped to make a deal with one of the Chinese employés, whose name may just as well be Wong as any other Chinese monosyllable. Wong, however, was out to tiffin, but another Chinese, who scented a "aqueeze," tried to arrange ferms with the caller. Chang, however, declined a deal, and the other Chinaman, piqued at his refusal, alipped out of the shop, and spoke a few words to the waiting /inrikisha man. The latter nodded intelligently-all was understood. Meanwhile the unconscious Chang, after gathering together his belongings, left the shop and took his seat in the 'rikinka, giving the coolie the name of a hotel in the Chinese quarter. Chang did not know Yokobama well; otherwise he might have suspected that the coolie was not taking him by the most direct route. After a quarter of an hour the finrikisha stopped outside an official-looking building, and despite Chang's remonstrances, the man stepped inside.

"This not my place," said poor Chang. "Oh, yes it is," returned the Japanese.

In a few seconds he returned with a police-The members of the Yokohama Literary Society spents pleasant time last evening at Van Schaick Hall. Mp in Vilkin occurred the Times of the public disposes,"

As interesting report has been issued by the poorer hotel than the one has had intended to chair, and the attendance was a large one. The Joren Office, says The Times, regarding two partonise.

# CORRESPONDENCE.

#### IMPORTED CEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—In your issue of the 4th inst. I noticed a paragraph concerning the import of cement, and as I have just come to Japan (from Europe) on this particular business (my firm controlling the output of the syndicate of the principal centent manufacturers in Belgium), I should esteem it a favour if you would insert in you next issue the following few facts:—

In the first instance, the report that none of the imported brands are as good as the "Alsen" is not quite correct, and is unjust to some of the principal firms in Yokohama and Hyogo, who have been importing other brands. The "Alsen" manufacture is no doubt a first class, artificial cement, which—this having been one of the first on the market—is best known, but I would venture to say, basing myself on personal experience in various parts of the world, that it is in no way superior to any of the principal Belgian, German, or English artificial cement and this has been found by some of the principal authorities on cement in Europe and America. The "Alsen" has undoubtedly the advantage of being dearer than any other make.

In the second place, speaking of the inferior quality of certain Belgian manufactures (Germany and England only make one high standard artificial quantity on firm has supplied a large quantity of first class natural Portland cement, which quality, besides being somewhat cheaper, has in every way the strength and fineness required for the work for which it has been called for, and the best proof one can give is that the Lapanese Government Engineers and a good many proved of it.

Private Railway Engineers have accepted and ap proved of it.

highest percentage of increase per amount; while artificial cements showing strains of 500 and 600 pounds per square inch at 7 days show no ultimate gain, but an actual loss, and a very slight percentage of actual gain.

You see therefore that the above report based on many years experience, approves in every way.

of the decision of the Japanese engineers to adopt the first quality of natural Portland cement, for which the chief producer is Belgium,

ALOYSE LAMM. Yours obediently,

#### JAPAN'S GOLD CURRENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mall."

Sir,—On October 1st, 1897, this country passeld from the Silver Standard, which had previously revailed here, to an exclusively Gold Standard of value, which is now in operation.

The motives of the Government for this act were not apparent at the time, and are but imperfectly understood even now. Some intelligent people regard it as a basty act, proposed by a Ministry not very strong in economics, and passed after inadequate debate by a Parliament knowing still less of such subjects. Others attribute it to a rather childish desire to imitate Western nations, or to mark Japan's equality of rank with them by adopting the standard they preferred. For the first of these views there may be some casson that for the second there is, I think, none at all, the Japanese

by law certain monetary conditions which already existed in fact, and chose this method of attaining their object. Of its results I will say a word in two later. At present I will deal only with the motives which seem to me to have inspired the act.

motives which seem to me to have inspired the act. This country, as is well known, had of late years made rapid and temarkable progress both in industries and trade, and it was evident to all men that this progress was due very largely to the favouring influence of the continually declining rate of exchange between the Japanese yea and sterling money. The increase in the value of gold which had taken place all over the world during the last twenty five years, and which had shown itself in Western countries in depression of trade and steadily falling prices for silver and for commodities generally, had shown itself here chiefly, and indeed almost solely, in the rates of exchange on those Western countries. It is true that the gold coins which the Mint began to issue in 1822, and the gold bollion in the country, doubled in price during those 25 years, and most of it was and the gold bolloof in the country, denoted in price during those 25 years, and most of it was exported. But other prices remained about the same all the time, such fluctuations as took place in them being due to other than monetary causes. Nevertheless the rise in the value of gold had some in them being due to other than monetary causes. Nevertheless the rise in the value of gold had some notable effects here, though they were of a kind quite different from that which it had produced in Europe or America. In the first place, it led to a great increase in foreign demand for Silk, Tea, Rice, etc., and created new markets for many other products not previously wanted for export. For although the gold prices of these articles gradually declined with the prices of all other things in foreign countries, yet this decline was generally less than the simulaneous fall in the rate of stelling exchange here, so that some margin for profit generally remained on this side. As a consequence a great and lively Export trade was developed, to the advantage of Japanese producers. Every relapse in stelling exchange atimulated demand for products, the cost of which in year remained as before. In this way the exports of Silk and Silk goods mounted from a some of only year \$8,203.111 in 1872, to one of year 71.880,408 in 1897. In other products the gain was even larger, so that the total Exports of 1897 reached year 163.134,077 against year 17.026,647 in 1872. These were splendid tesults for a nation which only one generation back had no export trade at all. Of course there were increasing imports to pay for these exports, among which the precious metals made a considerable figure from time to time.

But the same tide of exchange that favored Exports was generally adverse to Imports. For

made a considerable figure from time to time.

But the same tide of exchange that favored Exports was generally adverse to Imports. For though, as the country grew wealthy, demand for foreign articles increased, yet the cost of these articles in Japanese money was often inconveniently high. Out of this condition of things arose the apportunity to establish in Japan manufactories of cottons and of other things previously imported, and of that opportunity the alert Japanese promptly availed themselves. In 1875 there was but one Cotton Mill in Japan. In 1896 there were some 60 Cotton Mills with a productive power which allowed of large exportations of Yarna and goods to China and elsewhere, and the average dividend of these Mills was about 15 per cent for the year. At the same time paper mills, chemical works, match factories, breweries, etc., etc., sprang up all ever the country, yielding handsome profits; and now at Nagasaki steel steamers of 6,000 tons are being built by Japanese shipwights.

tons are being built by Japanese shipweights.

Now any Statesman nating all this prosperity would naturally deshe to perpetuate it it possible. And if he also saw, as he could not fail to see, that its real foundation lay in the fact that the Japanese ren had become worth only two shillings in stelling money, he would just as surely desire to render that rate of exchange also permanent, especially if he saw any eason to apprehend such a rise in the Gold price of Silver in Western countries as would raise the exchange here. This then, in my judgment, was one consideration that led to the change of standard in 1897. It was then believed, at least in Tokyo, that silver at 28 pence per onice had touched bottom and was more likely to rise than to fall farther. The time had come, therefore, when something had to be these views there may be some ceason that lar the second there is, I think, none at all, the Japanese heing fas too sensible and showed to imperi their material interests from such pality motives.

As a matter of fact I find that the change of standard has, as yet, had un great effect upon the affairs of this country. The paper yet continues as the each ange of standard has, as yet, had un great effect upon the affairs of this country. The paper yet continues as the electron of the affairs of this country. The paper yet continues as then believed, at least in Tokyo, that sitver at Sta,—The letter of E.S.P. in the Weekly Mail of East that they are now redeemable only in Gold, instead of as before only in Siver, seems to be unleaded, instantion as the relative values of Gold and Silver builton are about the same as before. All that has happened seems to be that the Silver yet has been demonstrated, and a Gold yet of the same value rules in its place, while business and contracts are scarcely affected by the change.

What the Government did has year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year of between the paper year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year of between the paper year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year of the virtual to the paper will be unless and contracts are scarcely affected by the change.

What the Government did has year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year of the virtual paper will be unless and contracts are scarcely affected by the change.

What the Government did has year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year of year of the value of the year was virtually to declare that the ratio of year was virtually after October 1st, become a fixed legal ratio, and the peop

in the other. Nor could the change of standard seriously de ange general husiness, since the mar-ket value of the new yen would be about the same as that of the old.

A second consideration no doubt was that Japan, in her new career of industrial enterprise, might need aid from foreign capital. But capital was repelled by continual fluctuations in the rate of exchange. To fix the rate might attract capital when it came to be required. A third consideration was in the situation of the Government itself. A Parliament having been invested with control over the Budget, the national expenditure for ionicads and other needed things only obtainable abroad was subject to its security; and since such outlays had to be estimated a year or more in advance, it was desirable that uncalculable fluctuation in exchange should be eliminated from the Budget. This also could best be done by fixing the rate of exchange. Further, the Government last year appears to have contemplated borrowing money from foreign sources, to meet the increased A second consideration no doubt was that Japan money from foreign sources, to meet the increased outlays on armaments which had become necessary after the war with China, and by reason even of its brilliant success in that war. To effect these loans a fixed rate of exchange was indispensable.

loans a fixed rate of exchange was indispensable. These, and no other, were, in my opinion, the motives which induced the establishment of the Gold Standard in Japan. Holding certain definite objects in view, her statesmen declined to explore the intricacies of monetary science, or to attempt any solution of the peoplexities of other people in regard to the Gold or Silver questions; but, recognizing certain conditions here existing, proceeded to deal with them in a practical way to the apparent advantage of their country.

As to the wisdom of their determination I offer no opinion. It is certain that Japan could have obtained any foreign capital she required without making any alteration in her own money. But

making any alteration in her own money. But whether the other aims referred to could have been attained in any other or better way, is very

nitriol.
The effects of the change made have not been once so innocuous as was anticipated. The fall quite so innocuous as was anticipated. The fall of silver in London did not stop at 28 pence, Japan's own action depressed it to a still lower price, with the result that a good many silver year have returned here from China and elsewhere for redemption in gold, which thereupon stole away, The Cotton Mills and other producers have also found the exchange rates in China turning against them, to the detriment of their sales and profits, while foreign capital still shows some shyness about investments in a country where changes of about investments in a country were changes of currency seem so easy. On the whole, however, the two shilling yen has not, as yet, done any great barm in Japan, and it, after all, silver should by and by rise in its gold price, her young in-dustries will find themselves rather cleverly protected against losses from that cause, while all obligations to fineign countries are now exactly

obligations to foreign countries are now exactly calculable at any time in Japanese money.

But it strikes me that those who regard the establishment of the gold standard in Japanese as in value as a special attribute of gold, are very far out in their reckning. For the change of currency made here is founded solely on the ecognized fact that gold has doubled in value all over the world since the opening of the Japanese Mint in 1872. Japan, for her own advantage, and with what seems to me a wise foresight, has accommodated her affairs to this fact, and prepared herself against any possible reversal of it. But it would be hard to find any intelligent person here to deny the fact. On a quest of the Britt would be used to find any time fligent person bere to deny the fact. On a quest of that sort one must go to England or America, where even statesmen who decline to admit it appear still to flourish.

T.W.

Kobe, January 30-b, 1897.

the disease and the remedy, the Gospel being necessary for all alike. Accordingly, many mis-sionaries take pains to inform their hearers that merely to bear the Christian name is not enough nation. Of this truth, the condition of society in so-called Christian countries is an illustration too apposite to be neglected.

appaiste to be neglected.

How, then, is the misconception of the Japanese to be accounted for? Perhaps the following little story may throw some light on the question. A missionary gumarried, living in an interior tawe, engaged as cook an old and simple minded Japanese woman. A year or two later he married, and the old cook remained in the employ of the young couple. She had watched the conduct of her master day but day and may had the same group tunities of day by day and now had the same opportunities of day by day and now had the same opportunities or observing the newly instituted family life. She saw also the other people with whom her master and mistress associated, educated, refined, gentle men and women, walking in the fear of God and in the law of the Lord, blameless. But it came to pass in law of the Ford, blameless. But it came to pass in process of time that the people with whom this old woman lived moved to one of the open ports. Here, in going to the market, she had daily to pass through strests crowded with saloons and pass through streets crowded with saloons and other evil houses, where the drunken carousings of foreign saifors were of constant occurrence. She came to her employers in surrow of mind, and said:—"Are there many people of this kind in your country? I thought all Americans were like you?" The poor old woman had a mistaken impression of America. And she had gotten this impression from the missionaries; that is not to be devied. But had she not here misled, in the hest denied. But had she not been misled, in the best and sweetest manner possible, " by years of noble deeds?"

Occasionally it may happen that a missionary actually misinforms a friend in conversation on this subject. The explanation of such a case this subject. The explanation of such a case is doubtless to be found in the reply of Dr. Johnson to a lady who pointed out an error in his dictionary, and asked:—" What can have led you to make such a mistake?" "Ignorance, Madam, pure ignorance", was his answer. That is the trouble with many missionaries, they are actually ignorant of the vice that prevails in their own

It must have struck the impartial readers of the Fapan Mail that when missionaries undertake to discuss this and similar questions with their critics, they are almost always worsted. Very soon it becomes apparent that their opponents are im-mensely their superiors in knowledge of what is low and vile in the civilization of the West. This low and vite in the civilization of the West. This results most naturally from the difference in their education and manner of life. To take the present instance. What does the writer signing herself E. S. P. say of herself? (1) That in Melbourne she accompanied a young Japanese to an extremely indecent play. (2) That she had often attended such plays. (3) That she "can remember the time when actions are the such as Received and the such as Received as Received and the such as Received as Received as Received as Received as Received as Received and the such as Received a when actresses playing boys' parts, such as Rosa lind in 'As you like it,' and others, and ballet dancers, never wore their skirts even as high as the three, as may be even the same as the as the knee, as may be weified from any old prints of celebrated actiesses and public dansenses of fifty years ago." Notice, please, her statement that she "can remember" this time. It appears, then, that in spite of occasional shame at what she saw, this person has been attending similar indecent this person has been attending similar indecent exhibitions for fifty years. That there were such persons I had heard, but I did not expect one of them to make a public statement of the facts in the columns of a newspaper.

It is no wonder that this writer finds it impossi-

It is no wonder that this wider finds it impossible to sympathize with the work of the missionary. I can assure her that a missionary has led a very different life. Ste herself seems to have surmised as much, for she says:—"In all probability, the missionaries who come to Japan, and express themselves so shocked at the immorability of the Japanesse, have lived in such a religious atmosphere before they came to this country that the inconsistent

indecencies, etc.

Perhaps a sneer cutled the lip of the writer as these words were penned. But they are magnificently true. There are, I am sorry to say people enough in our churches who bear the Christian name unworthity, who have a form of goddiness but are ignorant of the power thereof. But the missionaries of the cross are not born of such lineage, nor are they supported by such constituencies age, nor are they supported by such constituencies. The brains and money required by mission work are furnished by that portion of the thurch to which the Gospel of Christ is a vital, sanctifying, and consecrating power. Missionaries are born of pious parentage, are noutished in godly homes, educated in pure schools and colleges: they read clean books, they indulge in pure ammenteris, and are watched over with fostering care until they are old enough of their own accord to reject the evil old enough of their own accord to reject the evil and choose the good. From this education they in come to foreign lands and live time lives before P Digitized by

friends and foe. Do I say this in the spirit of boasting ? God forbid! I do not forget that in the eyes of Him who looketh on the heart no man is pure, and that what we are we are by the grace of Ond alone. But according to the highest human tests of virtue, the people who come out as missionaries grow up from the credle in an atmosphere of purity, and as mature men and women their lives bear witness to the keeping power of

the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
As for the Japanese who travel in England and America, their case is in somm respects deplorable enough. Unless they are furnished with excep-tional letters of introduction or are directly connectional letters of introduction or are directly connected with the religious bodies, entrance to tinly Christian homes is not readily obtained, and they are left to gather their impressions of Western life from the public places of entertainment. When from the public places of ettertainment. When they do find entrance to what seems to them refined society, they too often fall in with such comeany as did the young Japanese in Melburroe.

To any one desirous of knowing how this mat-

To any one desirous of knowing how this matter of comparative morality looks to a Christian Japanese, I commend the perusal of Mr. Uchimura's books, "How I became a Christian," especially the latter portion. His discussion of the matter seems to me admirable, and I have derived great benefit from his theory of the deepening of both light and shade in Christian lands. In conclusion I wish to say a word on the radical misconception that underlies the article under discussion and all similar criticisms. The writer sealer of the article witer

speaks of "the attempt to improve or alter speaks of "the attempt to improve or alter Japanese morality by the introduction of Christian doctaine or precept." She evidently thinks that this is the object of mission work. This is a fundamental error. We are here to preach the Gospel not to propagate morality. That those who truly accept this Gospel are morally improved thereby, is an incidental advantage that never fails to follow, and at which we rejoice, but it is in no seuse the object of mission work. The case is somewhat parallel to that of foreign merchants. These come to Japan to make money for themselves by honorable traffic. This they do, and an incidental advantage is that the Isoanese and an incidental advantage is that the Japanese are entiched by the process. The foreign mer-chants doubtless take no little satisfaction in the fact that their presence builds up the material pro-sperity of the people among whom they live. But that is in no sense the object of their coming hither.

So it is with us.

The object of the missionaries here is to declare to the Japanese people that there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the Man thist Jesus. If the Japanese had all the vittees that the most lively imagination could ascribe to them, there would not be one whit less need for this revelation than there is now. To put it in other words, we have been sent here, as Paul was to the Romans and Greek, "To open their eyes, to turn them hom darkness to light and from the power of Salanto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith that is in Christ." If this purpose he kept in mind, it will appear at once how unterly intelevant are all comparisons between the national morality of Oriental and Occidental countries.

This error, that missionaries have come to these lands to propagate morality, in surprisingly prevalent. On so mistaken a basis no satisfactory discussion can be reaced. On the other hand, let the religious principles involved be onceunderstood and admitted, and the necessity of missionary work, quite independently of the moral status of the countiy, becomes so evident that a discussion is at once

seen to be superfluous.

I remain, dear sir, yours very truly. ICHABOD, QUILL.

#### JAPAN AS AN AMERICAN MARKET

Mr. W. R. Townsend, who will be vividly re-membered in Yokohama, has given his report to the San Francisco Bureau of Foreign Commerce on the trade relations between California and the Far East. His conclusions may be summed up

Outside of lumber and flour, which must necessarily come from the Pacific coast, and in which two articles the volume of business has which two articles the volume of histness has doubled or trebled this past year, there are comparatively few articles wanted in the Orient in large quantities, which are produced on the Pacific coast mall; if they are they can be supplied from the Eastern States in most cases at less cost.

Eastern States and Europe as chesp or cheaper. California can supply Japan with some of her requirements in leather, mechanical subber, printing paper, provisions, canned fruits, meats and vegetables, wines and, occasionally, when wanted in a lurry, some article of machinery, but in these articles and in lumber and flour she must these articles and in lumber and flour she must share the trade with Portland, Tacoma, and Seattle, who have four competing lines of steamships and consequently cheaper freights. Japan is at present importing largely from America kerosene, cotton and cotton piece goods, wire and wire nails, locomotive, rails; pig, bar and sheet iron; coke, clocks, tobacco and cigarettes, bicycles, electrical and all other kinds of machinery, machines and tools. But what can the Pacific coast supply of these as manufactures or at manufacturer's first selling prices?

Connection among metabants in the Orient is

Competition among merchants in the Orient is now as keen as anywhere, and while the lew American houses in Japan and China would prefer to purchase from America they have until recently been compelled to order 75 per cent, of their goods from England and Germany. I am glad to say, however, that the trade of the United States with however, that the trade of the United States with Japan has taken rapid strides and must have doubled in 1897 over any previous year. The metit of our goods and of our machinery particulary is being recognized and appreciated. The Baldwin works alone supplied too locomotives in 1897, over a million dollars! worth, and the damand for electrical, wood and iron working machinery and machine tools is rapidly on the

increase.

The prices of skilled labour and food products in Japan have probably doubled during the past year, and are still advancing. This is very materially helping the sale of our labour-saving machi-

It is feared by many American manufacturers that the present demand is merely for sample machines, and that great injury will result to our interests as soon as Japan has the facilities for copying and manufacturing our goods and machinery.

There is certainly little or no ecolection under Japan's present laws on patents and trade marks, Japan's present laws on patents and trade marks, but it will be a long time before she has the facilities and ability to successful copy our intricate machinery and machine tools. They already make a few clumsy bicycles, gas and steam engines, electrical and other machinery, but the sale of ours grows rapidly, and this will continue, and, with the growth and development of the whole Orient, America will more than hold her own.

The probable carving up by European Powers of China in the near future and the opening up of that country by railroads, together with the railroad development of Siberia and Korea, will make new and larger markets for our products. There is no proposition before the American manufacturers more worthy their support than the proposed establishment of a permanent exhibition of American products and machinery at Shanghai by the Chinese American Chamber of Commerce.

There are many things about the export business which American manufacturers do not seem

ness which American manufacturers on on seem to understand, and this alone throws much trade to England and Germany.

During the recent hard times in America there was a disposition to foster export business, but now that times are better at home there is a general indifference, and orders are even neglected and often entirely ignored. The volume of business to be done in the Orient in the next ten years is very large, and our manufacturers will do well to foster it now, as they may want it very badly one of

these years.
The English and German manufacturers and their export agents give great attention and go to considerable expense in supplying samples and in arranging codes for same, and go at once into all the particulars necessary to start business without the necessity of a year's correspondence. There are few American manufacturers whose latterheads mention their cable address or the codes used, and, worst of all, a large percentage of them mail their letters with domestic postage only or insufficiently paid postage, causing their correspondents at the other end to pay double rates on the unpaid portion.

Another general complaint is the lack of stability in quotalions. It is to be expected that many articles of produce and manufacture will fluctuate in value, but they all do not, and as export business is always cash against letters of credit, lowest prices should be named at the outset and lower than where the same goods are to be sold on credit In a list of the bonded warehouse charges in at home. Having given a quotation it would be Japan are the names of 193 articles which are in policy to stick to it for a transaction or two, at ported into that country. About twenty-five of least to get business started, but it has been the these are manufactured on the Pacific coast. experience of most merchants in Japan that our Practically every one of these is produced in the proprietable property in the produced in the proprietable produced in the produced in the produced in the produced produced in the produced produced in the produced produced in the produced pro heen made in asking too little and raise rates next

There is no parcels post between America and Japan, although there is a samples post, and if packages are nucked = Merchandise " instead of "Samples" they will never reach their destination. Unfortunately it is very expensive to forward packages by express and steamer, but if the business is worth having it is worth some expense to secure. The European steamship lines, with their cheap package express and the parcels post with

cheen package express and the parcels post with all European countries, are a great convenience and saving. I cecently sent a package to Portland, Oregon, via Tacoma, at a cost of \$8, and a similar package to London, three times as far, with matine insurance included, cost only \$2.

Them are three or four large American houses in Japan, representing possibly every line of American machinery and manufactures, and some of their business is in the line of taking orders by catalogue. Heretofore when they made a sale their profits were good, but they are handicapped their profits were good, but they are handicapped by not having practical men in every line they represent, whereas most of the English and German houses are generally equipped with expets in all lines.

During this part were Account.

During this past year America has sent over many special representatives, which has given the great impetus to our trade already mentioned, and there has been established in Japan one house carrying a large stock of machinery and tools of various kinds, with expert engineers in every line. While this field is now pretty well covered there is still a demand for experts in

various lines.

There is however no room for any brokers-The Japanese merchants are anxious to do direct insiness and thus avoid the profits of the foreign houses, but there are very few among them who understand the melhod or can put up a letter of credit, and only one or two native banks who issue these.

Banks who issue trees.

It must be borne in mind, that there are only 3,000 to 4,000 foreigners in Japan and only 500 or 600 Americans. The European will buy a homemade article every time in preference to anything American.

American.

White Japan has been and will continue to be in the near future America's best Oriental market, there is a much larger field in certain lines in China and Siberia. These are principally machinery, railway and track supplies, building material, provisions, flour and other food products.

The Chinese are about to build thousands of the Chinese are about to build thousands of

The Chinese are about to build thousands of miles of railways, and the Russians who are hurrying forward their trans-Siberian line will also build from Viadivostock through Korea to Chemilpo or some other open-in-winter ports and though Manchuria to Tientsin and Peking, also from Peking 1400 miles or more northwest over the great overland tea route to connect with their Siberian line near Lake Baikal.

It is extremely difficult for foreigners to get a foothold in business in Siberia. They are not welcomed there, all the mercantile houses in Vladivostock being Russian or under Russian council, but Shanghai and Tientsin have enterprining European and American merchants and opening for others.

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.") THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST. London, Feb. 3.

A telegram from Pekin to the Times, states that Great Britain has definitely withdrawn the condition that Talienwan shall be made a free port.

#### GERMANY HUNGRY FOR MORE CONCESSIONS.

Reuter learns from Pekin that Germany demands concession for another railway, south of Kiao-chou, in compensation for the recent murder of a sailor.

#### THE MALAY NATIVE STATES.

Speaking at the Straits Dinner at the Hotel Cecil, London, on Feb. 1st, Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., said the prosperity of the Straits was involved in the safety of the Empire. The Chairman eulogised the work of the Hon. Sir Frank Swettenham, Resident-General of the peans are gathered at Fort Kampala. Digitized by Google

prices on export business, and if a price camed Federated Malay States, whose rule was does seeme an order they think a mistake has equally satisfactory to Europeans and equally satisfactory to Europeans and natives.

> Sir Frank Swettenham said the imports from the Malay States were increasing. All Malays realised that their position would be vastly improved by the completion of the railway scheme, which was one of the greatest evidences of the development of the States, and was due to Mr. Chamberlain. The prosperity of the Malay States was now assured.

#### BRITISH BATTLE-SHIP SAILS FOR CHINA.

The Barfleur sails for China on Sunday. [The Barfleur is a first class hattlesship of a displacement of 10,500 tons. Her length is 360 feet; beam 70 ft., max. draught 25 6; H.-P.; 13; 163. Sie was built at Chatham in 1894 at a cost of £599,089; has a speed of 18.5, and carries a complement of 606.]

#### ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., speaking at Aberdare, advocated an understanding with Russia, for which public opinion was ripe in England.

#### CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

The last play between Stoddart's team and an Australian eleven at Melbourne, resulted in England being all out for 262 and Australia winning by eight wickets.

#### THE ANGLO-CHINESE LOAN NEGOTIATIONS.

London, Feb. 4.

The report concerning the Talien-wan Condition has evoked much adverse comment in the press, but the Government intimates that the public was misled regarding the negotiations at Peking, which are absolutely confidential.

London, Feb. 5. Reuter is informed that the report that Great Britain had demanded the opening of Talien-wan and afterwards withdrew the demand is inaccurate; but it is probable that the question of the opening of the port was raised in connection with the loan negotiations.

#### THE RISING ON THE PERSIAN FRONTIER.

REBELS ROUTED.

The rebels at Mekran, on the Persian frontier, have been attacked and completely routed by . British force. The rebels sustained heavy losses, including four of their leaders.

#### ENGLAND AND RUSSIA

TO BE MADE NO CATSPAW OF CHINA'S. London, Feb. 7.

It is reported that Lord Salisbury is desirous not to be made the catspaw of China against Russia, and has assumed a more conciliatory tendency towards Russia. Hence the withdrawal of the condition as to Talienwan. As for the candidacy of Prince George of Greece for the Governorship of Crate, Great Britain and Russia are entirely agreed.

#### SOUTH EAST DURHAM ELECTION.

Mr. Richardson (Liberal) has been elected member of parliament for South-East Durham in the place of the late Lieut.-General Sir H. M. Havelock Allan (Unionist)

#### THE SOUDAN MUTINEERS.

London, Feb. 8.

#### FRANCE AND THE BRITISH OC-CUPATION OF EGYPT.

M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Chamber, stated that France would continue to defend the rights of the Sultan and the Powers in Egypt. SERIOUS SITUATION IN UGANDA.

The situation in Uganda is regarded as very grave.

(Received by the Jiji.)

#### CHINA DECIDES TO FALL BACK ON DOMESTIC LOANS.

Peking, February 7.

Seeing that the collision of views between Great Britain and Russia in regard to China's desire to raise a foreign loan is not likely to be easily settled, the Government has decided to fall back on domestic resources and to issue domestic loans of too million taels divided into one million shares of too taels each. Government officials will be obliged to subscribe to the loan.

#### LORD SALISBURY'S POLICY.

London, February 9. Lord Salisbury, speaking in the House of Lords, declared that he is desirous that Kartoum should be restored to Egypt within a few months, and that as to Talien Bay, should England persist in its being opened it will cause considerable embar-rassment to China. In compliance with China's request England has agreed to postpone the question of opening the port until the Eastern Chinese Railway connects with Talien Bay. Russia and Germany have guaranteed to England that should either or both Powers obtain ports from China they will be opened

#### OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

al once.

London, February 9. Parliament has been opened.

DEATH OF MR. HUGH MATHESON. Mr. Hugh Matheson, of the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., is dead.

(From the Asahi.)

#### OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

London, February 9.

The British Parliament has been opened. The Queen's Speech was chiefly occupied with declarations in regard to the questions of Ind a und the proposed Army extension, ference was made to Chinese affaira,

#### GUARANTEED LOAN TO GREECE.

London, February 9. Mr. A. J. Balfour, Chancellor of the Ex-chequer, has stated in the House of Commons that Great Britain, France and Russia have agreed to guarantee a loan on behalf of Greece for paying the indemnity due to Turkey,

(FROM LE COU-ster DE SIZGON.) ANTI-SEMITIC DEMONSTRATIONS IN

FRANCE.

Par's, January 17, Crowds of people assembled in the streets of Paris last night shouting out epithets at Zola, who has been writing on the Dreyfus case, demanding the death of the Jews, and throwing stones into Zola's residence in Rue Bruxelles. Fifteen arrests were made. About thirty patriotic societies have demonstrated in the Place Vendome in honour of General Saussier, who has been replaced as Generalissimo of the French army by General Jamont.

Paris, January 18. Anti-semitic demonstrations have taken place at Paris, Nancy, Clermont, Lyons, Nantes, Bordeaux, eld Maracillon

#### CHESS

mications to be addressed to the Cunse Ecuton.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

#### SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 355. WHITE. I—Q to Kt 7 2—P to B 5 3—Q to B 7, mate BLACK. 1-K to B 3 2-K takes P 1-K to Q 3 2-K to K 3 if 2-K to B 3 or 4 Kt to Kt 5, ch 3-Kt to Q 4, male 3-Q to B 7, male 1-K to Kt 3 2-K moves Kt to Kt 5 3-Q to II 7, mate r-Kinkes P 2-0 to 0 4, ch 3-0 to Kt 4, mate 2-K to Kt 6

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., D.D., Skak, and Miss S. Voila.—You see the Problem is correct; you

gave up too scon.

#### PROBLEM No. 358. By A. SILVESTER, Rio de Janeiro.



White to mate in three moves.

FROM THE BERLIN TOURNAMENT. GAME No. 359. METGER v. TSCHIGORIN. Bishop's Gambit.

		Daniel D			
WhiteMetger.			BlackTachigorin		
	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	
9	PK4	P K4	16 P B3(e)	II Kıs	
	P KB4	PxP	17 Q Q2	BxKc	
	B B4	Kt QB3(*)	18 R×B	Kt K4	
	K: KB3	Kt B3	19 PxKt	Q#B	
	K1 B3	P Q <sub>3</sub>	20 R R3	PxP(f)	
	PQ4	Kt KR4	21 Balkt	Kx B	
7	Castles	P KKt3	22 R KBsq	PKR4(g)	
8	Kı Qs	BR <sub>3</sub>	23 RxRP	Q B4ch(h)	
	Kt Kvq	B K <sub>3</sub> (b)	24 K R q	R KR-q	
	B K2(c)	Kt Kt2	25 R K15	$QR Q_{2}q(i)$	
	KIXP.	B×Kt	26 Q K2	R R5(j)	
	BxB	■ Q2(d)	27 Q B3	RxPch(k)	
13	B R6	Castles	28 KxR	R R-qch	
	K: B3	Q K <sub>2</sub>	29 K K:3	P KB4	
t 5	B QB <sub>4</sub>	QxP	30 RxPch(1)	Resigned.	

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny in The Ledger, Philadelphia.

(a) P to Q 4 followed by Q R 5 ch or Kt to K II is the usual defense.

3, is the usual detense.

(b) Black could not guard the Pawn, and it would have been better to abandon it at once. Castles should have been played.

(c) Well played. Black cannot answer 8 takes Kt on account of P takes B, followed by B takes E.

Kt.

(d) Necessary, for P to Q 5 was threatening.

(e) A very conservative play. White could have played Kt to Kt 5, which in all probability would have led to a speedy win.

(f) Black should have played Q to B 4 ch, followed by Q takes K P, thus guarding the Kt. The next move enables White to establish a windows by the conservation of the cons

ning attack.

(g) Better, pethaps, was P to K B 4, followed by K to B 3 or K to B 2 and K to K sq should White continue Q to R 6 ch and Q takes P ch. Black evidently overlooked the brilliant reply White had on hand.

(b) He could not capture the Rook on account of O to K to ch followed eventually her P to B 6.

have lost the K.P. but this would have led to an even game. The R to R 5 play was premature.

(k) Q to K 2 could have been played with safety.

The sacrifice of the Rook is unsound and causes defeat.
(1) The decisive stroke, which very likely was

overtooked by Black.

#### A CHASS SPARK.

The appended gem game is well worth exami-nation, and is an excellent example of the late Captain Mackenzie's elegant style. It was played in the Paris tourney, 1878 :-

GAMB No. 360. PRENCH DEFENCE.

White-Mackensie.	Black-Mason.
1-P to K 4	- I-P to K 3
2-P to Q 4	2-P to Q4
3-Ki jo Q B 3	3-Kt 10 K B 3
4-Ptakes P	4-P tukes 🟴
5-Ki to B 3	5-B to Q 3
6-B to Q 3	6—Castles
7—Castles	7—Kt to B 3
8-B to K Kt 5	8-Kt to K 2
g—Bilakes Ki	9—Ptakes B
ro-Ki to K R 4	10-K to Kt 2
P to K B 4 was far	preferable.

11-Q to R 5 12-P to K B 4 12—R to K sq 12—P to Q B 3 13—Kt to Kt 3 14—Q to B 2 15—B to Q 2 16—Q R to K Kt sq 13—R to B 3 14—Q R to K B sq. 15—Rt to K 2 16—Kt to Kt 3 17-Q to R 6, ch !

A brilliant sacrifice, which speedily forces Black to surrender.

18—Ki (R4) to B 5, ch 19—Ki takes B, ch 20—P to Ki 4, ch	17-K takes Q- 18-B takes Kt 19-K to R4	
20—R to M 3, ch 21—R takes Kt, ch 22—R mates	20-Kt to R 5 21-K to Kt 3	
	20-K takes P	

21-R to Kt 3, ch 22-B mates

GAME No. 361.

21-K to R 4

Below is the score of an interesting game played between Lasker and Tschigorin.

PRINCE COMPA

	BVANS.	GAMBIT:		
WhiteTachigorin.		Black.—Lauker.		
WHITE,	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	
1 P K4	PK4	[ 15 KtxKt		
2 Kt KB3	Kr QB3	16 Q Q3(g)	P QB <sub>4</sub>	
3 B B4	B B4	17 Q KK13	B K <sub>3</sub>	
4 P QK+4	BxP'	18 B K/5	$QQ_2$	
5 P B3	B B4(a)	19 QR B sq	P KB3(h)	
6 Castles	P O <sub>3</sub>	20 PxP	PxP	
7 P Q4 8 P QR4	B K13(6)	21 B B4	R KKt sq	
8 P QR4	Kt B3	22 Q B3	Castles	
9 BOK 5(c	P QŘ3	~ -	(QR) (i)	
to Bakt ch	PxB ~	23 KR K sq		
11 P R5	B R2	124 O K2	B KB4	
rs PxP(d)	RixP	25 Q R2	RxP ch(j)	
13 Q K2(c)	P Q4	26 R R sq	RxBP	
14 Rt Q4(1)	KoZOBP	27 Resigns		

NOTES.
(a) Lasker gives preference to English over the

(a) Lasker gives preference to English over the Continental usage in defending the gambit.

(b) P takes P is universally recommended instead of the text move. It is doubtful whether the retreat of the hishop in advance of the capture

was ever before attempted in serious play.

(c) B to K Kt 5 looks inviting, but is probably bad. On the other hand, B to Q Kt 5 simply means an exchange of the bishop for Black's queen's knight.

(d) Q to Q 3 seems better here, as White's center pawns are his only compensation for his dennued queen's side and exchanged king's

(c) Queen to king's square would have been equally attacking and also defensive of White's Q B P.

(f) An incomprehensible binnder which costs one more of White's queen side nawos.

(g) White has now arrived at Q 3 in two moves

and minus a pawn.

(h) Black now proceeds to open his king's knight's file on White's castled king.

(i) The situation enables Black to do most any-

thing with impunity.

(j) Of course king cannot take the rook on account of B to R 6 check, followed by Q to Kt 5 winning.

(i) Q to Q 3, followed eventually by R to B 6
(ii) Q to Q 3, followed by Q R to K sq or Q R

The story is told of Winawer that in 1867, to K B sq. according to White's Q to K 2 or Q to then he was quite unknown as a chess player, he R B 2 continuation; was the proper play to the play to the play to the proper play to the play to the proper play to the pl

pete for the Emperor's prize in the great tourney of the year. Conversation ensured as follows:—
R.—'So you are a chess-player?' W.—'Why not?' R.—'Do you know what first-class chessmeans?' W.—'I play chess—that is all I know.'
R.—'Let us have a game to night, and f will give you some idea of how we play chess in Paris.'
W.—'Thank you; I shall be very pleased.' In the evening the men were set up, and Rosenthal removed his Queen's Knight. Winawer said 'You want to give me a Knight? All right; I do not mind.' Rosenthal host two games and then pleaded fatigue as a reason for not playing on level terms. 'However,' he added, 'we shall meet in the tournament.' They did; Winawer won both the tourney games from Rosenthal, and eventually he came out second—one point behind pete for the Emperor's prize in the great tourney eventually he came out second-one point behind Kolisch,

#### CHESS SONG.

By SHERIFF SPENS.

Tune-" Comin' thro' the rye."

Gin a body meet a body, Game at chess to try; Gain a body beat a body
Need a body sigh?
Ilka player has his losses,
Few hac mair than I,
But aye I meet wit smile defeat,
"Nane the waur," I cry.

"Nane the want," I cry.

Gin a body play a body

At the game of chess,

He needna gloom, or fret and fume,

Gin he's in a mess.

Lika player has his losses,

Few hae main than I,

The pieces yet again I set,

"Nane the want," I cry.

Gin a body to a hody Lose his boonie Queen, He's daft to teat on scanty hair, Cursin' foe and freen.

lika player has his losses, Few hae mair than I, But wherefore pine mgame to tines, "Nane the want," I cry.

Gin a body beat a body,
Let the body ken
That you can still defy his skill,
An' fecht ower again.
Ilka player has his fosses,
Mine I'll no deny;
I fecht again, and no in vain,
"What the wann," say I.

(From the Chess Bouquet, by Gittens.) To time signifies to lose.

#### VOROBAMA CHESS CLUB.

VORDHAMA CHESS CLUB.

Only three games were played this week in the Championship Tomney and all were between Messrs. For and Mendelson. The contest between these competitors is now concluded, the result being:—For 2 wins, Mendelson 3. The tatter is thus the first certain candidate for the record round. The match between them was somewhat remarkable from the fact that in each of the five games the second player won, and that play all through proceeded in such a brilliant style and at such a rapid pace that endeavours on the part of onlookers to take down the score for us proved finitless. When Mr. Mendelson plays in the second round, we will try to make arrangements for having a cinematograph in attendance.

In the "Secretary's Handicap" Mr. Pollak has

In the "Secretary's Handicap " Mr. Pollak bas cored the first win.

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARKIVALS.

Chusan, German steamer, 780, W. Wendt, 4th Reb., -Itolio, Sugar. -Simon Evers & Co. Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 4th Feb., -Shanghai via ports, 28th Jan., Mails and General. -Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dagmar, Norwegian Steamer, 921, E. Amundsen, 5th Feb.,—Hongkong, 27th Jan., Rice.—Simon Kvers & Co.

Kees & Co.

Chowshan, Beitish steamer, 1,282, Fingesson, 6.h.

Feb.,—Hongkung, 30th Jan., General.—Rice
and Sugar,—Dodwell Cachil & Co.

Tambu Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,800, H. Barnes,
7th Feb.,—London via norts, and Kobe, 6th

Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghaze, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 7th Feb.,
—New York via ports and Suez Canal, and
Kobe, 6th Feb., General.—Dodwell, Carlill &
Co.

Ningrippe, Bestish steamer, 1,735, W. H. Cross, Still Pen., Liverpool via poirs, and Kube, 7th

Concord (6), U.S. gunbout, 1,720, Commander A. Walker, 9th Feb.,—San Francisco via Hono-

Cam, British steamer, 1,930, Pritchard, 9th Feb.,

New York via Suez Canal, and Hongkong
and Feb., Kerosene Oil,—Standard Oil Co.

Bjorg, Norwegian steamer, 483, B. Nelson, 10th Feb.,—Iloilo, 1st Feb., Sugar,—Chinese.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, C. Hillcoat, 10th Feb.,—London and Antwerp via ports, and Kobe 9th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Veits. Kaisha.

Voronef, Russian steamer, 3,325, S. Audveieff, 10th Feb.,—Nagasaki, 8th Feb., General.—
Browne & Co.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorensen, 11th Feb.,-Hongkong, 2nd Feb., General.-Simon Evers & Co.

Evers & Co.

Natal, French steamer, 2,073, Kemes, 11th Feb.,
—Maiseilles via ports, and Kobe, 10th Feb.,
Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Robe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,635, R. Swain,
11th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 5th Feb., Mails
and General.—Nippon Yusen Kuisha.

Sizm, British steamer, 992, 11th Feb.,—Sumatra,
Oil.,—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tacome, British steamer, 1,662, A. Dixon, 12th
Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.
—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

E. R. Sutton. American ship, 1,630, Carver, 12th

E. B. Sutton, American ship, 1,639, Carver, 1211 Feb.,—New York, 1st Sept., Kerosene Oil,— Standard Oil Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Kamakura Haru, Japanese steamer, 3,600, Treunt, 5th Feb.,—Loudon and Autwerp via potts, Mails and General.—Nippon Vusen Kaisha. City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 5th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,453, Wallace, 4th Feb.,-Hongkong via Robe, General.-Cornes

Shanghai, British steamer, 2,163, E. P. Bishop, 6th Feb., London via ports, Mails and General. P. & O. S.N. Co.

Canton, British steamer, 1,110, S. Wilde, 6th Feb., -Moji via Kube, Ballast. - Jardine Mathieson

& Co.
Nestor, British steamer, 2,417, Asquith, 6th Feb.
-London via purts, General.-Butterfield &

—London via purts, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, F. W. Hotton, 6th Feb.,—Seattle Wash, via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nerite, British steamer, 3,155, Wm. Daniel, 7th Feb.,—Kobe, Od.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, Lockyer, 8th Feb.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, J. Shimadzu, 8th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. Nicel, 8th Feb.,—Bombay viā ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eurska, American ship, 1,996, Darrah, 8th Feb.,—Kobe, Ballast,—T. M. Laffin.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young,

-Kobe, Ballant.—T. M. Laffin.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young,
10th Feb.,—Sydney and Melbonine via ports,
Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Elsa, Garman steamer, 747, Peterson, 11th Feb.,
—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine Matheson & Co.
Lyderhorn, Norwegian steamer, 2,014, Hammeras,
11th Feb.,—Kohe, General.—Fanzai & Co.
Deike Rickmers, German steamer, 2,361, Müller,
0th Feb.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports,
General.—M. Raspe & Co.
Olympia (14), U.S. flagship, 5,870, Capt. Gridley,
11th Feb.,—Hongkong.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### OSPARTED.

Per American steamer City of Peking, for San Francisco via Honoluln:—Mr. W. L. Abbott, Mr. John L. D. Borthwick U.S.N., Mrs. Borthwick, Surg. Col. W. F. Center, Mrs. W. F. Center, Mrs. C. G. Calkins, Mr. B. Chnykovsky, Major and Mrs. J. A. Darling U.S.N., Mr. V. Diakonoff, Mr. A. Gourdon, Miss Hastings and maid, Mr. M. Henley, and Mr. Wm. McDonald U.S.N., in Tablin. tahin,

Per British steamer Shanghai, for London and ports:—Capt. Luizi Armani, in cabin.

Per British steamer Robilla, for Hongkong and ports:—Mr. Clue Yuen Hen, Mr. J. H. Fisher, Mr. W. M. Johnestone & valer, Mr. N. Holmes, Mr. E. Becker, Dr. H. Kennpte, Mr. R. J. Kichy, Mr. C. W. M. Birch, Mr. J. Kawyes Mr. H. I. Chope, Capt. W. H. Grandin d. Ro. C. C. M. S. C. Bishop McKim, and Mr. Lou Ja Kh. A. Caning and to Chinese and 2 infants, and 1 Japanese and to Chinese and 2 infants, and I Japanese steerage.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUB

America P. M. Co. Peru t Su. !	eb. 13
I sentence estimates a use on a comp	
Hongkong O. II O. Co. Dotice Su. I	Feb. 23
Canada, &c.,,,,,,, C. P. R. Co. Em. of Japan 3 M. F.	7eb. 14
	Feb. 26
Houghong P. & O. Co. Rosetta 5 W. E	?eb, 16
	Feb. #0
	Peb. #8
Hongkong C. P. R. Co. Em. of ndia Th. !	'eb. nş

- a Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the moth Jan.
- Left Nagazaki on the 9th inst.
- 3 Left Vancouver on the 31st Jan-
- 4 Left Hongkong on the rith inst. 5 Left Hongkong on the 6th Inst., with the English Mail.
- 6 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst,

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line,	Stenmer.	Date,
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em, of Japan	M. Feb. 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Peru	M. reb. 14
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Feb. 25
Shanghal	N. Y. K.	Kobe Mars	Tu, Feb. 15
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Natal	W. Feb. 16
Hongkong	N. D. I	Hobersollern	Bri. Feb. 18
Hongkong	Quality Co.	Coptic	M. Feb.ex
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Zu. Feb. 20
America	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Feb. 04
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	hel. : eb. mg

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

A fair demand for grey stirtings has continued and some business has also been transacted in yarms, fauties and wooltens. Prices are well maintained. Some considerable purchases have been made in raw cotton, in some instances at slight reductions from current rates.

#### COLLON PIRCH GOODS

The state of the s	
Pub cincu,	
they Startings-Bit Bi, 384 yda, 39 meber \$2.55 to 2.85	
Grey Shirtings-olb, 384 yds. (Sinches a.80 to 3.35	
1. Cloth-7h, 21 yards, 32 inches 1.80 to 2 00	
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 14 inches, 1.95 to 2 90	
Prints-Assorted, 24 yards, 30 tuchen, 2 00 to 3 75	
Cotton-Ralians and Satteens Black, Pay rann.	
3 inches u 18] to 0.25	
WOOLLENS. FRETTER.	
Flancels	
Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches best   0.35 to 0.41	
Italian Cloth, 30 yande, 32 inches	
Medium 0 30 to 0.311	
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	
Сышнов 0.25 to 0.274	
Maussaline de Laine-Ciape, 41 yands,	
11 inches u.15 la u 22	
Cloths-Pilate, 51 ob 50 inches 0.35 to 0 50	
Clothe-Presidente, 51 00 56 inches a.60 to 0 75	
Clothu-Uning, 14 m 56 inches a 50 to a.85	
Blankels-Schriebund Green, 3 to 5%.	
per No	
COLLOR VARUES PROFILER.	
18.65 16 24, Singles 21 \$38-50 to 30.50	
Non, 28'31, Singles 41,00 to 43 00	
Nos. 38'42, Singles 44.00 to 45.00	
Nos. 32, Doubles	
Nos. 42, Doubles 51 75 to 54.50	
Nos, a'60, Plain	
Nos. 2'80, Plain 75.00 to 77.00	
Nos. 2'100, Plain 99.00 to 100 00	
Nos. 2/60, Gasted 72 00 to 79 00	
Nes. 2 80. Gassed Sq.00 to 95.00	

RAW COTTON	
American Middling Indian Broath Chinese	18 oo ta 18.75
MICIALS.	-

Very little is doing in the metal market. A large shipment of pig fron to Kobe is expected to arrive shortly and buyers are waiting for a fall in prices.

7.0	R P	traction and
Round and square & inch. and upward.4.15	10	4.60
fron Plates, associad 4.20	to	
Sheet from		5.30
Galvanized from sheet s 9.20		
Wice Nails, assorted 6 00		
l'in l'lates, per box	to	6.00
Pig Ivan, No. 1		3 30
Hoop Iron (  to 14 inch)	to	5.25
R R SNEW STREET		

The market is dull, and with recent arrivals in The market is duly, and with recent as vester to fall. The ship E. B. Sutton, and the steamer Cam have arrived from New York during the week with full cargoes, and some 40,000 cases of Sumatia oit are expected to arrive in a few days. A puttion of the latter's cargo has already been placed at \$1.90 per

	•		
American		\$2.04 to	2.10
Rassing		2.00 to	2.19
Langkat		_	1.00

#### SUGAR.

Sales have been fairly active in Brown at well sustained prices. The stock of Manila, which was exhausted last week, has been replenished by two cargoes from Iloilo, a portion of which is for order. White refined is in fair demand at former prices.

	.,,		A
		F 6-29	erons.
	Takao		
	Manilanianiani	4.50	to 5.35
Brown	Daitong	3.85	ta 3.90
Brown	Canton	3.85	10 4.50
White	Java and Penang	6.50	to 7.00
White	Refined	7.35	PH 0.00

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

The market has been quiet during the past week, sales amounting only to some 626 boxes, at self maintained prices. Stocks on the 11th inst, were estimated at 11,900 hoxes, or about 6,000 piculs. Shipments have been 46 bales for Europe per Rokilla and 998 bales per City of Paking for America.

Bilaturan-Batra g're, rofen dan.,	. Nomina
Filatures-Raten 13/15, 14/16 den	ggo to gju
Filatures-No. t. 10/13 deniers	010 to 010
Filaturer-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	880 to 690
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	Goo to gio
Filatures-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	350 to 860
Filatures-No. a, co/15 deutera	850 to 850
Fitatures-No. 2, (1 18 deniers	8 ao to 830
Re-reels-No. r, 13/15, 14/16 den	Sga to gao
Re-reels-Mo. 14, 13:16, 14:17 den	820 to 830
Re-reels-No. 2, 14 18 denters	Soo to Sio
Re-reels-No. 21, 17:18 demera	280 to 700
Re-reels-Bu, 3, 44/26 deniers	_
Kakedas-Ettis	840 to 650
Kakedas-Bo. 1	Bao to Bao
Kakadas-Ho. It	790 to 800
Sakedas-Nu. s	76e to 770
Karedan-Ho. 11	-
WASTE SILE.	

The activity which characterised the market last week has been succeeded by a very quiet time, salet during the last eight days only amounting to about 757 boxes. Stocks amount to 8 oon hoxes and prices are well maintained. The Robilla took 366 bales for Europe on the 8th inst.



# GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS, &c. **GEO.** COURTICE'S CONCENTRATED EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

This been Consughtly fished and approved in all parts of the world become a quarter of a Contray.

It is NOT A DYE, but the estimate principle of the NOO Gibbbs a rome notated form, perfectly handless, and will positively restore the robust force to nature retired not be.

NOTE:—Thirty years Profession White Specifics for Per Homoment's Bencher of the Inner Temple.

## GEO. COURTICE & CO.,

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Noshi-Uahu, Best.,	110	to	115		
Noshi-Oshu, Good	100	to	103		
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	90	to	95		
Norti-Shinshu, Best	70	to	75		
Noshi-Shinslen, Good	65	to	674		
Noshi-Bushu, Heat	115	to	120		
Norbi-Burlin, Good	100	to	110		
Noshi-Bushu, Medining	go	ta	95		
Nositi-lashu, Gand	Óο	10	55		
Nosni-lushu, Fair	55	ŧο	571		
Kibise-Filature, Best	95	to	100		
Kiboso-Pilature, Seconds	85	to	90		
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25	to	30		
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- Private 4 months sight	2 O 1 1
- 6 months' sight	1/0]
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On Lyons - Private 4 months sight	2.58
On Hongkong-Bank sight 5	
- Private rodays sight 7	
Or Shanghai-Bank night	78
- Private 10 days' sight	80
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- Private 30 days' sight	157
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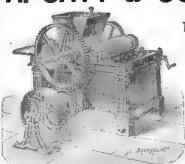
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# The Japan Meekly Itlail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 8.]

REGISTERED AT THE GOP. OF

YOKOHAMA, FEB. 19TH, 1898.

月三年五十二治界 Vol. XXIX.

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"FAISCE QUE BOIS: ABVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No actice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WERKLY MARL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAUER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that likerary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FRB. 19TH, 1898.

#### BIRTHS.

At No. 7, Mount Aden Pack, Lordship Lane, Dulwich, on the 4th January, 1898, the wife of WILLIAM HOGGAN of a Son.

On the 9th February, at 3 Queen's Garden, Hongkong, the wife of J. T. LAUTS, of a son.

At 13, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on the 31st January, the Wife of CHARLES GRANT, of

#### DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 7th of February, 1898, F. C. Goodall, aged 23 years.

At the Government Civil Hospital, on Monday, the 7th inst, from compound fractine of the skull, ALBERT GEORGE (aged 2) years), only son of ALICE and JOHN BARRY, ITA, Praya Easi, Hongkong.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

By a fire in Hakodate on the 13th inst. 300 houses were reduced to ashes.

CAPTAIN and Miss Münter left Japan on the 15th inst. by the Empress of Japan.

Over 1,100 deaths from plague occurred in Bombay in the week ended 10th February.

CHINA is reported to have granted Great Britain the right to carry the Burman railway into

the Russian gunboat Zabiaka. Neither vessel received serious damage.

THE Russian cruiser Tamboff, (8,640 tons) has left Odissa for Vladivostock with one thousand troops on board.

CHINA has agreed to pay compensation for the kidnapping of a Frenchman in Tonking by Chinese brigands.

THE Interport Football match between Yokohama and Kobe takes place at the latter port on the 26th instant.

A JOINT STOCK glass manufacturing company in Yokohama obtained a license from the Government on the 14th inst.

THE M. M. steamer Sydney is reported to have taken a million yes in gold from Kobe for London on the 4th inst.

THE death of Count Kalsoky, former Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, etc., was announced on the 15th inst.

A GREAT configgration has occurred in Manila, from which the losses are estimated at \$700,000 insured and \$2,000,000 uninsured.

NAVAL manceuvres by the Japanese Standing Squadron were to take place for a fortnight from the 15th inst. off the port of Shimidzu.

THE City tax has been raised in Tokyo to provide funds for the repair of the roads, which are generally in a wretched condition.

JAPANESE coal has risen enormously in price, and is still rising, owing to large demands from Hongkong, Shanghai, etc., and for naval requirements.

A SPLIT is reported to have occurred among the united steamship companies running from Japan to European ports, owing to which freights have been reduced from 32s, to 22s.

THE P. & O. steamer Bornes ran aground on the Saratoga Spit, coming up to Yokohama on the 14th inst., but got off with assistance from other vessels the following day.

THE present compound of the Kobe Customs is to be greatly enlarged, and a bill asking for a vote of yen 168,000 for the purpose will be submitted to the Diet next session.

THE number of law suits brought by Japanese against foreigners in the various Consulates at Yokohama through the Kanagawa Prefectural Office during last year was 54.

MISS ELSIE ADAIR, with her husband, Mr. Van-derlip, and Prof. Hoffman gave a successful variety entertainment at the Public Hall, Yokohama, on Wednesday evening last.

THE British battleship Victorious, which recently left England for the China station, ran aground at Suez on the 13th inst. and had to discharge her coal and possibly her guns, to get off.

THE Yokohama Bazaar and the Kyowa Club in connection with it, started by the Japanese Trade Guilds of Yokohama, were opened on the 15th inst. in the building beside the Cricket

It is proposed by the Nilgata Prefectural Assembly to construct a harbour at a cost of yen 14,000,000, but they have no idea as to where they are to get the money. A foreign loan s proposed.

on the 13th inst. The Bank is to manage the finances of the Korean Treasury, which has deposited yen 100,000 with it.

YOSHIMURA HARUO, an official of the Tsu branch of the Mitsui Bank, who absconded with yen 19,000 belonging to the bank, has been arrested at Osaka and sent to the preliminary Court for examination.

A TERRIBLE explosion is said to have occurred on the U.S. man-of-war Maine in Havannah harbour on the 15th instant by which the ship was completely wrecked and 200 of her crew are reported to be missing.

TROUBLE has arisen between the United States and Spain over a letter written by Senor Delome, Spanish Minister m Washington, in which he described Mr. McKinley as a "low class politician, who caters to the rabble." Senor Delome's resignation has been accepted.

On the 12th inst, a train composed of three passenger cars and two luggage vans, from Choshi Station, ran off the rails between Asahi and Yokkaichi Stations. Five passengers were more or less injured. It was afterwards found that the screw of the points had been purposely taken away by some person.

THE President of the Nippon Yosen Kalsha has commenced an action in the Tokyo Local Court against the Hokuyetsu Steamship Company for \$80,000 as compensation for the damage sustained by the N.Y.K. steamer Kinshiu Mark through collision on the 12th of December last with the Hokuyetsu Steamship Company's steamer Hokushin Maru, in the vicinity of Uraga, Sagami Province.

THE round-the world cyclists, Messrs. Fraser. Lowe and Lunn, arrived in Yokohama on Tnesday evening, being met at Totsuka by a party of wheelmen from Yokohama. On Wednesday afternoon they rode to Tokyo, a small contingent of Tokyo cyclists meeting them and escorting them to the Club and Imperial Hotel. On the way to Tokyo Mr. Lunn met with an accident resulting in a gash on the knee and a est hand.

THE Import market, in spite of continued complaints of tightness of money and high rates of interest, shows a healthier tone than it has done for a long time past, so far as cottons are concerned, grey shirtings having been largely dealt in, while yarns also have shared in the improve-ment in the market. Metals generally remain very inactive, bar iron being the only line in which any considerable business has been transacted. There has been a slump in the kerosene market, attributable, it is said, to large arrivals and the low price of the Sumatra oil now obtain-Prices both for American and Russian have dropped to the lowest summer quotations, and even at these rates it is hard in do busi-ness. Sales of brown augur about keep pace with arrivals, which have been almost entirely from Manila. Little has been done in white refined. In exports, silk is the only staple in refined. In exports, silk is the only staple in which any large business has been done. At the beginning of the week the market was quite excited and large settlements were made if rising prices. This quieted down, however, after a day or two suit since then there has been a fair, steady business done. The export of raw silk from Yokohama from 1st July mend of January last amounted to 45,113 bales—27,541 to Europe and 17,572 to America. Nothing if doing in tea. and there is no change Nothing # doing in tes, and there is no change A COLLISION occurred in Naganaki harbour on Tex Russo-Korean Bank, with a capital of copper, dc., the demand for which is firm, the 8th inst. between the steamer Kitseng and 1500,000, is reported to have opened in Soul with high churisiness doing.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The 15th of March is the day fixed for the general election. Already the various political parties have taken the field, and in every constituency candidates are canvassing. But what does the public know about the platforms of the different parties? Who can tell which party is for increased taxation; which for reduced ex-penditures; which for cutting down the scheme of army expansion? Strange to say, not one of the parties has thought it necessary to submit to the electors a plain and distinct exposition of its political views. It appears to be thought sufficient that a man should call himself a "Progressist," or a "Liberal," or a "National Unionist," or what not. But, so far m the purposes of practical politics are concerned, the people do not know what is meant by a Pro-gressist or a Liberal. They have no clear idea of the distinction between the views of persons calling themselves by such names. On the other hand, the issues that the country has to consider are very plain and very important. If the present scale of public expenditure be continued, the taxes must be increased. Are the expenditures to be reduced? If so, in what direction? Some persons are understood to be opposed to the development of the military forces on the lines of the scheme adopted by the Diet in the sension of 1896 7. But to cut down the proposed establishment by two or three Divisions would afford very little relief to the finances, and certainly would not remove more than a fraction of the deficit that has to be met. Some other economies have to be effected, if economy is to be the order of the day.
What are those economies? If, again, the scale of expenditure is to remain as it is while the burden of taxation is not altered, whence can the necessary funds be obtained? In default of the natural remedy, additional imposts, some other source of income must be found? What is it? Further, there was vague condemnation of the late Government's foreign policy. What other lines would the political parties have statesmen follow? All these are plain questions inviting explicit answers. Constitutional institutions become a mere farce if the representatives of the people confine themselves to a purely destructive and negative sôle. Upon them, not less than upon the Ministers of the Crown, devolves the responsibility of mapping out the country's course and forming public opinion. It will not do for them merely to stand forth as opponents of the Cabinet, or followers of this leader or of that. They have to declare their opinions; to indicate the routes that they desire to see adopted. Otherwise they sink to the level of mere obstructionists or blind partizans. Unfortunately they have not recognised that plain fact. On the eve of the general elections they maintain absolute silence with regard to the great problems of the time, and leave the constituencies either to form bewildered guesses as to their opinions or to be blindly guided by their party appellations. That is a poor part to play in the drama of constitutional government. Such are the views of the Nichi Nichi

The Yi/i Shimpo is strongly in favour of granting to China an extension of the period originally fixed for the payment of the Indem-The Peking Government is naturally anxious to pay off the remainder of the Indem-nity by May next, because, by so doing, it would save all the interest hitherto disbursed, and would, moreover, obtain immediate re-possession of Wei-hai-wei. Even supposing that the whole sum is not paid off in May, the regular installments have to be handed over during the year, namely, 1712 millions of taels in May and 31 millions in November. Thus China sees herself obliged to borrow money, and the borrowing threatens to cost her dear. There are plenty of would be lenders. Russia is only too willing to supply the required amount, but her rather than an attitude of hostility, and he Russia attaches to the accommodation conditions destined to prove far more expensive to should be quite clear about its own policy tions destined to prove far more expensive to should be quite clear about its own policy. China than any disadvantages resulting from before entering into an alliance with any foreign denty became ubiquitous. It is beyond questionable to prove the control of the co

failure to discharge her whole debt to Japan at once. England is also ready to furnish the money, but, though her conditions are much less onerous and objectionable than those formulated by Russia, to accept her offer would place the Chinese Government in an embarass ing situation vis-d vis the Great Northern Power. Under the circumstances, China would fain have had equal recourse to each of the selfproposed creditors, but neither of them saw its account in that arrangement. The result is that China finds herself terribly perplexed, and knows not which way to turu. Is it not Japan's duty, and would it not be for her interest, to step into the breach by granting to China an extension of the period originally fixed for the payment of the Indemnity? It is enough for Japan that she shall receive the interest regularly up to 1902, when, according to the Shimonoseki arrangement, the last installment falls due. She has in Wei-hai-wei an excellent security for the ultimate payment, and she can easily make financial arrangements to meet the altered pro-gramme. On the other hand, the relief that such a course would afford to China can not be doubted. Of course the Peking Government wants money for many purposes—for the development of the country's resources and for the rehabilitation of its armaments. But its pressing reason for seeking a loan was to pay off the Indemnity, and if that pressure were removed, the difficulties of the situation would be immensely lightened. Japan does not desire to see China crushed or partitioned. She does not wish to see her neighbour tied up by engagements conceived expressly for the purpose of furnishing pretexts for foreign aggressions hereafter. Now is the time to come to China's assistance in a practical and substantial manner.

A writer in the Mainichi Shimbun discusses the true foreign policy of the country. It will be surmised at once that any one obtaining access to the editorial columns of that journal is opposed to the army-increment programme. The writer in question is very emphatic on that point. He considers that Japan has no need of a strong military force. She undoubtedly wants a powerful navy, but even though she contemplated a policy of armed aggression on the Asiatic Continent, the force that some of her statesmen think of organizing is excessive. Its dimensions are beyond her financial capacities, and the effort of maintaining it would cripple her before she even took the field. Her true policy should be one of defence on the north and commercial expansion in a southerly and commercial expansion in a somberly direction, Formosa being her chief basis of operations for the latter purpose. One would imagine from the excitement into which people have recently been thrown that the aggressive tendencies of Europe against the Orient had only just been discovered. But they have been operative for the past century. The sole difference is that they seem to have now developed a specially active phase. European aggression, however, must be recognised as a perpetual factor in Oriental politics, a factor to be constantly reckoned with in shaping an Eastern State's procedure. It is easy to talk of preserving the balance of power, but immensely difficult to determine whether the scale swings evenly, or whether it is tilted in either direction. The statesmen of a country must choose their general course and pursue it with the least possible deviation. Since the Liao-tung affair, Russia has been regarded as an enemy by the Japanese nation. But she was not so regarded On the contrary, she took infinite previously. pains to cultivate Japanese amity, and she succeeded to a great extent. There is no apparent reason why she should be counted a foe. At all events, if opposed by Japan she can strike at her opponent's head, whereas Japan could only hope to wound her foot. An alliance to check her might be very advantageous; the writer in the Mainichi does not under-estimate its value. But he evidently advocates an understanding with

State. The article is vaguely worded, but we interpret it to mean that Japan's direction of natural expansion is likely to bring her into collision with England rather than with Mussia, and that it would be better for her to agree with the latter Power than to defy it by joining hands . . with the former.

The Nippon has two articles in which it discusses the policy of the Occident towards the Orient. The trident of Neptune, it says, is the sceptre of the world's sovereign, and England has held it for many a year. Other Powers may be great on shore, but England rules at sea. Gradually, however, means of communications have been so much improved that old-time conditions are greatly altered. It is now less difficult to cross the Atlantic than it was formerly to get from one country to another in Europe. Pari passu with this development of communications, the aggressive appetite of the West has expanded. In other days, only two or three nations turned their eyes in far-distwo or three names turned their eyes marchi-tant fields, and among these England was pre-aminent. She carried her flag everywhere and obtained possession of nearly all the places favourable for colonization, thus enormously growing in wealth and influence. But now her example finds many imitators, the latest of whom is the Emperor of Germany. Weary of supporting in Europe a military burden which taxes his country's strength severely without adding anything III its resources, his Majesty has turned his glance abroad and conceived the idea of founding another empire in China, Russia and France have similar ambitions, but it was reserved for Germany to strike the most decisive compet the comp of a pirate." There is, indeed, such a thing as international law. European nations observe its provisions in dealing with one another. But they interpret it in a wholly different manner when dealing with the Orient. The distinction has become more marked than ever of recent years. Civilization may have progressed, but the spirit of equity has certainly become less effective. In former years commerce led the way and armed force followed after to support its claims if necessary. But now, as shown by Germany at Kino-chou, force leads the way and trade follows in its footsteps. No student of the times can read their main lesson wrongly. Europe's attention used to be concentrated on the regions in the east of the Mediterranean. It has now been transferred to Eastern Asia, Africa, South America, and Australasia have been exploited one after the other, and all their choice localities appropriated. There remains only the Far East. There European aggression finds a wide arena. The vital question is, what are the limits of the Far East for the purposes of this aggressive programme? Is Japan in-cluded within them? About China and Korea there can be no doubt. Their integrity is not to be respected; they are evidently to be treated like Africa and the Australasian islands. But Japan-does Europe regard her also as lying within the sphere of exploitation?

The Shegyo Shimpo goes straight to the root of things. It declares that the peace of the East depends upon Japan. England may be said to control Russia; Russia to control England, but Japan, in a certain sense, controls them both. The two great rivals in the East them both. The two great rivals in the East are England and Russia. The latter is incomparably powerful on land; the former rules the ocean. Even with France for ally Russia hesitates to strike at England, but England, on her ocean. eide, is equally desirous to avoid a collision with Russis. In fact, it may be said that both Sinten are honestly auxious for peace and genuinely averse to defying each other to combat. But circumstances are inexorably forcing them late the lists and their ultimate collision is almost inevitable. The two nations are profoundly sensible of the fact. When Germany seized Kino-chou, England showed little excitement. Germany's potentialities in the Orient did not disturb her. But when Russia utilized

tion that if either of these giants were convinced of his inability to meet the other in combat, the preservation of peace would be guaranteed. It rests with Japan to establish that preponderance. The balance of power is in her hands. In a very few years, she will be able to send to sea a fleet of over eighty ships with a displacement of a quarter of a million tons, and to put in the field an army of half a million men. Her alliance would give complete control of the situation to either England or Russia, which-ever she joined. There is no misconcep-tion about that in Europe. In December the London Times discussed the advisability of such an alliance, and the St. Petersburg Novesti was equally emphatic as to the advantage of an understanding between Russia and Japan. This empire may not yet have qualified to rank among the Great Powers. It has still a considerable interval to travel-before it reaches that goal. But it has acquired for itself a position in the East of which it may well be proud. It stands between England and Russia. To whichever of the two it holds out its hand, on that aide the preponderance is established. Such an assertion may seem vainglorious, but its truth, the Shegye thinks, cannot be questioned.

The Pomiuri Shimbun writes enthusiastically about the prospects of Japanese emigration to Peru. An agreement has been concluded by which the Morioka company undertakes to furnish thirty thousand Japanese labourers for agricultural and mining purposes in that country, and as the *Pomiuri* has frequently inslated that South America possesses all the qualifica-tions to be a principal field for Japanese enterprise, it naturally lends the support of its voice to this scheme. The failure of the emigration project in Brazil may perhaps have the effect of making some Japanese look coldly upon the Peru vian undertaking, and others may recall the scizure of illegally procured labourers for Petu, several years ago, in a Japanese port, as well as the recent failure of Peruvian silver mines. all these things are referable to considerations which do not affect the present enterprise. Pelu has shown herself most anxious to obtain Japaness immigrants, and is evidently willing to welcome them, not in the capacity of labourers only, but also in that of citizens. There are immense opportunities for development in the country, which, despite its rich resources, has a population of only four persons to the square mile. If this emigration scheme is successfuland there is no reason to doubt that it will he-it ought to prove the gate for a wave of Japanese enterprise into South America. question is not one of the emigrants' advantage alone. A prospect of Japanese tradal develop-ment unfolds itself also. For thirty thousand Japanese necessarily means a considerable demand for Japanese products, and means also the gradual introduction of Japanese manufactures into Peru, where they will become known with a rapidity that would not have been possible under other circumstances. Already the textile fabrics of this country find a market in South America vid Hongkong, and it may be reasonably hoped that a direct route thither will now be opened for them. The Fomiuri devotes two articles to this subject, but it appears to us that a very brief epitoms will suffice for our readers, as the vernacular journal's chief object in writing is to render the enterprise popular among its nationals.

#### BANKING IN JAPAN.

The Hochi gives an interesting review of banking business in Japan during the past year. Last year, the spirit of reckless speculation awakened by the late war with China having gradually died away, a natural reaction en-sued. The anxiety entertained as to the proposed alteration in the Coinage System and the commercial panic by which Osaka was disturbed had also the effect of holding the banks in constant apprehension. Tightening of the money market was the inevitable result, and daily interest of over 3 sen became an or-dinary rate for loans. That the banks were balance of \$2,000,000 uninsured.

thus enabled to realize abnormal profits towards the end of the year was by no means surpris-ing. It may interest readers to peruse a comparative table showing the results of the various banks' transactions :-

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#### YAPANESE COMPANIES.

With regard to the various leading companies in the empire the Keisai Zasshi publishes the

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Tokyo Real Estate Tokyo	450,000	3,000	3,010	10
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Kanegafochi Spinning do			10,000	19
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FactoryTochigi	795,000	11480		14
Five Staples Exchange Vokohama	225,000	6,750		40
Kishiwada SpinningOsaka	440,000	148,000		10
Kawasaki Dick Hioro		14,500		8.1
Dojima Rice ExchangeOralm	250,000	22,760	1,000	84
Senshu Spinning do	200,000	100,665	13,000	13
Bizen SpinningOkayazan	800,000	397	1,431	_
Fukuyama Spinning Hitoshima.	840,000	53,310		- 8
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Kiehiweda Brick Manufacturing do	3e ooo	5+175	315	ro
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#### GREAT FIRE IN MANILA.

A private telegram of the 7th received in Shanghai from Manila, reports the occurrence there of a conflagration in which nearly the whole of Rosario Street was involved. sured losses were estimated at \$700,000, with a

#### MARQUIS ITO AND THE LIBERALS.

On the night of the 6th instant, Marquis Ito entertained Count Itagaki and some members of the Lower House belonging to the Liberal Party. During the evening he delivered an address in which, after stating that the constitution of Japan differs from those of the various nations of Europe, and so ought not to be formulated on the basis of religion, but upon the absolute recognition of the Emperor, he proceeded thus: -As I have no other motive than to promote the national interests, I shall not hesitate to part company with the Liberals whenever I find in them procedure prejudicial to the interests of the State. The question of the reduction of the land tax, for instance, was some time ago approved by the Liberals, but in no way can it be carried into practice III present. There is much talk about party Cabinets, but the importance of obtaining ample assistance from political parties outside the Government is by no means to be lightly considered. The success which the present Cabinet had attained in securing the sympathy and co-operation of the Liberal party is a matter for sincere congratulation. Let us endeavour to promote, with one heart and combined effort, the grand policy of national prosperity." The Marquisthen proceeded to comment upon the impropriety of introducing alterations in the Law of Election, and spoke strongly against the action of the last Cabinet

The Premier's address, remarks the Yorssu, touches no suggestive points. Yet the Liberale appear to have imagined, merely from their self-conceit, that they have completely succeed-ed in gaining the heart of the Premier. Their folly in delightedly making blind submission to the Marquia is really pitiable. The Yorosu could not be expected to write otherwise.

#### OPENING OF YOKOHAMA BAZAAR.

The formal opening of the Yokohama Bazaar in the Public Gardens, and the Kyowa Club in connection with it, took place on Tuesday afternoon. The premises were gaily decorated with bunting outside and inside. There was a display of day fireworks and the Yokohama Band played a selection of music in one of the upper rooms. The opening ceremony was performed in a large hall on the upper floor, which was supplied with plenty of chairs. There was large attendance of members of the Yokohama Trade Guilds, the Kyowa Club and of invited guests, among whom were Mr. Otani Kahei, many of the leading business men, the chief officials of the Kanagawa Prefectural Office etc. An entertainment by story tellers lasted nearly two hours and afforded much amusement to those present. Then Mr. Yamagata, chief of the committee of the Association, read a congratulatory address and was followed by Messra. Tanikawa and Shibata. Afterwards Mr. Rinoye, Chief Secretary of the Kanagawa Prefectural Office, Mr. Umeda, and Mr. Otani Kahai delivered addresses, encouraging the exhibitors to present goods of excellent workmanship only for exhibition and hoping for the future success of the Bazsar. In conclusion, Mr. Suzuki, chief official of the Sample Museum of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, delivered an address. Refreshments were then liberally served, including plenty of beer and wine. Shortly after six o'clock, the proceedings concluded with three loud cheers for the Emperor, Empress, Crown Prince, Yokohama Bazaar, and the Kyowa Club. The exhibits, in the Bazzar are to be sold at marked prices; all the articles are of excellent workmanship. The Bazzar has been established by the members of the Yakohama Trade Guilds with the assistance of the leading Japanese business men of the

The death has just occurred at Bradford, England, of the Rev. Joshua Northup, said to be the oldest Methodist preacher in the kingdem. He was born on March 19th, 1799, and preached from 1820 up till last July.

Original from Digitized by Google UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### FAR-EASTERN SITUATION.

It may be inferred, we think, from the telegrams published this morning, that the Chinese Government has asked Japan to defer the payment of the Indemnity. The amount of principal still due by China is 83½ million taels. She has paid 116½ millions. By the 8th of May next has to hand over one sixth of too million taels, together with six months interest on the same, making a total of 17% millions. On November 8th, she has to make another payment of 34 millions on account of interest. It does not appear that she has yet made any provision to meet these liabilities. Of course there is plenty of time. If she chooses to place herself in the hands of either England or Russia, she can obtain funds in as many days as she has still months at her disposal. But the fact that she has asked for a delay seems to imply that she is unwilling to have recourse to Western capitalists if she can possibly avoid doing so. We presume that she has asked not only for a postponement of the May payment, but also for some grace as to the date for optionally discharging her whole remaining indebtedness in one sum. According to the Shimonoseki Treaty, she is entitled to a remission of all the interest hitherto paid by her if she acquits herself entirely by May 8th of the current year. Her payments of interest up to the present aggregate 105 million taels, and it follows that if she possessed funds to put up the remainder of the Indemnity in a lump sum on or before May 8th, she need only pay 73 million taels—.ie 83 less 105—, whereas if she continues 105-, the system of annual installments, she will have to pay, by May 8th, 1902, a total of 93% millions—i.e. 83% millions of principal and 10% millions of interest. It would, of course, be very convenient for her to obtain a postponement, but Japan has not sufficient inducement to make any such concession. There are some publicists in this country who have long been in favour of showing leniency towards China, and their advice has certainly become more popular since a clearer per-ception has been obtained of the "con-sideration" that the Middle Kingdom's European creditors are disposed to exact. But the practical question is, what can Japan gain by postponing the satisfaction of her monetary claim. Is she also inclined to join the game of crushing China with obligations? That may be the idea of the publicists who recommend a modification of the terms of payment, but Japan is scarcely in a position to seek from her neighbour concessions of the kind formulated by Russia or Germany, and we can not think that even the most romantic politician would advise her to forego a tangible pecuniary advantage for the sake of establishing a claim upon such a shadowy quantity as Chinese gratitude. In the face of recent and contemporary events he would be a rash man who should venture to estimate China's capacity to implement any promise two or three years hence. Japan wants money and she had better hold her debtor to his engagements. As English-

is likely to be promoted by an obdurate attitude on Japan's part.

The portion of Mr. Balfour's Manchester speech that refers to the Far-Eastern Question runs as follows:—

Eastern Question runs as follows:

In India, as I have just told you, we are responsible for the good government of vast populations subject to our sway. No such responsibility, I am glad to think, is laid upon us in China. What, then, is the character of our interests in that country? Our interests in China are not territorial, they are commercial. I have no revelations to make to you to-night of a policy with regard to China, no startling revelations; but I can indicate and ask you to accept the broad principles by which the details of that policy should be governed. What are those principles? They follow by a logical sequence from the principles I have laid down, that our interests there are commercial and trading interests, and are not territorial interests. And the first deduction I draw from that is that territory, in so far as it is not necessary to supply a base for possible warrike operations, is a disadvantage rather than an advantage, for it carries with it, may be, an expenditure in money, and, what is more interested to the carries with it, may be an expenditure in money, and, what is more interested to the carries with it, may be a paraedical content of the carries with it and an advantage rather carries with it an armendian of the carries with its and the content of the carries with its and the content of the carries with its and the be, an expenditure in money, and, what is more important to us, carries with it an expenditure in men. The second principle I draw from it is this—that insemuch as our interest in the external trade of China is 80 per cent, of the whole hade of the rest of the world put together, so per cent of the trade of all the other nations added together, we have a special main to see that the policy of that country is not directed towards the discouragement of foreign trade. (Cheers.) Let me point out, in the third place, that by the very traditions of our policy, by the deepest traditions of our policy, we are precluded from using any trading privilege granted to us as a weapon for excluding rivals. (Hear, hear.) If we ask for freedom to trade, we do not mean freedom to trade for England (a voice, "Brhain")—for Britain alone; we mean freedom of trade for all the world alike. (Cheers.)

HOW OUR INTERESTS MAY BE ASSAILED.

And note, therefore, that there are two ways, and two ways alone, so far as I know, by which our trading interests—our sole interests—in China can be interfered with. The most important of these is by possible pressure on the Chinese Government by a foreign Government to make regulations adverse to us and favourable to them. other words, to destroy that equality of opport unity which is all that we claim, but which we do claim. The second method by which I can imagine our interests being interfered with might, indeed, have less serious consequences, but is not to be neglected. I do not think it probable, but we can imagine it as possible, that foreign countries with protectionist traditions might dot the coast of China with stations over which they had complete control and through which they would not permit the trade and through which they would not permit the trade of the world freely to permeate; where they would put up Customs barriers, or something equivalent to Customs barriers, bostile to others and favourable to themselves. Now those are the ways in which I think it possible that our interests in China might be adversely affected; but depend upon it that the Government will do their best to see that in neither of those ways will the trade of this country be injured. (Hear, hear.) In such an effort, we are, after all, struggling not for our selves only, but for the world at large. I disclaim absolutely that spirit of petty jealousy which animates too many politicians in all parts of the world.

OUR UNSELFISH POLICY. OUR UNSELFISH POLICY.

I have been told—I ought, perhaps, not to refer to it, as I have not had an opportunity of verifying the quotation—I have been told that Sir Charles Dilke in a recent speech has accused me of being responsible for the partition of China because two years ago, I think it was at Bristol, I said that I regarded without fear or dislike the idea of a Russian outlet of commerce helps the light of a further than the commerce helps the file of a further than the commerce helps the state of the said that I regarded without fear or dislike the idea of a Russian outlet of commerce helps the said that I regarded without fear or dislike the idea of a Russian outlet of commerce below the line of winter and ice. I adhere to that statement. I cannot conceive why we should object to Russian commerce going where it will, provided we are not excluded from going theretoo. (Loud cheers.) We are constantly attacked as a nation in the foreign Press for what they call our selfish policy. I do not know what that means, but this I know, that we are alone among all the nations of the world in this—when we conquer a nation and rescue it from barbarism and uncivilization, we

policy, I think we may feel that we are working for no narrow or personal objects, and that that which is for our good is likewise for the good of all mankind, and that if our policy be carried in effect commerce will flourish, the interchange of wealth will grow apace, and all those influences which make for the better understanding between which make for the better understanding between nations, for the maintenance of a perpetual peace, will be the result of the policy of her Majesty's Government, whether in China, Africa, or elsawhere. That is my earnest desire, as I am size it is yours. And I trust that the exposition which I have given you to night—uncontroversial as you will admit it has been in tone, containing no attacks upon opponents, no conteactiticism of their attacks upon us, but given in takin perturns afternet undelengate language. plain, perhaps almost undiplomatic language— represents a policy which deserves your confidence and that the result of this meeting may be a renew ed expression on your part, not merely of the confidence that you have before shown in your representative, but also in the Government of which he is a member and to which the destinies of the Empire are for the moment entrusted.—(Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Lord Kimberley, in a speech subsequently delivered, makes the following reference to Mr. Balfour's declaration :-

And now for a word as to the state of affairs in the Far East, and there again I feel the greatest satisfaction with the principles laid down by Mr. Balfour in his speech as to our policy in China. I do not think it could have been more wisely stated. What he said in effect was that our interests in China were commercial, and that we do not want China were commercial, and that we do not want to occupy any territory there unless possibly some naval bases were necessary. That seems to me to be the right policy. I hope I shall not be called a Little Englander, but surely we have acquired about enough territory already. Surely we have a sufficient number of brown and black prople for whom we are responsible, and we do not want to add to any expensivilities. whom we are responsible, and we do not want to add to our responsibilities the government of some fundreds of millions of Chinamen. We cannot wish to have more territory, but, as Mr. Balfour says, we have most important trade relations with China, and I was glad to see he spoke out friently and plainly on the subject. We do not want territory, but we want free access for China and for ourselves in that part of the wald. We do not want to be excluded. I believe that this country is powerful enough, and would be determined enough, to prevent anything which would shut us out from a fair share of the trade with China.

It may be doubted whether these expressions

It may be doubted whether these expressions of policy will prove altogether satisfactory to foreign residents in the Far East. Many people out here entertain a conviction that unless England takes some very positive and striking step at this juncture she will be permanently dethroned from her place of eminence in the Orient. But the fact is that England has taken a decisive and effective step, with the result that her policy is now para-mount. She may be said to have im-posed it upon the Powers whose proceedings recently caused so much uneasiness. Russia and Germany have both given engagements that any port acquired by them in China shall be opened to foreign trade, the effect of which pledge is to avert the only contingency that would have been seriously hurtful to British interests, namely, the seizure of important places in China and their closure to English commerce by rivals of Great Britain's. The character of the situation has been completely altered by England's interference, a fact which should effectually silence those that talk about her moribund prestige and the supineness of her states-

It was suggested some time ago in these columns that one outcome of Germany's action at Kiao-chou would probathe world in this—when we conquer a nation and the world in this—when we conquer in the world in this—when we conquer in the world in this—when we conquer a nation and the world in this—when we conquer in the world in the world and not for curselves are taken by the former Power placed her in a position where the latter's good-will became almost a necessity. The plain fact is that every territorial acquisition are taken by the former Power placed her in a position where the latter's good-will became almost an eccessity. The plain fact is that every territorial acquisition are taken by the former Power placed her in a position where the latter's good-will became almost an eccessity. The plain fact is that every territoria

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Far East constitutes a new point of vulnerability from a British point of view. Germany at Kiao-chou is absolutely at new acquisition, the Pest of January Great Britain's mercy. So is Russia at 12th contains a sketch which is regarded Port Arthur or Talien. War declared, as probably embodying the Government's the Seez Canal would at once become impassable to non-British ships, and not a ton of coal could be obtained on the long voyage from Europe to China, while England could easily assemble in these waters a fleet against which neither the Russian nor the German Squadron, nor both combined, could hope to contend successfully. That view of the case seems to have been taken very strongly in Germany. From the Berlin correspondence published in The Times of January 11th, 12th, and 13th, we learn that the German press, without exception, had adopted a most conciliatory tone towards England, and had endorsed Mr. Balfour's declaration of British policy as strictly consistent with German designs also. We also learn that the publication of the official programme of Prince Henry's eastward voyage disclosed the fact that the squadron would touch en route at seven British ports, which discovery set people thinking whether a direct road to the Indian Ocean could not be established through Austria, Turkey, and Asia Minor, debouching at Basra or the Strait of Ormuz. From Basra to Kiao-chou would still be too far for a continuous voyage, but the programme includes the acquisition from Holland of a naval port in Sumatra, opposite Penang. It is not explained how ships could make their way through Austria, Turkey, and Asia Minor, but with that detail we need not concern ourselves here, the main point being that Germany's enterprise in China has opened her eyes to the significant fact that Great Britain commands the one route available at present for speedy communication between Europe and the Far East. Hence the Germans, eminently practical, are beginning to see that, for the successful beginning to see that, for the successful a departure which may seriously affect and peaceable prosecution of the enterher relations with her European allies, prise inaugurated at Kiao-chou, England's friendship is essential.

Concerning the extent of the concessions obtained by Germany at Kiao-chou, the Imperial Gazette of Berlin, in its issue of January 5th, contains a statement summarized as follows by The Times :-

"The cession of Kino-chou is in the form of a leave for a considerable time, and the German Government is at liberty to erect within the territory ceded all necessary buildings, and to undertake the requisite measures for the protection of the same." The territory ceded comprises the whole of the inner basin of Kian-chou Bay up to the high system and requisite the light system. the high-water mark; moreover, " the larger ton-gues of land lying south and north of the entrance gues of land lying south and north of the entrance to the bay to the point where their natural bound-aries are marked by suitable eminences, and also theislands situated within and before the bay," The theislands situated within and before the bay." The territory thus delimitated is described as having "an extent of some square rates," and around it will be marked out a larger purton of land within which "no measures may be findertaken nor dispositions made on the part of the Chinese without German sauction, and especially shall no hind-tances be opposed to the regulations affecting the waterway deemed increasing by the Germans."

In order to avoid conflicts, continues the Image.

waterway deemed necessary by the Germans."

In order to avoid conflicts, continues the Imperial Gaestie, which might affect the good understanding between the two Powers, the Imperial Chinese Government has transferred to the German Government for the period of the lease all its sovereign rights in the territory in question. Rinally, in the event of Kiao-chou not meeting the requirements of Garmany, it is adjudated that she shall receive a more suitable point d'appril, to be mutually agreed upon herealter, and the kindly-disposed Chinese Gavernment will, in this eventuality, take over all lastidings, &c., exected at Kiaoality, take over all buildings, &c., erected at Kiso-chon and refund the expenses incurred on behalf of them by Germany. Digitized by Google

With regard, further, to the steps contemplated by Germany for utilizing her intentions :-

intentions:—
According to this journal, great activity will shortly be manifested in Knor-chou Bay for the purpose of adequately equipping it as a war inchour, with dockyards and repairing works. There is no intention, however, to make the bay permanently a fortified point d'appai for the fleet, but the harbour works will rather be undertaken with the view of meeting all the requirements of a trading post. As to the necessary funds, the Government is at present quite unable to form any accurate idea as to the sum of money that may eventually be required. As soon as it can do so, the representatives of the country will be informed of the Government's intention. In any case, it will have to be seen first how far Kiao chou Bay promises to answer all the expectations formed of it as a trading port before the Admiralty will venture to expend any great sums upon it.

It may also be supposed that the Government

It may also be supposed that the Government is at present occupied in considering the question of the future administration of its possession in East Asia. In any case, the despatch of maxines and coast defence actillery to Kian-chou Bay must be regarded as a provisional measure, and it is not unlikely that Germany will feel herself called upon to form a colonial service to meet the military requirements of her newly-won territory,

It appears to us very doubtful whether Germany will carry out the above programme. She will not possess at Kiaochou any advantages that are not shared equally by other Powers, and consequently no reason suggests itself why she should spend large sums on the improvement of the place. Her policy in the East during the past two years can scarcely commend itself to her thoughtful nationals. In connexion with Liaotung she alienated Japan's friendship and secured no compensation. In connexion with Kiao-chou, she has presented herself to the Chinese in the light of their most ruthless enemy, and to Eastern countries generally as a Power not restrained by any scruples derived from international law. She has also made for, as is clearly pointed out in The Times. not only does her value as an ally diminish in proportion to the military and naval responsibilities she assumes in distant countries, but also Austria-Hungary and Italy-may hesitate to extend their engagements with her to the Far East. Finally, she has given new pledges to fortune by creating a voluerable point in her armour.

#### THE SPANISH MINISTER IN WASHINGTON.

The telegraph tells us that the Spanish Minister in Washington has been guilty of a most unfortunate indiscretion. does not always observe circumspection in writing private letters, but, on the other hand, he is expected, especially if he be a diplomatist, to be able to distinguish beletters that run a risk of becoming public property. The Spanish Minister does not seem to have succeeded in observing the distinction, and there is reason to fear subsided, in great part, and Spain seemed likely to be allowed to consummate her attributing that purpose to them "T.W" a serious character.

REASONS FOR JAPAN'S ADOPTION OF THE GOLD STANDARD.

Many of our readers, especially among the "old residents," were doubtless glad to see the well known-initials "T.W." appearing once more in our correspondence columns at the foot of a letter on the subject of finance. "T.W." is always lucid and instructive. It is very interesting to learn the views entertained by one so thoroughly versed in Japanese affairs on subject which he is particularly competent to discuss, and which, indeed, he may be said to have made his own by his far-seeing and learned essays on it in former days. There is one statement in his letter that we would gladly endorse, but we find some difficulty in doing so. We allude to his conclusion that one of Japan's chief reasons for turning to gold monometallism was her desire to secure herself against a reversal of the conditions under which her export trade had made such marked progress-her wish, in short, to catch silver at its apparently lowest point and fix it there for her own purposes by adopting a gold currency having a silver value calculated at the ratio of I to 32. We ourselves, when discussing Japan's motives at the time, entertained, and stated in these columns, the same belief that "T.W." now professes. It would have been eminently satisfactory to be able to attribute such a view to Japan's statesmen, for their tenure of it would have proved them to be in intimate touch with the great financial problem of the But our faith was seriously shaken age. when we observed that Count Matsukata, introducing the gold-standard Bill to the Diet; made no allusion whatever to any motive of the kind, and that a corresponding silence was observed throughout the debates in both Houses. In fact we think we are right in saying that the only influential exponent of the view to which we allude was the Fiji Shimpo, and even that journal did not show any persistence in ventilating it. On the whole, if we were asked now to summarize Japan's reasons for adopting gold monometallism, we should formulate three; first, her statesmen's conviction, right or wrong, that gold is the currency metal of civilization; secondly, a wish to gain admission to the money markets of gold-using countries, in other words, to obtain access to their capital; and thirdly, a sense of the crippling effects that exchange fluctuations produce upon international trade. If any other reasons were operative, they did not make themselves conspicuous at the time.

We failed to note when publishing "T.W.'s" rséumé of the story of Japan' adoption of gold monometallism, that his letter was written for the information of inquiring friends in Europe and not originally with any intention of publication in Japan. As to the point discussed by us in connexion with the letter, namely, whether one of the reasons influencing Japanese financiers had been that they that his error may renew the impa-anticipated an appreciation in the gold tient feeling which showed itself so strongly in the States a few months ago with reference to Cuba. The feeling had white metal had fallen, we find that in plucky efforts for the subjugation of the is supported by some good authorities. insurrection. But now, doubtless, there We ourselves, as our readers may perhaps will be a reaction, though probably not of remember, believed, when the adoption of the gold standard first entered the field

of practical politics, that apprehensions of a rise in the gold price of silver and the consequent crippling of the export trade, did strongly influence Japanese statesmen. But we were led to doubt the correctness of our supposition when we observed that neither the Minister of Finance in his Parliamentary exposé of the project, nor any member of the Diet discussing the Bill, alluded to that phase of the problem. It is now alleged, however, that though the possibilities of silver's appreciation were among the arguments which presented themselves to the framers of the measure, a purely hypothetical forecast of that kind, likely to provoke much discussion and not capable of any satisfactory proof, did not commend itself as a consideration deserving prominence, especially in any official statement of the

#### TALIEN.

There is no apparent reason to doubt the correctness of the Reuter's telegram published in our issue of the 10th instant, which purports to be an epitome of Lord Salisbury's speech in the House of Lords. Evidently a species of compromise has been concluded between Germany, Russia, and England, the two former Powers and England, the two former giving a guarantee that they will throw open to the trade of the world any ports obtained by them from China, and England, on her side, consenting not to press for the immediate opening of Talien, but to postpone the question until the Eastern Chinese Railway—that is to say, the railway from Tientsin to Shanghaikwan and thence vid Newchang through Manchuria-connects with Talien. course such an agreement practically secures Talien against being converted into a naval station by a foreign Power, and the engagement given by Germany and Russia averts any danger of Chinese markets being closed to general trade in consequence of territorial acquisitions by those States. We do not venture to surmise whether German or Russian des signs have been frustrated by British interference, but it is at least permissible to express satisfaction that England's policy of keeping the markets of China open to the trade of the world has been successfully asserted. In saying that Talien is now secured against becoming a naval station for a foreign Power, we do not rely so much on the guarantee given by Russia and Germany, as on the fact that, the opening of the place to trade having been explicitly deferred, not refused, it can not be handed over to any Power as a military base without a distinct breach of faith on China's part. Of course, it will be at once apparent that not to be opened until the building of the Chinese Manchurian Pailway, the event much can be gained by discussing those points. The interesting fact is that Englane has made good her position. It is now possible to understand the rumour recently telegraphed with regard to the Czar's expressions of satisfaction that a crisis had been averted.

The interesting fact is that Englane tective decks now approaching completion in French dockyards. All five have coppered bottoms, and are consequently the lacquer wares now manufactured compare with those of former times in point of durability, he finds very strong adjectives to express the difference in favour Original from Digitized by Google

#### NEWS SENT TO LONDON FROM JAPAN.

It is not easy to understand the principles upon which the editor of the Kobe Chronicle conducts controversies. Compare, for example, these two extracts: Japan Mail. Kobe Chronicle.

Fepan Hail.

Reb. glh.

The Kobe Chronicle, however, defend The Times' correspondent, and in support of his assertion quotes a paragraph from our own. The paragraph, which appeared in the Mail on December 22nd, was avowedly a translation from the Asahi Shimbun.

Kobe Chronicle.

We quoted for the information of the Japan Mail a paragraph which appeared in that journal on the same date as the Kobe telegram in The Times was dispatched, a paragraph which we stated at the time was a translation from the Asahi Shimburn (though the Mail, with its customary economy of truth, suggests that we credited the paragraph directly to itself).

Our words do not contain the remotest suggestion that the paragraph in question was credited directly to us by the Kobe Chronicle. When, therefore, that journal accuses us of "customary economy of truth" it is more courteous than careful.

It is of little use bandying words about this matter. The plain fact is that the Kobe correspondent of The Times, whose defence the Kobe Chronicle has chosen to assume, sent to London during the recent crisis in the Far East various telegrams conveying the impression that much excitement prevailed in Japan, that a tendency existed in Governthat a tendency ment circles to adopt a belligerent policy and that warlike preparations on a considerable scale were in progress. He thus greatly misled the British public. There is no getting over that fact. The truth is that Japan may be said to have given no sign whatever, and that a well-informed correspondent, despatching telegrams to London, would have emphasized the somewhat remarkable calmness of the nation and its rulers, instead of giving prominence to exactly the opposite mood. That is incontrovertible. We note that the Kobe Chronicle attributes to us a paltry motive, a desire to discredit the Kobe correspondent of The Times in favour of the Tokyo correspondent, and threatens to make public another attempt of a similar nature in which we figured badly. The meaning of such methods of controversy is very well understood. They do not lie in our line.

#### NEW FLAGSHIP OF THE FRENCH FAR EASTERN SQUADRON.

The new flagship of the French Squadron in these waters is to be the d'Entrecasteaux, which was launched in 1896, and is expected to be ready for sea at an early there are two weak points in the pro- date. She is a steel protected cruiser of gramme. One is that, since the Talien is the first class, her displacement 8,114 metric tons; her indicated horse power, 13,500; her maximum speed, 19 knots; will be thought by some publicists to have her gun-position armour, 10-24 in., and been put off until the Greek Kalends. The her deck armour 4 in.; her armament, two other, that Russian behaviour with regard 0.4 in., twelve 5.5 in. quick firing, and to Batoum does not inspire complete con twelve 1.8 in.; her nominal coal supply fidence in any engagement given by her 650 tous; her complement, 521 men, and about an open port. We do not see that her cost, £667,740. The d'Entrecasteaux much can be gained by discussing those is one of five first-class cruisers with pro-

#### YAPANESE LACQUER.

Mr. Araki, an established authority on the subject of lacquer, has imparted to a representative of the Japan Times an in-teresting piece of information. It is to the effect that out of a total of over 13 million pounds (avd.) of lacquer sap used annually in Japan, not more than one-eight is of Japanese production. The estimate is to a certain extent vague, for it includes an item of 625,000lbs. supposed to be smuggled. But there will probably be no error of exaggeration in saying that the annual consumption is the million pounds, and that five-sixths of it are imported from China. On the face of the matter there is no apparent reason why China should not supply Japan's wants in the matter of the lacquer tree's sap. But Araki explains that the so-cal-led "lacquer juice" sent over from China is, in fact, not the pure sap of the lacquer tree, but a compound obtained by mixing the saps of various other trees and shrubs with a small quantity of the genuine product. When such material is used by the manufacturer, there results an article not deficient indeed in the outward features of good lacquer, but without any qualities of durability: the lustre fades quickly and the surface cracks. It is, of course, another instance of the old story, cheap and nasty. The adulterated Chinese sap can be obtained fifty per cent. cheaper than the Japanese: the former costing 4 yen per 81lbs., the latter a yen. In other words, to employ Japanese sap in lieu of the total quantity of sap procured from China, would involve an additional outlay of a quarter of a million yen annually. quarter of a million yen seems an insignificant sum when we have to discuss an industry of such importance as that of the lacquer-maker in Japan. The latest authentic figures available in this context refer to the year 1895. They show that the gross output of lacquer wares in Japan during that year was three million yen, in round numbers, of which total one million yen worth was exported. It appears, then, that for the sake of effecting a saving of a quarter of a million yen in three millions, or 8% per cent., the Japan-ese lacquerer is content to use inferior sap, and to turn out an article deficient in precisely the quality for which Japanese lacquer has been famous since the earliest days of the manufacture, namely, durability. About eighty per cent, of the lacquered goods produced in Japan are intended for every-day use as household utensils, bowls, trays, cups, tubs and so forth. These articles being subject to usage more or less rough, it may seem that a high grade of manufacture is not required. That is true but only to a very limited extent. There is not a more economical householder in the world than the Japanese. He wants above all things an article that will last. From the moment that a lacquer bowl begins to crack, it ceases to be capable of thorough cleansing and becomes practically useless. It is for that reason that whenever an industrial exhibition in Tokyo or Kyoto attracts a supply of vermilion lacquer wares from the Riukiu Islands they are eagerly bought up, their durability having been established by long experi-ence. If a Japanese be asked to-day how

of the latter. But if he be asked to indicate a cause for the deterioration, he will unhesitatingly reply, "scamped processes of manufacture; the use of two or three coats of lacquer where ten or twelve were formerly applied." Of the inferiority of the Chinese sap so largely substituted for the native material, he seems to take no note. It is certain, however, that Japanese artizans have not lost anything of their old skill in the manufacture of choice lacquer; they can turn out as fine work today as they ever could. The question of Chinese or Japanese sap does not present itself here: for first-class work no expert would think of employing the imported product. Doubtless the great inferiority of the middle-class articles now put on the market must be referred to the enchanced cost of labour which prohibits the careful processes formerly adopted. It may be assumed, too, that this defect as well as the disadvantages attendant upon the use of Chinese sap are generally present in goods manufactured for export. Cheapness and superficial attractiveness are the qualities chiefly desired by the exporter in lacquer as in every other branch of Japanese art manufactures. The result is that Japanese lacquer, once so famous, has lost caste. People find that after a box or a vase has been employed as decorative furniture for a year or two, its lustre grows dim and fissures begin to There can be little doubt that арреаг. had the lacquer wares exported been as durable as they are pretty, the export would have shared the expansion visible in other branches of Japan's over-sea trade. The whole system of the industry stands in need of reform. It would seem, however, that one great difficulty is the neglect which has overtaken the cultivation of the lacquer tree and the disfavour into which the business of collecting the sap has gradually fallen during the past twenty years. Every fine product of human hands requires patient labour. That is essentially true of lacquered wares. The first exercise of care and toil begins with the gathering of the sap, a process demanding intelligent discrimination and delicate manipulation. story may be summed up by saying that the lacquer industry has fared much as many other Japanese industries have fared in modern times, cheapness of production has been made a paramount object with corresponding loss of high qualities.

" GREATER JAPAN."

The second number of Greater Japan has just appeared. In the English section we find much that is interesting, but we are compelled to say that the editors appear to have more confidence in rumour than prudent writers are usually disposed to place in it. Speaking, for example, of Germany's action in procuring a ninetynine years' lease of Kiao-chou, Greater Japan says :-

This shows an entirely different attitude of Germany as compared with her original demand for permanent occupation of the Bay. Decidedly she has come down very low. What made her to be so violently aggressive in the beginning and so moderate in the end? Did she intend at the outset to devour Chinese territory, and afterward has been prevented to do so by the intervention of other Powers?

On what evidence, we wonder, does the Kiao-chou. It is true that she was very Army were augmented by fifty per cent. it Colombo on the 13th January for China. She generally accused of harburing such a could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be could be maintained at an increased cost of the could be could be contained at an increased cost of the could be con

purpose, but the public has not been placed in possession of the smallest proof that she ever entertained any design more radical than the leasing of the place. The very high-handed character of the whole proceeding naturally invites criticism, but it has not been shown, to the satisfaction of any impartial observer, that Germany materially modified her policy, or that, in brought to bear on her by other Powers. In short, there is nothing to prove that the consummation of her programme fell sensibly short of its prime conception.

We observe, also, that Greater Japan quotes certain expressions of a German press correspondent in Kiao-chou as "unfolding German policy and sentiments" and as "the true explanation of that violent procedure of diplomacy adopted by her at the outset of the trouble." following occurs :-

What a pity that this fine country is already fully occupied by the children of the yellow race, and that they can not be driven out or exterminat ed by the aid of force and alcohol like the abori-

Truly it is a little extravagant to regard such statements as a fair reflection of German opinion. They are not a fair reflection of the opinion of any civilized people, and most assuredly they do not represent any phase of German policy. We make the point because we should have supposed that all intelligent Japanese publicists would long ago have learned to distinguish between the real views of European nations and the singularly distorted expositions of them that often find their way into the columns of local foreign journals in the Far East. The instinct of empire is apt to assume a very ugly shape when developed in the minds of men whose personal interests counsel inter-national aggression and the reign of might. They play their own part in the system of things, do these men, and it is not by any means a pernicious part. For, when all is said and done, they are found to serve as instruments of progress, though they can hardly be themselves classed among its products. But they do not echo civilized opinion. Very far from it, indeed. There are probably not half a dozen Germans in the East who would endorse the words quoted by Greater Japan as "un-folding German policy and sentiments in connexion with the Kiao chou affair.'

Another very courageous statement of the magazine is this:-

The new Minister of Finance, Count Inouye, has, as we are informed, accepted his position with the condition that the expansion of the Army should be reduced from one hundred percent, basis to fifty percent, basis that is to asy, instead of doubling the miginal size of the Japanese Army, Count Inouye proposes to increase it one-half only. In this way the new Government may be able to make the annual saving of ten million vers. million yen.

It has certainly been rumoured that Count Inouye entertains a project in the above sense, as already explained in these columns, but that his Excellency expects to effect an annual saving of ten million yen by the reduction is quite incredible. The annual cost of maintaining the Army on its ante-bellum footing was 124 million yen, in round numbers, and the estimated cost of maintaining it on its post-bellum new magazine base its assertion that footing is 264 millions. Does Greater Germany's original intention was to annex Japan suppose that if the ante bellum

of 314 million yes, whereas its maintenance if augmented by a hundred per cent. would involve an increased outlay of 1311 millions? Count Inouye is also represented by Greater Japan as having long endorsed the scheme of importing foreign vapital through the credit of the country" and as being likely to "submit his proposition to the Diet for approval." refraining from demanding the cession It may be that Count Inouye sees the of Kiao-chou, she yielded to pressure hopelessness and peril of attempting to carry out the programme of railway construction, telephone and telegraph expansion and other public works with domestic capital, but we do not think that he favours the project outlined by Greater Japan, namely, the floating of a foreign loan for the purpose of redeeming public bonds, and thus supplying capital for the prosecution of industrial enterprises.

Russia looms very large on the horizon Among the expressions thus quoted the following occurs:—

of Japanese thought at present. The principal cartoon in Greater Japan represents the Czar as a veritable colossus, his right arm holding reins by which he drives Austria, Italy, Germany and France, and his left brandishing a Club over Asia. The picture is called "Europe as it really is." England, in the shape of an ancient dame, sits beyond the silver streak, placidly watching the turmoil, and plainly indisposed to take any part in it. Another sketch in the same magazine shows John Chinaman in an apparently mummified form, a British tar and Russian soldier busily engaged in wrapping round the mummy a cerement on which are conspicuously depicted the ideographs Kobai (for sale by public auction). Elsewhere in the same pages China figures as a huge pig, afive but somewhat mutilated. A helmeted German is busily cutting a slice from the porker's shoulder, and three other prospective butchers stand around with ready weapons.

#### MARQUIS ITO A WARLIKE STATESMAN,

This paragraph is characteristic of the Spectator :-

A kind of legal revolution has taken place in Japan. The people are profoundly britisted by recent events, and demand a more contageous policy. The Government has therefore resigned, and the Mikado, while dissolving Parliament, has appointed the Marquis Iro Premier and Count Okunia Foreign Secretary, or, in other words, has called a War Minister to power. We have discussed elsewhere the policy which the new Premiermay pursue; but in all Japanese affairs there is a factor of which no European knows anything, while no Japanese will let out the truth. The Emerch is Confessedly absulute, and this not mercely A kind of legal revolution has taken place in peror is confessedly absolute, and this not merely on name, and is said to be a well-informed and in name, and is said to be a well-informed and judicious man, but of his policy, or action, or opinious we never hear a word. He is like that metaphysical substance without which nothing can be anything, yet which no one every sees or hears, or, except by thinking, can grow conscious of.

The paragraph appeared in the Speciator of January 1st. It is not correct even as to leading facts, for it speaks of the Ito Cabinet as actually formed at that date, and it assigns the portfolio of Foreign Affairs to Count Okuma. But it is above all delightful when it calls an Ito Cabinet "a War Ministry." People that know Marquis Ito will smile when they read such an estimate of his policy.

Yet another European fleet in the Far Rast is about to be strengthened! The Portuguese

#### FOREIGN JOURNALISM AFTER JULY 1899.

We note with some surprise that a misunderstanding continues to exist with regard to the Japanese Press Law and foreign journalism. A Kobe newspaper, referring to the clause which forbids the editing or publishing of newspapers by foreigners, says :-

It seems to us that the duty of the Government, when the Press Laws were before the Diet for amendment, was to move in strike out this clause altogether in view of the near approach of Treaty operation. That this was not done could not fail to suggest that the Government was prepared, i Sible, to discriminate against foreigners in this ster. The retention of this clause, in fact, was on all lours with the introduction and passing last year of the Raw Silk Direct Export Law, which, in violation of definite provisions of the Treaties, proposed to give bounties to Japanese subjects

It really does look as though there existed

a resolute determination to form wrong conceptions about this matter. amended Japanese Press Law containing the clause in question, was intended to go into immediate operation. In other words, it was to become effective more than three years before the date fixed for the operation of the Revised Treaties. Hence to expunge the clause relating to foreigners would have made it possible for any European or American-except a British subject, who is specially interdicted from engaging in such enterprisesto become the proprietor, publisher or editor of a Japanese journal, though he would not in that capacity have been subject to the punitive provisions of the Press Law until the Revised Treaties went into force three years later. Thus a Japanese journal registered in the name of a foreigner might with impunity have defied the vetoes prescribed by the Press Law. It was, therefore, essential that the clause should be maintained. That is plain enough, surely. An interesting point seems to be made, however. It appears to be thought that if the Japanese Press Law is not operative against foreigners in its entirety, then binding force can not be claimed for one particular clause; that is to say, if the provision forbidding aliens to own or edit Japanese papers be valid, all the accompanying provisions also must be equally valid against foreigners. But all the provisions are not valid, and we are therefore led to the conclusion that the insertion of the antiforeign veto is superfluous, since fo-reigners might disregard it if they pleased. Without entering into a direct discussion of that legal problem, we may point out that the mere fact of such a clause having stood in the Japanese Press Law for the past fifteen years without evoking any protest from the Foreign Representatives, is a proof that they recognise the right of the Japanese Government to insert it and to enforce it. For one thing is quite plain, namely, that although the penal provisions of the Law can not be directly enforced against foreigners, nevertheless so long as the prohibitory clause stands in the statutes of the country, no Japanese subject is the opening of which foreign Powers entitled to enter the service of a foreigner compel for the purposes of their trade. engaged in Japanese journalistic enter- A port voluntarily opened can be closed office boys, and the post offices would not be available for the distribution of his chinese official custom, foreigners have awayaper. But the Treaties secure to foreigners the right of employing Japanese autonomy. Thus an open port does not positive the fractas of the business.

I don't wish to excuse the Japanese in the least, who ought to be severely punished for their scandalous behaviour, but it was only what I expected, when I heard that British fremen, Japanese firement and sake were being mixed together in a point of the business.

I don't wish to excuse the Japanese in the least, who ought to be severely punished for their scandalous behaviour, but it was only what I expected, when I heard that British fremen, Japanese firement and sake were being mixed together in a point of the funity of the firemen and sake were being mixed together in a point of the function of the function of the function of the function of the severely punished for their scandalous behaviour, but it was only what I expected, when I heard that British fremen, Japanese firement and sake were being mixed together in a point of the business.

It thus subjects in any lawful capacity. follows either that the clause in question is a direct violation of the Treaties, or that the veto it embodies is within the proper competence of Japanese legislators to impose under the Treaties. To make this plain, let us take another concrete example. Suppose that the Japanese Government were to enact a law forbiding any shipments of goods by foreigners on certain days in the month. It is obvious that the Foreign Representa-tives would at once protest, for, al-though, whether such a law existed or did not exist, the Japanese Authorities would have no power to interfere directly with the shipment of goods by foreigners in the indicated ways, they would have power, in the absence of any diplomatic protest, to punish Japanese boatmen or coolies who assisted in the shipping of be indirectly enforced against foreigners, and the shipment of goods on the days in question would be inferentially an unlawful employment. The interest of this argument, so far as the Press Law is concerned, lies in the fact that by suffering the prohibitory clause to stand, the Foreign Representatives have constructively recognised journalism to be outside the pale of ordinary commercial operations, all of which are permitted to foreigners by treaty. Of course we are speaking now solely of the owning and editing of journals written in the Japanese language. The Press Law, although is does not contain any explicit limitations of that nature, was enacted with reference to such journals only. Newspapers in a foreign language are entirely apart. That, indeed, is anoare entirely apart. That, indeed, is anotat the latter place, a story embodying ther reason why no occasion existed to charges of the most serious character abolish the prohibitory clause two years ago.

#### A STRANGE IDEA.

We find a perplexing article in the Keisai Zasshi with regard to the opening of Talien, as proposed by Great Britain, according to rumour. The Keisai is quite convinced that Russia aims at getting possession of Manchuria, and that, if she held Port Arthur and carried her Siberian railway thither while assembling a strong fleet in the harbour, Korea would be virtually in the hollow of her hand, and nothing could prevent her ultimate acquisition of Chihli. The Keisas further recognises that the opening of Talien to the trade of the world would seriously impede the consummation of these designs by Russia, since it would place on her immediate flank a port accessible to the war-ships of all nations, and would permanently alienate an important part of the territory which she hopes to acquire. Finally, the great value of Talien from a tradal point of view is clearly explained by the Keisai. But in the course of the article the following passage occurs :-- "A so-called 'open port' is not voluntarily thrown open for purposes of foreign trade; it is a place

differ from an enemy's country. being the case, if on the west of Shinking's southern coast Port Arthur be occupied by a foreign State, and on the east an enemy's country be established at Talien, which commands the Korean peninsula, it is evident that the tranquillity of the Orient is seriously affected, and that China can not escape ruin and the partition of her territory among foreign Powers. As for the manner of the partition, Shinking would go to Russia who is now shaping her programme in that sense. Shinking in her possession, her Siberian Railway extended to Port Arthur and Talien, the fortifications of these ports completed and a strong fleet assembled there, Russia would have Korea at her mercy and it would be impossible to keep Chinii from falling into her hands." That seems to us a strange view. The opening of goods by foreigners contrary to the law. Talien to the trade of the world is a step in short, were no objection raised by the precisely calculated to avert the results Foreign Representatives, the veto might apprehended by the Keisai Zasshi, for it would have the effect of neutralizing the Liaotung Peninsula. Certainly it would not promote, but rather retard, the partitioning of China. It has been proposed by Great Britain, not merely for commercial reasons, but because it would help to secure the integrity of the Chinese empire and to preserve the peace of the East.

#### THE AFFAIR OF THE "HAKATA MARU."

It is doubtless fresh in the recollection of our readers that, early in January, some passengers by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's S. S. Hahata Maru from Moji to Hongkong, caused to be published in a journal against the Japanese crew of the ship. When the newspaper containing the account reached Japan, we applied to the Company for information, but as the vessel had proceeded on her westward voyage from Hougkong before the publication of the accusations in question, no account of the occurrence could be obtained before she reached Singapore. From the latter port the chief officer addressed to the Hongkong journal a letter of which we have now received a copy :-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CHINA MAIL."

Sir.—After leaving Hougkong on Friday, Jan.

7th, I saw an account headed, "Rictious Japanese
Seamen. A Murderous attack on European
Passengers," in your issue of that date.

I can only say the facts of the case are quite had
enough, without grossly exaggerating them, as
has saidantly here iden.

enough, without grossly exaggerating them, as has evidently been done.

To begin with, you call it an unprovoked attack.

Your informers omitted to acquaint you with the fact that about 8 p.m. on Dec. 31st I had to turn several European Steerage Passengers out of the native firemen's forecastle, where they were drink-ing saké with the Japanese firemen. I saw two of then going at to the steerage; they were offersively drunk; one of them informing an officer of the slip that they were treated more like cattle than passengers in not being allowed the druk and probably quarrel with the Japs. Another Empean Steerage Passenger grossly insulted a Japanese Lander Passenger and the section. pean Steerage Passenger goosty lifetine a Japanese married lady passenger to the extent of what would be termed in Hongkong, an attempted criminal assault, and several of them had been threatened by me that if they did not behave better, they would be turned out of the ship.

I might also explain that even a drunken Japanese freman understands and reseats being

sworn at in English. So much for the unprovoked part of the business.

at t a.m. on the 1st of January was the direct outcome of that mixture, I was asked to give these passengers something to defend themselves with, but refused, as I believed after the first diswith our reinied, as a nearest after the tria dis-turbance at 1 a.m. was over, no further moistation would be given to the passengers. I proved to be mistaken however, as Mr. Hall was assaulted in the afternoon by one Jap. I don't know why this man, who was going to the gangway, should single out Mr. Hall, who was standing with two Engineers out Nr. Hall, who was standing with two Engineers on the quarter deck; the two engineers seized the Japanese and another one who came along. I was asleep at the time and being called went on deck and told Mr. Hall to come to my room; he came up the ladder to the saloon deck, and the Engineers released the Japanese; the offender however runked up the ladder after Mr. Hall and again attacked him, but was driven back.

At that time the Steerage Passengers came on the saleon deck, and asked for arms to defend themselves with, which I refused to give them. What they wanted to defend themselves from I don't know, as no one had implested them since the first attack in the morning. I told them to go aft to their quarters but a number of them were foolish enough to remain on deck all night.

If these two attacks were unprovoked, how is it that no one of the crew fried in assault the afficers and engineers of the ship? against whom one would imagine, they would have more cause for complaint.

Mr. Hall states the Japanese broke all the gear in the cabins and on deck.

Nothing was broken in the cabins or on deck, with the exception of the engineers' doors, which I shall notice presently,

The Japanese did not threaten to carry the

bridge and kill all the Europeans; the idea is simply abourd.
To satisfy the passengers, however, who appeared to be really frightened, I, on the captain's advice, sent the second officer to a Japanese gun boat for a boat's crew to ensure order, but the com-

mander refused to send one.
The poor unfortunate Royal Naval Reserve man who lost all his papers, destroyed them himself in a fit of drunken frenzy, outside my door on the afternoon we left Kube, where he came ima-gining he had a grievance and was at liberty to

make himself a misance to everyone.

Moreover Mr. Hall tells me, he gave your representative permission to colour his statements;
what right Mr. Hall had to give that permission I
fail to see and I must say they are most glacingly coloused.

Now with regard to the engineers, what occur-red is a New Year's custom, which ought to be stamped out. The firemen came aft, smashed the doors of the engineers' sooms in and dragging the occupants out lifted them up in the air and lowered, or let them drop, on deck, according to the popularity or otherwise of the victim. In this the popularity or otherwise of the victim. In this case the chief engineer, who is a heavy man, was severely injured; the third engineer was also burt and would have been struck on the head with a piece of bamboo (some of your informers called it an iron bar) if the purser had not prevented it. Now the N. Y. K., though wishful to do so, are powerless to prevent these things; and Foreign efficers and engineers can be a producted in the purser these things; and Foreign efficers and engineers can be a producted in the powerless to prevent these things; and Foreign efficers and engineers can be a producted in the p officers and engineers can never obtain a verdict against the offenders if they prosecute in Japan.

I feel bound to write this explanation as your account is so misleading, and I trust the love of even-handed justice, which is supposed to be one of the characteristics of the British race, will prompt you to give it publicity.

Yours faithfully, (Signed) F. E. Cope, Chief Officer S.S. Hakata Maru.

We have also seen a letter from the master of the steamer, Captain Nivison, in which he says :---" The account in the Hongkong paper is entirely untrue and any assault committed on the steerage passengers was, in any opinion, entirely their own fault." The sum and substance of the matter seem to be that while the Japanese crew undoubtedly employed most reprehensible violence, the responsibility of provoking the fracas rested with the foreign steerage passengers, who were evidently persons of low and offensive habits. But it is also quite plain that Japanese crews of passenger steamers will soon destroy the reputation of the ships and divert all trade from them unless some efficient means can be employed to

#### THE "SHEPHERD'S VOICE" ON EARNESTNESS.

We are sorry to learn from the Shepherd's Voice that we "have not any active conviction on the situation (i.e. the social evil) beyond indulging in fortuitous adverse criticism on the forward steps of those who have at heart and hand the genuine welfare of Japan." The Shep: herd's Voice, being a Christian publication, is quite incapable of formulating an emphatic statement about any person's convictions without absolute proof of the accuracy of its assertions. We do not ourselves perceive how one writer can ascertain the quality of another's convictions sufficiently clearly to define it as the Shepherd's Voice does. But that, doubtless, is because we are not within the circle of the light of truth which has illumined the intelligence of the Shepherd's Voice, and endowed it with supernatural power to see beyond the range of ordinary vision. We believed, indeed, that we did own a conviction, and a very active conviction at that-namely, that the licensing system is the best way of dealing with the social evil. The Shepherd's Voice, too, says that we "lend the weight of our influence to the support of the system in practice in Japan." Still the Shepherd's Voice declares us to be without active convictions on the subject, and to be merely putting fortuitous obstacles in the path of true reformers, and since the Shepherd's Voice is strictly veracious and abounds in Christian charity, we must assume that it knows more about our convictions that we do ourselves, and that it would not think of attributing to us the wretched part of mere idle opponents of progress were there any possibility of judging us more kindly. Therefore we feel very badly.

The Shepherd's Voice further accuses us of giving statistics that relate to "two of the classes of immoral women only," and says that we regard these classes as "constituting the entire population of non-virtuous women" in Japan, which conduct it calls " a deliberate intention to be careless." What is "a deliberate intention to be careless."? Something very like deliberate deceit, it seems to us. But the Shepherd's Voice is a Christian publication, truthful, charitable, and scru-pulous. It would never accuse us of a deceitful intention had not that supernatural acumen with which it is endowed enabled it to look into our heart and decipher our thoughts. Therefore again we feel very badly. What hurts us specially is that we tried to explain, in the clearest language at our poor command, that we were not discussing social morality but the social evil. By "the social evil" we refer to the pursuit of a certain kind of vice as a profession, not to the immoral laches of women who do not belong to the professional class. "The social evil," in the ordinary sense of the term, has no reference whatever to any females except those commonly called "abandoned." So when the Shepherd's Voice speaks of the looseness of factory girls and servants, and charges us with "a deliber-ate intention to be careless" because we did not include their want of chastity in Digitized by Google

and that when we say one thing we really mean another.

Altogether we are humiliated to find that the logic of the Shepherd's Voice is quite beyond our comprehension.

Our own firm conviction is that the licensing system of prostitution is the only sound system. We are further persuaded that the Japanese plan of relegating the swil to remote quarters of the cities and confining it there, is excellent.

It appeared to us when we wrote the above that we expressed our approval of the system in general, and that we added our approval of one special feature of it, namely, the relegating of the evil to remote quarters of the cities. Even now the words seem to read that way. It does not strike us that any one could possibly imagine that we declared our approval of the system solely because the evil is so relegated. We can not see how the two sentences could be conceived to bear that construction. But the Shepherd's Voice with its supernatural light takes a very different view. Having quoted the above words of ours, it comments on them thus:-

I wish every candid reader to look at the above-I wish every canond reader to look at the shove. It is a fair specimen of our contemporary's logic. We refer to the second sentence. As to the first, for the present we shall be going as far as the case demands to (sic) simply deny in toto that the licensing system is sound, rational, or remedial. The second sentence

is complimentary.

The system is excellent because it banishes the evil to remote quarters of the cities 1. Now, we are not to remote quarters of the cities 1 Now, we are not at all certain that the element of banishment was con-sidered in the matter; clacit twould seem that, if the system "is excellent" for this reason, it would have system "is excellent" for this reason, it would have banished the evil to the summit of Bandai San and confined it there. But this would have been uncommercial; hence that feature of the system which locutes the evil near the cities and confines it there is the really "excellent" feature which our contemporary lauds!! We are viewing this one defence of the system from a purely reasonable standpoint. There was displayed just as much effort to secure commercial convenience as there was to take the thing out of town when this canker was awarded a suburban residence. And will the pacific Mail please give some not or town when this caneer was awarded as apparoan residence. And will the pacific smil please give some reason why the plan when it attempted to banish the evil from the city failed to do so? Would it not have been more excellent if it had sent it up Bandai? Before we drop this point, we wish to say that the smil's argument for the system, that the brothel is made so private and unabtrusive (sic) that a mission-ary going about for twelve years never saw it, is in perfect keeping with other specimens of its logic. If it had been banished to Bandai San not even one mis. had been banished to Bandai San not even one may, sionary would have seen it; but as the system is now, the brothel is allowed the most convenient quarters near the cities, but beyond the liability of fires, and many other inconveniences attending location in the midst of the city,

Of course it was very stupid of us not to think of Bandai-san. If the social evil could be banished to the top of that dilapidated volcano, there would be no more social evil in Japan. And we never thought of that! We were so silly as to discuss actually existing conditions, not hypothetical ideals. Our memory, too, wholly deceives us when we recall the fact that there have been more fires in the prostitute quarters of the cities during the past thirty years than in the cities themselves. Besides, we had a weak idea that we applied the term "excellent" to one particular feature of the Japanese system, a feature quite distinct from the general system of licensing as practised elsewhere; whereas it now appears that we called the system "excellent" because of that particular feature which does not belong to the general system at all. The Shephera's Voice is very luminous, absolutely accurate, and admirably logical. We entreat it not to expose our shortcomings any more. Truly we ourselves would our calculation, we make a farther shock-rather go and sit by that ragged crater on ing discovery, namely, that our faculty of the top of Bandai-san than engage in

#### ROUND-THE-WORLD CYCLISTS IN TOKYO.

The round-the-world cyclists, Messrs. Fraser, Lowe and Lunn, arrived in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 16th instant, having run up quietly from Yokohama by the Tokaido. They were met near Omori by a small party of Tokyo cyclists who had ridden out on the chance of finding them. There is no bicycle association in Tokyo, and it would consequently have been difficult under any circumstances to organise a reception for the travellers on a large scale. Add to this the facts that much uncertainty existed as to the time of much uncertainty existed as to the time of their arrival in Tokyo, and it will easily be understood why only four fellow-cyclists went out to meet them, namely, Messrs. Kirby, Page and Patterson and Captain Brinkley. Messrs. Fraser and Lunn were riding the English machines that had carried them all over the world, but Mr. Lowe, having been obliged to leave his cycle in Yokohama for repairs, had to use cycle in Yokohama for repairs, had to use an American wheel of very high gear, an exchange which was partly responsible for a nasty accident. For as the party emerged from Yokohama, led by a resident of that place, the latter dropped something from his pocket, and circled round so suddenly to meet Mr. Fraser, who had picked it up, that Mr. Lowe could not check his high geared machine in time to prevent a collision, and was obliged to sacrifice himself in order to avoid running into the leader. The result was a badly torn hand and a somewhat severe gash in the knee, despite which injuries he rode gaily on his way to Tokyo. The cyclists looked fresh and well. Their "get up" did not suggest anything of the hardships they had encountered, and though the various wallets, tool-cases and so forth, suspended from their machines, had a fine mellow aspect, the condition of the machines themselves hore eloquent testimony to the strength and durability of English workmanchip. They proceeded in the first instance to the Club, and after a brief rest there, went on to the Imperial Hotel, where they purpose spending the few days of their stay in Tokyo.

On Sunday, we learn, the Reliance Wheelmen of Yokohama will ride up to Tokyo and tiffin at the Imperial Hotel. The round-the-world cyclists will meet the Yokohama Wheelmen at Kawasaki we understand.

#### RECORD FOR SPEEDY NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.

Until three years ago, the Pembroke Dockyard held the record, we believe, for rapid construction, achieving it with the Nile, a first-class battleship of 11,940 tons. But Pembroke was beaten by the Ansaldo Dockyard of Genoa, where two first-class cruisers, one for the Argentine Republic and one for Spain, were built in twenty months. It was after this remarkable result, not surpassed by any other building yard in the world, that Messrs. Ansaldo and Company offered to build for the Japanese Government a first-class cruiser within the space of 18 months, if the design was furnished by the Company, and 20 months if the design came from the lapanese Government. The Nichi the Japanese Government. The Nichi Nichi Shimbun, from which we translate these details, adds that the price named these details, adds that the price named by the Genoa firm was lower than the Bidassoa. The famous author will shortly undertake a journey in Far Eastern countries.

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#### TOKYO SANITARIUM.

It will probably surprise many of our readers to learn that until the opening of the Tsuno-hazu Sanitarium, described in our correspondence columns, no such thing as a Sauitarium for Japanese ladies existed in Japan. There are hospitals in plenty, but, strange to say, an absolute dearth of Sanitariums. The fact was responsible for a curious difficulty in connexion with the Tsuno-hazu institution. When the place came to be opened, a licence had to be obtained, of course. But the laws make no provision for licensing a Sanitarium: they do not recognise such an affair. Hence it became necessary at last to resort to the subterfuge of calling the Sanitarium a "branch hospital," for purposes of registration. Our correspondent says that the Sanitarium was " established by Japanese and Christian ladies." That is doubtless correct, in so far as much of the labour connected with its building and organization was done by Japanese ladies. But we are inclined to think that the funds came entirely from the United States. The great promoter of the enterprise was the late Mrs. True. By her exertions and representations charitable people in the States were induced to contribute money sufficient not only for the construction of the spacious building spoken of by our correspondent, but also for its maintenance during a year. would have been opened twelve months ago but for the death of Mrs. True. A time had actually been fixed for the opening, we believe, and that most philanthrophic lady was looking forward to the speedy consummation of her work when death sud-denly overtook her. The sad event seems to have paralysed her co-workers for a time, and the Sanitarium remained unopened, but those interested in the enterprisenotably the ever-active Miss Tsuda-took it up again and carried it to completion. Our correspondent speaks of the Sanitarium as though it were intended for Japanese ladies only. It is open, however, to foreign ladies also, and as each inmate has a roomy, well-furnished chamber all to herself, and as arrangements exist for providing food, there is every inducement for foreign ladies also to seek in the institution a period of rest and health-restoring regimen. The charges appear to be very moderate. Two yen per diem pays for everything, including foreign food. Ladies are allowed to have the attendance of any physician they please, but of course the services of the regular staff alone are procurable without extra payment-that is to say, the services of the lady physicians attached to the institution. The building is very large, but as each inmate has her own room, and as many chambers are required for the purposes of parlours, reading-salons, and so forth, there is accommodation for twenty persons only. "Tsuno-hazu" is a name probably unfamiliar to many of our readers, but it is a well-known suburb on the south-west of a well-known suburb on the south-west of regretted. Their hospitality was always Tokyo, easily accessible from the Shinjuku of the most warm hearted description, station on the Circular Railway. speak thus in detail, because we believe that the Sanitarium is calculated to be of much use to foreign ladies as well as to lapanese.

M. Pierre Loti, whose real name is Lieutenant Julien Viaud, has completed his term of com-The fairlous author will shortly un-

#### PAYMENT OF THE INDEMNITY.

There seems to be an idea in some quarters that the peace of the Far East may be on the eve of disturbance through China's failure to pay the installment of the Indemnity due in May. The Japan Times, indeed, departs somewhat from its usually circumspect tone and refers in ominous terms to the contingency that "events will soon force Japan to come forward as a principal party" on the stage, and that should China's efforts to raise the necessary funds prove unsuccessful "things may easily come very nearly to the point of explosion." It must be assumed, of course, that Japan will insist on holding China to her engagements, but we do not, for our own part, imagine that there will be any occasion for extreme measures. The sum to be paid over in May is only 17-13 million taels. Can it be supposed that the Imperial Edict of which we published a translation on the 16th instant will fail to bring that amount into the Peking exchequer? We do not think so. The class of persons whose purchase of the "Sincerity Bonds" may be described as virtually compulsory, is very large—
"Princes, Dukes and Nobles downwards in Peking, and from the Tartar-Generals, Viceroys and Governors in the Provinces down to their civil and military subordinates of every rank grade and class, whether substantive or expectant "-all these folks have to buy the Bonds "by way of setting an example to the business men of the country," and, further, the de-puties charged with the function of selling the Bonds to the people are to have extraordinary promotion in pro-portion to their success. The credit of the securities will be clearly established by the fact that they are to be received, at the periods of redemption, in payment of land taxes and salt duties, and in many. perhaps most, parts of the empire the Edict will be welcomed as a means of enabling officials to enrich themselves in connexion with the purchase and sale of the Bonds. It is scarcely conceivable that such a measure should fail to produce a large sum of money. We anticipate no difficulty in raising the 17½ million taels due on May 8th. There is little probability, indeed, that China will be able to pay over at that time the sum-83 million taels-which would completely clear off her indebtedness, but the mere installment of 17 millions ought to be an easy matter.

#### DEPARTURE OF CAPTAIN MUNTER.

Captain Münter and Miss Münter left Yokohama by the Empress of Japan on the 15th instant. Captain Munter, who acted as the Agent of Lord Armstrong and Company in Japan for many years, lived throughout the greater part of the time in Tokyo, where he and his accomplished daughter made a host of friends, by whom their departure will be sincerely and their absence will create a large gap in the social world of the capital.

Sunday night's earthquake appears to have been feit over a wide uren. Telegrams are published in the vernacular papers this morning from Maisumoto, Mayebashi, Chiba, Mito, Urana, Wakamatsu, Ashikaga, and Utsunomiya, all reporting a severe shock at 11.55 to 12 o'clock. No damage of consequence is, however, recorded. Original from

#### NAVIES OF THE GREAT POWERS.

N the 20th of January, Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Bristol, said that " the Navy estimates would provide for more sailors, and that England would more than keep pace with the additions to the fleets of other Powers." Reuter telegraphed to us that brief epitome of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's speech, and folks in the Far East were probably a little perplexed when they read the telegram, for there did not seem to be any adequate reason why a British statesman should go out of his way at that particular time to make such an announcement. Great Britain's naval policy is based on the principle expounded by Lord GEORGE HAMILTON when introducing the Naval Defence Act of 1889, namely, that "the establishment should be on such a scale as to be at least equal to the naval strength of any two other countries." That is a very "tall order "-to use a slang expression-, but England has filled it faithfully ever since she formulated it. Now, however, both France and Russia, the two Powers standing next to her in maritime fighting capacity, are making great efforts to increase their navies, and England is called upon to keep pace with them. Of course the British Government has all along been fully conversant with every detail of the French and Russian programmes, and has shaped its own course accordingly. But the public was not equally enlightened, and since it is only in deference to public opinion that official declarations like that of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach at Bristol are made, we are not surprised to learn that the question of French naval expansion was brought forward prominently and in full detail by The Times of January 1st, and that the result of the great journal's action was to arouse interest so general and so keen as to call for some official notice. A correspondent of The Times, in whose accuracy full confidence is said to be placed, analyses France's project at such length that nearly three columns of the paper are occupied by his letter. Our are required "to replace earlier vessels limited space precludes us from repro-that have proved unsatisfactory or that ducing it, nor, indeed, is reproduction are considered unworthy of repair." In necessary, for the salient facts can be very easily epitomized.

Up to the year 1897, France gave her adherence to the principle of powerful Britain's recent and now-in-hand conbattleships. There had not, it is true, been much continuity in her policy of naval construction. One obstacle to continuity was that thirty changes took place in the control of the Ministry of Marine in includes 11 destroyers and 89 torpedotwenty-seven years, the inevitable results boats. being "a heterogeneous fleet and slow progress." On the whole, however, the than quote the figures of The Times' cormajority of prominent French naval ful battleships were essential in a fleet lity on ships and armanents in course of course of some English critics, and that swift cruisers while not less new construction," to be completed by 1905, near of physical policy of sheet of sheeting at Great UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

necessary, could not serve as sub-Hence there stitutes for battleships. were always a considerable number of battleships on the stocks, side by side with cruisers and torpedo vessels. At the close of 1896, there were six battleships in various stages of construction-the Bouvet and Massena (ordered in 1892 and to be completed in 1898), the Charlemagne, St. Louis and Gaulois (to be ready in 1899), and the Henri Quatre (to be finished in 1901-; in 1897, the Jéns, a twelvethousand-ton iron-clad was ordered; and in the project prepared by the Minister of Marine for 1898, three more first-class battleships of the Féna type were included. But before the 1898 project had received final approval, Mr. GOSCHEN, speaking in the British House of Commons, announced a new departure in cruiser construction—the building of four armoured cruisers for the British Navy-, and the French seem to have been influenced by English example, for they modified their programme, in the sense that only one battleship should be laid down during 1898, but that eight cruisers should be commenced at once, six of them to be of 9,500 tons and two of 7,600 tons. All these cruisers are to be of 21 knots speed and powerfully armed, with large coalcarrying capacity. It is expected that they will be completed by 1902. If we add to this list five other first-class cruisers with protective decks, three of which are approaching completion, and the Jeanne d'Arc-a cruiser of over 11,000 tons with a maximum estimated speed of 23 knots- which was commenced on the building-slip in October 1896, it appears that France will have a batch of fourteen first-class cruisers on the stocks during the present year, together with seven battleships, to say nothing of smaller cruisers. Further, the 1898 project includes eight torpedo-destroyers, six seagoing torpedo-boats and thirty-five firstclass torpedo-boats of 24 knots for the defense mobile. The torpedo-boats will not go to actually swell the strength of the French Navy, for the official reports show that 112 first-class torpedo-boats point of fact, the activity shown by France in equipping herself with torpedo craft is inspired by England's example, for Great structions represent 100 first-class torpedo-boats costing 41 millions sterling. It may be noted here that the Japanese post-bellum programme of naval expansion

As to expenditure, we can not do better respondent:-

24% millions are proposed to be spent. This is a grand scheme, but in view of what has happened to previous programmes it may be thought desirable to testrict investigation to the period ending in 1902, when most of the ships above-mentioned are to be in service. For the period 1898-1902 it is estimated that the average annual expenditure on new ships and their acmaments will be about 42 millions. This year over four millions are to be spent, and in 1901 it is anticipated that nearly be spent, and in 1901 it is attricipated that nearly £4,800,000 will be required. For the five preceding years the corresponding average annual expenditure has been about £3,600,000, so that the proposed increase is, roughly, 25 per cent. This wery significant.
In order to compare these figures with those in

English returns, deductions must be made for armaments and torpedues. Thus corrected, the armanents and torpedues. It is corrected, the French expenditure on halls, engines, &c., for new ships in 1898 will be about £3,650,000, or about 20 per cent, more than in 1897. In our Estimates for 1897-98 the corresponding provision exceeds seven millions, so that the increased French estimate in little above 50 per cent. of our provision.

It has to be remembered, of course, that the mere figures-7 millions sterling for England in the fiscal year 1897-8 and £3,650,000 for France in 1898-do not convey the whole truth. England gets more for her money than France does: she builds her ships more cheaply. For example, France estimates that she will have to to pay £710,000 for each of the 9,500-tons cruisers, laid down this year, the speed of which is to be 21 knots. England's largest cruisers, the Powerful and Terrible, which have a displacement of 14,200 tons and a speed of 22 knots, cost only £700,000 each. Moreover, France can not yet build as quickly as England does. There is a marked difference in favour of the latter Power.

It was, as we have said, the publication of this French programme in The Times that led to the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Whatever efforts France and Russia make, England is determined to keep her fleet up to their combined strength. Russia's Budget for 1898 shows an expenditure of 27 millions of roubles-24 millions sterling-for shipbuilding, an increase of 20 per cent. on 1897. Thus the joint expenditures of France and Russia on new ships (excluding armaments) in 1898 is to be about six millions sterling, the English figure for 1897-8 having been seven millions. It is a race of colossi. England leads easily, and we may doubt whether it is not ber example that furnishes the chief incentive for these huge increments. Her Naval Defence Act of 1889 was followed by an outburst of energy on the part of France and Russia, and her big expenditure in 1897-8 seems to have roused the two Powers to fresh rivalry. Germany will probably come in to force the pace, for if the KAISER'S scheme be approved by the Reichstag, France will doubtless put more battleships on the stocks, and thus England must make a fresh effort.

These figures and statements suggest one reflection-not a new reflection, indeed, but a reflection that seems to be fre-

Britain's belligerent strength, and of deny- danger of the police walking into private and that the distinction made between ing her right to a voice in the war councils houses and carrying off to the lock-up a gambling places open to all and sundry of first-class Powers because her land forces quartette of grave and reverend seniors and betting clubs like Tattersall's, is not number only half a million men. But it is who have just arrived at the psychological based on morality but on expediency; the by her strength at sea that England must point of a rubber, or a party of gay youths former being frequented mainly by a be judged. She does not want a huge who are in the act of "raising" one poorer class of persons who can not afford army; has no conceivable use for it. For another out of a big pool. Well, we do the luxury of gambling and will be temptdefensive and offensive purposes, her fleet not say that perils of that kind can be ed by their losses to defraud their emis practically the only arm that she has to altogether pooh-poohed. The laws against ployers, whereas the latter are the resort keep up to a high standard of efficiency, gambling are very severe in Japan, and the of the upper classes and the wealthy. In and when we remember that she maintains manner of their enforcement is not loose. Japan, on the contrary, games of chance a navy more than equal to the navies of Whether that is a fair cause of complaint where money is staked have been illegal any other two Powers, we are inclined to may be reasonably doubted. We may be from time immemorial, and nothing in the ask by what kind of standard her critics proud of our civilization, and agreeably provisions of the law tends to set up a propose to measure her strength. Ger- convinced that every custom not in accord distinction between the upper and the many, Russia and France are situated with with our own usages is necessarily wrong, lower classes. The crucial test of illegality regard to their armies pretty much as Eng-but if prejudice be laid aside and reason is the staking of money. Unless that land is situated with regard to her navy, alone consulted, it will be found that, in feature be present, the law, as we underyet not one of the three can pretend that its some respects at any rate, Japanese cus. stand it, recognises no criminality. In army is equal to the combined armies of the toms stand on a higher moral plane than England, on the contrary, the fact that other two. For all fighting purposes within do those of the West. In early days, money is staked need not be proved in the only arena where she has to figure Eng- gambling was not interdicted in England. order to establish the character of a land is incomparably the strongest Power British legislators do not seem to have gaming-house: it is enough that cards, in the world. No one is so unreasonable regarded it as a vice the suppression of dice, and other instruments of gaming as to expect, we presume, that she should equip herself to fight in an arena which true, indeed, that a few games were pro- backgammon, billiards and whist being neither her interests nor her duties re- hibited altogether, and that others were lawful games, the staking of money quire her to enter.

#### GAMBLING IN JAPAN.

7 E observe that a local contemporary expresses uneasiness about the asked, " will the administration of the law of the foreigner that he should expect = special licence for his "guilty doings" as Consular Jurisdiction be that offences committed by foreign residents with impunity so long as they are exempted from the operation of Japanese laws, will not be possible to them when they pass under those laws-if that be one of the objections, Consular Jurisdiction is introduced to the public in a new character, the character of a protector of wrong-doing. That, however, is a phase of the problem betting houses and gaming houses are The efforts of the Japanese police are which need not concern us, for certainly our contemporary would repudiate it, and so would every respectable foreign residing clubs like Tattersall's are permitted, interference into the sphere of private life dent. The point made by the prophets and no attempt is made to interfere with of evil is that Europeans and Americans gambling in private houses. In fact, if are addicted to card-playing, especially the Victorian statutes be examined closely, such games as whist, poker, cribbage and it will be found that their motive is to by a police raid upon the suburban villa so on; that these amusements are virtually prevent, not gambling generally, but of a certain well-known Tokyo merchant, harmless and are carried on in the best gambling in which the advantage of the where gambling with cards for big stakes society, but that, when Consular Jurisdic- chances is with certain persons-as the was going on. Among the players were

reserved for people of social position. But, by a player would not render them unlawon the whole, there was no recognition that ful, though a law court would not assist gambling should be regarded as a vice. By the winner to recover his bets. But in and by, when his gracious Majesty HENRY Japan a game becomes unlawful from VIII. came to the Throne, the authorities the moment that money is staked on its found that, owing to the invention of new results, and while folks are free to play possibilities of police procedure after the games of chance, men's minds were diver- with cards or dice-as in hana-awase or Revised Treaties go into operation. Bat- ted from archery and other warlike pur- sugoroku-so long as they make no bets, ches of Japan gamblers are from time to suits, "to the detriment of the realm," they subject themselves to police intertime arrested and carried off to the nearest and statutes were accordingly enacted ference from the moment that they put up magistrate to be summarily dealt with, interdicting games of chance to "artificers, a money stake. It will thus be seen that and in view of that fact the question is craftsmen, husbandmen, apprentices, la- when we pass under Japanese jurisdiction, bourers, fishermen or serving men." In we shall run a certain measure of risk if against gambling be made partial, and short, the upper classes were permitted we play for quarter-dollar points at whist Japanese offenders alone be punished for to gamble, the lower forbidden. So things or ten-sen counters at poker, but inasmuch infractions thereof, while foreigners' guilty remained until the days of GEORGE II., as money is never visibly passed from doings are to be winked at." It is cer- when the law became paternally solicitous, hand to hand at these games, it is difficult tainly a quaint commentary on the mood not about the people's morals, but about to see how the police could obtain evidence their pockets, and it was enacted that if of its being staked. A great many persons any man were convicted of winning or will probably say that an excellent reform well as for his innocent pastimes after he losing at play or by betting £10 or £20 is placed under Japanese jurisdiction. If within 24 hours, he should be fined five one of the objections to the abolition of times the sum for the benefit of the poor of the parish. Bets were then recognised by law as equally valid with any other kind of contract. Coming to the Victorian era, of which Englishmen are justly so proud, we find that the general principle underlying the laws against gambling is a most invidious one. Practically, games of chance are forbidden to the poor and connived at in the rich. It is true that all interdicted, and that betting or gaming in directed almost entirely against the proany public place is prohibited. But bet-

which should give them any concern. It is are found there. In England, again, would be achieved if all games involving money were driven out of existence, and will welcome the extension of the Japanese system as a step in the right direction. Let us refrain from discussing that fundamental question, our immediate object being rather to consider what practical difference will be experienced by the foreign resident when he passes under Japanese jurisdiction. We venture to say that it will be an imperceptible difference, so far as games of chance are concerned. fessional gambler: they do not carry their except on occasions so rare as to be manifest exceptions. Some three years ago, considerable excitement was caused tion has been abolished, there will be keepers of "banks" or gaming houses-, gentlemen and policitians of high standing

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moral philosopher were to undertake a pro-

to have been understood that the villa in question had attained unwholesome notoriety as a place for gambling, and people appreciated very well that the police could not enforce the anti-gaming law with strictness against professional gamblers and their victims, while suffering it to remain a dead letter in the case of the "upper ten." An unpleasant prospect can certainly be derived from that experience. The police may by and by learn that poker, whist, and such games are regularly played for money at clubs frequented by foreigners, and that, although hard cash does not actually change hands during the course of the play, payments are made in the sequel. Whether it might be considered necessary to interfere in such cases, we can not venture to predict. But we know, as a matter of fact, that cardplaying for money is indulged in by Japanese of good social position quite as extensively, on the average, as it is indulged in by the foreign residents, and that the players are not interfered with, In fact, sanctity of domicile exists almost as effectually in Japan as in England. The police know nothing of what takes place in private houses or social clubs, and without such knowledge as would enable them to surprise offenders in flagrante delicto, they have no authority to interfere. The case of the suburban villa quoted above would never have occurred had not political jealousy and commercial rivalry furnished information otherwise inaccessible to the guardians of the law. Still, certain broad facts must be recognised; namely, that there is more professional gambling among the middle and lower orders in Japan than in most European countries; that the prohibitions of the law are exceptionally strict with regard to games involving money bets; that the police enforce the law zealously, and that there is not likely to be any discrimination in favour of foreigners. The outlook does not alarm us at all, but our readers are in a position to judge for themselves.

By devoting so much space to this matter, we may, perhaps, create an impression that gambling is prevalent among the foreign communities at the open ports, and that its possible suppression after the abolition of Consular jurisdiction is regarded with general uneasiness. That would be a most erroneous inference. The question was raised originally by local and who viewed with either contine or all such reflections, and, even though some revelling at But when positive displays of Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

in the capital, and a serious scandal was simulated apprehension the contingency of apprehended for a moment. The police, police raids upon private houses where a however, failed to prove their case at the rubber of whist or a game of poker was preliminary inquiry, and nothing more going on. But the truth is that these was heard of the matter, but public points have interest for only a very limited opinion, so far as any expression of it section of the foreign communities. There became audible, was entirely on the side are not a score of men in Yokohama who of the guardians of the law. It appears play whist; probably not even as many who care for poker, and doubtless not a dozen who make a habit of playing either. These "rare birds" will, we believe, find that they can pursue their pastime just as uninterruptedly after July 17th, 1899, as they can to-day, but since we have set down the bases of our belief plainly enough, our readers can judge for them-

#### INHUMAN SPORTS.

HE officers of the Seventh Army Division, which has its head-quarters in Sapporo, recently organized a day's winter sports at that place. One of the amusements was the pursuit of a pig on the ice by ten youths who, after m good deal of slipping and falling, finally beat the poor porker to death. This event is narrated in the columns of the Japan Times, and has evoked severe comments from some of the local foreign newspapers; one regarding it as an "evidence of inextinct barbarism"; another calling it "a remarkable display of savagery." We, too, on reading the account in the Japan Times, were revolted by such abominable cruelty, and had taken pen in hand to denounce it when suddenly we recalled fox-hunting, coursing, and flyfishing, to say nothing of cock fighting, badger-baiting, and dog-fighting. What shall be said? Whether is it crueller and more savage that a party of gentlemen should turn out with a pack of hounds to hunt a fox, and should run the animal down until it becomes too exhausted to fly any farther and is torn to pieces by the hounds, or that half a score of men with clubs should pursue a pig over the ice and cudgel it to death? Truly the death by appallingly cruel methods for question is difficult to answer. Death the sake of an insurance or because of from blows of sticks and death under the teeth of a dozen dogs differ, probably, in rapidity. The pig's case seems the harder. But physiological research suggests that But we do hear of married women upon neither animal would be conscious of Even a man does not feel his wounds prefer a hundred kicks from hob-nailed host of relentless pursuers is doubtless far almost unvarying kindness, the animals more intense than the physical pain felt yoked to carriages and carts in the cities and Ireland fox-hunting is the pastime of ways are often brutally ill-used. For purall the upper classes. From the Prince of WALES to the petty farmer, everybody that horses affords no data. Everyone knows can keep a mount rides to hounds. No one how things fared with the London cabjournalists who seemed to see a duty in can keep a mount rides to hounds. No one how things fared with the London cab-inspiring apprehensions about the results thinks of what the fox suffers. The imme-horse until very recent years. We doubt of passing under Japanese jurisdiction, morial habit of the sport has banished whether Japan furnishes any examples so

Renard propaganda with pen and speech, he would probably be answered by arguments based on the training of nerve and muscle, the benefit to health, and the promotion of equestrianism that result from fox-hunting. We are by no means sure that the victory would not rest with the fox-hunter in the discussion. He might justly urge that the law of nature has obviously placed certain creatures at the mercy of others, and that if the killing of a fox can contribute to the bodily vigour, the amusement, and the equestrian skill of mumber of men, while at the same time tending to improve the breed of horses in a country, the fox may be sacrificed with as little compunction as attends the slaughter of a calf for veal or of a deer for venison. It would be difficult to marshal similar arguments in defence of the clubbing of a pig on an icefield, but so far as humane instincts are concerned, the one performance appears to be as shocking as the other. Then, again, few of the pleas that extenuate foxhunting apply to coursing or fly-fishing. The pursuit of a hare by greyhounds, though not without spectacular attractions, is an intensely painful sight to any thoughtful person, and it may be doubted whether anything more barbarous has ever been conceived than hooking a fish by the mouth and holding it thus until its wild struggles for freedom end in exhaustion and death. People who indulge in such pastimes, and who but recently loved to bait badgers, fight cocks or dogs, and cluster round a ring where pugilists battered one another into helplessness, must besitate before they denounce as "a remarkable display of savagery" the hunting of a pig over ice and its slaughter with clubs. The question whether the Japanese are more or less humane than the average European is difficult to answer. We do not hear in this country of children purposely maimed or otherwise deformed to serve as objects for exciting charity; we do not hear of boys and girls done to some strange lack of parental instinct on the part of their fathers or mothers; we do not hear of wives kicked to death, whom their husbands' conduct inflicts much suffering at the supreme moment. Imoral agony to which they would certainly when he is battling for life. The agony boots. Again, though in the rural disendured during the race to escape from a tricts farmers treat their horses with when the blow falls at last. In England and settlements and on some of the highposes of comparison, however, the case of

philanthropy and humanity come to be considered, a marked deficiency shows itself on the side of the Japanese. Instances of noble men and women who devote their lives to the care of orphans or wanting, but they are few and far between, and if figures could be obtained showing the amounts contributed annually for charitable and philanthropic purposes, the total would scarcely equal even one of the many magnificent donations made every year in England and the United States for such aims. Every foreigner travelling or residing in Japan must have been shocked, from time to time, by the method of treating lunatics. Only a few months ago, an imbecile might have been seen at Hakone confined in what was virtually a cage, where, from year's end to year's end, he received neither medical assistance nor loving tendance, but was simply fed like a wild benefin a left the Imposite Forence on Japan and the Japanese in Saint Louis. The lecture seems to have been a miserable affair. Professor J. M. Dixon, formerly but was simply fed like a wild benefin a left the Imposite Forence on Japan and the Japanese in Saint Louis. The but was simply fed like a wild beast in a of the Imperial Engineering College, menagerie. We have witnessed many Tokyo, and now of Washington Universmenagerie. We have witnessed many such sights with horror and profound pity, an excellent authority on everything Japanese, has denounced the lecture as until not only vulgar and at times obscene, to think of establishing asylums where but also inaccurate, and displaying a marthese unhappy sufferers can find refuge. vellous ignorance of even the simpest matters of pronunciation of Japanese it is controlled by the Municipality; its It is controlled by the Municipality; its accommodation is very limited, and its represented himself as having been war terms place it beyond the reach of the correspondent for the Japan Mail during poor. The fact is that the tide of virtue the China-Japan war. That is wholly undoes not flow as high or the wave of vice true. We never heard the man's name ebb as low in Japan as in the West. The range of action is narrower, and the sentiments that inspire it are less profound here than there. Why that should be the case, journal, he has imposed upon the public, we can not pause to consider now, but we believe that our readers will agree with us as to the fact. It is not safe, therefore, to draw any general inferences from a comparison of extremes. We must criticise him. try to strike an average, and that is where the difficulty presents itself. On the whole we are inclined to think that moral insouciance is the chief sin to be laid to the charge of the Japanese. They are not charge of the Japanese. They are not markets being found in all parts of the world, actively cruel: very far from it indeed. The value of habutae, silk handkerchiels and Their kindness to children is proverbial; their patience with one another's failings is almost inexhaustible; and their mutual belpfulness in seasons of distress represents a high standard of altruism. But gaws, Kirin, and Ashikaga secure altogether they will not interfere to save m horse other textiles are annually exported in increased from the brutality of its driver, and they will sit calmly in a jinrikisha while its drawer with throbbing heart and straining muscles toils up a steep hill. They do not recognise, in short, that every man has a mission of mercy, and that he is culpable if he fails to fulfil it to the best of his ability even at the risk of intruding upon his neighbour's sphere of independence. It may be urged that such a duty does not receive general recognition anywhere. Perhaps not, but in some Western countries it has received sufficient recognition to prompt the organization of societies means based on the requirements of the econofor the prevention of cruelty to animals or For advance payment of exchange bills, 2.9 children, and by the efforts of these so- sep; for temporary overdrafts, between 3 sen and memorial temporary and Commerce had found

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cieties the effective sway of humane principles has been incalculably extended. We have endeavoured to induce prominent Japanese to form such a society in this sen to 3 sen. Alterations in these respects were country, and we have endeavoured to inthe succouring of the indigent are not duce members of the Diet to introduce a law to which appeal might be made against persons ill-treating animals. But our year, 6.5 per cent. efforts have been fruitless. A law alone would not suffice. It did not suffice in England. Private philanthrophy had to come actively to its aid. That will have to be the case in Japan also. But when? Neither the legislature nor society seems disposed to trouble itself about the matter.

#### AN IMPOSTER.

We observe that a Mr. Henry Lewis us less than the fact that Mr. Henry Lewis until now, and never employed him in any capacity whatever. So far, then, as concerns his statement that he acted in the capacity of war correspondent for this and we trust the St. Louis Star, which refers to the subject in its issue of January 18th, will assist in denouncing Mr. Lewis fraud lest he find credit with a community where there is no Professor Dixon to

#### JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The export of silk textiles from Japan increases year by year, alleges the Tokyo Shimbun, other goods annually exported is reported to amount to no less than twenty million year. Fukui prefecture alone receives over four million yen from its manufacture of habutas, while Kana-Kawamata realizes half that amount. over ten millions. Silk handkerchtefs and quantities and at high prices. These, it is expected, will become staple exports next in rank to raw silk in a year or two.

A telegram from London, received by the Mitsui Bussau Kwaisha on the afternoon of the 17th instant, and published in the Fifi, re-ported that Texas middling cotton to be shipped in March or April has risen in value to 20,00 yes per picul. Another telegram re-ceived on the following day placed the value of the same cotton at 25 pen.

The example set by the Bank of Japan in raising the rate of interest has been followed by the Yokohama Specie Bank, though the step taken by the latter is, it is said, by no

3.1 mm; the above to be carried into operation from the 15th instant. Discounts on the security of raw and waste silk are fixed at 2.9 sen. while those on commercial notes vary from 2.8 enforced from the 10th instant. The rates for deposits are: - Temporary deposits, 4.5 per cent per annum; fixed deposits for three months 5.5 per cent.; for 6 months, 6 per cent; for one

The post bellum trade has been adverse to us, remarks the Forosu. Yet the receipts of installments and the sale of Wat Bonds bave directly contributed to the inflow of specie despite a gross excess in imports. Towards the close of last year, however, both the Indemnity and War Bonds accounts were nearly settled, and the trade began to show a marked effect upon the metallic currency. Such effects were keenly felt in the beginning of this year. Although no trade return for January is yet published by the Finance Department, the aggregate total of exports and imports for Yokohama and Kobe for the month under review in known to be 9,149.980 ven and 16,591,392 ven respectively, showing an excess in imports of 7,441,512 ven. The export and import of bullion 7.370,601 yen and 567,028 yen in value respectively, the excess in exports being 6,802,972 yen. Thus trade indicates an excess in imports of over 7,440,000 yen, while bullion shows an excess in exports of over 6,800,000 yes. Our commercial annals, asserts the Foresu, can not furnish an instance in which such an enormous excess in imports and such a huge outflow of gold were noticeable during one month. This anomaly will probably not cesse for some time to come, and the excess of imports for this year must be expected to exceed seventy million pen.

Legal proceedings have been instituted against the Yorosu by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce with reference to an alleged libel arising out of the Osaka Rice Exchange compilations. The Yorosu has evidently determined not to take things submissively, for in its leader a few days ago it remarked: "The Cabinet is eager for the enforcement of despotism under the guise of a constitutional system. No wonder therefore that it spares no effort to suppress the vor populi through the law. Whether dignitaries who are utterly wanting in sulf-respect and are constantly bringing disgrace upon themselves have a right to sue persons who regard them with contempt is a question which requires solution by moralists of the present an expression of opinion which, while the case is sub fudice, would in England infallibly have secured the writer imprisonment for contempt of Count.

The export of tea from Yokohama last month was as follows:—To San Fransico, 123,972 cattles; to New York, 252,934 cattles; to Canada, 277,416 catties; to Chicago, 201,150 catties; to Pacific ports, 23,196 catties. Arrivals and sales of tea from the beginning of the season up to the end of last month, compared with those for the 20th year, may be tabulated

	3oth year-	zgth year:	Increase or decrease.
	Catties.	Catties	Cattles.
Acrivals		22,328,100	526,200
Sales	21,659,900	24,241,800	581,900
	Yen.	Yen.	Yan.
Value realized		4,530,626	1,285,033
Average	28.23	21.63	6 6o

That Hokksido, with its cold climate, will be utterly unfit for sericulture is a supposition arrived at without sufficient consideration. A person who made a tour of inspection in the North last year reports that though the silk industry there is still in a state of immaturity, yet the cocoons produced are in no way inferior in quality to those raised in most of the north eastern districts and in the neighbourhood of Shinshin. The development of the industry, the Jifi thinks, may be confidently expected.

Rumour was recently affoat that the Depart-

is necessary to alter the site for the Government Iron Foundry. This, however, is attenuously denied by Mr. Wada, Director of the Foundry, who, says the Jiji, states that the neighbourhood of Wakamatsu has been definitely fixed upon for the institution, and no change will be made. The fact that the depth of water in Wakamatsu port is only ten feet, rendering it difficult of entry for large vessels, gave rise to the rumour. But that will not be for long. A company was lately organised under the name of the Wakamatsu Harbour Company, with a capital of 1,500,000 yea, to undertake the work of deepening the channel to twenty feet up to the side of the Foundry embankments. That will enable ships of over 2,000 tons to enter freely.

From the Tokyo Shimban we gather that 40 000 cases of Sumatra oil are shortly to arrive in Yokohama to the order of Messra. Raspe & Co., and that of this amount 10,000 cases have been already taken by Mr. Takenouchi at Minami Nakadori, at the rate of 1.90 yen per case. Mr. Takenouchi lately imported 10,000 bags of Formosau rice, which were readily sold at favourable prices in spite of the market's being glutted with foreign cereals of all descriptions. The amount of foreign rice imported into Yokohama during January exceeded 250,000 bags, valued at 1.500,000 yen. A telegram from Shanghai amounness a rise in the price of rice by twenty sen per hag owing to the increasing demand in Yokohama.

The lea brought into the Kobe market from the various parts of the empire last year amounted, according to the Fili, to 13,503,309 catties, of which 12,000 253 catties were exported. The following are the details:—To New York, 325,784 catties; to Chicago, 5,273,303 catties; to San Francisco, 700,682 catties; to Buffalo, 15,600 catties; to Fortland, 0,407 catties; to Tacoma, 404,865 catties; to Winnepeg, 8,759 catties; to Binghampton, 15,120 catties; to Minaukee, 14,239 catties; to Canada, 1,020,694 catties; to Hamilton, 354,954 catties; to Montreal, 118,852 catties; to Vancouver, 197,592 catties; to London, 302,208 catties; to Seattle, 20,292 catties; to Toronto, 43,876 catties; to Honolulu, 1,238 catties, &c.

Yokohama's trade in Kanten (agar-agar) has been extremely prosperous during the past few years, the quotations at one time rising to 87 yen. The business, however, has suddenly come to a standstill. Since the arrival of the new season's goods, about 2,000 cases have been exported, and the market is glutted. Prices have now fallen, says the Yifi, to 65 yen, and a further depreciation is expected.

At a meeting of the Osaka Municipal Council held on the 8th instant, the chief engineer engaged on the construction of the port is reported to have stated that the scheme will probably be completed within eight years. It will be possible to commence work on the embankment next January.

The amount of silver subsidiaries to be minted from April last to March this year was estimated, according to the diamichi, at ten million yen, of which 7.500,000 yen have already been struck. The manufacture of 50 zen piecea occupies attention at present, and it is said that 2,5000,000 yen will be issued by March.

The allk trade of Yokohama is now very prosperous, the 7#fi asserts. Sales on the 14th instant amounted to 1,200 bales of filatures and hanks, of which seven-tenths were taken by No. 168. Quotations stood at 830 yes except for Shinshia filatures, which were sold at 950 yes. The rise in prices on the whole was no less than five yes per bale, but the market is still eager for fresh purchases.

The rumour that Russia is disposed to press leafured from the latter half of the current loans upon China has recently been a source year, spirits are to be charged an import duty of excitement in England. Russia's scheme of 45 per cent advalorem. But this will not to furnish the Chinese with funds would certainly secure her financial ascendency in the Celestial empire, while England must expect her influence to wane in a corresponding degree.

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The English government, says the Jiji, is now reported to have resolved to raise a Chinese loan in the London market an its own security. If that he so the bonds will not be subject to such serious fluctuations as have usually attended the financial arrangements of China. There should be no difficulty in taising a loan; it depends entirely upon the amount of remuneration to England.

Commenting upon the cotton-spinning industry of Japan during the latter half of last year, the Shogye, summarizing details given elsewhere in our columns, says that the number of spindles in motion totalled 781,619 per month, and the supply of cotton amounted to 14.952,168 kwamme (124,601,400 lbs.), the average price being 20.11 yen per picul. pared with the figures for 1896, there is an increase of 32 per cent, in the number of spindles, but the augmentation in the supply of cotton is limited to 27 per cent. From these facts it may be inferred that the industry during the second half of 1897 was far from prosperous. One of the reasons in that despite the apprecia tion of cotton by eight per cent, the value of fuel has extravagantly risen. Last year an increase of 75 per cent. was noticeable in the price of coal, and the wages of male labourers rose 16 per cent., and those of females 18 per cent. compared with the corresponding period of 1896. The value of yarns rose only one per cent., and the manufacturers reaped but a small amount of profit on a limited turnover. The consequence was a partial suspension of work and reduction of reserves and dividends.

The Juji expresses surprise at the steady setrogression shown in postal enterprise during the past ten years. The total mileage of railin the 20th year of Metil (1887) was a littl- over 530 miles, but it had increased to 2,500 miles by the end of 1806; the capitals of various companies, which in 1887 aggregated 176 million yen only, had increased by the 10th year to 637 millions; while foreign trade increased in volume from 96 millions to 289 millions. But despite this progress in other directions the postal system indicates a grievous decline. Although mail matter shows a vast increase as a natural result of ever growing civilization, the number of post offices and postal agencies have decreased from 4,795 to Each post office serves from 5.48 to 5.80 square miles, while the population in each postal district is about 9,900. An expansion of postal machinery ought to follow advance in other directions, but the Authorities appear to have taken an opposite course. The Depattment for Communications is reactionary. The Jiji fails, however, to notice the true reason namely, that the Department can not obtain the funds necessary for developing its business.

The sake tax, next to the land tax, is the principal source of revenue in Japan. mand for mixed liquors, however, has increased considerably of late, and the sales of clear sake are gradually diminishing. In view of these facts it became necessary for the Government to adopt suitable means for the control of spirituous liquors. Taxes on spirits have been hitherto levied according to regulations special ty established for the purpose, and those on mixed liquous are fixed at six yen per koku. This rate, however, has failed to prevent the almost universal use of spirits for the adulteration of clear saké. A koku of spirits, at present, costs 25 yen only, and can be used for manufacturing five koku of mixed liquor. The original value of the latter therefore does not exceed five yen, whereas clear sake is required to pay seven yen per koku in taxes only. The popularity of the mixed liquor may, from these circumstances, be easily imagined. How then is it possible to get rid of the present anomaly? According to the new Customs Tariff to be enforced from the latter half of the current year, spirits are to be charged an import duty of 45 per cent ad valorem. But this will not secure the sake brewers. The Government should, the Nichi Nichi urges, undertake the of the sake dealers.

#### REVIEW.

Perhaps a greater tribute to a writer's power could scarcely be given than the fact that having sat down in a somewhat critical mood m read the book before him the would-be critic completely lost sight of his self-imposed task during the first two chapters in the all-absorbing interest of the tale itself. This was our experience with "His Chiel's Wife," the first venture, we believe, in the field of fiction, of a popular lady resident of Tokyo. The story is a powerful one, told with vigour, and in the more intense scenes, much delicacy. It deals with men and women, whose prototypes we jog against daily; the action is never allowed to flag or be impeded by those disquisitions on every subject under the aun such as have well-nigh bored novel-readers to death during the past ten years. Indeed, the "New Woman" is altogether refreshingly is altogether refreshingly absent from these pages, and the style is lucid and restrained to a degree, -no slight achievement when we reflect that the acene is laid to Brezil, where the wild luxuriance of nature surely affords, if anywhere in the world, temp-tations for word painting. Yet the following is, perhaps, the longest description—that of Brazilian forest-in the book,

"Oh! that forest, with its high green banks of overgrown and tangled vegetation, with its trees of rich and brilliant bloom—purple, golden, crimson, white; from the boughts of which hung knotted creepers, trailing far yards upon the ground, and on the trunks of which grew a gorgeous garden of red and purple parasites. Hidda gazed with an artist's eye at all this world of colossal heanity—at those lofty palms, those rich, dark mangotrees, and noble ferms that grew so high that they seemed to mingle with the azure sky above her.

As the sun one in the heavens, a profound and almost over whelming stillness sank down upon the woods. The gaudy buttenflies ceased their flittings, and took their soft siestas within the blackness of the forest-depths. The birds no longer called to each other, but vanished from sight; buried alive in a tumb of vegetation, tangled and impenetrable. Only now and again a brilliant-bird flew across their path, poised itself for a second upon some sweet and hanging blossom, and then vanished like a flashing jewel across the stream, far from bunnar sight.

Here is a portrait of the hero, Hugh Neville, the younger son of a Cambridgeshire squire, and second Secretary of the British Legation in Brazil:—"A good-looking young Englishman of the Saxon type, with fair, carly hair, fresh complexion, and bright blue eyes shining with intelligence, he possessed that air of general benevolence which accompanies his type." And that is all, but how perfect the picture!

The story is woven out of the lives of the various social units which compose the corps diplomatique of Petrofiolis,-Ministers, retaries, their wives and families. No outsider intrudes within those hallowed precipcia. feel at ouce that it is a world which the author knows thoroughly,—the aocial atmosphere she has herself breathed. Politics, likewise, find no place in these pages. If we have a fault to find it is one which has made us rebel against all female novelists, save the very greatest, Does any woman believe in the absolutely uniegenerate wickedness of either man or woman? We think not. Can any reader recall in female fiction such a thorough-paced villain as Count Fosco? Satau bimself had redeeming points in Miss Marie Corelli's eyes. But that men and women, devoid of even the shadow of a moral sense, move about the world we live in is as certain as is the existence of their autipodal type, the perfectly pure and true. the story before us, we are led to believe that lave for her child in Countess Willenheft's only safeguard against the machinations of Count von Demlichoff, so that when poor little Stella dies, the moral collapse of the mother will follow, and Demlichoff, whose philosophy was that of the modern French decadents-" all women were coquettes and hypocrites, worthless and rotten at the core "-will triumph. That is what

\*' His Chief's Wife' by Baroness A. d'Anethan, London, Chapman and Hall, Limited : Yokohama, Kefty and Walth Limited. O'l ghall if O'm

would and does happen every day. What actually happened it would be unfair here to reveal But that such a man and such a woman could thereupon talk to each other of the = love of brother and sister," in seeming good faith, is too great a tax on the "gentle reader's" credulity.

Their end, too—unnecessary from a realistic point of view-savours somewhat of melodrama.

This, indeed, is the only point which seemed to us to strike a discordant note in an otherwise admirably told tale. Other readers may view the incident differently. Certainly, "His Chief's Wife " deserves success, as a fresh and healthy departure from the school now in vogue, and we look forward, with interest and pleasure, to further efforts from the same graceful pen.

#### FIRE IN KOBE.

Another fire occurred in Kobe on the morning of the 16th inst., at about 2.30 o'clock. It appears to have broken out in the large twoappears to nave proken out in the large two-storeyed brick building on the Native Bund occupied by Messrs. C. T. Nickel & Co., be-low, and Mr. J. C. Wilkinson above, though how it started is a mystery. Between 2 and 2.30 a.m. smoke was seen issuing from the windows and, an alarm being promptly given, the Fire Bigades were seen on the spot the Fire Brigades were soon on the spot. Superintendent Sim had both his engines on the scene by 2.30, by which time it was impossi-ble to tell accurately where the fire originated. There was a difficulty in obtaining water for some time, the new Custom House buildings blocking access to the sea. Eventually, however, water was obtained from a new drain connected with the Paper Mill drain. It was found impossible to save the building in which the fire originated and a neighbouring godown, filled with charcoal, was only saved by extraordinary exertions on the part of the fire-men. The Robe Herald understands that Messrs. Nickel & Co. were covered by a policy in the Norwich Union for year 1,000 and another in the Phoenix for yen 4,000 Mr. Wilkinson is insured for yen 5,000 in the Imperial Insurance Co. The building was owned by Oshimaya, but we are not in a posi-tion to say if it was insured.

#### SARATOGA SPIT.

Three groundings in less than a fortnight must surely be the record for Saratoga Spit, or Futtau Point, to give it the Japanese name. First the Japanese steamer Bankoku Maru ran ushorn there when coming up the Bay; then the Cam "footed" it; and thirdly the P. & O. steamer Borneo ran on it on Monday. The latter was found ashore by the Company's steamer Rosetta, which arrived during the afternoon of the same day. After the discharge of a portion of her cargo, the Borneo, with the assistance of a tow from the Rosetta, came off before midnight, and arrived in port, undamaged, on the following morning, Tuesday, The Japanese war-vessel Kongo Kan, which went to the Borneo's assistance from Yokosuka, is reported to have lost a steel hawser while attempting to tow the distressed vessel off the

#### HORKAIDO COAL-MINING AND RAILWAY CO.

The regular general meeting of the Hokkuido Coal-mining and Railway Company was held at the Company's office at Odawara-cho, Tsukiji, Tokyo on the 13th inst. The meeting was attended by 241 shareholders representing 160,556 shares. The report presented by the

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#### CHINESE NOTES.

"Instructions," says the N.-C. Daily News, were sont by the Taungli Yamen, during the middle of last month (January) to the Chinese officers superintending the building of the six fast cruisers in England and Germany to hurry up the work and make ready for sailing to China m soon as possible."

From the report of the Soychee Cotton Spinning Company in Shanghai it appears that two of the principal difficulties to be overcome in connection with these enterprises are the unskilled character of the labour obtainable, as well as its scarcity, and the amount of pilfering indulged in by the Chinese employes.

The Rev. Griffi h John, in a report of mis-sionary progress in Hunan, speaks of a raid recently made on the depôt of his mission at Hêngahau, and describes the energetic action taken by the local officials, at the instance of the British Consul in Hangkow, to punish the offenders and furnish redress. Chinese official seem to be treating the missionary question in a much more liberal and helpful spirit than they formerly showed."

It is estimated that some 2,000 carriages containing Chinese of the "demi-monde, beas-monde, and no-monde," drive every afternoon along the Bubbling Well Road at Shanghai, which is just three miles long from the Bund. With the addition of jinrikisha and wheelbarrows the throng is pretty dense, and accidents are naturally frequent. The Chinese may be conservative, but the taste they have developed for "carriage exercise" in Shanghai is extra-

It is interesting to note that the Russo-Chinese Bank at Newchwang in under the management of Mr. H. A. Bush and Mr. F. C. McCollum, These names have not a particularly Russian twang. Evidently the enterprise is merely another chapter of the old story: Britishers "run the show," Both gentlemen, by the way, are well-known in the Treaty ports of Japan particularly the latter, who was conof Japan, particularly the latter, who was con-nected in Yokohama with the National Bank of China.

Advices received from Nauking," says the N.C. Daily News, "state that H.E. Viceroy Liu has received an intimation from the Tauogli Yamên to the effect that Prince Henry of Prussia had expressed a desire, through the German Minister, to visit Nanking, in which case the Prince would most likely be accompanied by the present German Governor of Kiao-chou, and escorted by the German fleet. Preparations are therefore now being made at Nanking, under instructions from Viceroy Liu, to give a fitting reception to the German Prince and his

Here is a telegram said to have been received from Tsitsiher, the capital of Heilungchiang province, which is better known to the general public as "the Chinese Amur region":—

"Advices from Mulio (a place on the Chinese side of the Amur River where gold mines are side of the Annur River where gold mines are being worked) report the crossing over from Russian territory of large hodies of Russian troops, composed of cavairy, infantry, and artillery, into various points of Heilungchiang province. The Russian seem to be divided into three main corps numbering some 12,000 to 15,000 ment each. Strict discipline is observed in the Russian ranks, although there seem to be some 3,000 Hing-hu (Red-beards) bandits amenguathem. The territory occupied by the Russians does not contain even 5,000 Chinese troops." does not contain even 5,000 Chinese troops."

had not been given any breakfast, M. Le Coispellier, Captain of the Yarra, replied in emphatic terms, declaring that both the first and second breakfast had been served on board the steamer at the usual hours, and that any body might have partaken, as, indeed, many did. Mr. Hamilton therefore retorted that dry bread had been furnished to the passengers, and that breakfast would have been served a little earlier than the usual hour on any other line than that of the M. M. Company, "whose neglect of passenger comfort in these things has become notorious." The discussion brought two other correspondents into the field. One said that, returning from Japan two years ago with his wife, he had experienced similar treatment to that described by Mr. Hamilton, but that in everal other voyages by French mail steamers, he had admired the considerate treatment of the passengers. The other, recalling two voyages made by him to Japan and back in the M.M. S.S. Melbourne, when she was under the command of Captain Vimont, explained that an appeal to the captain would at once have procured everything necessary. These letters ought to be useful to the M.M. Company.

The Edict issued by the Emperor of China in connection with the murder of the two German Missionaries in Shantung, is thus translated by the N.-C. Daily News:---

In obedience to our commands the Board of Civil Appointments has presented to us its report concertaing the penalties which ought to be laid upon the officials concerned in the recent Chuyê affair, The said reports states that Li Ping-heng, Gover-nor of Shantung, has placed himself in a most or of Stantung, has placed himself in a most reprehensible position, first, by not being prepared to prevent the murder of the two priests at Chitis and secondly, for having failed to report the outrage to the Throne until the Tsungli Vannèn was informed [from outside sources] of it and telegraphed instructions to the said Governor to investigate the affair. Such conduct deserves punishment. Li Ping-heng is, therefore, hereby degraded two steps in rank and ordered to a lower post, a penalty which shall not be permitted to be commuted or set off against good conduct marks in the said Governor's official record. As for the said Governor's subordinate offices concerned, namely, His Liang, recently transferred from his post of Taotai of the Yen-Yi-Tso-Chi Intendancy, Shanung, Wan Pen-hua, brigadier-General of the Tsaochon Military Circuit; and Chao Chèng-chao, perfect of Tsaochonín (where the murders happened) they are hereby cashiered of their several ranks but retained at their posts. Further, the privilege to disseminate the ed of their several ranks but retained at their posts. Further, the privilege to disseminate the religions of the various countries of the West is accorded by Treaty, and when we take into consideration that these missionaries have come from afar—from 10,000 Il distance—it is but simple justice that the officials and people of China should sympathise with their difficulties and grant what aid they can. Judge, then, the nite of it in the analysis of the post of the same grant what aid they can. Judge, then, the pity of it, when we are suddenly informed that robbers had murdered two Missionaries within the jurisdiction of the magistrate of Chuyêhsien. We, therefore, hereby command that, in addition to the punishment demanded by law to be awarded to the perpetrators of the said outrage, churches in three different places and dwelling houses in seven places he built by us as a token of the Government's desire to atone for the catastrophic which has befallen strangers from afar. In conclusion, we hereby call upon Chang Jumei, the present Governor of Shantung, to exhort his subordinates to give full protection to these missionaries, and to give warning that I in the future there should again occur further out-rages by desperadoes and bandits, the local authorities concerned shall be held responsible for the same. Obey!

The particulars of the murder of a German marine at Kiao-chou are thus given by the N.-C. Daily News :-

Disquieting news having been received from directors, and passed, shows that the net profit during the second half of last year (from 1st July to 31st December) amounted to ven 811,986, to which yen 13,008 brought forward from previous account, was added, thus making a total of yen 824,994. Of this amount yen 57,400 were written off to reserve, yen 69,000 voted as remuneration to officials. yen appropriated in payment of a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum and yen 84,334 carried forward to new account.

A telegram in the Shanghai Mercury two days later contradicted the atory.

A telegram in the Shanghai Mercury two days later contradicted the atory.

Chimo, a detachment of German sailors who had heen garrisoning Kino-chou city stated thence for Chimo, when they got near to Chimo, in the evening, they missed their way, and knocked up a house in a village in the neighbourhood, and persuaded the master of the house, an old man, to guide them to their destination. The old man's son, who lived at Chimo hour, with his wife, had been spending the New Year with his father, and was very angry at his father being taken off, followed the detachment, with his wife, had been spending the New Year with his father, and was very angry at his father being taken off, followed the detachment, of the evening, they missed their way, and knocked up a house in a village in the neighbourhood, and persuaded the master of the house, an old man, to guide them to their destination. The old man's son, who lived at Chimo hour, with his wife, had been spending the New Year with his father, being taken off, followed the detachment, with his wife, had been sept to Chimo, he found that his hours before the launch started, and that they shop, an optime resort close to the city gate, Original from Chimo, a detachment of Gorman sailors who had

had been robbed during his absence. creased his tage, and, seizing a big knife, like an executioner's sword, he cushed at the German sentry at the gate from behind, and with one blow nearly severed his head from his shoulders, cutting through the jugular vein. It is inexpli-cable how a small, feeble-looking man could have dealt such a blow. The sentry ran about ten paces, firing off his gun, and then fell down dead. The whot attracted some of his comrades, who came running up, only to find him dead, but who arrested the murderer, who was still a prisoner when the Darmstadt left Kiao-chou Bay. Thus the murder was an act of private vengeance, and had no political significance.

The circumstances relating to the murder of a German sentry at Chimo and the punishment of the assassin are thus related by Der Ostastaticher Lloyd:-

Already in January the town of Chimo was occupied by a detachment of the fleet to which belonged the sailor Schulze. On the night of the 23rd and 24th of January he was standing sentry at ie west gate of the city, a watch commanded by a petty officer being in the guard room over the gate, and another sentry near by on the wall. Schulze was assassinated shortly before 2 n.m. The sentry on assaurated states where a sum. The states were slarmed by a shot and, hastening down, found Schulze lying on the ground with his discharged gun near him but no sign of the murdener. He died without having disclosed anything concerning the attack to which he had fallen a victim.

The budy showed two deep caping gashes on the

The body showed two deep gaping gashes on the left side of the head and neck, which, from their position, could only have been inflicted from behind, the artery of the neck being severed, so that death must have could be a seried to a seried to a seried to the seried death must have quickly ensued from loss of blood.

The head man of the district was at once made responsible for the arrest and judgment of the murderer and succeeded in arresting him after two days.

He was a man owning a small shop for the sale of articles made of cow-horn in the vicinity of the gate, and confessed his crime before the Chinese gate, and confessed his crime before the Chinese magistrate, giving as his motive the fact that his shop had been broken into and tobbed in the night, a fact which he discovered upon examining his stock at night. Upon being led to the scene of the murder, he repeated his confession in the presence of German officers. The knife with which he compitted the murder was found in his passession still covered with blood, subsequently recognised as human. The Chinese magistrate at once sentenced the murderer to draft, but upon the head man of the district aroming that he was the head man of the district avowing that he was not in a position to confirm the sentence, the Governor at Chinanin, to whom the occurence had been telegraphed, referred the matter to Poking, where, however, the Government refused the authorisation, taking, in an utterly incompre-hensible manner, the criminal under its protection.

To see that justice should be done, the German murderer according to German law, and in compliance with a clause in the proclamation issued to the population at the time of the first occupa-

The conclusion of the Court-martial was unani-mously in favour of the death sentence, and the unurderer was sentenced to be shot as prescribed by the law, when the head man came and begged that the criminal should be handed over to him, to be beheaded according to Chinese custom, which was accordingly done publicly in Chimo on the morning of the 2nd of February. The head of the murderer was then hung on the gate of the

The Imperial Edict issued with regard to the raising of a domestic loan of 100 million taels in China is thus translated by the Iv.-C. Daily

We have received the report of the Board of We have received the report of the Board of Revenue, made in obedience to our commands, with reference to a memorial by Huang Szejung, a member of the Supervisorate of Instruction of the Heir-Apparent, in which is recommended the issuance of Government Bonds. recommended the issuance of Government Bonds for the puspose of raising funds for the Imperial Exchequer. The said Board having gone carefully and minutely over the memorial in question agree with the views contained therein recommending that "the said Board of Revenue shall print one million Bond certificates (of Tis. 100 each), to be styled "Sincerity Bonds," and distributed for sale at Peking and in the various provinces of the Emprie, the said Bonds to bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, the same to be all redeemed by the Imperial Government within the period of twenty years, in-Government within the period of twenty years, inlerest to be paid up to date of red imption. The said in
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Bonds are to be also saleable and transferable at all times within the above period and their actual value shall be guaranteed by the Imperial Governnent. At the several periods set for the redemp-tion of the said Bonds the holders thereof shall have liberty to use the said Bonds in payment of land taxes and sail duties. The said Bonds shall be distributed and sold to all classes of the country, beginning from the Princes, Dukes, and Nobles downwards in Peking and from the Tartar-Generals, Viceroys, and Governors in the Provinces down to their civil and military subordinates of every rank, grade, and class, whiether substantive or expectant. These shall buy up and pay cash for the said Bonds so as to set an example to the business men of the country. Those of the business classes and others country. Those of the business classes and others amongst the people of the Empire having shown amongst the people of the Empire having shown a desire also to buy the said Bonds shall have perfect liberty to do so, in which case it shall be the duty of the Governor of the Imperial Precenter of Shuntien, at Peking, and the various Tartai Generals, Viceroys, and Governors, in the provinces to proclaim at once to the people at large the regulations settled upon by the said Board of Revenue governing the issuance and sale of said Bonds. The said High Authorities shall also appoint deoulies to explain to the people the also appoint deputies to explain to the people the time nature of the said Bonds and any attempts by the said deputies to take advantage of the oc-casion to extort and force the sale of the said Bonds upon the masses must be strictly prohibited. The deputies charged with the sale of the said Bonds to the people who shall succeed in obtain-Bonds to the people who shall succeed in obtain-ing large sums therefrom will be rewarded with extraordinary promotion in recognition of their energy and ability."

The said Board having agreed to the above-

quoted proposition we hereby command that the same be forthwith regarded as Law.

In a crisis like the present when the Imperial Exchequer is depleted, we feel sure that our Princes, Dakes, Nobles and Ministers in the Capital and the high authorities in the provinces who have been the recipients of our special Bounty will surely show their gratitude to the Throne by heartily resourced to the the Capital and the contract of the Capital and the c sponding to the needs of the Government. Nay to the common people must surely know their duty and loyalty to the Imperial dynasty and hasten to the succour of the Thione at this moment of emergency. Finalty, as it in decided by the said Board of Revenue that the present movement is entirely different from the former methods of calling upon the people of the Thione as young help to the limit the people of the Empire to render help to the Imthe people of the Empire to render her to the imperial Government, nor will any force be permitted to compel the masses to buy the said Bonds, the present acheme being on the basis of a commercial transaction where a regular interest shall be paid at stated intervals, we first that there will be a stated intervals. be no delay in encompassing the object of this loan and that our prople will not look on and remain indifferent [to the needs of the Empire]. Let the be promulgated to all the people of the Empire.

It is certainly an urgent, almost a plaintive, appeal, and an a test of the patriotism of the Chinese nation, if for no other reason, its results will be observed with much interest,

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

M. Harmand, French Minister in Japan, has been made . Commander of the Order of the Legion of Honour.

A Masonic Ball was given in Kobe on Friday evening and turned out a most enjoyable affair, some 150 persons being present.

Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, K.C.B., who relieves Admiral Sir Alexander Buller as Commander-in-Chief of the China Station, arrived in Hongkong on February 4th.

The launch of the N.Y.K.'s new 6,000-ton teamer at Nagasaki has been postposed from March 10th to the 20th, in order, says a contemporary, to avoid any clashing with the General Election.

The Emperor William has conferred the Order of the Red Eagle of Prussia upon Baron von Bulow, = a token of gratitude for his services in connection with the occupation of Kiao chou by Germany.

They have been having a very mild winter in England, though a very foggy one. There world cyclist who has been ill treated in China had been no instance for a quarter of a century and nelted with mud is an American. If only

when neither snow nor sleet fell in London before the 12th of January, until this winter.

Golf as played in Hankow must be a thirstproducing pastime, judging from the accounts of the club there. The Shanghai Mercury finds in the report the following items : "Sale of golfing gear, \$481.30; Sale of Wines, \$4,283.

About half-past two on Friday afternoon, one of the school rooms of the Seisoku Jinjo Chu-gakko (Ordinary Middle School), near Shiba Fark, Tokyo, was found to be on fire. With prompt assistance from the Police Brigade the buildings were saved, only one room being damaged.

An imaginative individual telegraphed the An imaginative individual telegraphed the following "war-scare" to the Singapore Free Press from London on Jan. 23rd:—"A division of the British fleet, H.M.S. Hannibal and H.M.S. Illustrious, sailed yesterday [for the Far East.] War is very probable." The ships in question have joined the Meditterranean squadron.

The British Government basobtained the virtual control of the coal supplies east of Suez, having bought up in Japan, Hongkong and the China ports, Singapore, Colombo, &c., the whole available stock of Cardiff coal and of such coals as are likely to be of service in men-of-war, "The moneyed fist" is, after all, an important factor in international affairs, remarks the China Mail.

A string of a dozen sandwich girls created quite a pleasant sensation in the West End of London recently. Enthusiastic reporters speak of their "Gothic hats," "graceful robes of all colours," "chestnut, black, or golden locks," and "faces pretty enough for anything." The "Sandwich Girl' will probably be the title of the next musical burlesque.

Sir Nicholas Hannen was received in audience by H.M. the King of Siam on the 3rd February. A state banquet was given on the following evening at the Palace. The only persons present were the four Ministers :- Messrs. Bur Seldeneck, Inagaki, and Greville, and Mrs. Greville; Sir N. Hannen and Lady Hannen, Miss Hannen, and M. and Mme. Rolin-Jacquemyna.

On Tuesday morning early, a fire occurred in Sannomiya-cho, Kobe, in a crowded quarter, and despite the efforts of both the Foreign and. Japanese fire brigades, from fifteen to twenty were destroyed before the flames houses were subdued. There appears to have been some difficulty in obtaining a supply of water. The buildings destroyed included an oil shop and several houses occupied by geisha. origin of the fire had not been discovered.

A two horse coach, belonging to the Santan Basha Kaisha, and running between Kyoto and Miyatan, was upset and fell down an embankment near the village of Oye on the 8th instant, Of the eight passengers in the vehicle two were seriously II not mortally injured, and one of the horses was killed. The driver and conductor of the couch ran away immediately after the accident without giving any assistance to the injured passengers, but were afterwards arrested by the police.

We observe that 12 fine pedigree Hereford bulls were recently shipped from England to Fray Bentos on the River Plate, by the steamer Bellagie. They are the property of Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, Limited, and have been sent out to South America in order to maintain the breed of the cattle reared on the Company's vast cattle farms. The cattle in-dustry is carried out on such a gigantic scale in that part of the world, that the Liebig Com-pany's cattle farms alone cover an area of 1 250,000 acres—that is, about the size of two whole English counties.

It must be m great disappointment to the Kaiser, says the Globe, to read that the round-the-

he had been a German two more provinces, six ports, a pro-cathedral, and an indemnity might have been claimed. And what big fish might not have been landed out of Mr. Landor's troubles in Thibet! These golden apportunities are wasted on the Angle-Saxon-

Whilst leaving Nagasaki harbour on Tuesday, February 8th, the Yikiang collided with the Russian gunboat Zabiata, lying at her moorings. It would seem, says the Press, that the former vessel in turning made rather a large circuit, passing close over to the Lienshing, belonging to the same company. She then proceeded up the harbour, heading in the direction of the Russian gunboat. When within a short distance of the latter, the Viksang suddenly stopped, owing, it is thought, to an accident to her steer-ing gear, and drifted into the gun-vessel, carrying away a boat from the davits and injuring the vessel's side. The Fiksang sustained no damage and after a short time continued her journey. A claim for damage to the extent of \$1,500 has been lodged by the Russian Consul with Mesars. Browne & Co., the local agents for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., the owners of the steamer.

The Russian peasants settled along the Volga in the province of Astrakhan are in a state of intense excitement over the appearance of "Antichrist" in their midst. In a village near the mouth of the Volga a girl gave birth to an illegitimate son. The child was one of exceeding beauty, and at the time of his birth there raged a terrible thunder-storm the like of which the oldest inhabitant had never before experienced. In some unaccountable way the report got abroad that the child was "Antichrist." His entrance into the world was accommanied with all the manifestations which the Russian peasants have been taught to look for at his coming. The girl had to fly with her child from the village, and has sought reluge somewhere on the pathless steppe.

The Rush Medical College has affiliated with the University of Chicago, and Mr. John D. Rockefeller has made an additional gift of \$200,000 towards the current expenses of the University. The twenty-fourth Quarterly Convocation was held on January 3rd. President Harper, in the Convocation Address, proposed the establishment in Chicago of a Teachers' College, to be located and conducted so that teachers in the city schools might attend, and work for a degree without interfering with their daily occupations. This suggestion is an outgrowth of the University Extension work, which has been carried on by the University with so much success. During the past quarter, eightyeight University Extension clauses, meeting at the University itself, at the Newberry Library, the Western Union Building, and other centres. have been conducted. About two-birds of the number attending these classes were teachers.

The annual compilation of church statistics made by the New York Indesendent shows that about one-third of the 25,919,017 communi-cants in the United States are Roman Carbolics. The most numerous Protestant denomination is the Methodist, and 5.735 898, while the Baptists are second (including their multifarious tists are second (including their manuscrous aubdivisions), with 4,175,300. The next in order are the Lutherans, with 1,507,466, and then follow the Presbyterians, who number 1,490,162; the Disciples of Christ, with a total of 1.051.079; the Episcopalians, with 658,640, and the Congregationalists, with 630 000. The numerical equality of the last two churches has been continued for a number of years, though the Episcopalians appear to be gaining a little on their Puritan brethren. The Unitarians, despite their recent efforts to increase the numher of their adherents, are practically at a

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "MARCO POLO."

M. LE DIRECTEUR DU "JAPAN MAIL."

Les quelques renseignements donnés par vôtre estinté journal sur le Croiseur Italien "Marco Polo," en voyage pour le Far Est, ont é celevés sur quelque manuel d'il y a au moins trois ans, forsque ils étaient approximatifs on même plutôt

Je vous serai bien reconnaissant si vous vouliez insécer sur le Daily Mail que le "Marco Polo"—
"Is an armoured cruiser of 4600 (3700) tous built in Castellammare, the constructors of the engines

the Castellaminate, the constructors of the engines being Messrs. Anvaldo of Samplerdarena.

She has six 6-inch quick fiting guns; ten 42 inch quick fiting guns; two 3-inch guns, this teen machine guns; four torpedo tubes."

Ja vous, prie, M. le Directeur, veuillez agréti

nes remerciments et mes sinceres salutations. Bien dévoué,

S. ARMANI.

February 16th, 1808.

#### A TOKYO SANITARIUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL." SIR,—It visited, a short time ago, the Tsuno Hazu Sanitarium, situated in a suburb of Tokyo, about twenty munites' cide by tail from Shimbashi, and ten minutes by railroad from Yotsuya Gate, through the Moat to Shinjiku Station. I was deeply impressed with the fitness of the Sanitarium for Japanese ladies who are seeking rest from the busy cares of life, as well as for those who need within medical recomment and nutsing. skilful medical treatment and nursing. Leaving the cars at the Shinjiku Station, the visitor is pleasthe cass at the Shinjiku Station, the visitor is pleased with the country-like surcoundings of the place. Within five minutes' walk the braniful grounds surrounding the buildings are entered, and the visitor is not only lavourably impressed with the good taste displayed in the grounds, but also with the admirable adaptation of the buildings for a sanitarium. The house is so spacious and so suitably and completely furnished in the halls, sitting rooms, dining room, sun-parlous, bedrambers in both Japanese and foreign style, that the visitor is at once charmed with the place. The Sanitarium is under the direction of Dr. Okami, a graduate of the Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia, and the Training School for Nueses is under the instruction of Dr. Hishikama, a graduate of the Woman's Medical College in Chicago. They have also a class of trained nurses and an experienced house keeper. The massage treatment, that has proved so helpful to those who are suffering from physical weakness, will be carefully given by trained ourses to those who may desire it. Any patients who may desire to have their own physicians will be at liberty to have their own physicians will be at liberty to have their ed with the country-like surroundings of the place have them. A branch of this sanitarium is about to be open

ed at Közu, by the sea-shore. It is beautifully simuted, elevated, and within view of the sea-beach. situated, elevated, and within view of the sea-neach.
Around it are of ange and plum frees and in
the distance charming scenery. The Sanitarium
was established by Japanese and American
Christian ladies, with the hope that many who may be suffering, will find it a resort where will find rest and where patients will have such will that the and where partial the treatment as will be best to their speedy recovery of health and strength. Circulars can be obtained from D. Kei Okami, 105, Tsuno Hazu, Tokyo.

Teuly yours,

S. J. MILLIKEN, Joshi Gaknin, Tokyo.

February 16th, 1808.

#### COOLIE INSOLENCE IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir. I observe that you have been good enough to devote a leader to the subject of coolie insolence to foreigners, about which I have lately been addressing the Kobe Chronicle. However much we may differ an certain other topics, in that

much we may differ on censor other topics, in that special one you and your humble servant would seem to be thoroughly at one, and I beg to thank you for the article in question and also for the very practical suggestion you therein make.

As you say, a discussion of the causes of the untoward phenomenon, while interesting, would be to a certain extent academical, and would not in itself do very much to mend matters. Such a discussion of layer no intention of entering moon here—that I

fortunate for Japan if she acquires a "reputation for gross impoliteness." Now, the very unfortunate thing is that she has got that sheady to a very great extent. The soher fact would seem to be that in Western countries the hearty goodwill and in some instances the enthusiasm that was and in some instances the enthusiasm that was formerly cherished and evinced for the Japanese is rapidly being displaced by a cold, sullen dislike, not in some cases unmixed with a dash of impatient contempt. And for this, Japan has to thank two factors mainly,—Koku-sui hososto (when same a very excellent thing) run mad, and that very high-smelling edition of Caliban, the Japanese coole, released from all those restraints that Tyeyasu found good for the benefit of his immortal sont, found good for the benefit of his immortal sont, and for the general welfare of society. The cheap, noisy patriotism of the wind-bag order has been disastrous in its effects. The true article—that which seeks to make Japan stronger and better (1) materially, (2) intellectually, (3) morally—by much at a discount in certain quarters,—in none more so perhaps than in the schools, where of all legitimate means, has of late years been very much at a discount in certain quarters,—in none more so perhaps than in the schools, where of all legitimate in the schools, where of all legitimates are supplied to the schools of the school of the s places it night to be ever in evidence. In certain of these I know of, the general trend of the work (or rather of what by a big stretch of courtesy is called work) has been to demoralize the students and to a great extent to unfit them for tackling the serious business of life with that high conception of duty which is such an all-important factor in national greatness. Witness Formora—where, if reports be true, the administration is a pig-stye, while with all the faults of her Public Schools, Great Britain contrives to run a fairly honest and efficient administration over 290,000,000 people in India with 1,300 (thirteen hundred) civil servants! Every schoolmaster that knows the alphabet of his profession is supposed to inderstand that it is his duty to turn boys into men, to develop in his students the qualities of

1. Intelligence.

2. Courage (especially moral courage).
3. Energy (sustained activity with a definite purpose).
4. Patience or Staying Power.
5. Honesty and truthfulness.

In some schools that I know of, this truism has struck a good many of the teachers as being a great revelation! It would seem from this that is Japan however much the schoolmaster may be abroad in Lord Brougham's sense of the word, he abroad in Lord prougnams seemed in the schoolmaster brought up for the last len years on little more than inflated ideas of the self-sufficiency (abragassa) of Japan, has all unchecked been debasing the moral and intellectual surrency of the nation as much by his slus of omission as of commission, and the Consequence now is that the fair reputa-tion of Japan has to pay the score. The coolie is at present the beggan on horseback,—we know what his destination is, and the sconer he gets to it the better for all concerned. But Heaven

to the better for all concerned. But Henvel help Caliban's hapless steed, which unfortunately chances to be the reputation of the country.

But all this is parentherical. What is to the purpose is, that if this sort of thing goes on, tourists will be warned to keep severely away from fourists will be warned to keep severely away from Japan; that Japanese in foreign countries will be looked on with colder eyes than they are regarded with at present; and that if the Japanese insist upon magnifying, instead of minimising that most calamitous of all distinctions, the racial one, they will find themselves confronted with the hearty dislike of some 450,000,000 Europeans and Americans. This is a hard thing to say, but there is no use blinking facts.

l am very truly, Yours,

SCOTUS.

Tokyo, February 9th, 1898.

IN H.B.M.'S COURT FOR YAPAN.

Before James Troup, Esq., Assistant Judge. MONDAY, February 14th.

INTERESTING CHARGE OF ASSAULT,

lames Maclean, accountant, was charged with aulting Adrien Deveze, a citizen of the French Republic.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the complainant, and Mr. McNeil for the defence.

Mr. Lowder recited the facts of the case at great length, stating that complainant was the agent of a Mr. Gerard, a French gentleman owning Lots 78 and 77-a, Bluff. A portion of this was occupied by Tile. Works, while a house and outhouses were leased to a Mr. Flucke. The latter gentleman, who was about to leave Japan, came to complainant about the end of January, and asked complainant to consent to the lease being transferred to Mr. Maclean. This complainant accept to do on the same terms and conditions as Mr. Lowder recited the facts of the case at great ber of their adherents, are practically at a standardl, with only 700,000 members, while there are but 51,025 Universalists all old. The total number of communicants in all the churches is enormous—more than twenty-five militon; but that is scarcely more than one-third of the population of the country. What is the religious status of the other fifty millions?

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do very much to mend matters. Such a decussion of the communication of the mend matters. Such a decussion of the communication of the new population of the same twenty five while a house and outhouses the characteristic of the control of elsewhere, where I can command a were leased to a Mr. Funcke. The latter advert to at present is a will not be entirely without some ultimate effect. What I would talter advert to at present is a phase of the question you have adombtated in your article of this morning's issue.

You there very truly say that it will be very unit the existing leased to do on the same terms and conditions as in the existing leased. This complainant and conditions as in the existing lease of the outer fifty millions?

You there very truly say that it will be very unit to exist the existing leased to do on the same terms and conditions as in the existing leased to do on the same terms and conditions as in the existing leased to do on the same terms and conditions as in the existing leased.

during the whole of the proceedings, but a gentle-man who said he was an agent of defendant's afterwards approached complainant with reference to some alterations which Mr. Maclean wished effect in the property. Complainant declined, both verbally and by letter, to allow these alterations to be made. Defendant's wife, however, afterwards be made. Defendant's wife, however, afterwards called on him, and he agreed to send his contractor to see what could be done, letting it be understood that he would have no alterations effected until the report of this official had been presented. The contractor reported that the alterations could him made properly and without spoiling the building; but that the wife of the defendant wanted them done very cheaply, and he could not guarantee them at that price. Complainant thereupon told the contractor to go back and say he could not allow the alterations to be and say he could not allow the alterations to be made. The contractor went twice or thrice to de-fendant's former residence, but could not find him, and he found out afterwards that they had already moved to No. 78. On February 7th complain-ant learned this, and also learned that defendant had engaged a Chinese contractor to make some alterations. He wrote to the defendant, and next day, hearing that some Japanese workmen had arrived, he went to No. 78, and found many rows of bricks in the walls of the outhouses removed, Whire he was looking at this defendant (whom he had never agent them have the consequence). had never seen throughout the transactions) came un. Words ensued between them, and eventually had never seen throughout the transactions, camp. Words ensued between them, and eventually defendant committed the assault complained of. He had since written a letter in which, while stating that complainant had fallen accidentally and discinining liability, he offered to pay any medical expenses to which he might have been put.

Complainant (whose evidence was partly given through Mr. Leopold Martinolich) gave evidence in corraboration of his advocate's statement as to

through Mr. Leopoid martination gave evidence in corroboration of his advocate's statement as to the circumstances preceding the assault.

Mr. McNeil questioned the selevancy of all this evidence, but His Honour thought it desirable that the based. The about noint raised here by evidence, but His Honour thought it desirable that it should be heard. The only point raised here by the defence was as to the word "modification" in one of complainant's letters, which were written in French. The complainant wote that he could consent to no "modification," and Mr. Lowder that the said that the said modification are not that the said that the said modification that the said modification is said to the said modification that the said modification is said that the said modification is said to the said modification that the said modification is said to the said modification that the said modification is said to the said modification that the said modification is said to the said contended that this word meant that he would consent to no alteration of the buildings. Mr. McNeil, on the other hand, argued that "ancom modification" meant "no modification in the terms of the lease."

Complainant, in answer to His Hunour's ques-tion, stated that what he intended to convey was that he would allow no alteration of the buildings.

As a matter of convenience the evidence of Dr. As a matter of convenience the evidence of Dr. Stewart Eldridge, medical practitioner, was then taken. He stated that he saw complainant on the 11th test. He found on the front of the left shoulder joint a bruise some 3½ inches by 3 inches, of such severity as as to indicate considerable violence in the inflicting cause. It might have been caused by a blow of the first, and had been inflicted at least 48 hours before. There was much discolouration, and some slight effusion of blood under the skin. The wrist had all the appearances of a sprain, and its condition would incanacitate complainant from manual labour. incapacitate complainant from manual labour. It would most likely be caused by the forced bending of the hand backwards.

ing of the nand backwards.

Cross-examined:—The appearance of the wrist
might have been brought about by complainant
putting his hand out to protect himself from a fall.

The injuries were of a kind to be treated by time rather than medically. The injury to the shoulder might have been caused by a fall on the ground, but it must have been under exceptional circum-stances; it would require a forward fall on some body like a stone or a short post of a size corresponding to the size of the bruise.

The Court at this point adjourned for tiffin. On resuming, the complainant continued his evidence, He said when he saw Mr. Maclean on February toth he asked him why he was demolishing the walls of the outhouses. Defendant said, " Get out, walls of the outhouses. Defendant said, "Get out, get out," in a very angry and threatening manner. Witness replied:—"This is my compound; I don't know why you denodish these outhouses." Defendant again said, "Get mut; get out. This is my compound. I do what I like." Witness said: "Then I must go to the Consul," and defendant replied, "I don't care; go to the d-1; get out." At the same time he struck witness with his fist. The blow alighted on his left arm near the shoulder, and witness immediately fell down, and in falling strained the wrist of his right hand. Defendant was standing on higher ground than witness when the blow was struck, and witness fell backwards. He was 63 years of age. Witness received a letter from defendant after the summous was served, stating that the affair was purely accidental, and offering to discharge any medical expenses that might be incurred. The letter at the same time disclaimed any repon-

sibility in the matter. Witness was positive that his fall was not accidental, and he was sure he did not strike his shoulder in falling against any stone or stump or other projecting surface.

stone or stunip or other projecting surface,
Mr. McNeil proceeded to cross-examine at great
length with a view to showing that complainant
was trespassing at the time of the alleged assault.
The Judge raised a point as m whether he had
judisdiction to judge as to title to land in a
case coming before him in his magisterial capacity, and after a lengthy conversation he decided
to adjourn the case for further argument on the point this morning.

#### TUESDAY, February 15th.

The case in which Adrien Deveze, a French citizen, charged Mr. Macleau, accountant of the Bloff, Yokohama, with assault, was resumed. His Honour adjourned the case on the previous

day for argument on the question whether he had jurisdiction to decide in a case of this kind as to a julisarction to accide in a case of this gind as to a title to land, the defence having suggested that complainant was trespassing at the time the assault was alleged to have been committed.

Mr. Lowder now admitted that the portion of

land on which the affair was stated to have occurred was under lease to the defendant, this being the point to which the cross examination of the previous day was directed.

His Honour intimated that Mr. Lowder's ad-

mission avoided the necessity for any further argument on the point, but he did not think that in any case the question of interest in the land need come before him.

The cross-examination of the complainant was then proceeded with. He stated that after his fall in consequence of the blow given him by defendant he rose again, and west towards Mr. Maclean. The Japanese workmen however, intervened and separated them—"to prevent fight." Mr. McNeit: Were you desirous of fighting? Witness: No, I am too old for that.

Witness afterwards went home, and consulted Mr. Jowder the same day. The cross-examination of the complainant was

Ir. Lowder the same day.
Mr. McNeil: What instructions did you give r. Lowder? Witness: I told him that if he could settle the

atter I would not bring the case into Court.
Mr. McNeil: What were the terms of settle-

ment you suggested?

Mr. Lowder objected that m question of this

NIC. Lowder objected that w question of this kind regarding a consultation between solicitor and client was inadmissible.

Mr. McNeil contended that there was no privilege on the part of a client enabling him to

decline to answer a question as to what passed between him and his attorney. His Honour ruled that the question might be

put, and complainant admitted giving instruc-tions to Mr. Lowder to write a letter (which was put in by consent). This letter stated that if the defendant would at once vacate the house there would be no question in Court, otherwise proceedings would be necessary. It also stated that the alterations to the house must be stopped

at once or an injunction would be asked for.

Mr. McNeil—You practically told him he must

Nr. McNeil—You practically told him he must turn out at once, or that an action of this sort would be brought?

Mr. Lowder objected on the ground that counsel for the defence was endeavouring to put a construction on the letter which it did not bear. It might be a matter which he was at liberty to argue, but it was improper to endeavour to elicit and the state of the sta such an answer from the witness.

After some argument the Court allowed the

question in be put.
The witness merely answered that his instructions were expressed in the wording of the letter—that there would be no question Court if the premises were vacated.

Mr. McNeil—As to this blow—were you wear-

ing a hat at the time ?- Yes.

ing a hat at the time?—Yes,

And will you show us how the defendant dealt
this peculiar blow—which "grazed your skull"
(while you were wearing your hat) and then
strick your shoulder?—I did not see the blow;

I felt it-(laughter).
In re-examination Mr. Lowder put in the defendant's answer to the letter written on complainant's

instructions. It simply stated that defendant had no intention of vacating the premises.

A Japanese coolie named Tojno Sojico was then called. He said on the day of the alleged assault he heard defendant speaking in a very loud voice, and saw him strike complainant, who fell backwards down some steps and struck his head. Witness assisted the complainant to rise, and defendant then seized Mr. Deveze by the arm, whereupon witness intervened and separated then with the assistance of another coolie.

Milke Sekichi, the second coolie referred to, gave coroborative evidence, and the Court then

After the interval Mr. McNeil addressed the Bench for the defence. He said he need not refer at length to the evidence tendered as to the cir-cumstances preceding the alleged assault, as he submitted that they were irrelevant to the charge. He contended that at the time of the occurrence complainant was a trespasser on ground which it had been admitted was leased to Mr. Maclean. He had no permission to be there and Mr. Maclean was justified in asking him to quit the premises, and, on his refusal, in ming sufficient force to eject him. Mr. McNeil then proceeded to review the evidence and the facts elicited in cross-examiestablished that the injury received by complainant was not due in fact to his having fallen down the steps first on his haud and then on his shoulder. Had Mr. Deveze been a British subject it was possible that there might have been a cross-summer. cross-summous, and defendant would then have been able to give his account of the affair on oath. As it was he would only be able to make a statement, and that statement he lioped His Honour would take into consideration. As for the letter which was written on Mr. Deveze's instructions offering not to take steps if defendant removed from the hance in the steps. from the house immediately, he submitted that that amounted to a highly improper threat, and that the action was brought in order to punish Mr. Maclean for his contumacy in declining to turn

out.

Mr. Macleau then road his statement, which was to the effect that he found Mr. Deveze interfering with his workmen, and as he would not leave the compound he (defendant) took him by his sleeve to eject him. Unfortunately Mr. Deveze slipped and fell backwards down the steps, and after he had falten rolled over and struck his shoulder against the stones at the history of the shoulder against the stones at the bottom of the steps. He then got very angry, and took a long stick with which he threatened defendant. Defen dant expressed regret that he had been hart. He solemnly denied that he gave complainant a blow. He had certainly thought that complainant had given his permission for the alterations to be done

until he got complainant's second felter,
Replying for the complainant Mr. Lowder commented on the fact that the serious assertions nontained in defendant's statement had not brought out in cross-examination. Even admitt-ing the plea of the defence that complainant was trespassing—which he disputed—it must be shown that defendant first gave sufficient warning, and that he afterwards used only such force as was actually necessary. Could the violent and heated that he afterwards used only such lorce as was acunally necessary. Could the violent and heated
expressions of the defendant be regarded as a
request to a trespasser to leave his premises?
These expressions were immediately followed by a
blow, and he (Mr. Lowder) submitted that abundant evidence had been adduced to show that that
blow was altogether more than a justifiable exertion of force for the purpose of ejecting a trespasser. The suggestion that the letter in which
Mr. Devers stated that he would not bring the Mr. Deveze stated that he would not bring the case into Count if defendant would quit the house was in any way a threat was, he submitted, unten-able; it was perfectly natural that Mr. Deveze should not care to come into Court in such a matter and should me willing to let bygones be by-

gones if he could get rid of so unruly a tenant.

His Honour held that the evidence of the prose-cution was in the main unshaken, and fined defendant eight yen and 40 yen costs.

#### CHRIST CHURCH, YORUHAMA.

MESTING OF SUBSCRIBERS

MERTING OF SUBSCRIBERS.

The annual meeting of the seal-holders and subscribers of Christ Church, Yokahama, was held yesterday afternoon, when Mr. J. Walter presided, and there were also present Messrs, E. Whittall, E. J. Moss, V. R. Bowden, and H. J. Sharp. \*

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The report was as follows:—The Committee of Christ Church, in placing their annual report and accounts before the subscribers and seat-holders, have to state that for the year 1807 the total results.

have to state that for the year 1897 the total results are slightly more satisfactory than for the previous year, there being a credit balance of \$112.46 to carry forward, as against \$67.09 brought forward

Pewstents are in advance of last year by about \$300, this increase being mainly due to the rates having been raised by order of the Trustees on and from the 1st January last, to those originally changed, and partly owing to an increased number of the partly owing to an increase of the partly owing to the partly owing to an increase of the partly owing the partly owing to an increase of the partly owing to ly charged, and partly owing to an increased number of sittings having been let. The total offertories, inclusive of special ones, show an increase of \$40 as compared with the previous year, though the actual recentle derived by the Church from this source is, as indicated below, \$24.29 less. Notwithatanding the larger revenue derived from pew-rents, the income is still inadequate in cover

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S. P. G. Missions during the year, amongst poor people in shape of food, clothing, medicines, Offertories at the children's afternoon services remitted to Dr. Barnardo for the benefit of his Homes 149.41 76.99

\$471.99 Deducting this amount of special offerturies from the total sum received, there remains a balfrom the total sum received, there remains a hal-ance of \$908 50, which is the amount of revenue derived by the Church from this source, being less by \$24.20 than that obtained last year. The Officiories on the first Sunday in each month is employed by the chaplain to meet the pressing needs of pour people, and much want and suffer-ing has been relieved by the judicious distribu-tion of this money. tion of this money.

Repairs to the Church and Parsonage, consider-

Repairs to the Chirch and Parsonage, considering the age of the buildings and the severity of the typhton experienced on the 9th September last, which caused some damage, have not been very heavy, amounting to \$350.24.

A special Committee of British residents has been appointed to make a general appeal to the friends and supporters of Christ Church for funds, for the appears of the chirch for funds, friends and supporters of Christ Charch for funds, for the purpose of rebuilding the Charch, the present structure, being built of tiles and plaster and over thirty-seven years old, is in a most tussifisatory condition. A generous response has been made to this appeal, and over \$11,000 have so far been autocided.

During the year 253 services have been conducted in Christ Church, and in addition eleven marriages, 18 baptisms and 12 funerals have been solemnized in the Church.

The number of communicants present at the celebrations of Holy Communion were 648.

The sincere thanks of the Trustees and Com-

The slicere thanks of the Trustees and Committee are due to the bon, organist, Miss Leach, and to those ladies and gentlemen who have so kindly assisted in the Choir. Mr. James Dodds having resigned his position on the Committee, awing to his departmention Japan, Mr. Cecil Gunness was invited to fill the vacancy, which he kindly consequent to do.

being to its repairs that justing all the vacancy, which lie kindly convenied to fill the vacancy, which lie kindly convenied to do.

Mr. J. A. Fraskr having also left Japan has resigned from the Committee, but owing to the near approach of the Annual General Meeting, it was not deemed necessary to temporarily fill the

vacancy.
The Committee beg to acknowledge the receipt The Committee beg to acknowledge the receipt from an anonymous donor, of a pulpt cover, kindly presented through them to this Church, James Walter, Chairman, J.A. Fraser, E. J. Moss. Crell Guinness, K. Wilson, Hon. Treasurer, Cr.

Cz.

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To Balance, brought down and carried forward... E, & O. E.

KENNETH WILSON.

Hon. Treasurer, examined the Accounts with the Vouchers and find them correct B. GILLETT.

(Signed) Yokohama, 31st December, 1893.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, stated that he was sony to see so few seat-holders present. He was afraid the day being a public holi day, was inconvenient to many, but the Committee found it impossible to scenre the room on any other day which would be convenient to seat-holders and also to the Committee. Turning to the account. day which would be convenient to seat-holders and also to the Committee. Turning to the accounts, they would notice that there was a balance in their favour of 112 dollars odd, and that was so far actisfactory, as they frequently had to face a deficit. He was, however, alraid that they would have to appeal for extraineous aid to cover the current expenses during the ensuing year.

Mr. WHITTALL proposed, and Mr. Moss seconded, the adoption of the report, and the groposition was carried.

tion was carried.

#### ELECTION OF COMMITTER.

On the proposition of Mr. V. R. Bowden, seconded by Mr. H. J. Sharp, the Commuttee disavow Senor Delome's letter.

was treelected, with the substitution of Mr. Dadds for Mr. Cecil Guinness, who is retiring, and with Mr. William K. Wilson in the place of Mr. J. A. Fraser, who has gone home.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. K. Wilson, the Hou. Treasmer, and with this the formal proceedings terminated.

America has sent a demand to Spain to disavow Senor Delome's letter.

RUSSIAN TROOPS SAIL FOR

VLADIVOSTOCK.

The Russian auxiliary cruiser Tamboff has left Odessa for Vladivostock with a thousand troops on board.

the formal proceeding's terminated.

THE REDILDING PUND.

Mr. E. J. Moss mentioned as a matter of interest to seat-holders, that with regard to the fund for the rebuilding of Christ Church 11,871 year had been promised, and of this 7 653 year were already in the Hongkoog and Shanghar Bank, where so-

terest to the extent of tot pen had accused.

M. Sharp-It is over 12,000 yen now.

The Chairman-And I believe there is likely be a considerable increase in subscriptions alior thy.

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.") GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA. NEGOTIATIONS AT PEKING.

London, Feb. 14. Great Britain is negotiating at Peking for the navigation of the inland waters and the opening up of Yuanchow, Hunnan

#### FRANCE'S CLAIM GRANTED.

China has agreed to pay compensation for the recent kidnapping of a Frenchman.

#### BURMAH RAILWAY EXTENSION. CONCESSION BY CHINA

China has granted Great Britain the right to extend the Burmah railway through Yunnan.

#### PARLIAMENT AND HOME RULE.

Mr. John Redmond's amendment to the Address in favour of an independent Irish parliament and executive, has been rejected by a majority 158. Sir William Harcourt declined to support the motion because it ignored the Imperial supremacy The Liberals voted with the majority.

#### CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

The New South Wales cricketers have beaten Stoddart's team by 239.

MR. GLADSTONE'S HEALTH. Mr. Gladstone's health is steadily im-

#### DEATH OF AN AUSTRIAN STATESMAN.

London, Feb. 15 The death is announced of Count Kalnoky, former Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs. [The late statesman was born in Moravia in 1832. From

He acted in succession as Ambassador at Copenhagen and St. Petersburg, and as Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs. He was a strong supporter of the Triple Alliance, and an equally strong Russophobe.]

#### UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE DELOME LETTER.

It transpires that besides the personal reflections on President McKinley, Senor Delome's letter also implied duplicity on the part of Spain in the reciprocity negotiations with the United States. It is now reported that Mr. Woodford, American Minister at Madrid, has been instructed to demand the immediate disayowal of the statement referring to the object of American naval activity.

#### AMERICA DEMANDS DISAVOWAL.

London, Feb. 16.

thousand troops on board.

The Tamboff is a cruiser of 8640 tons displacement, her length is 385 feet, beam 45ft. max. draught 24.6; H P. 2,500, She was built at Dumbarton in 1893.

#### THE "VICTORIOUS" AGROUND.

The British battleship Victorious has run aground at Suez. She will be compelled to discharge her coal and probably also her artillery.

London, Feb. 17.
The warships Revenge and Venus have left Malta to assist in re-floating the Victorious.

#### SENTENCE ON LORD WILLIAM NEVILL.

Lord William Nevill has been sentenced o five year's penal servitude for fraud AMERICAN WARSHIP BLOWS UP.

#### TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE FEARED.

London, Feb. 17.

A terrible explosion has occurred on board the American cruiser Maine, which was anchored in Havanah harbour. It is reported that the vessel was totally destroyed. Two hundred of the crew are missing. The commander escaped unburt. [The Baine is an armed craiser of 6,682 tons dis-

placement and top, of 9 293. She was built at New York in 1890, at a cost of £517,600.] ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN AFRICA.

THE NIGER DIFFICULTY. Mr. Curzon, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has stated that the negotiations with France regarding the Niger have not yet arrived at an agreement. He was unable to say what progress has been made in the negotiations.

(Received by the Fifi)

APPOINTMENT OF THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER.

Soul, Feb. 16. Owing to the illness of Mr. Ye Dochai, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Min Chongmok, Minister of Finance, has been appointed Foreign Minister ad interim.

THE GREAT FIRE AT MANILA.
Hongkong, Feb. 9

The insured loss by the fire at Manila amounts 1890 to 1870 he was Councillor of Lega-tion at the Austrian Embassy in London, Companies.

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#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Cunts Entrop.

The Yokobama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchune (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 356. WHITE. 1-Q to Kt 2 2-Kt to K 4, mate 1-K to B 4 I-Kt to B 5 2-Kt to K 6, mate t-Kt any other 2-Q to Kt 4, mate 1-B to K 5, ch 2-Kt = Q S, mate t-B (B 7) any other 2-Q to ■ B 2, mate t-P to K 5 2-Kt to R 4, mate 1-B to B 4 2-Kt to B 6 mate

1 - B to Kt sq(or Kt 3) 2-Q to Kt 6 (takes B), mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., Voila, Miss S., T.S.T., W.K., and A.M.B.

#### Answers to Correspondents.

A.M.B .- Will correct and return next week. Chess Ed. C. Times,-Thanks for your notice of our efforts.

W.B.M .- Your answer received with thanks.

#### PROBLEM No. 350.

By W. Strebninger, of Perth, Australia.



White to play and mate in three moves.

#### GAME No. 362.

The following was the final game in the recent contestbetween Janowsky v. Walbrodt, which, our readers with remember, ended in favour of the "Polish Frenchman" by four wins to Walbrodt's two, and two draws

74 TV 34	
DOMESTICAL PROPERTY.	DEPRENCE

White-Walbrodt,		Binck.—Janowsky.		
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK-	
1 P K4	P QB4	8 Q QR4	P O5(e)	
2 Kt OB3	P R3	9 18 18 5(6	) B Kis ch	
3 P KK13(*	) [	10 H Q2(g)	BaB ch	
	P Q4(b)	II KxB	Castles	
4 PxP	PxP	12 Kt K2(b)	Q K13	
5 P Q4(c) 6 ■ K12(d)	Kt KB3	13 KR KB	q Β Q2(i)	
		14 QKixQP	Ki QR4	
7 QxP	Kt B3	Resigns		
_	NO	res.		

(a) Contrary to the spirit of the opening.
(b) If Black is allowed P to Q 4—the Q P being the weakness of this defence—he has the better game. The King's Funchetto is thus re-

(c) Compulsory because of the threatened P to

Q 5.
(d) 6—P takes P is preferable.
(e) Well played. If 8—B takes Kt cb, then II.
P takes B, and he could not take the Q B P.

The proper without losing a piece. with the Queen without losing a piece.

(f) 9-Q Rt to Q 2 would have been compara-

(i) 9-Q lit to Q 2 would have been comparatively better.
(g) 10-P to B 3 was compulsory, whatever the consequences. Anyhow the game could not have come to so abrupt a conclusion.
(h) 12-R to K aq, P to Q II 3: 13-K to B sq. B to Kt 5, &c., would have been equally bad. As a matter of fact the game is untenable.
(i) There is no defence to this move.— The Field.

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GAME No. 363.

We take the following from the Manchester Weekly Times: --Brother Pollock, with his well-known happy faculty of always having something new and original in his chees column in the Baltimore Evening News, published three or four years and the subjoined game and notes. We were ago the subjoined game and notes. We were very much struck by the game and the lesson which the notes inculcate and preserved the article. It is now reproduced in the expectation that it will unuse and instruct our readers. Let us contrast the recipient and the attractive styles, the heavy and the happy, and to do so I take a game played long ago between Genius and Something Else, a game which is an example of the delightful style in vogue before the modern school had laid its withering hand on dash, on brilliancy, and on

спеья:—						
EVANS GAMBIT.						
WhiteGenius.	BlackSomething Else.					
WHITE, BLACK.	WHITE, BLACK.					
IPK4 PK4	13 QxB PKB3					
2 Kt KB3 Kı QB3	14 P B4(d) PxP(-)					
3 B B4 B B4	15 P K5 P B3(1)					
4 P QK14 BxK1P	tố Ku K4 PxQP(g)					
5 P B <sub>3</sub> B R <sub>4</sub> 6 P Q <sub>4</sub> PxP	17 Kt Q6 ch(h)					
	K Q2(i)					
7 Cantles B Kig	18 B K+5 ch K K3(j)					
8 PxP P Q3	IQPxP KixP(k)					
9 P Q5 Kt K4(#)	20 R K-q ch Kt KS					
to Kinkt Pakt	21 QxP O Ki3ch					
11 B R3(b) B Q5(c)	22 K R-q(l) Q R4(iii)					
ta Kt Qa BxR						
(Notes by Profe	sane Devasdout )					

a) Kt to R 4 is much superior.

(h) An attacking move, but Kt Q 2 is safer.

(c) We do not recommend this against such at

(d) Best. Black has no satisfactory line of play.

Weak.

(g) ...... (h) ......

(!) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* (ni) White here announced mate in six-moves, (The reader may imagine any amount of = Dry-asdust? analysis following each of the above

addist analysis following each of the above notes),
(a) The chivalions Knight turns from his lowly fee and challenges one of his own size, is immediately slain and as quickly avenged. He might have retired discreetly and with propriety to R 4, and so have lived to fight another day.
(b) The White Commander now sends out skirmishers, and in doing so sacrifices a battahon. Had he been less of a strategist he would have Had he been less of a strategist he would have

rad he been less of a strategist he would have advanced his temaining Knight to Q z.

(c) Black has yet to learn that a speat is not a fair exchange for a mackerel, that "Giveum's" dead and "Lend-um" is very bad.

(d) He feels now particularly at case and pro-ceeds to awaken the enemy from a deep dream of

peace,

(e) "There's small choice in rotten apples,"

peace,

(e) "There's small choice in rotten apples," which, being interpreted, signifies that Black must lie down on the hed he has made for himself.

(f) This amiable and considerate procedure—yelept, playing your opponent's game—is good when you haven't one of your own to play.

(g) This appears to threaten a good deal; and White gives it his immediate attention on the ground that it is as well to be civil, as the old woman said.

(b) He is evidently not much frightened, though e makes baste to get out of his way.

(i) And now the commander-in-chief has to shut

his umbrella and take the field on his own

(j) He is not the first to find out that though (1) The is not the max to more our that rounge, war is the sport of kings, only one of them langhy.

(k) He springs forth in time to avert a certain defeat in four or the loss of his Royal Mistress.

(l) The King retires into his corner to laugh, offering thereby to his opponent the cup of Tan-

offering thereby to his opponent the cup of Tautahus filled with the legacy of Philidor.

(m) The cup is smashed in sheer disgust and desperation and White then proceeds to bring the encounter to a conclusion in a very artistic way, announcing mate in six, as follows:—23—R takes K ch; 24—B to B 4 ch; 25—Q to B 7 ch; 26—Q takes Q ch; 27—Kt takes P ch; 28—Q to Kt 5 mate.

THE ZIG-ZAG PUZZLE. The following puzzle is taken from the Philadelphia Times :



The Pawns are immovable. Move the five pieces so that the King can reach the square that is now vacant. The King must not, however, at any time move to the centre square, and the pieces must be moved according to the laws of Characteristics. Chess governing their movement.

There is very little style about chess. It gives There is very little style about class. It gives a man no opportunity to balance himself on one leg, lean half over a green table, and jab a real ivory ball with a cue held across the small of his back. There is no running the first base, or going over three fences to find a ball in Chess; and there is no ball's eye to hit—which are disadvantages, in a way. Then, a mean, little six by-nine man, with a bulging forehead and a watery eye, and spectacles, can whip a man twice his size, which is an anomaly calculated to disturb the equilibrium of nature.—Hartford Times.

Pillsbury and Showalter have arranged to play a match for the championship of the United States. Stakes will be \$1,000 a side. Play was to commence in the first week of February

We learn from the Singapore Free Press that the members of the local Chess Club were recently divided into four classes for Touranient and other purposes. At the same time a challenge system—similar to our "Cleland Ladder"—was tatioduced which is producing good results. As at present acranged class A comprises eight and class B seven players, which tends to show that the Singapore Chess Club is now quite strong and going well, although still in its first year.

At the Yokohama Chess Club no games of any importance were played during the week. On Thursday next the Secretary will arrange a Consultation team game, when we hope a large number of members will turn up.

#### THE TORYO CHESS CLUB.

The appointment of the Rev. W. F. Madeley to the Mission at Himself makes another gap in the fighting strength of the Tokyo Chess Club. Mr. Madeley was entertained at tiffin on Friday last in the Imperial Hotel by the members of the Club, when the Ven. Archdeacon Shaw, President, accopied the chair. Mr. Madeley played in the first two matches with the Y.C.C., coming off with sound homeurs on both accasions. equal honours on both accasions.

#### MAIL STEAMERS

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

Frum	Line.	Steamer.	Date,
Asierna	D. & O. Co.	Cuptic 1	Se. Feb. 20
Hangkong	P. M Co.	Ch ne	fu. Feb. as
Hongkong	G. P. R. Co.	Ein. of India 3	Th. Feb. 🔤
Europe	M. N. Co.	Oceanieu 3	Su. Feb. at
Hougkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	W. Mar. a
tiongkong	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Th. Mar. 3
America	P. M. Co.	C. of R de. J'itu	Th. Mar. 4
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 14
Europe	N D. Lloyd	<b>Hohensollers</b>	W. Mar. 16

s Left Sun Francisco on the 3rd inst.

a Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.

3 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

7				
	For	Line.	Steamer,	Date.
	Hongkong		Coptic	M. Feb. 81
İ	Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	In. Feb. m
	Shanghal	N. Y. E.	Saikio Maru	Tu. Feb, pa
İ	America	P. M. Co.	China.	Th. Peb. s.
ļ	Canada, &c	C.P.R.Co.	Sm. of India	Pri. reb. sg
	Europe, vin S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	W. Mar. s
ı	Hengkong	P. M. Co.	C of R. de l'iro	Th. Mar. 4
	America	O. & O. Co.	Dorle	Sa. Mar. 5
ļ	Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em, of China	M. Mar re
ı	Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Bri. Mar. 18

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARKIVALS.

Amoy, German steamer, 732, A. Krutzen, 13th Feb., - Hongkong, 4th Feb., Rice. - Simon Evers & Co. Carmarthanshire, British steamer, 1,878, D. Sin-

cock, 13th Feb., -London via ports, and Hong-kong, 6th Feb., General. -Samuel Samuel & Co.

Poric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 13th Feb.,—Hongkong viå ports, 3rd Feb., Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, T. H. Dohson, 13th Feb.,—Portland, Oregon, 25th Jan., General.—Dudwell, Carbill & Co.

Erato, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 14th Feb.,-Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, oth Feb., General,-Simon Evers & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 14th Feb.,—Vancouver B.C., 21st Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Gengarry, British steamer, 1,025, Ferguson, 14th Feb.,—London via ports, and Kobe 13th Feb., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Borneo, British steamer, 2,043, F. C. A. Lyon, 15th Feb.,—London via ports and Kobe 13th Feb., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Rosstia, British steamer, 2,039, F. N. Tillard, 15th Feb.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe. 6th Feb.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe. 6th Feb., Mails and General.—P. & Q. S.N. Co.
Smit, Dinth steamer, 2,030, F. N. Tillard, 15th Feb.,—San Francisco 26th Jan., and Honolulis, 3rd Feb., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Hohensollern, Genman steamer, 2,376, H. Biecker, 16th Feb.,—Hongkong, 18th Feb., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nacht.
Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Hildesbrandt, 16th Feb.—Hambure via poats, and Hong.

General.—H. Abrens & Co., Nachl.

Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Hildesbrandt,
16th Feb.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 10th Feb., General,—Simon Evers & Co.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, Capt. Keay,
17th Feb.,—Liverpool via ports, and Koba 16th
Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swite.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W.
Conner, 18th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 12th
Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

#### DEPARTURES.

Chusan, German steamer, 780, W. Wendt, 12th Feb.,—Kobe, Ballast.—Simon Evers & Cu. Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, A. Dixon, 13th Feb.,—Victoria B.C., and Tacoma Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co. Centennial, Danish steamer, 1,287, W. Thompson, 12th Feb.,—Seattle Washington, Ballast.—Cantein.

Captain.

Captain.

Dagmar, Norwegian steamer, 921, E. Amundsen, 13th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co. Orwell, British steamer, 2,149, Gibb, 14th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield Swire.

Biorg, Norwegian stramer, 483, R. Nelson, 14th Feb.,—Kobe, Sugar.—Chinese.
Chwishan, British steamer, 1,282, Furgson, 14th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co. Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, T. H. Dohson, 14th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Titania, Norwegian steamer, 2,315, Henr. Egenes, 15th Feb.,—Vancouver, B.C., Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 15th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pactific Railway Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 15th

and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co. Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 13th Feb.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O.& O. S.S. Co.
Clauerdon, British ship, 2,462, Kelway, 15th Feb.,—Royal Roads, Ballant.—R. Isaacs & Bro.
Robe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 15th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Raisha.
Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorenzeo, 16th Feb.,—Otaru, Ballast.—Browne & Co.
Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, W. H. Cross, 16th Feb.,—Victoria B.C., Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Natal, French steamer, 2,073, Remes, 16th Feb.,

Strachan & Co.

Natal, French steamer, 2,073, Remes, 16th Feb.,
—Maraeilles vin ports, Mails and General.—
M. M. S.S. Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 732, A. Kintzen, 16th Feb.,—Otaru, Billast.—Simon Evens & Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Riele, 17th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.
—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ghazes, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 17th Feb.,
—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 18th Feb.,—Hongkong via Kohe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.,

saki, Mails and General.-H. Ahrens & Co.,

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,925, Ferguson, 18th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine Matheson & Co. Siam, British steamer, 992, J. Messer, 19th Feb., —Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Cv.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Doric, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Windeler, Mr. and Mrs. M. Beart and children, Mrs. M. Finch, Mr. W. B. Vandellip, Mr. F. W. Playlair, Mr. A. L. Koch, Mr. Thos. Walsh, Bishop McKim, Mr. and Mrs. Farey, Miss Elsie Adair, Mr. Wm. Koenaka, Mr. J. M. P. Hermanns, Mr. W. Branne, Mr. E. Beiger, and Rev. C. H. Evans, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Thos. M. Boyd, D. Justin E. Hatlan, Miss Christine Harlan, Mr. C. A. Tomes, and Mr. & Mrs. Oscar J. Kron, in cabin.

Per British steamer Olympia, from Portland Oregon: -Mr. C. S. Stevenson, in cabin, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer Natal, from Marseilles via

Clinese in steerage.

Per French steamer Natal, from Marseilles via ports:—Scenes Gab, Beaumont, Adela Divesle, Tidel Poully, Mr. and Mrs. Guibert, Mr. G. Pereira, Mr. S. B. Alva, Mr. Masanao Ksike, Mr. and Mrs. G. Bergmann, Mr. Kah Nols, Mr. J. Richard, Marie Victorin, Mr. E. Levy, Mr. J. Piog, Str. N. Marcel, and Mr. Ph. Sam, in cabin. Per British steamer Empress of Fapan, from Vancover B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Bell and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Bengen, President and Mrs. E. D. Eaton, Mr. E. Mrs. W. Fisher, Mrs. Louise Graham, Atr. and Mrs. W. Fisher, Mrs. Louise Graham, Atr. and Mrs. O. A. Jones, Miss Jost, Mr. E. E. Matheson, Dr. R. S. Miller, Mr. Roderick H. Macleay, Mr. H. B. McQueen, Miss M. Robertson, and Rev. J. Smith, in cabin. Per British steamer Rosetta, from Hongkong via ponts:—Mr. and Mrs. Healing, Miss Thomas, Mr. Kirby, and Mr. Mayeda in cabin.

Per British steamer Borneo, from London, via ports:—Mr. Fradgley, Mrs. Lockyer and child, Mr. L. W. Eadie, Capt. Shimamura, Mr. Dennis, Mr. F. J. Abbot, two naval S.B. Stewards, in cabin.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS

There has been a fairly good business transacted in grey shirtings and something in yarns, but fancy cottons and wooliens remain very dead. In new cotton a considerable business has been done and prices, both for American and Indian, are recovering from their recent depression.

COSTOR PIRCH GODIES

fith a fitte bitzette anteres	a.
	FER FIACE.
they Shirtings-84 B, 384 yde, 3yinches	\$2 55 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings-olb, 384 yds. 45 inches	a.80 to 3.35
f. Clath-7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.80 in 2.00
Indigo Shirtings12 yards, 44 inches.	1.95 to 2.90
Prints-Assorted, 21 pards, 30 inches	2 00 to 1.75
Cotton-Italians and Sattenes Black,	PER FAND.
	0.18 to 0.15
32 inches	0.108 10 0.03
WOOLLENS.	PER YAPIDA
Flannels .,	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 3s inches hast	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	-
Medium	0 30 to 0.324
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 teches	3
Common	0.25 le 0.17
Mousseline de Laine-Crape, 24 yards .	0.07 0.1471
11 inches	q.15 hcu.22
	0.35 to 0.50
Cluths-Pilots, 54 of 59 inches	
Cloths - Presidents, 51 m 56 inches	0.00 10 0.75

31 111,000 0	4 . 13	17.68
Chatha-Pilota, 54 of 50 inches	0.15 to	0.50
Cloths - Presidents, 51 00 56 inches	o.60 lu	0.75
Claths-Union, 54 of 56 inches	0.50 16	0.85
Blandents-Sentiet and Green, 3 to 5th,		
per h	0.50 %	n 60
	PER CI	MOR.
Velvets-Black, 35 yards, azinches	7.75 to	0.00
Victoria Lawren, 12 yands, 44-3 inches.	0.75 to	0.00
TurkeyReds-2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24:25 yards,		
joinches	1.50 to	1.70
Turkey Reds 2.8 to 316, 24/25 yards,		- Ť,
30 inches	1.75 Lu	2,10
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards,		
32 inches	gage to	2.74
Turkey Reds-4.8 to 5m, 24/25 yards,		-
32 inches	3 00 to	3.59
A CONTRACT VALUE		
COTTON YARRIS.	PRE PE	III). a

COTTON YARRIS.	PRINCIPLE
Hus. 16 24, Singles	\$18-50 to 39.50
Nos. 18/34, Singles	41.00 to 43 00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Son. 31, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Ses. 42, Doubles	51.75 to \$4.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	61 00 to 61.00
Nas, 1/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00

Nos. 2/100, Gassed	00 00 00
American Middling	1 L (

There has been some business done in bar iron, but no demand in other lines, while prices offered are lower than quotations by 5 to 10 cents, per

PAR PE	
Round and square i inch. and upward.4.15 to	
fron Pintes, assorted 4.35 to	4.50
Skeet from	5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets	0.50
Wire Hails, assorted	6.50
Tin Platen, per box	6.00
Pig Ivan, No. 3 2.05 to	2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 14 inch)	5,25
KEROSERIE.	

The market is very dult and prices have declined very considerably, quotations having reached the lowest figure touched since last summer. The fall in prices is attributed to large arrivals and the cheap Sumatra oil which has made its appearance

American	
Russian	
Langkat	— 1.96
SUGAR,	

A fair business has been done in Brown, principally Manila, to the amount of about 15,000 piculs. Prices for Manila have risen 5 sen white Chinas have dropped about the same amount. Some Formosa has been sold for arrival at from \$4.10 to \$4.15. Very little has been done in White Re-\$4.15. Very little has be find, at muchanged prices.

		PAS PIGUE.
Brown	Takas	\$4.10 to 4.20
Brown	Manila	4.50 to 5.35
Brown	Dailong	3.85 to 3.90
Brown	Canton	3.85 10 4.50
White	java and Penang	0.5010 7.00
White	Refined	7.35 10 9.00

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

Quits a boom occurred in the market on Monday, when it is reported some 1,000 or 1,200 boxes of filatures and hanks were sold. Since then there has been a fair daily business, mostly for America. Prices went up at the beginning of the week from \$3 to \$5 a picul. Demand is still bisk, but buyers are looking for a reduction in rates. Simpments include 105 bales per Natal and 46 per Robitla for Europe, and 418 bales per Doric and 141 bales per Tacoma for America. Stocks are estimated at about 6.200 piculis. about 6,200 piculs.

SOCIATIONS.	
Filatures-Erling 11, 10:14 den.,	
#Hatures-Estra 13/15, 14/16 den	lggo to gau
Filatures-No. 1, 10/13 denines	gro to gro
Filatures-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	880 to 800
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	900 Lu 910
Filatures-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	850 to 860
Fitatures-No. 2, 10/15 denters	850 to 860
Filatures-tla, 2, 12'18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-recis-No. 1, 13/15, 24/16 den	890 to 900
Re-reals-No. 14, 13/10, 14/17 den	810 to 810
Re-recis-No. 2, 13/18 deniers	See to Sre
Re-reels-No. 24, 14/18 deniers	780 to 760
Re-reels-itu. 3, safan deniers	
Kakedas-Estra	840 to 850
Kakedas-No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas-Ho. H	790 to 800
Kakedas-Ho. a	750 to 770
Karedas-No. 21	



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#### WASTE SHIK.

This market has been quiet, prices remaining very firm. Present stock is estimated at 7,100 piculs. The Natal shiped 7 bates for Europe.

#### GROTATIONS,

Noshi-Filature, Best	415 to	110
Mashi-Filature, Good	teg to	
Noshi-Oshu, Best	140 to	115
Noshi-Oshu, Good	100 to	103
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	go to	95
Noshi-Shisahu, llest	70 lo	75
Noghi-Shinshu, Good	65 to	674
Yoshi-Busho, Hast	115 to	120
Nashi-Bushu, Good	100 to	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to	95
Nosii-Joshu, Good a	da to	65
Yoshi- Joshu, Fair	55 to	52 €
Kilpiso-Filature, Bust	95 to	100
Kibiso-Fileture, Seconds	85 to	φū
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	
Kibiso-Buthu, Fair	an to	224

Nothing at all doing. Stocks amount to 139,900 catties. Shipments have consisted of 811 packages per Tacoma and 95 per Doric.

#### QUOTATIONS.

Nominal.
Nomi-
【플플링
12 25
\$27 10 28
13 to 24
10 pe 50

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver down 31 and China sterling hower has caused local rates on China to harden and france are likewise firmer by reason of Paris exchange going up. No change otherwise.

dill ith. tan cumuke ameraises	
Stelling Bank T.T.	2/018
- Bills on demand	2/01
- a months' sight	2,0
Private 4 months night	3/01°a
- 6 months' sight,	1/0]1
On Paris-Bunk night	58 to 1
On Lyous - Private 4 months' sight	3.58
On Amatica-Bank Bills on demand	487
- Private 4 months' sight	
On Garmany-Bank sight	
- Private 4 months sight	
On Houghong-Bank sight 6	
- Private 10 daya sight 8 to	
On Shanghat-Bank night	
- Private so days' night	
On India-Bank sight	
- Private 30 days' sight	157
Bar Silver (London)	25 17
	-216



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is a perfect tonic; it braces up the statem to resist Neuralzia, Colds and Influenza; it keeps the healthy well, and strengthens invalids. A perfect essence of Reef; its effect enon the system is lasting not transitory like alcoholic stimulants. In the Kitchen It provides the essential reatures of good Cookery-ampetising flavour, nourishment and digestibility.

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penny can be maintained by the use of these Pills,
Sis Samuer Bares, i. his work entitled "The Nile Tribest
aries in Abysinia," asys—"I ordered the dragoman Mahome
to inform the Falir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best
medicines at the service of the sick, with advice grains. In I
short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a
quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistabable purgative properties, they
create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies
them of their value."

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is a certain enody for bad legs, bad breasts, and miterations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Ma. j. T. Cooven, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, 1878—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk\_lowin, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoontial of Oittment was worth a fowl and any quantity of pees, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lesh up the small remaining "stock."

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May 1st, 1890.

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Original from

# The Jayan Wheekly Mail:

#### A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND

No. 9.]

MAGISTERED AT THE 9.7.9.

YOKOHAMA, FEB. 26TH, 1898. Vol. XXIX.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

\* FAISCE QUE DOIS : AUVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS,

No optice will be taken of anonymous correspondence,
Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN
Wegathy Math." must be authenticated by the name
and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a
guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business
be addressed to the Manager, and Cheques be made
payable to same: and that literary contributions be
addressed to the EDITOR.

YOROHAMA: SATURDAY, FBB. 26TH, 1898.

#### BIRTHS.

On the 17th instant, at the British Legation, Tokyo, the wife of John Harrington Gubbins, of a daughter.

On the 23rd February, at No. 3, Acicho, Aka-naka, Tokyo, the wife of Dr. W. Norton Whitney, of a son,

#### DEATH.

At Zurich, Switzerland, on the 21st of February, 1808, Ed. Osenbrüggen, partner in the firm of Nabinolz & Osenbrüggen, in his 51st year.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H. M. S. Victorious, which went ashore at Suez, has been floated.

Over 700 contract labourers for Hawaii left Yokohama by the China.

During last month 799,159 piculs of foreign rice were imported into Japan.

THE O. & O. S. S. Coptic arrived in Yokohama on the 24th inst., four days overdue from

She received so much damage in the fore part of the ship that she will probably be detained a month or more in Hongkong.

GERMANY has obtained the consent of China for a concession to lay railways between Kiso-chou and Ichou.

THE Chinese Government is enrolling soldiers in several provinces, in view of possible contingencies.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha has decided to reduce its capital from ten million yes to five and a balf millions.

THE Yokohama Water Works Bureau has decided to raise its rates for the supply of water about 35 per cent.

SMALL-POX has broken out in Hokkaido, and from the 1st to the 15th inst. 53 cases and 14 deaths were reported.

THE Kyoto Imperial University is about to add to its curriculum mathematics, physics, chemistry, electricity and mining.

THE Interport Football match between Yokohama and Kobe, is to take place at the latter port to day, the 26th inst.

THE construction of a first-class armoured cruiser of 9,600 tons, will shortly be undertaken at the Yokosuka Shiphuilding Yard.

It is reported that seven thousand troops are being mobilized in Tougking to act in concert with the French squadron in Hainan.

LIEUT.-GENERAL BARON NOGI, Governor-General of Formosa, and Mr. Sone, Chief of the Administrative Office, have arrived in Tokyo.

THE French Transatlantic steamer Flachat has been wracked off Teneriffe, and forty-nine passengers and thirty-eight of the craw drowned.

THE French newspapers are much occupied with the Zola case. Zola has summoned m witnesses foreign diplomats and many political penonages.

It is reported that the Inpanese Government will shortly open negotiations with Canada, with view to effecting a treaty with the Dominion Government.

THE Quaka Shosen Kaisha's steamer Kamegawa Maru ran on a rock and sunk off Nagahuma on the 19th. Mails, passengers and crew

THE Emperor, Empress and Crown Prince contributed yen 8,000, 2 000 and 700 respec tively torwards the funeral expenses of the late Prince Yamashina.

On the morning of the 20th inst, a powder ex plosion occurred in one of the workshops of the Koishikawa Arsenal, Tokyo. Six workmen were fatally injured.

E-RLY next month a conference of chief officials of all the private Railway Companies in Japan will be held to consider the proposed raising of railway fares.

A TELEGRAM from Shaughai reports that the Chinese Government have arranged with Russia for a loan of 100,000,000 roubles. The report in not generally credited.

Mr. J. F. FRASER, one of the round the world cyclists, delivered a lecture, or discourse, on his long ride, before a scanty audience at the Public Hall, Yokokama on the 23rd inst.

Ma. Alexieff, Russian Adviser to the Korean San Francisco, after experiencing one of the Treasury and Mr. Gabriel, President of the their one and see that the second accordance in general roughest voyage on record a toss of the their one of experience of the second accordance in general roughest voyage of the second roughest voyage of the second roughest voyage of the sec

the stamped Japanese silver yen in Korea, and the Treasury refuses to accept the same in payment of taxes

I HE Tai Won-kun, the father of the Emperor of Korea, is dead. On the 22nd an attempt was made to assassinate Kim Hungyuk, a leading Russophile politician of Korea.

A SEVERS northerly gale was experienced in Yokohams on the 22nd instant. One of the yachts in the harbour broke adrift and another sank at her moorings ; but neither were seriously damaged.

An accident happened at Shimbashi on Wednesday to the Abt railway engine imported from the United States, which came into collision with a luggage van, with the result that the latter was derailed and capsized.

THE trial of Nagai Yoshito, the man charged with the marder of the British seaman Kennedy in the native town, Yokohama, on the 17th Sept. last, opened in the Local Court on the 24th inst. and was further adjourned.

A REUTER telegram from Akkasa, West Coast of Africa, on the 22nd inst., stated that two French expeditions were advancing on Sokoto, within British territory. A semi-official note published in Paris denied the truth of the statement.

A RIOT has taken place at Simar in the district of Nasaik, Bombay, in connection with the measures taken to combat the plague. A hospital attendant was killed and the isolation camp burnt. The troops fired on the rioters and many were killed.

A NEW treaty between Gre # Britain and China is reported from Peking to have been signed, by which Yo-chow, in Honen, is to be opened to commerce two years hence, the rivers and lakes in the interior to be opened to steams navigation within four months; and the districts bordering the Yang taxe to be inviolate from cession to any other Power.

The Import market during the past week can scarcely be characterised as brisk, although a fair business has been transacted in certain Yarns show an upward tendency and there has been a moderate demand for most descriptions. The sales of grey shirtings, which were very considerable last week and the week before, have fallen off, the immediate demand having been supplied, while no business whatever is reported in fancy cottons and woollens. Metals generally are looking up a little and a fair amount of business has been done at reduced prices. The slump in kerosone still continues; prices have continued to fall until the last two or three days, when a rather firmer tone prevailed in the market. Transactions however have been very small and stocks are accumulating. The total import from January 1st. to date amounts to 449 286 cases American, 205.539 cases Russian and 40,450 cases Laughat. In sugar, considerable sales have taken place in Manila brown, and the stock is cleared out. Some business has also been done in China sorts, but nothing in Formosa or in white refined. Imports of Rangoon and Saigon rice have been heavy. During last month no less than 799,159 piculs of foreign rice were imported, against exports of home grown grain of 37,838 piculs. In Exports there has been a very moderate husiness trans-acted in raw silk, the high prices asked and the small stock of silk of a desirable quality remaining militating against any further large transactions. The dealers and producers however may congratulate themselves on a very successful season so far. The tea market is practically closed. No sales have been reported during

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

There are some romantic but not very profound publicists in Japan who urge that neighbourly kindness should induce this country to accede to China's request for an extension of the time for paying the remainder of the Indemnity. Such persons show little knowledge of the situation. An act can not be called "kind" unless it confers some advantage on its subject. If it be neither beneficial nor profitable to the other side, is ceases to be a kindness and becomes an injury. That is the case with regard to postponing the payment of the Indemnity. If China were actually unable to find the money, or if she could not find it without making hurtful sucrifices, the question would assume a different complexion. But she can easily procure the necessary funds. European States are only too willing to minister to her wants, and if she does not take advantage of their offers, it is because she can not shake off her narrow conservatism. On the other hand, to defer the discharge of her liabilities is a heavy loss to her. In the first place, pending the payment of the whole Indemnity, she has to suffer the national humiliation of Japan's occupation of Wei-hai-wei. In the second place, she has to contribute a sum of five hundred thousand taels yearly towards the expenses of the occupation. In the third place, she has to pay interest at the rate of 5 per cent.
on the undischarged partions of the Indemnity. Five per cent, is a reasonable rate in the East, but a very high rate in Europe. China can obtain the means of discharging her debt on much easier terms. Moreover, by paying off the remainder of the Indemnity MI once, she can effect a saving of many millions of yest. It is not at all to her advantage that Japan should assist her to procrastinate. Such in the gist of an article in the Nichi Nichi Shimbun.

\*\* \*
The Yomiuri Shimbun publishes an extremely nebulous article with regard to this ques-tion of the Indemnity. It sets out by stating that the vital problem is to determine what course Japan shall pursue in the event of China's declaring her inability to pay the next instal-ment at the appointed date, but, instead of attempting to solve that problem, it drifts off into a vague accusation that the great difficulty is the want of any definitive Ministerial policy towards China. Considering that the present Cabinet has been only six weeks in office, and that no questions have occurred to test the quality of its policy towards the neighbouring empire, one in led to expect that the Yomiuri will advance some proofs in support of its indictment of the Government's attitude. But no obligation of that kind is acknowledged. We are merely told that the positive policy of the last Cabinet has been changed into a negative, and that the In-demnity question descends to a secondary rank of importance compared with the fundamental consideration of the Cabinet's general intentions.

The Nippon discusses the same subject but arrives III the conclusion that the question is one of foreign policy rather than of finance, and that Japan should grant China's request for the sake of the improved relations that such a course would bring about. The Nippon has always been a strong advocate of reducing the programme of military expansion, and it finds in this matter a fresh argument to support its case. for it contends that if Japan had not pledged herself to unproductive expenditures on such a large scale, she would now be in a position not only to discharge her duty towards her neighbour duty imperative in the Nippon's eyes as to call for recognition even at the cost of cutting off one's own flesh to succour the suppliantbut also to head the breach in an international friendship which ought to be of the closest character. It is admitted by the organ of "Young Japan" that the Indemnity forms the basis of the Government's post-bellum programme, and that to postpone the payment of the remaining portion—over 100 million yen—would dislocate the programme. Naturally the Ito Cabinet, which is responsible for the programme, cannot of loanse, be resorted to with greater ease in fully design and which are universe, be resorted to with greater ease in fully design and which is programme, cannot of loanse, be resorted to with greater ease in fully design and which is programme.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

easily reconcile itself to any radical change. But it must be remembered that the same Ito Cabinet, when submitting the programme to the Diet, declared that the national strength could easily support such burdens, and that the revenue of the State possessed a large residudm of elasticity. If that be so, there should be no difficulty in making such arrangements as would enable the Cabinet to accede to China's request at the present juncture. But unformnately the finances have been embarrassed ever since the post-bellum programme came into operation, a fact plainly proving that the esti-mate of its drafters was laulty. The situation now is that owing to the Government's persistence in over-burdening the nation's financial strength for the sake of organizing excessive armaments, Japan is precluded from performing an act of neighbourly courtesy, from cementing a close friendship with China, and from guaranteeing the Middle Kingdom against the dangerous contingencies connected with incurring further pecuniary obligations towards European Powers.

\* \*

The Hochi Shimbun is entirely opposed to the idea of granting China's request. It takes the general ground that legitimate obligations should be punctually discharged, and the particular ground that no real impression could be made upon China by such a concession. The Chinese have doubtless come to fear the Japanese, but their dread has not replaced, it has rather supplemented, their old sentiments of distrust and contempt. They would not interdistrust and contempt. They would not inter-pret a postponement of the Indemnity payments is an act of friendship; they would regard it rather as a sign of weakness. At any rate their gratitude would not go far towards securing their friendship. Another point is that one of the most essential means of winning China's good-will is to make her understand Japan's mond. The imposition of an indemnity of 200 million taels and the acquisition of territory in Manchuria — subsequently exchanged for a money payment at the instigation of the three Powers-were conditions suggested, in part, by the hope of rousing the huge empire from its sleep and making it enter the path of progress. It is important that the Chinese should clearly appreciate that sentiment. To remit the Indemnity now, so soon as its payment becomes irksome, would be an indication that Japan had departed from her original purpose in imposing it. But the main point is that the concassion would not have the practical effects claimed for it by its romantic advocates—it would not win Cuina's good-will.

It is alleged that the Government contemplates certain changes in the Law of Election, the principal points of the new programme being to extend the franchise, to widen the limits of electoral districts, and to increase the number of members. At present a man must have reached his 25th year, and must be paying direct national taxes aggregating 15 yes in order to possess a vote. Out of a total population of 42,270,000 the number of males from 25 years upwards is 16 millions, in round figures, and the number of these that pay the required amount of tax is only 510,000; which total is reduced, from various causes, to only 460,000 of actual franchise holders. Hence it must be said that the Japanese Lower House represents the minority, not the majority of the nation. Very different is the state of affairs in Western constitutional countries. In England for example, out of a total population of 38 millions, no less than 6,400,000 have the franchise; in Italy, 2,220,000 possess it out of 28 millions; and in America and France every male of over 21 is a potential voter. The Goverument's idea is to lower the age to 20, and to reduce the property qualification so that have the franchise. Extension of electoral dis-tricts is also considered necessary, not merely for the sake of securing the return of candidates possessing more than a mere local reputation,

proportion to the smallness of the constituency. In some respects the ideal system would be to have the whole body of electors throughout the empire vote for the candidates en masse, but that plan would be attended by one disad-vantage, namely, that the men returned would in most cases have no knowledge of the condicions existing in special localities. bable, therefore, that the limits of the Prefectures and cities will be the bounds of the electoral districts in the reformed system. The number of members, 100, will be increased, it is said, to about 500. The Jiji Shimps gives this information, and expatiates on it at some length, predicting that it will afford naiversal satisfac-

The Kokumin Shimbun also writes about the Law of Election and arrives at the conclusion that although the present House of Representatives includes some men worthy to be called leading publicists, it can not be regarded as an assembly of the nation's best intellects. On the contrary, one may say without violating the trath, that the members are, on the whole, mediocrities. Many of them, indeed, do not reach that level. The agricultural class is largely represented, but scarcely any members are returned in the manufacturing and inercantile interests? The fault lies primarily with the The fault lies primarily with the Law of Election which, by prescribing that a candidate must have certain qualifications in the district for which he is elected, limits the shoice of the electors to men of local reputation. Further, the smallness of the constitueucies creates easy opportunities for corruption, and there can be no doubt that not a few persons are returned simply by means of money. It is, of course, too late to effect any reform of the Law in time for the purposes of the general election now pending, but the subject demands early attention if representative institutious in Japan are to be useful and honoured, while, the Kokumin arges the constituencies to return men who will be a credit to the country.

If the spirit of international amity alone could be consulted, says the Miyako Shimbun, Chion's request for the postponement of her obligations in the matter of the indemnity ought to be grant-ed. But Japan's interests forbid such a course. The question demanding consideration, therefore, is the procedure to be adopted in the event of China's declaring her inability to pay the installment due in May. There is the precedent that Japan remitted a part of the debt due to her by Korea, and there is the precedent of the method pursued by European States in the case of the Turkish bonds. But those incidents relate to fcountries possessing greatly different ranks. No instance of such procedure is to be found among States of equal status. It will be a profound disgrace to China if she can not discharge her obligations. On the other hand, how is Japan to compel her to do so? Weihai-wei is held as security. In the event of China's failure to pay her debt, that fortress will become Japan's permanent property. But there are many reasons is doubt whether such a consummation would issue to Japan's benefit. To say nothing of sacrifices of men and money required for maintaining the place, there is the important consideration that by the taking of a position upon the Asiatic Contiment, Japan becomes unavoidably a party to all the incidents of which the Far East is evidently about to be the theatre. If the Government has made up its mind that her destiny points in the direction, well and good. But it is a question of immense moment,

Two American marines were drowned at Colombo while attempting to swim ashore from the U.S. cruiser Raleigh. It is supposed that the U.S. cruiser Raleigh. It is supposed that they attempted unsuccessfully to land on the breakwater, and became exhausted in awimming back to the ship. The bodies were recovered some days later, one in a mutilated state, and were buried with military honours. Two men jumped over-board and made an unsuccessful

#### FINANCIAL POLICY.

Conjectures and theories are formulated in plenty by the vernacular press with regard to the Cabinet's financial policy, one writer attributing to the Government an intention to augment the taxes, another alleging that it intends to resort to a foreign loan, and a third suggesting that signal reductions of the military expansion scheme are on the tapis. We do not think that credence can be attached to any of these forecasts. From what we have been able to learn, we judge that the Cabinet's programme has no heroic features. Its foundation is a simple, straightforward endeavour to make ends meet, pending the time when the co-operation of the Diet can be sought. It might be supposed that as the Diet assembles in May for an extraordinary session, a financial scheme could then be submitted for parliamentary approval. But even assuming that suffi-cient time were available to complete the necessary investigations—and there is not sufficient time—, the difficulty would remain that a new Budget for 1898-9 is The fiscal now out of the question. year begins on April 1st, and the Budget having failed to "come into existence," nothing could be done except to follow the Constitutional routine and adopt last year's Budget. Strict economy is, therefore, the order of the day, and the principal object to which the Minister of Finance is devoting his energies is retrenchment in all possible directions. Any measures in the nature of increased taxation, or a foreign loan, or a large change in the military expansion scheme, can not be regarded as having entered the field of immediately practical politics. The Government can scarcely hope to adhere strictly to the lines of last year's Budget. There will inevitably be some "supplementary budgets " for presentation to the Diet next December. But the aim of present efforts is to obviate any such necessity as far as possible. We look for a very quiet, uneventful time in the realm of finance during the remaining ten months of the year.

#### FOREIGN JOURNALS IN JAPAN.

The Hiogo News writes :-

The Mail seems to pretend that the absence of express stipulations in the Trauties against foreign journalists, although the stipulation in the Jap-anese Pless Law is explicit enough, ought to satisfy every one of the Government's benevolent intentions, and of the absolute reliance to be placed thereon.

Of course we have never "pretended" anything of the kind, or anything even remotely resembling it. But in truth we are weary of the whole subject and our readers must be still wearier. It has served merely to afford another illustration of the besetting incapacity of some of our local contemporaries to attribute sincere motives to any person disagreeing with them. "The Japan Mail and the Japan Times," says the Hiogo News, "have engaged in eager rivalry for the better bliading of foreign residents upon the points of the controversy; that they had any hope of blinding the foreign editors them-selves we can scarcely believe." Inevitable as is the inference suggested by such perennial attribution of dishonest motives, the Hivgo News and other local journals habitually expose themselves to it. They are to be pitied.

Digitized by

#### JAPAN AND THE INDEMNITY.

There is a considerable leaven of romance in the mass of Japanese journalistic opinions on the subject of the Indemnity. The old spirit which impelled the Samurai to be magnanimous almost to the extent of complete indifference in money matters, still animates the nation, and there can be no doubt that it would afford the Japanese keen satisfaction to remit the remainder of China's debt and give her a final quittance. Happily such ideas are modified by practical considerations. Were a policy of leniency in this matter likely to secure China's friendship, there might be a tolerably solid basis for discussion. But if anything be certain it is that a concession of the kind would produce no appreciable moral effect upon the Chinese. Seeing that such shocks as a signal defeat in war at the hands of a hitherto despised little neighbour, the loss of an important and valuable island, and the necessity of paying a large indemnity failed to make China's national pulse beat perceptibly faster, is there any reasonable prospect that to be relieved from a portion of her indebtedness would materially alter her mood towards Japan? All information goes to show that the bulk of the nation and even the Peking statesmen themselves remain practically insensible of the catastrophes that overtook the empire in 1894-5. It is true that in Amoy the average Chinaman has lost morale since the war: he is said to be less enterprising and less self-respecting than he was previously. But Amoy has constantly the object-lesson of Formosa. The provincial Chinese may be entirely ignorant of their country's mishaps, or may be splendidly confident that, whatever idle rumour affirms, mishaps can never have overtaken the great Middle Kingdom.
To the people of Amoy, however,
the hard, unmistakable fact presents
tiself, that China has been despoiled
of Formora and that said attention of Formosa, and that each attempt to drive the Japanese out of the island ends in seating them there more firmly. Amoy is a case apart, and it may fairly be said of the Chinese people at large that the results of the war left them quite unperturbed, and that the remission of a national debt of 83 million taels would produce about as much permanent effect upon their mood as two for three days' dought at a season when rain was desired. In so far, then, as international effects are concerned, Japan need not take the remission of the Indemnity into serious consideration. Ontside Peking there would be no knowledge that an act of magnanimity had been performed, and in Peking it would be taken for granted that had Japan felt herself in a position to assert her rights she would not have waived them.

#### THE VERNACULAR PRESS AND THE CABINET.

Vernacular newspapers have hitherto maintained a studiously reserved attitude towards the new Cabinet. There has, indeed, been no material for criticism. At first some journals showed a disposition to cry out because the Ministry made no announcement of policy. But the unreasonableness of such a complaint was confined pending trial, were of a nature soon recognised. Declarations of policy are not made by Cabinets when assumporary. We suspect that such abuses are

index of its policy; no one thinks of asking for anything more. A question is now coming upon the tapis, however, which promises to set pens in motion. It is the attitude of the Government towards polical parties after the general elections. Will the Cabinet ally itself with the Liberals or with the Progressists? ought not to be much doubt upon the subject, one imagines, but not until now do the Progressist organs seem to have made up their minds that the union will be with the Liberals. On that hypothesis predictions calculated to shake public confidence in the Ministry are beginning to be founded. It is suggested, for example, that Count Inouye does not intend to retain the portfolio of Finance longer than until May, when he will resign, in order to make a place for Mr. Hoshi Toru, the latter's inclusion in the Cabinet being necessary to secure the support of the Liberals en bloc. According to this theory, Mr. Komura, the present Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, would succeed Mr. Hoshi in Washington, being himself succeeded at the Foreign Office by some "diplomatic official of the American Party," whatever that may mean. Little credit can be attached to such forecasts, we think. Their purpose is to suggest ministerial instability.

#### PRISONS IN JAPAN.

There has been much talk for the past twelve-months about the necessity of effecting special improvements in Japanese prisons with a view to the incarceration of foreigners who may be arrested by the police after the Revised Treaties go into operation, and it is understood that measures have been taken in the desired sense. Japanese public opinion seems to have been almost unanimous in approving of discrimination. A few voices were raised, indeed, on behalf of equality of treatment. But, as was pointed out in these columns at the time such "equality of treatment" meant, in fact, flagrant inequality, for conditions as to food, clothes and accommodation perfectly tolerable to a Japanese, might be almost unendurable by a European or an American, and it would thus result that the punishment of being imprisoned in a Japanese jail, more Japonico, would be many times more severe for a foreigner than for a native. That view of the question was entertained by Japanese official-dom, and has been, or is being, translated into action. The difficulty in dealing radically with the matter is that the expenses of the provincial jails are de-frayed from local taxes, and the nature of the accommodation provided for prisoners depends, consequently, upon the appropriations made by the local assemblies. The central prisons (shuji-kan) are under the control of the Government. There are five of these establishments, namely, in Sapporo, Sendai, Tokyo, Kobe and Miye. They are spacious buildings, offering every facility for steps such as may seem necessary for the proper accommodation of foreigners. But the provincial jails stand, for the most part, on a different plane. The Kobe Chronicle, in a recent issue, published an interview with a Japanese whose experiences, while Ministry's legislative measures are the Original flighted, as a rule, to tax them-

selves for the purpose of providing com- anti-foreign literature. Evidently the out the empire ought to be undertaken by the Central Government. Such used to be the case, indeed, until comparatively recent times, when financial stress suggested the expediency of transferring to each locality the charges incurred in connexion with its law-breakers. But the desirability of reverting to the old method has long been recognised, and a law in that sense will, it is understood, be submitted to the Diet at the close of the year. We have heard that some discussion took place in official circles as to whether accommodation for foreigners in the central prisons alone would suffice, or whether provincial jails also should be equipped for that purpose, and that the decision was in the latter sense. It will be seen from what we have written that the problem has long been under consideration. Elaborate reports upon the condition of Japanese prisons and the manner of treating prisoners were compiled by officials of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation and forwarded to the Foreign Office in London before the negotiations for Treaty Revission had entered their final stage. In fact, like all matters that have any important bearing upon the interest or welfare of British subjects, the question of foreign prisoners in Japanese jails after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, attracted the attention, and received careful investigation at the hands of English officials long before either journalists or the public at large paid any heed to it.

#### GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.

· The telegraph brings circumstantial intelligence from Peking that a convention was concluded between Great Britain and China on the 20th instant, and that the principal conditions are the opening of Yo-chow to foreign trade within two years, the granting of facilities, within four months' time, for the navigation of inland waters-lakes and rivers-by steamers, and the giving of a guarantee that no part of the Yangtsze Valley should be ceded to a foreign Power. In the advantages accruing from the first two conditions, all the world will be entitled to share equally with England, and the third is in accord with Great Britain's undeviating policy to the explosion was accidental and that the secure the neutrality of the districts ship is a total loss. It appears probable, watered by the Yangtsze, and to prevent their acquisition by any State which would be likely to bring them within the purview of a protective policy. Yo-chow is a town of some importance in Honan province. It stands on the right bank of the Yangtsze, where the great river bends southward to the head of the Tungting lake. It possesses historical interest as the place where the Taeping rebels first reached the Tangtsze in 1852, after their failure to capture Changsha, the capital of the province. We are not aware that Yo-chow offers any special commercial advantages. The importance attached to its opening is doubt-less due to its being situated in Honan, a moshinations are not responsible, as was Taeping rebels first reached the Yangtsze province supposed to be the cradle of Chinese conservatism, and well known to students of contemporary annals for the sake of its chief city, Changsha, where the fact that the U. S. Consul, Mr. Lee, had to construct the line, but that England is notorious Chow Han used to preside over made application for an increase of force to build it, just as Russia is to build the the manufacture of anti-Christian and to protect American interests.

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forts for criminals or suspected criminals. Chinese Government regards the opening That kind of obligation is one of the last of Yo-chow as a feat attended by considerto receive ready recognition. It cannot able difficulty, and it would seem that be questioned that the control, manage- Her Majesty's Ministry share that view ment and equipment of prisons through- since a term so lengthy as two years has been demanded and conceded for purposes of preparation. The steam navigation of inland waters means of course, waters communicating with places open to trade. It is an important concession and has long

> Our readers may suppose that the conclusion of this convention is to be taken as an evidence of an arrangement for placing a Chinese loan upon the London market. But there do not appear to be any grounds for such an inference. At all event no official intelligence, so far as of Yunnan, the British sphere-the term we can learn, has been received of any further negotiations relating to a loan. On the contrary, China seems to have definitively fallen back on her domestic resources to obtain the balance of the Indemnity due to Japan.

#### THE LATE PRINCE AKIRA.

His Imperial Highness Prince Akira, better known as Prince Yamashina, who died in Kyoto at 4.40 a.m. on the 17th instant, was the eighth son of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, and was born on May and, 1816, being thus in his eighty-second year at the time of his decease. He was adopted by the Emperor Komei, and in 1864 he changed his name to Yamashina. When the Administration was organized in 1867, he became a Councillor of State, to which office was afterwards added that of con-trolling the conduct of foreign affairs. He did not take an active part in the Administration, however, but retired to Kyoto, where he spent the last twenty years. His malady appears to have been of a complicated character, but liver trouble was the proximate cause of death. His Imperial Highness' heir is Prince Kikumare (Nashimote no Miya) who is now serving as a Second Lieutenant in the infantry of the Fifth Division. Court mourning for five days from the 17th instant, and public mourning for three days, have been proclaimed.

## THE "MAINE,"

The first intelligence telegraphed to Japan about the U.S.S. Maine has been supplemented by news to the effect that therefore, that the men were engaged shifting ammunition, and that the bursting of a shell had the effect of blowing up the magazine. The Maine has hitherto been spoken of as a cruiser, but she was a battleship, as her name indicates, all vessels called after States being battle-ships in the American Navy. Her complement seems to have been 374 of all ranks, and, as the telegram speaks of 255 being lost, it may be presumed that the remainder were either ENGLAND IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

We often hear it said by Englishmen in the Far East that Great Britain does not know her own mind and that no continuity can be detected in her policy towards China. But it seems to us that for the past fifty years she has pursued the same course undeviatingly, and that recent events indicate very clearly the goal towards which she directs her steps. been desired by enterprising men in the Before the absorption of Burmah into her Far East. said to have been the provinces on the south-eastern coast of China from the mouth of the Yangtsze to Canton, but after the acquisition of Burmah and the resulting project of railway extension from the Burmese capital to the chief town is most objectionable but we use it, faute de mieux, in its most restricted sensereceived a natural extension so as to include the whole section of China lying south of the Yangtsze. It is true that the continuation of the Burmah railway into Chinese territory has been long delayed, but marked emphasis was given to Great Britain's view of the situation when, during the China-Japan war, she sent a squadron to guard the Yangtsze and to guarantee the neutrality of that great water-way, as well as of the rich pro-vinces traversed by it. Further, although railway extension from Burmah has been deferred, the British Government has utilized the delay to secure the navigability of the Yangtsze and the opening of the West River. These statements may not convey much significance to a reader unacquainted with the geography of China, but the situation will be readily understood when we say that, valuable as would be the tradal result of railway access to Yunnan, the ultimate purpose of connecting that province with British India vid Burmah is to establish overland communication with Shanghai and Canton, for which purpose the two great rivers, the Yangtsze and the West, are essential. The Yangtsze actually flows through Yunnan, but its upper reaches are not fitted for steam navigation. Ichang is the farthest point easily accessible by large vessels, for though the river above Ichang as far as Yungching is not actually useless for steamer service, its rapids constitute serious obstacles. If the Bhamo-Yunnan-fu line were pushed on to Ichang, Great Britain would have an overland route by rail and river from India to the China Sea. The West River also flows from Yunnan to Canton, but the same remark applies to it as to the Yangtsze; it is not easily navigable above Pih-se-fu in Kwangsi, to which point the Burmah-Yunnan railway would have to be carried. It thus becomes apparent that the extension of the Burmah railway into Yunnan practically means the overland connexion of Shanghai and Canton with India, so that while Russia is building a route through Siberia and the North of Asia to the Far East, England is on the eve of constructing a route in the same direction through Southern Asia. We say "is on the eve of constructing," because a telegram sent from Peking on the 14th instant conveyed information that Great Britain had actu-Siberian Railway through Manchuria.

There is an immense difference between confronted by the conditions which existed the prospects of two lines one of which prior to the autumn of 1896; in other has its terminus at Vladivostock, within words, the special encouragement which the ice-circle, and passes through regions their enterprise derived from the altered of which the resources are still undeveloped, while the other has its termini at Nangking, Shanghai and Canton, and passes through the wealthiest and most thickly populated provinces of China. The telegraph further tells us that Great from the old-established agencies. Pre-Britain is negotiating for the opening of sumably there will be no advantage in the Yuan-chou in Hunan province and for the terms offered by the former, except that navigating of inland waters, all which the projected system includes a cooperaprocedure fits exactly into the programme tive element, bonuses out of surplus propursued ever since the acquisition of fits being promised to insurers. Under Hongkong, Much has to be done, of those circumstances we can form no concourse, before these immense projects jecture as to the amount of custom that are realized, but they have certainly ceas- the local company is likely to attract, but ed to be mere schemes on paper. We of course it will have to face very formid-know what may be expected of British able opposition, no less than thirty-five enterprise if once the path be cleared for leading firms in Yokohama being directly it, and her Majesty's Government has interested in supporting the old comvery nearly succeeded in clearing the panies. Its great advantage, we think, path right through.

#### NEW INSURANCE COMPANY.

Briefly stated, the raison d'être of the new local insurance company, whose organization, mooted some time ago, is now almost an accomplished fact, was that the community saw itself confronted by a combination on the part of the companies—a combination which, in the absence of competition, could exact its own terms in a branch of affairs scarcely less important to private persons than to men of business. Everybody wants to insure his house, and nobody likes to think that in adopting a precaution so essential he is at the mercy of agents associated for the purpose of imposing their own charges on him. Had the old-established companies continued to compete with one another, their rivalry, to say nothing of their long experience, would have secured to the public a sufficient guarantee against excessive rates. But in the early autumn of 1896, they joined to put up the rates all round, and, finding the operation pro-fitable, they made their terms still more onerous in the fall of 1897. That second addition suggested an opportunity for successful competition: hence the orprospectus is advertised in these columns. In estimating the future of the enterprise, the first question to be asked and answered is-were the old companies compelled by genuine business conditions to put up their rates, or were they merely taking advantage of their union to exploit insurers? If the former, then there is obviously no room for a new competing company; if the latter, then the new company will not only lay the public under an obligation, but also step into a lucrative business. The old companies appear to have furnished an answer to the question. It is said that, confronted by the immediate danger of competition, they have already reduced their rates to figures below those at which they stood prior to the first of the two appreciations mentioned above If that be the case, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that, in raising their charges, they were not adopting the lowest scale of rates compatible with a safe and lucrative business, but were deliberately turning the absence of competition to their own profit. Satisfactory, however, as that inference must be to the projectors of the new Company, we have to note that the grove find here every and Wait Whitman.

panies. Its great advantage, we think, will be the permanence of its rates. People now see that, in the absence of competition, the old companies can not be relied on to keep their charges down to the minimum figure consistent with sound business, whereas that is precisely what the new Company promises to do. We may add that the prospectus issued by the projectors shows the difficulty experienced in collecting statistics. It has been necessary to confine the statement to the figures for one or two years. The available statistics, however, are sufficiently striking; especially in Kobe's case, where the premia collected during 1896 and 1897 aggregated 250,000 yen and 280,000 yen, respectively, whereas the losses paid were only 113,000 yen and a sum lying, probably, between 30,000 yen and 50,000 yen. It is an interesting fact that among the Provisional Directors of the Company are two gentlemen representing firms which hold the agencies of several important European insurance offices,

#### NOGUCHI THE POET.

We have from time to time quoted some of the weird, wild, disorderly, fantastic verses of Mr. Y. Noguchi, a Japanese youth who resides in America and writes poetry. His productions may be com-pared to a head of hair so tossed, towsled, and dishevelled that though it occasionally emits flashes of colour and fineness, one remains in perpetual doubt about its texture and quality. The Criterion has this to say about Mr. Noguchi:-

If that remarkable Japanese-American boy, Yone Noguchi, does not emerge from the competent obscurity of the chorns, it will not be because he is like his neighbours. The place where his strange Muse gesticulates and invokes the vast

is not by any chance to be overlooked.

The nobridled eccentricities in which Mr. Noguchi clothes his inspiration make it hard to see, at first, whether he is a poet or a harlequin. The point has been still further observed by the sucritical rhapsodizings of astonished admirers. On dis passionate scuttiny, however, one is forced to the conclusion that it is the real material of poetry that Mr. Noguchi handles. He has imagination; be has a rapt passion of uttermore; he apprehends the sublime. He is sincere. Here and there though only, as it seems to me, in brief passages —his art shapes these materials into the finished

product of speety.

Having due regard to Mr. Noguchi's youth, I cannot but feel that his promise is remarkable. He is in danger of being misled by friends into mistaking the defects of his gift for its distinguish.

#### YAPAN AS AN ALLY.

It is pleasant to find an English journal speaking out perfectly frankly and justly on an Oriental subject. The Saturday Review of January 8th writes :-

On an Oriental subject. The Saturday Review of January 8th writes:

Mr. Frederick Greenwood, who seldom writes unless be has something to say, contributes in the Pall Mall Gazetie an article of much good sense, in which he insists especially on the strong evidence of a previous understanding between Germany and Russia as to their respective aggressions in China. At the same time he suggests that the Kaiser's silly outbreak about the "mailed fax has upset some of Russia's calculations. Mr. Greenwood, howaver, spoils the effect of his article by making a deplorably Philistine attack on Japan. It will be remembered that during the late war, excited by the sight of the mutilated bodies of some of their wounded comrades the Japanese soldiers broke loose after the capture of Port Arhur, and that for some three days the town was given over to pillage and massacre. Therefore, declare, Mr. Greenwood, "the gentle Japanese" is a bloodthirsty savage with only a veneer of civilisation, and no Christian Power could possibly enter into alliance with the Mikado-Surely this is a bit of British hypocrisy quite unworthy of an experienced publiciat like Mr. Greenwood, who knows that such outbreaks are by no means uncommon, and that parallel cases could be cited in the history of every army, Read for instance, in Ampier's history of the Penisuular wars the account of the capture of San vebastian: "This storm seemed to be the signal of hell for the perpetration and plunder had been the principal object; at Badajor lust and murder were joined to rapine and drunkenness; but at San vebastian the direct, the most revolting, cruelty was added to the catalogue of crimes. One atractive of which a girl of seventeen was the victim staggers the mind by its enormous, incredible, indescribable barbarians of a friendly nation by English soldiers during several days. What would Mr. Greenwood say, we wonder, if a German or Russian paper were to argue from such shocking incidents that the English were a nation of barbarians with whom no faith shoul

We remember that jibes and execrations were heaped upon our heads at the time of the Port Arthur affair because we ventured to point out that, unpardonable as such doings must always seem from the point of view of strict morality, to draw any in-ference from them as to the savagery of the Japanese nation and so forth was supremely ridiculous, seeing that worse excesses were habitually perpetrated by our own troops in the wars at the beginning of the present century, and that the Duke of Wellington himself declared his conviction that to permit the sack of towns taken by assault was necessary for the purpose of encouraging the assailants and affording an incentive to the troops in general. Men. have now learned to laugh at the Iron Duke's dictum: civilization has exploded it. But it was uttered and acted upon not so long ago. The Japanese at Port Arthur had been driven to a state of phrensy by the shocking brutalities that their comrades had suffered at the hands of the Chinese, and under the influence of that fury they proceeded to kill right and left, not raising their hands in any way against women, however. It is now known that the grim Commander of the First Division, the late Lieut-General Yamaji, passed the word "no quarter" before the storming of the Liao-tung stronghold, and that for doing so he was debarred from any share in the Shantung campaign. Nobody would think of attempting to justify proceedings of this nature, but a critic must be richly endowed with hypocrisy and ignorance if he regards them as factors differentiating the Japanese from Western nations. Human nature is much the same every-where. One of its most remarkable developments in the fin-de-siécle Occident is a magnificent self-assurance which betrays men into complete forgetfulness of their own record when scrutinizing the doings of Orientals.

Origin<del>al from -</del> 'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### ENGLAND FROM A JAPANESE POINT OF VIEW.

[Had England been wise, she would not have Had England been wise, she would not have imposed on China, conditions which the latter could never be expected to be in a position to openly subscribe herself to, under the menacing frows of the Northern Power. Without demanding the formulation of those conditions, England would be able, if she were only so minded, to make good her claims in China. That, instead of following such a simple course, she has tried, and a few latter have come to still training to place and —for all we know, may be still trying, to place on paper conditions of the kind just indicated, may probably be taken as a sign that she is far from having made up her mind to pursue a resolute course of policy. We should think that a bolder and more thoroughgoing attitude is required of her, if she really means to regain her former ascendancy in Eastern Asia.]

We quote the above from the Japan Times. It has reference to England's offer of a loan to China. Our contemporary's view of the question seems to be based on the idea that England's prime purpose is to become China's creditor. We regard that as a misconception. The fundamental motive of British policy in China is to contrive that the markets of the Middle Kingdom shall be kept open to all the world. Provided that end be attained, her Majesty's Government does not care where China borrows money. Were she to appeal to American capitalists, not the faintest objection would be raised on England's side, because it would be felt that a debt to the United States does not involve any riskof transfers of Chinese territory to a commercially exclusive State. Experience has shown the consequences of incurring a pecuniary obligation to Russia. A further loan from that Power could not fail to create a situation inimi-cal to British interests. The object of Her Majesty's Government was to avert any such contingency, and that object is attained, since China has been induced to fall back on her own resources. An additional object is attained, also. China has been spurred into making something like a national effort-an effort which may possibly have the effect of welding into tangible entity any fragments of patriotism scattered among her people. We can not speak very hopefully on that topic, indeed, but that England is quite satisfied with the present result, so far as concerns the loan, we have no manner of doubt. As to the conditions understood to have been formulated by her Representative in Peking, their first motive is to furnish a practical demonstration of the policy she is determined to pursue. She has imposed her policy upon the Powers whose recent activities threatened to impair her interests. Concerning that point there can be no second opinion, Kiao-chou is to be nothing more or less than a new foreign settlement, and Russia has pledged herself to open to trade any port she may acquire from China. Our Tokyo contemporary speaks of England "regaining her former ascendancy in Eastern Asia." She had never lost it. Whether she habitually asserted it or not, is another question, but that she has re-asserted it now is undeniable. There is no necessity for her to lend money to the Chinese Government in order to "make good her claims in China." She is making them good without lending money. It may seem, indeed, to superficial observers In this very interesting resumé there are that her Majesty's Government is unduly two points calling for comment. One is pressing China in the latter's season of Mrs. Bishop's account of the Tai Wönwar and stress." But China's only kun. She calls him a man with "bowels arrangement made by Count Inouye; the hope of preserving her integrity is to be come and a heart of stone," and we opportunity lapsed, and Russia stepped in adopt the course integrity is to be come and a heart of stone, and we opportunity lapsed, and Russia stepped in adopt the course integrated by Lugano that the description is at the latter of the course integrated by Lugano that the description is at the latter of the course integrated by Lugano that the description is at the latter of the course integrated by Lugano the course in the course integrated by Lugano the course integrated by Lugano the course

Every port, every district, that the Middle Kingdom opens to the world's trade is a port or a district secured against the territorial ambitions of foreign Powers. There is no other chance of safety for the big, invertebrate empire. England is not selfishly seeking concessions which shall inure to her own exclusive advantage. She is seeking to avert China's danger by forcing her out of the conservatism which is its chief source. Of course Great Britain is working in her own interests primarily, but they are also China's interests as well as the common interests of all countries.

#### MRS. BISHOP ON KOREA.

Reviewing Mrs. Bishop's (Miss Bird) latest work, "Korea and her Neighbours," The Times says :-

The record of Mrs. Bishop's second visit to the Korean capital will, for many readers, be the most interesting part of her volumes, for it was then that she saw much of that extraordinary and ill-fated woman, the late Queen, and of her forlorn and weak husband. The Queen is described as past forty, and a very nice-looking, slender woman, with glossy, raven-black hair, and a very pale skin. The eyes were cold and keen, and the general expression one of brilliant intelligence. When she began to speak, especially when she became interested in conversation, her facelighted became interested in conversation, her face lighted up into something very like beauty. She idulized her only son, the Crown Prince, and was ceaselessly anxious about his health, and in fear that the son of a concubine might be declared heir in the throne. Some months after, when in her death agony she was surrounded by Japanese assassins, her thought was for this youth, and during Mrs. Bishop's first audience the mother sat with the son's hand clasped in hers and prompted the King in conversation. At each succeeding interthe son's hand clasped in here and prompted the King in conversation. At each succeeding interview the Queen's singular intelligence and force became more and more apparent, so that her extraordinary political influence ceased to be a matter for supprise. All her married life had been one of battle against the Tai Woo-kun, the King's father, who has "bowels of iron and a heart of stone," who had slain some of the Queen's nearest relatives by means of an infernal machine sent to a beamful box and looking like a present. The conversations ranged over a great variety of subjects on which the Royal pair desired informasubjects on which the Royal pair desired informa-tion. The King seems to be burt that Great Britain does not accredit an independent Minister to bim, in place of a Consular official under the orders of the British Minister in Peking, while the orders of the British Minister in Peking, while the Queen spoke much of one own Queen, and said to Ste has everything that she can wish-greatness, wealth, and power. Her sons and grandsons are Kings and Emperous, and her daughters Empresses. Dues she ever in her glory think of poor Karea? She does so much good in the world, her life is good. We wish her long life and prosperity." Nine months later, when Mrs. Bisher retuined to Kurea, the Queen had been but baronsely unrefered and the King was prisoner in his own palace. Count Inonye, the greatest man Japan has sent to Korea, described the Queen in a published despatch as having "few equals among her countrymen for shrewdness and sagacity. In the countrymen for shrewdness and sugacity. In the art of conciliating her enemies and winning the

Confidence of her servants she has no equal."

Mrs. Bishop tells the story of the borrible muster of the Queen by the procurement (as the Japanese Courts of law found) of the Japanese Minister, Count Minra, and his secretary, and of the events leading up to the flight to the Russian Legation. She has, naturally, much to early of the policy of Russia in the peninsula, and is satisfied that the Russian agents took no advantage of the presence of the King amongst them; on the contrary, they abstained by express purpose from interfering with his course in any way, even where they might reasonably have influenced him. Nor does she regard Russia as auxious to increase bastily her influence in the peninsula, or to irritate the Japanese, who became inactive for a time after the murder of the Queen and the overthrow of the Ministry appointed by them,

enough. But it must be confessed that the Tai Wön-kun has no monoply of these qualities in Korea. On the contrary, he has many rivals in their possession. For example, Mrs. Bishop speaks of him as having slain some of the Queen's nearest relatives by means of an infernal machine sent in a bon-bon box. But she forgets to mention that the act was only one of those interchanges of domestic courtesies for which Korean officials are famous, or infamous. An attempt had been made by her Majesty's relatives to poison the Tai Won-kun, the deadly drug having been sent to him as some attractive sweet-meats. The old Prince returned the compliment by forwarding an infernal machine in an environment of bon-bons. Such, at least, is the generally received story. The second point that does not appeal to our sense of historic accuracy, s the assertion that the Russian agents took no advantage of the presence of the King in their Legation, and that they "abstained by express purpose from in-terfering with his course in any way, even when they might reasonably have in-fluenced him." It is doubtful whether this part of Mrs. Bishop's narrative will command much credence in the Far East, Russian agents have never shown themselves dilatory in grasping a national advantage. Why should they indeed? Their duty is to promote the interests of their country in every legitimate manner, and if they neglected such a unique opportunity as the presence of the refugee King in the Russian Legation, their magnanimity would deserve to be called by a different name. It was during the King's presence in the Russian Legation that Korea applied to St. Petersburg for military instructors and for a financial adviser, and it was from the time of his Majesty's residence in the Legation that Russia's influence became paramount in the peninsular kingdom. Even apart from these facts, does it not seem like straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel to discuss the details of what the Russian agents did after they got the King into the Legation and to ignore their great comp in getting him there? The plain fact is that they acted throughout as any clever, strong politicians would have acted, and it is useless to credit them with a display of scrupulousness which was not called for and would scarcely have been patriotic.

Mrs. Bishop's allusion to Count Inouve as "the greatest man Japan has sent to Korea" recalls the curious paralysis that affected the Government in Tokyo at the time of Count Inouye's last visit to Soul, It is now a matter of history that after the villainous coup d'état which cost the Queen her life, Count Inouye, partly by tactful and clever management, and partly, perhaps chiefly, by the confidence that his own personality inspired, succeeded in obtaining from all the Treaty Powers, Russia included, a mandate to place Japanese guards in the palace, and to employ Japanese troops and police for the protection of the King. Thus the very situation for which Japan might have been supposed to be longing was created; she was offered the place of predominance in Soul with the declared consent of Western States. But the Cabinet in Tokyo fell into a doubting mood. There was a dis-

to tread as the delegate of the Powers. It may have been to Japan's ultimate advantage that she failed to grasp the oc-We are inclined to think that it was. The attitude of the world towards her is still so censorious that she cannot Acts and methods which might pass muster were Russia or some other great Power responsible for them, would be roundly condemned did they stand to Japan's account. It is as well for the Japanese, on the whole, that they were spared the duty of appearing on the Korean stage as the representatives of Western civilization, but we do not believe that they derive much consolation from reflections of that

#### FRANCE AND HAINAN.

The telegram from Shanghai with reference to the pending occupation of Hainan by the French looks less apocryphal than previous intelligence of a similar character. Still, as the enterprise has not vet deen actually undertaken, its discussion would be premature. If "spheres of influence," are to be recognised in China, Hainan certainly lies within France's sphere. But there is neither occasion nor warrant for employing such euphemisms. The seizure of Hainan by an armed force of French marines, in time of peace and without even the poor pretext of a murdered missionary, would be neither more nor less than an international robbery, and so long as it remains an unaccomplished fact, we may be permit-ted to believe, for France's sake, that such an intention is not entertained. Besides, the capital of the island, Kiangchow, which found a place among the ports enumerated in the Treaty of Tientsin, was duly opened to trade in 1876, and if France annexed the island, she might find that fact embarrassing.

#### SARATOGA SPIT.

Having had occasion to notice the grounding of no fewer than three steamers within a fortnight on the Saratoga Spit, it occurs to us that the attention of shipmasters may be advantageously drawn to Questions 56, 48, 49, &c., in Captain T. H. Mahlmann's "Inland Sea and Coast Pilot," where very clear instructions are t on the Spit, in its description of Futsusaki at page 310, but, strange to say, at page 304, where general directions are given for the passage from Uraga channel to Yokohama, nothing is said about the Fort. Of course a really prudent shipmaster would read everything relating to waters which he was about to navigate, but the general directions would alone be consulted under ordinary circumstances, and it is very possible that, owing to their silence as well as to the silence of recent accidents have recurred. goes to confirm the necessity of careful rally, he would be acting precisely as the reference to Cantain Mahlon and second rally, he would be acting precisely as the reference to Cantain Mahlon and second rally, he would be acting precisely as the contain man then work.

They set out by alleging that the contribution of the set of the contribution of the contribut

#### THE SAPPORO PIG.

The Yezo Porker is becoming quite a lebrity. The poor brute would have celebrity. The poor brute would have perished "unwept, unhonoured and unsung" had not a Japanese newspaper safely undertake to discharge administra-tive functions in an international arena, the "Sapporo Sport," thus inadvertently supplying material for the "chorus of lishmen's inextinct barbarism, one of the irresponsible reviewers" who stand always critics retorted that two wrongs do not on the watch to rail at the mote in Japan's eye. Generally these reviewers enjoy almost a monopoly of their métier. They have succeeded in establishing such a reign of moral terror that no one dares to question the soundness of their judgments. It is the fashion to abuse the Japanese. If a man venture to stand up for them, to plead that they should be judged in accordance with the ordinary laws of fairness, he is looked at askance, branded as "unpatriotic," or suspected of some mercenary motive. Rather than brave that ordeal, quiet, peace-loving folks shrink from any public protest. They watch the sorry performance wearily, perhaps with an occasional thrill of indignation, but they don't interfere. "Let those newspaper fellows peg away," they say. "It is none of our business." Possibly we should speak of these things in the past. Certainly the spirit of intolerance used to he more potent than it is now. This pig logic to which the ingenuous critics have incident, for example, has induced some Englishmen to address to the Japan Times letters so outspoken that their publication a few years ago is scarcely con-ceivable. They are anonymous letters, it is true, and their anonymity is covered more effectually by the columns in which they appear than it would be in a local foreign newspaper. Still the opinions they embody and the language in which they are couched show courage rarely displayed in past times. Seldom indeed have members of the foreign communities in Japan extended practical recognition to the fine precept,

> "They are slaves who would not be In the right with two or three.

It is so much easier, so much less troublesome, to be a slave in that sense. The first correspondent that addressed the Japan Times was called "a mischievous meddler." That is typical. To express an independent opinion is to be publicly reviled. Better be dumb: it will be all the same a hundred years hence. So conscience is narcotized, and silence, easily construed as consent, reigns everywhere. The Sapporo Pig would have profited more by this mood half-a-dozen years ago given about the necessity of keeping in the channel between Forts No. 2 and No. 3. The "China Sea Directory," Vol. IV., animal is not without grounds of gratitude. 1894, mentions the existence of Fort No. Pity, partly genuine, has raised a monument to its memory and the mote-seeking chorus have carved thereon an indictment of Japanese savagery. But the truth of the inscription has been challenged, and the resulting controversy furnishes some quaint and instructive lessons. As usual, Japan's accusers have completely shifted their ground. The courage they display in performing pirouettes of that kind is splendid. If a man, having declared that the circumstances of a particular murder argued insanity on the part of other authorities on the same subject, the the murderer, and having been answered Vessels that murders perpetrated elsewhere under ling in the fire of martyrdom or bones have tried to pass between Forts No. 1 similar circumstances are not regarded as and No. 2, instead of between No. 2 and evidences of insanity, were to construe No. 3. If our conjecture be correct, it that answer as a defence of murders generated by the content of the construction of th

of the Sapporo officers in hunting a pig on the ice and beating it to death was an "unmistakable evidence of inextinct barbarism," and when it was pointed out that fox-hunting, coursing, fly-fishing, cock-fighting, badger-bailing, rat-worrying and such things, though practised largely in England, are not counted proofs of Engmake a right, and another complained that he was accused of cruelty because, although there is fox-hunting in England, he denounced the beating of a pig to death in Japan. Now there never was the least question about the inhumanity of the Sapporo pig's treatment. No one dreamed of excusing the act from an ethical point of view. The sole question was, what inference as to Japanese national character should be drawn from the affair. Did it really indicate "inextinct bar-barism?" The correspondents of the Japan Times, like ourselves, denied the justice of such an inference unless it were equally drawn from the British sports of fox-hunting, cock-fighting and so forth, whereupon they and we were accused of defending the Sapporo "sport." It is precisely as though one should say that not to attribute insanity to murderers is to condone murder. That is the kind of accustomed us. They really seem to be-lieve in its validity themselves, which is the strangest part of it all. One of them, further, contends gravely that cock-fighting is not a cruel pastime because " birds obtain pleasure from it in following out their natural instincts," and that pugilism is equally excluded from the category of semi-savage performances because the pugilists are volunteers. That is most instructive. It gives a new ethical status to the exercise of rudimentary passions. But it does not touch the real question at all. It has nothing whatever to do with the mood of the persons that set the cocks fighting or pay to see the pugilists boxing, and it is with that mood alone that we are concerned. Finally there is an assumption. There always is an assumption. It is the invariable habit of these critics to assume the worst possible motives on the part of any one that they desire to abuse, and then to abuse him for being influenced by such motives. In civilized Europe, they say, no one takes a pleasure in the sufferings inflicted on a hunted fox or deer, a baited badger or a worried rat. Men's affection for such pastimes is due to some other feature of the "sport." But in China and Japan what delights people is the sight of pain. "A Chinaman will practise terrible tortures on his enemies for the sake of the delight he derives from watching the quivering muscles and the shrinking flesh. An identical feeling must have animated the Japanese who watched a pig being beaten to death. The sufferings of the animal appear to have been the sole motive of the edifying spectacle." Could anything be simpler than that method of argument? There is not the smallest title of evidence that "quivering muscles and shrinking flesh" are delightful spectacles to a Chinaman. One might allege with equal justice that limbs shrivelshattered in the hoot of the Inquisition were pleasing objects to our own forefathers. But nothing is too bad for the

anything to show that "the sufferings of the pig were the sole motive of the Sapporo "sportsmen." On the contrary, the main element of fun was that they chased the animal over the ice, slipping and falling in their attempts to strike it. But civilization and refinement require that natural depravity should be attributed to the Japanese. So they are supposed to be guided by savage instincts and then it becomes quite easy to demonstrate that they are savages. That is the method of the critics. It is the acme of simplicity, and it seems to please them. Like the fighting cocks they derive pleasure from following their natural instinct, which is to slander an Oriental race, and therefore there can be no barm in slandering it.

#### THE WELCOME SOCIETY'S MAP.

The Welcome Society's map, to which we have already alluded in these columns, has evidently supplied a want, if we may judge from the demand that its publication has produced. Some of the copiesfor presentation purposes, we imagine-are enclosed in neat little cases after the true Japanese fashion, their portability and durability being greatly increased thereby. It has been suggested, we observe, by a Kobe journal that a better method of compilation in the case of this map would have been to prepare a series of sheets, devoting one to each district and employing a scale of such magnitude as to render the distances easily estimable. That plan certainly possesses advantages. But it has disadvantages also, and they are by no means insignificant. In the first place, the cost of compiling and printing a series of sheets would be comparatively heavy. It would be impossible to offer them at the very low price for which the single sheet can be procured. In the second place, it may be reasonably doubted whether the trouble and confusion of using a number of maps do not more than counterbalance the convenience of their greater clearness and minuteness. Besides, we do not understand that the Society's map is intended to serve all the purposes of a tourist or to enable him to dispense with other sources of information. It is rather designed to supplement the assistance procurable from the Society's guides.

#### RUSSIAN SHIPS IN PORT ARTHUR.

The telegram which we publish from Peking on the subject of the Russian ships in Port Arthur seems somewhat apocryphal. It is understood that the Chinese Government granted permission for the Russian Squadron to use Port Arthur as a winter station, and the 18th of February would surely be a rather early date to fix as the end of winter. The answer attributed to Russia sounds very strange, also. It amounts to saying that the presence of Russian men-of-war in Port Arthur guarantees the place against seizure by a foreign aggressor, and is consequently a matter for congratulation not only to the Middle Kingdom but also to Japan, for we presume that the latter is indicated when reference is made to another Power whose safety is secured by the procedure. From every point of view the message is incredible. It does not show any trace of the accuracy which usually distinguishes the Jiji Stim.

#### MR. J. F. FRASER AND THE TORYO LITERARY & MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The usual bi-monthly meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society takes place next Monday evening at 8 o'clock. The Committee of the Society have taken advantage of the Round-the-World Cyclists' presence in Tokyo to invite them to speak of their experiences by the way. But as Mr. Fraser has already pledged himself to deliver a lecture on that subject in Yokohama on Tuesday evening, he is, of course, precluded from ac-ceding to the Tokyo Society's request. ceding to the Tokyo He has expressed his willingness, however, to speak about his three years' experience as a Journalist in the House of Commons. It will not, we understand, be a serious talk, but only an impressionist, chatty account of how an evening passes at St. Stephens. The members of the Society will doubtless find much interest in such an address, and we may suggest that as the topic concerns the Japanese also, the occasion will be specially suitable for inviting some of the latter to attend,

Mr. Frazer, the journalist and cyclist, spoke for forty minutes on Monday evening at the bi-monthly meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society. He chose for his subject the British Houses of Parliament, with which three years experience as a reporter has thoroughly smiliarized bim. It was an interesting and entertaining lecture-discourse would, perhaps be a more correct term—, delivered in an easy, unaffected manner and couched in simple, straightforward language. Mr. Fraser has a fund of dry humour, which he dispenses in a casual, incidental way and with a perfectly grave face. His audience does not always discover the joke until the time to laugh at it has passed, and the sense of belated amusement adds to the fun. He paid no compliments whatever to the parliamentary institutions of Great Britain. Indeed, the sum of the impressions conveyed by his swift, clever sketches was that the procedure of the Houses particles largely of the farcical and that the whole business borders Yet there was much solid inon burlesque. formation sandwiched between witty caricatures. As to the method of stenographic reporting, for example, Mr. Frazer undertook to dispel the popular delusion that the langer the debate the more onerous must be the labour of the reporter, In point of fact, a long important debate costs the stenographer little effort. The great debates are undertaken by a band of eight stenographere, each of whom reports for two minutes and then devotes ten to transcribing his shorthand notes into long hand. Thus if he works without the smallest hitch or intermission, he may get about three minutes rest out of every sixteen, which means that in a debate lasting two homes and forty minures, he has a total breathing time of thirty minutes divided into ten spaces of three minutes each. As each section of the debate is transferred to paper, it is telegraphed to the syndicate of journals for which the atenographers work, and so perfect is the organization, so rapid the process of transmission, that a debate commencing # 4 p.m. and ending at 6 45, is published in full in Belfast at 7 15. That kind of thing was characterized by Mr. Fraser as easy work. The tough, harrassing task, he said, was when a reporter had to work alone on less important occasions. with, it might be, an hour of unrelieved responsibiliy in view, he takes his seat in the little box allotted for his use, gets his paper ready, sharpens his pencil, and setting busily to work writes down, "the debate was continued by the Irish members," after which he falls as eep, or goes out for a drink or a smoke. Speaking of the celebrated fight in the House, which he

believing himself assaulted, struck out, with the inevitable result that the fraces speedily de-But if this veloped considerable proportions. explanation somewhat extenuates a disgraceful scene, Mr. Fraser's description of the methods employed to cut short a prosy speech, and of the obstacles encountered by private bills, did not enhance the reputation of the Lower House, When the Commons do not want to be bored by a speaker, they fire off at him an incessant volley of "'vide" "'vide" "'vide," or "agreed," "agreed," under which he at length sinks discountied into his seat. As for private measures, the rule is that after mid-night "unopposed bills" may be brought forward. A member accordingly gets up to introduce some small harmless project and the way seems clear before him, when another member, who has been enjoying a sound sleep, auddenly wakes up, and for the sake of legislative activity calls out "I object," The measure then be-comes an "opposed bill" and its chance of passing disappears. But though its introducer has been deprived of his hope, revenge remains. He "lies low" nutil, one night, the "I object" member introduces a bill of his own; explains its provisions in a casual, de-precatory (ashion; points out that they concern only a small section of a particular constituency and declares that they will be as beneficent as they are necessary. But just when he appears to be on the point of success, the member whose little scheme he baulked a week, perhaps a month, previously, jumps up and cries "I object." "Surely the honorable member can not have observed that the scope of the measure is limited to one locality where such a reform is locally essential," pleads the introducer of the bill. In vain. The "I object" is iterated more strenuously than before, and the bill periob-es. "That is how," said Mr. Fraser, "you never hear of any private bills passing," The process of going into Committee he described somewhat as follows:-" There is a most interesting and important ceremony called going into com-mittee. It is managed in this way. The Speaker says:—'I move that the Speaker do now leave the chair all that support the motion will say aye all that are of the contrary opinion no the ayes have it. It is all delivered in a breath. Then he leaves the chair, Sergeant-at-Arma rushes in and moves the the Mace, and the ceremony is over. No one has said 'aye'; no one 'no'; no one has laken any notice whatever." With many such descriptions and many accounts of the mannerisms and methods of parliamentary celebrities did Mr. Fraser entertain the Society. He spake from very brief notes, to which he made tare reletence, and there could be no question about the pleasure he gave to his

We learn that the Asiatic Society of Japan has invited Mr. Fraser to lecture on March and, and that he has promised in do so, taking for his subject "Burmah and south-western China," a topic specially interesting at this inneutre.

#### P. & O. "BORNEO" IN COLLISION.

the steuographers work, and so perfect is the organization, so rapid the process of transmission, that a debate commencing # 4 p.m. and ending at 6 45, is published in full in Belfast at 7 15. That kind of thing was characterized by Mr. Fraser as easy work. The tough, harrassing task, he said, was when a reporter had to work alone on less important occasions. Then, with, it might be, an hour of unrelieved responsibility in view, he takes his seat in the little box allotted for his use, gets his paper ready, sharpens his pencil, and setting busily to work writes down, "the debate was continued by the frish members," after which he falls asleep, or goes out for a drink or a smoke. Speaking of the celebrated fight in the House, which he witnessed, Mr. Fraser says that its fisti uff phases were the outcome of an accident. In the cough har thad her stem rather badly hent. The passenger at the part was and her two sone, and the little with the large was and the little with the large was considered. In the large was a second to be dogged by ill-luck lately. About a week ago she ran aground on the Spir, and on Sunday morning, as she was clearing out of Yokohama Hatbour, as he substained aut on Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut on Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut on Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she substained aut of Yokohama Hatbour, she says she it is entired to the little entrance of the beakwater as the Japan-the entrance of the beakwater as the Ja

## "SCOTUS" AND CALIBAN.

The letter addressed recently "Scotus" to this journal, in which he dubbed the Japanese coolie "a very high-smelling edition of Caliban," has naturally been quoted with admiration in Kobe. Yet it would scarcely have been possible to pen a grosser libel than that of which "Scotus" was guilty. For, in the first was guilty. For, in the first place, the Japanese coolie is probably the cleanest representative of the labouring class in the world. He takes a bath every day, and, if his clothes are sometimes ancient, they are very rarely so mal-odorous as to be offensive. In the second place, he is unquestionably the very politest representative of the labouring class in the world. There is no "pro-bably" about that. He has been showing himself truculent of late to foreigners, but in every-day life he generally understands and practises courtesy to a degree without parallel elsewhere. "Scotus" simply parallel elsewhere. indulged in a riot of epithets when he called the Japanese coolie "a high-smelling edition of Caliban." But the tone of his whole letter was a good deal above concert pitch.

#### BANK OF JAPAN.

The last half-yearly statement of the Bank of Japan is an exceptionally interest-ing document. The gross profits and losses at the head office, branches, and agencies stand thus :-

•	Profits. Yen	Losses. Yen.
Head Office		2,736,766
Osaka Branch	1,590 675	76.775
Bakan Branch	350,420	18,620
Hakkaido Branch.,	136,037	60.371
Nagoya Branch	145,131	28,083
Sapporo Agency	1,154	14,090
Kyoto Agency	142,747	16,384
Taipeli Agency	- 2,803	348.731
Otaru	16,492	2,146
-		

Total ......16,880,279 3,301,966 These sums are singularly large. Profits aggregating nearly 17 million yen and losses totalling 31 millions are remarkable figures in the case of a bank with a paid up capital of only 22½ millions. Both the profits and the losses, however, include special items. As to the former, it appears that for several years the Bank has had in its vaults a large reserve of gold coin and gold bullion, the silver price of which has been steadily appreciating. In other words, the gold reserve, when expressed in the silver mint of Japanese currency, represented a greater sum year by year. But this process of growth appeared on paper only. The Bank did not actually exchange the gold for silver, nor did the Directors venture to regard as actual profit a difference which might at any time be wiped out were silver rehabilitated at the ratio that connected the precious metals fifteen or twenty years ago. When, however, Japan adopted gold monometallism, the ratio of 1 to 32 (omitting fractions) was definitely fixed for this country, and the Directors could then say with certainty that the gold reserve represented exactly twice as many units in the new system of currency as it had represented in the old at the time of the Bank's establishment. Here, then, was a clear gain, amounting, so far as we can see, to 71 million yen. In short, by the adoption of the gold standard at a ratio of 1 to 32, extent of 71 million yen.

Digitized by

splendid transaction for the Bank. It has shown the profit now in its semi-annual accounts, and carried the whole sum to its capital fund, which thus becomes 30 million yen. There are 150,000 shares of 200 yen each, 150 yen of which had been paid up, and, 50 yen being added by means of this gold profit, the shares are not liable to any further calls. Even when from the total gross profits we deduct the above sum of 71 millions, there remains 91 millions, a striking figure, being, in fact, over 41 per cent of the capital with which the Bank was working. The special item included in the very large losses-34 million yenis depreciation of securities. Owing to the keen demand for money during last year, the rate of interest toos the paying a the market price of all securities paying a Thus fixed interest fell in proportion. Thus there has been a serious shrinkage in the value of the Bank's reserve of securities, and the depreciation is wisely written off as loss, though there can be little doubt that it will be ultimately recovered.

The working expenses of the Bank and its various branches and agencies totalled 2,374,783 yen, so that the net profit was 10,804,590, and this was distributed as follows :--

Ordinary Dividend (6 per cent. per	Yes.
annam)	. 675 006
Special Dividend (7 per cent, pe	r
##BBBB)	. 787.500
Fifty yen added to each share	7,500,000
To Reserve Fund	1,370,000
Rewards, &c. to officers	. 180.000
Carried over to next account	292,090
	10,894,590

#### NIPPON BICYCLE CLUB.

Sunday could scarcely be considered satisfactory for wheelmen, the sky being overa bleak and stiffish northerly wind prevailed until late in the afternoon. In spite of the weather, however, the members of the Nippon Bicycle Club and their guests of the Sorin Club, Tokyo, managed to have a most enjoyable field day at Honmoku and Sugits. About fifty members of the Nippon Club assembled at No. 42 at about 9.30, and rode to Yokohama Railway Station, where they were joined by some thirty brother wheelmen of the Sorin Club, who trained it from Tokyo. The joint party then rode through the Settlement and via the main Bluff road and Kitagata to Honmoku, where they rested and were most hospitably entertained by the President of the Club, Mr. J. L. O. Eyton, at his commodious villa by the aca-side. A choice repast was provided and the Lown Band was also in attendance and played a selection. A little before 12 o'clock the procession reformed and a start was made for Sugita, which was reached without mishap at I o'clock. The Bay View Hotel had been chartered for the occasion, and gaily de-corated with flags lent by Mr. Wright, Captains Pope, Wallace, and Pritchard, while the garden had been surrounded with mats to keep out the cold wind and three long tables arranged for tiffin, the President, Mr. Eyton, Sr., presiding, with the Captain of the Club, Mr. Laffin, and Hon. Sec., Mr. K. Kingdon, as Vice-Chairmen. A capital cold tiffin with delicacies of all sorts, and choice wines, received full justice from those assembled, while the Band, which was accommodated in a kiosk in the garden, played a selection of music. Several short speeches a selection of music. Several short speeches were made—one by the President, welcoming the Sorin members, a reply by Mr. Kato, another by Mr. Inouye, of the Nippon Club, while Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu made a most able and the currency value of the gold reserve of fluent interpreter. The wish expressed by all the Bank of Japan was enhanced to the the speakers was to draw closer the bonds of

sportsmen. After a most enjoyable couple of hours or so at Sugita, during which a number of photographs were taken of various groups, start was made for Yokohama, the members of the Nippon Club accompanying their guests to the railway station. Although there were crowds of Japanese, all along the road, including all the school boys from Yokohama, no trouble or accident occurred, the police authorities having, at the suggestion of the President of the Nippon Club, posted police all along the route followed by the cyclists. Had it not been for this precaution it is probable that some unpleasantness or accident would have occurred, for a certain class of Japanese pedestrians appear to think that the prestige of the country is injured if they move out of the way of a foreigner on a wheel

#### YOKOHAMA SEAMEN'S MISSION.

The popularity of the cirtertainments given under the auspices of the Scauner's Mission was evidenced on Thursday, when there was a very large audience to listen to the excellent musical programme arranged. The Rev. W. T. Austen presided, and a number of well-known local amateurs took part in the performance, "Miss amateurs took part in the performance. Miss Leighton contributed three items, including "The song that reached my heart" and a clever negro whistling song; Madame Henckler sang thrice, "Way Down upon the Swanee River," and "Sweet Marie" being perhaps the favourites; Mr. Scharr was heard to advantage in "The Lost Chord" and "Ye Gentlemen of England;" and Mrs. Robinson also favoured with two enjoyable vocal contributions in addition to a pincefect descriptions in addition to a pincefect descriptions. contributions in addition to a planoforte duct with Miss Booth. Miss Scott, whose name is already familiar to the Yokohama musical world in connection with the Philharmonic Society, gave a violin solo in a manner that showed that she has improved considerably in technique since she last appeared on a public platform. Mr. Borden played a cornet selection. At the close of the programme the sallors gave three cheers for the promoters of the concert and the performers.

#### THE ELSIE ADAIR COMPANY.

There was a very fair though not full atten-dance at the Public Hall on Thursday evening, on the occasion of the farewell performance of the Esca Adair Company. The various items on the programme went with plenty of "go" from beginning to end and were almost all greeted with warm applause. After a pisno overture by Mr. Lionel Jupp, who also rendered efficient service as accompanist through the evening, the amusing little one act comedy "The Decision of the Court," by Brander Mathews, was capitally played by the sprightly Elsie and Mr. Eddison, a local comedian of no small ability, as Mrs. and Mr. Algernos Stanyhurst respectively. There is but one scene in the sketch—a visit paid by Mr. Stanyhurst, an English aristocrat who has married an American girl, on his wife, who has applied to the Court for a divorce on the ground of desertion, and "international incompatibility." During the course of the interview the decision of the Court, granting the divorce, arrives, but in the meanwhile a reconciliation is effected between the husband and wife, the Court's decision set aside, and conjugal happiness once more reigns supreme. A score or so of capital scenes on the vitascope were exhibited by Prof. Hoffmann; Mr. Walter Vanderlip delivered an amusing "single handed debate" and sang a amusing "single handed debate" and sang a comic sing, "Girl wanted": while Miss Elsie Adair also in the first part sang several most amusing comic and serio comic aongs in her most piquante style. The second part of the programme comprised a comic sketch "A fancy dress ball in a Lunatic Asylum, which introduced a number of songs and dances by Miss Elsie Adair and Mr. Walter Vanderlip, and elicited much hearty laughter and applause from the audience.

That was a social intercourse between foreign and Japanese Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLI UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### KOBE COOLIES.

HE behaviour of coolies in Kobe has evidently aroused much indignation among the residents of that place, for they have addressed memorials on the subject to the Foreign Representatives. Such a course is to be welcomed, we think, because the sooner a remedy is applied, the better for all parties. Direct communication in the first instance with the Japanese Local Authorities would doubtless have been a more tactful and probably a more efficacious method of procedure, for, after all, it is to the Governor of the Prefecture alone that the community as a whole can properly address itself. But so long as Consular Jurisdiction exists, there will always be a feeling of hesitation on the part of the foreign resident to place himself in communication with Japanese officialdom. We do not mean to suggest that recourse to diplomatic or Consular aid is in any sense to be deprecated. The point is that as each nationality must observe the etiquette of communicating with its own Representative only, a combination of nationalities for the purposes of a memorial becomes irregular. Such a document can not be received or acted on with propriety by any Foreign Minister, as the Kobe memorialists have probably discovered by this time. On the other hand, where a grievance is common to all nationalities, it seems a pity that the force attaching to a joint protest can not be exercised, as it would be by recourse to the phase of the matter, the question to be considered is that of a remedy. There can be no doubt about the reality of the facts com-Japanese a none-the-less disagreeable, disposition on the part of foreigners to attach full credit to every statement of the treatment formerly extended to the be made on those accounts, however, there remains a solid mass of testimony Japanese Authorities will be consulting their own nationals and uniformly devotdischarging their duty to the foreign re- them, denounce as a hypocrite or a hiresidents, by adopting some corrective measure. Probably the simplest would be the for the Japanese-some of these most issue of a notification by the Governors equitable critics will, of course, assail us. of Hyogo and Kanagawa Prefectures, But every impartial foreign resident who embodying a warning to the coolies and devotes a moment's calm thought to the instructions to the police. It is unneces- question must endorse our assertion. sary for us to discuss the terms of such a Why, indeed, should things have fallen out notification, but we may say here that its differently? The Japanese used formerly remedial efficacy is generally assumed to be just as undiluted Orientals in the by foreigners, and that they find pro- eyes of Europeans and Americans as the portionate difficulty in understanding the Chinese, or the Malays or the Maoris, Authorities' hesitation to take so simple and used to be treated in accordance with a step.

accusations preferred against the coolie, and we are very far from doing anything of the kind. Some critics-many, indeedallege that the war has exercised a demoralizing effect upon the lower orders; that they are burdened with "swollen heads "-to use a slang expression-; that, in short, they have lost their moral balance and become subservient to blind impulses of delirious patriotism. It is possible that the diagnosis many be partially correct. We hesitate to contradict it, but we desire to point out that if such conditions exist, they ought not to be limited to particular districts but should be equally observable everywhere. In the three capital cities, however, and in the provinces generally, we can not discover that the demeanour of the labouring classes towards foreigners has undergone any alteration for the worse during the past three years. In the midst of general courtesy and kindliness there was always an off-chance of encountering a rude, truculent or inebriated plebeian, and there is just about the same chance now that there was before the war. But in the foreign settlements and their vicinity an unwelcome change has certainly taken place. What is the reason? Some may reply. perhaps, that opportunities for displays of roughness being incomparably more numerous at the open ports than elsewhere, the record is worse there, but that the fact does not warrant any inference as to the radical superiority of other places. That is a point worth considera-Japanese Authorities. Apart from that tion, but to us another and a very different reason presents itself; a reason which we fear will be found unwelcome but which must in justice be stated. It is that the plained of. They have frequently been present generation of foreign residents exaggerated in newspaper columns, and are suffering for the sins of their predethere has always been a natural, but to the cessors. We speak from the experience of a great many years when we assert that, whatever be the case now-a-days, their own nationals and to show equally Japanese labourer was essentially the wholesale distrust of everything advanced treatment of an Oriental by an Occidental. on the Japanese side. Whatever allowance We shall be abused for saying so, no doubt. Some of the ingenuous critics, who, while indignantly repudiating the against the treaty-port coolie, and the faintest suggestion of fault on the side of the advantage of the country, no less than ling their pens to flattering and exalting ling every one that ventures to say a word that view. Truly we may go a step far-

pleans they are still so treated. Not

by the better classes, of course. If we except the scarcely avoidable petulance due to ignorance of the language of the country, the demeanour of respectable foreigners towards the Japanese at present leaves little to be desired. But it is not always so with liberty-men, with the denizens of "Blood Town" and with the lower orders of foreigners generally. Their manner towards the Japanese is too often rude and offensive, the manner of superior beings to inferior. The Japanese do not count themselves inferior beings. They have none of the Oriental's wonted servility, and if for a long time their respect for the Occidental's knowledge and attainments checked the resentment his attitude towards them would otherwise have provoked, that restraint, gradually ceasing to be efficient, has been replaced by a feeling of umbrage which, though its causes are chiefly retrospective, is now making itself unpleasantly active. The educated classes assert themselves by dispensing with foreign assistance-dispensing with it prematurely, to their own great loss and detriment-, and by struggling for commercial independence which they are not yet prepared to exercise without disaster. The students vindicate their patriotic instincts by swagger, sometimes developing into boisterous defiance. The coolie resorts to muscular methods-his only methods-in order to show that he is as good a man as the best of the Tojin. Had we not foreseen all this years ago, and foretold it over and over again in these columns, we should not speak so confidently now. To folks garnering an evil harvest it is small consolation to be told that the seed was bad. That is the truth, however, in the present case, and it had better be recognised. The foreign settlements are the chief scenes of the trouble because it is in the foreign settlements that the sentiment of umbrage and the morbid impulse of self-assertion have been educated, and because it is there also that practical evidences of Western superiority are still occasionally thrust upon native attention. It is not our object to justify the Japanese. wrongs do not make a right. We seek to explain rather than to excuse, and we have written very clumsity if there be any doubt about our conviction that the conduct now laid to the charge of the Japanese student and the Japanese coolie is, on the whole, without presently visible provocation, and that it will inflict incomparably more injury upon the Japanese themselves than upon foreign residents who are the immediate sufferers. the rest, nothing is less desirable than that any causes of mutual ill-feeling should be suffered to rankle or gain potency by way of preface to the passing of foreigners under Japanese Jurisdiction, and we should imagine that the expediency of applying To dismiss the subject at this point ther, and say that by many Europeans or some remedy must be clearly recognised by a Capited like that now in office.
VERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### BARON IWASAKI AND THE BANK OF JAPAN.

On the 19th instant the Bank of Japan held its regular annual general meeting, and the President, Baron Iwasaki, delivered the following speech, which we translate from the Shogyo Shimpo :-

Gentlemen,—In making my report of the working of the Bank for the 30th year of Meiji, I propose to submit for your consideration and approval some remarks about the state of economical circles and the cardinal points of the Bank's business during the year,

At the commencement of last year, as a consequence of the excessive pressure of monetary affairs at the close of the preceding year, a feeling of measiness prevailed in the market, which was not allayed until the month of February or March. Trade in the United States having then at length recovered its tone, the stack of silk that had accumulated in Yokohama since the preceding year began gradually to be sold off, and public confidence seemed to be somewhat restored. Thereafter the market price of Public Bonds rose by degrees, and the deposits of the various banks showed a tendency to increase. But though the market outwardly evinced a disposition to grow easier, its real condition was very far from inspiring confidence. Im proportion to the daily progress of the works forming part of the Government's recovery was scattered singuisment's programme, money was scattered among the people in steadily increasing quantities, and the sums that had in be paid up an account of newly established banks and companies did not fall short of several millions monthly. Prices lose higher and higher; the balance of the foreign trade suffered more and more violent disturbance, and surrers more and more violent disturbance, and the demand for capital promised to be very large as the silk and ten seasons approached. The Bank, then, feeling that it would be wrong to remain quiescent in the face of such discumstances and not to adopt any presentations altered in the face. quiescent in the face of such circumstances and not to adopt any precautions, altered its table of interest on the 14th of June, raising the rate on loans and advances by 2 rin daily. Entering the second half of the year, the demand for capital became great, and in consequence of the cautious attitude adopted by the various banks, the shares of the companies began to fall, on the one hand, and the circulation of money became so unsatisfactory that the Bank was obliged to adopt some remedial measure. But since the spring, the Bank had been gradually paying back the sums deposited with it by the Government, and it consequently had no resource except to obtain permission for an issue of notes above the legal limit in order to satisfy the needs of the moment. At the same time, persuaded, on the other hand, the same time, persuaded, on the other hand, that it was imporatively necessary to adopt pre-cautions so as to prevent disorderly outgoings of capital, suitable occasions were sought, and twice, namely, in August and October, the rate of interest was again raised by one rin daily. About that time, owing to the influence of a rumour that the United States Government was about to throw upon the market the accumulations of silver lying in its vaults, the gold price of the white metal and dealy declined, and fears began to be entertained about the working of the new monetary system.

Again, official reports having been received in

August and September of violent storms in pro-August and September of violent storms in pro-vincial localities, apprehensions were felt about a failure of the rice crop, and, owing to the combined influence of these various disturbing causes, the market fell into a state of still greater depression. Further, owing to fluctuations in the rate of exchange upon China, the export of cotton yains received a temporary check, and the Osaka market, which had already been suffering severely from flucancial difficulties, became yet more defrom financial difficulties, became yet more de from financial difficulties, became yet more de-pressed. Bonds and shares also began to depre-ciate, and such a universal sense of uneasiness was engendered that a panic seemed almost im-minent. The Bank, therefore, endeavoured, so far as the circumstances would permit, to provide monetary facilities, and happily the year closed without any serious trouble. It thus resulted that, at the close of the year, the Bank's loans, independ-ently of its advances to the Gavernment, aggregate ently of its advances to the Government, aggregate ed 104,790,000 jen, an amount imprecedented since the opening of the institution.

As a necessary consequence of this large ac-As a necessary consequence of this large accommodation given to the public by the Bank, the issue of convertible notes aggregated 226,223,000 yen, being 47,310,000 yen above the legal limit. Now, as any issue in excess of the legal limit is an exceptional circumstance, it naturally becomes a matter of keen attention on the part of the public, but when the circumstances are carefully considered it in found that the excessive carefully considered it in found that the excessive

since the war. In May, 1896, as a result of the arrangement for mutual deposits in the matter of deposits in the matter the Indemnity, a sum of 50 million year was in-childed in the Bank's reserves from that source, and deposits of hard money subsequently imported by the Government, caused a temporary increase in the coin reserves. But as these deposits were for the tase of the Government, they had to be gradually returned, and by September, 1897, the amount thus returned was 42,500,000 yen, and to make up for this it was inevitable that recourse should be had to the innue of notes against ollers. should be had to the issue of notes against office securities. Thus it comes about that the legal limit was passed.

general state of the money market being unsarisfactory, as I have already stated, and the banks, as a rule, being extremely cautious in their operations, the rate of interest rose; the market price of shares fell; and ominous unnours became and ble from time to time. Nevertheless, the general development of economic affairs not only suffered no check, but seems to have advanced steadily. Thus the volume of the foreign trade in steadily. Thus the volume of the foreign trade in imports and exports rose to over 382,430,000 year, an increase of 92,910,000 year as compared with the figure for the preceding year; the clearances effected at the clearing houses of Tokyo and Osaka aggregated 713.850,000 yen, showing an increase of 158,020,000 yen over the previous year's returns; the capital of the various banks and companies which were newly started or which made additions to their capital amounted to over 193,840,000 yen, and the sums of capital paid up on call to the banks and companies already in existence totalled 60,500,000 yen approximately. All these results are evidences of economical progress. But of course the growth in the volume gress. But of course the growth in the volume of business caused an increased demand for capital, and, the balance of foreign trade being unfavour-able, there was a tendency for further sums to be drawn away, so that an unsatisfactory state of the money market became an unavoidable consequence. Still, the rise in the price of rice and in rates of Still, the rise in the price of rice and in rates of wages had a compensatory influence in maintaining an appearance of prosperity; in illustration of which it may be noted that the subscriptions for the shares of the Industrial Bank aggregated fonteen times the amount to be issued; that extraordinary success attended the placing of the shares of the Banks of Agriculture and Industry opened in the various localities, and that the demand for all articles of merchandise remained as brish as ever. All these things can not be regarded otherwise than as signs of prosperity. brisk as ever. All these things can not be ed otherwise than as signs of prosperity.

Thus while, on the one hand, a state of pro-sperity existed, on the other there was a marked deficiency of capital. How to correct such an anomalous economic condition is a question of the

greatest difficulty.

A general appreciation of the price of commodi-A general appreciation of the price of commodities being one of the concomitants of public prosperity, that phenomenon grew more and more marked during last year. If we compare the average market quotations for daily necessaries in December with the corresponding figures prior to the War, we find that the former show an increase of actually forty per cent. It is fatther a natural result that the appreciation of commodities should lead to an increase of imports. Thus the total value of the imports last year was 219,300,000 year, the excess over the value of the exports reaching the large figure of 56,160,000 year. exports reaching the large figure of 56,160,000 yen. The items that contributed principally towards the tens that contributed principally towards this large import trade were machinery, raw materials, and rice to meet the deficiency caused by last year's bad crop. Nevertheless, a relation certainly exists between the volume of imports and the prices of commodities in the domestic markets, so that, as a future of national economy, this state of affairs is not without elements of uneasiness.

The reform of the system of currency effected last year was an economic event of the highest importance. It may be said to have imparted a completely new aspect to the country's finance. But as a measure of such magnitude must exercise a permanent effect upon the affairs of the nation, its advantages or disadvantages could not be lightly estimated. Consequently, no sooner did the problem come up for public discussion, than the problem come up for public discussion, than arguments pro and contro were heard, and no prospect of the controversy heing settled presented itself. Still, public opinion was on the whole favourable, and, the Imperial Diet having passed the Bill by a large majority, the gold-standard system was finally put into operation from the 1st of October. Prior to the enforcement of the new Law, much discussion took place about its prohable effects, but inasmuch as rates of exchange on foreign countries, the prices of commodities. on foreign countries, the prices of commodities, and other matters likely to feel the effects of the

ration of the system. The gold price of silver fell in a few mouths from 29 pence per ounce to 23 pence, and rose again to 27 pence, but, despite these extraordinary fluctuations, the rate of exchange upon gold-using countries remained always near the normal point, and no special effect was noticeable in that direction. Exchange upon China only underwent sharp fluctuations and much embarrassment was experienced by merchants trading with that country. That, of course, was unavoidable. Further, the results of the new system, so far as payments in connexion with the exchange of silver coins are concerned, have not been large. During the period of three months, exchanges of siver come are concerned, never the been large. During the period of three months, from October 1st to December 31st, the total of such exchanges effected at the Bank of Japan, its branches and agencies, did not exceed some 13,039,000 yen. The publicat

13,030,000 yen.

The publication of a weekly statement of the Bank's business was commenced from January 1st of last year. It is the custom in all foreign countries that the central banking institution should publish such reports of the state of its business and convey information as to the condition of the money market. When the Bank was established, however, its husiness was very small, and as there did not appear to be any necessity for publishing a report, the matter was left in abeyance. Of late, however, the Bank's transactions have developed so largely that they suffice to furnish a general index of the state of the money market, and, that fact being supplemented by the special consideration that economic to affairs having assumed a very complex character since the war, all information about monetary conditions is valuable to the public, it appeared essential that a report should be published, and measures in that sense were accordingly adopted.

It having been decided to nudertake transconvey information as to the condition of the money

It having been decided to undertake trans-actions with individuals and to amend the system of securities, these changes were put into operation from the 14th of Juir, simultaneously with the revision of the table of interest. As to trans-actions with individuals, the object of under-taking these was to facilitate the circulation of money and equalize the rates of interest. As to the amendment of the system of securities, its aim was to abolish the special term " security notes" (sampohim suki-legata), and to bring greater caution to bear on the choice of stares taken as security. As to the revision of the table of interest, a marked differentiation was made between the discount on commercial paper and that on other notes, simply

for the purpose of encouraging operations with the former and contributing to the development of credit transactions.

The accountant functions of the Bank were originally discharged by the Second Section of the Secretariat, but since these functions must evidently become more onerous in proportion to the increase of the Bank's business, an Accountant Bureau was newly organized on the 1st of May, and the duty was entrusted to it of dealing with matters of accounts for all the bureaus and sections, exercising general supervision, and ensuring theorough accuracy and homogeniety. Further, as a consequence of the change of the currency system, the name "Silver Convertible Notes Bureau" was changed to "Issue Bureau" from the 1st of October. The accountant functions of the Bank were October.

It is one of the Bank's paramount objects that its branches should be opened in all the chief marts of the empire so as to facilitate the circulation of money and equalize rates of interest. Hence, during the course of last year, a branch was established in Nagoya, and business began there on the 1st of March. Moreover, the Oteru branch agency was changed to a regular agency, and commenced operations from the 1st of Navenber. ember.

It is necessary that special reference should be made to the subject of the division of profits. The great divergence that has taken place of late years great divergence that has taken place of late years between the prices of gold and silver in terms of each other, has had the effect of producing a correspondingly large appreciation of the silver value of the Bank's reserves of gold coin and gold builtion. It can not be desied that the gain accouning to the Bank on that account is actual profit. But as the mutual fluctuations of the two metals were always beyond the range of forecast; these gains were not included in the regular prothese gains were not included in the regular profits, but their amount was shown in a special "Gold and Silver Exchange Account," the actual state of the Bank's liabilities being thus clearly indicated. As a result, however, of the change effected in the currency system, the gain under this heading assumes the character of a permanent profit, and it has accordingly been decided to devote it to the payment of a special dividend. We propose that this special dividend shall be applied to meet the calls upon shares not carefully considered it is found that the excessive altered system had gradually undergone the constant is sue was not only unavoidably necessary, but also believed changes before the actual operation of the yellowing measure in that sense is subthat, in point of the point of the point of the color of the called changes before the actual operation of the yellowing measure in that sense is subthat, in point of the point of the color of the called that is necessary.

be fully paid up, but as the operation has not the effect of increasing the institution's working capital in any way, it becomes necessary to direct your attention to the fact that this step may make it impossible to pay dividends at the cates hitherto declared, and may even eventuate in much smaller

I venture to add a word in conclusion. Since I was appointed to my present office in November of the year before last, more than a year has elapsed. During that time, unworted phenomena have presented themselves in economic affairs, and liave presented themselves in economic affeits, and many exceptional measures have been necessary in dealing with them. I have been much concerned lest the practical results should prove defective. But so far as concerns the spirit of those measures. I have been invariably inspired by a unique desire to promote the country's economic interests, and while the responsibilities devolving on the Bank must grow heavier hereafter in proportion to the viciositudes that will occur in the realm of economy. I promise that I shall be undeviatingly guided by the same apirit in every measure that I adopt, and I tenst, gentlemen, that you will accept my assurance.

#### TUESDAY'S GALE.

The strong northerly gale of yesterday did not pass over Yokohama without doing some damage afloat. Mr. Scidmore's new schooner Vamato Damashi broke away from her moorings opposite the Grand Hotel, owing to the fracture of a link in her chain cable, and with one sendo on board drifted out through the creek entrance to the harbour towards the P. M. Wharf. A steam launch, however, came to her assistance and towed her to a point inshore, midway between the British Naval Depot and the P. M. Wharf. This morning she was towed to a safer anchorage near the Pier. The only damage the yacht received was the scraplug of her paint and some of her copper torn off: not a seam was started. Several of the smaller yachts at the anchorage were in difficulties, and one, the 17-rater Deponia, filled and went to the bottom bows first. She can, however, easily be raised. Necessarily all working of cargo was suspended in the harbour, and me a consequence the departure of the P. & O. steamer Rosetta and the Shanghai mail boat Saikio Maru had to be postponed, the two vessels leaving the harbour this mora-ing before 9 o'clock. Probably we shall hear later on of some casualties to cargo boats. etc., between here and Tokyo, but the local lighters appear to have escaped accident. Ashore some damage is reported to fences and outbuildings, and two jinrikishas were over-turned during one of the fierce squalls in the forenoon in the streets of Yokohama, but the occupants formnately escaped unhurt.

#### TRADE OF KOREA.

The foreign trade of Chemuipo, Korea last rear amounted to about 10,000,000 yen. Following are details :--

# Exports.

(Korean products).					
To Japan	2,876,041 yen	ŧ			
n China	669,005 ,,				
n Russia	97,920 11				
(Foreign product	s),				
То Јаран	64,960 ,,				
China	23.615 ,, 8,249 ,,				
Russia	8,249				
[MFORTS.					
From Japan	2,728,977				
China	3,134,084 ,,				
Russia	5,545 =				

The figures for the past ten years are as

10110M :				
Exports.		Imports.		Total .
1888 396,295		1,688,708	***	2,085,003
1889 454.963		1,843,759	***	2,293.722
18901,440,133	***	2,572,161	114	4.012,292
1891 1.433.217		3,165,935	44.5	4.599,152
18921,062,125		3.041,327	***	4,103,452
1893 678,826		2,435.310		3.114.136
18941,320,909	***	3,703.175	***	5,024,084
1895 1,455,737	111	5.017,086	714	6.472,823
18061.913.814		3.709.383		5.623, 197

#### TAPANESE TEA TRADE.

The tea trade of Japan, remarks the Osake Asahi, had its genesis before the Restoration, and when that event took place the amount exported had already reached ten million catties, valued at 3.500,000 ven. The trade has since undergone changes, but with the exception of a decline which made itself apparent immediately before and after the civil war in the 10th year of Meiji, every year saw progress. Statistics show that by the 20th year of Mein the tea exported amounted to thirty-five million cattles, valued at 7,600,000 or 7,700,000 yen. The growing prosperity, however, gave rise to spurious manufacture, and, Japanese tea having lost much of its reputation in foreign markets, the amount of export has considerably decreased. Alarmed by these circumstances, the tea-dealers endeavoured to restore their cradit at all costs, and they succeeded in accomplishing the object after three or four years exertion. The less trade 20 or 30 years ago was limited to transactions with toreign firms in the Settlements, no attention being directed to consumers in Europe and America. The trade, in fact, was largely dependent on the foreigners in Japan. reverse is the case at present. Agent Agents are despatched abroad to ascertain the condition of the market and the changes in the tastes of consumers, and steps are taken in various ways to extend the market. It is said that in the western parts of Canada and of the United States one fourth of the tea consumed is Japanese In Russia, too, the market has been expanded. In view of these facts it is advisable that texdealers should devote their energies to further improvements in the quality of the article and to increased enterprise in the matter of pushing asles. It may interest readers to subjoin a table showing the vicissitudes of the tes trade from the 1st to the 20th year of Meiji (1868-1896) :-Exports Calties. Original value,

				y479.
1868	***********	10,185.593	*****	3,581,678
1860		8,595.450	*****	2,102,420
1870	**********	12,314.402		4,511,616
1871	*********	14,066,853	*****	4.571,761
1872	**********	14,734.261		4,226,107
1873	**********	13 340,009	****	4.659,391
1874	********	19,129.030	*****	7.253.405
1875		21,278.633	*****	6,862,855
1876	**********	20,226,420		5,453,980
1877		20,718,166		4.375.274
1878		21.757.655		4.283.694
1879		28,602,070	+1,0+14	7.445.508
1880	*********	30.327.656	*****	7.497.880
1881		28,862,891		7.021.592
1882	*********	28,301,134		7,029,718
1883	**********	27,860,186		6,106 495
1884	********	26,853,471		5,819.695
1885	**********	30,934,103	4+11+1	5 854,120
1886	**********	35,696,698	149494	7,723,320
1887	*********	35,611,506	*****	7,603,341
1888	***********	33,168,756	*****	6.124.816
1880	*********	32.336,544	*****	6,156,728
1890		37,253.382	481744	6.326 820
1891	**********	29.923,999	*****	7,033,050
1892	********	37,518,203	400104	7.525.316
1893		36,443.555		7.702,088
1894		37,543.587	*****	7.930,287
1895		38,799,148	*****	8,879,241
1896	*********	36,674,548	846++1	8,819.746
Of t	he tea dia	tricts throu	ghout	the empire

Shizuoka yields the largest quantity; next come Kioto and Miye, followed by Gifu, Nara, Hiogo, and Shiga. Classified according to cities and prefectures, the amount of production, as well as the number of families engaged in the tea industry, are as follow:-

Lecalities	Camilies.		Produce
·			krutamme.
Shizooka	57.923	*****	2,631,871
Kioto	12,285		767,761
Miye	26,910		585.524
Gifu	26.757		376.598
Nara	10,665		321,833
Hiogo	13,099	101001	293.712
Shiga	29.286	*****	247.803
Kochi	29.497		218,503

Small-pox is rather prevalent in Hongkong just at present. A marine on the Edgar has died from it, and the Hygeia hulk has been

#### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

A speech of Mr. Fukuzawa's entitled Ukiyedan (Remarks on the Fleeting World), of great length, dealing with a number of current topics, was reported in the Jifi Shimpo last month. From the opinions expressed on various subjects we extract the following :- There is a good deal of talk about female education noways. It is quite true that women's general intelligence needs raising, but mere intellectual culture is not all that is required by any means. The real cause of the low social status that woman holds is the practice of polygamy, or that which amounts to polygamy, the use of a number of women by one man. Concubinage, prestitution, public and private, must be checked before the mass of Japanese women can be raised. The geisha of Tokyo are no longer like the gelsha of old days, but women of loose morals. And as for prostitution, there is no attempt like that made in foreign countries to conceal it. It goes on in broad daylight in the very centre of the metropolis. The first step to be taken is in the direction of greater concealment. In Western lands there is a large amount of prostitution, but it is not recognised by society as a whole. Europeans seem to realise that it is something to be ashamed of. This feeling is practically absent in Japan. Another suggestion is that there should be less drinking at our parties. For there is no doubt that the heavy drinking of many of the better class leads to other things. Japanese cannot afford to lose time in the performance of useless ceremonies such as are in vogue at some of our parties. The near approach of mixed residence brings such quesought to take some steps to raise this country to the Western standard as regards the attitude of the public to prostitution, concubinage, and the like. If the members of the Cabinet do not see the necessity of this, then it is clear that they are lacking in enlightenment.

There has been a good deal of controversy for some time past on the question of higher female education. Not a few magazine writers have expressed their disapproval of the Women's Universitys cheme, on the ground that, if carried out, the new institution would turn out an undesirable class of women. Mr. Takamine, the Director of the Female Normal School in Tokyo, writing on this subject in the Nippon Shugi, says that the tendency of higher female educa-tion in America is on the whole amagonistic in marriage. Women aim at rendering themselves quite independent of men by acquiring knowledge that shall enable tham to earn their own living and as a class become indifferent to mattimony, which is to be regretted. The Nippon Shugi endorses these sentiments and they are reiterated by a number of professors of the University and High Class Schools. Christian leaders of thought, however, support the higher female education movement in an outspoken manner.

In last month's Telkoku Bungaku appears in In isst monus Lessay from the pen of Professor Lafcadio Hearn on "Azure Psychology," or "The Value of Blue in Literature and Art from the Evolutional Standpoint," which, as it would be somewhat spoilt by the process of entitionising we give in full . epitomising, we give in full :-

epitomising, we give in full:

Pure bright blue is the least common among the many time given by nature to insect, bird, and blossom. Blue flowers are thought to proclaim for the plant that bears them a longer history of unclecked development than is indicated by flowers of any other primary colon; and the high cost of the finit is perhaps suggested by the inability of the horticulturist to produce blue roses. Vivid blue is found in the plantage of some wonderful birds, and on the wings of certain beautiful butterflex—especially tropical butterflex—but usually under conditions that amounce a prodigious period of evolutional specialization. Altogether it would seen that blue was the latest pure colour developed in the evolutional specialization of scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flexible and scale and flower with flower and scale and flower and 

higher forms of life until after the power of discerning red and green and yellow had already been

gained. Whether this be true or not, it is certainly noteworthy that, of the primary colours, blue alone has remained up to the present time a colour plea surable in its pure intensity to the vision of civilizad races. Bright red, bright orange, bright yellow or green or violet, can be used only very sparingly and delicately in nineteenth century attire and described. They have become offensive to us in and delicately in uncleanth century attire and de-coration. They have become offensive to us in their spectral purity by reason of the violence of the sensations that they cause: they appeal only to the rudimentary seathetic feeling of the uncul-tivated, or to the still coarser feelings of the savage. No contemporary beauty would robe berself like a fairy in warm green, or deck herself with zaffrou or scarlet. We cannot paint our walls violet, orange, or ventillion—the mere idea is monstrous! But the colour of heaven has not ceased to chaim us, Sky-blue may be worn under certain circumstantees and a reiling or interior wall surface of the ces; and a ceiling or interior wall surface of the same celestial tone may yield a most pleasing

effect.

It might be observed that we do not paint the outside of a building aky-blue;—the effect of a sky-blue façade would be even more disagreeable than that of one painted grange or crimson. This is true, but not because the aspect of blue on large true, but not because the aspect of bits life in surfaces is necessarily displeasing in itself. It is true only because, unlike other bright colours, vivid blue is never in nature associated with large solidiblue is never in nature associated with large solidities of any sort. Upon a house front the colour would appear absurd, because giving the notion of blue dead solidity against the glow of day. But a blue cailing, a blue vasit, blue waits of corridors, may give a laint pleasant idea of space and light the natural relation of the colour to depth and transparency is not falsified, but suggested to the imagination by such interior application. Yellow upon exterior wall-surfaces seems, on the other hand, quite natural—unless too strong in tone—because associated in memory with the beautiful effect of sunlight on broad surfaces.

But sithough yellow remains, next to blue, the

because associated in memory with the beautism effect of sunlight on broad suitaces.

But although yellow remains, next to blue, the most endurable that in massive displays, it never can be used, like blue, in its primary strength. Pale tones of yellow—especially this creamy tones,—may be delightful, either in feminine attire or in the tinting of façades, but not the pure burning colour. Only blue is always agreeable in its most vivid purity—providing it is not used so as to suggest blue hardness and blue opacity.\*

In Japan, which may still be called the land of perfect taste in chromatics—notwithstanding the Isuporary apparition of some harbanian innovations from the Occident,—almost any commonstreet-vista tells the story of the race-experience with colour. The general tone of the vista is given by blueish greys and dark blues, sharply relieved by details of white and pale cool yellow. In this perspective effect the blueish greys represent the tiling of roofs and swainings; the darker blues, shap draperies; the whites, small plastered surfaces; the tiling of roofs and swinings; the darker blues, shop draperies; the whites, small plastered surfaces; the light yellows, smooth naked wood and glimpses of rush-mattings. And the charm of these larger contrasts is still further relieved by the fautastic beauty of countless ideographs sprinkled along the fronts on disperies or signboards,—black, and sometimes red, against white; gold or white against black or blue. Strong yellows, oranges, violets, greens, am invisible. In costume also the ruling tones are greys and blues: when you do happen to see a diess, worn by some child or dancing-girl, all of one bright colour, it is generally a sky-blue,—very rarely an inis-violet, sometimes a wine-red. Yellow or green is never worn.

But neither the geschetic value of blue in its rela-

Vellow or green is never worn.

But neither the seathetic value of blue in its relation to the arts, nor the scientific significance of blue as the product of six hundred and fifty billion oscillations of the luminous other per second, can be compared for interest with the psychology of the colour,—with its subjective evolutional history an related to emotion. Doubtless in different minds the same apparition of blue will excite varying degrees of sensation, and set in motion, through revival of empirical association, very different spains of thought. Yet allowing for this osycholoing degrees or sensation, and set in income, in our revival of empirical association, very different trains of thought. Yet allowing for this psychological variety, there can be no question that the sight of the colour evokes in the general mind one common quality of pleasurable feeling,—a vivacions thrill,—a tone of emotional activity tunnical and the higher zones of sentience. takably related in the higher zones of sentiency and imagination.

In my own case the spectacle of pure lucent blue has always been accompanied by a feeling of yague delight, more or less strong according to the luminous intensity of the colour. And in one experience of travel-sailing to the American to And in one expe-

• Nine levels, blue eyes, blue flowers delight; but in these the colour accompanies transparency or offness. It is disable-less because of the incongruity before zen opartily and bore the less the eight of a double-bone to shytchie is sheen disable; in the least of a double-bone to shytchie is sheen disable; in the state of the double-bone the state of bat taste.

-this feeling became an ecstasy. That was when I beled for the first time the grandest vision of blue in this world, the glory of the Gulf Stream; a magical splendour that made me doubt the evidence of my own senses,—a flaming azure that looked as if the skies of ten thousand million summers had been melted into pure fluid colour for the making of it. And the captain of the ship that was bearing me into eternal summer leaned over the rail with me; and we both watched the marvellous sea for a long time in silence. Then he said:-

" Fifteen years age I took my wife with me on this "Fifteen years ago I took my wife with me on this trip—just, after we were martied it was—and she wondered II the water. She asked me to get her a silk dress of the very same colour. I tried in ever so many places; but I never could get just what she wanted till chance took me to Canton. I went round the Chinese silk-shops day after day, looking for that silk: it wasn't easy to find; but I didget it at last. Wasn't she glad, though, when I brought it home to her I She's got it yet."

Still betimes in sleen I find myself sailing south

brought it nome to her I She's got it yet,"

Still betimes in sleep I find myself sailing south again over the wonder of that dazzling surging azure; and the dream shifts suddenly across the world; and I wander with some grey, smiling man through grotesque narrow Chinese streets,—vainly seeking a silk of the blue of the Gulf Stream. And it was this haunting memory of tropic days that first impelled me to think about the reason of the delight inspired by the colour.

Possibly the wave of emotional feeling following

Possibly the wave of emotional faciling following upon a glorious vision of blue is more complex than the feeling aroused by any display of any other pure colour: at all events it is higher as to the quality of its complexity. For the ideational ele-nients blended in it comprise not a few of the noblest,—not a few of those which enter also into the making of Cosmic Emotion.

Being the seeming colour of the ghost of our anet,-the breath of the life of the world,-blue planet,—the breath of the life of the world,—blue is the colour-apparent of the enormity of day and the tremendous eternity of night. So the sensation of blue probably makes appeal to the ideas of Altitude, Profundity, Vastness. Also to the idea of Space-in-Time I for blue is the tint of distance, of dimness, of vagueness. Also to the idea of Motion; for blue is the colour of Vanishing and of Apparition. Vale and peak and coast and promontery turn blue as we depart from them; and again out of blue grow and define for us as we return to them. And the mass of inherited emotion turn to them. And the mass of inherited emotion bestired by the sensation of the colour must include bestired by the sensation of the condition of the feelings relating to countless ancestral experiences of classes,—to immumerable separations not less than to immumerable remines.

But whatever elements of sadiless shrive there,

But whatever elements of saddless strive they are dominated by others related to ideas of Warmth and Joy and Summer,—to all the happiness of dead humanity in the light of cloudless days. The feeling of blue is always a feeling of gladness. Blue speaks to us of the dead and of the gods, but never of their awfulness. Gloom, not the splendour of light, is associated for us with the idea of wrath, whether of ghosts or gods.

the idea of wrath, whether of ghosts or gods.

Now remembering that blue is the colour of the thought of the divine,—the colour patchestic—the modern idea of God,—the colour patchestic—the colour ethical, thrilling deepest into those structures of mind to which belong our feelings of justice and reverence and duty and unselfishness,—one may well ask why the tone of the emotion which let calls into play should be gladsome rather than serious. Could this mean that the merely sensuous experience of past humanity in the pleasure of luminous days,—experience transmit ted to each of us as composite memory,—is powerful enough to dominate all ethical feeling related to the sensation of the colour, for the simple reason that the former inherited feeling is vastly older, and therefore more voluminous than the latter F. O. does the fact lend support to the aucient metaphy sical theory of some elernal relation between ethic and applied a sentiment between the perception of beauty objective, and the recognition of beauty subjective—between the divine meaning of lovely

subjective—netween the divine meaning of loveliness as inward motal charm?

Probably the true solution is not suggested by either inquity. I venture the following very plain explanation:—"All moral pulsations in the wave of inherited feeling which respond to the impression of the belong only to the tender and brantision of blue belong only to the tender and beautiful aspects of faith."

I venture even to suggest that in this billow of pleasurable feeling evoked by the vision of blue, the most voluminous element, and most subtle, is in the fullest ethical meaning of the wood, the Splittual. Under the surface plexus of personal sensations and memories conjurically associated with the above it the featurable of the force of the contraction of the featurable of the fea sensations and memories empirically associated agazurau, is making lapid progress. The fol-with the colour, is the transmitted emotionalism of Comments of Strand been issued or unnumbered generations: a feeling was asympted are about to appear: Vol. I. "Questions of supersensual by its glostliness—deeper and were Philosophy and distributions are used.

er than any emotion belonging to the individual life. Under the sensuous recognition of blue as beauty, quickons the inherited ancestral recognition of blue as the hut of heaven and of hope—as the colour of that mystical splendour of beautitude the colour of that mystical splendour of beautitude into which, by the teaching of a thousand faiths, have passed for ever the spirits of the loving and the loved. Perhaps all human longings for all the Paradises ever imagined—all buried trust in the eternal promise of remoion after death—all dead to eaths of immortal youth and never-ending bliss—may somehow revive for us, more or less faintly, in this thill of the delight of azure. Perhaps, even as through the wondrous jewel radiance of the Tropic Stream pass undulations from the vaster deep, with their fugitive drift and foam, their sobbings and whisperings—through the emotion evoked by the vision of luminous blue there may quiver semelow back luminous blue there may quiver somehow be to us out of the Infinite-multitudinous like semeliow back billions of other-shiverings that make the blue billions of ellier-silverings that make the bile sensation of a moment—something of all the aspirations of the aucient faiths, and the glory of the myriads of the vanished gods, and the passion and the beauty of all the prayers ever uttered by lips of man.

The Melji-hydron man undergone a transformation and assumed a new name. It has been amalgamated with a little-known magazine called the Taiheiyō-hyōron and has come out under the title of the 中外時篇 Chagwai-jiron. The first number, issued on January 1st, contains among other articles an interesting account of the progress of thought in China. The title of the article is 文學 革新の陽光 Bungaku Kakushin no Shoke. (The dawn of Literary Reform). The writer furnishes a number of quotations from Chinese publications in support of his assertions. The following are the facts he gives, briefly stated. Since the war the number of newspapers published has largely increased in every part of China, and the opinions advocated in the various organs are almost without exception in favour of China's following in the footsteps of Japan in her adop-tion of Western Civiliantion. The course re-commended in some quarters is that the Chinese should study Japanese, in order to be able to make use of the numerous translations of foreign works circulating in this country, a task which with their knowledge of the meaning of the ideographs would be comparatively easy to The schools which have been opened ihem. for teaching Japanese are crowded with pupils, in Shanghai especially. China has hitherto re-garded Japan as a child and a pupil; it is now treating her as a grown up man and a teacher, and all this is the result of the late war.

A new educational magazine has come into existence called the Ryotku Jikken kai (The World of Practical Education). The object World of Practical Education). The object of the new organ is to collect and publish the experience of mon actually engaged in teaching rather than to discuss educational theories.

The Hakubunkan announces the publication of an encyclopædic work of reference on Japanese subjects entitled Zeihoku hyakkwa-sensho, which is to consist of 100 volumes, each volume to cover about 330 pages. The price will be 35 sen or 50 sen per volume according to binding.
Though the title of the work would indicate that an actual encylopædia is in contemplation, the aunouncement of the publishing firm indicates that the idea of the projectors is only to collect and publish treatises on every branch of knowledge, and the whole work will have no of knowledge, and the whole with with avenual unity whatever. The first volume has been prepared by Mr. Takayama Rinjiro, the editor of the Tairo, and is entitled Schai bunmeishi (A History of the World's Civilisation). The book in divided into 15 chapters, and treate of the literature, politics, religion, and philosophy of the West from early ages down to the time of the French Revolution.

A similiar work to the above, previously mentioned in these columns, the 新提首種 Shinsen Arakuthu, in making tapid progress.

Vol. II " Japanese on the Sea," price 30 sen. Vol. III. "Occupations for Women," price 30 sen. Vol. IV. "The Ten Great Religions of the World," price 20 sen. Vol. V. "Genius." Vol. VI. "The General Assimilative power of the Inpanese." Vol. VII. "Vapours in Japan." Vol. VIII. "Poetry and Prose." The last three Volumes will appear in Februssy, March and April respectively. The works are for sale at the Fukyūsha, Gofuku-chō, Nihonbashi, Tökyö.

The January number of the Telkoku Bungaku contains some excellent articles which we have no space to notice fully-one by Dr. Takakusu Junjiro, the distinguished pupil of Professor Max Müller, on " the Position of Woman in Ancient Literature"; one on "the Roman Catholics and the Revival of Literature and Art" by Mr. Takavama Rinjiro; and another by Mr. Ueda Mannen on the pronunciation of words and methods of spelling. But what concerns us most is a review of the year 1897, given among miscellaneous items, which has evidently been prepared with great care, and which not only treats of literature but of art, the stage, and music. We give the gist of the article in as short a form as possible.

(I) PREVAILING IDEAS .- Among these the notions that have clustered around or derived significance from the "Nippon Shugi" movement are certainly the most prominent. We cannot but regard that movement as retrograde, and hence we take rank among those who oppose it tooth and nail. Reduced to its final elements. it is nothing but an attempt to check the progress which civilisation has been making for the

last thirty vents.

Fiction.-The most productive and (2) successful year as regards this class of literature was 1896. Last year there was a distinct falling off. In 1896 there was immense competition, resulting in the expulsion from the field of a host of inferior writers. Consequently the men who were left rested on their oats and produced little that was original. Then last year the blending of the realistic and the fanciful or ideal styles which was brought about by the influence of the Waseda Eclectic School had the effect of removing all the flavour from works of fiction, of rendering them colourless and characterless. There has been a cry for novels of the witty kind and for works designed to illustrate and enforce fixed ideas, but in each case the response has been poor.

(3) NEW STYLE VERSES —In no year has

so much been written on this subject in all the Magazines. Though the verses that have appeared are a marked improvement on the compositions of two or three years ago, this class of literature is still in its infancy. It is not imperfection in form that strikes as as much as an absence of poetic passion and poetic ideas. Without the latter nothing very striking can ever be accomplished in this

(4) TRANSLATION.—The number of translations that appeared during the year under review was large. Mr. Tsubouchi Shôyō still continues was large. to concentrate his attention on English literature. Among other works he has given us translations of "Hamlet" and "Macbeth," Ogai's (Mori's) translations are extremely well done, but the amount of work of this kind that he gets through is very limited. During the year the Hage-atama and one other book are all that he has published. Mr. Fukuchi Ochi attempted the reproduction of Hugo's Les Misérables; but the latter part of his work was by no means successful. Mr. Hasegawa's translatious of Russian novels which have appeared in the 2 alyō, and Miss Osada Keiko's rendering of Lamartine's Graviella are specially worthy of mention. Miss Koganei Mikiko's Kokorosukushi shows signs of great labour and is most creditable to the authoress. Mr. Uchida's translations of comedy in the Zaipo and the reproductions of Zola that have appeared in the Bungel Kurabu, the translations of Mr. Imano Gako in the Shinshosetsu, and the renderings of the late Mrs. Iwamoto are worthy of mention. gratifying about the work that has been days. These works have been noticed in former in the translation line. It is indicated in extern summeries.

and lacking in thoroughness in not a few cases. (5) THE STAGE,-Regarded from a literary

standpoint the dramas that have been published during the year are very poor, wanting in the refinement and style which would entitle them to a place among permanent literature.

(6) YAMATO-BUN.-Books written in purely native style are few and far between now-a-days: The taste for this class of literature seems to be rapidly disappearing under prevailing influences of various kinds, so that it 🖺 not surprising that little is undertaken in this line.

(7) SHORT VERSES,-The class of composition known as tanka expresses the thoughts of conservative minds and is essentially retrospective rather than progressive. In these verses no new ideas are expressed. Any attempt to mamodel them would result in their abolition.

(8) BOOKS WRITTEN IN CHINESE STYLE. At the present time the men who are best versed in Chinese literature are old and lacking in the ability to make the best of their know ledge by classifying it in modern fashion. younger men who have studied Chinese literature to a certain extent are not in possession of the necessary grasp of the subject to allow of their systematising to any purpose. Two works of considerable size appeared last year, whose object it was to facilitate the sindof Chinese literature, the Senshin (先秦) Bungaku and the Shina bungaku-shi, first of these is dictatorial in style. There is too much of the opinion of the author and too little quotation of authorities for that opinion. second work shows an absence of some of the essential characteristics of a book aspiring to be called a history of literature. Then there are the Shina bungaku-taiko (大棚) and the 東大陸人豪傳, Todairiku-jingoden which appeared during the year, but neither of these merits praise.\* The society whose chief object is the investigation of Chinese literature, the Tosgakkai, though founded with a great flourish of trumpets, has shown little sign of life for many months past.

(9) CHINESE VERSES.—This class of writing is rapidly declining, as is abundantly shown by the number of trashy lines penned by obscure individuals that appear in the

magazines month after month.

(10) Comic Verses .- What are known an haikai or hokku have been revived during the year and seem destined to become popular again. Several collections of considerable merit were given to the public last year.

(11) HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY .-- The number of books that have appeared during the year on these subjects is very large. The histories have been mostly confined to the Takugawa and Ashikagawa eras. The materials for dealing with the history of the middle ages and of earlier periods are very scanty, and this doubt-less accounts for the fewness of the writers on the events of those times. Our best biographers are beginning to realise that in order to give a vivid account of the life of an individual it is necessary to be well versed in the history of the age in which he lived.

(11) FINE ART .- The contest between the old and new schools ofart has never been more keen than during the year that is past. What will be the final result of the experimenting now going on it is difficult to foresee. There has been much that is unseemly and unphilosophical in the conflict. Both schools are lacking

in moderation.

(13) Music .- The almost universal indifference to foreign music has for a long time been most evident. Last year was no exception to preceding years. The efforts put forth some music have left little trace anywhere. It quite plain that we are not a musical people. Our native music makes no progress and is altogether out of touch with the thoughts and feelings of modern Japanese. The schools of music founded some years ago directly they were left to the management of Japanese began to decline and all that is visible now is a handful

of enthusiante trying to make an impression upon a stolidly indifferent nation.

The review which we have briefly summaris-ed covers 38 pages in the Teikoku-bungaku and constitutes a valuable record of the literary history of the year 1897.

The Kyōiku-jiron reports a speech made by Mr. Kinoshita, the President of the Kyōto University, at the Kyōto Education Society's meeting held a short time ago, on the work of the University. The Colleges which have commanced work are the Science and Engineering Colleges only, and even in these only a few of the subjects have been begun. Among them Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering occupy a prominent place. The demand for civil and mechanical engineers has increased so rapidly in the last two years that the Tokyo University has been unable to supply it. In order to provide teachers for the three Departments yet to be started—the Law, Literature, and Medical Departments—promising men have been sent abroad to study. Up to the end of last year the number of students despatched for this purpose amounted to 30, and it is contemplated is send 20 more during the present Vear.

The Kyōiku-Firon has collected and published the views of several leading statesmen and others on the educational policy which should be adopted at the present juncture; of which we furnish the following epitome. Marquis Itô's views, which head the list, were given in the last Religious Summary, and have been already discussed in the leading columns of this journal. Count Soyejima expresses great disagtisfaction with the educational policy hitherto pursued, whose chief fault has been excessive laxity or excessive strictness. The fuss that is being made over mixed residence and the danger arising from closer contact with foreigners does great harm, and may, if not watched, result in producing fanatics of the assassin type. Count Okuma disapproves of any relaxation

of the law in reference to education. Every child in the land should be forced to go to school. The danger to a nation arising from the existence of a number of ignorant persons is constantly illustrated in China. Our educational policy should be based on cosmopolitanism and should in no way encourage the spirit of aggres-sion which is so rife in some quarters to-day, Viscount Watsnabe dwells on the lowness of the salaries of teachers in elementary achools, which are no better than the wages of finrikisha men and bette. Mr. Otori Keisuke discusses moral education, and in doing this says that the national characteristics of the Japanese lie takes to be candour and straightforwardness, gallantry or chivalry, patriotism, sharpness of wits, frugality and love of simplicity, a nervous organization qualifying for delicate operations and workmanship, impatuosity, precipitancy, lack of perseverance, love of cleanliness, fickleness, great emotionalism, love of merrimont. light heartedness, noisiness of speech, an absence of affability and cordiality and an absence of magnanimity, a deficiency in address-the art of salutation, &c.—unakilfulness of speechand high development of the rational powers in the matter of politics. There is no country in the world, says Mr. Otori, where young boys talk politics as they do in Japan.

In addition to the above the views of Mr. Kurokawa Shinrai on the education of the past and those of several other well-known men are

An historical work of reference entitled the 國史便覽 Kohushi benran, has been compiled by three post graduates of the University, Messra. Shigeta Sadakazu, Nakamura Toku-gorô, and Nakagawa Masanobu. It covers 600 pages and sells at 1 yen 50 sen per copy at the Fukyû sha. The arrangement of the work is said to be very good and foreign chronological ables as well as maps are appended.

Original from .

The resistance in this bear an epitome of the Fu-

ture" given by Dr. Nakajima Rikizo at the Confucius Memorial Ceremony held some weeks ago, the gist of which can be stated in a few words. According to Dr. Nakajima, the central principle of Greek ethics, which was the basis of European ethics in ancient times. was the welfare of society, and that of Chris-lianity was humanity. These two systems are capable of being smalgamated. The reconciliation of Egoism and Altraism, of Stoicism and Epicureaniam is also possible, says Dr. Nakajima. The course recommended to his fellow-countrymen by Professor Nakajima is to choose the best out of the ethical systems of the ancients and erect a new atructure-a course which is not likely to be adopted under existing circumstances. The Nihon Shugi, after its fashion, describes the address as AS & A. A. 陳 獻, Heihei bonbon Chimpu Ktwamaru, reaching the *ne plus wiira* of the common place and the fuely."

Mr. Takahashi Goro has launched out in a new enterprise. He has become the editor of a Magazine called the 天地人 Tenchijin, the first number of which has recently appeared, the Sansaisha, Ginza, being the publishers, Judging from the remarks made in the opening number the new publication sime II becoming a first-class organ; and at representing in a way that has never hitherto been done all shades of public opinion. In size and general get-up it ranks with the Taiyo, the Schai-no-Niñon, and the Kokumin-no fomo; like these it has gone in for illustrations. The contributors to the first number are well-known men, and it is stated that articles on religious subjects have been promised by Missionaries. Politics are evidently to receive a large share of attention. Count Itagaki, Mr. Oi Kentarô, Mr. Shiro Sentarô, and s number of other prominent men have all expressed their views on the questions of the day,

The Sikai-no-Nihen, commenting on the literature of 1897, says that on the whole it has been of a most ephemeral type, the principal writers spending their time over novelettes or articles for magazines or newspapers. Some of the writing, says the organ we are quoting, has become very slipshod and ungrammatical, the Waseda school of writers being great transgressors in this matter. The "Nippon Shugi" sors in this matter, excitement, adds the Sekai-no-Nihon, has resulted in the publication of a good deal of injurious matter, which in country schools is fanning the flame of anti-foreign sentiment. This is just the way to manufacture men of the type of Isuda Sanzo and Koyama Rokunosuka (the two well-known would-be assassins).

. . .

The subject of sociology is attracting creased attention in Japan. Mr. Tajima Kinji has just published an interesting work on this topic called Nihongenji-no Shabai-mondai. On Society in Japan at the Present Time, which gives the results of recent investigations Numerous short trestises on sociological subjucts have appeared from time to time. There are the Shakaigaku-no-Genri by Professor To yama,the Shakat Shinkwa-ron,by Mr. Ariga, the Shakai Seisaku (政策) by Mr. Kanaye, and a few essays on the labour question. Then there exists the Shakai Zasshi, a magazine whose object it is to discuss social questions, and a society called the "Shakai-Mondai Kenkyu-Kai." Mr. Tajima's new work is a long way alread of all these efforts. According on the reviews it is the first book that has been published on this topic which has any pretensions to thoroughness. brings out prominently the distinctive features of modern society as compared with the society of the pre-Meiji eras, and for purposes of comparison gives a minute account of the state of society in Europe and of the sociological principles which are emphasized by leading writers on this subject in the West. The influence of Christianity on society is traced, but Buddhism and Shintoare left out of account, which, says the Withonjin, is much to be regretted, in they have undoubtedly done much to mould a crist, into its present mape. Mr. Pajilina score covers

360 pages and is for sale at 70 sen per copy at the Tokwado, Imagawa Koji, Kanda, Tokyo.

Last month we epitomised the views of an Outsider" on art, which appeared in the Zaiyō. The title in Japanese given to the article in the Zaiyō was Bişutsu Kyokugai-kan. Imitating the title, the Wateda Bungaku has published criticisms on current literature under the heading of Bungaku Kyekugai-kan (Views on Literature by Ontsiders), from which we extract the following observations, allowing each writer to speak for himself.

MR. UCHIMURA KANZÖ.-The two great sources of literature are the feeling of joy and the feeling of sadness. Of the former Japanese have none. The latter they possess to a limited The consequence is that the prevailing extent. tone of their literature is pessimistic. Having no deep and decided views regarding the nature of man, it is impossible tor our literary men to produce a great work.

MR. MIKAMI SANJI.--Modern fiction is too exclusively occupied with the subject of love. The area from which writers draw their materials is far too limited. There are those who attempt to utilise history, science, and wit in their romances, but they have made a poor show.

MR. KANEKO KENTARO .- The functions of modern literature may lie said to be three. has to arrange and preserve the records of the nest that have been transmited. It has to record the passing events of the age in which we live. It to open up the way for future progress. Modern fiction is wanting in originality. It is foreign fiction slightly transformed and modified. The Ukifung that has been appearing in the Asahi Shimbun in "Hamlet" remodelled. The original sources of most of the works that cause a sensation when they are published may be easily found. What a rich field of material do the various changes of the Meijs era furnish for narrative and illustration! How is it that there is no one of sufficient originality to make use of this material?

MR. TOGAWA ZANKA .- When I think of the character of our modern fiction I confess to m feeling of unter disgust. There is all the differ-ence in the world between "love" in the foreign novel and the Japanese Kei, and it is this difference that gives elevation and superiority to the one which is not possessed by the other. The intercourse of men and women in the west is something entirely different from what we are accustomed to in this country. We have heard enough about the women to be met in tea houses and places of assignation and should like to know nomething about the mon and women who assemble at such places as the Imperial Hotel, about the leaders of society, whether they be statesmen, missionaries, merchants, or what

MR. ONISHI SHUKU-Most of the novels of the present day are written in the upper stories of lodging-houses by mere students. This accounts for the sameness which constitutes one of their leading features. The most noted of modern novelists is Rohan. It is to be hoped that after a while this gifted writer will turn his hand to social subjects and endeavour to show up some of the injustice which characterises prevailing customs and habits. There is immense scope for a clever satirist in this line.

The Shigaku Zasshi (Historical Magazine) shows marked improvement. The number be-fore us contains a number of useful articles, among them one by Dr. Hoshino on "The numerous mistakes to be found in the Heike-Menogatari and the Gempei-Seisuiki; one by Mr. Uchida Ginzō on "The History of Political Economy," and another by Mr. Yoshida Tōgo on "Local names and the changes they undergo." Among the miscellaneous items appearing in the Shigaku Zasshi one has reference to the increase of population in the large cities of the empire, which the writer takes to bear a relationship to the progress of civilisation, the tendency of an advancing people being to as-semble in large towns. In Iemitau's time (in semble in large towns. In Iemitsu's time in three sailing vessels, and three hundred and a.p. 1630) there were 35,419 houses in Kyoto, Monty-two Junks were at anchor in Nagasaki which, allowing four persons the safe Rose, her rout of the glicingto.

would give a population of 141,676. The present population is set down at 300,000. 1693 A.D. the population of Tokyo was 353,582. It in now about 2 millions.

In 207 of the Kyōiku Köhō Dr. Katô passes some severe strictures on the present system of teaching in the Higher and Middle Schools, as well as in elementary schools. He says that numbers of useless things are taught and that sufficient attention is not paid to grounding in subjects in which every lad ought to be versed. The text-books used are in many instances unsuitable. Their compilers seem to thought more of showing their own capabilities than of furnishing the information required by students. The Mombusho has hitherto gone on the principle of keeping out of their schools all books that might prove harmful. This is a purely negative policy and does not go far enough. Surely the Department ought to adopt a positive policy and establish a standard for text-books. In the matter of general education Dr. Kato thinks that more simple methods of instruction should be adopted. It is unnecessary to trouble the pupil with numerous details which will soon be forgotten. In the matter of morality Dr. Katô is of opinion that much care should be exercised in the choice of teachers and that considerable power should be given to the Directors of schools to deal with cases of immorality. Ethical teaching should not be confined to exalting filial piety and loyalty to a rank above all other virtues.

#### SHIPBUILDING IN JAPAN.

Commenting upon the present condition of the Mitsubishi Dockyard, Nagasaki, the Osaka Asahi says that during the latter half of last year business was somewhat staguant in the repair works, but continued to be as prosperous in regard to the construction of vessels as in the corresponding period of 1896. The chief employes number at present 159, besides ten foreigners. Mechanics and coolies employed during the period under notice are reported to have numbered altogether 420,068; the average per day being 2,282. Compared with the average for the previous term the figures show a decrease of 105 per day. The vessels already constructed and those now in course of construction are as follow :-

Name of steamer. Classificati n. Tonnage. 2,530 Suspended. 6,150 In construction. (Uncertain)..... Steel Tokiwa seem w 6,150 Just begun. 1,540 In construction. Isukishima ... Wooden Uguisu .......... 517 Finishing. 10 Uguisu ...... First Saiyō ..... 689

In addition to the above vessels, the construction of fifteen special pumps for use in mines, sixty tons of cast iron pipes, and other plant in being undertaken. During the term under review repairs were effected to 107 vessels, of which 70 were Japanese and 37 of foreign style.

#### CHRISTIANITY IN KOREA.

We read in the Korean Repository that 1897 was the most successful year Christian pro-pagandism ever enjoyed in Kores. The Christian Church doubled its numbers during the twelve months. There are now 5 000 Pro-testant converts and 25,000 Roman Catholics; or about one Christian in every 540 of the inhabitants. It is alleged that one of the marked differences between Christian and Confucian households is that the wife beating, almost universal in the latter, is banished from the former. Cleanliness also enters with godliness. read, too, that some twenty-five thousand Koreans received medical treatment in Christian hospitals during the year.

Eight warships, thirty-five merchant steamers,

## JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The amount of silver and notes exchanged since the adoption of gold monometallism up to Feb. 17th was as follows :- From October up to Feb. 17th was as follows:—From October I to the end of January, silver pieces exchanged, 3.645.795 yen; notes, 15.458.085 yen; total 19.103,880; from February I to 17. silver exchanged, 265,841 yen; notes, 3.116.989 yen; total, 3.382.530 yen; grand total—silver, 3,116.636 yen; notes, 18.574,774 yen, the two aggregating 22,486,410 ren.

The question of opening tea stalls at the Paris Exhibition was brought upon the tapis at a meeting of the Central Tea Dealers' Council lately in the capital. The programme formulated by the committee requires a gross outlay of over 1,000,200 yen. It beems that the tea dealers are hardly able m bear such a large amount of expense, and it was decided to present a petition to the Government for a subsidy of 700,000 year. The authorities, however, says the Shogyo, can hardly be expected to comply with such a peti-tion, and a bounty of 20,000 ren will be the largest amount obtainable.

In order to facilitate the adjustment of coinage the Government seems to have resolved to shorten the period allowed for exchanging the yen piece. Count Inouye, Minister of Finance, having completed his investigations, has arrived at the conclusion that the measure must be resolutely enforced as quickly as possible. In-stead of submitting the question to the Diet, recourse is to be had to the issue of an Imperial Ordinance for shortening the exchange period. The Ordinance will, says the *Porosu*, be issued at no distant date, the expiration of the period for exchange being fixed not later than the 30th Tune next.

Thus the gold exchanged during the four months amounted to 22,486,410 yen, of which 18,570,000 yen were for the conversion of notes. Even subtracting from this a sum of 2,446,315 yen which was received in gold, a balance of 18,123,685 yen must be considered as having been withdrawn from the Treasury. If this money were in circulation in the interior there could be no cause for complaint. But as it was chiefly transported W Yokohams and Kobe, its outflow in consequence of the excess in imports is inevitable, the daily shipment of gold amounting to no less than 200,000 yen. This amounting to no less than 200,000 yen. tendency, the Nichi Nichi remarks, will never cease as long as imports are so overwhelming a factor in national trade.

Scarcity of capital has ever been the weakness of fishing enterprise in Japan, says the Mal nichi. When, some time ago, a grand meeting of the Marine Products Council was held in Kobe, one of the members suggested the ne-cessity of inserting a provision in the Bank Regulations extending the privilege of loans to marine industry as well as to agriculture, Investigations having been made, it was found that the issue of loans could only be effected on substantial security or on receipt of a bond from more than twenty persons who should declare themselves responsible for repayment. The risks attending marine enterprises are too serious in the eyes of bankers to warrant the issue of loans on ordinary terms. It was consequently proposed that a fishery bank with special privileges and offering particular accommodation to sea-faring men should be organised. A draft of rules with regard to the institution was drawn up for presentation to the Diet.

Count Inouye's programme, which was cautionaly withheld from the public on the plea that it was still under consideration, seems to have been decided at last. At a Cabinet meet-ing recently held the new policy, the *Forosu* sing recently held the new policy, the Forest sines, secured the unanimous approval of the Ministers, and the various Departments are being asked to prepare the supplementary budgets of expenditure. The administrative expenditure in each Department is to be considerably decreased, and steps are to lake the first half of every year is, as a rule, siderably decreased, and steps are to lake the first half of every year is, as a rule, siderably decreased, and steps are to lake the first half of every year is, as a rule, siderably decreased. The first half of every year is, as a rule, siderably decreased to the possible to similarly and year of the military and year of the imports under contract, chiefly cotton in construction the port of Nobiru, as a URBANA-CHAMPAIGN-

naval expenditures the " ten year " programme as formulated by the last Cabinet will be pursued for the time being, the funds required for the 3181 year being supplied from special sources. The scheme for increased taxation is to be suspended and the source of revenue deliberated upon after the 12th session of the Diet is closed. Does the Government, saks the Forosu, dream of being able in secure the country's future by such a temporising policy? No one can accept the programme in good faith. No one, we (Japan Mail) may add, can accept the criticism of the Foresu in good faith.

The ever-growing foreign trade of Japan. says the Kokumin, has naturally had the effect of increasing the arrivals of vessels and the accumulation of cargo in the various ports, and it has become necessary to bring in force strict regulations in these matters. The Government has now resolved to inaugurate a system of Harbour Offices. These will first be established in Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki.

The Nippon Ginko's augmentation of rates of interest is, in this state of affairs, no extra-ordinary step. Unfortunately Japan is not yel cosmopolitan in her financial arrengements and the raising of interest by the Central Bank car hardly produce as rapid and effectual results as are luvariably noticeable in European and American markets on the adoption of that step The effect is slow and gradual. Another in crease in the rate of interest may reasonably be expected on the part of the Bank of Japan by March or April.

With a view to adopting a substantial system of currency in Formosa, Count Inouye, Minister of Finance, is reported to have held consultations with the young Counciliors of the Department by whom the necessary investigations have been conducted. The chief data are to be furnished by Secretary Arai, who was lately despatched to the Island with that object. The question all issue is whether the system enforced by the Matsukata Cabinet should be continued, or gold monometallism adopted. Whether the adoption of a bimetallic system exclusively for Formona is more convenient and better fitted to the wants of the island is a question which demands attention.

The Yiii recently remarked that while all other Japanese enterprises are steadily progressing the postal system shows lamentable signs of decline. The same paper now prints a table showing that the number of accidents happening to mail matter increases annually :-

MAILS.					
Yest.	Stolen.	Drupted.		at away. Cor	
1896.	1,588	304			5.728
1895 .	1,287	340	57	212,	3,387
1894.	511	1,069	40	2,988	5,243
1893.	105	278	71	265	1.148
1891	198	580	30	259	2,219
1891	344	271	68	81	758
1890	1,265	414	39	233	1,259
1889	190	4,398	15	442	2,220

The amount of mail matter trebled between they cars 1887 and 1896; but robberies increased eight-fold, while the figures relating to other accidents are scarcely less significant. This must be attributed in great measure to lazi y of regulations, and the small pay and bad treatment post boys.

Specie, remarks the Aippon, began to flow out of the country in November last, and the total subsequently shipped abroad reaches sixteen million yen,-3.500 000 yen in November, 5,800,000 yen in December, and 6,800,000 yen in January. These sums were not wholly employed in payment for imports, a portion of them being appropriated to the exchange of silver. It is said that the outflow of gold and silver for this month is to be compensated by bringing from London the balance of the sale of bonds, amounting to a little over one million yen. This is, however, a mere tem-porising scheme and the tendency to excess in

and machines, amount to a very large sum. The failure of the rice crop last year still necessitates the purchase of foreign cereals to the amount of several millions of koku. new Customs Tariff will become operative in October next. Imports for the first six months of this year will, from these circumstances, be as abundant as they were in America last March or April. An exodus of specie, reduction in reserves, and tightening of the money market will be the inevitable result.

Baron Suyematsu, Minister of Communications, is reported by the Tokyo Asahi to have issued the following private instructions to the Superintendents of the First Class Post and Telegraph Offices throughout the empire :-Now that machinesy for communications has considerably expanded, business must be conducted with the utmost assidnity and discretion. The secrecy of correspondence being maran-teed by the Constitution, each officer must strictly deserve that principle. Employes must behave civilly to the public, and must not identify themselves with any political party.

The jealousy of Americans against the growing Japanese trade in the United States has made itself apparent, says the Tokyo Asahi, in he import of Japanese oranges. The orange dealers in California, attempting to prevent competition on the part of the Japanese product, pre-vailed upon the inspectors to vigorously enforce regulations against fruit coming from Japan. All oranges bearing the eggs of parasites are to be rejected, and others on which microbes are found are to be steamed. The California oranges, with their thick crust, are strong enough to sustain such an ordeal; but the Japanene oranges, whose onter tissue is thin and weak, are likely to be greatly deteriorated. Consul Salto has failed to get the restriction remov-ed, and he advises dealers to brush the oranges cleanly, one by one, before they are wrapped in paper for export. He further suggests that a certain amount of money should be reserved "for the purpose of opening and consolidating social intercourse with the inspectors referred A charming tribute this to the incorruptibility of American officials.

Some of the emigrants to Hawaii appear is have succeeded in obtaining from the Headmen of their city, town, or village, certificates for women whom they fraudulently pretend to be their wives. These women have invariably proved a source of trouble, confusion, and disorder on every voyage, while on their arrival elopement, separation, and other complicasome of the municipal Headmen who seem to have issued these certificates knowing them to be fraudulent. Among the labourers recently enlisted were students, teachers, traders, ex policemen, &c., altogether of poor physique and utterly inexperienced in agricultural pursuits. Since the late protest by the Hawaiian Government, free emigrants have had a difficulty in landing there, and in consequence they effect the passage under cover of a temporary contract with the Emigration Companies. As soon, however, as they arrive they undeavour to annul the contract and to engage in business on their own account. If they are compelled to pursue agricultural work, the labour proves too onerous for them, and they soon find a pre-text for refusing duty. The fault lies in many respects with the over-zeslous agents of the companies, who mislead intending emigrants with promises and false representations. Government, the Osaka Asahi thinks, should look into the matter.

Tapan as a whole abounds in excellent sea ports, remarks the Tokro Asahi, but the coast north of Tsuruga, facing the Japan Sea, and the southern Pacific coast are utterly wanting in na-tural harbourn. The facilities of communication being thus extremely small, the development of

preinde = a programme of development. Their efforts, however, failed; and they next turned their exertions to the building of Matsushima The demand for harbours more and more clamorous, but as the enterprise requires an outlay of several millions of pen and many years' labour it is well to pause before embarking on it. Ofmato, in Kesen, Iwate, has a gulf sheltered from the sea, and is surrounded for several miles by mountains. This gulf is spacious, with a depth of eight or nine fathoms, which renders it possible for large vessels, as the Puji and Yashima, to safety at anchor. The port, however, being regarded as comparatively unimportant for commerce, has failed to attract the notice of the public. In its vicinity is Senningan, in the neighbourhood of which are numerous iron mines, which, however, have been neglected owing to the want of means of transport. If the main line of the Japan Railway Company be extended to the place through Kesennuma the mines could be developed into a source of immense wealth to the nation at large.

According to the Fifi, the bullion purchased by the Bank of Japan last year amounted to 90,755,473 ven, while sales aggregated 171,169,133 ven. These figures, compared with the previous year, show a decrease of 12,413,990 yes in purchases and an increase of 140,449,267 yes in sales. The stock in hand at the end of last year was 33,605.919 yen. The bullion at present in stock is composed as follows: Gold bullion in bar, 52.440.328 momme, valued at 25.373.514 yen; English gold coins, 8,250 pounds, valued at 78,123 yen; American gold coins, 513,376 dollars, equivalent to 1.046,753 yen; old coins, 3,795,074 yen valued as 9,831,132 yen; gold bullion containing silver, valued at 48,150 yen; gold contained in other old coins, 213,672 yen, silver bullion, 14,573 yen. Compared with the figures for the previous year a decrease of 57,601,039 yen is noticeable in gold and of 22,811,720 yen in silver bullion. So considerable a diminution in gold and silver bullion is attributable to the repayment of deposits from the Government and to the completion of the operation of minting a portion of the latter into one yen silver. 'i he alteration of the Coinage System has also contributed to

A petition presented by the Spinning Companies of Japan for special assistance from the Finance Department was, according to the Chuo, lately granted. On the 15th instant contracts were entered into between the Prasident of the Specie Bank and the delegates of the Spinning Guild, in the following terms :-(1) The Specie Bank shall issue through its agencies in Shanghai and Hongkong loans to a member or members of the Guild at those two places, on the security of cotton yarna, inthe amount of  $\frac{7}{100}$  of the market value when 20's are quoted at less than 77 tacls in Shanghai and II \$101 in Hougkong, or at the rate of 100 of the value when quotations are below the figures mentioned. (2) The rate of interest shall be six per cent, per annum and the period of loan six months. (3) The amount of ex-change bills shall be determined by taking into consideration the market value of yarns in Japan recognised by the Specie Bank, to which the expenses for transport are added, the rate being fixed at 150 when the calculation stands at less than 93 year and at  $\frac{160}{160}$  when it is above this figure. (Note,—If the Specie Bank deems that the consignees to whom exchange bills are issued are rich enough to pay the difference in converting the tills into loans, special allowance may be made in the amount of exchange,) (4) When any member of the Guild has under taken the export of yarns without previously entering into a contract with the Specie Bank for an order of exchange, and has applied for a loan on the security of those yarns, the Bank in question may comply with the request in cases only where the agent for such a member may be fully trusted. (5) This stipulation shall expire on the 31st December of the 31st year of Meiji, and the loans issued in accordance there- in Yokohama harbour sank at with must therefore be repaid within that period capsized: 150 cases were lost.

(Note.-Alteration, however, may be made eccording to the convenience of the Government,) There are two or three other provisions. The loan is limited in three million yen and exchange bills are payable at ten days aight, with three days grace for collection.

A representative of the Asahi lately had an interview with Mr. Shibusawa, who is reported to have made the following remarks on the subect of the introduction of foreign capital:-If the present decline of the economic world be really attributable to want of capital, the utilization of foreign funds at low rates of interest should be immediately adopted as the best means of redress. Count Inouye, Minister of Finance, has, since his entry into the Cabinet, been strenuously engaged in making investigations as to the means for smeliorating the depressed condition of the econo mic market. The practical business community has shown its sympathy in this direction, and it may confidently be expected that the Minister's schemes for the reform of finance will be strictly in accordance with the wishes of the leading merchants in the capital. It is advisable that the raising of loans abroad shall be quickly undertaken as a Government enterprise in the interests of the country, so that redemption of domestic loans may be effected. Apart from these considerations another plan suggests itself, The introduction of foreign capital may be effected on the credit of private individuals, under the guarantee of the Bank of Japan, the Specie Bank, or other influential institutions. But as a law still exists prohibiting foreigners from holding shares in Japan, they naturally shrink from investing their capital in the country without some safeguard for their property. This restriction must be quickly and thoroughly removed. But when foreign capital has been successfully introduced, the utmost discretion must be exercised in its appropriation or utilization. As a reaction after the long depression in the economic market, industrial mania may quickly follow the introduction of foreign money; speculative undertakings may become common among the reckless portion of the business community, the result being the utter dis-organisation of the financial world. That is the only point for serious anxiety on the part of Government and people. To avert the peril, in is advisable that foreign capital should be procured, not in one sum, but in several installments, the first of which should be appropriated for the consummation of the post bellum programme, and of enterprises which are programme, and of enterprises which are absolutely indispensable for public interests, but which are suspended on account of insufficiency of capital. With this is view the amount for railway and other undertakings of paramount importance may be estimated at twenty or thirty million yen. The use of foreign capital, however, is attended with as much risk of injury as hope of advantage. It is inevitably subject to serious fluctuations in times of emer gency among foreign nations. Still, Japan hav ing made gradual progress since she was opened in the outer world, anxiety on these points need not be permanently entertained. The tidal stream of civilization does not allow her to be content with poverty. She must push forward to secure her footing among the comity of nations.

#### SHIPS IN COLLISION.

A telegram received by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha reports that the Company's steamer Ryojun Maru—the old Port Hunter—while at anchor at Seattle, collided with a certain foreign ateamer and damaged her hall. The Ryojun is of 4,671 tone displacement and is commanded by Captain Moses. The vessel was to have left for the Chambers to act between the parties to Seattle for Yokohama about the 15th instant — a dispute on their application." Malnichi Shimbun.

During Tuesday's gale a lighter conveying 250 cases of kerosene oil to the Tokal Maru in Yokohama harbour sauk and her cargo was months that the Japanese Chamber of Com-capsized: 150 cases were lost.

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY.

Representatives of the Hiogo and Osaka Foteign Chamber of Commerce and a deputation from the local Japanese Chamber have recently been conferring on matters of mutual interest. Two subjects in particular were discussed. According to Mr. Baggallay, the late Chairman of the Foreign Chamber, the first referred to the introduction of foreign capital. We quote Mr. Baggallay's speech at the annual meeting of the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce :-They had had another meeting with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce; the representa-tives gave them rather evasive replies as to what they would be willing to do in co-operating with the foreign Chamber with a view to getting the Treaties altered so that aliens might hold land in Japan or to getting the Law altered so that foreigners might become Directors of Companies and so obtain proper security for their investments. They agreed that it was very desirable foreign capital should come into Japan, but they were half-hearted evidently in taking action in any way to get the Treaties altered. They made a counter-proposition, which he would read from the Kobe Chronicle, as it gave a practically correct report of what they said. He would read the second proposition

first :"The Organization of a large Joint-stock Corporation by Foreigners and Japanese. To assist the future industrial and commercial development of Ispan in the interests alike of Ispanese and foreign merchants, the introduction of foreign capital is desirable. There may be many methods of effecting this purpose, but in regard to the right of foreigners owning shares in Japanese business companies the view that it is hopeless to expect foreigners to invest their money in shares, unless they are allowed to be-come responsible officials of companies at the same time, is justifiable. This, however, is impracticable while the system of extra-territoriality exists. It is too long to wait until the new Treaties come into operation, and we therefore propose a scheme for introducing foreign capital which can be carried out immediately. A large banking corporation might be organized by Japanese and foreigners, who possess public confidence, foreigners working as advisers without legal responsibility. They would, however, be morally responsible."

With regard to that point, it did not seem to them very practicable; but the present Com-mittee had really had no time to consider the matter as laid before them. They would have to leave it to the incoming Committee consequently to say whether such a scheme was feasible. Another point raised at the meeting was us to the possibility of joint-subitrations being carried out under the auspices of the Japanese and this Chamber of Commerce in case of disputes between members of the two Chambers :-

"Arbitrations by the Chambers in Disputes —Disagreements have occasionally arisen between foreign and Japanese merchants in connection with business transactions, resulting in considerable losses to the parties concerned. These disagreements are principally due to an imperfect understanding, in con-sequence of the difference of language. We caunot but deplore this. We believe it devolves apon the Chambers of Commerce to svert these disagreements. The provisions of the law allow a Chamber of Commerce to arbitrate on disagreements between Japanese merchants. Though there are no laws or ordinances relating to arbitration in disagreements between foreign and Japanese merchants, in view of the friendly relations of the two Chambers and in the interest of Commerce it would be satisfactory to both sides if an arrangement could be made

That would also be a matter for the new Committee to take up, to say whether a feasible working scheme could be devised satisfactory to all concerned. It was quly in the last few

but he believed that in the future by working together the two Chambers could do a great deal for the development of the trade of the port.

The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the Hiego News by Mr. H. L. Baggallav :--

Baggallay:

Sir,—I notice in the report of my speech at the Chamber of Commerce on Friday, that I did not express myself quite as clearly as I should in the matter of the co-operation between the Foreign and Japanese Chambers on the question of the ownership of land by aliens. What I intended to convey was not that the Japanese were expected to join with us in securing an alteration of the Treaties, but that they should co-operate with us in getting such an alteration of the law as would permit aliens to own land and thus give the necessary security, without which the foreign capital that is so necessary for the development of the country's industries cannot be introduced.

#### KOREAN ITEMS.

A new Secretary has been appointed to the six countries included in the diplomatic domain of Korea's solitary Minister to Europe. The new official's name is Me Myengsang. It has a decidedly egotiatical appearance from an or-thographical point of view. It seems that Mr. Me was Chief of the Criminal Law Bureau in the Judicial Department last year, but, being convicted of receiving bribes and practising extortion, he was sentenced to three years' banishment to an island. Pardon and appointment to the post of Privy Counciller followed quickly, and now the returned convict goes westward. "Travelling in Europe will do him much good," dryly observes the Independent.

Mr. Cho Pyengsik has resigned the portfolio of Foreign Affairs and been succeeded by Mr. Ye Dochai, a man of about fifty, said to be an exceptionally grod Chinese scholar and a Conservative in politics. Still, though an ardent Confucianist, he is supposed to recognise the necessity of reform. He served as Governor of Chuila when the Tonghaks ravaged that province in 1894, and he subsequently held the portfolio of Education in the Cabinet of Kim Hongehip, which he resigned on account of the hair-cutting decree.

An industrial school is about to be established in Soul. The instructors will be French. It is stated that the French Representative has undertaken the task of procuring them, and that the Korean Government has promised an appropriation of six thousand dollars annually for their pay and other expenses.

The Emperor of Korea has issued an edict ordering that all persons over seventy years of age or under fifteen who are confined in the prisons throughout the country shall be released, on account of the severe weather.

Mr. Cho Pyengsik, who recently resigned the portfolio of Foreign Affairs in Korea, had previously been Minister of Justice, and, still earlier, Governor of Chungchong province. One of his performances while serving in the latter capacity is thus described by the In-

He was told by a geomancer that the site of one O Henkeun's house was the luckiest spot for a grave. If anyone should bury his parents' bones grave. If anyone should bury his parents' bones on that site he and his posterity would hold the highest offices in the government. Governor Cho asked O to give him that site, but the latter refused. Then the governor changed his tactics from diplomacy to force. He issued a proclamation charging O with being the most modulind son in the province and his whole family as immoral. The law requires the governor to exterminate such criminals from the face of the earth, and he descriminals from the face of the earth, and he despatched a company of the governor's hody guard to the town where the O family lived, destroying every house in the village and killing eight persons and injuring six. After thus exterminating the O's the governor appropriated the site of their house and limit a want on it for his furnic grave. After the Japan China was the two remaining heirs of O brought suit against Cho before the supreme court in Séal. The court ordered the governor of the province to make a thorough investigation of the charge. The governor's fermions of the charge. governor of the province. The govern vestigation of the charge. The govern Digitized by The governo

port corrobotated the statements made by the complainants. The court restored the property to the lawful heirs and made Mr. Cho pay into the lawful heirs and made Mr. Cho pay in-demnity of \$10,000 for the minder of the eight person. After Mr. Cho became Minister of Law last time he ordered the present governor to imprison the two remaining O's and compelled them to give up the property. The two persecuted O's are now suffering cold and hunger in the pro-vincial prison of Kongju.

#### CHINESE NOTES.

The N. C. Daily News regards the Chinese domestic loan as a very hopeless affair. It thinks that a certain portion of the bonds will be purchased by officials who have practically no choice in the matter, but that the people will have nothing to do with them. "The whole scheme," says our contemporary; "is plainly either a dodge of the Government to squeeze. the officials-a perfectly legitimate game of diamond cut diamond-or else it is a specious but hopeless attempt on the part of the officials to enrich themselves at the expense of the public. The contending financiers who are pressing their assistance upon the Chinese Government need not be anxious. This smart attempt to atimulate them into being more generous in their offers will only prove once more that if China wants money she must get it abroad, and then only on condition of giving considerable security.

"A scientific school," writes a Shanghai journal, "for the instruction of youths in sericulture according to European methods has recently been established by Mr. Liu, the prefect of Hangchow, under the auspices of the Governor and high authorities of Chekiang province. The School is situated near the famous Habin or West Lake, and built in the semi-foreign style of architecture, and will be supplied with a complete set of foreign scientific appliances. Thirty students are to be admitted, after a competitive examination in the written language, each year, and the course will be for four years. The instructors will consist of both foreign and native experts.

The Mukden correspondent of the N. C. Daily News says that gold has been discovered in paying quantities in a valley about 100 miles east of that city, and that over 2,000 men are employed digging and washing. He adds that "the far more valuable coal and iron regions are left neglected."

The same correspondent confirms the statement-ridiculed by certain London journals-that the Russians have found in Manchuria a tribe called Hunghus, against whom military precautions have to be adopted. He says that these "red-bearded barbarians" have long been a terror to the peaceful Chinese agriculturist, and that, as mounted robbers, they are considered the most dreadful representatives of the human race, after foreigners.

Mr. de Linde's acheme for improving the Peiho has been accepted by all the necessary officials in Tientsin, and now requires only the sanction of the Ministers in Peking. It contemplates an outlay of £150,000.

It appears that electric tramways will soon become a reality in Shanghai. Mr. Rouffart, the projector, promises that the charges shall not exceed those levied by /inrikisha men. That, however, does not seem a very large concession.

There seems to be some truth in the rumours recently circulated that the Chinese Government is endeavouring to raise a serviceable body of troops. The following paragraphs from

A telegraphic dispatch from Peking reports the appointment by Imperial edict of General Tung Fulssiang, styled the "Pacificator of Maliomedans," to be Generalissimo of the Imperial Armies belonging to the provinces of Shanting, Shansi, Sheusi, and Honan. HE has also been authorised to raise a special army of 60,000 mln, comprising all arms of the service, to

be a supplementary corps to the Peking Field Force

be a supplementary corps to the Peking Field Force if the capital he in danger of attack. Generalissimo Tung is now at Pungyang, Shansi, which will be H.E.'s future headquarters. Pingyang is at the point of meeting of the frontiers of the three provinces of Shansi, Honan, and Shensi.

H. E. Nieh, Treasurer of this portion in Kiangsu province, has arrived in Shanghai from Nanking and made his headquarters at Ambassadors' Hall, North Honan Road. H. E. who was expected on the 9th instant it appears was detained by the Viceroy, who wished H. E. to consult with H. E. Sung, Treasurer of the Northern portion of this province, concerning the extra fund required for the uniforming ancer of the Northern portion of this province, con-cerning the extra fund required for the uniforming and arming of 15,000 extra troops ordered to be raised, at once, pending the ontcome of the Kiao-chou and other difficulties with foreign Pawers. Apropos of raising new regiments Viceroy Chang Chilating has also been ordered to form a corps of 20,000 extra troops to join the Kiangen troops in defending the Yangtze. Valley.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Straits Chinese are said to be divided on the subject of getting rid of the queue.

The Osaka Municipal Council have resolved to sell Lot No. 35, and to devote the proceeds to putting the roads and drains of the Concession into good repair.

It is reported from Bangalore that labourers of both sexes are to be brought over from Japan on a "large scale," for an attempt on private lines, but under the Dewan's sanction, to revive the silk industry of Mysore.

Private Aylward, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment for causing serious bodily hurt to a China-man at Singapore. The Chinaman was kicked into a state of insensibility.

Mr. J. Marshall has been elected Chairman of the Hiogo and Osaka Foreign Chamber of Commerce for the ensuing year; Mr. F. J. Bardens, Vice-Chairman; and Messrs. Reynell, Kochen, and Wood, Committee.

Many residents of Yokohama will remember the old wooden warship Marion, of the U.S. Navy-as well as some of her officers in 1892. After laying idle at Mare Island, San Francisco, for some years, she was turned over to the Naval Militia of California on Jan. 30th.

With regard to the Epps case at Nagasaki, a Washington dispatch reports that it is the intention of the United States Government to demand a suitable money indemnity, the punishment of the marderers, and the enforcement hereafter of auch police regulations at Japanese ports as will protect American citizens,

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions has decided to send pastors to China to study the condition of Congregationalist missions in that country. The repre-sentatives appointed are Dr. Judson Smith, the foreign secretary of the Board, and Messre. Charles Hawkins, and S. H. Shapleigh, well-known laymen. The deputation in sent at the request of the missionaries in China, who wish the executives officers of the Board to become acquainted with the work at first hand.

"The sale of the steamers Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Conemaugh by the International Navigation Company to the States Steamship Company for the Pacific trade, leaves but five steamships flying the American flag crossing the Atlantic ocean," says the Marine Record. "They are the St. Paul, gross tons 11.629.21; St. Louis, gross tons 11.629.21; New York, gross tons 10.802.61; Paris, gross tons 10.794 86; Evelyn, gross tons 1,963 44; the latter three were built in English shipyards

two men became fast friends. The other day, however, it was discovered that these two old men, who had been close acquaintances for 18 years, were brothers. It seems that the one settled in Mitylene had left Smyrna when quite a youth, and had made a fortune in the United His family, believing him to be dead, went into mourning, and even said masses for the repose of his soul

The Very Rev. Henry George Liddell, the former dean of Christ Church, Oxford, died in London, on January 19. Dr. Liddell for many years was one of the prominent figures in a very famous group of Oxford dons. He was born famous group of Oxford dons. He was born in 1811, was educated at the Charter-house school, and in due course proceeded to Christ Church, Oxford, where he took a double first class in classics and mathematics. He was at one time domestic chaplain to Prince Albert and chaplain extraordinary to the Queen. His fame, in the outside world, is associated chiefly with the Liddell and Scott Greek lexicon, of which he was joint author with Dr. Scott of

Rear-Admiral Lester A. Beardslee, of the United States Navy, retired on Feb. 1st on ac-count of age. He was the second ranking officer in the Navy and at the date of his retire-ment was stationed in Washington as President of the Examining and Retiring Board. His last command was the Pacific station, and he was II Honolulu when the crisis came in the island government. Born at Little Falls, N.Y. on February 1st, 1836, the future Rear-Admiral received a common school education. He was appointed acting midshipman on March 5th, 1850, and from May, 1851, to January 1855, was attached to the aloop Plymouth, which craised among the East Indies. While attached to the Chinese station he participated in one battle and several skirmishes with the Taipings at Shanghai.

The Queen of England indulges now and then in a little amiable irony. Prince Henry was the last on whom Her Majesty operated with gentle surgical skill, says a home paper. According to a story which has gone the round of naval circles in Portsmouth since Prince Henry passed through on his return from Osborne, the Queen greeted him with the words, "My dear grandson, don't hill all the poor Chinese" The Prince, according to the story, thoroughly entered into the spirit of the thing, and repeated his grandmother's playful remoustrance with much satisfaction. Whe ther, however, the author of the "Most Mighty Lord, for ever and ever" speech is sufficiently spiritual to have discerned the irony may be questioned, since he so naively repeated the alory.

The St. Peteraburg journals announce that a public subscription list has been opened for the building of a Greek Orthodox Church at Soul. Subscribers are invited to send in their contribations to the Metropolitan of St. Petersburg. In the official notice it is incidentally mentioned that the Orthodox Russians resident in the Korean capital now number 100 souls. It in of course, says a correspondent, a matter of little moment whether or no the public of St. Petersburg respond generously to this invitation. since the Holy Synod can well afford to defray the cost of providing for the spiritual wants of the handful of Russians at Soul, more especially as there is a reasonable prospect of the new Orthodox Church in Korea shortly assuming the dignity and status of a Russian colonial

If the Indian Government could record the number of undetected and unauspected murders committed in the peninsula during a single year, the English reader would be frankly horrified. Though "antice" and female infanticide are put down by law the mortality among widows remains surprisingly greater than among any similar section of the population, while girl children die off at a deplorable rate compared with boys. The statistics of mortality caused by snake-bite during the year 1866, recently eclipsed sun; and two "prominences" blazed by anake-bite during the year 1866, recently eclipsed sun; and two "prominences" blazed by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINIOIS AT

issued by the Government of India, afford some explanation. In Burmah 3.484 cattle, including goals and sheep, died of soake-hite, and only 619 human beings. In Bengal the number of human deaths from the same cause was recorded as 9,250, and of cuttle only 963. In Burmah more than five times as many cattle as human beings, in Bengal nearly ten times as many human beings as cattle!

The effects of sea water on metals during prolonged immersion have been studied in France, various metallic objects dredged from the harbour of Brest having been presented for examination. A bronze arquebus, supposed to date from the end of the sixteenth century, was found to contain somewhat more than 80 per cent of copper, about 9 per cent of sniphide of copper, about 9.5 per cent of tin, and traces of lead, and the metal was in an excellent state of preservation. Such was the case also, it is recalled, with the bronze guns of the English vessel Mary Rose, which were recovered after being under water 282 years. Cast-iron shot found at Brest, however, had become so soft that they could be cut with a knife, but wrought iron objects were a little better kept, having a core of sound metal under the rust. The same effects on iron were noted in the cannon of the Royal George, after having been sunk only sixty-two years.

The Comercio published the following statement of the lines the respective Insurance Companies had on the property destroyed in the recent fire at Manila :--

Union Ass	urance Society	\$200,000
Compania	Magdeburg	60.000
	Royal	55.000
P1	Northern	55,000
	North British	55,000
#1	London Assurance	29,000
34	Manchester	59,000
34	Hongkong Fire	24,000
19	Епіртезя	9,000
11	Acheny, Munich	50.000
- 11	China Fore	45 000
P#	Rayat Exchange	35,000
20	Baloise	44.000
1.7	Imperial	39,000
10	Commercial Union	39,000
9-9	South British	6.000
17	London and Lancashue	35,000
**	Atlas	18,000
4.0	Hamburg Bremen Netherlands	15,000
**	446111611MIIU5 (111111111111111111111111111111111111	18,000
	Total	522a acc

The Kobe Chronicle learns from a vernacular contemporary (hat Mr. Fukui Toshi-mitsu, a Master Mariner, who has been in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has retired after 33 years service. Mr. Fukui was a shisoku of the Bakuiu and at an early age joined the Navy of the Bakuiu. On the fall of the Bakufu he turned his attention to the mercan tile marine service which the authorities were desirous of developing. He rendered valuable services to the State during the Satsuma Rebellion and the war with China in the transport service. He did not follow the fashion, set by his friends at the time, of joining the Government service, but was content to assist in the development of the mercantile marine. Viscount Enomoto, Admiral Baron Akamatsu, Mr. Mayeshima, formerly Vice-Minister for Communications, Messrs. Shoda, Kondo, and Kato of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and other friends ill Captain Fukui are taking steps to collect subscriptions for a testimonial in recognition of the services rendered by him to the mercantile marine.

Sir Norman Lockyer's Eclipse expedition at Viziadrug has done everything proposed, says an Indian contemporary, with triumphant success, and recorded twenty one points of observation. The work at Viziadrug was mainly spectroscopic work. Just before totality, there was a marked fall in the temperature. The scene was one of exquisite beauty. The solid

like firey bloodspots. Venus, Mars, and Mercury shone out, and were the only three stars visible. At none of the camps was the darkness very intense, and no lamps were required; but Venus remained in view for twenty minutes after totality. The totality at Buxar lasted one minute thirty seconds, and the spectacle was magnificent, and excited a feeling of awe and astonishment on the part of all beholders. The photographs taken by an American astronomer in Lick camp were the largest yet attempted. Lord Graham succeeded in kinematographing the eclipes. The natives in various parts of India are said to regard the event as presaging the downfall of the British Raj.

The Yorodau Choho was in great form on Monday. In its English column it had an sloquent and high flown leader on Marquis Ito. Here is an extract :--

Here is an extract:—

When the Marquis says "as for me, one of the topics that most frequently occupy my mind is the destiny of my dear fatherland, its people, and its civilization," we feel for him the feeling that the Nature poet of Windermere felt for poet Spencer, and call him "Brother, yepances, Friend." For we too are haunted by the very same topic day and night, and not a moment passes without our strenuous efforts directed to that to us all important question of our existence. We are sometimes afraid that it is the special weakness of our nature, which we cannot help sharing with our countrymen at large, that love of country is a sort of religion with us and is a source of endless superstitions to us. A calm, philosophic view of what our country will be in future will satisfy many a raging want of our nature.

What a gushing guileless child of nature is this

What a gushing guileless child of nature is this Japanese journalist. Imagine the gentleman who wrote there beautiful lines tossing on his midnight pillow and worrying over the destiny of Japan! What an example to the hireling Pressman of Great Britain, who is perfectly easy in mind in any national crisis as long as his salary is "brought reglar" like Mrs. Gamp's beer, and whose repose is broken by nothing less material than a cat fight on the

A gentleman who was recently in Canton in connection with the celebration of the marriage of a son of Mr. Li Sing, merchant, Hongkong, informed the Datily Press that a most during armed attack took place in the twelfth ward of Canton on the 11th February. It should be first mentioned that about six hundred guests, including about two hundred mandarins, were present at the wedding celebrations, which lasted four days, and m a precaution eighteen braves armed with carbines and revolvers were stationed at the entrance in the mansion where the festivities were held, while a police station is situated not fifty yards away. Yet, in spite of these precautions, there was an armed attack in the immediate neighbourhood and only ten houses away. These robbets entered a family house, gagged the inmates, and took away \$2,000 worth of money, jewellery, and clothing. The inmates were powerless to give an alarm and when the robbers had got all they could carry away they decamped by the back entrance. When the marriage guess heard of the robbery they did all they could to capture the thieves by directing the pursuit, but unfortunately no arrests were made. Armed attacks in Canton city are of almost daily occurrence just now. On the morning of the rith inst. a mandarin was stopped in his chair and a scent bottle, wrapped in a piece of paper, was pre-sented at his head. The mandatin was very frightened and thought the scent bottle was a revolver, and so he submitted in being stripped of his official robes and some money.

#### " NEWS" FOR JAPAN.

Here are a couple of telegrams that appear in San Francisco papers brought by the Coptic on Thursday :---

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Nagasaki says?— The Far Eastern situation is very serious, and it is believed that Japan is actively preparing for war.

## THE "COPTIC" ARRIVES AT LAST.

#### TERRIBLE EXPERIENCES IN THE PACIFIC.

The Coptic, which arrived in Yokohama Harbour about 11.30 on Thursday morning, four days overdue, encountered terrible weather during her passage. The steamer, which is one of the best in the Occidental and Oriental Company's service, left San Francisco on the 3rd inst. and made a good passage up to the 11th. About 1 a.m. on that day a terrific gale aprung up from the west, and the wind blew with fearful violence for two days. Great waves swept the steamer from stem to stern, and the passengers had a terrible time of it. One huge billow descended with tremendous force on the "whaleback" of the steamer's bows, and smashed and bent it in all directions, injuring the auchor gear, and completely washing out the forecastle. The forty or fifty men who were there narrowly escaped with their lives, having to fight their way aft through eight feet of water and through the wreck of the broken bulkheads. Fortunately, however, no one was washed overboard. The Coptic's ill-fuck did not cease here, for some days after she ran into a succession of westerly gales. In her damaged condition it was not possible to force her against the sea and the captain had to go considerably out of his course. It will be some time before the damage done

can be properly repaired.

A representative of the Japan Mail who boarded the steamer on her arrival writes :-- The appearance of the ship forward bore eloquent testimony to the badness of the weather in one of the worst Pacific voyages on the Coptic's record. The "whaleback "-a massive structure of iton and wood-was simply a total wreck. Great iron supports as thick as a man's arm were twisted like a cork-screw, the solid from stanchious were half rooted out of the deck, the look-out man's nest was battered into all kinds of fantastic shapes, and, despite all attempts that had been made to put things ship-shape, it was simply a scene of chaotic ruin. The passengers all speak highly of the conduct of the officers, and on the day before reaching port they sent Captain Sealby a note expressing their gratitude and admiration. It is couched in the following terms:

S.S. Coptic, Yokohama, 24th February, 1898

Dear Captain Sealby,—
We enclose a copy of a letter which we are forwarding to both Messis, Ismay, Innie & Co., Liverpool, and to the Occidental & Oriental S.S. Co., San Francisco, which will, we hope, be gratifying to you as expressing the feelings of your passengers on the present voyage.

We have only to add our united thanks to you

d subscribe ourselves, Yours sincere friends and well wishers,

All the passengers.

Copy of testimonial letter to Ismay, Imrie & Co., Liverpool and the Occidental & Oriental S.S. Co., San Francisco.

Dear Sirs,-

We, the undersigned Saloon Passengers per S.S. Coptic having now salely reached Yokohama, desire to express to you our unanimous apprecia-tion of the admirable conduct of Captain Sealby and Officers during our voyage from San Fran-tisco, which, as you will learn from the official reports, has been an extremely difficult and

Captain Sealby has thoroughly inspired us with every confidence, and we wish to express to you our admiration for him as a sailor and our feeling of sincere esteem for him as a kind and consteous

gentleman.

We remain, dear Sirs, yours truly,
(Signed).—Mrs. F. K. Hunt, Mr. A. Azevedo,
Mr. Walter Brooks, Mrs. Walter Brooks, Miss
Edith Brooks, Mr. John Holiday, Mr. Hermann
Kobbe, Mrs. W. C. Davidson, Mr. M. Hori, Mr.
Jessie Rilot, Mr. James H. White, Mr. J. G. F.
Thyssen, Mr. F. W. Blechynden, Mr. R. H.
Wright, Mr. Ammann, Mr. E. J. Bates, Mr.
Alfred A. Nicholls, and Mr. F. Von Schoeller.

Mr. H. I. Chope, of the P. & O. Agency at

## SEAMEN'S MISSION, YOKOHAMA.

We have been requested to publish the following latter :---

To Rev. W. C. Stitt, Secretary, American Seamen's Friend Society, New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. STITT,—As I promised in my last interview with you, I becein give you such information as I think may interest you regarding the Seamen's Mission of Yokohama.

Seamen's Mission of Yokohama.

A certain advertising publication (specimen copies of which I sent you last year) having in a recent issue insinuated that Rev. Mr. Austen has been presenting to the public accounts that were false, I called upon the editor to hear what he had to say on the subject. I was sorry to find him manifestly unfair in his reasonings and ungentlemantly in his remarks about Mr. A. However, I got from him several statements of mis-doings to move that his conclusions were well founded. prove that his conclusions were well founded.

One statement was that a certain boat had been

One statement was that a certain boat had been given to the Mission free of charge, and had been charged up = 125 pen in the yearly report (1891.)

Without saying a word = anyone about this item, I called on Mr. A. and asked him to kindly allow me the privilege of his account book covering the period mentioned. That evening in my hotel room I looked over the account, and found = charge in February 1891 of 125 pen, and a credit in Acul to the ower of the boat of 25 vez. making charge in February 1891 of 125 yen, and a credit in April to the owner of the boat of 75 yen, making the boat cost the Mission, 50 yen. Now I have before me a letter in which the owner offered the boat at a sum with discount because it was for Mission work, which made it net 50 yen, also a receipted voucher for 125 yen with a letter "enclosing" same and asking that balance be placed to bis cradit as his subscription. Voucher hears

to his credit as his subscription. Voucher bears date 10th April, 1891.

These things seem to show that the editor in question started off on a false statement as to the question staired out on a laise stairement as of the free gift of line boat, and, posing as an investigator and exposer of wrong doing, has tried to besmitch an honest man when he might easily have obtained knowledge of the truth.

The next statement was to prove that your re-

The next statement was to prove that your re-presentative was a grasping, money-making man, in that he had charged 15 yen for burying an American marine, (while the manal fee for English-men was 5 yen.) On asking Mr. A. for his state-ment of case, I learned that he never made a charge for inneral services in his life, save on this one occasion, and then only because he was repeatedly urged to do so by a gentleman who, in a letter that lays before me, acknowledges that he advised it, because he was informed that the U.S. Government had made an appropriation of 15 year. for burial services of its mannes. This gentleman told me that the Doctor at the Hospital said than told me that the Doctor at the Hospital said that he could not get a bill for the service from Mr. A. and not until the 28th August (inneral was 11th August) when that Doctor was about settling his affairs to leave Japan, and a note was sent down (which note is before me) asking him to "kindly send your bill," did be render his first and last bill for such services. The bill was for to yen, not 15) and when Mr. A. Learned that it was doubtful that an appropriation was made, he re-called it and destroyed it and so never executed a sem. (Mr. A's statement that he makes no charges for burial services is confirmed by letters from two Yokobama undertakers which I have recently received.)

which I have recently received.)

Another part of this affair which has been inmentioned is, that the man had gotten kinnelli
into financial troubles, and had importuned Mr.

A, for a loan. He could ill afford to make it, but

A, for a loan. He could ill afford to make it, but out of the meaness (?) of his heart did make it, to the amount of 25 yess, about half of which was returned, the rest being a dead loss, as the man shortly afterward committed suicide.

And for such transactions as this, this editor warmed up in his indignation and denounced Mr. A. as a "perfect damn(ed) fraud," and declared that he would not accept any proofs from the Mission records, not believing them to be true.

I was going to present the foregoing evidence at his office, but concluded that the chances were

his office, but concluded that the chances were that truth and justice would not be served if I did, so I concluded not to, but to offer it to the public

so I concluded not to, but to oner it to the public in another and better way.

With regard to Mi. A's salary, I find that the combined stipends of the three societies represented here amounts to the same as is given by at least two of the missionary boards, minus the al-lowance for rent and doctor's bills which he does not get. The rent item, which is only for the reading room and dormitory building, has misled some

friends who have been entertained by Mr. A. have made him money presents specifying that it was made him money presents specifying that it was for private use, but those occasions have been rare and monies given by those so entertained usually go into the Mission funds, and the books show it. Receipts from sailors for lodgings are all shown in dermitters account. dormitory account.

Many false runous and unanswered instituta-tions might easily be settled if people would make a little enquiry for themselves. As a rule I find that those who talk the most against missions and missionaries have investigated the least.

I am glad to hear of the donation of the Societies, which partly defrays expenses of sending Mr.
A's sick wife and their children to England.
A good spiritual work has been and is going on

cerely, HENRY BINLEY. (Representing John Wanamaker.) Yours sincerely,

Yokohama, February 22nd, 1898.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### KYOTO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir, I beg to inform you that the Imperial University of Kyoto has been established at Kyoto, and that the Colleges of Science and Engineering were opened in July last year. The Library attached to the University is to be for the benefit not only of the professors and students, but, as soon as matters can be accauged, for the benefit

soon as matters can be arranged, for the benefit also of the general public,

I should consider it a great favour to the University, if, in honour of the founding of our institution, you would have the kindness to allow me the use of your columns to address your readers on behalf of our Library. All books, pamplifets and literary materials of all descriptions will be most thankfully received and strictly devoted to the objects designated. We hope in time to make the Library worthy of being entitled "The Public Library of Kyoto."

Hooing that you may be able to use your kind

Hoping that you may be able to use your kind offices on behalf of a cause so directly bearing up-

on the public good. I cemain, yours very truly.

T. SASAOKA. Imperial University of Kyoto. Yoshida-machi, Kyoto, Feb. 17th, 1898.

#### WORLD'S CYCLISTS AT YOKOHAMA.

#### MR. FRASER TALKS ABOUT THE RIDE.

A cold night succeeded the peculiarly unpleasant weather of Tuesday morning and afternoon, A cold night succeeded the peculiarly unpleasant weather of Tuesday morning and afternoon, and it required a good stock of moral courage to face the bitter north-easter that was blowing. It was owing to this probably that Mr. Foster Fraser, of the trio of adventurous cyclists who have ridden from London through Europe and Asia, had so small an audience at the Public Hall. Mr. Fraser, who lectured under the auspices of the Literary Society, is a young-looking, fair-complexioned, clean-shaven man, whose appearance would hardly suggest a physique capable of the tremendous exection involved in this extraordinary journey. As a lecturer he makes no straining after effect, but tells his tale in a simple but interesting conversational style, with an occasional joke thrown in to relieve matters. He is modest in speaking of the dangers and difficulties of the ride, which must nevertheless have been most formidable. To ride 15.000 miles through 15 constries, many of them semi-batbarous, to cross howling steppes and fiery sands, to be pelied by ignorant and brutal peasants, chased by Cossacks, suffed at by wild animals who have not breakfasted, to be laid aside mals who have not breakfasted, to be laid aside here and there by lever and the effects of exposure—all this, if a joke, is rather a bad one. Mr. Fraser and his companions have been hicky to coming through it all not much the worse for wear, and we shall be glad to hear of their safe return to England after they have ridden across the States. The lecture last night was simply a narrative of the journey. The cyclists started from London on July 17th, 1896, and crossed the Channelto Autwerp. They rode to Brussels, where King Leopold received them in his Palace, and then went and on to Cologue, up then Rhine, then across to Vienna through Hungary to Roumania. Here; said Mr. Fraser, the roads, which had been gradually growing worse, became vile, and in Russia they growing worse, became vite, and in Russia they became simple cartitacks. Russia, in fact, was not a pleasant experience. The inus were generally a visit to the old country, by about 25 leaders of the mercantile and shipping community of interesting that it is not so. Occasional good ground, the folders and there are some who believe that there are the country and there are some who believe that there are the control of the stater port.

Digitized by

afte: war do the adventurers had an experience more exciting than enjoyable with the Cossacks, who compelled them to use their revolvers. The ascent ompened them to use their revolvers. It is ascent of the Caucasus, however, was comparatively easy pwing to the splendid road, and they enjoyed the finest coasting that ever fell to the lot of wheelman—an 80 miles glorious spin downlift. Though —an 80 miles glorious spin downist. Though the country round this region is wild in the extreme and travellers are frequently carried off, no misfertune befel Mr. Fraser's party, and they passed safely by Mount Aranat and the fabled Garden of Eden (which the lecturer described as a most dreary stretch of country) and on into Persia. At Teheran they saw the magnificent throne of the Shalt, estimated to be worth from two to five millions setting, shout the size of from two to five millions sterling, about the size of a four-poster bed and literally encrusted with iewels. A collection of cucios in the Royal possessinn was also shown them, containing articles of real value side by side with sixpenny tooth-brushes, oil paintings, and German advertising brushes, oil paintings, and German advertising chromography, and altogether a remarkable display of the worst possible taste. The riding in Poisia was execuable; there were no roads, and the wayfarers had to cross a corner of the great salt desert, whose surface in covered with flakes of salt like snow. They were at one time deserted by their Persian guide on a mountain 9,000 feet high, and spent 20 hours wandering about without food before a couple of men sent out to pick up their dead bodies arrived men sent out to pick up their dead bodies arrived and found them. Finally they descended by the Khotals and took boat to Kurrachee. Civilised India, with its excellent roads, and Rangoon and India, with its excenent toads, and transpoor and Burmah naturally yielded no very striking adventures, but the trio had many novel experiences in travelling through the almost unknown country of Western China. They were, in fact, the first Englishmen to receive passports for travel in those parts. The journey was for the most part discouraging. The roads were execrable, mountains week after week provented the travellers using their machines, they were often attacked and peli-ed by the natives, and the "chow" was naturally not altogether inviting to their palates. For weeks together they could not change their clothes, and could scarcely get a wash, and the only good point about the hotel accommodation was the tariff, which was not unreasonable, the neual charge for a supper of several courses, a bed, and a breakfast being the equivalent of about 12 cents. a breakfast being the equivalent of about 12 cents. Out of 1,500 unles they walked 1,200, and a part of the journey to Shanghai Mr. Riaser accomplished quite alone. As for Japan it had afforded absolutely no the illing adventures, but Mr. Riaser said he had been making use of his time by studying the American language, so that they might be able to find their way through the wild tribes that live on the other side of the Pacific.

At the close of the lecturer the Chairman (Mr. A. J. Wilkin) thanked Mr. Francr on behalf of the Society, and wished him good luck in his future wanderings.

#### AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

(PROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sydney, January 13
The scare produced throughout Australia by the The scare produced throughout Australia by the reported action of Russia and Germany in connection with China, has largely subsided, but there remains an uneasy feeling with respect to the possibilities of the future, and the increasing importance of Japan as a factor in the course of events is beginning to be more fully understood. The general impression seems to be that the present state of affairs mould have been suited. sent state of affairs would have been avoided, had not Russia, Germany, and Finnes refused to allow a Japanese occupation of Port Arthur. The reasons which animated the three Powers in assuming a hostile attitude towards Japan become sevented in the light of secent events. Russia," says a leading Sydney paper, "that guaranteed the addition of sixteen millions requir-ed to placate the Japanese for the loss of their conquest, in return for which that country obtained her Siberian railway concessions and the prospect of a port further south than Vladivostock. But an event more important, as giving her a controlling influence over the financial and trading concerns of China, was the establishment of the Russo-Chinese Bank in connection with the guarantee given. The whole effect of this policy was to throw the Celestial Empire into the hands of Russia instead of England, as completely as Turkey has been in the nearer East. In both quarters the been in the nearer Best. In both quarters the Concert of Europe has resolved itself into same. Concert of Europe has resolved itself into same, thing like the predominance of three active particles in the mers in counsel over one, and if British diplomacy is not muse successful over this Fix Eastern quity in the many particles. The Public Procurator, continuing, said that respect the project of the project o

It is admitted by leading. Australian statesmen that the isolation of the Australian statesmen that the isolation of the Australian colonies has been ended by the sudden rise of Japan as a naval power and the threatened partition of China by Russia, Germany, and France; and this may largely influence the proceedings at the meeting of the Australian Federal Convention, which opens in Melbourne next week. In the meantime the situation is being keenly discussed by the Australian press. The Melbourne Argus sees no pro-bability of an immediate breach of the general peace, so far as Great Britain and Australia are concerned, "The cause likeliest to precipitate bability of an immediate means of the peace, so far as Great Britain and Australia are concerned, "The cause likeliest to precipitate trouble is the adoption by the raiders of a policy openly hostile to others besides the bapless Chinese Government which they are despoiling. On this ground there is room for anxiety as regards the attitude of Germany and Russia towards both Great Britain and Japan. Of all nations Japan is cut at most keenly by these proceedings. She was browbeaten in the moment of victory, and now sees the prize for which she fought snatched from sees the prize for which she fought snatched from her. One footbold upon the mainland she still her. One footbold upon the mainland she still retains in the hardly won position of Wei-hai-wei, and, according to the Standard, Russia is actively intriguing to oust her from that post. To advance the Chinese Government the money necessary to complete the payment of the war indeanity and so compel Japan under the peace treaty to evacuate, is equivalent to intimating to the Mikado that he must remain an uninterested by stander while the territory he virtually conthe Mikado that he must remain an uninterested by stander while the territory he virtually conquered is out up." The Argus doubts whether the Jupanese will stand this, if the answer remains with the people alone. "Their Government were not foollardy enough to fight coalesced European Powers three years ago, but the Mikado and his Ministers earned dangerous mopopularity through their produces." through their prudence. The abrupt dissolution of the Diet seems to imply that the Sovereign and his advisers once more recognise the hopelessness of the odds against them, but have an excited Parliament and populace to reckon with.

"In a sense the treatment of Great Britain by au excited

the aggressors seems equally cavalier. It is quite possible that both the recent enemies, China quite possible that both the recent enemies, China and Japan, may at this moment be urgently bidding for British aid either in protection or alliance. One rumour has it that China, despite her ostensible docility to Russia, invites a British protectorate over her richest arteries of trade. If Japan has any thought of self-assertion it must be to Great Britain she will earliest turn for help. The indications are that the two nations will at least act in concert. For the powerful British squadron in the China Seas is reported as likely to winter at Wei-hai-wei---a step which aslikely to winter at Wei-hai-wei-a step which assumes the consent of Japan. Beyond any support that may be forthcoming from this quarter, England has evidently to fight for her own hand, and happily is strong enough to do it."

The excitement occasioned by the intelligence that the Resister.

the excitement occasioned by the intelligence that the Russian Government was endeavouring to arrange with that of New South Wales for the supply of shipments of frozen meat intended for Vladivostock is at an end. The cablegram which gave rise to all the talk was simply a question of enquiry, signed "Zuraroff," and there are many

who contend that the whole thing was an elaborate hoax, especially in view of the fact that no answer

has been received to the message sent by the New South Wales Minister of Agriculture in reply.

#### THE MURDER OF A FOREIGN SEA. MAN IN ISEZAKICHO.

On Thursday morning at 10.30 the public trial of Nagai Yoshito, charged with having killed Thomas Kennedy, a seaman belonging to the British ship Glenericht, on the night of the 17th Sept. last, was opened in the Yokohama Local Court before Judge Yamamoto Jonosuke and Assistant Judges Pujise Yaichiro and Oyagi Zaizo.

Public Procurator Kitaoka Hotel prosecuted, and Mr. Putami Tomovahuro, barrister, appeared for the defence. Mr. Foster, British Pro-Consul, was present and had a seat on the Bench. for the defence.

A piece of wood or club about 4 feet long, and several big stones were produced in Court in

The Public Procurator opened by suquiring of the prisoner if it was true that his name was Nagai, 38 years of age, shinoku and a carpenter by trade; a nature of Shizuoka Prefecture and a ward of carpenter Gen, of Yoshidamachi, his registration being lodged with Mr. Furnkawa Senze, of Snyeyoshicho Nichome, Yokohawa.

Prisonar admitted the truth of these ettremants

seamen belonging to the British ship Glenericht. seamen belonging to the films stip deserver, after leaving a saloon in Maisugaye-cho, got into a quartel with a jinrikisha coolie named Yosazo, and that one of the seamen, believed to be the deceased Kennedy, wounded the jinrikisha man in the neck with a knile. The prisoner, Nagai, afterwards pursued Kennedy and struck him

with a club, causing his death.

Judge Yamamoto-Have you ever been con-victed before. When did you come to Yoko-

Prisoner-I came to Yokohama in May last

Judge-Where does the carpenter Gen live?
-He lives in Yoshidacho, Yokohama.
Judge-Do many other persons live in the

Judge—Da many other persons tive in the number of carpenter Gen?—Yes, they do, Judge—Have you ever quarrelled when you ere in your native country?—Never once, Judge—Do you usually drink rake?—Yes, I take

Judge—Do you usually drink 12467—Yes, I take about 5 go generally.

Judge—Have you ever quarrolled with any one after taking liquor 7—No. Not at all.

Judge—Have you any vickname fixed on you!—

Judge-Is it true that you go by the nickname of "Bonmoto" ?-Yes.

Judge-Is it the case that you frequently sisit ir. Furnkawa ?- Yes, often.

Judge-Did you doink in Mr. Furukawa Senzo's one on the night of the 17th September !- Yes. Itook about 5 go of sake.

Judge—How are you affected by taking liquor?
I become sleepy usually.
Judge—At what time did you leave the house of

Judge—At what time did you leave the house of Mr. Furukawa Senzo?—About H pim.

Judge—What clothes did you wear at that time?—I was wearing black-coloured clothes bearing the sign of "Kimpo-ro."

Judge—Were you wearing at that time trousers (momohiki) of the same colour?—Yes; my clothes (kimono) and trousers (momohiki) were of the same black colour.

Judge—Were you not wearing any cap at that time?—No, I wasn't.
Judge—How did you come to Isezakicho after leaving the house of Mr. Furnkawa Senze?— About 12 o'clock at midnight I came to Isezakicho

About 12 o clock at midnight 1 came to 1sezakicho after rambling about Magane cho,
Judge-Were the streets of Isezakicho very crowded at that time?—There were not so many people then; but a crowd of people was assembled at a spot where the foreign seamen

were quarrelling. Judge—Did you see those seamen quarrelling?

I heard cries that a Japanese was cut by a seaman, and I soon became separated from my three comrades, intending to return to my abode by passing through Sugatamicho. When I came to Sugatamicho the seaman came running towards

le, so I fled away Judge-Were ti -Were there four seamen at that time?

No; only one.
Judge-At the first were there four seamen?-

Ves. inst so.

Judge—One in a white coat and the others in black !—Yes.

Judge—Where was the seamon making a disturbance!—In front of a fish-monger's shop in

Sugatamicho. Judge-At what distance were you when you saw the quarrel?—I don't know exactly, as I was quite intoxicated at the time.

Judge—How far apart?—About 5 or 6 cho off. Judge—Ho whar apart?—About 5 or 6 cho off. Judge—Is that true; don't tell a he. Were you not standing and flooking on about 2 ken off?—I don't know, as I was in drink.

Judge—What were the other people around doing at that time?—I don't know.

Judge—You had been standing together with three other comrades, and then you slipt away, did you not?—Yes.

Judge—Did you really see the seaman flourishing a knile?—I did not notice.

sming a knite?—I did not notice.
Judge—Did you hear the cries—"A Japanese is ent; Japanese is ent? I—Yes. I heard that.
Judge—Where were you standing when you heard the cries that a Japanese was ent?—I was standing in front of a pawnbroker's shop called Onaya, in Sugatamicho.

Judge—Have you not deposed during your preliminary examination that you were standing about 3 or 4 km off?—I don't know.

Judge—Did you not see the seaman cut the Japanese?—I didn't see it.

Judge—How many people were there around when the Japanese was on?—Many,
Judge—About 40 people?—More than 40.
Judge—Did the people around become excited;

have been s

Judge—Are you sure that the seaman was wearing a white coat?—I don't know exactly, as I was under the influence of drink,
Judge—What was the seaman doing?—The

seaman was raging with a knife in his hand.

seaman was raging with a knife in his hand.
Judge—How many men were on the secene when
the seaman can past the Isezakicho Police Station?—About 15 or 16.
Judge—Were you near to the seaman?—No.
Judge—Have you not stated in preliminary examination that you were ahead of the crowd;
that in lossy, very close to the seaman?—It might
have been so.

Judge—Were there some gas lamps near the scene of the struggle?—Only one.

Judge—Were many houses about the scene of the struggle open at that time?—No, very few.

Judge—Were you near the seaman ther?—The seaman came approaching me while I was

Judge—Why were you there when you returned to your abode to avoid a quarrel?—I happened to be there when I turned the corner of the road.

Judge—Why did you not fly away?—As I was intoxicated at that time, I could not well

manage myself.

Judge-Did you purposely face the seaman?

Not so,

Judge—With what object did you face the seaman with a piece of wood in your hand? Did you strike the seaman to avoid the seaman's blow, or did you strike him purposely?—I struck him to avoid the blow of the seaman.

Judge—Where did you pick up the piece of bamboo?—I picked it up near the fish-monger's.

Judge—Did you strike the seaman while he was standing?—Ves.

standing?—Yes.
Judge—If you were only avoiding the blow

the seaman there was no need to use the bamboo.

Prisoner—That was because I was intexicated.

Judge—Where did you throw your bamboo away?—Near the Isexakicho Police Station.

Judge—Your saying must be false: You did not only avoid a blow yourself, but you struck the seaman two or three times. Did you not say so in your preliminary examination? Did you not say at the Police Station that you struck the seaman two or three times, saying "Wicked fellow! wicked fellow?"—Yes, I did.

Judge—And again did you not say at the Police Station that, if you said you had atruck the seaman, the police inspector would let you go free from the Station !—Ves; I said to the police inspector that I had struck the man, as he promised to let me go free if I said I had struck him.

Judge—Did you not strike the seaman with a huge club instead of a piece of bamboo? Who was holding the club at the time? Was he not a small man wearing black clothes and black trousers, who grasped the club?—Yes; the man who was holding the club wore black clothes. Judge—Was he not a man aged about 30?—Vex.

Judge—Do you not know that stones were thrown at the seaman?—I don't know,
Judge—What is your stature?—I measure not

ore than 5 feet. Judge—Can you well manage this club?—Yes;

Judge-Do you remember that you struck the

Judge—Do you remember that you struck the seaman with this club?—I do not.

Judge—Is it the that you struck the seaman when he fell down?—Yes; that is so.

Judge—Did you telt some one that you struck the seaman the night before you were taken to the Court?—I didn't say such a foolish thing.

Judge—You are sure you did not say that?—No, I never said so.

Judge—You must have said so. Did you not say—"as I was clearly groved as to my act by lefe

Jange -- You must have said so. Did you not have as a my act by fellow prisoners I shall have to confess "P—No, no. Judge—Do you not recall to your memory that you struck the seaman with a linge club?—I don't.

Judge-A certain man states a man of about 30 Judge—A certain man states a man of about 30 years of age wearing black clothes and of small stance was seen running with a club at full speed toward. Sugatamicho; this corresponds to your figure and actions. Is it true that you struck the seaman purposely?—No; it is not a fact.

Judge—Then your statement is that you struck the seaman in self-defence?—Yes; that is so.

At this stage, after a short consultation with the Assistant Judges, the Pursident of the Court announced that as there were some documents to be examined and as there was evidence to be given

examined and as there was evidence to be given by Dr. Minuto and Dr. Sakakiyama, who had held a post morten examination on the deceased Kennedy, the bearing would now be adjourned sine die.

#### THE KOBE LOTTERY CASE.

We take from the Kobe Chronicle the judgment given by Mr. S. S. Lyon, the United States Consuland Judge, at Kobe, in the case of "Rothsprack v. Neumann:"
"This is not so much a question of fraud be-

"This is not so much a question of fraud between the complainant and the defendant, as it is a question involving a violation of the United States Statutes, Vol. 1, Ch. 68, which prohibits the sale of lottery tickets.

"It is a very grave charge and the penalties attached to a conviction may be made very severe. It has been shown by the evidence of several persons that they were induced to contract for the purchase of an alleged series of foreign bonds, and that they advanced certairs sums all money as a purchase or an aneget series or role in bonds, and that they advanced certain sums of money as a guarantee of their good faith to complete that con-tract; also that the alleged bonds, both upon their face and by the representations of the defendant ingelf, were purported to be entitled to a draw-ing in a game of chance, and that by such repre-sentations the said persons were induced to part with the money paid by them to the defendant,

"It has also been shown, and it is admitted, that in some cases the defendant has returned the that in some cases the defendant has returned the money to some of his pations, but that is no mitigation of the original charge; it does not in the least condone the violation of the Statute. It has been claimed by the defence that there are no blanks in the alleged drawings; it is thereby no less a lottery within the meaning of the law. It is held in Whatton's 'Criminal Law,' part II., Ch. 22, Sec. 149, that it does not affect the question that there are no blanks, and there is cited in support the case of "Wooden v. Shot-well," 3 Zab. 465; therefore the contention of the defendant that the scheme he represents is no lattery is not valid,

"The defendant has shown by his evidence that he knew the selling of his bonds was forbidden by law in the United States, and that there were severe penalties attached to their sale, but

were vevere penalties attached to their sale, but he claims that he did not know the same laws were applicable to this Consular district.

"The law does not excuse ignorance of this cheracter; he should ascertain, before travelling on his country's passport, that the same Government which guarantees his safety as an American citizen, also requires chedience to its home laws,

wherever it exercises judicial power.

"The modus operandi by which this business seems to have been carried on was to first try to sell, failing in that to solicit written references to others, which, in some cases, were probably too freely given, and resulted all too favourably for the defendant.

"The Court has endeavoured to give the de-

tendant an impartial trial, and, while finding but few extenuating features in the case, has nevertheless taken into consideration all of the cir-cumstances surrounding it, and is therefore dis-

cunistances surrounding it, and is therefore dis-posed to mivigate the punishment usually attached to an offence of this character.

"The finding of the Court, and one in which both the Associates concur, is that you, Sigemund Neumann, are guilty of the offence as charged, and you are hereby adjudged to pay a fine of fity dollars in United States gold, and, besides, the costs of procedure, and to stand committed until paid."

#### PATRIOTISM IN CHINA.

We take the following from the N.-C. Daily

We take the following from the N.-C. Data

News:—

We said so. Did you not proved as to my act by felwe to confess "P—No, no.

The confess "P—No, no.

A Chinese military officer of high rank at Port Arthur

writing to a brother officer her, states that the Codes of
the counters of proved as to my act by felwe to confess "P—No, no.

The did to the Codes of the Cod

remember, the fate of the whole empire rasts upon what we shall decide to do. Let me therefore ask you is it to be a tame submission—as is evidently the desire of some know-nothings in power—or shall we do our duty to our country—and take the responsibility upon ourselves?" Needless to say the General's wish was heartily echoed. As an intimation of the licing of the army all the married officers have sent their families to their homes.

#### OUR PARIS LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Paris, January 8th. Europe for a while is left to itself; interest has Europe for a winter is tell to user; interest man emigrated to the Chinese seas and the Upper Nile, and it is upon British movements that all attention is concentrated. It was full time for England to show the world she was not asleep, but only awaiting the turn of the tide. That has now occurred, for she has taken it at the flood, which, it is said the shoot of the tide. it is said, leads on to fortune, and has very quietly brought Russia to book by re-installing, aided by seven battleships, her superintendent of Customs at Sönl, Korea, Mr. McLeavy Brown, whom a flux-sian functionary jockeyed away. That act means sian functionary jockeyed away. That act means protection and tranquility for Sie Robert Hart, the foremost and most bonoured functionary in the service of China. It will lead to other good things; among them that of the British Government re-garding favornably the negotiation of an English ican for the Celestials. This will lower by several pegs the cather excessive influence of Russia in the home affairs of the Sun of Heaven. England the home analys of the Son of Treaven. England will not consent—unless well squared by an equivalent comporting with her 67 per cent of the Far Eastern trade—to Port Arthur being handed over to Russin. She will consent to no Chinese port being held, and closed, by a European Power against the traders of the world. Port At this can allow what ships I pleases to anchor there for the winter; Russia has already removed her fleet there from Viadivostock to escape being frozen up; and England has sent two citisers to keep them compan

As to Germany, her speculation to China is not gay; the attitude of England reminds has in advance that she will not be allowed to seize and value that ships of other nations from Kizo-chau, It is that attitude which has given heart of grace to the Celestials; their backbone appears to be developing. As to what contract the Japanese will adopt, it will naturally be on the same lines as adopt, it will naturally be on the same lines as England's policy. Germany can do very little in China; her contingent of troops would be speedily awamped by Chinese numbers, while England will not remain merely a lacker-on. France is vor, it seems, bound to follow the Asiatic fortunes of her ally, and so will remain coy Beasides, her band will soon be drawn respecting the Lones Nile. Germany in China is in a five the sides, her hand will soon be drawn respecting the Upper Nile. Germany in China is in a fix; she has a homet's next about her ears, and one whither Pomeranians cannot be extensively shipped as they are more in season playing the Wacth am Rhem. The Raiser will soon find out that playthey are more in season playing the water am Rhein. The Kaiser will soon find out that playing at filthustering is costly work, and the founding of colonies no easy task. The internal condition of Austria-Hungary, and the resolution of Italy to abstain from all extra-European dangers, place Emperor William in an awkward position.

ptace Emperor William in an awkward position. It is a good influence that has stimulated Britain to accelerate her advance on Khartonm—Ondonanian. She will then be better able to penetrate deeper into the Soudan. Opinion inclines to conclude that the advance of French explorers is the cause of the quick march. Any one is free to help the Dervishes, but they must take the consequences. The English Government has more than once desired its applies to an in leading the leavest are successful.

aid her exchequer. Germany has yet to negotiate a commercial treaty with England, as the old ar-

rangements expite at the close of July.

Meteorologists have been analysing the weather Meteorologists have been analyzing the weather of Paris. There is a mean of 50 frosty days during the year, and 25 of fog. The mean average temperature varies from 50 to 58, degrees Fah., and the total yearly initial is 20 inches, spread ever 150 days. The duration of a shower is 30 minutes. Between March and October, 30 days are stormy, and the wind travels from 4 to 55 yards in a second; snow is never heavy, but in 1879 the soil was covered with a layer 20 inches

A singular cycle accident has occurred to bar-rister Monod. On December 17th last, he was wheeling with his daughter, when his bike caught in a tram rail; he was upset, and a cab that was following ran over him, the horse trampling him. He got, on his feet, and shook himself, complained of no internal injuries, and exteriorly had only a few busiess. Yesterday a relative paid him a visit; he was as merry as a lark and very gay. An hour later, he was dead. He was a model of health.

Nearly traif the taxes of Paris are raised by Nearly half the taxes of Paris are raised by the dues—the octrol—struck at certain classes of articles entering the city. The Municipal Council intend to abolish that indirect, in favour of a rational system of direct, taxation. Perhaps this is the commencement of the change that must ensue from the demolition of the fortifications of the city. The tax on the stomach is very unfair; thus the poor man's bartel of wine that costs but 70 francs, has to pay some 53 francs duty, just as much as the rich citizen's barrel, valued it may be at 700 francs. But what a regiment of excise officers to pension off, or to compensate!

Meccas must have their utility, since they exist, but none is so sad and dreary, as that to

Meccas must have then unity, such that to Jadies on New Year's Day. Jaidies was the residence of the ex-patriot Gambetta, and here the ex-patriot expired. It is a humble residence; not ex-patriot expired. It is a humble residence; not the remotest pretension, inside or outside, to greathess; it was there be lived with his mistress, and only his most intimate friends were admitted. Every year the apartmepts—they smell epulchrad—are opened, a green wood fire made; on a plain table are sheets of paper, where visitors write their names. The remaining leading men of his party, now very small, arrive there, deliver an oration, and tetire. On a small road in line with the dwelline, is a monument to Gambetta—jest in the dwelling, is a monoment to Gambetta—lost in the surrounding trees somewhat. The deceased's heart in in the possession of the family of Mr. Paul Bert; his brain is preserved in a bottle of spirits of wine in the Authopological Museum, with those of the other members of the society. The brain is light, 37 oz. but it is singularly rich in convolutions. Yet, as in the case of Voltaire, the interior of the skull was quite smooth. What say phrenologists to that?

Parisians do not like international exhibitions:

they are ever followed by three years of had trade. However, the works for the 1900 lête are getting along very well; there is a multitude of people employed everywhere; the hig wigs are not forgetten at banquets, where the uniform note is the rule and that will be so for at least three years.

#### H. & S. BANKING CORPORATION.

#### HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

The ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held in the City Half, Hongkong, on February 12th. The Hon, J. J. Bell-living presided.

Mr. JACKSON read the notice convening the

A SATISFACTORY SPEECH FROM THE CHAIR.

The CHARMAN, after reading the report, said

Gentlemen, the directors have great pleasure in
coming before the shareholders with such a satisfactory report as the one just read, allowing of the tactory report as the one just read, showing of the usual dividend of £1. 5s. per share, and anddition to the reserve fund of to lace of dollars. The account under the heading of dead stock, which has appeared in the various reports since the establishment of the Brok, has been wiped out of the book by a debit of \$100,000 to the profit and loss account of the past half-year. Dead stock represented house and office furnitore, safes and stationery, all improductive or non-interest bearing items, and fitty grouped under the heading of dead stock. In future, it is intended that renewal of fundatore, stationery, &c., will be debited to the profit and loss account from half-year to half-year. The only non-

every half-year by charging the various offices a rentaln pon the premises they occupy. Our pre-mises at the head office and at the various branches unses at the head office and at the various branches are worth a sum considerably exceeding the figure at which they now stand in our books, viz., \$971,965.66. It is our policy to own the premises we occupy at the various centres of our business, and to continue writing down their book value. Our silver current accounts show the line off during the helf-hear of \$281.882.58 a fa ling off during the half-year of \$5.801,888.54 This was caused by the extreme tightness of money all over the East during nearly the whole of the latter half of 1897. This tightness first of the latter half of 1897. This tightness first began in the Straits in consequence of shipments of silver yen to Japan, where they were ex-changeable for gold yen, Japan exchange being at times as much as to per cent, over the rates unling in the Straits. British dollars were freely imported by the Banks in the Straits, but pending their arby the Banks in the Strans, but pending their arrival there was a great scarcity of coin in both Singapore and Penang. The change in the currency of Japan, while producing some inconvenience by tightening money in the Far East, resulted very satisfactorily to this Bank, as we were considerable holders of Japanese silver year at the time. siderable holders of Japanese silver yen at the time. Hongkong and Shanghai had to face abnormally large shipments of bullion, the former to Canton and the Coast ports, the latter to the River and Gulf ports, causing temporary stringency. In both markets, and high rates of interest ruled all round. Fixed deposits in silver show a slight increase during the half-year, say, \$31,730, 522.12, against \$30,641,249.52 the previous six months. Current accounts in gold show a decrease of £1,208,675.55, rod., being further withd awals. of £1,208,675 5% rod., being further withdrawals temporarily in our possession, as explained by my predecessor in the chair on the last occasion when predecessor in the chair on the last occasion when we met in this room. Our fixed deposits in gold show a slight increase, viz., £2,622,738 against £2,610,278 on the 30th June last. Bills payable show an increase of \$6,285,263.14 over the previous half-year, while bills receivable on the other side show a falling off of \$3,115,482.79. Bullion in hand and in transit shows an increase of \$5,557,768, and cash a reduction of \$6,615,132.47. The increase in bills payable and bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit, and the decrease in bullion in transit. \$3,557,708, and cash a reduction of \$0,015,132.47. The increase in bills payable and bullion in transit, and the decrease in cash, show that the Bank's resources were fully occupied during the half-year, resulting in the splendid profit the report discloses. Bills discounted, loans, and credits show a decrease of \$4,011.405.53. The amount of our advances, viz, \$61,258.502, was just as much as we could afford consistent with sound banking. as we could afford consistent with sound can array. During the half-year the tightness of money already referred to required the most careful supervision of our funds in order to meet, as far as possible, the wants of our constituents, and this as possible, the wants of our constituents, and this fact emphasizes the wisdom of our adding largely to our reserve fund whenever we have an opportunity of doing so. We were most fortunate in not having to provide anything for losses during the period under review. Our holdings of Consols and other steiling securities are very little changed. None of our securities have been written up during the half year, not have we trenched upon the Chinese Government loan profits referred to at the last meeting.—(Applause.) An impression recently existed that we were large holders of Chinese and Japanese securities. The facts are, on the 31st of December last we had \$20,000 of the former and \$20,000 of the latter. Our funds were far no fully occupied in our ordinary business to permit of large investments in these stocks, good as we consider them to be. The half-year has been one of sider them to be. The half-year has been one of exceptional success, due in a very great measure, it is perhaps muccessary for me to state, to the ability and untiling energy of the Chief Manager (applause), ably assisted by the Bank's Managers and Agents and a most competent staff here and at all the Branches.— (Applause.) I very hearti-ly congratulate the shareholders and all concerned on the present position and prospects of the Bank, and I am glad to say that so far the new period entered upon has been highly satisfactory.—(Applicated). Gentlemen, I have no further temarks to make, but if any shareholders should desire any further information I should be pleased to give it.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report any accounts.

SECONDING THE ADOPTION.

Mr. GILLIES—Mr. Chairman and Grutlemen,
I believe it is an undisputed fact that we have now
arrived at our sixty-fifth half yearly meeting, and
I rejoice in saying that on no former occasion have
shorthalders resided a processing that shareholders received a more satisfactory report on the progress and prosperity of our Banking Corporation than that now presented to us, and I heating of dead stock. In future, it is Corporation than that now presented to us, and I intended that renewal of futuritire, stationery, an sure your will all readily admit that the result account from balf-year and loss of the balf-year's working has more than justified account from balf-year to helf-year. The only non-intended interest-bearing item in the accounts now is the with much interest to the speech of our workly with much interest to the speech of our workly and in war of the most sanguine expectations. I have listened to us, and I ation.

THE "VICTORIOUS" RE-FLOATED.

The Victorious has been successfully with much interest to the speech of our workly and in war of the most sanguine expectations. I have listened to the profit and in war of the much interest to the speech of our workly and in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the accounts now is the much interest to the speech of our workly and in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the accounts now is the much interest to the speech of our workly and in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the accounts now is the much interest to the speech of our workly and in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the victorious has been successfully bearing item in the victorious has been successfully bearing item.

to him for his very clear and concise statement to him for his very clear and coucies statements regarding the movements of the meney market in the East, particularly in connection with silver, his careful combents on the extensive business done by the Bank, and for the assuming information reby the Bank, and for the assuming information respecting the very satisfactory position in which we stand with regard to our sterling and other securities. It must also be most gratifying to shareholders to find that the premises belonging to the Corporation at the many branches, including the head office, have been written down, to the extremely low figure of \$971,965, a sum which is certainly far short of the value of the land only; that it is proposed to pay the usual dividend of 25/- per share, and to place the large sum of \$1,000,000 to the credit of reserve fund, thereby anomenting its total to the equivalent of eightaugmenting its total to the equivalent of eight-tenths of the subscribed capital. The policy of continuing to build up the reserve fund when opportunity offers must commend itself to every me having a genuine interest in our welfare; it increases the resources of the Bank immensely, and in a short time will place us in such a position of strength and stability as to be almost without a precedented in the annuls of banking. Gentlemen, there is no better gauge of the successful working of any business than the balance sheet, and bringing this standard to bear on the returns before us, we have ceason for congratula-tion and being satisfied with the very able and efficient control and guidance of the Board of Directors and with the skilful management of our capable and well-trained staff. Concurring fully in the recommendations of the Directors regarding the appropriation of our profits, I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts for the past year.-(Applause). Carried.

#### BLECTION OF DIRECTORS.

Mr. EDGAR proposed the re-election of Messrs. G. B. Dodwell, R. Shewan, and R. L. Richardson as Directors, and the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. Armin Haupt to the Directorate, in room of Mr. St. C. Michaelthesen, who resigned his seat on leaving the colony.—Mr. C. Palmer seconded.—Carried.

Mr. WHEALLER proposed the re-election of Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. C. S. Sharp as auditors,—Mr. G. C. Cox seconded,—Carried,

The CHAIRMAN-I think that concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be issued on Monday,

#### VOTES OF THANKS

Mr. Lawts — Gentlemen, before we leave, I think we should express our appreciation of the very satisfactory report placed before us. I am sure you will all join with me in a heaty vote of thanks to the Board of Directors, the Chief Manager, and the staff generally for the care and ability which has brought about such happy results.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN-Mr. Lewis and gentlemen, helalf of my co-Directors and myself, the Chief Manager, and the staff generally, I beg to thank you for your cordial vote of thanks.—Daily Press.

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.") ENGLAND AND CHINA. THE YUNNAN RAILWAY CONCESSION: STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT.

London, Feb. 19.

Mr. Curzon, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stated in the House of Commons that he was unable to confirm the report that China had agreed to the extension of the railway into Yunnan. It was in any case advisable to construct the railway to the frontier, before deciding as regards possible extensions beyond.

# THE ZOLA TRIAL

DRAMATIC EQUIVOCATION.

At the Zola trial yesterday, General Boisdeffre, attired in full uniform, dramatically appealed to the jury to trust the leaders of the Army, but gave no information.

#### THE DISASTER ON AN AMERICAN WARSHIP.

THE DEATHROLL: SPANISH SYMPATHY. Feb. 18.

The death roll in connection with the explosion on board the United States cruiser Maine comprises 253 men and two officers. It is officially declared at Washington that the explosion is believed to have been purely accidental. Spain has expressed her sympathy.

#### WRECK OF A FRENCH STEAMER. MANY LIVES LOST.

The French Transatlantic steamer Flachat has been wrecked off Tenerifie, Forty-nine passengers and thirty-eight of the crew were drowned; fourteen persons were saved.

#### THE TRIAL OF EMILE ZOLA. SENSATIONAL DECLARATION.

In the course of the Zola trial, intense sensation was produced in court by the declaration of General Pellieux (Billot?) that the evidence for the defence was calculated to disturb the confidence of the soldiers in their leaders in the day of danger, which was perhaps nearer than was supposed. This statement is regarded as mainly intended to, influence the jury and the country, to prevent the reopening of the case of Dreyfus, the illegality of whose conviction upon secret documents for the general safety. is becoming generally recognized.

London, Feb. 21.

#### THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The House of Commons has voted the Address in reply to the Queen's speech.

#### BRITISH ARMY INCREASE.

The British Army Estimates show an increase in the establishment, exclusive of India, of 16,946 compared with 1897. this number, 286 are officers.

#### ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN WEST any other Power. AFRICA.

PROTESTS AND COUNTER MANŒUVRES.

Mr. Chamberlain has received a tele gram from the Governor of Lagos, stating that the British Hausas occupied Boria, in the Lagos Hinterland, on Feb. 6th. The French arrived on Feb. 9th, and ordered the Union Jack to be lowered. This being refused, the French withdrew and encamped outside the town. The French also established a military post in the Hinterland of the Gold Coast, and marched past the British post at Nussa despite Major Northcote's protest.

#### BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN WEST AFRICA.

#### GRAVE SITUATION.

AN ENCOUNTER THOUGHT IMMINENT.

London, February 22. Reuter wires from Akkasa that two French expeditions are advancing on Sokoto. The Sultan has ordered them to halt within forty miles of the capital. The Niger Company's force is ready awaiting instructions to advance to the help of the Sultan and secure the evacuation of British territory.

The papers regard the situation in West Africa as of the gravest, and agree that the limits of British forbearance have been

reached.

## CHINA AND THE POWERS.

CONCESSION TO FOREIGN NAVIGATION.

It is stated that China has agreed to inland waters within four months.

Digitized by

#### COST OF BRITISH ARMY INCREASE.

The supplementary Army Estimates bring the total expenditure for the increase of troops to £1,600,000. The cavalry are to be increased by 313 men and 443 horses, the artillery by fifteen new batteries.

#### THE ANGLO-FRENCH COMPLICA-TIONS ON THE NIGER.

STATEMENT BY MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

London, Feb. 23. In the House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain has confirmed the Akassa telegram. He added that he could not believe that the French Government had authorized the invasion of territory which it had itself recognized as British.

#### FRENCH CONTRADICTION.

A semi-official note has been published n Paris, stating that it is untrue that French troops are in the vicinity of Sokoto.

(Received by the Fift)

#### RUSSIAN WARSHIPS AT PORT ARTHUR.

Peking, Feb. 19. China's request for the withdrawal of

the Russian men-of-war from Port Arthur, has been refused on the ground that their presence is in the interests of China and

NEW ANGLO CHINESE TREATY.

Peking, Feb. 21. A new Anglo-Chinese Treaty was signed here yesterday. The chief points in the new Treaty are the opening of Yo-chow-Hunan Province, for commerce within the next two years, giving per-mission within four months to the plying of steamers on the rivers and lakes in the interior, and the stipulation not to cede the districts bordering on the Yangtsze to

#### PREPARING TO OCCUPY HAINAN.

Shanghai, Feb. 21.

The Tongking press declares the troops in Tongking have been ordered to occupy Hainan, and they are now under mobilization to carry out that order.

ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF KIM HEUNG-YUK

Sõul, Feb. 23.

Last evening Kim Heung-yuk was attacked by assassins.

The assassins were six in number, one of whom had his right arm cut off in the struggle. Kim received a serious injury in his cheek, but it will not, it is believed, endanger his life.

[Kim Heung-yuk is one of the leading Korean Russo-philes, hence he must have been set upon by the rival faction.—En. FT.]

RAILWAY CONCESSION TO GERMANY.

Peking, Feb. 23. Germany has obtained the consent of

China for a concession to lay railways between Kiao-chou and Ichou.

## (PROM THE 4F : BINA GAZETIE.")

#### THE FRENCH AND HAINAN.

Hongkong, Feb 18 Tongking papers (which are under close official supervision) state that preparations are in progress for the mobilization of seven thousand troops, consisting of infantry and artillery, to move at a given signal in co-operation with the French navy. The force is The force is supplied with the latest ammunition.

Admiral Beaumont arrived in Saigon on the

PROM TORRETTO PASSES THE ZOLA TRIAL.

Paris, January 28. The newspapers are much occupied with the Zola case. Zola has summoned an witnesses foreign diplomats and many political person-

January 30.

It is stated that the members of the former Dupuy cabinet will appear at the assizes in answer to the citation of Zola, but will refuse to tentify.

THE PLAGUE.

January 29. A Bombay dispatch states that a riot has taken place at Simar in the district of Nassik, in connection with the measures taken to combat the plague. A hospital attendant was killedand the isolation camp burnt. The troops fired on the rioters and many were killed.

#### (Prior " Ly Courrier o'Hatenorg.") THE FRENCH NAVY.

Paris, February 3. Admiral Besnard, replying, in the Chamber, to Mr. Lockroy's criticism of the Navy, said the French ships were in no way inferior to those of any foreign navy.

ANOTHER VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.

Paris, February 4. In the Chamber, M. Jaures and M. Millerand made a violent attack on the Government for the "violation" of a letter addressed to M. Delcasse by a functionary of the Naval Department. They demanded a judicial inquiry into the affair. M. Meline replied, objecting to an enquiry, making it a question of confidence. The vote of confidence was passed by 317 votes to 138.

#### ANOTHER PRINCE HENRY.

Paris, February 5 At a banquet on the occasion of his depayture for Abyssinia, Prince Henry of Orleans recalled the part he had taken in the organisation of the Equatorial provinces with the concurrence of M. Leontief and the Russians. He hoped that, thanks to French explorers and King Menelik's good will, the French flag would soon float on the Upper Nile region-

(FROM MARILA PAPERS.)

#### PHILIPPINE WAR NEWS.

Madrid, January 21. Numerous submissions have been made in Cuba. Yesterday Maseo and a number of chiefs of important bands presented themselves.

The number of submissions is increasing daily. The rebel leader Arangures, the assassin of Colonel Ruiz, has been killed in action.

All those who were deported in connection with Philippine affairs have been set at liberty.

THE ILL-FATED "MAINE."

The American war-ship blaine, anchored in Havannah Bay, accentuates the cordial relations with Spain.

Immediately after the American ship there arrived German, English, and French craisers, morally supporting us.

The Spanish cruiser Viscaya is about m call at various American posts to repay the visit of the Maine.

The Vincaya has left for New York.

(FRUM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

#### DEATH OF THE TAI WON-KUN.

Soul, Feb. 23.

Tai Won-kun, the father of the Korean Emperor, who has been in a precarious condi-tion for some time, died on the night of the 22nd inat.

THE SILVER YEN IN KOREA.

Soul, Feb. 22.

Mr. Alexieff, Russian Adviser m the Korean Treasury and Mr. Gabriel, President of the Russo-Chinese Bank, have opposed the use of admit foreign and native steamers into all rith with important instructions regarding Hailing treasury reluces to accept the atamped yen in payment of larged by

# STRIKE OF RAILWAY ENGINE DRIVERS.

Fukushima, Feb. 25.

The railway engineers and stokers, about 200 in all, of the Japan Railway Company (Nip-pon Tetaudo Kaisba) went on strike last evening and consequently the traffic is much interrupted. The Company engaged other men who have not joined the movement and succeeded in running their trains this afternoon.

#### INCREASE OF RAILWAY FARES.

Tsu, Feb. 24.
The Kansai and the Sangu Railway Companies have received sanction from the Authorities for the proposed raising of fares.

#### CHESS.

All Communications - be addressed to the Cause Envior.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings 3, Uchi-Salwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club),

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 357. waite. J—B to K⊢8 t-K to Q 4 2-Q to Q B 4, mate

2-Q to K 5, mate

1-K to Q 5, or B 4

2-Q m K B 4, mate

1-K to K 6, or B 6

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., Skak, Miss S., W.K., and Voila.

#### PROBLEM No. 360. A BEAUTY. By LLOYD. BLIGE



WRITE,

White to play and mate in two moves.

#### RE PROBLEM No. 358.

This little South American is giving our solvers

This little South American is giving our solvers a lot of trouble.

W.K. sends a solution which, however, is incorrect, viz, 1—Kt to Kt 4, 1—P Queens or Knights, forced (?) 2—B takes P and mates next move.

W.H.S. suggests the same key move but points out that if 1.......P Bishops, a stale mate results.

This is but too true, the Key move therefore is not

"Skak" believes the composition to be a Two mover (!). For after 1...... P to 18 (forced), 2—
R takes P mate. Has our friend forgotten the rules that govern the movements of the pawns?
Miss S.—You are on the right track. Try

again!

Here are some comments by solvers in a home paper to whom we are indebted for the problem:—
"A charming composition....." "A beauty."
"One of the gems of Chess." "A luminous Novelty." "I thought the problem too simple to notice, but a close study shows it to be a master-piece."

This, we hope, will encourage our solvers to try their skill once more. Another week is given to them for solving the problem.

We take the following from the British Chass Magazine re Prince Dadian, of Mingrella. Mingrella is a province at Asiatic Russia between the chain of the Caucasns and the Black Sea. Obscure though his country may be, the name of the Prince is known throughout the chess world as that of an original and brilliant player. Prince Dadian was born at Zondidi; the capital of Mingrella, and from infancy displayed an extraordinary liking for various branches of science. He is an accomplished French scholar and has a powerful memory, speaks six moders farguages and the Digitized by

endition is known throughout Europe. He has played these from boyhood, and at Vienna in 1882 he played a blindfold game with such accuracy that he was heartly applanded by the masters present. He has little time, however, for overboard play. His end games are very heautiful, and will remain as chef-d'œreves of chess. The following was played at Homburg:—

#### GAME No. 364. BODEN-KIRSBRITZKY GAMBIT

DODEN-UITZBRILLERI OSWELL.				
White.—Prla	WhitePrince Dadian.		Kolisch.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	
I P K4	P K4	13 P QR4	B K12	
2 K+ KB3	Kı KB3	14 P K15	Ki Ki sq(f)	
3 B B4	KtxP	15 P Ki6(g)		
4 K B3	KixKi(a)	16 P R5	PxP	
	P K B3(b)	12 KR Kt 89	K1 B3(i)	
5 QPxKt 6 Kt R4	P K K <sub>13</sub>	18 RxK(PI	KxR	
7 Castles	PQ3	19 B R6 ch	KRsq	
8 P B4	Q K2	20 B K17 ch		
q PxP(c)	ÕΡ×Ρ	21 Q K15 ch	K B sq(j)	
10 B K3	Ki B3	22 Q Ró ch		
11 Q K2	B Q2(d)	23 R K sq cl	Kt Ktg	
12 P QKt4	Casiles(e)	24 Mates in	two.	
T	4 1 1 2 2 2 3	and the steel	D C 17	

The notes (abridged) are by the Rev. C. E.

(a) Black may also play Rt to Q B 3; and if Kt takes Kt then P to Q 4. If 4......, Kt to Q 3; B to Kt 3; P to K 5; Q to K 2, B to K 2; Kt takes P. Kt takes Kt; Q takes Kt, Castles;

takes P. Kt takes Kt; Q takes Kt, Castles; Castles, &c.
(b) This attempt to keep the P always gives Black a difficult game.
(c) P to B 5 is given here in the books.
(d) Tho thind; the should have played Kt to Q sq, in order to challenge the exchange by B to K 3.
(e) Very risky; Kt to Q sq was still available.
(f) Kt to R 4 would at any rate have stopped the advance of the R P.
(a) From this point to the end White plays

(g) From this point to the end White plays (g) From this point to the and vinte plays splendfilly.
(h) If P to Q R 3; P takes P, K takes P; K R to Kt sq. &c.
(i) Ill to Ill 3 was more to the purpose,
(j) It K to R sq. White mates in four moves by

Riskes Pch. &c.

#### GAMB No. 365.

A FINE BLINDFOLD GAME (ONE OF SIX)
PLAYED AT REIGHTE.

White,-Blackburne.		BlackA. W. Lemon.	
WHITE.	BL4CK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
IPK4	PK3	25 R K6(e)	B B•q
2 P O4	P Q4	26 R K3	P B4
2 Kt OB3	Kt KB3	27 PxP.	BxP
4 Pxt	PxP	28 R(K3) R	3 R K+2
s Ki Ba	BQ3	20 Q B · q	B Q <sub>3</sub>
5 K B3 6 B Q3	P B3	30 R R5	$Q \widetilde{B}_2$
7 Casiles	Cantles	31 BxP(f)	R <sub>1</sub> xB
8 Kt K2	B KKIS	32 RxKtcl-6	() K B sq.
	Kt R4	33 R K16	R×R
10 P B3	Ki O2	34 PxR	B B <sub>5</sub>
11 Q B2	OBx Kt	35 Q Q :q	K Ki2
12 PxB	F KB4(a)	36 R R5	B K <sub>4</sub>
13 KtxKt	Q R <sub>5</sub>	37 B B5	Q K <sub>4</sub>
14 Kt K3	P B5	38 Q B3	P QKI4
15 K K(2(b)	PxKt	39 K R - q	R Q sq
16 RPxP(c)	O Ra	40 B B2	B B3
17 P KB4	PKR3	41 R Qsq	P QR <sub>3</sub>
18 R R 19	Q K *q	42 B Kt3	Q K5(h)
ig B R7 ch	R R sq	43 BxP	OxO RxR
20 B Q2	R B <sub>3</sub>	łaa BxO	
0.00 12	Q B <sub>2</sub>	45 BxR	KxP
21 OR K 19 22 B Q3 23 P B5 24 P KK14	Kt B sq	140 P KB4	BQsq
23 P B5	Kt R2	47 B K2	Resigns.
24 P KK14	P KK14(d)		
	** *		

#### NOTES

(a) We always think that the normal variation in the French defence leads to very interesting play. Here we have a typical position, in which the amateur has sufficient plack and spirit to give

the amateur has summer pinter and spint to give up a piece against the blindfold champion.

(b) If White plays (15) Kt to K 2, R to B 3;

(16) R to Q sq, Q to R 6, to be followed by III to III 3, admits of no defence.

(c) It was important that he should have taken with the rook's pawn.

(d) The complications in this extremely interesting game are manifold. Black has no other move

had been played, then (43) P takes P, R takes P; (44) Q to Kt 7 (cb), K takes P; (45) Q to B 7 (ch), K to Kt 4; (46) Q to R 5 (ch), K to B 5; (47) R takes R (48) Q to B 5, mate,—St. Fames' Budget.

#### NOTES.

One of the longest games we ever heard of was finished in January. It was a correspondence game between several German-Americans of New York City, and a Chess-club in Bremen, Germany. The New Yorkers won a Ruy Lopez which took about two years and five months to finish.

Messrs. Blackburne, Janowski, Bird, Burn, and perhaps one or two more leading players, are expected to take part in a chess festival at Hasting-, England, extending from February 23rd to Feb. 27th inclusive.

Dr. Comad Beyer, the great problem composer, has just died. Forty years ago his regulation spread all over Europe, but by the present generation he was scarcely known. One of his earliest successes was to win the first prize in the celebrated Era tournament of 1856, after a very severe struggle with F. Healey, who came second.

The return match for the championship of the United States between Harry N. Pillsbury and Jackson W. Showalter was to commence on Wednesday, February 2nd, and to be played Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays thereafter. The match will be "first seven wins," extended to "ten wins" if each player should strive at the score of six, and will probably require about eighteen games to determine. The match last year required twenty-one games. (wenty-one games.

The international cable match between England and the United States will be played in March, Pillsbury, Showalter, Hodger, Hymes, Barry, and Delmar will be in the team. The other four players will be selected soon.

Steinitz is preparing the material for another book which is to contain some interesting novelties in the openiogs.

Chess with living figures is becoming a fad now all over the world. The first entertainment of this kind on record was given by Duke John of Ausmia (1650).

Was Shakespeare a chess-player? He only once refers directly to the game. In the fifth act of "The Tempest," Fordinand and Miranda are discovered playing at these.

Min.: Sweet lord, you play me false.

Fer.:

I would not for the world.

Mir.: Yes, for a score of kingdoms you should wrangle,

And I would call it fair play.

There is no evidence here that Shakespeare even knew one piece from another. It has, indeed, been suggested that the game was only introduced because ferdinand was Prince of Naples, and, in Shakespeare's time, Naples was the headquarters of chess play. On the other hand, it may be noted that the pieces used by Fordinand on this occasion must have here Prospero's, and Prosperowas Duke of Milao. It is a pity to imagine that Shakespeare had any other purpose than to show the lovers in a pretty and engaging attitude, to show how his darling Miranda bears herself in this sweet antagonism. But the fact that he nowhere alse refers directly to cless, and that, unlike many writers, from Bacon downward, he never even uses its terms by way of dilustration or metaphor, seem to warrant the inference that the pastime had for him no great attraction.—Boston astime had for him no great attraction. - Borton Traveller.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

# THE NEXT MAIL IS DUK

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Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	time of China	M. Mar. 14
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohensollern	W. Mar. 15

t Left Hongkong on the arst insta with the English Mail.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES				
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#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 18th Feb.,—Shaoghai viâ ports, 12th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisha.

Holstein, German steamer, 1,103, Eoland, 19th
Feb.,—Hongkong, Rice.—Simon Evers & Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Ward, 19th Feb.,
—Live pool and Glusgow via ports, and Kobe,
18th Feb., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Framms, Norwegian steamer, 958, Gabrielu, 22nd
Feb.,—Rangoon, 30th Jan., Rice.—Samnel
Samuel & Co.

Samuel & Co.

China, Hawsiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 22nd Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, 12th Feb., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Obi, British steamer, 1,951, Richard Pinkham, 23rd Feb.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 14th Feb., General.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Min. British steamer, 1,981, J. Johnson, 23rd Feb.,—Batoum via ports, 31st Dec., Kerosene oil.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Iuman Seathy, 24th, Feb.,—San Francisco, 3rd Feb., Mails & General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Edward Porter, 24th Feb.,—Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash., 3rd Feb., Mails and General.—Dudwell, Carlill & Co.

Tetarios, German steamer, 1,578, P. Couelson, 24th Feb.,—Hongkong, Rice and Sugar.— Simon, Evers & Co.

Patroclus, Bilish steamer, 3,323, Dickens, 24th Feb., Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 24th Feb. General, Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 24th Feb., Hongkong wa ports, and Kobe 23rd Feb., Mails and General, ... C. P. R.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, J. W. Ekstrand, 25th Feb., Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 23td Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisha.

Occanient, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmits, 25th
Feb.,—Marseilles via ports, & Kobe 24th Feb.,
Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

John R. Relley, American ship, 2,255. O. E.
Chapman, 25th Feb.,—New York, 4th Oct.,
Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Tanji,
25th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 15th Feb.,
Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Garnet Hill, Bittish ship, 2,186, Roberts, 25th
Feb.,—Middlesborough, 24th August, General.
—Order.

Feb.,—M —Order.

#### DEPARTURES.

Hohensollesu, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 18th Feb.,-Hongkong via Kobe and Naga-saki, Mails and General.-H. Ahrens & Co.,

Nacht.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,925, Ferguson, 18th
Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Siam, British steamer, 992, J. Messer, 19th Feb.,
—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Rosetts, British steamer, 2,139, F. N. Tillard, 23rd
Feb.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki,
Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W.
Conner, 23 of Fil.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails
and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Concord (6), U.S. gunbaa, 1,710, Commander A.
Walker, 19th Feb.,—Chemnipo.
Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Hilderbandt,
20th Feb.,—Havre and Hambing via ports,
General.—Simon Evers & Co.
Erato. German steamer, 2,277, Octorman, 21st

General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Erato. German steamer, 2,377. Osterman, 21st
Feb.,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.
—Simon Evers & Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,878. D. Sincock, 23rd Feb.,—Nagasaki via Kobe, General.
—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Argyli, British steamer, 1,886, W. Ward, 23rd
Feb.,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—
Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, Keay, 24th
Feb.,—London and ports, General.—Butterfield
& Swire.

& Swire.
China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,000, W. B. Seabury,
24th Feb.,—Sao Francisco via Honolulu, Maila
and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Cam, British steamer, 1,930, Pritchard, 24th Feb.,
—Moji, Ballast.—Standard Oil Co.
Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Edward Potter,
25th Feb.,—Hongkong via putts, Maila and
General.—Dadwell Carlill & Co.
Voronej, Russian steamer, 3,325, S. Andweieff,
25th Feb.,—Putt Arthur, Cont.—Browne & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P.
Marshall, 25th Feb.,—Vaucouver, B.C., Mails
and General.—C. P. R. Co.

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Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 26th Feb.,—Hungkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per Hawaiiau steamer China, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Ethel W. Azbill, Mr. C. W. Collier, Mr. A. G. Dent, Mr. G. Hay, Mr. S. M. Kung, Mr. J. H. McMichel, Miss Oakley, Mr. J. Reid, and Mr. Milton S. Ray in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. A. Kundson, and Dr. and Mrs. S. Kobayashi in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. Alfred Alf, Dr. Young J. Allen, Rev. A Beattie, Mrs. Beattie and 2 children, Mr. S. E. Bowen, Mr. Jas. A. Dow, Mr. Jun. A. Dow, Mr. W. R. Eastlack, Mr. F. G. Neilson, Mrs. Neilson, Mr. R. Rainsey, Rev. W. F. Walker, Mr. Ow Tien Kie and servant, and Mr. Liang Hum and servant in cabin. servant in cabin.

servant in cabin.

Per British steamer Coptic, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. F. K. Hunt, Mr. A. Azevedo, Mrs. Walter Brooks, Miss Edith Brooks, Mr. Hermann Kolibe, Mrs. W. C. Davidson, Mr. M. Hori, Miss Jessie Rilot, Mr. James H. White, Mr. F. W. Biectynden and Mr. R. H. Wright in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. U. Ammann, Mr. E. J. Bates in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. Alfred A. Nicholts in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. John Holliday, Mr. J. G. F. Thyssen and Mr. F. von Schneller in cabin.

Per British steamer Embress of India. from

Schoeller in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of India, from Hongkong via ports:—General and Mrs. P. F. Shaipe and servant, Mrs. Sewell and child, Mr. A. Schleicher, Mr. Walliam, Mr. W. Balden, Mr. E. M. Janion, Mr. A. S. Garfit, Mr. L. Spitzel, Mr. F. Grafton, Mr. F. Migeod, R.N., Mr. J. P. Grant, Mr. H. Wattes, Mr. K. Leilee, Mr. W. Johnstone and servant, Mr. N. Holmes, Mr. B. Munster, and Mr. R. Rieff in cabin; 6 in second class; 306 in steerage.

#### DEPARTED.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer Saikie Maru, for Shang-bai via ports:—Mr. Schaninger, Capt. G. Nagao, Mr. and Mrs. Ley, and 2 children, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. Fadasselff, Mr. Fervalnff, Mr. Densigh, Mr. and Mrs. Plonekoff in cabin; Mr. G. Anberlin and Mrs. A. W. Ehlas in second class; and 66 Japanese in steerage.

Per Hawaiian steamer China, for San Francisco via Hunolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Adams, Rev. Alfred Alf, Dr. Y. J. Allen, Mr. H. Arimatsn, Rev. and Mrs. S. L. Baldwin, Rev. and Mrs. A. Beattie and two children, Mr. S. E. Bowen, Mr. P. Cameron, Mr. W. Dranis, Mr. John A. Daw, Mr. Jas. A. Dow, Mr. R. W. Bastlake, Mr. Julian Eberhardt, Miss S. Fisher, Prof. I. Fujioka, Miss M. H. Hennessey, Mrs. B. C. Howard, Miss Gladys Howard, Mrs. Sybi Howard, Mr. Liang Hsun and servant, Dr. and Mrs. O. J. Kunn, Mr. S. Kubayashi, Mr. A. Kundson, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Kunn, Mr. T. Matsucka, Miss I. Mead, Mr. K. Miyaki, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. J. Morse, Master Junior Morse, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Neilson, Mr. R. Ramsey, Mr. Milton S. Ray, Mr. M. Stirisishi, Mr. & Mrs. D. E. Simon, Miss M. E. Stanley, Mr. On Treo Kie and servant, Rev. W. F. Walker, and Mr. Thos. Williams in cabio.

#### REPORTS.

The British steamer Coptic, Captain Inman Scalby, reports: - Left San Francisco Feb. 3rd at 1.44 p.m., thence to Feb. 9th had strong, S.W. gates and high seas, thence to Feb. 15th had moderate variable winds and moderate seas, thence to put a succession of moderate to heavy Westerly gates and high seas, arriving Feb. 24th at 11.20 a.m.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### 1MPORTS

The demand for grey shirtings, which was fairly brisk last week, has fallen off, requirements hav-ing been supplied for the present. In yours a fair extent of business has been transacted, and prices have an upward tendency. In fancy cottons and woollens nothing is doing. Considerable sales of caw cotton, American and Indian. have been made at slight reductions on former rates. Chinese cutton has risen about \$1 per picul. COTTOR PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—thab, 384 yds. 39 inches \$2.55 to 2.85 Grey Shirtings—uh, 384 yds. 45 inches 2.80 to 3.35 F. Clath—7b, 24 yards, 32 inches 2.80 to 3.35 fo didge Shirtings—rayards, 44 inches.

Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches, 2 00 to 3.75 Cutton—stationa and Satteon Black, 2 1 and 2 1 and 3 

WOOLLENS. AND TAKES.
Flannels
Italian Cloth, 30 yarda, 3x inches lient 0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 37 inches
Medines o 3n In 0.38j
Ralian Cloth, 30 yarda, 32 inches
Common 0.25 16 0.27
Mousseling de Laine-Craye, 3 ; yards ,
11 inches 0.15 to a.22
Claths-Pilats, 51 @ 56 inchen 0.55 to 0.50
Cloths-Pranidents, \$1.00 56 inches 0.60 to 0.75
Cloths-Union, 54 of 56 inches 0.50 to 0.85
Alanhola-Scarlat and Grann, 3 to 3 h.
Fer 1
PRE TINGE,
Volvets-Black, 35 yards, as inches 7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawas, 12 yards, 42-3 inches, 0.75 to 1,00
TurkeyReds-2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards,
30 inches
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/25 yards,
30 inches
Turkey Reds-1,8 to 4th, 24/25 yards,
32 inches
Turkey Reds-4.8 to 5h, 14/25 yards,
sainches
COLIDIO YARUS. PRE CUCL.
Nos. 15,24, Singles
Nos. 45/32, Singles 41.00 to 43 00
Nos. 38/42, Singles 44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 31, Doubles
Nos. 42, Doubles 51.75 to 54.50
Non, a'do, Plain 01.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain 75.00 to 27.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain 09.00 In 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed 72.00 to 70.00
Nes. 280, Gassed 80.00 to 05.00
Nos. # 100, Gassed 112.00 to 124.00
RAW COTTON. PRO PICUL.
American Middling\$20 to 20.50
Indian Broach
Chinese 21.00 to 21.25
MICIALS.

A fair amount of business has been been done during the week, holders having given some concessions on current Quotations.

	4.4	-	
			PARTISON.
Remark and an	mere 🛊 inch. at	id upward.4.	15 10 4.6e
fron Plates, 1	insorted		20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron			10 to 1.40
Galvanized In	ron sheets	Q.	20 to 10.50
- Wire Neils, a	issorted		00 to 6.50
– Lin Plater, p	erbor	5	90 10 5-00
Pigetran, No	Self Company	3.	05 to 3.20
Hoop Iron ()	to of inch)		00 to 5.25
	46 16 46 1 1 15 1	of call for	

The market is still stagnant and prices continue to fall, though there are signs of an improvement in the near future. A cargo of Russian oil arrive ed per steamer Min from Batonn on the 22nd.

Artivals of Brown have amounted to 38,370

Arrivals of Brown have amounted to 30,370 piculs Manila and 5,507 piculs China; the former, with the stock previously on hand, has all been cleared out, while sales of China amount to over 5,000 piculs. Nothing has been done in Formosa. Prices are a trifle lower than quotations. In White refined very little has done, and quotations era unchanged.

Brown Takao	\$4. in in 4 so
Drown Wantia	4:30 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	
White ava and Penang	0.50 to 2 na
White Rafined	7.33 10 0.00

#### EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The activity and brisk demand which characterised the market in the early part of last week have died out, owing to a great extent to the high prices asked and the small stock of silk of the required quality on hand. The remaining stock consists of about 6,500 piculs, against 10,870 piculs at same date last year. Prices asked are generally from \$10 to \$15 per picul higher than our standing quotations. Shipments include 580 bales per China, 230 bales per Empress of India, 75 bales per Kagoshima Maru and 42 hales per Argyll, for America; and 81 bales per Hohenzollern and 17 bales per Rosesta, for Europe. RAW SILK.

QUOTATIONS,	
Effatures - Esten plan, entra dan	Noning
Fünturene living to be access to a	. Croming
Filatures Extra 13/15, 14/16 den	1010 to 010
**************************************	040 FG 0
Filatures-No. 14, 13/16, 24/17 den,	800 10 819
17th - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -	850 to 860
Fintures-No. 3. 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Pulatificate 110. 3. 1111 Milaniara	820 to 830
Re-reels-Ha. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	
Se resta No at actif	890 to 900
Re-rests-tle. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	510 to 810
Re-reels-No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Son to Sin
Re-reels-No. 21, 14 18 deniers	780 to 780
Re-reels-No. 3, 14/20 deniers	
Makadan Wat	
Kakedan-Katro	840 to 810
MakedasNo.	9 to 1 - 0
Kakedas-No. 11	#00 to 030
Kakadaanilla	790 10 800
Kakedas-No. 2	760 to 770
Kamedas-No. at	-
WASTE SILK.	

Very little has been doing in Waste silk, and prices are about the same. Stock is estimated at Original from

6.100 piculs, of medium to low quality. The Hohenzollern took 350 and the Rosetta 166 bales for Burape.

QUOTATIONS.			
Noshi-Filature, Best	115	to	120
Noshi-Filature, Good	105	to	110
Noshi-Oshu, Bast	110	to	215
Noshi-Oshe, Good	100	to	103
Noshi-Oshu, Madium	90	to	95
Noshi-Skinsho, Begt	70	ta	75
Noshi-Shinshu, Good	őς	to	679
Yoshi-Bushn, Hest	115	to	120
Noshi-Bushin, Good	100	to	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	90	to	95
Noshi-loshu, Gond	бo	to	65
Nushi-Joshu, Fair	55	to	571
Kibise-Filaturg, Bent	95	to	100
Kibisa-Filsture, Seconds	85	to	QØ
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25	to	30
Kihiso-Bushu, Fair	20	ŀю	224

Nothing at all doing; stocks are reduced to 112,000 catties. Small shipments for America, 300 packages by the Argyll and 340 packages per China, have been made. Total sattlements to date for the season amount to 214,323 piculs, against 216,772 piculs at same date last year. Quotations are nominat.

#### QUOTATIONS.

Choiceet	Nominal.
Choice	(19 9 %
Finest	Nomi
Good Medium	2 = 10 28
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common ,,	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver from London 15 higher and sterling quotation higher from China, but rates here have

indergone	no change,	
Sterling-	Bank T.T.,,,,,,,	3/0 <sub>1</sub> 3
_	- Bills on demand	. 1/Ol
	- 4 months' sight	
_	Private 4 months' sight	3,0 T
	— 6 months' sight	
	a—Bank sight	
On Lyo	na —Privata 4 months' sight,	2.58
On Am	ntica—Bank Bills on demand	
-	<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight.</li> </ul>	
	many—Bank sight	
	– 🖟 Private 4 months siglet,	
Ов Пол	ghong-Bank night	. 7
-	- Private to days sight	. 8109
On Shar	ighai—Bank sight	79 to 80
_	<ul> <li>Private 10 days' sight</li> </ul>	814 to 82
On Itadi	a-Bank sight	. 151
_	Private 30 days' eight	. 156
	er (London)	



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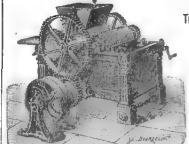
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"ACRAPMing Scent."-H.R.H.The Duchessof You

Tanuary 1st, 1898.

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May 1840.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, at 31. Main Street, Settlembell, By Charlevill Belland Brown, of Noohlands, 1 October 1987, 1987, 1988

# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 10.

AS A NEWSTAPER.

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 5TH, 1898.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX.

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# The Tayan Weekly Mail.

"FAIRCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WERKLY MAIL!" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the HOLTOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH, 1898.

#### DEATH.

At San Francisco, Cal., on the 25th February, W. Bluom, beloved father of Mrs. S. Isaacs.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

LORD SALISBURY is suffering from an attack of influenza.

THE Russo-Korean Bank started business on the ret inst.

The revised treaty between Japan and Siam was nigned on the 25th uit.

Ir is proposed to hold an International Exhibition in Tokyo in 1902,

A NUMBER of cases of plague are reported in Formosa, and the disease is spreading.

In the Soudan the British Nile Brigade bas advanced within 24 miles of Berber.

THE Cruiser Petersburg has sailed from Odesas for Viadivostock with over 1,000 men on board.

THE Yokohama Water Works Bureau will increase the rates for the supply of water from the rat proximo.

THE King of Greece's other assailant has been arrested, and has confessed having made the inst., from which the loss is variously estimated

Digitized by

Company collapsed, and half the houses supplied with gas in the capital were thrown into

A GREEK loan of four millions sterling at 3 per

A Council of Experts is to be formed in the Communications Department with a view to improving the railway system.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank will pay a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum for the second half of last year.

THE British House of Commons has passed the votes for an increase in the number of men and for higher pay in the army.

THE amount of tea sold to foreign firms in Yokohama during February last was 47,100 kin, the amount in stock being 94,900 kin.

It is rumoured in New York that inquiries have proved than the explosion on the U. S. battle-ship Maine was not accidental.

LIEUT.-GENERAL BARON NOGI has superseded in the governor-generalship of For-mosa by Lt.-General Baron Kodama.

EMILE ZOLA has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment and 3,000 francs fine in connection with his agitation against the trial of Dreyfus.

THE usual spring Exhibition of objects modern and ancient art will be opened in the Uyeno Galleries on April 1st, and remain open till May 20th.

A Young man named Yamamoto Seiyemon, of Shizuoka, murdered his brother's wife and six children on the 27th ult. He tried to escape, but was arrested.

BARON ROZEN, Russian Minister to Japan, on the 28th uitimo presented the Emperor and Empress with some valuable gifts sent by the Czar and Czarina.

THE Communications Department is now endeavouring to arrange for an increase in the speed of express trains running between Shim-

THE proposed festival to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the removal of the Government from Kyoto to Tokyo will take place on the 10th April next in Uyeno Park.

AT Yoichi, Hokkaido, early on the morning of the 21st ult., eight fishing boats foundered in a gale, and ten others were damaged. Twenty-three fishermen were drowned.

It is reported that in addition to the vessels already in course of construction for the Japanese Navy, two new war ships and eight torpedocatchers are to be built in England.

THE strike of engineers and stokers on the Japan Railway Company's lines still partially con-tinues. Some of the men have returned to work, but others are holding out.

A RESOLUTION by Sir Ashmend Bartlett has been adopted without division in the House of Commons, declaring it to be of vital importance to maintain the independence of China,

An extensive fire occurred in the godowns of the Kobe Pier Co., on the night of the 2nd at from half a million to a million dollars.

Just after 8 o'clock on Monday night one of M. HANOTAUX, the French Minister for Foreign last month reached 28,285 tons, valued at yes the two gas mains of the Tokyo Gas Lighting Affairs, has informed Sir Edmund Monson, the regions from

British Ambassador, that the Sokoto incident is against the wishes and instructions of the French Government.

According to investigations made by the cent, has been guaranteed by Great Britain, Formosa Administrative Office the Japanesa France, and Russia.

Population of the island now stands at 68;848— 36,272 males and 32,576 females, comprised in 12,920 families,

> MR. J. F. FRASER, one of the world cyclists, delivered an interesting reading on his journey through Upper Burmah and Western China to a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan in Tokyo on the and instant.

Owing to the extremely dilatory delivery of goods from Yekohama Railway Station, the merchants of Tokyo and Yekohama are considering the formation of a transport company with two steamers and 20 barges for traffic between the two cities.

It is reported that a loan of a hundred million taels is to be made to China by the Hongkong and Shanghai and the Germany Asiatic Banka at 4½ per cent., issue rate 83. The security is the unpledged portion of the Custom duties and the likin dues.

THE steamer Kelung Maru, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, left Kobe for Hongkong on the and inst. On her return voyage she will bring rice from Saigon. The Company will undertake four voyages a year on the same route, receiving a subsidy of yen 25,590 from the authorities.

DETERMINED attempt to assausinate King George of Greece was made by two men at Athens on the 27th ult. Nine shots were fired but none struck the King. A man named Karditza, employed by the municipality of Athens, has been arrested and admitted firing at the King.

Towards duck on the 28th ult., the steamer Otag : Maru. of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, came in collision, with the steamer Shin-unyu Maru at Kobe, and both vessels sustained damage. On the 1st inst. another collision occurred at Wada Misaki, Hyogo Ken, between the steamer Kyoritsu Maru and the junk Asashi Maru.

THE Import business during the week can scarcely be said to show any decided improve-ment. The run on grey shirtings has entirely subsided and very little business has been done in fancy cottons and woollens. There has been some enquiry for yarns, but as prices are firmly maintained, no considerable business has been done. There has been a jump in the quotations for raw cotton of all kinds; consequent on the destruction of stock in the fire in the Kobe Pier Co.'s godowns on the 3rd instant, when over 7,600 bales of Indian and American cotton are reported to have been burned, and a further quantity damaged. The kerosene murket has much improved in tone and prices have gone up from 5 to 10 cents per case. A fair, steady business has been done in brown sugar, at rising prices. Metals are flat in view of heavy arrivals, and prices have a downward tendency. Large im-portations of foreign rice continue. In Exports there has been little done. The demand for raw silk has been light during the week for export, but a good business was transacted with native manufacturers and stocks have been considerably reduced. Nothing has been done in ten, and in general exports there have been a lair amount of uanaactions in fish oil and copper, the latter at very firm rates. Sales of coal at Moji are reported to be very active. The amount exported during the latter half of

#### SPIKIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun devotes a column to pleading the cause of small farmers. feudal times agriculture was regarded as the most honorable method of money-getting, and it still stands high in the esteem of the nation, though undoubtedly the fact that the future of the country lies in manufactures is coming to be more and more recognised. The farmer is, in truth, a vitally important factor in the national economy, and his interests deserve to be carefully consulted. Statistics show that the number of households registered as agricultural aggregate 5,518,041, among which those that own the land as well as farm it total 3,121,075, and those that till it merely metenants number 2,496,965. We may divide these totals again into households which make farming their sole business, and households which have some additional source of livelihood. We then obtain the following results :-

Households which swn as well as farm 2,170,652 

1,510,200 land having also some other occu-... ... ...

All persons farming land which does not belong to them must be classed as "small farmers. They constitute 41 per cent. of the whole agricultural population, and well deserve the attention of legislators. In certain prefectures almost the whole of the land is farmed by tenants. Such prefectures, for example, are Hyogo, Niigata, Takanashi, Gifu, Toyama. Shinano, Okayama, Tokushima and Fukuoka. Turning to the question of area, we find that out of a total superficies of 4,619,172 cho (11,547,930 acres) devoted to agriculture, the portion owned by those that farm it measures 2,795,707 cho (6,989,267 acres) and the portion farmed by lenania measures 1.813,465 cho (4,533.663 acres). Or, again, if there be question of wet fields (lowland rice land), it appears that the area farmed by owners of the land is 1,511.307 cho (3 778.267 acres), and the area farined by tenants, 1,173.083 cho (2,932.707 acres). These various figures show the great importance of the tenant farmer. In fact, out of every ten thousand cho (25 000 acres) of cultivated land, he farms 3,937 cho (9,842 acres), and out of every ten thousand cho of lowland rice fields, he farms 4,367 cho (10,917 acres). Industrial and commercial banks have now been established in various parts of the empire, providing monetary facilities for manufacturers and traders, and agricultural banks are to follow. But looking at the rules of the projected agricultural banks, it appears that they will be forbidden to make advances unsecured by real property to others than urban or rural communities, or public associatious organized in accordance with law and considered worthy of credit, or combinations of jointly responsible creditable individuals numbering at least twenty, The tenant farmer will not come under any of these categories. It will be almost impossible for him to obtain accommodation from the banks. No fault, indeed, is to be found with the rule, neither is it suggested that banks abould advance money to persons who can not offer security and are not worthy of credit, Still the tenant farmer's case needs some remedy, and perhaps the best plan would be to organise credit guilds (Shinyo Kumiai) such as would command the confidence of the banks.

The Jiji Shimpo devotes three articles to demonstrating the fact that Japan is becoming, and is destined to become, more and more dependent upon foreign countries for the neces. The satisfies of life. Rice presents itself first for be procured now, the task would be impossible. Rice presents itself first for possible. Cotton is a third example. The article of the people's diet. A curious point suggests itself in connexion with the production of this cereal in Japan. As a general rule, land the woollen manufacturing industry has begun as China's near neighbour gives her a vital in Original from Digitized by Google

becomes quickly exhausted if the same kind of crop be raised on it year by year. That is an experience too well established to require demonatration. But in this country farmers have been planting rice in the same fields for tens of centuries, yet the land shows no sign of exhaustion. The explanation is that very exmanures. Apart from vegetable manures, which, on decomposing, return to the soil some of the components taken from it by rice crop ping, fish manure can be largely employed owing to the teaming wealth of piscine life in the waters that wash the four shores of the island empire. Farther, the Japanese probably stand pre-eminent among nations for the value that they attach to human manure, which in European countries is scarcely at all employed. In England, for example, it is for the most part thrown into the sea. But in Japan there is no such waste. A reasonable estimate of the value of this one agricultural fertilizer is 40 million yen annually. After all, however, if the Japanese have been able to raise good crops of rice from the same land during fifteen or twenty centuries, it is not because nature has specially fitted the land for such a purpose, but because remarkable skill and untiring labour are devoted to the task. On the other hand, the capacities of the country for producing rice are plainly limited. It may be fairly doubted whether much land remains to be added to the area already under crops. Since the fail of feudalism there certainly has been an increase in the yearly yield, but it is only very partially due to land-reclamation. A more potent factor has been the abolition of the annual visits of the fendal nobles and their families to Tokyo. The immense demand created by that custom for carriers, inu-keepers and highway labourers in general drew bundreds of thousands of bands from agricultural pursuits, and the result was plainly visible, for the most neglected farms in the whole country were those lying along the line of the great trunk roads (Tokaido, Nakasendo, etc.). that has been changed. Further, in propor Further, in proportion an facilities of communication and carriage have improved, a certain number of new districts have been brought under cultivation. Still it would seem that the rice crop has very nearly reached its potential maximum. Several years have elapsed since 40 million Aoku came to be regarded in a full yield. That figure is seldom reached and seldom indeed surpassed. On the other hand, the growth of the population is an indubitable fact. Each year adds fully four bundred thousand mouths to the number that have to be fed, to say nothing of the growing prosperity which has converted into rice-exters multitudes of people who, in old times, never dreamed of such luxurious diet. It may even be questioned whether the supply of fish for manure will not grow scarce one of these days, for the demand for fish as an article of food has developed pari passu with that for rice, and its price has gone up correspondingly. Everything indicates that Japan must depend more and more upon supplies of rice from abroad, and, further, that people will gradually change their diet, turning to bread and meat. For these, too, they will have to look to foreign countries, neither the climate not the soil of Japan being anited for pasturage or wheat-raising. There is a prejudice against foreign rice. The Japanese class it all se Nankin mai. (Chinese rice) and turn from it with professed dislike. But, as a matter of fact, they consume large quantities in happy ignorance, and the import is steadily increasing. Timber is another article which will have to be procured abroad. The domestic supply is almost exhausted and prices are becoming prohibitive. Experts allege that it is difficult now-a days to find a tree of more then 15 years of age in a Japanese forest, and that if the timbers used in the frame of such a temple as Bongwan-ji had to be procured now, the task would be im-possible. Cotton is a third example. The

to make some progress, and will probably grow to large dimensions by and by, but the wool itself will have to be imported. The upshot of this analysis is that the Japan of the future will be dependent on foreign countries for her supplies of food, clothes, and building materials.

In the Mainichi Shimbun we find three articles signed "Sakabe Gyozaburo" which discuss the national policy that ought to be adopted by Japan and the resolution that should be taken by her people at this juncture. The writer's assertions would command more respect were they accompanied by intelligible arguments, but he seems to think that emphatic declarations of opinion are better than ucid demonstrations of facts. His view about China is that her fate is scaled. The preservation of her integrity has ceased to be possible and her partition among the Great Powers of the West is inevitable. The encroschment of the Occident upon the Orient is not a movement of recent origin. It began three hundred and twenty-four years ago when Portu-gal attacked Canton, and it has been going on ever since, fitfully but unmistakably, In recent years, however, a new impulse has been given to it by the absorbing auxiety of European Powers to shift the arena of their armed rivalry as far as possible from their own doors. - They have shifted it to the limits of the Orient, and Chius, the Middle Kingdom of the East, in their new battle-field. There is no hope for her: she must go down. At the same time, publicists are much mistaken who assert that the dawn of the iwentieth century is the opening of the era of brute force. This is not a question brute force; it is question of civilization against semi-barbarism; of progress against stagna-tion. The world has become such that no country refusing to embrace the civili-zation of the Occident can maintain its in-dependence. What, then, should be Japan's policy; what the resolution taken by her people now that she and they find themselves in the very field where these great events are pending? It is observable that all politicians who, three years ago, advocated a large expansion of the country's armaments, now plame themselves on their foresight. They are wrong. Strong armaments are but the crown of an edifice. Incomparably greater importance should be attached to the foundations. The foundations of a country's greatness are wealth and educated intelligence, It is to the devel pinent of these that Japan must direct ther attention. She is safe against aggression even though she does not devote any additional attention to her armaments. Their increase beyond a certain point can only mean that she intends to take a part in the acramble for territorial aggrandisement now commencing in her neighbourhood. But she is not ready for that. Her finances do not permit it; her material development is too backward. examples of Spain and Portugal do not suffice in demonstrate the unwisdom of stretching out the arms of a conqueror before its muscles are hardened, her own experience in Korea should have made the matter quite clear. What she has to do at present is to develop her resources; to obey the dictates of justice and morality; not to allow her attention to be engrossed by one object to the exclusion of others; not to increase her armaments beyond the sauction of ber strength, and to wait until she has fully qualified for admission to the rank of civil zed Powers before she attempts to compete with them.

The Kokumin Shimbun urges that upon England, the United States, and Japan devolves the duty of preserving the peace of the East, which end can best be effected by maintaining the integrity of the Chinese empire, Great Britain's enormously preponderating share of the trade of the Far East need not be demonatrated, nor need any reader of statistics be told that the United States of America comes

terest in the problem of the latter's fate. The object of all three should be to keep China's markets open and to contrive that her resources shall be peacefully developed. She is the trea-sure-house of the world. Her teeming millions are potent for purposes alike of consumption and production, and she has immense stores of mineral wealth waiting to be exploited. She is the Turkey of the East, and to save her from falling into the possession of Powers that pursue a restrictive and protective policy in commerce is just as essential as is the preservation of Turkey's integrity. It should be the aim of the three Powers to lead her into the path of progress. The contention asserted by some that she can not be led, that her conservation is invincible, does not deserve any credence. Her people are intelligent, industrious, and faw-abiding. They will follow the right when they weatt. If England, America, and Japan undertook a task so noble in itself and no serviceable to the world, can there be any doubt that they . would succeed?

Railways are the instruments of civilization. but the completion of the Siberian Railway is anticipated with dread as a harbinger of and violence. Navigation is the vehicle of progress, yet the development of Germany's maritime resources betrayed her into an act of international piracy at Kiao chou. With this exordium the Nippon proceeds to tear to pieces the moraliy of Western nations, and to show that their civilized principles find no practical expression in their acts. Passing then to the question of China's partition, it ridicules the idea that anything of the kind is imminent. Europe has been toiling for more than a century to find a solution of the Eastern Question and seems to be as far as ever from discovering what she Her only clear perception is that the life of the Sick Man, Turkey, must be preserved. We have now a Far-Eastern Question. It has just come upon the tapis. It is at least as vital a question the Eastern, and all the Great Powers of Europe are vividly interested in it. Is there the least chance of its being settled offhand? No more chance than there is of the Yangtaze junning dry. People may talk of the partition of China, but even supposing that the atrength to undertake such a task were available, no agreement could be come to about the method. As to governing the Chinese, history shows that the Middle Kingdom assimilates but is not assimilated. Foreign conquerors, in the course of scores of centuries, have imposed their away upon China and established their dynastics upon her throne, but they have all ended by becoming Her vastness has awallowed them up. She retains that quality as fully as she possessed it. The corruption of her officials, the ineptitude of her rulers, may have paraly-sed her means of defence and rendered her impotent in war, but the nation is the same nation that it has always been. A port here, a promontory there, may be seized by a Western aggressor, but those that attempt to govern her will find the task impossible. The true way is to lead her to the light. Germany, which supports the Turks though their hands are reekking with the blood of thousands of Arme-nian Christians, made an armed descent on China's territory because two missionaries were killed by Chinese bandits. The atone ment that Germany can offer is to utitize her position in Shantung for the breaking down The Nippon of China's conservatism. earnestly recommends the same object to England and to Japan.

The Shogyo Shimpo has a clever article the writer of which argues that there is not the least reason to dread an outbreak of hostilities between Russia and England. For many years, the says, Europe's eyes were fixed upon France and Germany, but of late Russia and Great Britain have become absorbing objects of observation. A collision between France and Germany would convulse Europe; a collision between England and Russia would convulse the world. But there is no danger of the latter catastrophe; certainly no importance of the latter catastrophe; certainly no importance of the latter catastrophe; certainly no importance of the latter catastrophe. Should this be the case the necessity would convulse the world. But there is no danger of the latter catastrophe; certainly no importance of the demands of each Department may be appreciated, but they of the latter catastrophe; certainly no importance of the demands of each Department may be appreciated, but they must resolutely be declined."

minent danger. A radical difference exists between Anglo-Russian relations and Franco-German relations. The sentiment that holds France and Germany spart is a sentiment of revenge. The motive of the rivalry between England and Russia in material interest. If the two former stand in the lists, it is because the wants to wipe out the disgrace of a defeat, the other to preserve the fruits of a victory. If the two latter harbour feelings of mutual hostility, it is because the one threatens to cross the other's paths to profit, England is enormously powerful. Her wealth is inexhaustible. Her strength at sea is absolu-tely matchless. She is entirely beyond she reach of Russia's arm. But she has a multitude of cares to harrass her. She has complications with France in Western Africa. She has trouble in the Transvaal. She has a campaign in upper Egypt. She has a war on the Indian frontier. She has just had to deal with a famine of unprecedented magnitude in India. She is embarrassed by America's protective policy and by Germany's industrial rivelry. War with a first-class Power could not be wecome to her. As for Russia, to enter the lists with England would be to imperil her very existence. She is thoroughly conscious of the fact. Why should the two Powers fight at immense national loss when national profit is the aim of each i England's object is to open the markers of China to the world and to develop the material resources of that huge country. Russia's obiect is to obtain access to ice free seas and to possess herself of Manchuria for that purpose. Each may compass its end without a collision. There is nothing to prevent them from agreeing to do so peacefully. Such an agreement might be difficult to elaborate, but what would the difficulty be when compared with the horrors of a war? During the past forty-three years England and Russia have been involved in many complications, since they stood in the lists before Sebastopol, but they have invariably extricated themselves without a collision. The lesson taught by their history is that they will exhaust every effort to avoid a conflict. Japan, therefore, may proceed to develop her resources in tranquillity. So long as England and Russia keep the peace, the Far East will remain undisturbed, and England and Russia can be trusted not to draw the

#### COUNT INOUYE ON QUESTIONS OF THE DAY.

An interviewer, alleges the Chuo, recently had a conversation with Count Inouys, Minister of Finance. Your embarrassment as Minister of Finance. "Your embarrassment as Multisler of Finance," he said to the Count, "must be overwhelming." "Yes," was the reply, "the trouble is at its climax. The clamour for money comes from all directions, while there is really no money to give. I am so perplexed as to be unable to open my mouth on the subject. The University insists upon introducing into its curriculum such and such a new branch of science,-its claim is quite reasonable; the Communications Department too makes a variety of suggestions for its own convenience, and its example is followed by the Home and the Agricultural and Commercial Departments, all having solid grounds for their demands. I do not ignore the importance of effecting the proposed improvements, but to listen to each of the Departmental claims advanced would bring ruin upon the country. Just as a State may be crushed by foreign invasion, so a serious blunder in financial airangements may produce a national catastrophe. Even in the ordinary course of things the issue of bonds to the amount of over forty million yen is absolutely indispensable this year, while the payment of the Chinese Indemnity is likely to be postponed. Should this be the case the necessity would arise of raising a loan of over eighty millions in bonds. Japan's capacity for such a large loan is doubtful; and foreign capital is not yet to be depended on. The importance of the demands

#### FORESTS OF HOKKAIDO,

The luxuriant forests in Hokkaido, remarks the Nichi Nichi, were long left to grow and to decay by themselves, but since the inauguration of the colonial system the woodlands have become the prey of merciless emigrants from the interior, and the wantonness with which the trees were cut down soon gave the country an aspect of utter desolation, especially on the Western coast. The fact has become apparent to men of public spirit, and there is now under contemplation the organization of a company to be designated the Hokkaido Forestry Company. Land is to be lessed to the extent of ten million tsubs, and as many as 15,390,000 valuable trees are III be planted during the first sixteen years of the hundred for which the land will be held. From the 17th to the 25th year necessary additions and improvements are to be made at an estimated expenditure of 245,997 pen, and the gross receipts are calculated to amount to 2,724,864 pen, realizable by the occasional cutting of trees in the 12th, the 20th, the 40th, the 60th and the 100th year. The net profits are (by sanguine people) estimated at 2,478.866 yen. The same sanguine people believe that although the total ontlay is estimated at 245,997 ren, yet as receints from the sales of trees may be expected from the 12th year, the actual expenses up to the 11th year will not exceed 160 000 yen, which amount is to be raised in shares of 500 yen each.

#### KOREAN STATISTICS.

The population of Korea, and other facts relating to the distribution of the people, remain still matters of conjecture. It is not to be supposed that no attempts were formerly made to compile statistics. On the contrary, the Department of War had a list supposed to show the number of males in the country, and the Department of Finance had returns, corrected every three years, giving the number of houses and their occupants for taxation purposes. But it appears that the provincial officials who Were primarily responsible for the compilation of these lists found their account in showing figures smaller than the reality. They collected taxes from every one, of course, but paid into the Treasury only such a proportion of the actual sum as the nominal population bore to the real.

It thus resulted that the census lists gave a population about three times as small as the true number, and that while 15 million yes were collected by the tax gatherers, only 5 millions went to the Government. Last year, a census was taken for the first time after Western methods. The result was a total of 1,332,501 houses and 5,195,028 inhabitants, being an average of between 3 and 4 per house. Moreover, the number of males was 3,869,767, and that of females 2,328,481; the males, contrary, to the general rule in other countries, being the more numerous by 541,212. It is strongly doubted, however, whether these figures are correct, or even approximately correct. The editor of the Korean Repository thinks that the population is about 17 millions.

#### RUMOURS.

Several rumours have been put into circulation, which are sufficiently interesting to observe notice. One is that, according to telegraphic information received in Tokyo, the Senate of the United States has rejected the Bill for the annexation of Hawaii, and the measure has consequently been postponed indefinitely. We have made inquiry in official quarters, and learn that no such intelligence has been received.

Another canard, for which the Nippon is chiefly responsible, relates to the formation of a Japanese American Bank with a capital of 130 million yen, its object being to supply funds for the construction of railways and for other public undertakings. The projectors are said to be Mr. E. Dun and Mr. Kaneko Kentaro. This, also, is a myth. No such bank is contemplated.

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#### THE CHINESE LOAN.

The news from Peking that China has completed her negotiations for a loan from the largest crop of explicit rumours were the Hongkong and Shanghai and the German Asiatic Banks finally disposes of the rumours recently circulated with so much pertinacity that Russia had stepped in where Great Britain had failed. Some of the rumours have been of the most ludicrous character. One correspondent of a Shanghai journal did not hesitate to affirm dictated by these gentlemen, and that Sir Claude had practically become a mere nonentity. Any one acquainted with Peking could at once detect the extravagance of such stories. So far as the foreign residents are concerned, the Chinese capital may be said to consist of the Legations, the Customs, a hotel and act would have been an unwholesome two banks. There is a club which affords the usual facilities for the manufacture and ventilation of "gup," but there is little or none of the general social intercourse which constitutes the best medium for the transmission of true intelligence. Rumour has no respectable mouth. The Legations are, of course, too well informed to be communicative. Within the ranks of the Customs Sir Robert Hart alone is on the inner track, and Sir Robert Hart is nothing if not circumspect. As for newspaper correspondents, failing information at first hand from a Foreign Representative, they are obliged to fall back on Chinese news-vendors, and these have proved themselves admirably competent to concoct marketable intelligence in stirring times but useless to garner trustworthy items of news. The Tsung-li Yamen is far removed from the quarter where the little coterie of foreign residents are located, and between the two stands a large section of the dirty, dilapidated Tartar city, across which news can not travel without extraordinary distortion. In short, to obtain an account of what occurs at the Tsung-li Yamên when a Foreign Minister interviews some of the patient procrastinators of that remarkable institution, it would be necessary to consult the Minister himself, or to rely on the word of some petty Chinese official, one half of whose narrative is conjecture and the other half sensational speculation. It must often have been observed by the most superficial reader of the Shanghai journals, and indeed of foreign-settlement journals as a whole, that those least likely to be accurately informed are always provided with the most minute intelligence. We never find that the correspondents of great English newspapers, men who enjoy the friendship and confidence of statesmen and diplomats everywhere, are able to describe what happens when this or that ambassador visited the Foreign Office, or to offer precise analyses of the motives animating Cabinet Ministers. It is only in places like Peking that such wonderfully detailed knowledge is acquired, and it is only by journalists too careless to be discerning or too sensational to be scrupulous, that it is published. For some time back the fact that negotiations for the loan now settled were in progress had been known China, Japan, and Korea, and actors so Digitized by Google

most intimately concerned that secrecy should be preserved. Yet it was precisely during this season of special caution that put into circulation. As to the transaction itself, we imagine that Englishmen will regard it with considerable satisfaction. Of course the salient feature of the affair is that Powers supposed to entertain aggressive designs upon China have ment of superficial exultation might have been evoked had England stepped officially into the breach and placed her immense credit at China's service to procure a loan on terms defying foreign competition, the departure from the best British traditions. According to the plan now struck out, China gets the money on a purely business footing, without any diplomatic obligations whatever. She could have obtained it more cheaply perhaps, so far as mere dollars and cents are concerned, by recourse to Russian official aid, but she has persuaded herself to make a pecuniary sacrifice for the sake of avoiding contingencies like those which her last officially promoted loan entailed. It is a good sign that she begins at last to display discretion. There will, of course, be con-siderable satisfaction in Germany since a German bank has obtained a share of the loan. About the middle of January, a rumour was circulated in Europe to the effect that the British Government had determined to guarantee the loan, and that the German Government would be invited to cöoperate. The news had a remarkable effect. It converted the previously hostile utterances of the German press against Great Britain into expressions of warm friendship. At the same time, the best informed publicists in Berlin declared their conviction that the German Government would not assume any responsibility whatever in connexion with such a transaction, however favourably it might regard the participation of German banks. Were the Chinese a united nation with a strong government, Were the Chinese a there would be little occasion to go abroad for loans such as that just now negotiated. The taxes accounted for to the Emperor aggregate only Ioo million taels annually, and if we assume-a tolerably liberal assumption-that 200 millions go into the pockets of the Mandarins and local officials, the total taxation per head is only about one tael, or three shillings, which is the amount levied in British India. The Chinese could of course afford to pay a great deal more.

## " UNDER THE DRAGON FLAG."

The public has not hitherto been exploited by romance-writers taking for their subject the China-Japan War, a fact not surprising, on the whole, when we consider the difficulties lying in the way of any author who should attempt to describe scenes so unfamiliar as those in

altogether unessayed, and it has now been entered by romancist calling himself "James Allan." The title of his work is "Under the Dragon Flag," and it professes to be "my experiences in the Chino-Japanese War." In fiction much is supposed to be allowable, yet we question whether Mr. " Allan " has not overstepped the bounds of due liberty when he undertakes to describe as an eye-witness events been deprived of the opportunity to tie that concern the reputation of an army, Shanghai journal did not he itate to affirm that either the Russian or the French Representative was constantly "on guard" that the British Government has stood at the Tsung-li Yamen, that the answers received by the British Minister when he aloof from pecuniary enterprises of this aloof from pecuniary enterprises of this author to say "I have simply written down my exact and unadorned remembers of the custom of the cu another strand of silk around her throat, and when, for the sake of dramatic effect, the Queen's Ministry to play the part of brance of incidents which I witnessed and international brokers, and though a sentitook part in," when in reality he has merely taken journalistic accounts and vague rumours as a foundation whereon to build a very lofty edifice of circumstantial and detailed fiction. If we change the venue of the story, and conceive it written by a Frenchman or a German pro-fessing to have been present with a British force on the Indian frontier and to have seen with his own eyes the events he relates, it will be apparent at once that Englishmen would not be disposed to condone any excursions made by him into the realm of fancy at the expense of British military reputation. Presumably Mr. "Allan" concluded that no one could be seriously deceived by his story, but it is quite certain that many people will be deceived—all persons, indeed, whose knowledge of the truth is not more intimate than that possessed by the average Englishman, or who approach the perusal of the volume in a spirit of credulity. We can not fail to note, too, that the author has been at great pains to guard against furnishing to incredulous readers any clues by which his narrative might be verified or contradicted. The steamer in which a part of his Far-Eastern life was spent carried munitions of war to the Chinese and was one of the transports forming the Talien-Yalu flotilla. He calls her the Columbia. Needless to say there was no vessel of that name in these waters at the time. The Columbia is boarded by an officer from a Japanese man-of-war near Chemulpo and escapes by throwing the officers over-board and steaming away from under the guns of the warship which is only 200 yards distant. Of course Mr. "Allan" forgets the name of the Japanese cruiser. By and by, he is taken prisoner and spends a month on board the Itsuku, a Japanese gunboat of 500 tons and 16 knots speed. A five-hundred-ton gunboat of 16 knots is a marvel, anyhow, but it will be at once guessed that there is no gunboat, nor any ship, called the Itsuku in the Japanese Navy. Then Mr. "Allan" relates some interesting conversations between himself and the gunnery-officer of this imaginary vessel, "Lieutenant Hishidi." There is no such name among the people of the Japanese nation, and there could not be any such name. In one sense the men-tion of names is good art, but Mr. "Allan's" invented names are not at all artistic. We can hardly assume that he added them expressly for the purpose of proving his narrative to be fiction. In short, he has been at much pains to compile a work which should sell for the sake of its semblances of truth, though in truth by those behind the scenes, but pending little known as the peoples of the Far it is false from cover to cover, and he has the conclusion of a definite arrangement. East. Still it would have been too much not hesitated to embody in it a long narit was obviously in the interests of those to expect that this field would remain rative which represents the Japanese

soldiers as having played the part of savage butchers at Port Arthur, though he knows nothing whatever about their conduct. Were it the conscientious record of an eye-witness, the book would possess much interest, but as the invention of a romancer, a mere work of fiction, it has no claim to attention.

#### THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF FORMOSA.

All the vernacular journals by which the last change in the headship of the Formosan Administration is discussed agree that Baron Kodama, the new Governor-General, is a man of very exceptional capacity, and that his direction of the island's affairs ought to be successful. But no one seems to have any accurate knowledge of the reasons for Baron Nogi's resignation. Ill-health is the publicly assigned cause, and there can be no doubt that the climate has proved more or less injurious to the retiring official. Ill-health however, is too stereotyped an excuse to be satisfactory. Men recall the fact that when Baron Nogi went to Formosa, he was accompanied by his aged mother, and that he announced his intention of making the place his home and leaving his bones there. Thus when he gives it up after a year because the climate doesn't agree with him, the public is puzzled. On the whole the prevalent belief is that the new Cabinet wants a new man at the head of Formosan affairs, and perhaps nothing more need be said. So far as Baron Nogi is concerned, he has certainly proved himself an official of earnest purpose and the highest integrity, and it may be confidently asserted that his resignation will be much regretted in Formosa. One of the leading Tokyo journals scoffs at these frequent changes of Governor-Generai—three in three years—and declares that what is wanted is statesmanship, not a statesman. It is hopeless to think of administering Formosa successfully until there is a definite policy to form the basis of an administration. Is the island to be regarded as a Colony or is it to be considered an integral part of the empire? That is the question. Pending its con-clusive answer, every Governor-General of Formosa must find himself working in the dark. Another journal strongly urges the advisability of placing the island on the footing of a Colony and investing the Governor-General with powers such as would be wielded by an English official in a similar position. The Chinese, the Hakkai, and the aboriginal inhabitants of the island are not in a condition to be brought immediately under Japanese laws and Japanese systems. They must be left, for a time at any rate, to the free enjoyment of their own customs. The Tokyo Asahi hopes that the Government will take full account of the eight questions propounded by Mr. Kirkwood, after care-ful inspection of the island and the conditions existing there. These questions, according to our contemporary, are :-

- 1. Is it right that officials having direct relations with the people of the country—namely, police, gendarmes, and men serving in the various offices of Formess—should not be taught the native
- anguage?

  2. Is it advisable to bring into immediate operation in the island the Penal Code, the Civil Code, the Code of Civil Procedure, and the other laws and regulations now in force in Japan?
- 3. Should the present financial system of Japan be extended to Formosa?
  - 4. If it wise to show no respect for the religion hard labour.

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believed in by the people, and to devote the temples to secular uses f

- 5. Can the system of government by communes be preserved and developed?
- 6. Is the system of local autonomy applicable or inapplicable?
- What effect must be produced upon the feel-7. What effect must be produced upon the feelings of the natives by observing that the high Japanese officials do not wear uniforms indicating their rack or carry any of the visible badges of

8. Should the system of bail that was followed by the Chinese Authorities in criminal procedure be still used?

It is gratifying to find that a Japanese journal openly attaches so much importance to the results of a foreign expert's observation.

## THAT CRAFTY FOREIGNER.

"Of late many foreigners residing in Kobe, when leasing land in perpetuity or renting houses from Japanese owners, have caused to be inserted in the lease a clause providing that, in the event of any complications' occurring with regard to the tenure, the contracting parties shall submit the question for arbitration by the Consuls of their respective nationalities. That is because of their dislike to subject themselves to Japanese jurisdiction. It is said to be a device for avoiding the jurisdiction of Japanese tribunals even after the Revised Treaties go into operation." Our readers can easily guess that the above para-praph is translated from the Nippon. We admire the patriotic vigilance of that stalwart journal, but can not help regretting that it so frequently drops one glass of its spectacles when scrutinizing affairs in which foreigners and Japanese are concerned. The Nippon seems to forget altogether that in attributing these crafty proceedings to foreigners, it inferentially assumes extreme simplicity on the part of its own countrymen. Has not the time yet come when Japanese owners of houses and lands at the open ports may be credited with some knowledge about questions of jurisdiction? And if they may be so credited, why should their voluntary consent to have recourse to friendly arbitration before plunging into the morass of a law-suit, be cited as a proof that they are victims of foreign wiles? We do not know that such clauses have been inserted lately in any leases, but it occurs to us that a tribunal of arbitration consisting of a Japanese Consul and a foreign Consul would not be at all a one-sided body, and that its intervention might be extremely salutary. Another thing occurs to us also. It is an objection somewhat like that finally urged by the whist-player who, having assigned five theoretical reasons for not leading trumps, concluded by add-ing that he had n't any to lead. Our difficulty is that there are no Japanese Consuls in Japan. Hence to have arbitrators of the kind named in the alleged provision, it would be necessary to specially import a Japanese Consul from Shanghai, Hongkong, San Francisco, or some other place beyond the seas. Possibly the Nippos will say that therein is to be found another evidence of the foreigner's foxi-A Japanese Consul being unavailable, the arbitration would perforce de-volve on the foreign Consul alone. What a wily cove he is to be sure, the ketojin!

Thomas Gay, A.B., for deliberately attempting to set fire to the American ship Luzon at Shanghai, has been sentenced by the U.S. Cousal General to two years' imprisonment with

#### THE UNITED STATES AND TREATY REVISION.

A rumour has been circulated in Yokohama to the effect that the United States Government has advanced some objection to the operation of the Revised Treaties. We have made inquiries and are in a position to state that the story is wholly groundless. Opportunity may be here taken to refer to a report alleged to have been addressed to the Navy Department in Washington by Commodore McNair. A Washington despatch represents the Commodore as having reported that the two seamen, Epps and Mont-gomery, were "murdered in Japan because of the antipathy the Japanese entertain towards all foreign sailors and especially those of the United States." It is incredible that a document couched in any such terms can have been officially compiled by a responsible naval officer, nor has the attitude of the U.S. Naval Authorities on this station in the matter of the Epps murder suggested that they entertain ideas resembling in any way those attri-buted to Commodore McNair. The reference to the Montgomery incident is especially inexplicable, for it occurred, if we remember rightly, in 1896, and did not become the subject of any official communications whatever. On the whole it appears to us that the so-called "Washington despatch" is a sensational tale with scarcely the proverbial grain of truth. It bears internal evidence of falseness, for on the one hand, it alleges that Commodore McNair's report was immediately forwarded by the Naval Department to the State Department, and on the other, it asserts that the State Department was "entirely ignorant that the two Americans had been killed" until a member of Congress called to ask a question about the matter, when a tele-gram addressed to the U.S. Representative in Tokyo elicited information. The deaths of Montgomery and Epps formed the subjects of judicial investigation according to due processes of law, and although there is room for criticism as to the justice of the finding in the latter case, it is not to be supposed that the United States Government would think of demanding the special punishment of men who have already been dealt with by Japanese legal tribunals.

#### PROPOSED NEW SETTLEMENTS IN CHINA.

There was some uncertainty on the part of the British public at the end of January as to the places in China which Great Britain desired to have opened should the loan negotiations mature. We now know, however, that not Siang-yin but Yo-chow was in question. The former was near the mouth of the Siang river where it flows into the Tungting lake; the latter, as explained by us in a previous issue, is at the head of that lake on the Yangtsze. Nan-ning is on the West River, a little eastward of the French territory of Tonquin. Concerning the opening of a place in Hunan, the London and China Express says :-

If we obtain a footing in Hanna we have en-tered one of the richest of Chinese Provinces, rich in mineral wealth, rich in navigable rivers, and rich in cultivated land of exhaustless fertility. fact, the area of the coalfields in Hutan a setimated attwonty-one thousand square miles, or twice the area of the coalfields in the United Original from

Kingdom. It has an area of about \$3,000 square miles, and a population of not less than 20,000,000. Its four main sivers, together with their numberless branches, give ready access in all the principal cities and towns. The Siang is a particularly fine stream, and at Chan-sha and a long way beyond it is quite halfa-mile in breadth, while the scenery in the Siang Valley is a dream of beauty. At Hengshan yon see the famous Nanyeli, one of the five sacred mountains of China, with its seventy-two peaks, ten caves, thirty-eight springs, and twenty-five streams. That there is a want of a Treaty port in Honan is clear from the fact that not long ago an attempt was made at Chang-sha by certain native capitalists to start a Steamship Company and run a line of small steamers between Siangtany Chang-sha, and Hankaw. Many of the chief people and scholars are in favour of the scheme, but the Governor of the Province has hitherto withheld his consent on the ground that such a step might possibly lead to the opening of Hunan to foreign trade. Chang-sha, the capital, is a fine city, with four miles of river frontage. It looks quite as large as Siang-tan, and the city is beautifully situated. For a long time the missionaries at Hankow have been desirous to establish a Mission in Hunan, and while they have been successful in making converts at Hengchou, the hostility of the better class of the inhabitants to missionary enterprise has prevented any great amount of work being done. The Tung-ling lake, which is within Hunan, is the largest lake in China. It is, however, very much smaller than it was fifty years ago, and is apparently gradually being silted up. In winter time a large portion of the lake dries and the whole becomes very shallow.

## THE COMING BY AND BY.

When the company of those who are labouring for a Christian moral basis in Japan shall have aufficiently increased, the license system will go; and instead of brothels alturing to hell, there will be house of covering (rich Ladius as because be houses of correcting (sic) leading to heaven.

That is from the Shepherd's Voice. We quote it for the sake of the prediction it contains. When "a Christian moral basis" is established in Japan, there will be no more brothels, but only "houses of correction leading to heaven." Houses of correction are places where people are confined and subjected to punitive discipline in expiation of criminal acts and to educate a less sinful frame of mind. On the whole we do not know that the multiplication of houses of correction is a very delightful prospect. But there can be no doubt about such an outlook as the disappearance of brothels. That, indeed, would be very fine. It hasn't happened anywhere as yet, however. The "moral basis" still waits to be established even in the most Christian countries of the Occident. Japan is to be a splendid exception. She ought to be much obliged to the Shepherd's Voice for its implied

to the Shepherd's Voice for its implied compliment.

We cannot believe that intemperance and immorality can prevait as extensively in the midst of Christian surroundings as where these conditions do not exist. Some other moral system might in non-Christian countries take the place of Christianity; but as long as we believe that the gospel is superior to any other or to none, so long must we believe that these evils will not prevait as extensively as elsewhere. This is an argument on general principles, independent of the lacts; but if the facts should set it aside, Christianity would also be set aside. The Mail's ascertion, then, is vertually (sic) equivalent to setting aside Christianity.

KUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST.

Some days ago, American newspapers brought intelligence that a St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph had interviewed the Russian Admiral, "now the chief of the squadron "-whatever that may mean—, and also "a celebrated Russian diplomatist." The Admiral had talked very "large." He had declared that Russia was about to despatch nearly her whole navy to the Far East so as to be as strong as England there; that Russia, France and Germany were leagued to prevent the opening of any port coming into their possession, and to oppose any European Power pursuing a free-trade policy of the kind, since such a Power would become the real mistress of China. The "celebrated diplomat" said that Russia was determined to prevent the raising of a Chinese loan in England and the opening of Talien; that in the spring England's attention would be diverted from China by a revolt of the most serious character in Índia, and that Russia would then be able without difficulty to invade India vad Afghanistan and the Pamirs. Tall talk, indeed, but not ill-suited to the Daily.Tell-a-cram. Wether any word of it ever proceeded from the mouth of a Russian Admiral or a Russian diplomat is a question that no level-headed person can have much difficulty in answering. Curiously enough, too, on the very heels of the American mail carrying copies of these remarkable interviews, comes a London telegram saying that Her Majesty's Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has read in the House of Commons a note from the Russian Foreign Minister declaring that any port occupied by Russia in China shall be open to the ships and commerce of the world. It is not often that a contradiction so conclusive follows in the immediate wake of canards so circumstantial and sensational.

#### RECEN' CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST.

We have generally the pleasure of a climax and an anti-climax in this part of the world—the climax when international complications occur in the Far East; the anti-climax when the telegraphic account of them forwarded to Europe comes back to us spiced and flavoured by the cooking it has received on the other side of the water. Sometimes our first discovery that we have been living in the midst of New York antiquated and falsified predictions of its imminence. That is with the facts should set it aside. Christianity would also be set aside. The Mail's assertion, then, is tennity. The Mail's assertion was that "in point of arithmetic the social evil is no worse in Japan than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no more in Japan than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no more in Japan than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no worse in son thin in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no worse in son thin in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no worse in Japan than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no worse in Japan than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no worse in Japan than in a Christian tharity. The contention of the Shepherd's Voice than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is no worse in Japan than in a Christian that it isn't is to set aside Christianity. The contention of the Shepherd's voice than in a Christian country than in a Christian. Therefore the social evil is not worse in Japan than in word, not a warlike protest was made, not a demonstration planned, not a ship and its not puffed up!

Digitized by Google the York antiquated and falsified predictions of its imminence. That is is imminence. That is imminence. That is imminence. That is is mit the leach, but the appear to the continuous the propose of the Rachange Telegraph Comban the Standard that the solid propose of the Schange Telegraph Company called at the offices of the Barchange Telegraph Company of the propose of the Barchange Telegraph Company of the propose of the Barchange Telegraph Company called at the offices of the Barchange Telegraph Company of the propose of ascertaining the present the ship to the standard that country that Christian the result of the same and the Ministry's that Count Okuma resigned the portfolio of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry's that Count Okuma resigned the portfolio of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry's the propose of the Schange T terrible perils is made when, perhaps a

Reuter detected an imaginary Japanese fleet steaming out of Nagasaki; the Kobe correspondent of *The Times* observed other warlike phantoms, and Shanghai, of course, contributed its quota of sensational invention, so that quite a considerable quantity of alarming news about Japan's bellicose attitude and resolute preparations reached Europe. On the whole Shanghai, embroidered by the St. Fames's Gasette. has the paim for the most highly decorated legend. On the 21st of January, that great Oriental emporium of "bunders" furnished to London this item of intelligence:—"A powerful Japanese fleet will sail to-day from Yokosuka for Chinese waters," and on the basis of the fiction the St. James's Gasette raised the following structure :-

London, Jan. 21.

"Japan is prepared for war," the St. Fames's receive says. "That, in a nutshell, is the news

"japan is prepared to waitshell, is the news from Yokohama to day.

"It really is the beginning of the Chinese crisis. It was obvious that the Japanese Government had stopped telegraphic communication, which it never does except when mobilizing the army or navy. That is precisely what it has been doing.

"It is almost certain that the destination of the

"It is almost certain that the destination of the fleet is Wei-hei-wei, and there is no doubt themovement means that the stadus quo in China, as far as Manchuria and Korea are concerned, shall not be altered by Russia or any combination of Russia's allies in defiance of Great Britain and Japan. So long as the defenders' policy is equality of opportunity in China they are in a position to enforce their claims."

After giving a list of ships in the Japanesa Navu

their claims.

After giving a list of ships in the Japanese Navy and noting its great fighting strength the Gasette

Continues:

"Even with Great Britain a mere sympathetic

continues:

"Even with Great Britain a mere sympathetic on looker, it is probable that Japan could finish off all the Russian and German warships east of Suezin short order. Great Britain, even including the Powerful, has not a vessel in the North Pacific capable of standing in battle line against three battle-ships which Japan possesses."

The foregoing comments were drawn out by a Yokelaana despatch amouncing that nine Japanese waters, that decrees have been issued appointing Lieut Gent. Viscount Kawakami Chief-of Staff, and creating a Supreme Military Advisory Council, consisting of Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Oyana, Marquis Sango and Prince Komatsu, who were prominent during the war between China and Japan. and Japan-

The telegraphists, correspondents, and paragraphists who worked up this pretty sensation must feel rather small at present.

## THE BURMAH YUNNAN RAILWAY.

Although China's consent to the extension of the Burmah Railway into Yunnan has not yet been obtained, the matter seems to have been brought on the tapis in recent pour-parlers in Peking. That there is still plenty of time, however, to discuss the matter without impeding the progress of the Railway, will be gathered

#### KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Assassinations are the habitual concommitants of all political struggles in Korea. Whenever the tide of popular sentiment begins to set against a particular faction of politicians, the murderer's weapon appears upon the scene. The pro-Russian party in the peninsula have hitherto escaped such mishaps. But there never was the smallest likelihood that their immunity would be permanent. are not at all surprised, therefore, to hear that an attempt has been made to "dispose of " Kim Heung-yuk, the Russian interpreter attached to the Imperial Court. Happily his would-be assassins failed, but their enterprise, if it may be interpreted in the sense bitherto attaching to such acts, signifies that the Russo-philes are losing favour. Of course efforts to overthrow them by lawless violence are more likely to become aids to Russian aggrandisement than means of overthrowing the dominant influence of the great northern Power. But it would be more convenient for Russian interests if incidents of this nature were deferred for a season.

There appears to be no doubt that, owing to the advice of the Russian Financial Adviser of the Korean Government and the President of the Russo-Chinese Bank, the Treasury in Soul has refused to receive stamped Japanese silver yen in payment of taxes. The reasons for such advice are not immediately clear. Theoretically a stamped yen is open to the objection that it has none of the qualities of a coin except shape and super-scription. It is, in effect, so many grains of silver and nothing more. But that objection disappears from the moment that the Koreans adopt it as a current coin. The chopped dollars that have done duty for so many years in China and the Straits are simply lumps of silver which, carried elsewhere, represent only a fixed weight of the white metal. The stamped yen might play just as useful a part in Korea if the Government recognised it as a legitimate token of exchange. The people want it. They have no good coin of their own and they find it very convenient to employ the ven, its fineness and weight being perfectly trustworthy and custom having familiarized them with its use. Assuredly, it is at least as serviceable as the Mexican dollars which will have to be substituted for it. Why, then, have M.M. Alexieff and Gabriel made recommendations unfavourable to its circulation in Korea? There may be some explanation, but we do not detect it. The stamped yen, being no longer exchangeable in Japan except at its bullion value, possesses no fixed ratio to gold. But the Mexican dollar labours under the same disquali-fication, and so do all silver coins except the silver subsidiary tokens circulating in a gold-standard country. Judgment must be suspended until fuller information is obtainable, but in the meanwhile the Japanese will naturally regard the advice of the Russian advisers with some umbrage, since the free circulation of stamped yen in Korea would have facilitated Japan's passage to the gold standard.

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#### THE TAI WÖN-KUN.

The old Prince whose death took place at the Unhyon Palace on the 22nd February in Soul will be remembered chiefly for the deeds of violence and the intrigues that disfigure his record. Chlol-chang, the 25th Sovereign of the dynasty now ruling in Korea, having died without issue, the Tai Won-kun's third son ascended the throne, and during the young King's minority the Tai Wön-kun acted as regent. He was undoubtedly a man of great ability, but his unscrupulous obedience to the most masterful principles of administration rendered him notorious rather than famous. One of his greatest misfortunes was the success which natural obstacles enabled him to score against a French and an American expedition. The former saved him from punishment for his anti-Christian ferocity which had been responsible for the deaths of 200,000 persons, it is said, and the latter encouraged him to cling to the policy of seclusion one result of which will probably be his country's loss of independence. Those incidents loss of independence. also created such a false impression of his strength and competence, that his surrender of the administration to his son, when the latter came of age in 1873, seemed unbecoming in his own eyes and in the eyes of a large number of his countrymen, so that constant intrigues ensued on his part to wield the power behind the throne, and the nation was betrayed into reposing confidence in him which he frequently abused. It can not be denied, indeed, that the corruption, extortions, and tyrannies of the Queen's family, the Min, created opportunities for justifiable interference on the part of the Prince Parent. But that his restoration to power would have inaugurated a brighter era can never have been soberly imagined, and when the Chinese spirited him off into exile so adroitly in 1884, after his sanguinary triumph over his political rivals, the feeling throughout the Far East was one of relief rather than regret. The have to disburse yearly for the main-Japanese attempted to employ his in-tenance of the garrison. Neither does he fluence and experience for the benefit of discuss the question whether Japan can treacherous and useless, and his last great civilized Powers, the privilege of appearance in the political arena was in October of 1806, when he forther the political results in the political area was in Violating her engagements. October of 1896, when he finally disgraced himself by conniving at, or directng, the Queen's barbarous assassination. He died at the ripe age of 80, and his record is not enviable.

#### THE INDEMNITY.

There have been so many false rumours about China's negotiations for raising money abroad that it is unsafe to assume the accuracy of the latest telegram without official confirmation; especially in view of become suddenly conscious that his vocathe fact that the definite conclusion of bulary does not include the really polite arrangements relating to a loan was announced one day, to be followed on the of his vis-à-vis. Take this catalogue of next by an equally authoritative statement words all of which do duty for the simple that negotiations were still in progress. pronoun "you" of Anglo-Saxon direct-We must possess our souls in patience. Meanwhile it is understood that a commission to prepare the "Sincerity Bonds"

the whole number, namely, a million. The face value of the Bonds being a hundred taels, and the total issue a hundred millions, it is evident that unless the preparatory stages of the work are on a large scale, a considerable time may be needed for printing off. That need not interfere with the floating of the loan, however, as temporary certificates can be given to subscribers. We may note here that several inaccurate statements have been journalistically advanced with reference to the amount of the Indemnity still due. The actual sum is 831 million taels apart from the interest that will have in be paid if the installment system be continued. But if China discharges her whole liability on or before May 8th, the interest already paid by her, namely, to million taels, has to be credited as principal, so that the amount to be hauded over, in that case, would be 83\frac{1}{3}\text{ millions less 10\frac{5}{3}\text{ millions, or 72\frac{1}{4}\text{ millions.} In short, she can quit herself completely by paying a lump sum of 721 million taels.

Discussion as to the course that Japan should pursue in the event of China's discharging her debt by one payment, is again beginning to be raised in irresponsible quarters. The Yomiuri Shimbun has found an anonymous diplomat who speaks very freely on the subject. He says, in effect, that the conject. ditions existing when Japan pledged herself to evacuate Wei-hai-wei on receipt of the whole indemnity were very different from the conditions existing to-day. many was not then in possession of Kiaochou nor Russia in occupation of Port Arthur. The balance of power in the Far East has been disturbed, and until the two Europeans Powers retire from those positions, Japan ought not to withdraw her troops from Wei-hai-wei. This "diplo-mat" says nothing, however, of the steps that Japan would have to take if she wanted to remain at Wei-hai-wei; the great sums she would have to devote to fortifying the place, and the monies she would

#### AMENITIES OF SPEECH.

It is indeed true, as the Keisai Zasshi observes, that an immense contrast exists between the etiquette of Japan and that of the Occident in the matter of language. One of the greatest difficulties that a foreign student of Japanese has to overcome is precisely that. Many a time does it happen to a man possessing a good working knowledge of the language, to term applicable to a relative or connexion ness :- Gosen, danna, sensei, taisho, kimi, ani, oyakata, anata, omaye, kisama, sono-ho. As for the verb "do," one has to which the Chinese Government recently consider whether its equivalent shall be decreed its intention of issuing, has been asobasu, nasaru or suru, and in writing entrusted to the Printing Bureau in Tokyo, the honorary suffix sama there are no The death occurred in hospital on Wednesday evening, says the Nagasaki Press of the There are reports that several months will be required to complete the bonds, but it is one of which is supposed to represent a difficult to see why that should be the special degree of politeness. Can all this naval honours.

vive the wear and tear of modern moneygrubbing life, or did it need the calm, patrician atmosphere of old Japan to against the demeanour of the resident fo-flourish and be strong? We should like reign merchant towards the Japanese, the to hear the Keisai's opinion upon that former surely had no power at any time point, but it passes off to discuss another to command the custom of the latter. It not without interest, namely, the degree of proficiency, or ignorance, displayed by foreigners with regard to these linguistic To use coolie-language to a canons. superior is to get into trouble, says our contemporary, whereas to employ honorifics in addressing a coolie does not invite any censure. Hence the members of the ful, and he can scarcely be said to have various foreign Legations in Japan, concluding that for practical purposes there methods are disfigured by genuine abuses, is no occasion to study the differences be- or that a better agent is yet available. tween the two kinds of speech, confine These are not matters of opinion. The themselves to learning polite terms only. It results that they sometimes speak of stitute solid facts, not to be ignored or themselves and their own doings or say-minimized. Still less is it a matter of themselves and their own doings or saythe doings and sayings of exalted speaks of the large sums exacted by fopersonages, and one may hear them say to a jinrikisha-man, anata wa yoru nanji ni oyasumi nasaimasu, as though they were asking a high dignitary of State at what time he honoured his bed by condescending to lie down on it. Only those that have had exceptional experience know how to distinguish between anata and omage in common parlance. The Chinese residents in the Settlements, on the other hand, whose teachers are rashamen, never get beyond coolie speech, and have omaye, bakka, chikusho and such expressions constantly on the tip of their tongue. "The fact is," concludes the Keissi, "that the intricacies of the Japanese language are responsible for this confusion, and that everybody insisting on their preservation is placing an obstacle in the path of national progress, We wonder how the gentlemen of the Legations will relish the Keisas Zasshi's estimate of their linguistic attainments.

#### FOREIGN MERCHANTS.

The Keisai Zasshi thinks that the foreign trade of the country would not suffer by the elimination of the foreign middleman, namely, the resident foreign merchant. The bases of that opinion are partly sentimental, partly practical, and largely, we think, mistaken. Undoubtedly the Keisai is right when it says that the profits of business are very much less than they were in former years. The volume of the trade has increased immensely, but the margin of gain has dwindled in nearly corresponding proportion. We do not see how that argument tells, however, in favour of the Japanese merchant. The greater the difficulties to be overcome, the greater the value attaching to experience, connexions and cheap capital, all of which the foreign middleman possesses in an indubitably larger degree than the Japanese. There the Keizai's premises are right and its deductions wrong, in our opinion. It speaks, also, of the arbitrary methods adopted by foreigners in past years. But surely the most conclusive reply to that contention is furnished by the arithmetic of the trade. Our contemporary does not imagine-its own admissions prove as much—that Japan's foreign trade would ever have attained its pre-sent dimensions without the assistance of the resident foreign merchant. Of what use, then, is it to animadvert on his methods? If he has been arbitrary—a he takes the silk into his godown and excharge which, we observe, is invariably amines it bale by bale before completing preferred without any attempt to demonth the purchase. It is not unnatural that Digitized by Google

strate its truth-why have the Japanese submitted? Whatever objection be urged phase of the question, which, however, is has always been possible for the native not without interest, namely, the degree trader to work without the intervention of foreign middlemen. At least it has always been possible for him to make the attempt. He has made it too; made it to the extent of getting some 32 per cent. of the trade into his hands. But on the whole his efforts have been costly and unsuccesspractically proved that the foreigner's experiences of thirty-five years now conings as though they were referring to opinion that the Keisai is wrong when it reign merchants as bargain money. "With the exception of three or four large firms," are the Keisai's words, "the foreign mer-chants have very little capital. The majority of them receive Japanese goods on trust and export them, rendering accounts after sale; while, in the case of imports, they exact as bargain money sums large enough to be called loans." Nothing Nothing could be more incorrect than that statement, if the unanimous evidence of foreigners themselves be trustworthy. They allege that their great misfortune is to have given up demanding bargain money, and adopted the system of taking Japanese orders on trust. It is such procedure that exposes them so often to be left with ware houses full of goods of which their native clients decline to take delivery because the market has fallen. The Keisai concludes by saying that since Japanese merchants have learned how to organize companies and to put up large sums of capital, the foreign middleman's services may be dispensed with. It is very true that the formation of strong mercantile associa-tions with plenty of money is a step in the direction indicated by our contemporary. But it is only one step. is a long distance to be traversed still. We ourselves believe that, so far from dispensing with the foreign merchant, the Japanese must look to his cooperation as the best possible factor in developing the country's resources in the future at least as fully as has been the case in the past.

#### DIRECT EXPORTS.

In considering the foreign trade of Japan for last year we drew attention to the remarkable development of the part taken by Japanese merchants directly in the business during the past decade. Old residents are aware how strenuous and long continued have been the efforts of the Japanese in this direction, especially with regard to raw silk. The celebrated regard to raw silk. The celebrated struggle over the Kiito Ni-asukari-jo, or silk-conditioning warehouse, which threw Yokohama into such a foment in 1881, was the most prominent indication of Japanese commercial ambition that has yet been witnessed. The fact that the silk trade has attracted special effort of this character is of course due to the peculiar but apparently unavoidable plan pursued by the resident foreign merchant:

such procedure should present objectionable features to the Japanese, though unquestionably their own defective and untrustworthy methods are primarily responsible; nor can we wonder that they have applied themselves with special zeal to get the export of silk into their own hands. The essays, however, have been uniformly disastrous to themselves, and it is interesting to read the following reasons for their ill-success, as set forth by the Japanese Consul in New York, Mr. Uchida, in a report translated by the Japan Times :-

Mr. Uchida directs his attention principally to the exportation of raw silk to the United States. It is a grevious mistake, he says, to suppose that direct exportation of raw silk must always be advantageous to the Japanese. On the contrary, he believes "that, of all articles of commerce between Japan and America, nothing is more dangerous or less profitable for purposes of direct exportation are less profilable for purposes of direct exportation than caw silk. The reason why it is so unprofitable is the severity of competition between Japanese and foreign merchants. The dangers attending the direct export of this commodity are caused by the fact that the Amarican silk manufacturers are generally mustable in their financial position; secondly, by the imperfection of the bankruptcy law in the States and the consequent ease with which france can be practiced; and thirdly and lastly, by the circumbance that, milks the case lastly, by the circumstance that, unlike the case of European raw silk, it is customary for the American manufacturer to pay the importers of Japaness silk six months after the delivery of the goods, and that in not a few cases the Japanese merchants find their customers insolvent before they can claim payment, a contingency which in their p tion it is well nigh impossible for them to fore at the time of the original transaction. Such being the case, it will not be incorrect to state that direct exportation of raw silk from this countries. try largely partakes of the nature of speculation." Mr. Uchida says nothing whatever about the difference between silk which enters a foreign market with the cacket of an accredited foreign firm and an accredited foreign inspector, and silk offered for sale without such recommendations. He thinks, perhaps, that his duty is to speak solely of the difficulties peculiar to the conditions existing in the States. Be that as it may, his report fully bears out what we have always said, namely, that the foreign resident middleman is a uniquely advantageous agent since he pays ready money to Japanese producers and takes upon himself all the risks connected with finding a market for their productions in foreign countries.

#### THE FAR BASTERN QUESTION IN EUROPE.

The telegrams sent from Peking by The Times' correspondent with regard to the Far-Eastern Question are couched in very explicit and confident terms. On January 16th he telegraphed as follows :-

January 16th he telegraphed as follows:

Sir Claude MacDonald, in an interview yesterday, informed the Tanng-ti-Yamên that England was willing to usuist China to liquidate the Japanese indemnity and would provide a loan of £12,000,000 at part to run 50 years. The service is to be 4 per cent, annually, net, including sinking fund.

The conditions are as follows:

(1) The opening of three Treaty ports—namely Ta-lien-wan, Siangin in Hugan province [? Siangtan in Husan, or Siang-yang in Hupei], and Nan-ning, thereby increasing the Customs revenue.

(2) A declaration that no pertion of the Yang-tsze-kiang valley shall be alienated to any other ower.
(3) The right to extend the Burma railway

through Yun-nan,
In the event of default, China places certain revenues under the control of the Imperial Customs.
On this basis negotiations will proceed.

Four days later (January 20th) he sent tive of Her Majesty's Government, but this message :-

At his second interview with the Tsung-li-Ya-At me second interview with the Tsing-li-Yamen yesterday the remonstrance of the Russian Charge d'Affaires was in the nature of intimidation against the opening of Ta-lien-wan. He threatens reprisals and the withdrawal of Russia's friendship and protection. The Chinese, while recognizing the advantages of the British terms as affording the best hope of maintaining the integrity ill the applies. ampire, nie wavering.

These statements were accepted by The Times with entire confidence, and it com-mented on them editorially, assuming that the British Government had actually offered to provide a loan for China, and that the Russian Representative in Peking had gone to the length of using threats to dissuade the Tsungli Yamen from accepting the offer. Farcically empty threats they were, it must be admitted; for the notion of Russia's resorting to "reprisals"
—what kind of "reprisals," we wonder in the event of China's borrowing money from England though she had already borrowed from Russia, sounds like mere bluster, and the talk of "withdrawing Russian protection" which had just proved absolutely inefficacious to safeguard China against an act of unprecedented aggression at Germany's hands, was evidently meaningless. However, since China eventually turned her back upon the proffered loan, and since the incident -were it a fact-would be construed, not unfairly, by some critics as a victory for Russian diplomacy, it is interesting to read what The Times had to say when it received the news of Russian's menacing attitude towards China :-

It is, of course, for the Chinese authorities to It is, of causes, for the Counces authorities to deside whether they will accept the loan we offer them upon our terms or not; but they are fairly untitled in liberty of choice in the matter, and it is our business to see they have it. They seconize, we are told, the advantages of that offer. They see in it the chief hope of maintaining the interrity of the Funding tree which advantages. offer. They see in it the chief hope of maintaining the integrity of the Empire, upon which, after all, their own positions and emoluments depend. It, in spite of their perception of this truth, they of their own free choice make up their minds in reject it, we cannot, of course, dispute their perfect right to cannot, of course, dispute their objectes right to cannot a decision. But no decision to which they may come, whether of an adverse or a favourable nature, will affect the general character of our policy in the Far East. If, for any of the inscrutable reasons which weigh with such bedier, the Tsung-h-Yamèn resolve not a accept—the advance we tender them, we shall acquiesce, it is bardly necessary to say, in their acquiesce, it is burdly necessary to say, in their determination. In that event we shall be conscious, as the CHANGELLOR of the EXCHEMURA observed in his Bristol speech, we have done our best to show our friendliness to China in the time of her need. We shall take our stand upon our treaty rights and take great care to preserve to our commerce all the advantages which it can justly claim.

That seems to us to be precisely the view which all thoughtful persons must take. England might offer a loan to the Chinese, but certainly could not force them to accept it. At the same time one comment will suggest itself, namely, that the offer ought never to have been officially made until full assurance of its acceptance by China had been privately obtained. Sir Claude MacDonald will seem to have erred in that respect. Critics will say that he should never have given the Chinese an opportunity of publicly rejecting an and declaring it to be history worthy of English offer in deference to Russian all the credit of a personal narrative. One bluster. That would be a perfectly just may reasonably doubt whether the editor stricture had England made any offer. But on looking closely into the matter we find that the term "offer" is altogether misleading. England did not make an offer to China. It was China that made a proposal to England. Thus Sir Claude MacDonald's statement to the Tsungli Yamên was not put forward at the initia-

was Great Britain's reply to a question asked by China. That fact is very clearly shown in a speech delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Bristol on the 19th of January, and we are surprised that The Times, in its leading article of January 21st, failed to take note of the important distinction explicitly indicated in Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's words :-

Speaking with regard to China, he advised them not in believe all they saw in the newspapers as to the conduct of Her Majesty's Government at Paking. As certain definite statements had been made with regard to financial assistance to be granted by this country to China, he thought it well to tell them plainly that the Chinese Go-vernment had approached them with a request for such assistance, in order to enable them to provide for the indemnity still due to Japan. They had ex-pressed to them their willingness to consider such application, and the negotiations on the subject were now pending with the Government of China. But what had been stated with regard to the tenor of those negotiations was both inaccurate and incomplete. They were not ashamed of those negocomplete. They were not usually they should be disapproved by this country or by any foreign Power. If those negotiations did not succeed we should have done our best to show our friendliness. in the Chinese Empire in the time of her need, We should take our stand upon our existing Treaty rights, and should take great care to pre-serve to the commerce of this country all the advantage it at present enjoyed.

It will be at once apparent that the above explanation radically alters the situation. It is one thing for England voluntarily to offer money to China. It is another and a totally different thing for China to inquire whether England will lend her money, and for England, in reply, to state the conditions that would attach to an affirmative answer. In short, the initiative was taken by China, and that the Tsungli Yamen ultimately drew back when it became conscious of the opposition provoked by its project does not affect British prestige in the smallest degree.

#### AN INGENUOUS CRITIC.

We observe that "James Allan's " work of fiction, "Under the Dragon Flag," has actually been accepted as sober history by one of our English local contemporaries, and that the chapter about Port Arthur is quoted verbatim in support of the sensational exaggerations which were originally circulated by Mr. James Creelman and subsequently endorsed by more than one of the Settlement journals invariably so careful not to spare the rod in their references to Japan. "Under the Dragon Flag" is compiled with a certain measure of skill n simulation and dissimulation. That an Englishman, reading it without any previous knowledge of the events related in its pages, and without any Oriental experience, should be deceived by the author's adroit directness and spurious naïvété would not be very surprising. But we certainly did not imagine for an instant that an old resident of the Far-East could possibly be lured into such a trap. It is inexpressibly comical to find a newspaper solemnly and ponderously ously hoazed.

#### MR. FRASER AND THE JAPAN ASIATIC SOCIETY.

The reading of Mr. J. F. Fraser's paper at the meeting of the Asiatic Society on the 2nd instant, occupied just forty minutes, but it should be noted that Mr. Fraser's very clear elocution enables him to attain a rapidity of delivery which, in the case of an ordinary reader, would be scarcely compatible with distinctness. Very keen interest was displayed by the audience, and hearty applause was accorded to Mr. Fraser at the close. It will be seen from the verbatim report published in these columns yesterday, that the traveller treated his subject more seriously than the amusing and witty accounts of the Three Cyclists' Journeys, as hitherto compiled for journalistic purposes, might have led us to anticipate. The fact is that Mr. Fraser, though perfectly unassuming and not at all disposed to make much of the remarkable feat achieved by himself and his companions, Messrs. Lowe and Lunn, not only is a keen and intelligent observer, but also has the faculty of marshalling his facts in an instructive and succinct manner, and if, when writing for the general public, he draws freely on the rich vein of humour which he undoubtedly possesses, he knows also how to be grave and earnest when the occasion demands. He does not attempt, in his latest essay, to paint any picture of the hardships suffered by the three intrepid cyclists of whom he was the leader. If we catch glimpses, now and then, of what they had wrapped in astonishment that they wrapped in astonishment that they came through alive, it is certainly not because the narrator thrusts their personalities into the foreground. Perhaps to Englishmen in this part of the world the most interesting portion of the paper will be that relating to the Burma-Yun-nan Railway. Mr. Fraser judges that to carry the line beyond the Burmese frontier would be a task of enormous difficulty and expense, nor will anyone reading his description of the route be disposed to question his conclusion. The fact is that Ynnnan is simply ribbed with mountains ranging at right angles to the general direction of the projected road. It may be compared to a ploughed field with furrows varying from three thousand to eight thousand feet in height, and how to carry a railway across them must be a stupendous problem. Even supposing the line built, it would not tap the productive regions of Yunnan. These lie to the East of the province, and are far more easily accessible from the French possessions in the south, or even from the valley of the West River. Mr. Fraser thinks—and the same opinion has often been expressed in these columns-that the real object of a Burma-Yunnan railway would be to establish overland communications with quoting a chapter from a pure romance Szechnen, which is one of the wealthiest and declaring it to be history worthy of and most promising provinces in China. all the credit of a personal narrative. One But he also thinks—and the soundness of and most promising provinces in China. his view can scarcely be doubted—that the truly practical way to bring Szechuen into quick and easy commercial contact with the outer world is by utilizing the establish it—in the immediate future. Original from

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#### ZOLA'S CONDEMNATION.

T such a distance from the scene it is almost presumptuous to form an opinion about the condemnation of M. ZOLA to a year's imprisonment and a heavy fine. There are folk, doubtless, who will rejoice over the sentence because of their antipathy to a writer of novels which even the least delicate can not read without astonishment. "Serve him right," they will say, not altogether unreasonably. But these prejudices apart, it must be confessed that the incident produces a very painful impression. M. ZOLA may have been intemperate in his recent journalistic campaign; he may have grossly transgressed the limits of discretion and even of propriety. But we can not forget that he was working for a cause which he believes to be that of justice; working to save a fellow-countryman from punishment which he holds to have been undeserved. Prior to the publication of the indictment upon which Captain DREYFUS was arraigned, the public had no choice but to assume that the charge preferred against him had been proved up to the hilt. He was tried in Nov. 1894 by secret tribunal, and the indictment was not published until January 7th 1898, when the eyes of the whole civilized world had been directed to his case. The accusation against him was that he had betrayed his country by selling confidential documents to the agent of a foreign Power. Naturally it was universally concluded that the accusation had been established by incontrovertible and abundant testimony. People had to be content with hypothesis, however. Outside the circle of those directly concerned, no one knew what had taken place within the closed doors of the secret military tribunal where the man underwent his trial. But when, more than three years afterwards, an opportunity of examining the indictment presented itself, its readers found that DREYFUS had been condemned on the strength of a solitary document supposed to have been written by him. Unless he wrote it, there was nothing to prove his guilt, for though various items of suggestive evidence were catalogued against him-as that his habits at the Ministry of War exposed him to suspicion; that he was often found at the office when there was no official work to do; that his replies when under examination conveyed the impression that he often concealed the truth and so forth-, such conjectural testimony would have been absolutely valueless had be not written the document, and the question whether he did or did not write it having been submitted to five experts, three decided in the affirmative and two in the negative. Moreover, the three admitted that they noticed dissimilarities between the writing of DREY- served only to deepen the feeling of un- tion, not punishment. The majority of FUS and that of the document, but they certainty and dissatisfaction, for the im-their inmates were accused persons

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intentional; in other words, designed to ducted with closed doors, and its finding writing claims ability to detect such dis- that Major ESTERHAZY did not write the guises, but even if the claim were granted, incriminating document. What every evidence which could not have satisfied rities If a foreign Power employs surany bench of trained judges. More- reptitious and unworthy means to discover age plainly indicated Germany as the shield it from the obloquy attaching to being now definitely pointed to, the press to Germany, the German Government, region where reason and impartiality German Military Officers, the German should reign supreme. Of course the Embassy. It is extremely difficult to tend to accentuate rather than to allay doubt the bona . fides of the démenti. the agitation. Where international interests are concerned diplomacy often takes little account of truth, but moral obliquity of that kind must assume extraordinary dimensions before denials such as those made desire that ZOLA assumed the champion- fliction." Yet these terrible

avert suspicion. An expert in hand-amounted to nothing more than a decision it remained none the less a fact that thoughtful man must now be perplexed to Dreyfus had been condemned and sent- imagine is the reason of the secrecy so enced to a terrible fate apparently on rigorously guarded by the French Authoover, the publication of the indictment the military secrets of neighbouring States, brought another fact to light. Its langu- why should scrupulous care be taken to foreign Power with which DREYFUS was such methods? It is quite conceivable supposed to have trafficked. It de- that to officially expose nefarious traffic clared that his brother had become a on the part of Germany with French German subject, and that he himself had agents might tend to embitter France's often gone privately to Alsace, where animosity against her former enemy. But the German Authorities did not seek that consideration ceased to have any in any way to hamper his movements, value from the moment of the DREYFUS intreatment contrasting markedly with that dictment's publication, since Germany was to which French officers were usually ex- then unmistakably indicated as the traffickposed there. Of course until this indict- ing Power. Nothing short of unlimited ment became public property, no conclu- access to all the evidence in the possessive theory could be formed as to the sion of the French War Office would foreign Power in question. But Germany warrant a final opinion on the merits of the case, but the anti-Semitic agitation of that country and subsequently a re- provoked by the affair and the very severe sponsible Minister of the CROWN empha- sentence passed on ZOLA seem to suggest tically denied that Captain DREYFUS had that passion and prejudice have been ever stood in any relation of the kind either suffered to obtrude themselves into a Military Attaché in Paris, or the German trouble is not over. M. ZOLA's fate will

## JAPANESE PRISONS

PRISON administration remained for many centuries almost completely by the German Government can be set beyond the range of civilized progress in aside. The world cannot persuade itself Europe. When the great philanthrophist to imagine that Germany would be guilty Howard undertook the task of inspecting of perjury for the sake of shielding a British prisons a hundred and twenty-five French traitor, who, had he perpetrated years ago, he found a very shaking state the act charged against him, should be of affairs. "The jails of the Kingdom were universally execrated, not merely for the a disgrace to humanity. They were, for sake of morality, but also in the cause of the most part, poisonous pestiferous dens, general security. It came to this, then, densely over-crowded, dark, foully dirty, that DREYFUS was condemned for traitrous [not only ill-ventilated but deprived altodealings with a Power whose Government gether of fresh air. The wretched imdenied that any such dealings had taken mates were thrown into subterranean place, and on the evidence of a document dungeons, into wet and noisome caverns which two experts out of five declared he and hideous holes to rot and fester, a prey had not written. There remained, of to fell disease bred and propagated in the course, a possibility that in the history of prison-house, and deprived of the comthe document-a history disclosed only to monest necessaries of life. For food they the secret tribunal-some facts might be were dependent upon the caprice of their embodied fatal to the hypothesis of Cap- jailers or the charity of the benevolent; tain DREYFUS' innocence. But the French water was denied them except in the scanwould not be the people we know them tiest proportions; they were half naked to be if they rested content in the face of or in rags; their only bedding was putrid the possibility that a grievous injustice straw reeking with exhalations and achad been committed. They wanted-at cumulated filth. Every one in durance, least many of them wanted-to have the whether tried or untried, was heavily veil of secrecy lifted, and it was of that ironed; women did not escape the inship. The ESTERHAZY court-martial were primarily for purposes of detenexplained them by supposing them to be portant stages of its inquiry were con- writing frield, or debtors. It might

have been supposed that the exposure of three million yen to the disbusements of given to the subject in connexion with such an awful state of affairs would have been quickly followed by radical reforms. There was indeed some effort made, some improvement effected, but in 1819 we find Mr. Buxton writing of the prisoners in St. Alban's:-- "All were in ill-health; almost all were in rags; almost all were filthy in the extreme. The state of the prison, the desperation of the prisoners. the uproar of oaths, complaints and obscenity, the indescribable stench, presented together a concentration of the utmost misery and the utmost guilt." until 1835 did the principle receive official recognition that prisoners should be kept separate and apart, and not even then was the principle carried into practice, for the first Act on the subject-the Act of 1839-did not insist upon the construction of prisons fitted for separate confinement, but merely provided that individuals might be so confined. Pentonville Jail, the building of which commenced in 1840, was the first prison constructed with separate cells, and although that example found many imitators among the local administrations, in many cases also it produced no effect. Briefly speaking, it to was not until 1877 that uniformity of treatment was secured by vesting the control of all jails in a body of commissioners appointed by and responsible to the Home Secretary. We mention these things, not for the purpose of extenuating the defects of Japan's prison system, but in order to draw attention to the lesson they inculcate, namely, that prison administration can not possibly be uniform and satisfactory so long as it is left to a number of local authorities, among whom the greatest diversity of opinion may exist as to the proper management of jails. Moreover, the enormous expense of providing prisons suited for the application of the best principles, can not fail to be prohibitive in localities where people hesitate even to make disbursements sufficient for the comfort of the law-abiding portion of the in-The Japanese Government habitants. seems to have recognised these facts, partially at any rate, in the early years of the Meiji era, for it took into its own deal said about the dirt and the Central Criminal Court afford exceptional hands the complete management of prison odour resulting from such close contact, facilities, it is considered a matter for affairs throughout the empire. But finan- a just complaint, which will always be congratulation that the period spent awaitcial convenience subsequently led to an heard until the system of separate confine- ing trial is seldom more than a mouth, unwise change, namely, the enactment of a law that prison expenses should the prisoner had to wear prison garb for months. Facts of this kind should be be defrayed by the various localties, one night, and he found it very scant; kept in mind when considering the state except in the case of five central that not until the third day was he permit- of affairs in Japan, if critics desire to be authority had not been many years in friends; that the prison fare was inadeoperation when its defects became quate; that the warm water provided in | for the scrutiny, however severe, which evident, and in the second session of the stead of tea was often offensive; that he the latter make into the administration of Diet the Government introduced a Bill had to lie for two nights on the bare mats, the laws and the prisons, since the benefor transferring prison expenses to the which Japanese, as a rule, do not regard fits that foreigners may derive from reform charge of the Treasury. Unfortunately a as a hardship, and that no means of heat- are as nothing compared with the benefits large party in the House of Representa-ing the prison were adopted. Now there accruing to the Japanese themselves. tives were fighting at that time for a re- can be no question that the system reduction of the Land Tax, and since the presented by such treatment stands in Prison Bill involved an addition of some need of reform, and that the prominence

the Treasury, correspondingly reducing the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction may the resources available for lowering the have a wholesome effect upon Japanese Land Tax, it was opposed without reference to its intrinsic merits. Again and again the Government submitted the Bill, present no sensational features. Even but without success, and though the war and its resulting measures temporarily checked this useful legislation, another and doubtless a successful effort would have been made last session had not the Lower House been dissolved. It is understood that the Bill will be introduced once more when the Diet meets for its ordinary session in the fall of the year, and no difficulty is anticipated in passing it. So far as the five central prisons are concerned, reports by competent foreign inspectors show that their plan, equipment and system of management are in accordance with the principles now recognised in the West; but undoubtedly the local prisons leave much to be desired. Attention has been strenuously drawn to the affair by a Kobe English journal in connexion with the incarceration of foreign culprits or suspects after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, after they pass under the control of the and by way of illustrating the sufferings Central Government, do not offer facilities which they may be exposed, suitable for the purpose in view. our contemporary publishes an interwith a Japanese who spent some time in prison awaiting trial. he is said to have been 7 days in jail before The interview occupies a column and-a- being examined, and that he was altogehalf, but its salient facts are very simple. ther 47 days in confinement before acquit-The man was placed in a room 9 feet tal, bail being refused. Much importance square, with a necessary at the back, right battens on the front which gave on without examination, is a gross abuse, ordinary Japanese room, except that it was exposed to view from the corridor, a ment is adopted. Then we are told that The new system of divided ted to receive bedding and food from his just and influential. On the whole, the

public opinion. But there is no occasion to manufacture sensations out of facts which supposing that the administration of provincial jails were likely to remain for some years as it is now, the probability of any foreigner's being subjected to gross hardships in a local prison is of the slenderest description. But, as a matter of fact, the subject long ago received official attention, and a decision was arrived at that special arrangements must be made in the case of foreigners awaiting trial or undergoing punishment, not because the system pursued at the central prisons, where alone foreigners are likely to be confined during the early years of the new regime, presents abuses, but because Japanese diet, Japanese garb and Japanese modes of life would be so many additional penalties to persons unaccustomed to them, and because the provincial jails, pending the reforms that will be introduced there

We may note, further, with reference to the prisoner interviewed in Kobe, that appears to be attached to these points, paper sliding doors on one side, and up- and undoubtedly incarceration for a week a corridor: the floor had mats-in fact, an The Japanese Code is explicit on this point. It provides that no person shall be kept under restraint for more than 48 feature common to prisons everywhere. hours without magisterial examination. The room was often crowded, as many as Hence, if the Kobe journal's prisoner lay 8 or 9 persons being put into it at a time, for a week before being examined magistand it is added that they "had to care- erially, there was a flagrant violation of fully dovetail themselves, as it were, in the law. Concerning a detention of 47 days order to get room to lie down at full before acquittal and the refusal of bail, length;" an obvious exaggeration, for a no intelligent opinion can be pronounced nine-feet-square room contains 41 mats, without knowledge of the nature of the and two persons per mat is the ordinary case. Bail is granted at the discretion of scale of sleeping accommodation in a low- a magistrate, and even in London, where class Japanese inn. There is a good the frequent sittings at Clerken well and the while in the provinces it may be three Japanese may be grateful to foreigners

#### THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR 1897.

HERE can not be any question that, so foreign trade of Japan shows remarkable and highly satisfactory elasticity. Its aggregate value in 1897 was 382,435,848 yen against 289,517,234 yen in 1896, an increase of no less than 92,918,614 yen, or more than 32 per cent. Ten years previously, that is to say in 1888, the corresponding figure was 131,160,744, so that, speaking approximately, the trade may be said to have trebled in a decade. That is certainly very remarkable, especially when we recall the fact that, in 1884, the total value of imports and exports having remained nearly stationary for four years-between the limits of 62 and 67 million yen-a majority of the foreign residents came to the conclusion, and declared it very emphatically, that Japan bad no commercial future, that her resources had already reached their highest point of development, and that the opening of the country was an object unworthy of serious attention.

But there are certain points in the record that call for special notice. Not the least the domain not very long ago monopolized, or nearly monopolized, by foreigners. Thus, whereas in 1888 the direct exports by Japanese traders represented only 7,081,-324 yen out of a total of 65,704,510 they rose, in 1897, to 44,244,286 yen in a total of 163,135,077. In fact, they increased from It to 27 per cent. in a decade. Turning to imports, we find a still more remarkable result, for while the direct imports by Japanese in 1888 were only 8,483,739 yen in a total of 65,455,234 or less than 13 per cent., they reached 79,560,939 jen in 1897 out of a total of 219,300,771 or more than 36 per cent. To some readers the combined results may seem more interesting :-

Total Trade Direct share of Japanese merchants	1888.	1897. Yen. 382,435,848
	15,565,053	123,805,225

12 per cent, 32 per cent. During many years the efforts of the Japanese to get into their own hands the business done by the foreign middleman have been energetic, in profession at all events. But the great advantages of the foreigner as an agent have enabled him to keep his place, and he will keep it for a long time to come. He obtains for the Japanese prices they could not get working on their own account, and he secures them against risks of all kinds. Still there is no gainsaying the fact that his domain has been invaded by the Japanese to an extent which did not seem likely a few years ago.

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to become a manufacturing country. She imports increasing quantities of machinery and raw materials, and decreasing quantities of manufactured goods. The figures far as total figures are concerned, the illustrating these features stand thus :---

SMICHIS OF ICEM MITTEE		
n n	897-Yen.	1896-Yen.
Raw Cotton	43,630,214	32,573,352
Wool	1.057.482	998,305
Machinery	12,291,037	6,200,276
Lincomotives, Cars, &c	5,141,360	1,983,929
fron	3,046,131	2,359,704
Steel and Iron Rails	2,001,118	1,280,479

Totals...... 67,167,342 45,405,045 IMPORTS OF MANUFACTURED STUFFS, &C. 1897-Yen. 1896-Yen, Cotton Varus 9 625,258 11,372,001
Shirtings 3,783 808 4,087,763
O her Cotton Stuffs 5,820 718 7.552,046
Mushin de laine 3,835,880 6,498,162 Mushin de laine 3,835,880 Italian Cioths 1,815,581 Flamel 1,187,655 2,813,096 1,097,244

Totals...... 28,018,43! 37.728,062 EXPORT OF MANUFACTURED STUPPS, &c.

77.1.	1897—Yen.	1896-Yen.
Habutaye	9,530,676	
Other Silk Stuffs		
Silk Handkerchiels	3,390,145	4,617,720
Cotton Varus		4.029,424
Cotton Fabrica	2,512,375	2,226,107

Totals..... 29,232,247 18,289,624

The most remarkable figure in the last table is that relating to cotton yarns. Old residents remember, of course, that in 1883, when the cotton-spinning industry remarkable of them is the manner in which took root in Japan, the general opi-Japanese merchants are steadily invading nion among foreigners was that signal failure awaited it, and that, in a very short time, it would be abandoned, leaving a disastrous record. Anybody would have been laughed to scorn who ventured drawn within ten years by means of an to predict, at that time, that before to years should elapse, nearly a million spindles would be at work, and 131 million yen worth of yarns would be exported.

It is unnecessary to examine the tables in further detail. The exports show a general increase, spread over nearly every item, silk, however, being responsible for an addition of no less than 27 million yen. As to the imports, it appears that the net increase of 48 million yen is accounted for by raw materials and machinery (213 millions) and sugar, rice, and peas and beans (241 millions). The facts that 211 million yen worth of rice had to be purchased from foreign countries as against 51 millions for 1896, and that the exports of the cereal fell from nearly 8 millions in 1896 to less than 61 millions in 1897, are, of course, ascribable to the bad harvest of last year. The steady growth of the import of sugar is noteworthy. From less than 7 million yen in 1888 it increased to over 20 millions in

#### BIMETALLIC PROSPECTS

Two events have greatly darkened the outlook for silver. One is Senator Wolcott's account of the work of the Bimetallic Commission appointed last year by President McKinley; the other is

already known. It had proved that any cooperation on Great Britain's part was out of the question, for the present at all events, and that so long as England did not move, other European nations would certainly remain quiescent. These facts, however, were not new. What does seem new, and what must be regarded as a serious blow to the bimetallic cause, in that President McKinley's attitude has assumed a very uncertain character as depicted by Senator Wolcott. When Congress met on December 6th, the President expressed an apparently un-equivocal desire for the consummation of an international bimetallic agreement, but very shortly afterwards the Secretary of the Treasury presented to Congress a bill one of the objects of which, according to the Secretary's avowal, was "to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard, to remove, as far as possible, all doubts and fears on that point, and thus to strengthen the credit of the United States both at home and abroad." plain that unless Secretary Gage was speaking without the authority of the President and in opposition to his views, the Republican Cabinet can no longer be regarded as genuinely bimetallic but must be counted distinctly monometallic. That is the point brought out by Senator Wolcott. As to the Indianapolis Monetary Convention, its name seems to detract from its importance until we know that it was made up of many city boards of trade and commerce, and that delegates from 26 out of 45 States were present. The conclusions formulated by the Convention were that the monetary system of America should be based on the maintenance of the present gold standard; that all classes of United-States notes should be withthe silver dollars now in circulation should be redeemed in gold on presentation, and that all the gold and silver bullion now held by the Treasury should be gradually sold. That is gold monemetallism pure and simple, and to what point gold would appreciate under the influence of such a vast addition to the demand for it, only a rash man could venture to predict. tainly the prospects of the white metal never looked gloomier than they do at present. The danger in America's case is that impatience of standing at the parting of the ways will drive her to commit her feet finally to the gold path. She can scarcely afford to wait much longer. Uncertainty is doing her almost as much mischief as the most inveterate opponents of either system attribute to its adoption.

#### ARTS EXHIBITION IN TORYO.

The usual Spring Exhibition of objects of modern and ancient art will be opened in the Uyeno Galleries on April 1st and will remain open until May 20th. It does not seem pro-bable that any arrangement will be effected for bable that any arrangement will be enected for a large display of pre-Meiji articles, unless private collectors can be induced to take more interest in the Exhibition than they have hitherto displayed. The dealers in art objects, who generally find it worth their while to contribute to the filling of the cases, are not contribute to the filling of the cases, are not now in a position to accomplished much in that line, for the supply of so-called = curios" appears to be completely exhausted. Rarely indeed does a specimen of old porcelain or Another fact brought out by last year's the action taken by the Indianapolis Mone-tary Convention. Of course the general restriction were sultered for the Wolcott Commission were the sulfamont probabilities. a picture by an old master find its way into

#### RUSSIA AND AN ICE-FREE PORT.

Mr. Balfour, speaking at Manchester just two years ago, said that he " regarded without fear or dislike the idea of a Russian outlet of commerce in Northern China from which we ourselves should not be excluded," and has now repeated the dictum. Sir Charles Dilke has just made the following comment on that statement:

the following comment on that statement:

I retain the opinion that II was unwise on Mr.
Balfour's part to make what seems to me to have
been an unnecessary suggestion two years ago, and
one couched in language extending for beyond what
seems to me to have been his intention. Russia could
only reach such a port by cutting off Korea, in which
she has promised not to interfere, and by entering the
neighbourhood of the Chinese capital, where her influence could hardly fail to become dominant. As for
the suggestion of Mr. Balfour in his later speech—
that the trade privileges secured by Russia would
be open to ourselves—the outcome of atipulations
with regard to trade previously made by Russia (as,
for example, the Batoum case in the Treaty of Berlin)
is not encouraging. is not encouraging.

It is rather remarkable that Mr. Asquith, speaking at Birkenhead on the 19th of January, said, after noting that "we could dismiss as the idlest of alarms the notion that a European Government which possessed no coaling stations and no ports of call, and which was dependent for the propulsion of its ships in these parts upon the hospitality and good offices of other countries, had the power, even if it had the will, to dominate the Far Eastern scas:"-

Nor have we the least reason to gradge the Empire of Russia access to an open port in the Pacific, which is to her a geographic and an economic necessity.

gaining popularity in England with re-Evidently this idea of laisser-faire is pointed out more than once that Russia with an ice-free port in northern China and a railway connecting it with the centre of her empire, would differ from the Russia of to-day in many respects other than commercial. Whether continued efforts Whether continued efforts should be made to prevent her from attaining that goal has become, however, a very interesting and intricate problem.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

There are those who, looking at the marvelons material growth of the United States during the past half century, are inclined to credit her people with the chief aim of hoarding the "almighty dollar," But if one takes time to study her educational, religious, and benevolent institutions, one loses sight of the fact that these States contain a third more miles of railroads than all the rest of the world combined, and wonders how so many and so great institutions could have sprung up where, in the memory of men now living, the buffulo roamed and savage Indiana pitched their tents.

I have just been reading about the public and school libraries in the United States and am sure there are many who would like to know some things that I have found out. In 1896, there were 4,026 public libraries that contained 1,000 volumes or more, and over 4,000 that contained less than 1,000 vols. but 300 or more.

The number of volumes in the 4.046 libraries was 33,000,000, besides 5,000,000, unbound pamphlets. The secords kept in 1,852 libraries show that 35,000 000 books were issued in one year to borrowers for home use. Of course these are but a mere fraction of the books read by the people as a whole,

There are two libraries that contain over 500,000 volumes each: the Congressional library at Washington with 740,000, and the Public library of Boston with 630,000 volumes, There are four that have over 300 000 volumes each and 28 that have over 100,000 each. libraries are valued at \$33,000,000.

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These immense libraries are not mere orna ments of the result of a craze; they grew out of a desire of the people to read and investigate. Of these libraries not more than half a dozen had any existence at the begining of the present century. They are a part of that vast educagrowth of the country.

#### GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN AFRICA.

The clearest statement we have yet read of the questions pending between England and France in Africa is the following summary of the situation from the columns of the Literary Digest :- " Having taken possession of Egypt, Great Britain claims the exclusive right to possess herself of any territory ever possessed or claimed in Africa by Egypt or Egypt's nominal suzerain, the Sultan. In addition to these rights—regarded indisputable in England the British press is firmly convinced that England is morally obliged in annex the Nile Valley in its entire length, because, it another Power were to possess part of it, such Power might divert the waters of the Nile for its own purposes On the other hand the French are anxious to establish a French Central Africa extending across the entire continent from West to East, They assert that whatever rights England, or for that matter Egypt, may have had in the Upper Nile region, became invalid when the Mahdista defeated the Egyptian and British armice. Three French expeditions started for the disputed territory, and it is thought that they have either reached, or will soon reach, Farhoda, a fortified town on the White Nile, where they will unite. It is very possible that the French and British forces will come to blows when they meet, and that Abysainia will give her assistance

#### GERMANY AND SIBERIAN TRADE

Here is an item of news, sent to The Times by its St. Petersburg correspondent, which seems to have considerable interest for residents of the Far East :-

From a "thoroughly trustworthy source" it is stated that a company has just been formed at Hamburg moder the name of the German Siberian Steamship and Trading Company (Demisch-Siberische Handels-nod-Schiffahrts-Gesettschaft). Its founders are German capitalists and manufacturers in conjunction with experienced specialists who have long done business in Siberia and are thoroughly acquainted with the population and local conditions. Their arm is to apen up German local conditions. Their aim is to open up German trade with Siberia over the northern sea route and the rivers Ohi, and Yenişei, the waterway explored for so many years by Captain Wiggins and now being rendered practically useful by Mr. Leybourne Popham and his agents, Mossrs. Moir and Company. Commercial relations are also to be established in the Annur through Vladivostok, and offices are to be opened in Muscow, Timmen, and Yeniseisk, where samples will be on view of all classes of goods offered in return for Siberian raw classes of goods offered in return for Siberian raw materials. M. Nosiloff, the well-known Siberian traveller, writes to the Novoe Vremya to say that this new German enterprise in Siberia is far more earnest and is to be taken much more seriously than the half-hearted and unsatisfactory attempts of the English, who will certainly be onsted by the Germans from the Siberian market.

A curious incident occurred in a cricket match Singapore on the 7th February. Officers of the Garrison were playing the Cricket Club, and scored 158 in the first innings and 73 for 4 wickets (closure) in the second. The Club scored 79 (first innings) and had therefore 153 to score in order to win. Thanks to a fine innings of 67 by R. T. Reid the runs were secured and the officers defeated. With the score at 152 the players retired, thinking the game was over, the simmps were drawn and the screens lowered, when the scorer came over to explain that the match was still only a tie. It was still a few minutes to six o'clock, so the stumps were was scored.

#### KOREAN NOTES.

Nearly two years ago it was announced that France had obtained from Korea a concession to build a railway from Soul to-Wifu. The latter, as most of our readers probably know, is an insignificant town on the Yalu, which forms the northern boundary of Korea. Such a line could not possibly be a financial success : its construction, if undertaken, must be purely for political or strategical purposes. The news of the concession was, therefore, received with languid interest. But a French expert has arrived in Soul in connexion with the question, and attention has thus been directed to the matter, though the coming of one expert can not be considered very significant,

"Mr. Carl Wolter," says the Independent, intends to send a mining expert to the north for the purpose of locating a gold mine, the concession of which the Government has promised him. The engineer has arrived in the city.'

We take the following from our Soul contemporary :-

temporary:—

The magistrates of Richon, and Yeju and districts are doing their best to persecute the native Christians in these localities. It seems that some rascals who call themselves Christians went about these places and committed many outrages. The magistrates concluded that the best way to punish them in to punish everybody who professes Christianity. A wholesale arrest was ordered and several bundred innoceat Christians are reported to be among the prisoners. prisoners.

The news that H.M.S. Victorious had been ordered from Gibraltar to the China station, reached Soul in this form: - "Gibraltar Victoriana are to reinforce China Squadron.

The Korean Foreign Office was said to be în trouble ten days ago about Russia's request for a coaling station on Deer Island. The site chosen by Russia happened to be the very place selected by the Chief Commissioner of Customs in 1895 for an extension of the Fusan settlement. It was farther rumoured that Russia had asked to have 230,000 square metres of land set aside in both Mokpo and Chinnampo, the newly opened ports, to serve as sites for her Consulates. Considering that the whole area allotted at each port for a foreign settlement is only 250 acres, Russia's wents are distinctly liberal.

After the recent promulgation of an imperial decree announcing that no further concessions for railways or mines in Korea should be given to foreigners, the Japanese Representative in Soul is said to have forwarded the following note to the Korean Foreign Office :-

to the Korean Foreign Office:—

"I'he right to construct a railway between Soul and Fusan was granted to Japan by the treaty signed in August 1894. I have been informed that the Korean Government recently adopted a resolution that no concessions for railway, construction should be granted to foreigners, and imperial sanction was obtained for it. But such a resolution cannot override the provisions of the treaty. The matter has been left in abeyance for a long time without any decision being arrived at. I must therefore request that the contract for the building of this railway shall be signed without further delay in accordance with the terms of the treaty."

#### CHINESE NOTES.

It is alleged that the Emperor of China has granted permission to the native owners of a quicksilver mine in Kueichou province to procure from a French syndicate money for ex-ploiting the mine. The step is regarded as an excellent precedent which may mean the comparatively speedy development of China's mineral resources.

The Mukden correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News says that "one of the facts ineffaceably cut into his memory during his first winter in Newchwang was the finding on one morning about New Year's time thirty five masses of ice, each mass having been a living 605 libraries have an aggregate endowment again pitched and the batsmen and the Officers man at 10 p.m. the preceding night. The fund of 17,000 000 and buildings owned by 567 again took to the field, till the requisite single thermometer was a good bit below zero (Fahr.) ் இந்து ஆக்டிந்துக் just left the opium dens where

they had been enjoying themselves. The keen air sent them to alsep and they never wakened." Another correspondent of the same journal supplements the above experience by the following :--

On the plain to the south of Yingtze or Ying-chou, known to the world as the treaty-port of Newchwang, millet is grown where the soil is cultichou, known to the worth as the treaty-part Newchwang, millet is grown where the soil is cultivable and reeds grow equally high and strong where it in not. The whole falls to the reaper's hook in the antum and is gradually carried away hefore the closing of the port, and the gleaners, those why pay for the privilege, are left in possession of the field. After these have done with the ground, any waif a med with a rake and a piece of cordage can meander over the plain and help to make a clean sweep of the remainder. During one winter in the early seventies a terrific blizzard intercepted a number of these unfortunates on their return in the evening with their bundles of millet stalks, used as fuel for the Northern kang or stove-bed, and those furtherest to leeward, i.e. from the town, soon became weary of the struggle. They dropped their bundles on the ground, singly, in two and threes, or more, for the sake of the shelter from the blast and driving snow they afforded, in order to gain strength for the sake of the shelter from the blast and driving snow they afforded, in order to gain strength for renewed efforts. But exhaustion from want of food and their hard fight, conjoined with the rapid fall in temperature, usual in those regions during a N.E. blizzard, no doubt produced on them in their hastily improvised shelter such a delicious sense of comfort and languor, that the inevitable drowsiness would creep upon them unawarer, and an attempt to renew the struggle probably never occurred m sny one of them. Then nature kindly and tenderly officialing as her own high priestess conducted the ceremonies and assisted them one and all to a veritable enthanasia: and who will venture to say it was not a happier fate, for such would offer? would offer?

No one could venture out on these plains during that night with the temperature down to during that night with the temperature down to 14 degrees below zero (Fahr.), and the wind blowing with hutticaneforce, accompanied by a blinding drift rendering all objects invisible at the distance of a few feet. But towards the evening of the following day the sky brightened, the sun shone out and it became almost calm. The authorities then organised a search-party which, however, had very littlefulfficulty in finding the bodies, as the bundles of shakais formed mounds above the general level of the snow-clad plain.

I am not aure as to the exact number of those who perished on the occasion to which I refer, but

who perished on the occasion to which I refer, but Who persued on the occasion to which I relet, but I believe there were many over a score, and they formed but a small fraction of the total loss of luman file throughout Shengking during that short but terrible storm. Great destruction of life also occurred amongst domestic animals.

There appears to be considerable discontent in Shanghai. House rent has been raised by m much as 100 per cent. in some cases, and the butchess have taken advantage of the fact to make to the price of ment an addition three or four times as large as the circumstances

Germany has a "Governor" of Kiao chou Bay-Captain Truppe-and a "Residency" at Ching-tao which is 40 miles from the city of Kiao-chou.

Li Hung-chang has been relieved from the duty of ushering officials to the Imperial audience at dawn of day. The ex-Viceroy is ald enough to be gratified by the change.

We take the following paragraphs from the Peking and Zientsin Zimes:—

We are informed from Peking that during the We are info med from Peking that during the last week in January the Emperor sent a written ander to the book store of the American Bible Society, not far from the East Gate of the palace, for 160 books, 30 of them distinctly Christian. The list had evidently been made out from the catalogue of publications of the Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese, of which Rev. Timothy Richard is Secretary. The order was written in a kind of Chinese character used only by the Emperor, so that there is no doubt that the order was from the Emperor limself.

The following week the same messenger came The following week the same messenger came again, this time wanting copies of all Christian books. As the American Board Mission is near the Bible Society's store, the store-keeper took the messenger to the Mission books now the messenger to the Mission books now the Bible Society's store, the store-keeper took the messenger to the Mission books now the political class, but even this is far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company a loan to the amount of 15 million yer at less than five far letter than the classes I have mentioned unique to the Company and the political class.

were given him, amounting in all to over 400 copies of 72 different books.

The Empress Dowager's Palace car left Tong shan Works, where it was built, by a special train on Tuesday last at 7.20 a.m., Messrs. Kinder and Churchward, the designers and builders, accome Churchward, the designers and builders, accompanying. The trial run was quite satisfactory, and Fungelai was reached at 520 p.m., where the car is to be viewed by H. E. He Vuch-ler, Governor-General of Peking and Duector-General of Railroads, together with other high officials from the Palace. It is a very substantially built, 12-wheeled bogiescar, with up-to-date improvements, after the "Pullman" styles and externally presents an imposing—nearly splendid—appearance.

Two new "Mandarin" cars, one fore and aft the Palace car, also made their maiden trip, and show many cunning contrivances (for comfort and utilizing otherwise waste space) combined with good solid work.

It is rumoured the Empress Dowager purposes travelling to Lu-tal shortly; to do this she must travel via Tientsin.

#### JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The foreign trade of Japan last month amounted to 29.787,485 yen in value, of which 10.916,330 yen were exports and 18.871,155 yen imports, the excess of the latter being 2,954,825 ves. Compared with the figures for January last year a decease of 932,382 yes in exports and an increase of 5,549,933 yen in imports are noticeable, the total of the two items increasing however, by 4,617,551 yen. The export of gold coin and bullion during the month under review aggregated 4,516,400 yen, and that of silver 3,087,355 yen, a total of 7,603,756 yen. The import, on the other hand, aggregated 1,034,019 yen for the former and 673,832 yen for the latter, the excess in export being 6,795,904 yen.

The Japan Railway Company, says the Shogro proposes to run a special sleeping car, to sc-commodate nine passengers. The car, which is well fitted and provided with bedding, will not be run with less than two passengers, unless double fare is paid. It will be placed between two 2nd class carriages whence attendants may be called by the passengers with a bell.

The province of Tokachi, in Hokkaido, remarks the Tokyo Asahi, was colouised by more than six thousand emigrants from the main island during 1896 and 1897. The amount of peas and beans produced last year was no less than 37,000 koku, and the colony promises to grow year by year. The district, however, suffers from want of means of transport and the lack of convenient seaports. Investigations have recently been undertaken by the Hokkaido Office with a view to the improvement of Tokachi bay. A petition on this subject is to be submitted to the Diet.

The original scheme for the installation of a telephone system in Tokyo provided for 10,000 subscribers during the seven years com-mencing in the 29th year of Meiji. The work has made remarkable progress, lines having been already completed for more than 3,500 members, and it is expected that 4,000 will be reached in March. The total number of applicants up to the present is reported by the Tokyo Asahi to be 8,000, and the average number of applications in each month does not fall below 105. The limit in fact is likely to be reached within a year. Though in December last the fees were doubled, the applications for membership increase daily.

A view of Japanese life and society:-"Nothing can be more pleasant or attractive than the life of a soldier," I said to myself, and so I went on board a certain war-vessel, in which I served about a year. But I was utterly disap-pointed; for there too I found the spirit of jealousy prevailing in its worst form. My next few years were spent among poets and painters,

above. I found journalists much more frankhearted and less detestable than I thought. Most of the newspaper writers may be good natured personages, but some of them are ut-terly wanting in common sense." This delightful sketch is published in the Tokyo Shimbun.

The petition of the Japanese railway companies for the raising of fares and freights has evoked much public criticism, and even at the deliberations of the railway council various hostile arguments were advanced. The Communications Department, however, has now resolved to grant permission for an increase of rates to a number of companies in whose case the adoption of such a step is deemed absolutely indispensable. The Hantan and Höshin companies have received permission, which will also be given to other companies on the completion of investigations. So asserts the Shogyo.

The Jiji publishes statistics showing the arrivals and sales of tea during the past ten years aa followa :--

	Arrivals,	Balen.	export,		price Pet
Year.	Cettien.	Cattles.	Catties.	Cattles	уев.
1888	24,070,865	29,504,670	393,445	116,060	10 110
188g	11,582,110	25,388,686	190,679	69,\$34	17 390
1800	15,868,640	E5.537.450	848,439	151,390	16.580
#lox	24,142,372	15,904.459	274,000	55.9X3	16.510
389H	E4,019,649	14,407,100	574,481	20,410	80,429
1593	14,980,088	10,777,959	8 2,292,1	Radio 38	# 1 <u>5</u> 61
1104	13,906,502	15,065,g0p	412,556	Z01,783	14.00E
189	E5,468,047	1,417.339	684,310	58.49Ô	mg.832
1896	BN.720,590	20,793,950	1.032.267	75,47E	sas 506
1997	\$8,503,3PQ	12,583,500	1,875,777	36 <u>3</u> 92	24.578

In an address presented to the Throne in the 20th year of Metri (1887) Count Itagaki, says the Perosu, described Marquis Ito as a man who, having secured almost predominant influence in the Court, pursued a policy of oppression and inveiglement. This year, however, an influential statesman in whom the strongest confidence is reposed by the Emperor, and who, having adopted the constitutional principles advanced by Mr. Kido, has rendered specially meritorious services to the State." Such is the change brought about by the lapse of time between the 20th and 3 tat year of Meiji.

The Shogyo calls attention to the questions submitted by the Agricultural and Com-mercial Department for discussion by the Central Tea Dealers' Council. They are as follow:—(1) Whether some amendment is necessary in the regulations for the tea dealers' corporations, and if so of what nature?
(2) In Kobe special offices for the inspection of teas are established under the auspices of several cities and prefectures. Is there no necessity to inaugurate a similar institution in Yokohama? (3) In every tea acason tea is frequently liable to depreciation on account of being accumulated at export ports. Is there no remedy for this, and if so what?

According in the Tokyo Asaki, the Government and bank paper in circulation at the end of last mouth amounted to 11,134,833 yes, which sum shows a decrease of 90,182 yen in Government and 261,209 yes in bank notes, as compared with the previous month. Below is the comparative table :-

		of January (878-	of December 1897.
ı	Government paper above	yen.	yen.
	one yen denomination, Below 50 sen denomina-	5 590,604	5.640,786
ı	tion	1,770,311	1.810,311
ı	Bank paper	4.748,678	4 999.887
ĺ	Closed hank paper	24,841,	24,841

A petition for postponement of the period of organization has been thrice presented by the Formosan Railway Company, and still no definite schemes have been announced to the public. On making enquiries of promoters of the

Total ...... 12,134,435... 12,475,826

Increase or Decrease at

together with the principal in fifteen yearly installments after ten years' retention. approval of this scheme is to be made only after conference with the Government, and the inauguration of the Company may be expected abortly. To raise a domestic loan, in the present state of affairs, is impossible. The Mainichi, however, speaks doubtfully of the matter, and does not see how the foreigner in question can have been induced to invest his capital in a Formosan enterprise without aufficient security.

The remittances sent abroad by the Bank of Japan, on account of the various Government Departments, through the agency of the Specie Bank and other domestic institutions, amounted, according to the Tokyo Shimbun, to 3,671,832 yen during the 30th year, showing a decrease of 3,433.812 yen as compared with the previous year. Following are the details:—To England 1,495,771 yea; in America, 332,132 yea; to France, 245,112 yen; to Germany, 178,477 yen; to China, Korea, and other countries 1,420,330

More than ten electors in Hibitan village, Aichi prefecture, have been arrested on a charge of receiving bribes, and over thirty other villagers are reported by the *Tokyo Shimbun* to have confessed to a similar offence.

On the 24th ult. Rangoon rice to the amount of 45,290 bags was brought to Yoko-hama by the Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha's steamer Hikoyama Maru. Of this amount 32,297 bags were transported to Kobe and 1,300 bags to the capital. The latter are chiefly to be sent to the north eastern districts. The same company is reported by the Tokyo Asahi to have chartered an English steamer for shipment of 2,297 bags of Rangoon rice to be delivered III Yokohama before the middle of next month.

During the war in the 27th and 28th years of Meiji, the mechanics in the Koishikawa Arsens received a great deal of extra pay. A few of them, putting their savings together, propose to establish a workshop in Oji village, where 400 trubo of land are to be purchased. A similar step, says the Tokyo Asahi, is being taken by another class of attiants employed in the Bullet Factory of the Arsenal. This is the first instance, the Asahi adds, of mechanics ever attempting to organise a workshop without outside assistance.

The following information is published in the Shogro:-The Russo-Korean Bank was opened on the 14th instant, the Bank's regulations having been submitted by the Russian Minister to the Korean Court for approval. These regulations are as yet kept strictly secret, but they are supposed to involve a great extension of Russia's power in the matter of finance. They are supposed to contain the following provisions:—(1) A special privilege of mining coin for Korea to be vested in the Bank. (2) Matters relating in payment of loans for the Korean Government to be exclusively conducted by the Bank. (3) The collection of taxes, disbursement of administrative expenditures, and all other financial affairs to be adjusted with special sanction of the Russian and Korean Governments. (4) Branches and agencies to be established in important parts of the country. If the above provisions are complied with, the power of the Russo-Korean Bank is really considerable. President Gabriel's opposition to Japanese silver seems, the Shogyo adds, m have been based on the special privilege of coinage referred to.

Sappore in Hokkaido is a seat of many important industrial enterprises. It abounds in manufactories for hemp, beer, silk, flour, etc., and prospects exist for the growth of industry and agriculture in the neighbourhood. Coal. has been a source of great inconvenience. In view of these facts Engineer Tanabe of the Hokkaido Office has formulated a scheme for the utilization of hydrographical electricity.

The river Toyohira promises to answer the partage oil, which soon put the whole vessel death.

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The river Toyohira promises to answer the partage oil, which soon put the whole vessel of the strong gale spread to some cases of kerolicity.

The river Toyohira promises to answer the partage oil, which soon put the whole vessel of the string has suppressed though the efforts of the station officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials. The strikers at Takasski, however, and a woman and her three children were swept of officials.

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The strikers at Takasski, however,

pose. Experts have given their hearty approval, and copies of prospectuses bearing on the subject were lately issued above the signatures of many influential personages. The sum of 4,500,000 ven is suggested as a preliminary capital, and it is proposed to raise this chiefly in Sapporo, a very large portion of the shares to be taken by the projectors. The scheme, the Chuo remarks, is one of the most hopeful undertakings in the North.

Governor Yasuba's programme in introducing the municipal system of administration into Hokkaido is, according to the Foresu, to put the system in force in Hakodate, Otaru, and Sapporo, this year, the divisional system being adopted for Nemuro, Yesashi, and Muroran. The cho and son system of administration is gradually to be put in operation as the development of the country renders it desirable.

Commenting upon the commercial condition of Shanghai, the Tokyo Asahi says :- The trade in woven goods was during this year extremely prosperous, business having been conducted on a large scale. The exchange market has undergone serious fluctuations, which led to the appreciation of the commodities under notice; still purchases are being eagerly made by brokers in view of the upward tendency of the market. The trade return received from the Japanese Cousul in Shanghai is 💵 follows :-Shirtings now in stock and those for arrival are selling in considerable quantities, the amount dealt in having already reached 200,000 tan at prices varying from 1.75 to 2.12 taels. Quotations on the whole have risen by five per cent. The market continues to be brisk with a still upward tendency. Bleached cotton fabrica remain firm, transactions having amounted to 28,000 tan, at prices ranging from 2.25 to 2.75 tacls. Demand for T-cloths of English manufacture has steadily increased, sales being reported to have amounted to 26,000 tan. Indian manufactures were quoted at 1.05 taels, business being done to the amount of 5,000 fan. Unsai stuff from England was sold to the amount of 15,000 tan at from 2.08 taels to 3 07 taels. German manufactures did not exceed 2.07 taels in value, transactions being conducted on a small scale, while American productions were in brisk demand, sales aggregating 13,000 tan. Chintzes found a very scanty while coloured calico was somewhat popular. Turkey-reds firm in price, but no remarkable business in this direction. Orders for muslin have reached 32.000 tan, quotations varying from 061 to 0.72 taels per yard. Woollen goods were sold in small quantities at increased prices, while camlets have a downward tendency. Long elis were firm, and figured camlets were rising.

The Jiji states that at the Senju railway station coals from various districts have accumulated to the amount of twenty million (!) tons. This is owing partly to increased facili-ties afforded by the Japan Railway Company and partly to the pertinacious holding of dealers in view of the steady appreciation of the mineral. Subsequently, however, there have been large arrivals of Kinshin coal, and it is supposed that sales can only be effected by lowering the prices to a considerable extent. Iwaki coal is now quoted at 32 yen. Onoda at 35 yen, Okada and Yamaguchi at 43 yen, and Iriyama at 32 yen.

The steamship Nagatsuru Maru, owned by Mr. Iwata, of Fukuyama, Hokkaido, is reported by the Chuo to have been wrecked on the 15th ultimo off the Yaoi promontory in the Vessashi on the 14th with a crew of 23 and over 90 passengers for Shittsu. On the evening of the 15th it was so dark that not an object was visible, and the captain gave orders for casting anchor, as the bay was studded with hidden rocks. The ship, however, struck on a rock and

in flames. Some of the passengers threw themselves overboard; others caught hold of broken spars. Fortunately relief boats were soon at work, and succeeded in picking up all who were still floating.

The revenue and expenditure up to the end of January, compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year, were, according to the Tokyo Asahi, as follow :-

#### ORDINARY REVENUE.

	comp	ared with the
Items.	1	revious year.
	yen.	yen.
Caxes	48,495,271	3,667,040
	15.704,250	*601,302
	15.322,488	609,701
	11,265,824	2,635,123
	6,202.707	1,113,518
Customs	0,202./0/	111131310
Receipts from		-68.
stamps	3,822,066	364,272
Receipts from Gov-		
ernnient under-		
takings	10,671,046	1,475.709
Posts and tele-		
graphs	0,252,541	1,475,553
Others	1,418.505	- 17/ 2/000
	1,237,910	-
Miscellaneous Interest on deposits	1,23/,910/////	#1,021,803
Interest on deposits.		*1.122.810
Formosan Revenue		~1,122,010
Total	64,226,294	3,927,881
Personne	MARY REVENUE	,
***************************************	IMAKI MEANDON	4
Sales of Government		
property	684,126	*149,35 <sup>2</sup>
Contributions from		
the people		*g,838
Miscellaneous	2,251,136	1,933,024
	2,131,130	1,933,404
Supplementary funds		
for the construction	4.	#600 000
of war vessels	357,164	*680,929
Compensation for	_	
Wai Itai-wei	822,524	81,003
Special impositions		
upon different loca-	1	
lities	63,950	62,950
Public loans issued	22.201.780	23,301,780
Brought over from	23/302/700/7/10	-0.577
the previous year,	18,158,395	14.956,324
the previous year,	10,1301393	* 14'ADA1D=4
Appropriations of In-		12,821,686
demuity	45,000,000	42,024,000
Appropriations of Ce	D*	
tral Relief Funds	. 22,704	103,720
Special War Ex	•	
penses	. –	*21,055.872
l points		
Total	. 90,861,006	1,452,938
Grand Total	.155,087,300	
		9/313
	ENDITURES.	
Ordinary	. 76.453.816	1,821,345
Extraordicary	82.854.180	40,950,216
DATIBUIDING, J. III		
The state of the s	110 208 005	42,771,561
Total	.159,308,005	
L ages 1 :	adjourned by an a	atarisk l.

(The decrease indicated by an asterisk). In two months the 30th fiscal year expires. The extraordinary expenditure of 82 million yen, compared with the estimated amount of 138,230,000 yen shows the extent to which various undertakings of the Government have been curtailed.

Since the enforcement of regulations in America prohibiting the import of spurious teas, the Japanese tea trade has assumed a new aspect. A scheme is now under contemplation to establish a Tea Inspection Offica in Yukohama, so that the United States Government may eventually find it unnecessary to inspect the leaf exported from Japan- A bill for this purpose was lately presented in the Central Ten Dealers' Council and unanimously approved. The scheme, says the Nichi Nichi, will be put in operation early in the Spring.

A strike of engineers and other employes on the O-u line of Nippon Railway Company recently led to suspension of traffic for several hours, and serious inconvenience was experienced by travellers. A similar occur-rence is reported by the Tokyo Shimbun to have been imminent in the Mito Station, but was suppressed though the efforts of the station

officers was despatched to endeavour to per-auade the strikers to desist, but in vain. It was finally arranged that two or three delegates from each station should repair to the Company's head office and make representations of their demands. This course was accordingly adopted, and a final decision is to be given in a few days. The strikers are said to be determined, if they fail to obtain satisfactory answers from the Company, to abandon work

When aheep-breeding was first undertaken in Hokkaido, remarks the Yomiuri, the results were most unsatisfactory, most of the sheep dying from plague. Hokkaido was, from these circumstances, regarded as a place unfit for sheep breeding, and all establishments connected with the enterprise were closed. But the failure was subsequently found to have arisen from defects in feeding. The sheep are now fed in winter with radishes and other vegetables with a little salt, corn being entirely withheld. This mode of feeding suits the animals, and keeps them in perfect health. They are now rapidly in-creasing in number. In the 29th year of Meiji the number reached 208, showing an increase of over 150 as compared with the 22nd year.

The necessity of railways in Formosa is beyoud question, asserts the Shogyo. If the proposed Formosan Railway Company were able to accomplish its work with 150,000 shares instead of 200,000, for which amount the Government's sanction was obtained, and if there were pros pects of success, the Company's request for s reduction of capital might be granted by the Government. But it is plain that a reduction even of 50,000 shares would render it impossible to commence the work, while if the scheme is undertaken by the Government, the necessity. of funds is equally to be encountered. The Government, adds the Shogyo, is now engaged in investigating the new plans for the railway.

Sericulturists in Suwa have sustained and ous losses during the past few years, and many suspended or abandoned their businesses last year. Silkworms' food last year rose 24 per cent, while the other expenses incurred increased by 100 per cent. Further difficulties are expected this year, and with the exception of five or six influential companies the growers are almost on the brink of extinction. Several bundleds of old sericulturists have quitted the district for other provinces. There are numerons notices of houses "to let" or "to sell," and as Suwa's opilence depended en-tirely upon silk, the decline of the industry has led to the universal depression of trade, and the labouring classes are reduced to the last extremity. Foreign rice has been bought and sold to them at its original value, and a few leading personages of the district recently devised a scheme to provide work for the poor.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

From a telegram that appears in American papers we gather that the Emperor William has pardoned Herr Trojan, editor of the Kladderadaisch, who was sentenced a few days ago to two months' imprisonment in a fortress for "lese majest?" in cartooning his Majesty.

Commenting on the teams engaged in the Interport football match played at Kobe on Saturday, the Hiogo News says :- The Yoko hama players were the younger and better trained lot; the Kobe men were cooler and, in the forward division, also the faster; in point of weight there was not much to choose, and both elevens were unusually light so far as our exparience goes of interport contests

On the 22nd Feb., at about 3 n m , says our Nagasaki contemporary, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha's coasting steamer Futami Maru, while entering the barbour, collided with the British sailing ship Semantha, lying at auction, the latter vessel receiving chimage by her hall

on the 1st instant. One of the principal the extent of 250 year. The matter has been amicably settled between the parties concerned, and the Futami Maru left for Misumi shortly after 3 p.m. on the same day,

> The exact figures of the poll that decided the striking Engineers of England to abandon the campaign against the masters, has not been divulged, but the proportion is said to be about 25,000 in favour of resuming work and 11,000 ngainst,

> Among Admiral Seymour's personal staff is Captain Jellicoe, who is the new flag-captain of This officer at one time bethe Centurion. longed to the ill-fated Victoria, which down with all hands in 1893. Captain Jellicoe had just time to jump off the vessel as she was sinking and saw the last of the ship as she was going down.

> Whilst riding in the neighbourhood of Tourane in Annam on the 10th January, M. Vivian, manager of the mines at Bongmien, was attacked by a large tiger and hadly mauled. The horse made a gallant fight against the tiger, which ultimately disappeared in the undergrowth. M. Vivian is recovering.

> The China Mail records the fatal poisoning of three men, two women and two children, the crew of a sampan plying in Hongkong barbons. It is the custom for these people to obtain the aweepings of the holds and decks of vessels. On February 17th, this particular sampan crew found a quantity of beans on an Australian steamer, which they forthwith used for making soup. Within two and a half hours of partaking of this mess they were all dead,

> The chief constructor at Devenport Dockyard has been furnished with some of the drawings of the battleship Implacable, to be built during the next financial year. Her dimensions will be:-Length, 400ft.; breadth, 75ft.; mean load draught, 27ft; displacement, 15.000 tons. She will have engines capable of developing 20,000 h.p., calculated to give her a speed of to knote.

> The death occurred at Ripon on the 19th anuary of Mrs. Oxley, wife of Rear-Admiral Oxley, after a long and painful illness. It will be remembered that Admiral Oxley, at the time second in command of the British Suadron in China, left the station hurriedly last summer in consequence of the ill-health of his wife. Owing to the fact that Mis. Oxley did not recover her health Admiral Oxley did not return to the atation, heing succeeded by Rear-Admiral C. P Fuzgerald, who came out in H.M.S. Edgar. Mrs. Oxtey was the elder daughter of the late Dr. Robert Kenteley, D.L., of Highfield, Ripon, She was in the forty-first year of her age.

> The committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society deserve much credit for the considetate way in which they have treated the recent bequest of £80,000 to its funds. Religious and philanthropic associations usually accept whatever is offered to them without regard to anything but their legal rights, but the Bible Society Committee, having ascertained that their benefactor, the Rev. E. N. Pochin, had left a widow and two children unprovided for, have determined to relinguish on their account one half of the sum bequeathed in the will. A generous self-abaegation by which it is hoped the Society will not suffer.

> The latest mail, says the Kobe Chronicle, brings the sad news of the death of Mis. Patnam, at the home of her parents in Eureka. California, on the 28th ult. Mrs. Patuam was married in Kobe in the apring of last year, and not long afterwards commenced the illness (an affection of the lungs, we believe) which could not be arrested. It was hoped that the trip home might do her good, though the gravest doubts were entertained of her living out the voyage. The deep sympathy which has all along been felt for Mr. Putnam in Kobe will be deepened by the news of his wife's death,

quoted. There was a provisional believ at Christ Church College, which was familiarly known to Oxonians of the time as "the meat safe." Mr. Dodgson, undertaking to explain this epithet etymologically, split up the word belify into two parts—the French word bella and the German word frei (free). Then he went to work as follows :--

Bellembenutifulmcomelymmeet (meat); Freimfreemeeuremsale, Result : " Meat-sale,"

One of his best repartees was elicited by an Oxford student driving a tandem. This candidate for academical distinction had the social honour of driving the late Khedive of Egypt through Oxford, and the misfortune to have "spilled" his Highness. On the following day the youth, driving the same tandem, overtook Mr. Dodgson, who looked somewhat tired. "May I give you a lift?" he asked jauntly. To whom the humorist: "Wilt thou slay me, as thou didst the Egyptian yesterday?

"When this ves fall out honest men come by their own "-a casual visitant to Hongkong experienced the truth contained in this saying of old time, while paying a ricksha coolie his fare the other day. During the transaction, this gentleman-according to the China Mail -dropped a five dollar note from his pocket. He did not observe his loss, and the coolie did not attempt to inform him of it, but pocketed the money. Another coolie had, however, noticed the occurrence, and demanded half of the money as his lawful right for keeping quiet on the subject. The coolies fought over the money and were arrested by a district watchman, and taken to the Central Police Station, where they were each fined \$1 for quarrelling. The \$5 note is now in the possession of the

There is a popular impression that the British cotton spinner is losing ground in Asia. But statistics show that the exports of yern from South Lancashire to the Far East during the past three years have been slightly increasing:-

YARN, lbs. China finel. 1206. 1807. affor. H'knng) ....... 11,246,000 9 076,400 11,824,800 

Total....... 37,311,600 34,513,000 35,715 300 In piece-goods the exports from South Lancashire were less satisfactory in the past year. The total to all countries showed a decrease of 400 million yards as compared with 1896, and 200 million as compared with 1895. this decrease, China and Japan showed nearly 100 million yards, while the Straits showed an incresse of 17 million yards.

Another death, directly attributable to the effects of villainous stuff sold to sailors under the name of whisky was, says the N.-C. Daily News, reported at the United States Consulate General on the 22nd ult., having occurred on Sunday night. It appears that a man named Charles Embold, who was twice charged in the course of last week at the United States Consulate General with drunkenness, went on board the British ship Marathen, lying outside the lower limits of the barbour, late on Sunday evening. Eruhold, it is alleged, was very drank, and a number of the ship's crew were in the same condition. A row commenced among the men, which apparently terminated in a free fight in which one or two were rather badly handled. The mate interfered and ordered Ernhold, who did not belong to the ship, to go ashore, and after some trouble got him into a sampan. The sampan had not got many yards from the ship's side, when Eruhold was seen by the mate to jump overboard. The sampan-man pulohed about in the neighbourhood of the occurrence for some fifteen or twenty minutes, but nothing could be seen of the unfortunate man. Eruhold was an American citizen, and after the necessary for-Stories of Lewis Carroll still abound. Among through the Birth Consulate General had been through the best consulate General had been sumposes, his "etymology of the best to sumposes of the best to sumposes of the best to sumposes of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the best to sumpose of the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of the summoning of the winesses through the summoning of

the U.S. authorities, but was adjourned on the 23rd ult, pending the finding of the body.

New York rejoices in a Rainy Day Club. It is composed of ladies, and exists for the purpose of advocating what is called a rainy day skirt in wet weather. The test of membership is that members pledge themselves to wear short skirts, about four inches from the ground, on rainy days.

The Tobacco League of Wellshorough, U.S. A. lately bought up the chire cigarette stock (about 20,000) of the local shops and made a public honfire of it. That was brave. And, meanwhile, the delighted tobacconists were, no doubt, telegraphing for fresh supplies and drawing up seductive advertisements of their "entirely

The Soudanese revolt in East Africa marks the contrast between civilized and uncivilised warfare. The rebels and mutineers retreated to a fort with their women and three white prisoners. Next day the women insisted that the white prisoners should be murdered; and they were. The British force outside was meanwhile "unwilling to shell the place on account of the number of women inside."

A lance-corporal of the Derbyshire Regiment named A. Young writes to the London papers that when the Gordons' pipers'struck up, all the troops went forward together, and an officer of the Devon Regiment was actually the first. The Gordons have got the credit, he says, because the British public " will praise the kilt regiment: it is no use a British regiment trying to get on where there is a regiment with an indecent dress." An Irish soldier, it is suggested, might may that the Army an a whole will never get credit for bravery till they are all kilt entirely.

The proposed Russian railway from Merv to the Aighan frontier was to have been begun early has month. Its length will be about 200 miles, and the cost is set down at nine million roubles. The chief importance of the line lies in the fact that it will connect the Afghan frontier not only with the Caspian Sea, but also with the whole of the network of railways which it has been Russia's ambition to build for the purpose of consecting all parts of the Empire.

Three latters written by the Queen were recently offered for sale in London. The first a brief note upon mourning paper, with a -inblack horder, dated July 14, 1862, realised only 17s. Another, in German, written m the Duchess of Nemours as far back as 1843, and dated Buckingham Palace, June 12, fetched &2 12s. The third of the series, bearing the royal crown and cipher in bright gold upon faint blue-tinted quarter-sized paper, and dated April 1, 1860, addressed to the late King of Holland, was in French, written in the clearest and boldest script. It sold for £7 5s.

A biography of the Prince of Wales has just been published. Here is an anecdote :one occasion, shortly after the end of the war. His Royal Highness, accompanied by General Teesdale, visited the battlefield of Sedan. He was naturally anxious that his identity should not become known. . . . When the time came to pay the hotel bill General Tecadale found with great dismay that he had no ready cash; the Prince was in an equally penniless condition, while any telegram sent would have disclosed the identity of the Royal visitor. At length, after much discussion, the equery made his way to the local Mont de Pieté, and placed both his own and the Prince's repeater in pawn." How or when the repeaters were redeemed deponent sayeth not.

An English M.P. has all kinds of claims made upon him. Mr. Robert Ascroft, M.P., in a recent address said: "In my hand I hold a roll of paper which is nearly 2011, long, and it is covered with the names of the applicants for subscrip-

he was elected he was asked to give no less than £27,000. Now, I simply mention this because I have made it a rule to send a cheque when I can afford to send it. But I am not an African millionnaire, and I have no shares in Klondike and do not intend to have. Therefore, you must please to understand that when I do not answer these letters, and do not enclose a cheque, it is for the simple reason that I cannot afford to do so."

Mr. John Ellerthorpe, special correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, arrived at Shangliai on Feb. 24th by the P. & O. steamer Bengal. The Shanghai Mercury understands he will remain there a short time before he leaves for Peking to represent his paper at the latter place. The exigencies of modern journalism do not allow its devotees much rest. Mr. Ellerthorpe had only been in London a few weeks after a trip through South Africa when he was ordered out here.

It is reported from Vladivostock that the Russians recently established a mint there for the coinage of ailver roubles, but the new roubles will be different from those current in Russia itself, as one side of the coin will have Chinese and Manchu characters, containing the name of Czar Nicholas II., like the Chinese dollars which bear the name of the Emperor Kuang Hau. The Chinese are very much in doubt as to what this means; but it is understood that this special coinage is to be used for payments on account of the Russian railway in Manchuria.

"Lewis Carroll," whose death we referred to the other day, was a mathematical professor at When "Alice in Wonderland" first published the Queen was so much delighted that she commanded the author to send his next work to Windsor. He did so and her Majesty was almost as bewildered as Alice on finding that it consisted of "An Elementary Treatise on Determinants"! "Lewis Carroll's" works in the order of publication, were: "Phantasmagoris and other poems"; "Songe from 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There;" " Facts, Figures, and Fancies relating to the Elections to the Hebdomadal Council;" "Euclid, Book V., Proved Algebrai-cally;" "The Hunting of the Spark, an Agony in Eight Fite;" "Doublete: a Word Puzzle, "Rhyme? and Reason?" "A Tangled Tale, "Alice's Adventures Underground;" "The Game of Logic," "Curiosa Mathematica, Part I .- A New Theory of Parallels," and "Symbolic

One more scheme is proposed for the benefit of bad sailors who have to cross the #1 miles between Dover and Calais. There have been A tunnel company was formed many already. in 1785, but although much has been done in the way of preliminaries, the promoters have never been able to get the sanction of the British Government, and so the project has fallen flat. After the tunnel came the bridge, but that, too, was vetoed, as it would have formed too great a danger to navigation, even with spans six hundred and fifty yards wide. The latest idea is to make the means of crossing in the middle of the sea, as above and below are not allowed. A viaduct would be built from shore to shore about fifty feet below the level of the lowest tides, and on this would run a platform supported on steel legs above the water. The train is intended to he run straight on to this platform, which would then be driven across the Channel by electricity, and the carriages would again be run ashere on French soil, so that it would be possible to go from London to Paris without changing carriages on the way. It sounds rather more dangerous than sculling across in a light oulrigger.

It is interesting, says an English naval expert, to compare with the Diadem Argonaut class

division, once told me the first 12 months that ty 1,000 tons of coal, and throw a broadside of 884th. The Montcalms, on the other hand, are of 9 515 tons displacement, 21 knots speed, 19,500 horse-power, carry 1,000 tons of coal, and throw a broadside of 700lb. The French and throw a broadside of 790lb. ships will have three screws, the English only Of the Diadem's heavy guns, which are 16 6-in, quick-firers, four are only protected by shields, which would be shot away in action, The Montcalm's, on the contrary, which are two 7.6in and eight 6.3in., are in closed thrrete or casemates, with a protection of six inches of hardened steel, and worked by electricity. The estimated speed of our cruisers is a trifle inferior to that of the French, but we keep up the guaranteed speed better than they do. At any rate, our additional 1,500 tons displacement will enable us to largely augment our supplies of ammunition, which is a great advantage.

> The hand of the destroyer is laid upon yet another landmark of Older London. Furnival's Inn, Holborn, is in process of demolition, and blocks of flats and chambers will be erected upon the site. The inn derived its name from the Lords Furnival, who had their town residence there as far back as the reign of Richard II. It was an Inn of Chancery in the time of Henry IV., and was sold early in Elizabeth's reign to the Benchers of Lincoln's Inn, the Inns of Chancery holding much the some position towards Inns of Court as some public schools do to the universities. The old structure was pulled down and rebuilt in the time of Charles I. The society of Furnival's Inn ceased to exist as a separate community about the year 1817; and more recently anyone has been at liberty to rent chambers in the Inu. From its literary associations antiquaties will regret the present demolition. Sir Thomas More was reader in the Inu for over three years. Whilst a reporter in the Parliamentary Gallery Charles Dickens Indged here; and here " Pickwick " was conceived and

In view of the conviction of M. Emile Zola, the following Paris telegrams of Feb. 12th and 13th, which are translated from Tonquin exchanges, should be of interest :-

Yesterday's proceedings in the Assize Court at the trial of Emile Zola were functions. M. Picquast was speaking, amid shouts of applause from his supporters and objugation from his opposite among the applause. Save all disorders neuts among the spectators. Several disorderly scenes occurred, and when the Court mae, the crowd went out and smarked the plate glass fronts

of two large Jewish slops, as a demonstration of feeling against Zola.

In the course of to day's proceedings, M. Demange testified that he had learnt, since the conviction and sentencing of Desins, that a secret piece of evidence had been communicated to the Council of Was appointed to try the case.

To day M. Jamès and M. Ranc in the witness

box asserted the sincerity of M. Zola.

M. Bertillon, expect in handwriting, gave his opinion that the memorandum (giving confiden-tial information to some foreign Government) in the writing of Dreylin.

No disturbance occurred in the Court to-day.

The U.S. Senate has rather unexpectedly passed the Lodge immigration-restriction bill. The vote was 45 to 28, none but Democrats and Populists voring against the measure. Some important amendments had been adopted, and the main provisions of the bill as passed are as follow:-All immigrants over 16 years of age otherwise qualified for admission shall be able to read or write English or some other language, but a person not able to read or write who in over 50 years of age and is the parent or grandparent of a qualified immigrant may accompany the latter or join him, and a wife or minor child not able to read or write may likewise accompany or join a qualified immigrant in spite of inability to read or write. Steamship companies are required to take back the wife and children of any immigrant who has failed to pass the examination prescribed by law. The act, however, does not apply to Cubans coming the new protected cruisers of the Montcalm type, from the island during the continuance of the with the names of the approached me since I became now building by France. The British ships are present disorders. The opposition to the educations who have approached me since I became now building by France. The British ships are present disorders. The opposition to the education of Parliament for Oddiam. The crist coo tons displacement, 201 to 201 knoth caping a present from his as a Chicago paper, will late Mr. Fielden without by the Middleth and, 16,500 and 18,000 horse nower care doubless and steater appoint in the popular

chamber than | has received in the Senate, and the debate may be a warm and lively The passage of the measure in some form is, however, believed to be assured, and the experiment of restricting immigration by a simple educational test will thus have a trial.

The Nagasaki Press of the 23rd February has the following:—The most notorious leave-breaker, we may say deserter and beachcomber, ever in the English Navy in the "Far East" was in tenthle on Manager 1. We refer to " Jack, in trouble on Monday. We refer to "Jack," the sailor dog who is known to all residents bere, an well an to every blue-jacket who touches this port. "Jack" is a fine, intelligent animal. He first arrived in November, 1894, on board H.M.S. Archer, and, with the exception of short intervals, when he has visited other ports on the Eastern Station, has made Nagasaki his home. Arriving here, he promptly jumped ship and got on the beach." He remained here for some months, and then he went on a tour of inspection on beard a man-of-war, subsequently again returning to Nagasaki. Shortly after his security and got saverally return, he got into trouble and got severely handled in a disreputable row. The Surgeon of H.M.S. Undaunted took him aboard, dressed his wounds, and gave him a feed, after which he swam ashore; but every day during the Undaunted's stay in port Jack was to be found at the ship's surgery, to see if his wound was progressing favourably, and to get his feed, after which he would again swim ashore. Yesterday "Jack" was found by his present master, Mr. Harley, 1st class P.O., H.M.S. Narcissus, with a severe wound in the back, evidently done by some inhuman wretch with a knife. The wound was stitched up, the dog bearing the operation with great fortitude, and it is hoped that a speedy with great fortitude, and it is hoped that a speedy cure will result. We understand it is Mr. Hartey's intention to take Jack to England at the end of his commission. The author of this dastardly outrage on a quiet and inoffensive animal has not been discovered.

The following appears in the N.-C. Daily News of Feb. 26th:—

Under the heading "A Little Tin God," the Echo de Chine of yesterday disgraces itself by making a savage attack, stuffed with falsebooks, off Mr. C. W. Kinder, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Imperial Railways of North China. The trouble is this. The Echo tells us that: "It is known that the Hanyang Ironworks, under the able direction of two Belgian engineers, Messas. Ruppert and Bougnet, make to-day excellent rails, comparable with the best made in Europe." These rails have been passed by two imperial authorities, a French engineer and a German engineer, but Mr. Kinder submitted them to a test under which they broke like glass; and Mr. Kinder has had the audacity to suggest that in such matters H.E. Sheng should take the advice of a capable expert. This is too much for our contemporary, which Under the heading "A Little Tin God," Slieng should take the advice of a capable expect. This is too much for our contemporary, which gravely tells its readers that: "Mr. Rinder belongs to a missionary family, and we believe that at one time he followed this profession. Animated with a very natural desire to escape from the despised caste, he made his dibut in lay life as a time-keeper or clerk of the works on a Japanese sailway. Thence he came to China, where his career was brilliant and rapid—int undenbtedly fess so than that of the lossion fort publish wan who was was billiant and rapid—int uncontribedly less so than that of the lossing ferry bost man who was shot into the position of Admiral during the war of 1895. Clima being the kingdom of the blind, this one-eyed wretch?" (Mr. Kinder) "exercised for a long time in the little domain in which he was installed an absolute and incontested empire." Later on the Echo suggests that in consideration of his age and services, Mr. Kinder should be offered an honourable retirement as keeper of a level crossing. And it is in that capacity that the Echo recommends him to the Director of the new

line from Hankow to Peking, Mr. Hubert, It would seem that there must have been something very wrong with those rails for their con-demonation by Mr. Korder to call forth such a tissue thing very wring with those tails in the demination by Mr. Koder to call forth such a tissue of vulgar abuse. We have not quoted half of it. As a matter of fact, Mr. Kinder is the son of Major Kinder, who was Director of the Japanese Mint. He learnt his profession as an engineer in barge works in England and Russia, then came out to Japan, where he was employed under Mr. Bayle (of Arrah fame) on the first rathways built in Japan. He came to China about twenty years ago, and is responsible for all the existing railways in China, all of which are working profitably. But the speculative gentlemen who are explorted H. E. A. Onderdonk cleared 5 feet 6 inches from Digitized by

Sheng object to him apparently because he does his work well and honestly, and does not waste his time in talking about the big things he is going

It may perhaps be mentioned that the Hanyang rails, equal as, we are assured, they are to the best European manufacture, are not used for the Woo-

oung railway.
Our Shanghai contemporary might have plained that Major Kinder was originally Director of the Mint in Hongkong. The Beho de Chine has certainly established a claim to notoriety for villainous and unscrupulous falsehoods.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

# LEWIS CARROLL'S WORKS.

To the Editor of the " Japan Mail."

SIR.—There is an important omission in your bibliographical paragraph on Lewis Carroll, viz: "Sylvie and Bruno" and, "Sylvie and Bruno, concluded," the latter perhaps better known as "More Sylvie and Bruno," These were written, I believe, after "Alice in Wonderland," and before "Though the Looking glass."

H. T. S. Yours truly, February 28th, 1898.

#### YOKOHAMA CRICKET AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Yokobama Cricket and Athletic Club was held on Riday aftermon at Kell's Building, Mr. J. P. Mollison presiding over a small attendance.

#### THE REPORT

The report stated that, notwithstanding a debit balance of year 669,82, brought forward from last season, the Club had now to its credit a sum of

yen 764 04.
The amount subscribed towards the new Pavil-lion did not meet much more than half its cost, but the Committee were hopeful that the present sur-plus, together with the estimated Credit Balance at the end of 1898, would fully make up the

phis, together with the estimated view the deficiency.

In cricket the Club, with the exception of the first two matches against H.M.'s Fleet, won all its engagements. The defeat sustained last season against Robe was fully atoned for, the Kobe XI, being besten decisively by an innings and 43 times. In batting, F. E. White was top of the har with an average of 57.30, R. B. S. Edwards being second with 37.82; C. M. Duff third with 33.89 Centuries were scored twice by F. E. White, viz:—106 not out v. H.M.S. "Grafton" and Visitors, and 135 not out against Kohe, and one by E. B. S. Edwards, against H. M. S. "Daphne" and "Redpole," viz:—131. First place in bowling was taken by E. B. S. Edwards, with an average of 4.76 ritis per wicket; F. B. White, coming next with 7.74 ritis per wicket. The hast-tick was accomplished twice by E. B. S. Edwards, twice by F. E. White, and once by A. Kingdon.

In baseball, ten games had been played, of

In baseball, ten games had been played, which number the Club had won seven. The fi which number the Club had won seven. The flist interport matches on the home grounds were played this year, and the Y. C. & A. C. were fortunate in winning the series, thereby offsetting the advantage gained by the sister port the previous year. A quantity of new baseball material had been added to the Club propery, and everything was in good condition to begin another prosperous season. The thanks of the Club were due to Mr. Cecilians, who had sery kindly presented a

Guinness, who had very kindly presented a become to be held by the winning team in future interport matches.

The Athletic Sports held on the 24th of April were a record meeting, and, it is believed, the first supporting one.

self supporting one.

The ground was crowded, as shown by the gate money and sale of programmes, the amount realized in this way being yen 22560. This sum, together with the entrance fees, totalled yen 328.10, and after paying all expenses, including 2nd prizes, yen 16641 was carried forward to the credit of the Y. C. & A. C. With one exception (the sack race) all first prizes were presented, and the Club's thanks were due to the German Consul for two prizes from the Consular Body; the Reliance Wheelmen; Messis, Blad, Isaacs, Coghill Jackson and Dare, t prize each; the Tea men for the "T" Cup; the Silk men for the Silknen's Cup; the Banks for the Banker's Cup, the Nippon

scratch. D. Tyng receiving 3 inches tied with Mr. Onderdonk, but in a sportsmanlike manner contented himself with second prize.

In lawn tennis the only match played was the "Single I limit Handicap," there heing 15 entries, and the Cup was won by Mr. H. Bent after a good finish with Mr. Pinckney. The grounds were well used during the season by both Mr. Inches, and Visiting Members.

Somewhat contrary to the expectations entertained by the Committee during 1895 and 1896, the Cricket-pitch, under careful supervision, and liberal manipulation with dressings of oil cake during last Spring, revived in a most wonderful manner, so much so that during the Interport Week in October, it was found practicable to discard the coccanut matting on which most of the matches had been played throughout the earlier months of the season, and use the turf, to the great satisfaction of the opposing teams. Its condition was now most promising, and under the same treatment, the members of Committee are sanguine that further improvement may be looked for. The outer portions of the turf are heing attended to in the seme way.

Accounts.

ACCOUNTS.

#### RECEIPTS. Yen. Yen. 1898, Jan. 31. To Entrance Fees 535 00 " Subscription and half of 55.00 1,326,00 1.374.00 and Fleets 219 00 3,596.00 Athletic Sports :-Entrance fees and money. 328.10 Enterrainment Account :

	Interport Fontball 270.00  Cricket & Baseball 861.95	1,137.95
	, Lawn Tennis Handicap :	
ľ	Entrance fees	15 00
	Hire of Cricket Tent	5 00
	interest on Account	8 04
1		5,090.00
	1898. Feb. 1,	
	To Balance brought forward.,	764.04
	EXPENDITURE.	Yen.
	Feb. 1, 1807.	
	By Balance brought forward	669 82
	Jan. 31, 1898.	
	By Working Expenses:	
	Wages, Weeding, Mowing	
,	and Manuring Ground	
	and Sundiles	1,413 01
	, Match Expenses	59.40
	" Gear Account:	
	Prichase of Cricket, Base-	
i	hall, Football and Laws	
	Tennis Gear	326 30
	Fire Lusurance	21.70
F	, Athletic Sports :	•
1	Dines fro	216.60

246 69 349.10 ball..... 911.75 1,260 85 328.22

764.04 5,000.00

Examined with vonchers and found correct.

W. G. Macvican Anditors.
E. J. Bishor
F. E. Whith, Hon. Treasurer.

#### THE NEW PAVILION.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the adoption of the report, said it was of a satisfact my character and full of encouragement for the future. There had been 50 new members during the year, and the member ship list now included 250 names. He had received a letter from Mr. Gardiner, the architect received a letter from hir, Caronier, one of the new pavilion, to the effect that unless any unforeseen accident occurred the building would mobably be completed by the 15th April, Ar any probably be completed by the 15th April, Ar any rate he (the Chairman) thought they might safely depend on it being in readiness for the opening of the season on the 1st May. Unfortunately it was going to cost more money than he (the Chairman) had calculated last year, but every one knew to what an extent the price of building and building material had risen since, and would understand and sympath Grigith Alift Committee's position. The

balance for 1898 promised to be large enough to re-lieve them of the apprehension of difficulty ahead, but at the same time they would be glad to receive subscriptions from those who had not aheady contributed, and he also hoped that organises of concerts and amusements would bear the Pavilion Fund-in mind, as it was desirable that as little money as possible should be taken from the general funds for this purpose.

Mr. Stons seconded the motion for the adoption

of the report, and it was carried.

## ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

#### THROUGH UPPER BURMA AND WESTERN CHINA.

On Wednesday afternoon a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Parish Hall, Tokyo, for the ourpose of hearing an adverse from Mr. John Foster Fraser describing his recent journey through Burma and China. Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., British Minister, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members of the Society.

Sir Ernest Satow at once called upon the transfer to delive his address.

traveller to deliver his address.

#### PIVE MONTHS IN WILDEST CHINA

Mr. FRASER, in the course of his speech said : To be asked to address the members of so learned a body as the Asiatic Society of Japan is an homous of which the worthiest of men might be prend of which the worthiest of men might be proud. But I stand before you this afternoon with absolutely no claim on your attention. Indeed, the fact that I have travelled through several little known constrice upon a bicycle, instead of astride a horse, a sufficient, I think, to make the wise pause and ask "What kind of eccentric person is this and what can be possibly know and tell us about topography and tribes and trade and other things that are dull?" So I confess that the little halo of athletic glory—which even a modest man like myself is constring of his policied to be a hindrance self is conscious of—is inclined to be a hindrance rather than a help on such an occasion as the preneut. And yet it was as a cyclist that I passed through the countries of which I am going to speak. Accompanied by two others I went through the with a knowledge of only two words of Burmaese, and after a five months' journey right across China, my acquaintance with the Celestial toughe did not an hervand halfastory sentences. With did not go heyond half-a-dozen sentences. With the exception of an aneroid and a compass we carried no instruments. The facts I gathered on the way were those merely of observation and from conversations with men who know more or less of the country. Therefore at the outset let me disclaim any idea of posing as an authority. It was as a sightseer and not as an expert that I travelled

#### THROUGH BURMA FROM RANGOON

and over China to Shanghai, and what I have to say are the casual impressions gathered haphazard in strange lands and the inferences I draw will be little more than those of the often quoted and not very much appreciated "man in the street." Now we were exceedingly infortunate in starting our journey through Burma at the commencement of the rainy season in June of last year. It would have been easy enough to be whisked us to Mandalay within twenty-four hours by train. But following tainy season in June of last year. It would have been easy enough to be whisked us to Mandalay within twenty-four hours by train. But following our affected regard for discomfort, hardships, and bad lood we travelled the distance on our wheels. There were little else than tracks through the imagles—jungles of tremendous bamboo and awill silence, a silence that impressed me greatly, for never did I hear the song or even the chirrup of a single bird. We were drenched to the skin and for a full week we slept in our sodden clothes. We preferred that to uncomfortable squerzing into clammy, damp garments. We lived on native Burmese food, slept in the rickety native buts, and were driven to frenzy and strong language by the hoats of masquitos that attacked us. Naturally we had as good an opportunity of studying the Burmese as any visitor to the country could have; and now and then meeting British Government officials we were able to hold interpreted conversations with the natives. The Burman struck me as an amiable, intives. The Burman struck me as an amiable, m-dolent, exceedingly conceited person. Favoured by nature and living on a soil that requires little tilling, he grows two and often three crops of rice in a year. He has little to do but make merry. He is improvident. However rich a harvest he may have, the money is soon squandered. The Madras

## MONEY LENDER IS ALWAYS READY

to assist, and I am only repeating what I heard from dozens of people when I say there is hardly a form ozens of people when a say nerve is naturally a poule over the mountains of vinitan-sen and then, farm in Burma that is not mortgaged to its ulmost striking in a north-easterly direction towards the on the female side. It however, he refuses extent. To get money the Burman will sell next province of Szechnen, get to the great city of in many his constitution than the minist pay a fine to season's rice crop at a richeslously low price. In Chung king for and then, keeping more or basic of the female side. It has been then he must pay a fine to Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

deed, in the interior I met several English gamblers in rice, staking their money against the Burman's harvests. The Burman is yearly becoming poorer uniform the Butman is yearly becoming poorer and poorer; his lands are slipping from him. Utterly lacking in patriotism, he acquiesces quite cheerfully to British rule; feeble in business capacity, he is pushed aside by the Chinese merchant; the Bongalee by superior intellectual power outs him from the Government posts, and the Madrasce labourer has to be imported for the haiding of calimans and alternations. building of railways and other public works. With the constant intermarriages between the Burmess and the natives of India and the tribes that hang about the westernand northern borders, and also about the westernand northern borders, and also the Chinese who are yearly settling in large numbers, they, as a people, are doomed. Burma itself is a great acquisition to the British empire. Its teak forests yield an enormous revenue, several fine petrolrum springs have been tapped; there is coal, though of an inferior quality, and gold and ruby mines are being worked, though not very lucratively. Burma is one of those

LANDS THAT ARE FULL OF INFINITE POSSIBILITIES and it only requires a few particularly lucky finds in rubies and the striking of a good lode of gold for it to, at oucr, become the happy hunting ground of the to, at our, become the happy hunting ground of the speculator and the company promoter. Burma at the present day is in a state of transition, and although while we plodded on through the jungle from village to village we saw the Burman in his natural state, in Mandalay—altogether a modern city with boad streets, a sailway station, cabs and bicycles, and where the British soldiers have little to do save make love to the Birmese girls and die of fever—in Mandalay he is struggling not very successfully into the garb of civilization. Pushing not the form Mandalay we gradually left behind a country inhabited by Burmans, and came to a region where the population was largely Shan. The Shans are a quiet, inoffensive people devoted The Shans are a quiet, inoffensive people devoted to agriculture. They are short in statute, suddy-cheeked, and inclined to be fat. I rather think cheeked, and inclined to be fat. I rather think they are the aborigines of Burma, but the fighting, bragging Burmese, coming evidently from the Malay Pennsula, drove the Shaos, who are really a plain-loving people, into the hills, and then in Upper-Burma, the Kachins—a fierce and them in Upper-Burma, the Kachins—a fierce and washike race of whom? I will have to speak presently—who arm bill-dwellers, drove them down again, so that, until the British came along, and put the district under what is practically military law the Shans were very much cally military law the Shans were very much

BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP SEA and through large tracks of the Irrawaddy Valley they came near extinction. Our route did not lead through the Shan States. Yet along our way to through the Shan States. Yet along our way to the Chinese frontier and in China itself, right up to the Mekong River, we were constantly passing through Shan villages. By the time we reached Bhano, the frontier military post in Upper Burma, we were in a sort of ethnological museum. There were Burmans and Stans, Karens and Chins, and especially Kachins. The only parallel I know is in the Cancasus Mountains, where there are distinct tithes innumerable, and where sixty-eight languages are spoken. Just as in the Cancasus, which in the old days were regarded as marking the end of the world, and where in the dark recesses of the hills there grew up separate caces, so in the stretch of mountains that wind in a semicircle round western China there are, one might say, a hundred races with individual might say, a hundled races with individual characteristics and curious customs, a race and delightfully interesting field for explorers yet to come. One can readily appreciate how it is that lofty, almost unscalable mountains divide a great race. But it would be interesting to know why it is that among mountains there are

#### ALWAYS A VARIATY OF RACES,

whereas the plains, as a rule, have only one race. What I may call a cursory theory is that these people are not aborigines—that, although settled now, they are the descendants of mignatory tribes who have been checked in their wanderings by these walls of mountains. It was at Bhamo we came into first touch with the Kachinas, a race who set their villages in the highest fastnesses and who ever since the amexation have been a thorn in the side of the British rule in Burma. It is owing to the Kachins that the demacration of boundaries has been so difficult. The summit of a range of mountains is generally The summit of a range of mountains is generally acknowledged to form the best boundary line, but on the Bunna-Chinese frontier the valleys were used as the line, because on the hills it would have sun through Kachin villages and all kinds of trouble would have ensued. At Bhamo we made our final arrangements for plunging into western China. It was one intention to follow the caravan route over the mountains of Yunnan-sen and then, striking it a noulteesstelly direction towards the

the valley of the Yang-tse river, work our way down to Shanghai. Our project I may candidly con-less, was regarded by the authorities at Bhaine as

#### RATHER WORSE THAN RECKLESS.

RATHER WORSE THAN RECKLESS.
The rainy season was just then at its worst, reports were coming in of whole districts being flooded, the valleys of the Shewli, the Salween, and the Mekong rivers were death-traps from fever, and we might have trouble from the border tribes. However, we determined that come what might we would risk it. We had no passports to enter China, but under the Pekin Convention of last year passports were to be granted by the Chinese at the frontier when application was made by the Bittist authorities. We begranted by the Chinese at the frontier when application was made by the B it itsil authorities. We became armed with this application, we manufactured Chinese names for ourselves, had large visiting cards of red paper prepared and stuck a couple of bottles of quinine in our bags. In apparel all was one change of underclothing. And that was our equipment of care Chinese.

that was our equipment III cross China.

The start I can assure you was discouraging. About four miles of the way between Bhamo and the frontier was moder water. The military authorities lent us ponies to get over this bad piece. But the flood was too deep for ponies and that idea was abandoned. Then the authorities lent us two dephants. However, fourteen feet of water was found in places and they had to return. So for a vesk we were

#### BALKED IN OUR EMDRAYOURS

to proceed. At lest we took to a Kachin boat and went round by the Taeping civer to Myothit, a distance of only twenty miles, but so strong was the current that it took three days for us to get there. We strock right into the hills, along a narrow, We struck right into the hills, along a narrow, ingged path, up steep, slippery rocks and through thick lorest. It was raining heavily. When the sim came out the air was hot and sickly. We were now in Kachindom and among the Kachins, who by their curious and silent jungle warfare have made many a British column pause, though the fact doesn't always get into the newspapers at home. When we met these half maked tribesneer: sinister looking, with matted hair, and men; sinister looking, with matted hair, and their hodies, especially their thighs, deeply tatoned, then bootes, especially then thights, weeply satured, every one of them carrying a dah—a short sword or a spear, we did not perhaps feel particularly comfortable. The Kachin is a little man, rarely above 5 it 4 ia. He is will y tather than muscular. Though there is not a distinct type of countenance, as a rule the Kachin has a longish face with high cheek bones, his eyes are oblique and his skin a dirty brown. The Kachins, according to Mr. George, who was formerly Deputy Commissioner at Bhamo, originally came from the south of the Gobi Desert. That there is

#### NOT A UNIFORM TYPE OF KACHIN

is met by the theory that in successive waves of migration they engulfed the small aboriginal ribes, though it is certain they never mixed with the Shans. They have no knowledge of writing and although on charm posts outside their villages I have seen crude drawings they do not have drawings for the conveyance of ideas. Their methods of agriculture are most primitive and the Perest Officers are most primitive and the Perest Officers are most primitive and the Perest Officers are most primitive and the property of the same and hillside and fell the jungle about March. When it is thoroughly dry they fire it in June. The ground is turned over with a hoe, the ashes mixing with the soil, the grain is thrown downingfly and then left to take care of itself till October when the crop is reaped. This method of agriculture prevents the same area being cropped two years running; indeed it has to lie fallow for from five to ten years. agriculture prevents the same area being cropped two years running; indeed it has to lie lallow for from five to ten years. There are customs among the Kachin tribes that are peculiar. At the birth of a child always two great tankards of native drink are prepared. The hiends drink of one tankard until the child is born and then the second is litted up and some one exclaims, "This child's name is "N Kam" and the drink is immediately swallowed as a preventive, in some way, to the evil spinits giving another name. And among the Kachins all the personal names are fixed. The first son is always called 'N-Kam, the second is always, 'N-Nawng, the third always 'N-La, the finith 'N-Tu and so on. In the same way the girls are called 'N-Kaw, 'N-Lu, 'N-Roi and the like. The sunnames are such as Paw-Sa, Chumlut, Lahang, Mi Tun, and sunnames always precede the personal name so that in the case of a family called Paw-Sa the eldest son's name is Paw-Sa 'N Kam. People of the same name, though belonging to different tribes, always consider themselves of like blood and therefore never marry. It is a general rule that a man should marry. It is a general cule that a man should

MARRY & FIRST COUSIN

sists chiefly in an exchange of presents and a feast at which the bride and bridegroom feed one another with rice. Personally I never saw such ngly creatures in the world as the Kachin women. They are stanted and awkward limbed; their hair in always matted and hangs over their foreleads; their faces are flat with means these. in always matted and hangs over their torcheads; their faces are flat with uneven usees. The Kachins are even dirtier than the Chinese and that is saying a good deal. Twice we slept in Kachin luts. These were interesting occasions though twice is quite sufficient for a lifetime. All the houses were built on the same plan. They were obloug, of lamboo and thatch and raised some two or three test for a lifetime. bamboo and thater and raised some the term the ground. Some of the houses were of enormous size, nearly a hundred feet in length and may be thirty feet wide, but whether large or small the internal arrangement was siways the same. the internal arrangement was always the same. The door was at one end and on the immediate right was a general room, where we slept. Next to it was the room occupied by the eldest son and his wife, next to them was the room occupied by the girls and then at the end was the one occupied by the head of the household and his wife. On the other side of the house was a room where the sons slept and a long room, into which the others opened, where anybody slept. Of course we knew nothing of the Karbin language and at night when we got into a Kachin language and at night when we got into a Kachin village we

HAD TO TALK BY SIGNS

Our tule was to walk straight into the biggest house in the village and at once make a present of a rupee to the woman in charge. The places were vitely dirty and as there were no windows and as the wood that was burnt was damp we choked with the amoke and our eyes ached. We generally got the natives to give us some of their rice; we had no difficulty in securing eggs and sometimes we killed a lowl. We had to do our own cooking, and yery indigestible was frequently the result. Now killed a lowl. We had to do our own cooking, and very indigestible was frequently the result. Now and then we found cobs of maize and the long wretched evenings were spent in grilling these in the ashes. I need bardly say that we did not take off our clothes. I used my boots and a volume of Shakespeare as a pillow, threw my jacket over my feet to keep them warm, lay a towel across my face to resist, in some small way, the onslaughts of the mosquitoes and then sticking my hands in my pockets tried to sleep on the ribbed bamboos that formed the floor. In those days we layed very readily into days we lapsed very readily into

A DELIGHTFUL CONDITION OF BARBARITY. Next to being scrupulously clean it is a real jny to be unscrupulously dirty. For days we went unwashed, unshaven and uncombed ; indeed none of us shaved mushaven and uncombed sindeed none of its shaved-from the time we left. Bhamo till Shanghai was reached, a period of over five mouths. Progress was slow, for cycling was out of the question. There is a good deal of the goat in the composi-tion of the Kachin and he never skirts a bill if he can climb over it. The paths were narrow and fearfully steep, the jungle was dense and the air palpitated with the roar of insects. Each day was palpitated with the near of insects. Each day was like the preceding in hard climbing. But a constant joy to us was the dazzling, bewildering beauty of the interflies we saw. In no museum have I ever seen such gorgeousness, such exquisite loveliness of tint. Frequently the outstretched wings were as large as two open hands. And the colours—such striking vermilions, such soft toned greys, a mingling of blues and greens, like shot silk, splotches of blood sed on a wing that was like black velvet, the body of the wing sometimes of rich emerald and the fringe of orange and carmine—never have I seen such mat vellous loveliness of insect life as in those wild border regions between Burma and Chims.

We always knew when we were approaching a Kachin village by the rude carved wooden designs by the path side and the singularly made festoors that lung overhead. These

larly made festoons that hung overhead. These were to keep off

TER VICIOUS PORIST NAT called Chitôn, But nats in Kachindon are without called Chitôn. But nats in Kachindom are without number. Every accident or sicknessis ascilled to some malignant nat, and every hill, forest and stream has its spirit. The Kachins have no knowledge of the cause of death. They have no idea of a future existence. Their nats are nearly all vindictive and have to be propitiated by the sacrifice of pigs or buffaloes or fowls. When the animal is killed parts of the thigh and shoulder are cut off, boiled, wrapped up in little packets of leaves, then hing on the bamboo shine and the nat is asked to accept the offening and be appeased. leaves, then long on the bamboosti me and the natis asked to accept the offsing and be appeased. At the entrance to every village we saw sometimes half a dozen, sometimes twenty of these shrines. No house is built, no marriage contracted, no journey undertaken, without consulting the nats. The will of the nats is obtained through a mi-tway, or supposed in spiced divines, when in a state of temporary research. build the last is obtained through a mixture of spanish in spired diviner, when in a state of temporary frenzy. When a youth shows signs of be changing, but frequently more were deducted and the spirit world—the signs generally a number of spurious coins were intro-land where no Chinamas will pass the night,

to my idea being generally a touch of insanity—his powers are tested by ordeal. A ladder is prepared, the steps consisting of swords with the sharp edges upwards, and this ladder is reared against a platform set with spikes. The youth must go up the ladder barefooted and

#### SIT ON THE SPIKES.

If he shows no signs of inconvenience and then comes down the ladder again, having received no marks of injury, he is accepted as a true diviner. Naturally the Kachins are superstitious. A snake or a wild cat crossing the path is a fatal sign and a journey is at once abandoned. The crossing of the path by deer or thinoceros is accepted as a good portent. Also they believe in witchcraft. If good portent. Also they believe in witchcraft, It a man has been bewitched he generally employs a mi-tway to start some counter-bewitching. Sometimes, however, he shoots his bewitcher from behind a tree. They believe in the evil-eye. A dying man always knows who has looked upon him with the evil-eye and he leaves to his family the settling of the "debt." Mr. George, of Bhamo, had to deal, a year or two ago, with one of these cases. C, the brother of A and B, happened to die of fever, and before dying declared D had bewitched him, Within a fortnight A and B collected a following, stacked D's house, shot him dead, and, contin-Within a fortnight A and B collected a following, attacked D's house, shot him dead, and, captining the whole of his household and relations, 13 in all, sold them into slavery. Even on trial A and B would not admit the possibility of C having made a mistake and were scandalised that the British Government should interfere on behalf of a wizard. The Kachins are fond of raiding and war. The Government of Burma, as I have already remarked, have endless trouble with them, and nearly every cold weather a column is out administering chastisement to some tribe that has administering chastisement to some tribe that has

Well, we passed through the Kachins that live on the borders of Burma-Chins, but never were we molested. They were

#### SULLEN AND SCOWLING,

SULLEN AND SCOWLING,
but this was their natural condition, and whenever we encountered a body of them on the narrow jungle paths they invariably made room for us. With the exception of their villations countenances and the dah, always carried by their side, we saw nothing to suggest they were raiders. Not till we got well over the border on the Chinese side and then we saw the Shan and Chinese villages were protected by stockades. These villages were protected by stockades. These villages were on rising ground and the jungle in the vicinity was cleated. First around the village was a heavy barrier of tree trunks, with a pit, crossed by a drawbridge, near the entrance. Outside the barrier of trees was another barrier of thick bambuos. Theo, where the inclined ground reached the level, were long, sharpened lamboo spears at three angles just as soldiers fix bayoness ready to receive cavalry. But within a day m two's journey these protected villages had ceased and the villages were ordinary Chinese-Shan collections of miserable lints. All the time it was aiming heavily; much of the way was under water, and frequently we had to wade long distances; with the fl. od above our knees. One night, being overtaken by darkness, we lay down to sleep under a foul shed open at the sides and were glad to get some Chinese mule-drivers, who were camping there, to give us some of their broth. As you know some Chinese mule-drivers, who were camping there, to give as some of their broth. As you know

#### NO PIXED CURRENCY IN CHINA

and we had consequent bother with our money matand we and consequent outer with our money maters. The super was serviceable through Manwyn as far as Teng-yuch or Momein, as it is called on some maps. At Teng-yuch we exchanged our supers for little pieces of silver of various weights. These pieces of silver we sold by weight in the towns we passed through, getting Chinese cash in exchange. Silver itself it heavy, but it is a perfect faither, weight compared with cub. exchange. Solver itself it heavy, but it is a perfect feather-weight compared with cash. Nearly four hundred of these go to the value of a shilling, and half a crown value of cash weighs just \$1\$ lbs. Once when we set off over the hills to do a long stretch, where there were no towns, we had to hire a coole to carry our money for us. At Bhamo we had deposited a large sum with a Chinese-merchant and he gave us a draft on another merchant at Tali. At Tali we got enough silver to take us to Yunnan, carrying another draft from the Tali merchant to still another merchant in Yunnan, and so we kept on to Suifu, ther drait from the Tall merchant to still another merchant in Vinnan, and so we kept on to Sulfu, to Chung king-fn, to Ichang, and to Hankow, where we got into the region of the dollar. Of course we lost tremendously changing our lump silver into cash, for the silver in different districts was of different quality. The money changers always declared our silver was inferior to the local silver, and their scales never tallied with ours. Then a hundred cash was never too cash. The custom is to deduct four out of every hundred for

duced which it was impossible to get hid of. sides in different districts the hundred varied. Outsides in different districts the hundred varied. Outside the gates of Yunnau-sen it was 96; inside the city the hundred was only sixty-lour. Then once we got into a region where

#### ALL THE COINAGE WAS SPURIOUS

and the hundred leapt up to 320. Every town had its own rate of exchange for the tach. The confusion was annoying. It was just the same in trying to measure distance. It might be ten it — a little over three miles—from A to B, but from B to A it was only seven li. Sometimes we would have a day's march of go li, and when we thought it was a long distance to climb over the hills we would be told "Oh, but they are only short li" or may be we would have only 60 it to do in a day, and we would hear they were long li. So we found often that sixty ti and ninety li were about the same distance. Thus, ti and ninety li were about the same distance. Thus, in a rather a confused state of mind we reached Teng-yueh. Here we were to be furnished with passports by the Chinese authorities and we immediately presented at the Yamen our documents from the British authorities at Bliamo. Staying in a draughty loft of a reaking foul Chinese ion, the air thick with the odours of a cesspool close by, we waited patiently for eight days to be furnished with these passports. When we got the telegraph master, who knew a few words of English, to accompany us to the Yamen we found the telegraph master, who knew a few words of English, to accompany us to the Yamen we found that nothing had been done. The Mandatin did not understand the documents in Chinese we had brought with us, and very laboriously we had to explain what their contents were and what were the provisions of the Pekin Convention of 1897. The Mandarin knew nothing about it and when he was told that a British consul would soon be setting at Teng-yuch he almost had a fit. The new spread rapidly—within twenty-four hours it was generally understood in the city that the city that the

BRITISH WERE COMING TO ANNEX YUNEAR.
But still the Mandarin besitated about the passports and it was not till we began to side the high horse, and got angry and told him we would telegraph to Pekin, that we got our passports. They were the most extraordinary passports in the would, large enough to paper an horel bedroom with, but they served our purpose. So after twelve days in Teng-ynch—a wretched twelve days of sickness and lever, with inquisitive dirty Chinese locking their curiosity upon us and those vile smells, "seven and twenty smells, all well defined and genuite stinks"—we got once more under way. A stinks "—we got once more under way. A tatterdemation guard of six soldiers was sent with us, not out of any desire to offer protection but rather as a precaution on the Mandariu's behalf, for he assumed that if anything happened to us he would get into trouble. Hi-therto we had been crawing along the meyen rough way of the valley of the Taeping River. But now we had to cross before reaching Tali-fu a series of enormous mountains maning due north and south with the great rivers of the Shwell, the Salween, and the Mekong,—three of the five great rivers (the others are the Yang tse and the

great tivers (the others are the Yang-tse and the Irrawaddy)—that are born in the wildernesses of Tibet. These hills are among
THE GREAT WALLE OF THE WORLD that have split the human cace in sections. I won't dwell upon the personal hardships on our way to Tall, the wretched food we had to sleep in, or the hostility of the natives at Yung-changfu. But I would like to impress on you what terrible barriers of mountain these are, what a horrible region of desolation and poverty we passed through, what difficulties there are in the way ed through, what difficulties there are in the way of rapid transit. I want to do so because, as you know, there is much airy talk at homesabout "tapping" Yuman, of building a railwa from Mandalay to Talisho, and so draining the wealth of the province into British territo y. Referring to my diarry written during our journey I find that on the day we left Tang-yuch all we travelled was on the day we let a sug-yien an we traveited was thiteen miles, that first we rose 2,000 feet by an exceedingly steep path, and then descended 2,000 feet in the short distance of two and a quarter miles. The next day when we crossed the Shweli river by one of those Chinese suspension bridges that are the marvel of all traveliers it took is five hours to go seven miles and we come to an altitude of the marvet of all traveliers it took us five hours to go seven unles and we rose to an altitude of 7,400 feet. Down we went again and then uphill we climbed through a forest to 8,000 ft. So the way to Yung-chang-fit kept vising and fulling, varying two ar three times a day from four to seven thousand feet. Yung-chang-fit lies in a plain of about fifteen miles by six, a very pleasant plain, famous in that part of China for its fruit. When we reached the Salween, the valley of which is said to be

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we had an almost precipitous drop of from five to two thousand feet. The Salween used to be claimed by the Burmese Kings as the boundary of their territory and it is a thousand pities the British Government did not fix it as the line dividing Burmah and China instead of the predividing Burmah and China instead of the pre-sent erratic, ill-marked line which it is almost impossible to fullow. Another day, when we travalled only thirteen unles, we climbed from an attitude of 3,300 feet to 8,150 and then des-cended to 2,300. The morning we crossed the great Mekong river we full 2,200 feet, rose 1,500 feet and then fell 500 feet. So it was day after day—once we go gut up to 8,350 feet—a land of dreat hiess and dismay. Yet people at home talk and write enthur-

oreachies and dismay.

Yet people at home talk and write enthusiastically of cunning a railway out of Burma to Tali-fu. They look at a small scale map and nothing looks simpler than such a line. Folks think it is a magnificent thing to have obtained a concession from the Chitese Government to have a British railway in the heart of Yunnan. It would be just as magnificent, imy mind, to obtain a concession to run a railway to the maon. I am not daring enough to say that the building of a railway from Burmah to Tali-fu is impossible—nothing saems impossible in engineering—but I do say that the difficulties would be night insurmountable and the cost would be fabulous. But assuming for a minute that a railway into Yunnan is possible—the question arises what has Yunnan to give in the way of minerals or produce? Has it got coal, which would be acceptable, as the Burmese in the way of minerals or produce? Has it got coal, which would be acceptable, as the Burmess coal is poor stuff; could it grow rice in sufficient come is poor sum; come is grow rice in summer quantities to compete with the Burmese rice? Is there a prospect of gold or silver or copper being found is large quanties? In a word of what are you going to "tap" Yunnan? Now there is only one man in this world who can speak with any one man in this world who can speak with any authority upon the resources of Yunnan. That is Capt. Davies of the Intelligence Department, who makes a special study of the Burma-Chinese frontier and who has explored Yunnan on behalf of the Indian Government for the very object of investigating a possible route for a railway and learning what are the resources of the province. It is an open secret that in his report to his Go-It is an open secret that in his report to his covernment he was strongly against any attempt being made to construct a railway. At Mandalay I had long conversations with Captain Davies, because we would be the first to go into the country after it had been declared open to British trade, and I was naturally anxions to gain all the information I possibly could to form some opinion III this really interesting and

#### LITTLE KNOWN PART OF THE WORLD.

Captain Davies told me that the part of Yun-tan likely in trade with Burma includes 40,000 square miles, of which, however, only one-sevensquare intes, of which, however, only one-seven-teenth is plain, and contains a population of between two and three millions. On the route of the sug-gested railway to Tail, that is from the Kundong Ferry by way of Yin-cho, there is very little wood and the coal is extremely poor. The great coa-fields of Yusman lie on the eastern border of the helds of Yushian He on the eastern border of the province, next to Kweichau. But he said there are guld, copper, and lead mines which might be more advantageously worked than they are at present by the Chinese. Yet because there are such minerals there is by no means any evidence that they would be worth working by British subjects. Because gold is known to exist in almost unexplosed accious time completely much normal states the regions some people talk much nonsense about the untald and unknown wealth of those regions. It untold and unknown wealth of those regions. It must be remembered that Chinese will work a mine when the recompense is

#### A MERS PITTANCE,

Because the Chinese get gold out of the mud of the Upper Vang-tee it is not to be supposed that it only requiries loreign capital for gold to be shovelled up. If a Chinese gets four-pence worth of gold out of the Yang-tse mind in a day he is exceedingly well satisfied. Su I hope I may be permitted, with all satisfied. Su I hope I may be permitted, with all diffidence, to atter a warning against the idea that Yuman in extremely lich. As far as can be learnt Yuman is among the poorest of the eighteen provinces. Around Yuman-sen itself I believe there is iron in abundance. But this part of the province and the eastern border where there is coal could never be "tapped" into Burma. If there is to be any "tapping" by rail it is southwards into French territory or possibly northwards towards the Yang-ise valley. What Yuman at present sends inm Burma is gold-leaf—largely used in decorating the Burmese pagodas—a small quantity of silk, hides, horns, hams, paper and fibres. After examining the country carefully the most Capt. Davies could say was—"There seems to be a good cliance of a large trade in ponies, mules, goats, sheep, pigs. large trade in ponies, mules, goats, sheep, pigs, would die for certain."

geese, ducks, chickens and possibly cattle and Much of the land between Tall the buffaloes." The imports into Yunnan from Burma nan was bleached; there was not

in 1896 represented Rs. 1,364,000, of which cotton represented Rs. 1,127,168 and woollen cloth Rs. 45,640. The trade between the two countries would very possibly be increased through the agency of a railway but by no means to such an extent as would pay for building so expensive a line.

com unpatriotic for me to throw my little pail of cold water over what is generally considered a splendid scheme for extending the range of British commerce. And it will seem range of British commerce. And it will seem strange to you that the Indian Government—in the face of their own representative's report antagonistic to a railway—should yet strenusly advocate a railway into Yunnau, not to be built by themselves, but by railway speculators, and that they have actually constructed a line up to the Kunlong Ferry as an incentive. Now may I advance a theory. The province of Yunnau in itself is not worth having and the British Government well know it, but it is next door to tish Government well know it, but it is next door to

THE WEALTHIEST PROVINCE IN THE EMPIRE. that of Szechuen. Szechuen has been well explored by Englishmen and by Frenchmen. Both Britain and France know that it is the plum of the Chinese and France know that it is the plum of the Chinese provinces, that it is population is large and prosperous, that it is especially eich in silk and is full of minerals, especially gold. France is very anxious to reach Szechuen and "tap" it into Tonquin. That is why you so often hear of Franch callway schemes up to Yunnan-sen and beyond. The object of the Indian Government in fostering the idea of a railway out of Bunga into Yunnan is, I am convinced, to checkmate any advance from the direction of Tonquin. It is a race for Szechuen. It so happened to be my fortune not only to journey by the trade route out of Burma to Tali-fu and Yunnan-sen but also by the trade route from Yunnan-sen into Szechuen province to Chung-king-fu and from there, down the valley of the Yang-tse. And it was most clearly apparent, to even a casual traveller like myself, apparent, to even a casual traveller like myself, apparent, to even a casual travener rise myses, that when the day comes, as come it will soon, for Szechuen province to be opened up by foreign capital the communication between that province and the world will be by means of the Yang-tse river,

THE GREAT HIGHWAY OF CENTRAL CHINA. and not by any callways cuming into either French or British territory. And now having run counter to what I know is the general public idea about Yunnan I resume what I have to say about our journeying through Western Chine. China.

I was struck with the woe-begone appearance of the country throughout. There were towns that seemed crumbling to decay and there were hundreds of thomsands of acres of terraced "paddy" fields all bearing silent, gloomy evidence of how the population was reduced to a mere fragment, thirty years or so ago, when the Chinese imperial troops came in to do vengeance for the Mohammedan rebellion. At Tali-lin, a beautifully situated city by the side of a wide and charming lake and backed by a glorious range of mointains 14,000 feet in height—at Tali-fin, which was formerly the seat of power of the Mohammedans, we first saw the Maintagus, one of the few races that struck with the woe-begone appear I was ly the seat of power of the Mohammedans, we first saw the Man-tzus, one of the few races that have all along held themselves more or less independent of Chinese rule. Personally I had some difficulty in differentiating them from the Chinese. Those that were pointed out to me were studier, smaller and clearer skinned than the average Chinese. The women, however, were easily recognised, they diessed differently, had rather good features and they were free from the ugly, uncomfortable distortion of the feet which is supposed to produce exacefulness among the women of to produce gracefulness among the women of China. Later on, during our thirteen days journey to the capital city of Yunnan-ten we came across other people that were quite evidently not Chinese. But most of them seemed diseased, four out of every five women were the

VICTIMS OF GOITES,

and even men and boys were also suffering from this loathsome protuberance. The district is pestilential. I wanted to send letters back into Burma from Tali-fu but Mr. Smith, the missionary there, practically declined to get me a coolie to carry them, because on three occasions he had sent men to Bhamo and two had died by the way. When the telegraph line was being constructed some five or six years ago to connect Tali-fu with Burma sixty men were employed in the work. Of these fifty-six died. The observant Marco Polo, who was this way six centuries ago, wrote "The country is wild and hard of access, hill of great woods and mountains which it is impossible to pass, the air is so impure and unwholesome; and any foreigner attempting it would die for certain." and even men and boys were also suffering from this loathsome protuberance. The district is

of grase and only a few dwarfed and sickly Several times we missed the regular halttrees. Several times we missed the regular late-ing stage and had to stop in the hovels of the peasantry, getting little else to eat but badly cook-ed rice and eggs. Though in the towns we were more or less interfered with and molested by the rabble, the country people were courteous. All the time our clothes were sodden with the wet, we were splashed from head to food with mud, our shoes gave out so that we had to resort to native sandals and our clothes became ragged. We met plenty of people on the way, coolies, carrying enormous burdens. Every coolie was an opinin smoker and at night the little inn rooms recked with unsavoury odours. I had read a good deal about

THE OPIUM SMOKER IN CHINA.

of what a fleshiess wreck he is, how he is hollow-eyed and nerveless, always in tatters, and always beseeching for more opium. There and always beseeching for more opium. There may he such a person but I rather fancy he is a creature of romance. I saw many thousands of opium smokers, hundreds of thousands I might say, during those five months it took in crossing China. There were men who had smoked for thirty years, strong, healthy robust men, who certainly showed no signs of being victims. The coolie class, notorious opium smokers, invariably spent their evenings over the pipe. Yet during the day, without faltering, they would walk from twenty within the faltering, they would walk from twenty within the faltering is 120hs, and this not on our day, but day after day throughout their lives. I am not for one moment defending opium smoking, but I took caraful note by the way and I came to the conclusion that all the talk we hear about the Chinese opium victim is nothing else but gross and wilful exvictim is nothing else but gross and wilful exaggeration. China, we are told, holds out her
hands beseeching that the British Government
should not force Indian opium upon the Chinese.
Of course she does. But this is not to save China from the curse of opism but to prevent the Indian opium competing with the mpium of China. Why, I passed through miles and miles of poppy country, cultivated by the mandarins themselves, and it is well-known that a large part of the income of the Pekin Government is derived from the opium tax. team Government's universities in the opinion tax. In the capital of Yuonen, where we halted for a week—a fine specimen of the never changing western Chinese city—the great triennial examinations had just concluded and the place was full of students. We had several talks with them and they displayed, for students,

#### A REALLY REPRESEING IGNORANCE.

They pool-pooled the idea that China had been defeated by Japan in the recent war.

"We are the great glorious Middle Kingdom, so how could we be defeated?" was their method of arguing. They inquired whether in England there was a sin like the one in China, and whether there were trees and rivers? They and whether there were trees and rivers? They believed that foreigners have a hule through their chests, through which a bambeo pole could be stuck and the foreigner be carried by coolies. When we said we also had examinations in our country they replied that some of their great Chincountry they replied that some of their great Chinese scholars must have been in England to show us the way. They were interested in our bicycles and admitted that the foreigner was rather clever in mechanics. But it is the Chinese who are the learned people, they said. All the examinations for public appointments are in the sages. If a man shows a good acquaintance with the writings of Confucius and Mencius that proves he is just the person to have the administration of the telegraphs under his control. Constant downpours of rain continued after we had left Yunnan-sen. The inns were dirty, though cheap. The price The inns were dirty, though cheap. The price for a night's lodging was often not more than fifteen cash ahead, about a half-penny. Lunch generally consisted of boiled maize. On one occasion we purchased an eight pound leg of mutton for two-same feathing.

pence farthing.

We began to notice that many of the villages were guarded by high walls and that there were towers of refuge. We were in a regian

#### SUBJECTED TO PERIODICAL RAIDS.

from the Lolos, who live in the hill fastnesses on the coolie to carry them, because on three occasions he had sent men to Bhano and two had lied by the way. When the telegraph line was being constructed some five or six years ago to consect Tali-fu with Burma sixty men were employed in the work. Of these fifty-six died. The observant Marco Polo, who was this way six centralies ago, wrote "The country is wild and hard of ervant Marco Polo, who was this way six centralies, full of great woods and mountains which is impossible to pass, the six is so impure and mountains which the impossible to pass, the six is so impure and mountains which the impossible to pass, the six is so impure and mountains which the mose is arched, the lips thin and the eyes straight. Much of the land between Tali and Yunam was bleached; there was not a blade true Lolo twists his hair much like a unicorn's horn Original from from the Lolos, who live in the bill fastnesses on the

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Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

in front of his head. According to the brilliant-and intrepid Baber, the tribes are continually fighting among themselves; they are not Bud-dhists but make sacrifices to gods of their own; women, not thought much of among the Chinese, may in Lobo-land succeed to be chief of a tribe; they use knives and forks; they have slave hunts and carry Chinese women into their territory. But a Lolo never marries a Chin-ese woman. They are proud of birth and just as "blue blood" among us is the sign of heing high born the Lolo nobles call themselves "black-bones." Those of you who have read Baber will ramember the amusing difficulties he had in secur-ing a copy of a page from a Lolo written book, the in front of his head. According to the brilliant ramember the amusing difficulties no use of securing a copy of a page from a Lolo written book, the writing being quite distinct from the Chinese. That fac-simile is perhaps the only fragment of Lolo caligraphy that has been given to the outsi world. But at Tung-chuan I saw the baby boy world. But at Tung-chian I saw the baby boy of the missionary playing with a written book of quite unfamiliar writing. When I asked the missionary what it was he said, "Oh it is a Lolo book that I bought from a Lolo wizard; some day I will try to find out what it is about." I tried to get possession of that volume, but when I had explained its immense value the missionary decided to keep it himself and ceased to allow it means the property of the floors and continue to the floors and continue to the floors and continue to the floors and the floors and the floors and the floors and the floors and the floors and the floors and the floors are allowed the floors and the floors are allowed to the floors are allowed the floors and the floors are allowed the floors and the floors are allowed the floors are the floors are allowed the floors are the floors and the floors are t be thrown about the floor as a plaything for his child. The Lolos are

#### AN EXCEBDINGLY CURIOUS RACE,

about whom we know practically nothing. Where about whom we know practically nothing. Where they came from no one can say but they themselves have an idea they came from the west. Here, however, is certainly a distinct alien race planted in a corner of China and a splendid opportunity is now offered for somehody to prove they are one of the lost tribes. Striking towards the Yang-tse river we had a masty time. The country was still bare and barren, chill winds swept 'about the mountains, there was desolation everywhere. Carried on the shoulders of coolies it was with the atmost difficulty we got across the turbulent carried on the studieders of cooles it was with the utmost difficulty we got across the tunbulent torrents. For miles the rude path was through sinsh, ankle-deep. Then away up into the monutains we went again, once to an altitude of 9,100 feet. The rural folks assumed little better than savages.

We were glad to get to the town of Chao-tung-fu, though our arrival with bicycles nearly caused a riot. Chao-tung-fu is the darkest nearly caused miot. Chao-tang-fit is the darkest spot in that dark part of China. It is the slave market of western China and nearly all the girls of Chao-tang are sold into slavery. A Chinese only counts the sons as belonging to his family. In Chao-tang if he is too poor to rear his daughters to a selling age

THE INFANTS ARE MURDERED.

THE INVANTS ARE MURDERED.

Mr. Sam Pollard, the missionary there, told me that quite seventy-five per cent, of the daughters born are done to death. Babies from three days of age to three years are pitched over the city walls. They are not, how ever, always killed first. The pariah dogs may often be seen growing the arm of an infant yet alive. Mr. Pollard said it was no infrequent thing to find two or three baby corpses in the course of an afternoon's stroll. As there are no workbouses, the bodies of the poor are also thrown outside the city. The wolves and the also thrown outside the city. The wolves and the hygenes come down in the night, and when day hyænas come down in the night, and when day breaks there is no trace left of the unfortunate dead. Good Samaritanism is a thing not practised in Chao-ting. Should a man fall sick by the roadside, no one brings the oit and the twopence to succour bim. If he dies in your house the authorities put you to the expense of burying him. Therefore, the best thing to do is to leave him and let the wild animals do their work. Chao-tung is indeed indeed

## NOTORIOUS FOR ITS INBUMANITY.

The punishments inflicted for crime are horribly

ordinary drudge of a girl is sold for about five shillings. A pretty, healthy girl of sixteen years will, maybe, felch a couple of pounds, ravely more. All round Chao-tung lies abundance of silver, cop-All found Chao-ting lies abinidance of silver, cop-per, coal, and iron. But the Chinese have very primitive ways of getting the minerals. They admit foreigners are the best at that kind of thing because they have the power of seeing under-ground. Some years ago two Japanese came to the city

#### EXPLORING FOR SILVER

The authorities wanted to test their powers. They builed some silver ingots an the parade ground. Then they took the Japanese a walk that way. "Is there any silver about here?" they asked. "No," said the Japanese, "this is not the kind of soil in which silver is found." Then the buried metal was produced from under their very feet, amidst the loud hilarity of all Celestial officialdom. Since that time the Chao tung-ese have had a prodigious contempt for foreigners. We were glad to push on from this town. We got into a rugged district where even mules could not travel and all the carriage of goods had to be done by coolies. We skirted the river Hen, finding it first tearing out a subterraneau cavern and ing it first tearing out a subterraneau cavern and then we followed it till it became a big, swollen,

then we followed it till it became a big, swollen, noisy river.

We had a few rough times and discomforts on the way and I think our hearts really leapt for joy that day when the muddy breast of the mighty Yang-tse, that was draining a continent, was suddenly revealed to us and we saw the great junks and heard the melodious song of the carmen. We crossed the Yang-tse and reached the bustling city of Suifu. We were now in Szechsen and at once it was inticeable how much finer a country it was than Yannan. The land was under cultivation, the people were better nurtured, the villages were cleaner. Altogether there was an air of prospecity which forced itself all the more on our attention because we had just left a BLEAK AND INHOSPITABLE REGION.

A BLEAK AND INHOSPITABLE REGION.

So without adventure, but very worn and taitered, we reached Chung-king-fu, the Manchester of Western Chica, situated on a hump of cock at the junction of the Min River and the Yang-tse and the first of the treaty ports we were to visit on our way. Here there are Coosuls representing Britain, France America and Japan, and I date say they have other duties besides marrying missionaries, playing tenuls, and occasionally quarreling about precedence. However, that Chung-king is soon going to be an important city as far as the outer world is concerned there can be no doubt. This is the "tapping" station as far as the unquestionably rich province of Szechnen in concerned. Under realy steamers are permitted to go there, but, as yet, no steamer has as yet faced the dangers of the Yang-tse gorges. However, I believe, than this spring a Japanese steamship company intend to run the risk and as soon as it is found that A BLEAK AND INHOSPITABLE REGION. to tun the risk and as soon as it is found that steamers can safely go through the gorges Szechien will be like a great rich, newly-discovered country thrown open to the traders of the world. At Ching-king-fu western China stops and there for I stop also. I have been unable here in fore I stop also. I have been unable here in Japan, to make any references to books, and what I have told you has been merely scrappy information gathered by the way. As I said at the outset, I do not set up as an authority. My opinions are simply those of a wanderer who has passed through an interesting part of the world and endeavoured to keep his eyes open by the way.

#### SIR R. SATOW ON RACIAL CUSTOMS.

Sir Ernest Satow, in a few comments on the lecture, said he was interested by Mr. Plaser's reference to the costom among the Kachins of disreference to the custom among the Kachins of discovering a mi tway by making him climb up a
ladder of swords and sit upon a row of spikes. It
was a very curtons fact, which they were perhaps
all familiar with, that this was also a practice constantly used in Japan by jugglers. It was a very
favorite theory of ethnologists that when one found
very similar practices m inventions in two
different parts of the world it printed to the prohability that these two propoles must have had con-

reminded Professor Tyler, who was rather liberal in religious matters, on the result of his labours of comparison being largely to prove the common origin and homogeneity of the human race. Again, everyone was familiar with the Japanese footgear. Well, almost precisely the same kind of since was used by people in the North of Siam, and people in Western China, and yet there was no reason to suppose that there had been an importation of the fashion by the Japanese from the Chinese. The same sort of footgear was also seen in the Malay Peninsula. With regard to the lecture he had to thank Mr. Praser, on behalf of the Society, for a most interesting and, he must say, a most learned address. It would be read with great interest not reminded Professor Tyler, who was rather liberal address. It would be read with great interest not only in Japan but at home and specially by those interested in that much talked of but probably never to be accomplished railway between Burmah and Yuesan.

#### THE KOREAN GENTLEMAN.

The calm and composure that environs a Korean The calm and composure that environs a Korean gentleman is one of the mysteries of the Orient. Embarrassed his may be by a thousand debts, and threatened by a hungry wolf at every chink of his mud dwelling, yet the placidity of his life continues mutified. He is a master of composure, which forms the groundwork of other characteristics. From Confucius he has learned to mortify every Proof Confucius he has learned to mortify every natural impulse, and to move as though he acted his part on a stage, where a single misdirected smile or thoughtless turn would upset the greatest piece offrecord. His choicest word is nys or ys. If he but guard ys, he may offend against every command in the Decalogue, and still be the sage or superior man. If he breaks ys, he is covered with confusion and counts himself the vilest of the vile. Vé of course is the eternal fitness of things, the scholar's interpretation of Confucianism. II you

re or course is the electrial interes of times, the scholar's interpretation of Confincianism. If you mention a word in disparagement of yé, the gentleman is frantic, forgets yé altogether for the moment in his efforts at violence.

The Korean speaks respectfully of Mencius as mang, and of Confucius as kong, so that the names coupled together would read mang-kong. This word unfortunately I as another meaning, namely, the croaking of frogs. A Rorean gentleman who had travelled much abroad, and learned foreign languages, came home quite outdone with Korea's ancient civilization, and particularly set against Confucianism. In one of his public addresses to a company of Koreans he made use of the word mang-kong; "Of what benefit," says he, " has Confucius been to Kurea? Those hest versed in his doctrine are the most helpless people we have. They simply sit and coak mang-kong, mang-kong to everything." A scholar who heard him, and whom I know well, left the meeting in a piping fury. "Nothing," says he, "but the knile for a man like that." Yes, morder he would for the sacred name of yé.

sacred name of yé.

Any thing that interferes with the rigid requirements of yé is of course to be avoided, for which reason no gentleman indulges in manual labour, or in fact in labour of any kind. His life consists in a supreme command of coolie service, while the coolie responds nyé or yea to every order. The lighting of his pipe, or the tubbing of the ink on inkstone, must be done for him. Down to the simplest details of life he does nothing. Not even should be scold the coolie, who said he would, but neverthless failed to do what was told him. Consequently the gentleman's hands become soft, and his fingernaits grow long. From constant sitting his fingernaits grow long. From constant sitting his hones seem to disintegrate, and he becomes al-most a mollusk before he passes middle life.

When once they have attained to this physical condition of pulp, they are in a measure immuned The punishments inflicted for crime are horribly barbarons. Not long ago a woman, guilty of infidelity, was strong up by the neck with her nest just touching the ground. There she hung tild death closed her misery. A more dever was confired an one of the city gates and ted but nails were hammered through his wrists. The wretch tried to shorten through his wrists. The wretch tried to shorten the agony by haltering his head against the woodwork. So the authorities provided a pillow to prevent anything of the kind. It took four days for him to die. But it is for providing the whole of Western China with its slave gills that Chao ting is famously infamous. The majority of the gills saved from a pitching over the city wall are kept of the business who make a large profit by taking up groups of little girls to Yumanesen. Pour people-who cannot afford the necessary wedding gifls who chaont afford the necessary wedding gifls who cannot necessary wedding gifls who cannot necessary w

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said he was none the worse, though I should cer-tainly have been damaged by such a fall.

Not all the gentry by any means are scholars, though they ought to be if they would come up to the standard of Confucian requirement. Those who have attained to this are marked and honored who have attained to this are masked and honored men. They are all but worshipped by the mass of the people, are given the freedom of every city in the kingdom, and are admitted as distinguished guests to the presence of the highest, free of pass. Chieses characters seem in have for this few a consuming fascination. Not so much the thought conveyed, as the character itself, seems the object of veneration. From them he "builds" (chiral forms of expression and verses, as a child builds enchanted castles from blocks of various sizes, and, as there is no limit to the variations and combinations. as there is no limit to the variations and combine tions possible, so there is no limit to the charm the possess. Two scholars can find sufficient to argue on, to interest one another, from a single character, and as there are in use some 12,000 characters, we might say they have a fund to draw on that will last for a quarter of a century. No attempt is made to write more than original ditties of Anathra Anathra Library and the control of the Anything like an original work in Chin motions. Anything like an original work in Chin-ase would be an attempt to outdo Homer in Greek, presumption unheard of. So the scholar plays his life away with this unending to any of ideographs, that entwines not his neck, but his mind, and heast, and soul.

For the unlettered gentry Chinese has no charm They keep a few learned expressions at their fingers' ends as a sort of bulwark of defence, when fingers' ends as a sort of bulwark of defence, when hard pressed, but as far as possible they avoid the subject. Their life, since shut off from intellectual pleasure, consists in material pleasures, dress, and enjoyment. This class of scholar is exceedingly common in Korea. In immaculate white he emerges from the holes and corners of every mud village. If he is an official of importance he does not age. If he is an official of importance he does not walk alone, but is assisted by the arms on each side. If he ventures by himself, it is with a magnificent stride that clears the street of indifferent passers, and commands only onlookers. In one hand a pipe, these feet long, in the other a fan; over his eyes two immense discs of dark crystal, not to assist him in seeing, but to insure his being seen. How precious these are! Many a man will forego the necessaries of life, if only he can gain a pair of free wire venture.

the necessaries of life, it only he can gain a pair of Kyeng-in crystals, and so cover himself with glory before an onlooking assemblage.

I once offended greatly against ye in an effort to befriend an imprennious gentleman, who had told me of his financial embarrassments. He was me of his financial embarransments. He was wearing at the time a pair of dark crystals, and thinking to make him a present under form of a purchase, I offered him six American dollars for his glasses. He was amazed to think that I should virtually ask them for nothing, for he had paid equal to fifteen, and a bargain they had been at that. This is one of the absurdities of the County and the absurdities of the County and the absurdities of the Orient, where a man pays equal to two or three mouths' entire income for something absolutely worthless. It was on the same principle that Chinese cavalry rode into the battle of Pyeng-

whitness. It was not the same principle that. Chinese cavalry rode into the battle of Pyengyang, with fan and paper simbrella, the servants bringing up the sea with Winchester rifles.

This impecusiosity of the Koraan gentleman is also a profound mystery. I have figured for years on the question as to how an idle man, who has nothing left to-day, shall outlive to-morrow, but he lives dressed just as well, and misses mone of his meals. He will tell you frankly that the last of his hopes for a livelihood have perished, that he is financially a total wreck, that his present condition is one of clinging to the rocks, where he is every moment in danger of the devouring element. You are exercised deeply on his behalf, much more deeply than the man is himself. Months pass and he is still in the same condition, no better, no worse. By way of encouragement I have said, "You have managed to eat and live for this month. Just continue on in the same month. have said, "You have managed to eat and five for this mouth. Just continue on in the same manner and you will do very well." "But and five?" says he, "Of course every dog eats and lives. You would not expect me to be down and die, would you?" and he leaves you in disgust, feeling that the delicate points of an Oriental question can never penetrate the shell that encases the "bat barian" brains.

The fact that tradesmen and husiness people are regarded as low encourages the Korean gentleman to neglect thought and training in this line. He is a varitable child in business. Many line. He is a writishle child in business. Many a foreigner entrusts his affairs to his native teacher and then wonders why they should turn out so unsatisfactory at the hands of a native of the country. It is explained on the ground that a man may be a foreignes and yet be incapable of taking command of a foreign ship. If business must be done, an honest "boy" will quite outdo in executive skild the best and most houest scholar.

Not only in business relations, but in other matters of life the Korean gentleman is a master

of inacuracy. He pretends to be absolutely certain of everything under the sun, and no object ever daunts him, or is beyond his ability to elucidate. The slightest clue gives him a key to the whole. Merely let him see the smoke from the funnel, and the will explain to you the why and wherefore of a steam-engine. He will tell you what a comet's tail is composed of, or what color the dog is that causes the eclipse of the moon. He compares the minor details of life about him with what went on in the days of king San (2255 B. C.) with as much certainty as we would talk of yesterday. The barbarian from the west begins to think what a marvel for information the man is, and what a fund of accurate knowledge for him to acquire, and he a heathen too. It is only when you put his statements to the test that you find he is wrong in everything. By the carest accident he may be eight occasionally but it is the exception and is purely accidental. He has no intention of decrivpurery accidental. He has no intention of deceiv-ing your. The defect lies in the fact that there is something radically wrong in his manner of rea-soning; his premises and conclusions are strangely and of harmony.

ant of naturary.

He has a profound contempt for woman, speaking of her generally as Ke-chip, or female. He takes for wife the one his father bargeins for him, raising on question as to ther looks, health, or avoirdupois. She is a subject altogether becauth bis consideration, as a member of the male sex, with its massive understanding. She is relegated to the inner enclosure, and lives a sectuded life. He refers to her as kosiki (what you-may-call-her) or ken (she) and never loses an occupies in his extensive operations. If the truth were told, however, we would know that the little woman, with delicately tinted skirts, within that woman, who dentately times surely with that enclosure, is by no means the cyplic he pretends her to be, that she is really master, commander, and skipper of the entire institution, and that no man was ever more thoroughly under petticoat government than the same Korean gentleman.

His prime object is to have a son who will sacrifice to his shades, when he is dead and gone. The boy is expected to obey his father implicitly. If he but develop this trait, he may grow up to be quite as useless or more so than his sire and yet be a model son. If no son is born to him, he adopts a model son. If no son is born to nim, ne acopts a nephew or near relative, as the best substitute under the circumstance, but the stranger never wholly takes the place of the real son, who is regarded, in this life, as his strong right arm and, in the life to come, as his eternal satisfaction. In order to make sure of this eternal life through

pasterity, the gentleman matries his son off when he is still a mere boy, sometimes but nine or ten years of age. Child marriage in one of the old years of age. and respected customs of Korea, and the reason it is not more common is the fact that it requires an outlay of money that parents are not always willing or able to make, and so the lad is sometimes left unmarried until he can provide for him-

self.
The serious question in the life of a Korean gentleman is the service of his ancestors' strades. His life is marked by periods of mourning, three His life is marked by periods of monoring, three years for parents, and lesser periods for those more distant. A succession of fasting and leasting, requiring forms of dress, and outlays of money, consumes more of his time and means than the service of the living. But to neglect these forms would degrade him to the level of a Mohammedan who had renounced his faith.

Molammedan who had resonanced his faith.

We have glimpses occasionally of the gentleman's ability as he shares in the games of the outer guest-chamber. Chess, and patok, a kind of draughts, he plays frequently. A half hom's teaching will show him the moves on a foreign chess board, and a very respectable player he becomes from the outer. His best work is seen in the leismely development of the game. I have seen excellent players who had no gitt whateves for the solving of a problem. When one attempt failed, he would give it up and say, "It can't be done." This again proves the jellyfish in his mature, his condition being passive, not active. Anything like a determined effort he is as entirely incapable of performing as the mollusk is incapable of performing the feats of the shark or swordfish. Were we to choose one common saying from the language that enters more largely into the life and character of a Korean gentleman than anything else it would be Hal su spita—There is no help for it, or It can't be done.

A marked characteristic of the Korean gentleman and his home is smire respectability. There is franktees and freedom in specific his to be seen in facilities and characteristic of the Korean gentleman in the property of the control of the c

A marked characteristic of the assistant man and his home is entire respectability. There man and his home is entire respectability. ness, and few conditions exist that would in an way offend in the best-ordered western homselpid Strange to say, even in a home where there are a number of concubiner, propriety and good order

I once made a journey in company with a strict Customs Port likin duty.

and devout Korean Confucianist. He had heard much of Christ and Christianity, and while he assented to and rejoiced in whatever of Il agreed with his ancient faith he remained a Confucianist with his ancient faith he remained a Confucianist firm as ever. We took ship from one of the eastern ports, and started for Japan. He had heard of the adoption of western life and customs in the Smirise Kingdom and was desirous to see something of the benefits it would confely upon a race. The first sight that met him was tee depraying of the women. "Selling themselves," says he, "in the eyes of the public and for copper money too." A year's residence confirmed him in the belief that what he had seen was not an exception. A year's residence confirmed him in the belief that what he had seen was not an exception, but a natural trait. "Where women are so deprayed, the men must be equally so, They know nothing of Canfucius and no fear of God is before their eyas. Western civilization only tends to encourage such deprayity." He lived as in a kind of nightmare, horror-stricken by sights that he had never dreamed of in his isolated kingdom. He saw two drunken English and American sailors, and the so-called "respectables," whose life was merely pleasune-seeking. "Your Christ," says he, "has but a meagre hold upon you after all." He had put off his Korean dress, and laid aside his top-knot, but his heart remained still faithful to the gaments of his ancient faith. The more he saw of tife abroad, the more he sighed for his straw thatch and mud but, where modesty and with some degree of regard for the teachings of the ancient sages.

So he passes from us, one of the last and most ancient sages.

ancient sages. So he passes from us, one of the last and most unique remains of a civilization that has lived its day. His composure, his mastery of self, his moderation, his kindliness, his scholarly attainments, his dignity, his absolute good-for-nothingness, or (better) unfitness for the world he lives in, all combine to make him a mystery of humanity that you cannot but feel kindly toward, and intensely interested in.—Jas. S. Gall in the Korean Repository.

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(PROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

CHINESE LOAN CONCLUDED. OPENING OF WATERWAYS FIXED.

London, Feb. 24

The Chinese internal waterways will be opened in June. China has concluded a loan for sixteen millions at 4½ per cent, with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the German Asiatic Bank.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH COMPLICA-TION IN WEST AFRICA.

OFFICIAL DISAVOWAL.

M. Hanotaux, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, has informed Sir Edmund Monson, the British Ambas-sador, that the Sokoto incident is against the wishes and instructions of the French Government.

ANOTHER FRENCH OFFICIAL ASSURANCE. MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S DETERMINED ATTITUDE.

London, Feb. 26. In the House of Lords, Lord Salisbury stated that M. Hanotaux had since informed Sir Edmund Monson positively that no French force has entered Sokoto.

In the House of Commons, a motion by Mr. Labouchere to reduce the vote for the West Africa frontier force, which was a provocation to France, was rejected. Mr. Chamberlain said if the French hinterland extension were allowed to continue, without a corresponding British expansion, the latter's colonies would be strangled, hence the creation of a frontier force. Britain was anxious to maintain friendship with France, but could not allow her interests to be sacrificed.

THE CHINESE LOAN. "LIKIN" DUBS MORTGAGED. London, Feb. 25.

The guarantee for the Chinese loan includes the unpledged portion of the



#### HEAVY SENTENCE ON EMILE ZOLA EXCITEMENT IN PARIS.

Emile Zola has been condemned to a year's imprisonment and 3,000 francs fine. The sentence is the severest the law permits. It was hailed with frantic enthusiasm in Paris. The audience in Court was allowed during the trial to cheer and hoot unrestrained.

#### TRIUMPH OF MILITARISM.

The London press is unanimous that the sentence on Zola means the triumph of the military over the civil power.

# THE "MAINE" EXPLOSION.

EXCITEMENT ON NEW YORK EXCHANGE. Almost a panic prevails on the New York Stock Market owing to strong rumours that inquiry is proving that the explosion on the Maine was not accidental.

# RUSSIA'S POLICY IN CHINA.

HER PORTS OPEN TO COMMERCE.

Mr. Curzon, Under Secretay of State for Foreign Affairs, read a note in the House of Commons from M. Muravieff declaring that any port occupied by Russia in China would be open to the ships and commerce of the world,

## GREEK LOAN CONCLUDED. INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEE.

The Greek Loan negotiations have been concluded, Great Britain, France, and Russia guaranteeing four millions at three per cent. The remainder to be borrowed at higher interest without foreign guarantee.

#### DETERMINED ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE

KING GEORGE OF GREECE.

NINE SHOTS FIRED.

EXCITEMENT AND ENTHUSIASM AT . ATHENS.

London, Feb. 28. While the King of Greece was driving in the outskirts of Athens with his daughter he was assailed by two men armed with rifles. Nine shots were fired, and an attendant was wounded, but the King was untouched. His Majesty displayed great courage and sought only to shield the princess. All parties deplore the attempt. Thousands of persons gathered in front of the palace in the evening giving vent to ovations. On Sunday there was a Te Deum in the Cathedral. Immense crowds large majority. lined the route and acclaimed their Ma-The assailants escaped, and have not been traced.

#### ASSAILANT ARRESTED.

London, March 1. A man named Karditza, employed by the Athens municipality, has been arrested. He admits firing at the King, and regrets the failure of his attempt.

# PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTION.

Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice has been elected member of Parliament for Cricklade, in the Liberal interest.

# THE BRITISH ARMY.

LARGE INCREASE DEMANDED.

Mr. Brodrick, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, in submitting the Army Estimates, asked for 180,513 men, the largest number in the present century. He proceeded to rebut the charges that the Army was in a state of collapse. He showed by figures that after full army corps besides reserves, but the of Kim Heung-yuk.

artillery was deficient, hence the demand LIQUIDATION OF THE INDEMNITY AND to increase it.

#### THE FAR EASTERN SITUATION. FRANCE WILL MAKE NO SEIZURE.

M. Hanotaux has informed Sir Edmond Monson that France has not the slightest intention to imitate Germany and seize a naval base in China.

#### RISING IN BRITISH WEST AFRICA. DESPATCH OF TROOPS.

Reuter's Agent at Freetown wires that a general rising has occurred in the Sierra Leone hinterland. Officers of the frontier police have been attacked. A detachment of the West India regiment has been despatched to the interior.

#### THE "VICTORIOUS" COURT-MARTIAL.

#### OFFICERS REPRIMANDED.

The Court-martial appointed to inquire into the grounding of the Victorious has reprimanded the Commander severely and staff.

# CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

London, March 1. In the final test match between Stoddart's team and an Australian eleven at Sydney, the Englishmen were all out for 335 runs and the Australians made 184 for five wickets.

# LORD SALISBURY INDISPOSED.

London, March 2. Lord Salisbury is confined to his room with an attack of influenza.

#### THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

BRITISH TROOPS NEARING BERBER.

The British Nile brigade is advancing rapidly southward in light marching order, and is already within 24 miles of Berber. This movement is owing to the threatened attack on the camp at Athara.

#### CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In the last match at Sydney between the Australians and Stoddart's team, the former were all out for 239 in the first innings, and the Englishmen made 172 for nine wickets in the second innings, BRITISH ARMY INCREASE VOTED.

The House of Commons has passed the increased votes for more men and higher pay of the Army, Mr. Labouchere's motion to reduce the vote being rejected by a

# THE FIRE AT KOBE.

LOSS OVER \$500,000.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, March 3, 8.40 a.m. An extensive fire broke out in the sheds of the Kobe Pier Co.'s sheds, at one o'clock this morning. The estimated damage to the goods-principally cotton-exceeds a hundred thousand yen.

Kobe, March 3, 6.39 p.m. From fuller investigations it is estimated the damage from the fire is half million yen in cargo only. Owing to the impossibility of discovering the extent of individual losses the Insurance Companies are convening a meeting.

# (Received by the Fift)

ARREST OF YE CHAI-SUN.

Söul, Feb. 23. Ye Chai-sun was arrested at 3 p.m. toof a big war, they would still have another plicated in the plot for the assassination THE RUSSIAN WARSHIPS IN PORT ARTHUR

Peking, Feb. 26.

It is stated in trustworthy quarters that in the event of the Russian warships not evacuating Port Arthur when China pays off her Indemnity to Japan, and the latter withdraws her garrison from Wei-hai-wei in consequence, Great Britain seems in-clined to occupy Wei-hai-wei.

THE CHINESE LOAN.

Peking, Feb. 16. The Chinese Government is negotiating with the Shanghai and Hongkong Bank for a loan of 100 million taels.

Peking, March 1.
The negotiations for the Chinese Government with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for a loan have been concluded.

PRICE OF ISSUE.

Arrangements for issuing the English half of the Chinese loan have been completed at the price of 90, and a percentage of 41.

#### RUSSIA AND DEER ISLAND.

Söul, Feb. 27. Last evening Min Chhong-muk, acting Foreign Minister, gave a reply to the Russian Minister to the effect that the lease of Deer island will be granted to Russia.

Chemulpo, Feb. 26. The Russian warship Gremiastchy and the American warship Concord entered here to-day.

# RUSSO-KOREAN BANK.

Soul, March I.

The Russo-Korean Bank started business to-day.

THE CHIEF INSPECTORSHIP OF POLICE.

Söul, Feb. 28.

Mr. Ye Chungku, Chief Inspector of Police, has been removed from his post on account of the arrest of Mr. Ye Chaisun. Mr. Kim Chaipong was last night appointed in his place,

THE VICE-MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS. Mr. Kim Changha, Director of the Provincial Bureau, has been appointed Vice-Minister of Home Affairs.

# KOREAN CABINET CHANGES.

Soul, March 2. Min Chhongmuk, Minister of Finance and acting Foreign Minister, and Ye Dochai, Foreign Minister, have been relieved from office at their own request.

# THE BIG FIRE AT KOBE.

Kobe, March 3. Last night fire broke out in a warehouse of the Kobe Pier Company. 9,000 bales of Bom-day and American cotton, 1,000 packages of miscellaneous goods, and four buildings covering 1,100 fsubo were reduced to ashes. The total damage is estimated at about yen 1,000,000, of which yen 7,00,000 are from the loss of cotton.

Osaka, March 3. The fire that broke out in Kohe Pier godowns at 1.20 a.m. this morning caused a heavy lose of raw cotton. 6.500 bales brought by the steamer Idsumi Maru on the rat inst belonged steamer Idsumi Maru on the 1st inst belonged to the Menka kaisha, Mitsui Bussan Kausha, David Harper & Co., Naigai Menkaisha, Nichiin Boyeki Kaisha, and others. 500 bales of American cotton and 1,500 bales Bombay cotton also belonged to the above companies, their value being yen 300,000. The cotton belonging to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha is insured in the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company, and that of the Nichila Kaisha in the collapse. He showed by figures that after Ye Chai-sun was arrested at 3 p.m. tothe despatch of 75,000 men abroad in case day. He is believed to have been imof a hig war, they would still have another plicated in the plot for the assassination.

Other goods are said to be insured in the Nippon and other insurance companies.

> Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT **URBANA-CHAMPAIGN**

#### OPENING OF TIENTSIN.

Nagasaki, March

The steamer Genkai Maru leit here for Tientain to-day on her first trip of the season. THE RUSSIAN CONSUL AT NAGASARI.

Nagasaki, March 4. M. V. Kastileff, Russian Consul here, who has been away on leave, returned from Odessa this morning on the steamer Saratoff.

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Cunsu Europe.

The Vokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek

side.
The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Toky Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 358. BLACK \*\*HITE.

1—Ki to K B 4

2—Kt to Q 5

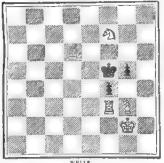
3—Kt to B 3, mate -P Queens, or Knights 2—Аоў P Bishap -Kt to R 5 2-P takes Kt 3-P to B 3, mate Correct solution received from W.B.M. only.

"Skak"-Kt to B2 is met by P Bishops

threatening stalemate.
D.D.—See our comments in last Saturday's

issue.
This problem is one of the most difficult that we have ever published, which accounts for the failure of most of our solvers. The composition would be simply perfect but for the "double" after P Knights, in which case mate can be given either by Bishop or Knight.

PROBLEM No. 361. By B. S. Laws. From Chess Players Chronicle.



White to mate in three moves.

YOROHAMA CHESS CLUB. The first cound in the Championship Tourney, concluded on Monday last, shows the following

120	Player.	Won.	Loab
1	Fox	2	3
1	Fox Mendelson*	3	2
è	Pollak*	3	0
1	Pollak*	ō	3
1	Friedlander	3	m
1	Thomas	0	3
4	Weilbach®	3	ň
į	Tennant Winners.	0	3

Messrs. Fox, Hodges, Thomas, and Tennant are therefore knocked out of the tourney, whilst the remaining four players are to meet in the second round and will be matched as follows:— Mendelson v. Pollak. | Friedlander v. Weilbach.

Some good games may be looked for in this round (which is to conclude by end of March) for the players are better matched than they were in the first round, if we are to judge from the above table.

Mr. Pollak has challenged Mr. Friedlander for mr. Poliak has challenged Mr. Priedlander for a friendly match—of 10 games up—the latter conceding to his opponent the odds of two games. The match has already begun, the score standing now Pollak 3. Friedlander 1, each of the players having scored one win. The loser of the match is to pay one year's subscription to the Y.C.C., a secretal subscription to the Y.C.C. very satisfactory arrangement as far as the Club

contestants are well known as representatives of Victoria in the telegraphic matches against New South Wales. GAMB, No. 366.

	(KBO	pening.)		
White.—H	aviland.	Black,-Wilson.		
WHITE,	BLACK.	WHITE,	BLACK.	
1 P K4	P K4		PxP	
2 B B.	B B4		BxPch	
3 Kt KB3	Kt QB3		K: Kts3ch	
4 P O3	P Q3	17 K Kt-q	KixKt	
c P Ba	P Q3 B R3	18 Ox KP	R B4	
5 P B3	P×B	1 19 P Q4	KKt Kt3	
2 O K13	$Q_1Q_2$	20 K Q2	R B5	
7 Q KI3	R Kisa	21 Q K2	Kt B4	
9 Q R6	Ki B3	22 K R2	QRxP	
to Q R4	Castles	23 P K Kt3	RixKiP	
11 P Q K'4	B Ktg	24 KxKt	R Kr4ch	
12 P KR3	P Q4	25 K R2	Kt K4	
13 P KIS	Kt Kz	1		
Position a	fter Black's :	25th move, K	t to K 4!	

Ė å Š 闔

Q Q6 26 PxKt

27 KR Kisq and Black mates in four moves.

A BRILLIANT BREVITY. Played at Tiflis in December, 1894. GAME, No. 367.

TUDI	TH DELEBOR.
WhiteM.A. de Smitter	n. Black Prince Dadian.
WHITE, BLACK.	WHITE, BLACK.
1 P K4 P Q3(a)	) [ 7 PxP K+KK+5(d)
2 B QB4 P KK3	8 P KB <sub>4</sub> Q Q <sub>5</sub> (-)
3 P Q4 . B KKt2	
4 Q KB3 KI KB3	(b) Io Pakt Bake
SPKS PAP	Tr OxB(g) OxB (b)
6 Q QK:3(c) Castle:	and Black wins.
42	NOTES.

(a) In annotating a game between the same players, which was published in La Strategie some years ago, Mr. Steinitz entitled this opening the Indian opening, because, he says, the Brahmins played It agaist Cochrane. Two masters, Winawer and Prince Dadian, have revived his debut.

(b) An excellent move. (c) If-6 P takes P-6 B to KK'S

7 Q to Q3
Forced on account of the threat of mate, by Q

to Q8.

7. Q takes Q followed by KKt to Q2, with a good game.

(d) Again an excellent move.

(e) The attack is conducted with admirable spirit; it can be said that from now the game is virtually won.

(f) A charming combination, as brilliant as it is

actud.

(g) If—11 P takes B, Q to K5 ch would win the R, and if
11 QxP P QB3 | 14 Kt Q2 Q R5 ch
12 QxR PxKtP | 15 R KB2 BxP | 13 R KBsq QxB | 16 QxRP B Q5, and wins. 15 R IND. and wins.

(h) White cannot avoid the loss of a second awn, and his postiton is bad. This game by its Pawn, and his postiton is bad. This game by its sparkling elegance is a veritable little gem.-La

An experienced player sends us the following maxime :

maxims:

1. Sit with your back to the light, and let your opponent have the glare in his face.

2. Find what colour of men your opponent prefers, and see that he does not get it.

If he be a non-smoker, smoke heavily strong tobacco while playing.

4. If he also be a smoker, criticise the quality of his cigars.

5 After playing, retain your hold of the piece as long as possible. He may give a start of sail-faction, and then you can place the piece elsewhere.

6. When it is his turn to play, carry on a spark-

ling, epigrammatic and anecdotal conversation with the bystanders.

Chess in Malbourne.

The following tomenament game, remarkable for the brilliancy of its termination, was played some time back at the Melbourne Chess Club. The pletely.

Digitized by COSE

with the bystanders.

7. The golden rule is "Fidget." With a little practice, you will find that fidgetting will not institute back at the Melbourne Chess Club. The pletely.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

1	From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
	Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Melbourne r	Tu. Mar. 8
Į	Hongkong	P. M. €o.	Ресц з	Sa. Pier. 10
ļ	Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Diar. 24
	America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 3	Su. Mar. 13
	Кигоре			W. Mar. 20
	tiongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Mer. 17
	Hongbong	O. & O. Co.	Venus	M. Mar. er
	Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Jopan	Th. Mar. no

1 Left Hongkong via Kobe on the 18th Feb. at 6 a.m.

s Left Hongk ng on the 3rd inst. 3 Left San Francisco on the 23rd February.

#### THE REPORT MADE LEVEL TO

11112	14057 111	WITT TEWARE	3
For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	C of R. de l'iro	Fr. Mar. 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgio	So. Mer. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohille	Tu. Mar. \$
shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Macu	W. Mar. #
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Box. of China	M. Mer. 14
America	P. M. Co.	Perm	Tu. Mar. 15
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Meibourne	W. Alar. xó
Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Erl. Mar. 10
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	fri. Mar. ag

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmits, 25th Feb.,—Marseilles via ports, & Kobe 24th Feb., Mars and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Math and General.—M. M. S.S. Co. folk R. Kelley, American thin, 2,255, O. E. Chapman, 25th Feb.,—New York, 4th Oct., Kerosene Od.—Standard Oil Co. Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Tsuji, 25th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 19th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Garnet Hill, British ship, 2,186, Roberts, 25th Feb.,—Middlesborough, 24th August, General.—Order.

Jupan, British steamer, 2.795, Leigh, 26th Feb., -London via ports, & Kohe 25th Feb., General. -P. & O. S.N. Co.
Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Wm. Pithie,

Glenayon, Sitten steamer, 1,911, Wm. Pidlie, 27th Feb.,—London via protts, and Kobe, 25th Feb., General,—Jandine, Matheson & Co. Yechigo Mara, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 26th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 25th Feb., General.—Nippon Yuven Kaisha.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

kai Maru, Japanese stemmer, 1,907, T. Sakai,

26th Feb., Obatu via poits, 21st Feb., Gene
eal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao,

27th Feb., —Vokkuichi, 26th Feb., General.—

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippont Maru. Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Naka-jima, 28th Feb.,—Otam via ponta, 23rd Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, K. Yahe, 28th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 27th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa,
28th Feb., Kobe, 26th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. Mungo, British ship, 1,852, Hamilton, 28th
Feb., Coosaw, South Carolina, 29th Sept.,
Phosphate, Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, C. Olsen,
Ist March, Yokkaichi 28th Feb., General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese stramer, 1,396, N. Tate,

Totomi Maru, Japanese stramer, 1.396, N. Tate, 2nd March, Shimonoseki, 28th Feb., General.

201d Marth, Shimonoseki, 28th Feb., General.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Marth, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 201d Marth, Japanese steamer, 712, M. General.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idauni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999. R. Nu-nome, 2nd March,—Bombay via ports, General,

"Nippon Yusen Kaisha,
"Nippon Yusen Kaisha,
Rohiffa, British steamer, 2,216, Lockyer, 2nd
March,—Hoogkong via Nagasaki and Kohe,
1st March, Mails and General.—P. & O.S.N.

Dorothea Rickmers, German steamer, 2,499, H. Pope, 3rd March,—Rangoon, 13th Feb., Rice.
—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

—Samuel, Samuel & Co.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao,
3rd March, —Yokkaichi, 2nd March, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Tibballs,
3rd Narch, —Kohe, 2nd March, General.—
Nippoh Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Truebridge,
3rd March, —Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 2nd
March, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill
& Co.

& Ca. March,—Hongkong via ports, 22nd Feb., Mails and, General—O. & O. S.S. Co. Original from Belgio, British steamer March,-Hangkoog v

Tokto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. W. Has-well, 3rd March,—Australia via ports, & Kobe 2nd March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yu-

Crefeld, German steamer, 2,988, C. V. Bardele-ben, 3rd March,—Nagasaki via Kobe 2nd March, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf,

Match, General.—I. Attender A. Co., 1988.

Tamarind, Norwegien steamer, 738, John Dannevig, 4th March,—Ilo Ilo, Rice and Sugar.—

Jardine, Malleson & Co.

Aikitsukima Ran, Japanese cruiser, 3,150, 19

guns, Capt. Y. Inouye, 4th March,—Shimidzu,

gnus, Capt. 3rd March.

Hashidate Kan, Japanese Coast Defence vessel, 4,278, 30 guns, Capt. S. Kamimura, 4th March,

4,278, 30 guus, Capt. S. Kamimura, 4th March, —Shimidzu, 3rd March.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,677, 4th March, —Loudon and Antwerp via parts, & Kobe, 3rd March, General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, K. Yabe, 4th March, —Yokkaichi, 3rd March, General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 4th March, —Shanghai via porte, 26 h Feb., Mails and General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Yamanouchi, 5th March, —Ogasawaca 28th Feb., General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Okinawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,041, Kata-

kinawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,041, Kata-oka, 4th March,—Kobe, 3rd March, Lighthouse

orea, 4th March,—Lighthouse Department.

City of Rio de Faneiro, American steamer, 2,246,

Wm. Ward, 4th March,—San Francisco, 12th

Feb., and Honolulu, 20th Feb., Mails & General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Baker, 5th March, Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th March, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 25th Feb.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Holstein, German steamer, 1,103, Epland, 26th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co.
Frannes, Norwegian steamer, 958, Gabrieln, 26th Feb.,—Kobe, Rice.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, C. Olsen, 26th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yasan Kaisha. son Kaisha

Wagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, J. W. Ekstrand, 27th Feb.,—Seattle, Wash., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 27th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen

en Kaisha.

sen Katsha. Hahusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193. Kubota, 28th Feb.,—Mororan, Ballast.—Japanese. Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907. T. Sakai, 28th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagan, 28th Feb., - Yukkaichi, General. - Nippon Yu-sen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Ramada, 28th Feb., Kobe, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, K. Yabe, 1st March,-Yokkaichi, General,-Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

sen Asisisa.

Tetarios, German steamer, 1.578, P. Ciuelsen, 1st
March,—Moji, Ballast.—Sinton, Evers & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1.911, Win. Pithie, 2nd
March,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson &
Co.

Oceanies, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 2nd March,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and Gene-ral.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Esmeralda, Beitish schooner, 120, J. Turner Harrison, 2nd March, -Guam, General-Jardine

Matheson & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa,
2nd Maich,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, F. Brown, 2nd March,—Scattle, Washington, viå Kobe, General,—Nippon Yusan Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Jananese steamer, 1,149. S. Tsuji, and March, Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceneral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese sleamer, 692, S. Mutamatsu, 2nd March,—Yokkaichi, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 3rd March,—Kobe, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Patroches British alanguas 2000 Fishers and

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,323, Dickens, 3rd March - Liverpool via ports, General - Butter-field & Swire.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, C. O'sen, 3rd March, - Yokkaichi, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Suminoyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, Digitized by

4th March,-Yokkaichi, General.-Nippon Yu-

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Truebidge, 5th March, Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer Oceanien, from Masseilles via posts:—Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Kenjian, Mr. D. Becker, Mr. J. Kern, Mr. G. Hantal, Mr. Vintzuka, Mr. R. Nomma, Mr. L. Meyer, Mrs. Patrao, Mr. Carl Helm in cabin,
Per British steamer Rokilla, from Hongkong

vià Nagasaki and Kobe: -Mr. G. G. Havey, Mr. Lias, Mr. Kiene, and Mr. Wrigley in cabin, and 3 Chunse in steerage,

Lias, istr. Kiene, and Mr. Wrigley in cabin, and 3 Chinese in steelage, Per British steamer Belgic, from Hongkong, via ports:—Mr. N. Yates, Mr. J. S. Jamieson, Mr. H. Collbran, Mr. A. Emanuel, Mr. A. Lefroy and servants, Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, Mr. H. I. Chope, Miss Devine, Mr. W. Hussman, Mr. E. Kienne and servant; Mr. C. S. Averill, Mr. Chas, Rogers, Mr. R. Kitby, Mrs. Sargent and servant in cabin. For Honolulu:—Miss J. S. Clark, Miss S. R. Officer, Mr. Stewart Clark in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. T. D. Stinson, Lieut. W. S. Biddle, and Mr. Geo. B. Swayne in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Haya, hom Shanghai via ports:—Lieut. General T. Kinoki, Naval Capt. T. Kitakoga, Mr. and Mrs. K. Kumamoto, Mr. U. Moti, Mr. W. Fujishima, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. Philip London in cabin; Miss J. Kuroki, Mr. J. Gulo, Mr. C. Atai, Mr. C. R. Woodridge, Mr. A. J. Solwood in second class; 23 in steeraget.

steeragd.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Faneiro, from San Francisco: —Lieut. B. O. Scott, U.S. N., Dr. E. S. Wilcox, U.S. Cousul to Hankow, Mrs. L. S. Wilcox, Mr. M. L. Belf, Miss Bell, Mr. & Mrs. J. King Goodrich, Mr. M. H. Hastogh, Mr. Max Bochwitz, Mr. W. R. K. Mainwaring, Mr. A. B. Walford, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Banks, Miss Banks, Mr. Geo. A. Adam, Mr. N. F. Drake, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Brittingham, Mr. J. M. Hixon, Miss L. D. Black, Mr. E. B. Shawi A. F. de Rutzen, Mr. E. F. Seymour, Mr. E. Brocklemann, Mr. Misutome, Mr. V. Shimanch, and Mr. Andrew Vogs in cabin.

#### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Empress of India, for Van-couver, B.C.:—Mr. G. W. Brown, Mr. Z. Hori-koshi, Dr. A. E. Kelsey, R.N., Mr. F. Migend, R.N., Mr. K. Liebe, Mr. Won, Longh, Mr. August Schleicher, Mrs. E. R. D. Sewell Echild, General & Mrs. C. F. Sharpe, Mr. Lonis Spitzel, Mr. K. Uchida, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Van Rija, Mr. H. Worbs in cabin.

Mr. K. Uchida, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Van Rijn, Mr. H. Worbs in cabin.

Per British steamer Coptic. for Hongkong via ports;—Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Watson, Miss Watson, Mr. R. W. Berthwick, Mrs. R. H. Passmore, Mrs. W. Harrison, Chief Eng. Prozoroff, Mr. and Mrs. Bengen, Mrs. W. W. Campbell, two children and amab, Mr. J. H. McMichael, Mr. Paul C. Piedler, Mr. Charles Rogers, Mr. J. R. Clive, Mr. J. H. White, Mr. F. W. Blechynden, Mr. R. Kinby, Mr. F. H. Tanner, Mrs. F. K. Hunt, Mrs. W. C. Davidson, Lieut, Connt. Litte, Mr. W. Daniels and Mr. Daniel Johnson in cabin, Per French steamer Oceanien, for Marseilles and ports:—Commandat Lombard, Mr. Baboy, Mr. Rieff, Mr. R. Ruegg, Mr. J. A. Thomas, Mr. R. L. Mackay, Miss Mackay, Miss M. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Vanderlip, Mrs. Montford, Mrs. and Miss Eymard, Mr. Lanes R. Hall, Mr. Izaka, Mr. Dubuffet, Mr. E. J. Pereira and servant, Mrs. and Miss Peneira and 2 children, Mr. Pow Yong Chso, and Mrs. Ah Ling in cabin.

## LATEST COMMERCIAL.

## IMPORTS.

There has been some enquiry for yarns, at firm There has been some enquiry for yarns, at firm prices, but little business has been done, while the demand for grey shirtings has been fully supplied for the time. A few "special" sales have been made in fancy cottons and wooflens, at former prices, but the demand is anything but brisk. In aw cotton, the destruction by fire at Kobe of a large stock just arrived, has sent prices up from 10 to 15 cents, a picul, with a probability of a fur-

# COTTON PIECE GOODS.

tirey Shirtings-84 h, 384 yds, 39 inches	\$2.55	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings-ullt, 314 yds. 45 inches	2.80	to 3.35
L. Cloth-718, 24 yards, 32 inches	6.8u	to 2.00
ladigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.95	to 2.90
Prints-Assurted, 24 yands, 30 melies	2 00	to 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Black,		TARD.
as inches	0.18	10 0.24

# \$0.30 to 0.50 0.35 to 0.41 a 30 to 0.301 0.25 to 0.271

WOOLLENS.

0.15 to 0.50 0.55 to 0.50 0.60 to 0.75 0.50 to 0.85 e.sp. to e.do

Mack, 35 yards, sainches ... Victoria Lawon, 12 yarda, 42-3 inches,. Turkey Reds-2.0 to 2.4 h, 24/25 yards, 1.50 to 1.70

Turkey Reds—3.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches

Turkey Reds—3.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches

Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches

Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 35 inches

LUT 1 to 15 YARTIS,

#### SHICE 44.S.

Arrivals having been rather beavy during the past fortnight, buyers are not eager to do business except at considerable reductions, which, so far have not been conceded, and as a consequence little business has been done,

The second secon	A PICPL.
Round and square 4 inch. and upward.4.15	10 4.60
fron Plates, assorted	to 4.50
Sheet from	10 5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets 9.20	to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	to 6.50
lin l'Inter, per bax	to 6 po
Pig Ivan, Mar. v	10 2 20
Hoop Iron (# to 14 inch)	to 5,25

#### KERDSKIIC.

A decided improvement has taken place in the one of the market, and a fair business has been transacted at prices from 5 to 10 cents, higher than were quoted last week.

American ...... 12.00 to 2.07 

Arrivals and sales of Brown kinds have about kept pace. The arrivals of Manila amount to about 4,000 piculs and sales to some 3,000 piculs. In China sorts 7,400 piculs have arrived and sales amount to 7,900 piculs. There has been a rise in prices of 10 cents in Manilas and about 5 cents in Chinas. There is at present in Formosa stock in the market. Nothing has been done in White Refined.

an or a	PER PILHER
Brown Takan	14.10 (0 4.20
Brown Manila	4.50 to 5.35
Brown Dailong	3.85 to 3.00
Brown Canton	3.85 to 4.50
White Java and Pesang	6.50 to 7.00
White Retired,	7.35 10 0.00

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

The demand during the past week has been light for export, but brisk for native manufacturers. A little foreign business has been done, however, at some reduction in quotations. Stocks have been reduced to 5,700 piculs. Shipments consist of 40 bales per Oceanien for Europe and 20 bales per Kinshu Maru for America,

#### QUOTATIONS.

Silatures-Ertra girt, rafte den	Non	nia
Bilaturen - Extra 13/15, 14/16 den	fato to	0.10
Filatures-No. 1, 10/13 deniera	oza to	010
Filaturen-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 dan	at aRR	Son
Filatures-30. 14, 10/14 deniers	goo to	
Fitatures-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	8su to	
Fifatures-No. 2, 10:15 deniers	8su to	
Filatures-filo. 2, 14 18 deniers	San to	
Re-reals-Hu. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.		
Paralam No. of aging, a front entrances	8go to	
Re-reels-No. 14, 13'10, 14'17 ilen	8 to to	
Re-reels-Ro. 2, s fill stemers	500 to	
Re-resis-No. 24, 14/18 ileniers	780 to	700
Re-reels-Na. 3, +4/20 deniers	-	
Kakedas-Extra	840 to	850
Kakedas-No. 1	820 to	810
Kakedas-No. 14	700 to	
Kakedas-No. 2	760 to	
Kastedan-Mo. 24	,	110
Original from	_	

WASTE SILK.

The market is very quiet and prices remain unchanged. A large shipment, previously settled, was made by the Oceanies, of 1,266 piculs for Europe. Stocks are estimated at 4,700 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.					
Noshi-Filature, Best	115	to	820		
Noshi-Filature, Good	201	to	110		
Noshi-Oshu, Best	110	ŧо	115		
Noshi-Oshu, Good	100	Ło	103		
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	90	ĹO	95		
Noghi-Shinaha, Best	70	to	75		
Noshi-Shingha, Good	бя	ŧσ	574		
Yoshi-Bustin, Best	115	to	120		
Noshi-Bushu, Gand	180	to	110		
Noshi-Bushu, Medium			95		
Noshi-loshu, Good	őо	to	55		
Noshi-loshu, Fair	55	to	571		
Kibira-Filature, Best	95	to	100		
Kibiso-Filature, Seconds	85	to	90		
Kibiso-loshu, Good	25	to	30		
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20	to	224		
TRA					

TEA.

There have been no transactions of consequence in teas during the week. The stock in hand—of poor quality—only amounts to some goo piculs and the only shipments have been 730 packages for Europe and 943 packages per Kinshin Mark for America. All quotations are nominal.

Choicest	Nominal,
Choice	<b>∫</b> '
Fine	Nomi- nal no stock.
Good Medium	\$17 to 18
Medium	23 0 34
Good Common	
Common	10 to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver again lower \( \frac{1}{2} \) and China sterling exchange also \( \frac{1}{2} \) lower causing our rates on China to be raised, but no change otherwise.

Sterling-Bank T.T.	2/013
- Bills on demand	2/01
- 4 months' sight	3 0
- Private 4 months' eight	2/O <sub>18</sub>
- 6 months' sight	2/013
On Paris-Bank night	254 à
On Lyons -Private 4 months' sight	2.581
the America—Bank Bills on demand	49
- Private 4 months' sight	50
On Gormany-Bank night	206
- Private 4 months' sight	310
On Honghong-Bank night	74%d.
- Private (Odaya'sight	9º/ad.
On Shanghai - Bank sight	18
Private 10 days' sight	821
Oo India— Bank sight	150
- Private 30 days' sight	156
Bar Silver (London)	25



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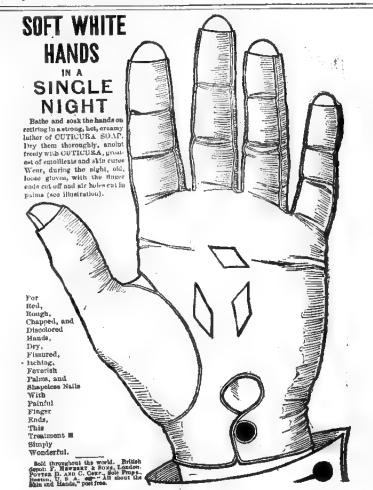
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# The Japan Weel

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 11.]

REGISTERED AT THE O.P.O.

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 12TH, 1898. 月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 微觀者性論日三十 Vol. XXIX.

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# The Japan Weekly Mail.

FIRST OUR DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO COMMESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insection in the "JAPAN WHERLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business im addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 12TH, 1898.

#### BIRTHS.

On 3rd instant, at 8, Woosung Road, Shanghai, the wife of James M. Road, of a son,

On the 22nd January, at Wiesbaden, the wife of M. von BRANDT, formerly German Minister to China, of a daughter.

#### DEATHS.

On March toth, at his residence, 3. Acicha, Akasaka, Tokyo, the Rev. Guido F. Verbeck, D. D., aged 68.

At 6, Chaousous Road, Shaughai, on the 27th of February, 1898, Lizzta Thompson Smith, the dearly beloved wife of James Ferrier, China Merchants' S. N. Co.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

M. HARMAND, French Minister to Japan, has arrived in Tokyo from Marseilles.

The British Government has appointed Mr. Conanl-General Jordan as British Minister to

THE Washington House of Representatives and Sonate have passed large Credits for defensive

A LARGE junk named the Meilsu Maru was wrecked on the Huchijo Islands on the 16 h

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were committed for trial.

FIRES occurred in Ishinomaki, Sendai, and Inokama, Rikuzen, on the 8th inst., destroying 100 and 50 houses respectively.

THE Japanese cruiser Kong Kan, now at Shinagawa, is about to leave for a cruise to Australia, with 26 naval cadets on board.

Russia has made a request that she should be conceded the privilege of laying the Lianung railway terminating in Port Arthur.

THE 50th anniversary of the promulgation of the Italian Constitution was celebrated at the Italian Legation in Tokyo on the 4th instant.

A BILL for the abolition of the regulations for encouraging the direct export of raw silk is to be submitted to the furthcoming session of

It is reported that Dr. Tsuboi Jiro, of the Imperial University, who was despatched to Formosa, has discovered a cure for the black plague.

THE Department of Agriculture and Commerce has commenced the inspection of exhibits intended for the Paris International Exhibition

THE British Naval Estimates amount to £23.778,000 and provide for an increase of 6.340 men, three new battleships, four cruisers, and four sloops.

Our man was killed and several wounded in the course of the elections for the Lower House during the past week. A number of soshi have been arrested.

CHINA, investing full authority in her Minister Hu King-ching in St. Petersburg, has opened negotiations with the Russian Government as to the latter's demands.

The strike of engine-drivers and stokers on the Japan Railway Company has been settled, the company conceding the men's demands. Wages will be raised from 30 to 35 ten per day.

THE Russian Government is about to establish a Mint at Vladivostock. It is stated that the new coinage is chiefly intended for the payment of wages on the Manchurian Railway.

THE eight torpedo destroyers now in course of construction in England for the Japanese Navy are to be named after the most famous Japanese sword-smiths, such as "Masamune," 'Kanimisu," etc.

THE Daido Gakko school in the Settlement, Yokohama, devoted to the instruction of Chinese children, was opened on Wednesday. The number of scholars already admitted is said to be 100

ENGLAND, while advising China to take a firm decision, has informed her that were she to acquiesce in Russia's demands, England would make a similar demand in order to maintain the balance of power.

has been arranged to employ French steamers for the conveyance of reinforcements. 2,000 men.

accused, 12 were discharged, and one having Maru, Kaga Maru, Choshin Maru, Kyoyo died during the examination, the remaining 42 Maru, Yyumon Maru and Hiroshima Maru.

Russia had demanded the lesse of Port Arthur and Talienwan for 99 years, and insisted on a reply in 5 days. In the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon announced that the Government had telegraphed to Pekin and St. Peteraburg, enquiring about the matter.

H.I.H. Rear-Admiral Prince Arisugawa Takehito, Commander of the Standing Squadron, has been appointed to the Naval Command Bureau and a member of the Naval Council. Rear-Admiral Nomura, Commander of Yokosuka Admiralty, has succeeded the Prince in command of the Standing Squadron.

Szzious plague riots have occurred at Bombay. Mussulmans and Hindoos have stoned the plague authorities and police, who fired, killing several persons. The riots spread to an alarming extent, and troops, artillery and volunteers, were called out. Two European soldiers were battered to death, and many Europeans seriously injured.

Ar a Cabinet council held at Soul on the 9th inst. all the Ministers of State, with the exception of Min Chhun-muk, acting Foreign Minister, maintained that a reply should be forwarded to Russia, in the sense that the Russian drill-instructors, financial adviser, and others should be dismissed. Min Chhun-muk opposed this contention and avowed that the independence of Korea could not be maintained except by the help of Russia. Min Chhun-muk has submitted his resignation.

THE following dates have been fixed for the regattas on the Samida river, Tokyo:-Kinjo Middle School, 19th March; Mitsui Zenyukai, 3rd April; Imperial University, 9th April; Higher Commercial School, 10th April; High School, 11th April; Bank of Japan, 17th April; Nihon Chugaku Taiiku Kai (Japan Middle School Athletic Society), 23rd April; Nobles' School (Gakushuin), 14th April; Higher Commercial School, 1st May; and Keiwo Gijiku, 13th March off the shore of Shibaura, near Shinagawa.

The Import market during the past week resumed to a great extent the dead and duli condition that prevailed three months ago. Some little business has been doing in yarns, but not much, and in shirtings, fancy cotton, and wool-lensthere is nothing to report. There has been a fair demand for raw cotton for the spinning mills, and in view of the destruction of this stock in the fire at the Kobe Pier Godowns, prices are on the rise. Metals generally are very flat, but there has been, according to Japanese papers, quite a rush on foreign nails, several large purchases having been made on behalf of a Tokyo buyers, from foreign firms in Yokohama. The kerosene market is quiet, at steady rates, and in sugar only a small business from day to day has been transacted. The import of large shipments of rice from Bangkok, Rangoon and Saigon continue, and the grain appears to be meeting with increased favour among consumers in the interior. Russia continues hurrying troops to the Far In exports the only item of importance is silk, East. Her own cruisers being insufficient, it and in this staple the transactions during the past week have been very moderate. Holders are not willing to make any concessions in first of these will leave shortly with a force of view of the small stock in hand, and as this is of inferior quality for the most part, buyers are wrecked on the Hachijo Islands on the 10 n Since the beginning of this year the following Japanese steamers have either been stranded.

The preliminary inquiry in the Kobe Customs or in collision—the Ariiseura Maru, Eikaku scandal concluded on the 7th instant. Of 55 Maru, Kosaki Maru, Kamogawa Maru, Meiji and the market is practically closed.

Original from

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun writes about the recent strike on the part of the Japan Railway Company's operatives at Utsunomiya and elsewhere. Naturally our contemporary insists on the difference between the employes of a simple commercial and industrial enterprise, the prosecution or interruption of which concerns only a few capitalists, and the employer of a railway which constitutes a public vehicle of communications and acts = a carrier of the nation's mails. Happily the recent strike did not prove a protracted affair, so that no very serious inhave been much larger, and, at any rate, the fact of its occurrence is unpleasantly suggestive. Without attempting to discuss the rights or wrongs of the question at issue between the Japan Railway Company and its servants, the Nichi Nichi impresses upon both the gravity of their responsibilities, and upon the Authorities the advisability of providing by legislation means of dealing with such emergencies. In 1885, a law was enacted imposing severe penalties upon sailors who should combine for mutinous purposes, or refuse to obey duly constituted authority, or desert their ship. But there is no corresponding law for the restraint of railway, post-office, telegraph and telephone employes. That is a plain defect. It is not to be understood, of course, that in pointing out the need of such a law the Nichi Nichi implies the existence of fault on the side of the employes only. There is no question of passing judgment on either party. Our contemporary claims that it simply calls attention to a legislative lacuna which ought to be speedily reme-died in view of Japan's greatly altered and rapidly altering circumstances.

The Jiji Shimpo discusses the same subject and is evidently inclined to lay the blame chiefly on the railway officials. It recalls the fact that the inauguration of the Japanese Railway Company was not a mere affair of money-making. Sixteen years-ago people's minda had not yet turned to railways as a lucrative enterprise, and it was only through the great influence of Prince Iwakura that capitalists were induced to embark in the affair. They took the step reductantly, believing that they might as well throw their money into a mud-heap, and without a large measure of State aid and official persuasion the project would never have matured. Hence the Japan Railway may be regarded in the main as an official enterprise, and in the administration of its affairs and the conduct of its business one may detect many of the abuses incidental to all such undertakings when the Government is connected with them. As an example of the looseness that disfigures the management, reference may be made to the defalcation that occurred some months ago. A sum of some twenty thousand yen was involved, and the frauds had extended over a long interval, yet discovery resulted only from the voluntary con-The fact is that fession of the guilty parties. the officials of the line are still infected with the evil custom of former times. They think that their chief duty is to run about currying favour with the big shareholders instead of attending to the business of the line. If they reflected that times have changed radically; that the abares have passed from the hands of men who invested through public-spirited motives into the bands of men who want good profits before everything; and that the company has come to possess nearly a thousand miles of lines, and to be answerable for the discharge of all the public responsibilities connected with such a charge, they would probably see the wisdom of altering their methods. It is indubitable that the recent strike was long pending, and that the Railway officials had full cognisance of the fact. They ought to have been well able to avert it, for their ultimate action shows that they were prepared to make satisfactory concessions.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS. Strikes are regarded by our contemporary as one of the concomitants of Western civilization. the tendency of which is to accentuate inequalities in the distribution of wealth and widen the gulf between the rich and the poor. Socialism is the inevitable outcome of such condi-There are as yet no strong evidences of socialistic impulse in Japan, but in truth the O do-monarchical system—of former times embodied the best principles of socialism, and was in marked contrast to the ha-do-sway of the strong-which is the essence of Western civilization, owing to the absorbing pursuit of self-aggrandisement and money-making. To what our contemporary's reflections tend for practical purposes it is not easy to discover, but the Nippon's general idea seems to be that men's attention should be directed to these problems before they develop dimensions that dely solution. Passing from the realm of theory, our contemporary prefers sweeping charges against the Government for leaving the nation entirely without laws adapted to these new conditions, and for such displays of incompetence and corruption as totally disqualify it to be entrusted with the charge of enterprises which, in consideration of the relation they bear to public convenience and the discharge of public business, are elsewhere regarded my pro-perly falling under State control. The Nippon hinks that among the most serious dangers of the time a foremost place must be given to railways run solely in the money-making interests of selfish companies, and that to institute a proper system of official supervision is an imperative duty.

> The Mainichi Shimbun continues to insist upon its familiar argument that Japan's policy should have for its main objects the development of her material resources, the avoidance of all entangling alliances and the rendering of such assistance to Chine as shall lead her into the path of progress. Our contemporary thinks that the first chapter in the history of the Far-Eastern problem has now been closed. The fierce monsters that threatened to rend China into pieces have disagreed between themselves, and paused out of mutual jealousy. They now stand in an attitude of readiness, Russia on the north, France on the south, and England in the Yangtze Valley. In view of Russian menaces, England sees no help except to court an alliance with Japan. Japan must remember that such alliance would array the other Powers against her. Equally if she joined hands with Russia she would alienate England's friendship. Her course, then, is to stand neutral and prepare vigorously for the opening of the second chapter of the problem's history, an event that can not be very far distant. In the meanwhile she should space no effort to contribute to the safety of China, her neighbour, her relative, the parent of her civilization. China's plight in miserable at present, but she has immense resources and an enormous population of industrious, intelligent people. If she only emerges from her conservative groove, she can not fail to become strong. It should be Japan's sim to bring about that end. Our contemporary's article-signed " Abe Toyo "-abounds in generalities but is entirely devoid of practical details.

The closing of the first phase of the Far-Eastern question is discussed by the Kokumin Each of the Great Powers concerned, according to our contemporary's view, has gained something. Germany is established at Kiao-chou; Russia has obtained a footing at Port Arthur, and England has not only announced apolicy that does high credit to her states manship. and hermorality, but has also secured its recognition by Russia, Germany and France. Kokumin refers at some length to the declarations made by British publicists, and says that the sentiment of the nation is evidently quanimous. It does indeed appear that England received a "set back" in connexion with the opening of

min's analysis: it is merely a recapitulation of the statements forwarded by the telegraph with reference to the outcome of the negotiations between the Governments in Peking and in London. But we may call attention to our con-temporary's conclusion that England having obtained from Russia a promise to respect the integrity of Korea, and from all the Powers a virtual engagement that they will not attempt to seek any exclusive advantages in China, owes it to her prestige to see that these pledges are fulfilled.

Now that there is a tolerably certain prospect of China's paying off the remaining portion of the Indemnity in May, the Shogyo Shimpo urges the advisability of following Germany's example, as recommended by Bismarck; namely, laying the money aside to serve as a fund for belligerent purposes should the occasion arise. The facts connected with the storing of a moiety of the French Indemnity at Spandau to form a War fund are related by our contemporary, and the impossibility of using national armaments to advantage, however strong they be, unless funds are available, is insisted on. it have fared with Japan when hostilities commenced with her neighbour had she not happened to possess a surplus of some forty million yen in the Treasury? It is not for the purpose of making war that she expands her armaments: it is for the purpose of preserving peace. From the moment that a country is known to be thoroughly well prepared to fight, the disposition of other States to defy it sinks to zero. But a country is not prepared unless it can lay its hands on a sufficient supply of funda at a moment's notice. Failing that ability, a nation's armaments are valueless and its tranquillity may be disturbed almost with impunity. The very wisest policy that Japan could now pursue would be to store away the gold she is about to receive from China and keep it resolutely intact to serve as a war fund.

Now that the larger excitement connected with China's fate has temporarily subsided, attention is once more directed to kussis's doings in Korea. The Tokyo Asahi is very emphatic on this subject. There ought to be no difficulty, it says, in determining the mesa-Prince Lebanow is dead but Marquis Yamagata remains, and the Minister who was at the head of the Japanese administration at the time of the Convention's signature, is again in power. Can Russia's proceedings in the peninsula be reconciled with any reasonable interpretation of the document? She interferen almost without a semblance of reserve in the domestic affairs of the little empire. At her fiat the Emperor's Ministers are dismissed or appointed. Her officers and noncommissioned officers direct the country's military affairs. One of her subjects controls its finance, having obtained that power by ousting an Englishman on whose behalf Great Britain made a fruitless naval demonstration. She has preferred extravagant demands for concessions of land in the newly opened settlements, and she insists upon receiving a large area for a coal depôt on Peer Island, opposite the Japanese Settlement of Fusan, careless of the fact that her application can not be granted without impairing Japan's already acquired rights. In short she is acting without the slightest regard either for Korea's independence or for the interests of England, Japan, and the United States. She ought to be attenuously reminded of the Lobanow-Yamagata Convention, and the representation of the three States flouted by her should combine to restrain her arbitrariness.

The Hiogo News announces that the German steamer 2 rilos, on her way to Kobe in charge of an unlicensed pilot, ran down a junk in Shimonoseki Straits, and then went ashore hear to Dancoura Lighthouse at the eastern entrance. This strike furnishes a topic for a very long dissertation in the columns of the Nispon.

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Talien, but if she made a concession at one purpose in other purpose in other purpose in other proceeded on her voyage. One of the junk-dissertation in the columns of the Nispon.

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We need not pursue the Koku- men was drowned Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### THE SILVER YEN.

It is a matter of surprise that the Government does not adopt a more resolute policy with regard to the exchange of silver yen coins. Whether any real responsibility ever devolved upon Japan to redeem all these coins with gold, is a question open to discussion. Certainly the holders of silver yen in Hongkong, Singapore yen coins hitherto presented for exchange and so on, never had the least thought has been trifling. By far the greater about redemption when they began to use the coins as tokens of exchange. They took them simply as discs of silver, the weight and standard of which could be certainly trusted not to vary beyond yen in China and the Straits will find its narrow limits. There was no more idea about the gold value of the yen than there was about the gold value of the Mexican dollar. It might be contended, with considerable show of plausibility, that although the Japanese Government was bound to like the silver yen tends to check the exchange any silver yen found within its growth of the world's faith in the stability exchange any silver yen found within its own horders, since the coin would cease to be legal tender under the new gold desirable to eliminate such elements as system, it was not bound to do anything of the kind with regard to silver yen cir-culating outside Japan in lieu of Mexican dollars and on precisely the same footing as Mexican dollars. Coins belonging to the latter category might be left to perform currency functions in foreign markets. Their intrinsic value to their holders would have remained precisely the same as the intrinsic value of the dollars they had replaced. In Singapore, for example, great inconvenience is now felt owing to the withdrawal of the silver yen from circulation and the resulting insufficiency of tokens of exchange. A few enterprising persons have doubtless benefited by collecting the yen and sending them to be changed in Japan at the ratio ruling in them. this country; but had no such operations been undertaken, Singapore would have remained in exactly the same financial of the subsidiary currency which, it is position as ever. It had no right to look for said, has been inconveniently inflated by anything in the silver yen except a fixed weight of silver of a stated fineness, and that right would not have been disturbed by the demonetization of the yen in Japan. One argument in the opposite sense may, indeed, be based on the fact that the circulating area of the year is diminished when it ceases to be legal tender in Japan, and that the conditions under which it was originally issued having thus been arbitrarily changed, its issuers have incurred the responsibility of withdrawing it. But it will not, we think, be seriously contended that the demonetization of the yen coin in Japan would have impaired its efficiency for currency purposes in China and the Straits Settlements. If Mexico were to adopt the gold standard to-morrow, would she be expected to exchange all the dollars that circulate in the Far East bearing her The latter figure seems scarcely credible. "image and superscription"? Certainly London advices put the rate at 90, less Orient is quite independent of their mone- sum required for the service of the debt tary quality in Mexico. Had the gold will be £840,000 annually, namely, price of silver remained where it was £720,000 interest and £120,000 sinking when the Japanese ratio was fixed, not fund, the time of redemption being 45 one yen coin would have been shipped to years. At the present low price of silver, Japan for exchange. Some might have China will receive \$986, approximately, returned in the ordinary routine of busi-ness, but none would have been sent in out of the account, so that what she loses to buy gold. That consideration is almost by the selling rate she recovers, in part, conclusive. Japan undertook no respon- by the appreciation of gold.

within her borders, when she decided to cease using the coins herself. Arguments of that kind might, we think, be advanced with much show of reason, and though their validity may be variously estimated, they certainly tend to prove that Japan is entitled to treat the problem of exchange it exists in Europe, there are still some more heroically than she seems disposed to treat it. It is true that the quantity of part of the gold demanded from the banks has been in exchange for notes. But if with a thick envelope of unemotional gold continues to appreciate, or even if it remains at its present point, every silver way back to Japan. Possibly there are not many yen to come back under any But that is a matter of circumstances. conjecture, and the point is that the existence of a conjectural, uncertain element of Japan's new monetary system. It is speedily as possible. Had the Diet continued in session, a bill for shortening the period of the yen's exchangeability would have been presented, and we really fail to see why the Government does not act independently since the Diet's cooperation can not be obtained before May at soonest. An objection has been raised in the sense that, with gold at its present price, an announcement shortening the redemption period would have the effect of drawing a flood of silver yen to Japan. Such an apprehension seems to us quite baseless. If the rate of exchange does not bring the yen coins to Japan, no announcement as to the time of exchangeability will have influence in attracting

There is a good deal of vernacular journalistic talk just now about the volume large coinage operations-30 million yen is the sum named. That, of course, is an altogether independent question, but our readers doubtless remember that part of the official programme at the time of the adoption of the gold standard was to utilize from 40 to 60 million yen of the stock of silver for purposes of subsidiary coinage. No one at that time predicted that such an issue would saturate the market, and there is a strong probability that the inconvenience now complained of is more imaginary than real."

#### THE CHINESE LOAN.

Conflicting accounts have been received with regard to the rate of issue of the new Chinese loan. The first statement from Peking was 90, and the second 83. Their usefulness as currency in the 2 per cent. commission, and say that the

#### BENEATH THE SURFACE.

We have had occasion to remark, from time to time, that while in the majority of traits humanity as it is found in Japan differs nothing from humanity as points of marked dissimilarity. Among these perhaps the most striking is the extraordinary thoroughness of the Japanese when he resorts to physical violence. His nervous system seems to be overlaid calm and suave self-possession, but let excitement be sufficiently keen to cut through this rind of restraint, and a kernal of the hardest nature is reached; a kernel which, under the strokes of agitation, emits not solitary sparks but a continuous flame of destructive fury. It results that while many of the cruelties that disfigure domestic intercourse and the social struggle in the Occident are almost unknown in this country, we hear occasionally of crimes so unrelenting, so wholesale, that they attest a fury bordering on in-sanity. Such a case is the massacre recently reported from a hamlet in Shizuoka. A youth of twenty-one, arming himself with a knife and a hatchet, slaughtered his sister-in-law together with her six children-ranging from a tiny girl of two to a lad of thirteen-for no profounder reason than that his dissolute habits had been rebuked by her husband. Not many instances of thoroughness so appalling have come under our notice, but the difference is one of degree only. Frequently the criminal records of Japan show us demented beings whose thirst for blood, though not entailing such awful results as those reported from Shizuoka, seems to be slaked only by want of further opportunity. Of course these extensive crimes are not peculiar to Japan : they are common enough in the West also. But it appears to us that there is a dif-ference of quality. We hear of jealous husbands killing their unfaithful wives and children in England, or of parents who, rendered desperate by poverty privation, make away with their families. But the cause seems to be in more reasonable proportion to the effect : the strain that breaks down moral resistance is more palpable and more appreciable. dangerous to theorize on such subjects. We may be told, for example, that the delirium of wanton destruction finds nowhere such conspicuous display as in the revolver-practice of an American rough. That, however, is an outcome of special circumstances, and, moreover, has to be classed as a peculiarity of the communities it disfigures. What we are disposed to think about the Japanese is that, while generally remarkable for selfrestraint, he allows himself to be driven over the border by motives which would have no such potency in the case of an Occidental, and that, having once stepped across, he displays a singular and shocking thoroughness of phrensy. The principle of vicarious revenge illustrated by the Shizuoka murder is probably a legacy from feudal times when the taint of treason was supposed to extend to the whole kith and kin of a traitor, and when children inherited the consequences of a parent's crime. But the desperate massibility with regard to the sterling value same reason, the sum paid to Japan, 721 siveness of the deed, so entirely out of of the silver in her yen coins when she million taels, will not represent as many proportion to the ostensible motive, points siveness of the deed, so entirely out of issued them from her Mint, and she did yen as would have been its equivalent to a moral trait which we are disposed to not incur any such responsibility, except had the sterling value of the dollar re-regard as essentially racial. It is a trait to her own nationals and to persons mained at about a shillings.

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purposes, but it is also a trait of unpleasant suggestiveness. For one of the greatest obstacles to the consummation of murderous crime is the perperator's solicitude on his own account. If the destrucmodern furnished by tive agencies science come within reach of men wholly indifferent to the danger of manipulating them and to the dimensions of their destructiveness, society can not rest as calmly as it does at present.

#### " RUSSIA'S DOINGS."

In an article under the above heading, the Mainichi Shimbun concludes that though England seemed so quiet at the commencement of the recent complications in the Far East, she has emerged at the end with far the largest gains to her credit. These gains are catalogued by the Mainichi as (1) the public assertion and recognition of her claim to have a controlling voice in the destiny of the Yangtsze Valley; (2) a concession that China's inland waters shall be opened to foreign steamers; (3) an engagement that certain new ports shall be opened; (4) permission that the Burmah Railway may be extended into Yunnau; (5) an engagement from Germany and Russia to open to general trade any port obtained by them in China; (6) Germany's actual opening of Kiao-chou; (7) France's disavowal to England of any aggressive purposes against China; and (8) that England and Germany have obtained the That is a formidable catalogue, new loan. but it includes at least one incorrect item, namely, the extension of the Burmah Railway. Germany, the Mainichi thinks, stands next to England on the list of gainers. She obtained everything for which she asked China; she has a lease of Kiao-chou, and she shares with England the new loan. Russia has fared worst. When all is said and done, it appears that she has simply received the use of Port Arthur for a winter station, from which she will be expected to withdraw in the spring, and, per contra, Kiao-chou, where she was supposed to have acquired certain permanent privileges, has passed into Germany's hands. These, it must be understood, are the views of the Mainichi Shim-bun. We offer no comment.

# A DOMESTIC CELEBRATION.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Masujima entertained a large party of friends-some two hundred-, on the afternoon of the 6th inst., to celebrate their little daughter's first arrival at the Sekku festival, which constitutes such an important epoch in the lives of Japanese children. Everybody having any acquaintance with the manners and customs of Japan, has heard of the "Girls' Fête" on the 3rd of the third month and the "Boys" on the 5th of the fifth month. The observances special to those occasions have been so often described that we need not allude to them here in detail. They were seen to great advantage in the spacious garden of Mr. Masujima's residence at Sakurada-machi, in the Azabu suburb of Tokyo, and were thoroughly enjoyed by the guests, both Japanese and foreign, though the little lady on whose account so much rejoicing took place and so many congratulations were offered, remained wrapped in the

#### " SCOTUS" AND " CALIBAN."

"Scotus" has been accorded two columns by a Kobe contemporary for the purpose of "sizing up" the Japan Mail and its methods. An old adversary is "Scotus;" an adversary with whom we have broken many a lance in not unfriendly tilt, for he keeps his temper and hits fairly. Reading his latest lengthy analysis of ourselves, we find much in the way of generalisation which, of course, must be left unnoticed, for a discussion based on generalities is in truth what the Oriental proverb describes it to be, m clutching at the clouds. But "Scotus" has an explicit grievance which we desire to notice, first as a point of journalistic courtesy, and secondly because of the imposing edifice of inference that he raises upon it. The grievance is that we deferred for a whole week the publication of his letter discussing an article which had appeared in the Mail; the inference, that we did so with malice intent, our crafty purpose being to spoil the potency of his logic by placing a long interval between its sharp points and the flaws in our own armour. This infer-ence is not limited in its scope. "Scotus" accords to it a position among the Mail's "minor tactics;" charges us, in short, with making a habit of holding over unwelcome correspondence until the matter it refers to "has become blue-mouldy stale," and then, a week later, commenting on some paltry point as though it were "the whole gist of the communication." Were we not sure that "Scotus" is entirely free from the petty vanity often fatal to school-men's moral equilibrium, we should hesitate to acquaint him with the facts of this case. But on the whole he will probably be more amused than piqued when we assure him that the editor's connexion with his letter was limited to writing in the margin proof to author." The letter having been forwarded from the Japan Mail office to the editor in manuscript, according to usage, and being a little difficult to decipher, the customary instruction was appended that "Scotus" himself should be given an opportunity of revising the proof, and thereafter the document received not even a passing thought from the editor. As to the time of its publication, he remained absolutely unreflecting and indifferent. Reproduced by Kobe journals, it next attracted his attention, and he then took occasion to comment briefly upon the strange epithet applied by "Scotus" to the Japanese coolie-" a high smelling edition of Caliban." "Scotus," having had some experience of journalism, ought to know that a letter to a newspaper possesses in the eyes of the correspondent a much larger place than it occupies in the editor's thoughts. Whether his dissertation on coolie conduct saw the light five days sooner or five days later may seem to him a large problem, but we can assure him that it did not present itself to us in even the faintest outlines. It thus becomes apparent that our old adversary's subtle inferences about the Mail's" minor tactics" are based on an airy nothing, and we may be permitted to recall to his classical recollection the time-worn apothegm-ad tristem partem strenua est suspicio.

Concerning the "scent" of the coolie,

the language they address to ladies in the streets of Kobe." Scotus was thinking, streets of Kobe. in short, of fator ex ore rather them fator ex corpore. We don't know whether "Caliban" will accept the amende or justify it by a figurative retort. But these are in truth minor questions. What demands notice in the strictures of "Scotus" is his assertion that coolies use foul language to ladies in the streets of Kobe and that according to his own experience, the demeanour of the lower orders towards foreigners has changed from one of remarkable courtesy to one of comparative rudeness. Such evidence, being based upon individual experience, must be accepted for what it is worth. It does not tally with our own observations, but one witness is as good as another, and for the rest, we are as fully persuaded as "Scotus" can be, though our speech may not be pitched in quite so high a key as his, that Japan is in danger of losing her reputation for courtesy and that her public men would do well to give the subject serious attention. Whatever evidences the streets of Kobe and the suburbs of Yokohama may furnish, however, we still hold that the great bulk of the Japanese labouring classes are hard-working, polite, goodhumoured folk, and that any rudeness dis-played by them towards foreigners is a matter rather of education than of instinct.

It was probably inevitable that what we recently wrote on the subject of coolie rudeness and its causes should invite comment from our local contemporaries. We were not prepared, however, for exactly the kind of comments that have appeared. Thus the Kobe Chronicle accuses us of inconsistency because, on Feb. 11th, we said "there is not much to be gained, perhaps, by discussing the cause or causes of such a state of affairs," whereas on February 25th we undertook to set forth one of the causes-the principal cause, as we think. Well, if the dictates of consistency compel a journal to abstain permanently from all discussion of a subject because it has ventured at some time to express a doubt whether much could be gained by discussing it, we do not care to be consistent. Circumstances alter cases, and a very important circumstance—the receipt of information about a memorial forwarded by the Kobe residents-, which constituted the explicit reason for our second article, had occur-red in the interval. The Robe Chronicle suggests also that as the editor of the Mail speaks so confidently about the ill-treatment of Japanese coolies in former times, he must himself have been one of the offenders, and further declares that it "quite fails to see what he can be aiming unless "remembering the 'glorious at, doings' of the early days, he wishes to covertly suggest that the present genera-tion of foreigners should go and do as their predecessors did." What may be meant by "glorious doings" we do not pretend to understand. The words were not used by us though the Kobe Chronicle's method of quoting them suggests that they were. There is no mistake about our contemporary's accusations, however. It encourages its readers to believe that the editor of the Japan Mail used to maltreat the Japanese in former times, and that he recommends the foreign commuwere offered, remained wrapped in the Concerning the "scent" of the coole, blissful unconsciousness of babyhood. It is a pity that these pretty observances do epithet "a high-smelling edition of Calinot find a place in the domestic life of ban," he referred not so much to the Europe and American of the cooling that every witness of acts the conclusions that every witness of acts the conclusions that every witness of acts the cooling that every witness of acts the cooling that every witness of acts the cooling that every witness of acts the cooling that the recommends the foreign community to revert to such methods now. That is at once polite and logical. It involves the cooling that the recommends the foreign community to revert to such methods now. That is at once polite and logical. It involves the cooling that the recommends the foreign community to revert to such methods now. That is at once polite and logical. It involves the cooling that the recommends the foreign community to revert to such methods now. That is at once polite and logical. It involves the cooling that the recommends the foreign community to revert to such methods now. That

and that to explain the abuses which have produced a certain unhappy result is to advocate their practice. But there is one semblance of a sober argument in our contemporary's article. It is this:—" The important point is that the Mail inferentially admits that the lower classes are not treated with cruelty or harshness now, and yet that cases of coolie outrage upon, and molestations of, foreigners are frequent." Well, in the very article criticized by our contemporary, we wrote:-

Truly we may go a step farther, and say that by many Europeans or Americans they are still in treated. Not by the better classes, of course. in treated. Not by the better classes, of course, if we except the scarcely avoidable petulance due to ignorance of the language of the country, the demeanour of respectable foreigners towards the Japanese at present leaves little to be desired. But it is not always so with liberty-men, with the denizens of "Blood Town" and with the lower orders of foreigners generally. Their manner towards the Japanese in too often unde and offensive the manner of superior beings to infector. sive, the manner of superior beings to inferior.

If these explicit expressions formed the basis of the Kobe Chronicle's version of our views, we suggest to our contemporary the not invariably neglected precaution of reading the matter one undertakes to cri-But we are perhaps wrong in supticise. posing that the Kobe journal intended to be taken seriously. It surely can not have expected to do more than raise a laugh when it accused us of advising the renewal of abuses to which we attributed the origin of an unhappy and regrettable state of affairs. In the course of years we have been favoured with various specimens of striking ratiocination by our local contemporaries, and it is pleasant to find that the Kobe Chronicle also belongs to the group of keen reasoners. We trust that its vein may not be quickly exhausted, for the most sparkling novel- the wares that he has for sale is not less ties may be expected from a journal which admirable than his faithful appreciation argues that to diagnose the causes of a malady is to recommend their operation.

We have been favoured by the Hyogo News also with some comments, but, as they are limited to arraying against us inconsistencies for which our contemporary is alone responsible, we need not devote space to a reply. The Hyogo journal has had the fairness to quote our conflicting statements in juxtaposition, and for that most effectual method of rebutting its own charge and vindicating our consistency, we have to thank it.

#### A COURAGEOUS DETRACTOR.

Had Mr. Gustavus Detring been in Japan, or even in the Far East, an anonymous correspondent—"A Britisher" The Minister of Foreign Affairs acted—writing to the Japan Gasette, who independently, and his arbitrariness speaks of him in most agreeable terms, seems to have furnished a ground of comwould doubtless have been pleased to plaint against him, rather than the nature extend his eulogies. But Mr. Detring is of the step he took. Still we may reason in Germany. There is not one chance in ably assume that had the leasing of land a thousand of his seeing "A Britisher's" on Deer Island to Russia been acceptable letter, which is a misfortune that the in the eyes of the Cabinet, Min Changanonymous correspondent must bave muk's act would not have been challenged foreseen with regret when he penned the under whatever pretext. From that point ing the gold standard to the Chinese. The foreseen with regret when he penned the epistle. He describes Mr. Detring as of view, therefore, there appear to be grounds for inferring that Russia is not unofficial Agent of Krupp and of other producers of articles made in Germany." It is a pity that these high-sounding epithets are not more intelligible. "The ler desire to defer Far-Eastern complications until she is "good and ready" to deal with them, cares very little whether quietly submit to the financial convulcing the producers of articles and the substance of the koreans and probably Russia, apart from easiest way of silencing complaints. The ler desire to defer Far-Eastern complications until she is "good and ready" to deal with them, cares very little whether quietly submit to the financial convulcing the point ing the gold standard to the Chinese. The wide-spread suffering and injustice for wide-spread suffering that Russia is not wide-spread suffering that Russia is not which the demonetization of silver is such a person grata in Korea as she involved the demonetization of silver is such a person wide he demonetization of silver is such a person grata in Korea as she involved the demonetization of silver is such a person grata in Korea as she involved the demone claimed to be the adviser and was not, or the Koreans are sympathetic or antipahad appointed himself adviser without the Viceroy's initiative. Now Mr. Detring they don't "like," unless some third arbitrariness of the creditor classes or
enjoyed the fullest confidence of his party takes them by the hand.

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Hung-chang for many years. negotiated the Fournier Convention in 1883; he assisted materially to promote the conclusion of the Tientsin Convention in 1885; he helped the Viceroy throughout the war with Japan; he came to this the matter of their pay. He has pre-country as the Viceroy's duly accredited sented a memorial to the Tsungli Yaenvoy to discuss terms of peace; he has thanked publicly by the Emperor of China; he has received more than one token of gratitude from the Empress Dowager; and throughout his remarkable career he never for an instant forfeited the trust and friendship of his chief, Sir Robert Hart, nor was ever known to be guided by motives that were not thoroughly liberal and remarkably cosmopolitan. It is quite in accordance with the fitness of things that such a man should, with fine accuracy and magnanimous generosity, be spoken of as "the self-constituted Adviser of Li Hong-chang" by an anomymous newspaper correspondent, whose the case of the Customs' employes; namely avowed and high-souled motive is to that for purposes of remittance, the tael extol the excellence of British manushould be reckoned at three-fourths of factures over German. Mr. Detring 6s, 8d., or 5s. That would enable the himself was "made in Germany," and it Customs officials to remit their savings at is because she is unfortunate enough to the double of the present sterling rate. possess men of his type that Germany So, at least, we understand Sir Robert's remains the petty, unconsidered Power of whom neither Europe nor the world takes any account. "The self-constituted but unofficial Agent of Krupp and other producers of articles made in Germany' is an enigmatical individual whose functions and profits do not lie within the range of our limited conception. But we may be permitted to offer our tribute of admiring applause to "A Britisher," whose adroitness in constructing out of personal defamations advertisements of the wares that he has for sale is not less of English methods in general.

#### KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The news from Korea seems to indicate a kind of reaction against Russian influence. That a concession should be granthe must be left to choose a time and
ed to Russia for a coaling station on Deer
Island is not in itself a particularly im.
Peking Authorities. To try and fail
portant affair, although it is complicated would have been incomparably worse by the fact that a part of the area involved is said to have been already set aside for use in connexion with the development of the Japanese settlement at Fusan. Possibly the concession would not have pro- we may fairly assume that he took an voked any opposition on the part of the Korean Cabinet had the members been duly consulted. But they were not consulted. The Minister of Foreign Affairs acted toms' revenue as security for China's last plaint against him, rather than the nature on Deer Island to Russia been acceptable

#### PAY OF THE CHINESE CUSTOMS EMPLOYES.

Sir Robert Hart has at length taken up the cause of the Customs staff in men, urging that the example set by the Indian Government should be followed by China. The rupee was originally worth 2s., and on that basis the salaries of the Indian Civil Service officials were fixed, so that when the rupee fell to a shilling and even less, the sterling value of their salaries was correspondingly reduced. Recognising the hardship of such a change, the Indian Government decided that, for purposes of remittance to England, the salaries of its officials should have a fixed sterling value equal to three-fourths of two shillings, or eighteen pence. Sir Robert suggests a similar concession in plan, but as his memorial has not been published in full, we can not speak with certainty. He appends figures showing the growth of the trade upon which the Customs officials collect revenue for the Chinese Government-namely, in 1866, a foreign trade of 118 million taels and an interport trade of 32 millions, returning a revenue of 82 millions; and in 1806, a foreign trade of 334 millions and an inter-port trade of 62 millions, with a revenue of 25 millions. These statistics ought to have weight with the Chinese Government.

There has been a good deal of vehement writing on the above subject-writing couched in terms which repelled sympathy, hard as the case of the Customs' employé undoubtedly was, have always said that to doubt Sir Robert Hart's recognition of the hardship was impossible, but that, on the other hand, than not to try at all. It seems to us that Sir Robert has selected his time with active part in extricating China from her recent difficulties. Moreover, the hypothecation of the remainder of the Cusloan from English and German banks, renders it imperative that the service should be maintained on its present footing of efficiency, and from that point of view Sir Robert's proposal derives additional force.

Difficulties of the above character can not fail to have the effect of recommend-

#### FARMING IN JAPAN.

The Japan Times publishes a very interesting article on the question of tenant in consideration of a yearly payment of farming in Japan. Nothing can be more important at present than to know the exact condition of the agriculturist and the land-owner in Japan, for without such folks who seriously pretend that the land-knowledge it is impossible to estimate the owners are heavily taxed. No reference knowledge it is impossible to estimate the tax-paying capacity of those classes. Our contemporary takes the case of a family consisting of five persons, three of whomthe father, mother, and one son-are capable of working in the fields; the other two being an aged parent and a young child. The farm is supposed to have an area of 21 acres, the ratio of wet-field to upland being 6 to 4, and the locality chosen is the fertile provinces of Owari, Mino, Ise, and so on. The Japan Times enters minutely into the quantity and nature of the various crops raised-the land gives two crops annually, the wet fields being drained and planted with rape after the harvesting of the rice-but we need not follow these particulars. salient points of the statement are quite sufficient. It appears, then, that the rent paid to the land-owner for wet fields-i.e. rice-fields—is 56 yen per acre, and for upland 28 yen; and that the total value of the crops raised is 294.13 yen, of which 112 yen goes to the landlord and 182.13 yen to the tenant. Our contemporary then proceeds to estimate the expenditures of such a family, and arrives at the conclusion that they aggregate 176.52 yen annually, which total includes 30 yen on account of manure. Thus there remains a margin of 5.61 yen per annum. The calculation is on the basis of 10 yen per koku for rice. Hence it is plain that if the market price of the cereal stood at a lower figure, the family could not possibly make ends meet, unless the prices of other necessaries fall correspondingly. is one point that will at once strike our readers. It is that a man, his wife, and a son who is a mere lad, are supposed to till 21 acres of land, cropping it twice in the year, as well as to discharge all the duties connected with the household. Is that possible? It certainly indicates extraordinary industry.

The rents, however, are the most remarkable feature in the account. Tenants in the provinces indicated pay £5.12 per acre for wet fields and £2.8 for uplands. Those would be fine figures in the richest European country. Let us see how they work out for purposes of taxation. The area of wet fields under cultivation in Japan is 6,869,443 acres, and the area of dry fields, 4,653,438 acres. If we put the average rent of the former at £4.10, or, say, 45 yen, and the average rent of the latter at £1.10, or, say, 15 yer—figures which ought not to be too high—the result is that the rent of all the agricultural land in Japan is 379 million yen, in round numbers. Of course the land is not all in the hands of tenants : the larger half is farmed by the proprietors thempose that difference need not be taken into consideration. What we want to refer to this ramification-brains know is the actual sum that the land is

feudalism the Government, which then tween possessed all the land in the realm, handed over permanently to the people, 35 million yen, property from which its holders now derive an income of more than ten times that sum. Yet there are is made here to the actual tillers of the soil. We speak only of the income that the land is capable of bringing to its proprietors without the least expenditure of toil or capital on their part. That income is ten times the sum derived by the State from its some-time property.

#### LATEST DISCOVERY IN MEDICINE.

Among the many startling facts recently enunciated by medical journals, not the least remarkable is that there is merycism among human beings. What on earth does "merycism" mean, the average reader will no doubt exclaim. It means simply chewing the cud. There are ruminants among our fellow-mortals. That is now beyond question. The published accounts of this curious faculty, or abuse, go to show that it is a condition generally accompanied by dyspepsia or idiocy. Children, however, may develop the habit from mere imitation, and may be cured of it either by Solomon's method or by suggestion. The latter, indeed, seems not unlikely to become the final substitute for all medicines. Professor Gates of Washington is the great exponent of the theory. Briefly stated his contention is that an individual has "power to confine his consciousness exclusively to the sensations of any selected part of the body, and by practice to send more blood to that part, thus altering therein the lym-phatic and thermic functions." If that be the case, then evidently cures can be effected by volition. But the question at once arises, how to bring about the necessary operation of the mind. Professor Gates proposes to effect that by environ-ment. Certain surroundings produce cer-tain cerebral actions, and the Washington investigator believes that it will be possible, some day, to predict with accuracy the precise mental change resulting from any given change of outward conditions. Such is his theory, reduced to the simplest terms. It will not surprise anyone inter-ested in electro-biological research to read the Professor's contention that "in proportion to the degree of the mentation every living thing gives off electric waves and other kinds of waves, and these forms of radiant energy falling upon other living clined to entertain any applications of the things at once modify their mental processes." What a field here offers for explaining things hitherto regarded as miracles. One consequence of Professor much permanent vitality, and had better Gates' theory, were it elaborated into a practical system, would be that criminal inclinations in young folks could be effec-But for our immediate purtually cured, and to go a step farther-at difference need not be taken though the Professor himself does not hitherto unconceived power might be built capable of bringing to its owners, apart up, for since the brain is nothing more sprung into existence during the past from the returns it gives to those that till than a part of the physical organism, its three years. It is further reported that it. The sum appears to be 379 million defects and deficiences must come within among the petitions for railway charters yen, out of which 35 millions are paid to reach of the new curative method equally now in the hands of the Bureau, a hundred

certain germs armed deadly poisons, or toxins, and the white blood-cells which fight to conquer the germs and preserve life. In short, we carry about with us always a family of foes ready to take advantage of every opportunity to attack and destroy us. Such an opportunity, for example, is exposure to cold or privation, or anything that lowers the vitality of the body and thus diminishes its power to resist these watching enemies. If the theory of Prof. Gates be valid, why should it not be possible to develop or multiply the white blood-cells until the poisonous germs are completely destroyed? Then we should be proof against the ravages of disease and decay. It is not wise, however, to ridicule the work of learned persons. Many years ago a witty writer conceived the idea of a race of men independent of the vulgar necessity of eating. Their stomachs being removable, they simply took them out at set hours, and hung them over the backs of their chairs until a waiter came round and filled them. Everybody laughed at the quaint, if somewhat coarse notion, but now-a-days we are confronted by the medical fact of a Swiss woman whose stomach has been entirely removed, and who, three months after the operation, isenjoying good health. Dr. Carl Schlatter of Zurich was the operator and Anna Landis the patient. A tumor involving the whole stomach was the trouble, and the doctor simply took away the stemach and joined the esophagus with the intestine. Civilization tends to deprive us of hair and of teeth, to make us web-footed, and to develop our heads to a monstrous size. A great surgeon proves that we can do without stomachs, and an eminent philosopher endeavours to demonstrate that we want mind only. The world is progressing.

# RAILWAY SPECULATION.

It is alleged by a vernacular newspaper that among the numerous companies organized after the war for the purpose of building railways, no less than a hundred and twenty find difficulty in getting in their capital, and have consequently been obliged to apply to the Railway Bureau for an extension of the periods within which, according to their charters, the work of construction must be The Authorities at the commenced. Railway Bureau, however, baving long appreciated the necessity of imposing every reasonable check upon the mania of railway enterprise by which the nation began to be afflicted in 1895, have debe relegated to the limbo of "unsound," The result will be, presumably, that these hundred-and-twenty companies will have to dissolve into their primitive elements, an issue not to be lamented, we think. of They can be very well spared out of the host of cognate undertakings that have the Government in the form nominally of with the ailments and diseases of the tax but really of rent to the original proprietors. We may state the case in another way thus:—After the abbillion of price of the ailments and diseases of the ailments and diseases of the ailments and diseases of the ailments and diseases of the ailments and diseases of the ailments are now convinced that our bodies are he were a sanguine man who should say other way thus:—After the abbillion of price of the ailments and diseases of the ailments and diseases of the ailments are now in the hands of the Bureau, a hundred with the ailments and diseases of the ailments are part of the Bureau, a hundred with the ailments and diseases of the ailments are part of the Bureau, a hundred with the ailments are part of the Bureau, a hundred with the ailments and diseases of the ailments are part of the Bureau, a hundred with the ailments and diseases of the ailments are part of the Bureau, a hundred with the ailments are part of the ailments and diseases of the ailments are part of the bureau, a hundred with the ailments are part of the ailments and diseases of the ailments are part of t

#### FOREIGN TRADES OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

In 1866 the foreign trade of China aggregated 118 million taels; in 1896, the figure was 334 millions. The ratio of figure was 334 millions. We have not increase was as I to 2.83. before us at present the figures of Japan's trade for a more remote date than 1878, but that will suffice for purposes of com-parison. It appears, then, that Japan's trade in 1878 was 58½ million yen, and in 1897 it rose to 3821 millions, the ratio of increase being as 1 to 6.54 approximately. Thus, whereas China's trade was not quite tripled in 31 years, Japan's was more than sextupled in 20 years. Reducing the totals to yen for purposes of direct com-parison, we find that China's trade in 1896 totalled 445 million yen and that Japan's trade in 1897 totalled 382 millions, omitting fractions, the difference being only 63 millions. Japan, in fact, has marched steadily up until she is now treading on China's heels, and will soon actually take the lead, unless something very unforeseen occurs. Mr. Consul Longford was the first to call attention, some five years ago, to the fact that Japan was getting within measurable reach of China in this field. But he did not venture to predict, no one ventured to predict, results such as now confront us. China's results such as now confront us. potentialities are enormous, but that the commerce actually carried on by her three hundred million inhabitants with foreign countries should have been overtaken by the commerce of Japan's forty-two millions is a fact bearing eloquent testimony to the comparative slowness of the former's development and the rapidity of the

It is worth notice that, in 1896, China collected a customs revenue of 251 million taels on a foreign commerce of 334 millions and on an interport trade of 62 millions. Hence her revenue was 61 per cent. of the trade from which it was derived. same year-1896-Japan collected 7 million yen-the exact figure is 6,904,187on a trade of 290 millions-the exact figure is 289,517,234. Thus in Japan's case the revenue was less than 21 per cent. of the trade. Had Japan's rates been the same as her neighbour's, the revenue derived by her from her customs duties would have been 184 million yen instead of 7 millions.

#### A CONTECTURE.

A correspondent writes :- " Under the Dragon Flag has interested me much. It seems to me that your criticism contains a little mixture of cause and effect. You say that the author took his ideas, etc., from journalistic accounts. I am as sure as a man can be without absolute proof that something nearly the reverse represents the truth of the case. Thus-I can have no doubt that the book was written by Stephen Hart. I have no doubt that Creelman's writing about Port Arthur was entirely based on the lies he heard from Hart at that place. Unfortunately, though I feel sure that what I say is correct, I have no absolute proofs. If I had I would take some means to make the matter I do not know whether you ever met Mr. Hart. I met him both before and charge of them, so as to introduce a better after he was imprisoned in Kobe for some months. He was a man of most plausible, well as to provide more commodious I may almost say fascinating, manners, buildings; reforms of which the local ginal from and of endoubted bablity: 30 is as communes, if left to themselves, will not ginal from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

know, without any of the common vices that afflict such poor creatures as myself, but with the simple determination to live in no way but 'on his wits,' and of these he had plenty. He had also a deal of imagination, and, for no reason that I could find out, a deadly hatred of the Japanese." We know nothing about Mr. Stephen Hart, but have heard a good deal. But if he be the author of "Under the Dragon Flag," he appears to be in a fair way to achieve the notoriety desirable in the interests of his publishers. On the same hypothesis we may add that he has rightly judged the Port Arthur episode to be capable of further exploitation. Mr. James Creelman manufactured out of it a first-class sensation which proved much more effective for self-advertising purposes than his marvellous account of the Pingyang fight, written before he had even visited the scene. There is a great deal to be made out of such matters when the people at whose expense the honorable profit is realized are not in a position either to exhibit the ingenuous annalists to the public in the light that their illustrious veracity deserves, or to bestow upon them the more forcible reward that patriotic gratitude would suggest.

#### TAPANESE PROVINCIAL PRISONS.

A visit was paid a few days ago by a party of foreign residents of Kobe to the Hyogo prefectural prison. Among the visitors were the editors of the Kobe Chronicle and the Hyogo News, and both journals publish detailed accounts of what was seen at the prison. There is nothing specially novel or striking in the accounts, hich are just what they ought to beplain, unvarnished narratives, setting forth the dimensions of the cells, the manner of their construction, the clothing and food of the prisoners, and so on. We food of the prisoners, and so on. need not quote these accounts, but it seems well to re-produce the conclusions arrived at by the two editors :-

The impression left on our minds by this visit The impression left on our minds by this visit in the most important prison of the prefective is that, while the system adopted may be suitable enough when applied to Japanese and the manner of life to which the people of this country are accustomed, it is totally mitted for foreigners. Even as regards Japanese accustomed to a fairly good standard of living, we feel convinced that lasting injury to health must be the result of even a brief imprisonment. The unconvicted prisoners are worst off, as has been shown, and, when the difficulty of obtaining bail is taken into consideration, together with the character of the food and the limit of expense in the quantity and quality of food supplied, we have no hesitaand quality of food supplied, we have no hesita-tion to saying that a term of imprisonment in a jail under such conditions would be for many fo-ceigners, if not a sentence of death, at least the infliction of lifetong injury, -Kobe Chronicle.

Our conclusion is this that, as in most other

things, much depends upon the responsible head as to the conditions of the Prison tife; properly administered it is not an impossible one for the average Japanese to pass through without suffer ing permanent injury; but at its very best it would be a cruel infliction upon any European, and could not be endured for any length of time without life-long traces remaining in a broken constitution. There must be material changes introduced for possible foreign offenders under the new Treaties. -Hyogo News.

We have already explained that the condition of the provincial prisons has been for some years considered unsatisfactory, and that the only effective remedy is for the Central Government to assume the system and uniformity of treatment, as

support the expense. The two editors do not condemn the Hyogo jail as unfit for Japanese prisoners, though their admission of its fitness is qualified. As to that, however, their opinions are not likely to carry much weight. The Japanese will be disposed to judge for themselves. For our own part we merely point to one fact, concerning which there can scarcely be much room for discussion, namely, that no arrangements exist for warming the cells. Undoubtedly that is a great hardship. The importance of the two journals' views consists in their reference to foreign prisoners. It would certainly be a serious prospect were foreign suspects or criminals to be fed, clothed and lodged after the fashions of the Hiogo jail, which, it may be assumed, is by no means the worst among provincial prisons. Happily nothing of the kind is to be apprehended. As stated recently in these columns, the Government long ago decided that to condemn foreign prisoners to a diet and a costume entirely strange to them, would be an unjust aggravation of their punishment, and that special arrangements must be made to prevent such an abuse. The matter has not been neglected by the Foreign Representatives also. Meanwhile we have no doubt that the energy of the Kobe journals will produce a salutary effect upon Japanese public opinion.

#### THE " MAINE."

We seem to be reading an epitaph as we peruse the various comments made by the United States' press on the despatch of the Maine to Havana. These comments were penned at the end of January, and within a few days, the ship had been destroyed and 258 of her crew had perished. No American man-of-war had visited Havana for two years when the Maine was sent, and the political opponents of the Cabinet were not slow to denounce the step as a deliberate display of disregard for Spanish susceptibilities and an attempt to set the match to American inflammibilities. Of course it was nothing of the kind, being simply a natural precaution on account of American life and property. Consul-General Lee had represented that a war vessel was needed at Havana in view of disturbances which had taken place there. The Spaniards, indeed, were disposed at first to take umbrage at the measure, but their Representative in Washington, Mr. de Lome, finding that Consul-General Lee's requisition would inevitably be complied with, adopted a very adroit course. He pointed out that the re-appearance of United States menof-war in Cuban waters meant nothing more than that America's relations with Spain had once more become normal, and that her vessels could now renew their friendly visits to Spanish ports without risk of misconstruction.

Telegrams to the Manila Comercio state that the disaster to the Mains at Havana was caused by the dynamos of the electric light installation communicating fire to the magazine, which caused an explosion of the powder and torpedos, blowing up the ship with the whole of the crew. Two hundred and eighty were killed and hundreds injured. The greater of the crew. number of the aurvivors were picked up by boats from the Spanish cruiser Alfonse XIII. Hongkong Daily Press.

DEATH OF THE REV. G. F. VERBECK.

The Rev. G. F. Verbeck, D.D., expired in his residence at Reinan-zaka, Tokyo, on Thursday the 10th instant at 12.20 p.m. He had been ailing for some three weeks, but his condition did not suggest serious uneasiness or oblige him to keep his bed all the time. On Thursday, he seemed better, but towards noon he lay down, desiring his servant to bring luncheon to his bed-side. The servant obeyed, but in the act of swallowing the first morsel Dr. Verbeck expired. Dr. Whitney, who lives close at hand, was summoned at once, but death had apparently been instantaneous. There There can be little doubt that the cause was heart-failure, for the symptoms of the illness had clearly indicated trouble of that nature. Dr. Verbeck was in his sixty-ninth year and had spent some forty years in Japan. The first era of his sojourn was passed in Nagasaki. There, by untiring assiduity, he acquired an admirable mastery of the Japanese language, written and spoken; a mastery so exceptional that he was able to preach fluently in the vernacular. Indeed, his capacity in this respect was almost without parallel, and considering his linguistic facility, his gift of oratory, his singlehearted devotion to the cause of Christian propagandism and the fine example of his blameless life, he may be said to have contributed more to the spread of Christ's creed in Japan than perhaps any other of the noble men whose lives have been given to that purpose. There is, in truth, no brighter chapter in the history of America's intercourse with Japan than the chapter which tells of the work done by Drs. Brown, Hepburn and Verbeck. In the field of education and even in the realm of politics Dr. Verbeck played an eminently useful but always unostenta-tious part. His transparent sincerity of character won the immediate confidence of all that came into contact with him, and his clear insight, just views and un selfish sympathy made him an invaluable counsellor. It was he that organized the Kaisei-Gakko, Japan's first college, the embryo of the present University, and many schools now flourishing derived able and kindly assistance from him in their early days. How much aid he rendered to the politicians of the Meifi era in carrying out their progressive programme, we cannot attempt to estimate: but curiously enough, on the very night before he died, the present Prime Minister and Count Okuma, little thinking that the subject of their conversation had only a few hours longer to live, reminded each other that in a memorial penned by him at the time of the Restoration, he recommended the measure which probably contributed more than any other to promote the spread of liberal ideas in Japan, the despatch of publicists to Europe and America for the purpose of studying the civilization on which Japan had so long turned her back. The death of such a man is not merely a source of keen grief to innumerable friends; it is also ■ loss to Japan and a loss to Christianity.

The Rev. Jas. H. Ballagh, in a letter referring to the late divine, says that he was a Hollander by birth, an American by adoption, but failed to get his proper papers of naturalization, so that H.I.J.M.'s Government accorded him the peculiar privilege, for himself, and members of his have joined an anti-opium league which more than 500 privilege, for himself, and members of his have joined Boyeki.

family, of citizens for periods of one year at a time. This privilege was especially granted in view of his long service in educational and parliamentary matters, for which also he a received an Imperial decoration some years since.

#### FOREIGN JOURNALS IN JAPAN.

In the Proceedings of the Institute of Journalists for January, we find the following :-

Mr. Lionel F. Gowing (for Mr. E. P. Nuttall), on behalf of the Landon District, called attention

to the following resolution quanimously adopted by the London District:—
That the London Representatives on the Council be instructed to call its attention to the letter of Mr. H. Tennant, editor of the Fapan Gazette, and a member of the Institute, republished from the Times in the Languaghet for Ottober 222d 1822. Times in the Journalist for October 23rd, 1897, on the subject of English newspapers in Japan, with a view to action being taken thereon. and moved :-

That the President be requested to take such steps as may be necessary to bring the malter under the notice of the Marquis of Salisbury.

It was well known that a treaty had been con-cluded with Japan, and would come into force a year or so hence, by which Englishmen in Japan year or so bence, by which Englishmen in Japan would become subject to Japanese law, and so, therefore, would the English newspapers in that country. Under Japanese law a foreigner could be forbidden to own or edit a paper in Japan, and this, it would be seen, was a most important subject therefore to English Journalists in that country. Mr. H. W. Strong seconded the motion. As a personal friend of Mr. Tennant, he could say that that could say that

that gentleman would not have written as he had except with a very serious sense of personal responsibility.
The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

This is a subject which has been discussed ad nauseam. The letter referred to above contained the erroneous statement commented on by us at the time-the statement that the clause in the Japanese Press Law interdicting the publication or editing of newspapers by foreigners, had been inserted with a view to the operation of the Revised Treaties. It would scarcely have been possible to make a more misleading asssertion, for the fact was that the clause had stood in the Law for many years, and that the Law itself was enacted solely for the control of Japanese vernacular journals. Mr. Tennant represented the Japanese Diet and the Japanese Government as legislating with the direct object of excluding foreigners from the field of journalism in Japan after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, whereas they had legislated simply with reference to the effective control of their own nationals in that field. and the reason of the insertion of such clause was the existence of Consular Jurisdiction, not its pending abolition. Of course Mr. Tennant erred unintentionally, but certainly it should have been his duty to lose no time in correcting the false charge preferred by him against the Japanese Diet and the Japanese Cabinet. The "very serious seuse of personal responsibility" with which he is credited by Mr. H. W. Strong, ought to have suggested to him that to leave uncontradicted and unacknowledged a very gross error, the publication of which was his sole work, is not the course usually pursued by conscientious persons.

The Daido Gakko, a school in the Settlement, Yokohama, devoted to the instruction of Chin-

# JAPAN AS A MARITIME NATION.

The foreign trade of Japan, remarks the Yiji, has considerably increased since the war with China, though there has been an abnormal excess of imports. This may be only temporary, but it is a cause for apprehension in view of the adjustment of national finances. The expansion of commerce has, however, given a small stimulus to the direct export business, which, according to last year's statistics, seems to have increased 4.4 per cent, over the previous year, The exports and imports carried by [apanese vessels in 1896 covered a little over ten per cent. of the whole trade, but last year the amount swelled to 18.6 per cent. This fact must be chiefly attributed to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's adoption of a resolute scheme towards opening a regular service to Europe, America, and Australia. The foreign trade conducted by Japanese merchants covers from 28 to 33 per cent, of the entire transactions, but the goods shipped by ]apanese vessels do not exceed 12 to 16 per cent. It is hardly necessary to say that the profits of foreign commerce can be secured only by maintaining a balance between trade and navigation. The development of foreign steamship services is the only sound device for the expansion of direct commerce. Japan is geographically bound to make navigation her chief source of profit, and it is seriously to be deplored that she has not yet come near her goal. Her maritime enterprise is utterly wanting in vigour, and foreign commerce is consequently crippled. At present Korea and Hawaii are the only countries in regard to which over half the quantity of experts and imports are carried by Japanese vessels, Japan's carrying trade with other countries being atterly insignificant. In the Oriental trade the proportion between Japanese and foreign vessels is 28 to 72 per cent. The ratio as regards Europe is 6 to 94 per cent., that for America 4 to 94 per cent, and for other constries 8 to 92 per cent, the general average being 18 to 82 per cent. These facts may be taken us a conclusive testimony of the immaturity of Japan's maritime power in the East and the West. In the 30th year of Meiji, the Japan Steam Navigation Company having opened new routes of navigation to Europe and America, a certain amount of progress was made in shipping enterprises, but the results are yet far from reaching the ideal conceived by the promoters. Following is a comparative table showing the amount of imports and exports undertaken by both Japanese and exports undertaken o, foreign merchants in Japan :— Domestic

merchants. Yen The cargo shipped in both Japanese and foreign vessels was m follows :-

Damestic vessels. Foreign vessels. Meiji. 29th year...... 33.721 727 30th year...... 98,800,546 250.860.784

The amount of imports and exports both undertaken by native merchants and transported by native vessels may be totalled as follows:-

Native merchants. Native vessels. Meiji. 29:li year...... 80,777,293 33,721,727 68,800,548 30th year.....123 935,070

#### FATAL EXPLOSION AT THE ELEC-TRIC LIGHT WORKS.

Shortly after 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening one of engines in the Yokohama Electric tag one of engines in the rosonama electric Light Company's works suddenly exploded with tremendous force, owing it is said, to the racing of the engine. The ceiling and a portion of the brick wall of the engineroom were broken, and one of the workmen was scalded by the escaping steam: a woman, we hear, was killed. At the time of the explosion the Minato theatre, near by, was alled with speciators, amongst whom great confusion aross, but no accident occurred.

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#### CIVILIZATION.

WHAT is "civilization"? We suspect that many people who prate glibly about the great abstraction would be just as much puzzled to answer the question as are not a great people. They have PILATE was to define truth. The Japanese simply a veneer of civilization. Next could be proved that TENNYSON had once savant upon whom devolved the task of year treaties of extra-territoriality fall in, been an inebriate, or that DICKENS suffered finding a vernacular equivalent for the and then you will find your mistake. in his youth from kleptomania, the persons word, must have been sorely perplexed. Japanese prisons are places which are eagerly interested in such revelations Looking back to the origin of the term, hardly fit to keep animals in. They are he can not have obtained much help, for cages and dens, not houses." A Russian than the delighted readers of "In Memo-"civilization," according to its Latin talking about prisons is an example of riam "or "Martin Chuzzlewit." No one significance, meant simply the state of admirable courage. And talking to Eng-understands that tendency of the human belonging to an organized community as lishmen, too, whose place in the ranks of mind better than the American journalist, distinguished from a state of rusticity or "civilization" a few decades ago would and none has at once the ability and the savagery. Obviously a literal rendering have been very low indeed had it been opportunity to exploit it more successfulof the word would have conveyed to the appraised by the state of their prisons. ly-ability because United States customs, mind of a Japanese no distinction between But the phrase, "a veneer of civilization," difficult of analysis, have educated to a his own state and the state of the men has a convincing sound. What is "civili- high standard of expertness this particular proudly standing in the "foremost files of zation?" One would suppose from the talent; and opportunity because the almost time," for he too belonged, just as much statements of "Sigma," the Russian boundless spaces at the command of the as they did, and had belonged for fully traveller, and from the glib talk of many American newspaper-man on Sunday, and fifteen centuries, to a highly organized another critic who takes care to be " in community. The translator was conser the fashion," that Japan had no civilizaquently obliged to have recourse to a tion of her own when she re-opened her essays from which English editors would paraphrase. He selected four ideographs arms to foreign intercourse forty years shrink dismayed. Sir EDWIN ARNOLD is, from the inexhaustible Chinese store, and, joining them together, obtained a quadrisyllable including the meanings "learning, enlightenment, improvement, and progress" (bummei kaikwa). It was certainly say that Europeans and Americans would be content to accept it as a full equivalent. Americans understand by "civilization" is obedience to Occidental manners and phic heights ascended by Western nations in motorwed hide, like the humble quadcustoms. The devout Christian, indeed, will tell you that to embrace Christianity is to be civilized; but we leave him aside, since his definition would exclude the Greeks and Romans, and they, it may be if critics like "Sigma," instead of stultify- much more considerable unscrupulouspresumed, will not be denied a title to the ing themselves by blind subservience to a ness. He began by making a discovery term. Consider the average Englishman, phrase, would sit down and compile a in the pages of "Japonica," a very pretand you will find that everything at conscientious catalogue of the details in tily written and charmingly illustrated variance with the social conventionalities which Japanese "civilization" falls below work on Japan, the combined production countered a party of British tourists in years in Japan, yet he would never have observed such a flagrant breach of civilitas in superficialities. on the part of an educated Japanese. We have now before us the comments of a Russian who spent two years in Japan, and is kind enough to parade his experi-

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ences for the benefit of the British lest they should fall into the error of regarding the Japanese as potential allies. O sancta simplicitas! "You do not know the Japanese," says this Russian. "They ago, whereas she possessed a very high perhaps, a greater lion in America than civilization; a civilization in many respects not inferior to our own, in some superior, and in all capable of not unfavourable comparison with the civiliza- saw of him the better they seem to have an expressive paraphrase, and we dare tion of Europe prior to the rise of the liked him. What a coup, then, would be great wave of modern progress. Is it to made by an enterprising journalist who be seriously contended that because the But in sober truth what Europeans and Japanese, in their isolation, did not climb to the mechanical, scientific, and philoso- the noble animal had been masquerading under the spor of competitive rivalry and ruped of the fable! The conception was by the aid of interacting intellects—is it to be inferred that they lack the faculty to or moral canons familiar to himself is European, they would find themselves of Sir EDWIN'S pen and Mr. ROBERT "uncivilized" in his eyes. There is no dealing, not with moral essentials, but BLUM'S pencil. In the first chapter of other way of accounting for his attitude with manners and customs which have no that dainty book, the author of "The towards the Japanese, for example. Some radical significance, but are the mere out- Light of Asia " devotes a few pages to time ago, the writer of this paragraph en-growth of environment and tradition. Japanese flower arrangement, a subject "Civilization" is not the real question. the streets of Tokyo. There were two "Civilization" has no poetic peculiarity : treated with remarkable thoroughness, apladies and two gentlemen, and the line was it is made, not born. The question is preciation and insight by Mr. J. CONDER. brought up by a guide, all in jinrikisha. wholly one of race. If there is a racial Sir EDWIN ARNOLD has a fine sense of the One of the gentlemen turned round as he deficiency, a racial incapacity on the part value of good work, and one of the rode along, and shouted out to the guide, of the Japanese to be great, we are justi-"Your country has been a good deal fied in taking little count of their future. civilized in the last few years, hasn't It were less wearisome and much more init?"; to which the guide shouted in reply, structive if some qualified ethnologist "Oh yes? a good deal." How free, would discuss the racial traits of the pleasant, and condescending! This polish- Japanese, and so save us from these ed Angio-Saxon might have sojourned for vague and superficial dissertations about

#### SIR EDWIN ARNOLD AND THE SENSATION ALIST.

NY celebrated man is a good subject Afor sensational journalists. The public revels in exposés of every kind, and if it would be a thousand times more numerous the microscopic type of the American compositor, encourage the publication of in England. The series of lectures delivered by him in the States drew immeuse audiences, and the more people should tear off this lion's skin in the sight of American multitudes, and show that magnificent, and a purveyor for the New York Herald recently set himself to act make such ascents? It appears to us that upon it with considerable adroitness and which, as our readers well know, has been pleasant traits that he displayed during his residence in Japan was a most unassuming receptivity. He took infinite pains to instruct himself, and made industrious application to all available sources of information. Naturally when he wanted to speak of flower arrangement he went to Mr. CONDER'S writings and personally to Mr. CONDER himself, and the inevitable consequence was that the portion of "Japonica" treating of this subject came to embody many of the results of Mr. CONDER'S research, sometimes set

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forth in Mr. CONDER'S words, sometimes paraphrased by Sir EDWIN. Here it was that the sensationalist of the New York Herald made his "discovery." Sir ED-WIN ARNOLD had not always been strictly careful to use the conventional inverted commas when he quoted from Mr. CONDER. short order. The treatment that China is at the appropriation of the stolen goods Sometimes he used them; sometimes he receiving partakes largely of the comical. by Russia. Would she have deemed it did not. That was enough foundation for a It closely resembles the method of the her duty to insist upon her confederates' charge of plagiarism. The sensationalist foot-pad who presents a pistol at a way- observance of the principle set up for the procured Sir EDWIN'S photograph; repro- farer's head and demands his money or his duced it in imposing proportions; wrote life. The choice, indeed, can scarcely be under it "Sir EDWIN ARNOLD, the Poet called optional, but the device has the sia that if the tenure of the Regent's and Anthor of Japonica; it now appears agreeable result of inducing the way-farer Sword Peninsula by a foreign Power conthat the work on Japan, which has reached to go through the form of surrendering world-wide fame, was borrowed largely his purse. Russia pursues pretty much from other authors"; and added five the same line of procedure. She bids columns of close print to establish this China hand over Port Arthur, or prepare accusation and to prefer others of a vulgar after five days to be-what? That is the and by refusing to recognise it, they and scurrilous type. Now it is undoubt- question. Is the thing to be a tragedy or become participes criminis with Russia. edly true that Sir EDWIN in a few in a farce? As to a warrant for the demand, We are glad to think that England is not stances allowed himself to follow Mr. no one pretends that there is any. Indeed, CONDER verbatim, without explaining that Russia's advocates can find only one exhe was doing so. But the simple fact is cuse for her magnificently unscrupulous that his whole discourse upon flower audacity. Germany was able to veil the old age. It occurs to us, further, to arrangement is avowedly an epitome of immoral aspect of her Kiao-chou proce-CONDER'S work. Sir EDWIN prefaces dure under the cassocks of two missionhis synopsis by saying :- "Those who aries-a flimsy veil in truth-but Russia would understand to what a pitch Japan- does not give herself the smallest concern tion." That document handed over Port ese fancy has raised the art of flower to find a pretext. She wants Port Arthur, Arthur to Russia and made provision for arrangement should study a most erudite and that is quite sufficient reason, she article published in The Transactions of thinks, for taking it. This is certainly a the Asiatic Society of Japan upon this grand era in the history of civilized profascinating subject. Without the aid of gress. The world, with its finely elaboratat present. If she puts down her foot, ed codes of international law, has been she can dictate. But we doubt whether accustomed to raise hands of horror over she intends to continue her opposition to the deeds of FREDERICK THE GREAT, but disciples tell us that Russia's unceremoni-Russia's aspirations for an ice-free port behold, a greater than FREDERICK is here; provided that no commercial restrictions more than one greater, in truth. 'Tis of she is so considerate as to humiliate the are the outcome. It has to be observed little use moralizing, however. The facts that war with China would not necessarily are more striking in their naked gauntness result from Russia's appropriation of than they could be in any drapery of lan-Port Arthur in the face of its owner's pro- guage. Japan, perhaps, has the keenest Believers in the CASSINI Convention are test. Assuredly Russia would not willingly appreciation of their irony. It is almost capable of believing anything. But it is add the horrors of war to the immorality an anniversary for her. Had Russia postof her seizure. She would simply sit down poned her demand for a few weeks, Japan and dely China to push her out, a feat might have said :-" This day three years whether Great Britain will interfere. There which China would scarcely attempt. It I was turned out of Port Arthur on the is a possibility-not a probability, perhaps, has also to be observed that Russia takes solemn pretext that the occupation but surely a possibility—that China may this extraordinary step on the very morrow of the Liaotung Peninsula by a fo- have some back-bone on this occasion. of the declaration made in the House reign State would be a menace to the If she definitely refuses, and if despite her of Commons. A singular coincidence, safety of the Chinese capital, and refusal, Russia proceeds to occupy the surely-a coincidence which must be now of the three foreign States that place, it will be difficult to say that the intaken to mean either that Russia is as- combined to turn me out, one is seated dependence of China, which the House of sured of China's yielding; or that she on the Shantung Peninsula, over the way Commons has declared it necessary to does not count her demand a violation of from Liaotung, and another is preparing preserve, is respected; for the situation China's independence; or that she has an to seat itself on Lizotung." It occurs to will then be this, that any Power choosing understanding with England; or that she us at this juncture to speculate on the to ask for a slice of Chinese territory can intends to defy England. If the last be present feeling of the critics who so vehe- point to the Russian precedent. England her idea, it is singularly courageous, for mently condemned England for not join- is overwhelmingly strong in these waters the British squadron could blow her ships ing the Three-Power Coalition in March, such guidance, your Japanese gardener out of the water without much difficulty. 1895. We ventured to say at the time would, indeed, make you understand in a Our own belief is that she looks to obtain that England had done right, that a very little time, by the daily floral adorn-China's consent, in which event there galley with the three allies at the oars ments which he constructs, how little you, would, of course, be no pretext for the was not exactly suited for her to sit in, as an European or American, know upon interference of a third party. Look at the and that she had obeyed the natural the topic, and what scientific ideas ought matter how we may, however, the incident trend of events as well as adhered to the to govern it. But we must go to Mr. suggests consequences not at all favour-lines of her proper policy when she stood CONDER to get a just notion of true prin-Far East.

RUSSIA AND PORT ARTHUR.

lease of Port Arthur, and has requested the fruits of their victory, and she would an answer from the Tsung-li Yamen at also have the responsibility of conniving able to the permanence of peace in the aloof. It appears that our view was cor- ciples in floral decoration." Then follow

a party to the Coalition, her position now would be somewhat embarrassing. She HERE seems to be no reason to doubt would have on her shoulders the responthat Russia has asked China for a sibility of having robbed the Japanese of purpose of driving Japan out of Lizotung? Would she have reminded Russtituted a menace to the safety of the Chinese capital in 1895, it constitutes an equal menace in 1898? Neither Germany nor France has recognised such a duty, in the same boat. She has plenty of sins on her head already, and may very properly begin to make a better record in her speculate on the present feelings of the folks who have pinned their faith so long and so firmly to the "CASSINI Conventhe extension of the Siberian Railway to the Liaotung Peninsula, and now we have Russia presenting an ultimatum for the lease of a place of which she has already obtained the cession. Will the CASSINI Convention survive this comp? Will its ous procedure is intended as a blind; that Chinese openly in order to supply them with an excuse for having already humiliated themselves secretly? Perhaps so. much more interesting to consider whether China will yield to Russia's demand, and rect, little endorsement as it received in eight pages in which several extracts are Digitized by Google Had England been taken Ottlgististinom avowal from Mr.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CONDER'S work, together with the two may Russia be expected to take? Re- of supply would be essential. pictures from the same source, the prove- cent incidents have almost taught us the \*ance of which is scrapulously acknowledged. In fact, no unprejudiced reader can be deceived. He understands per- conduct in these advanced times. Still fectly well as he goes along that he is get- we can hardly imagine such a hopeting the gist of Mr. CONDER'S writings as lessly unjustifiable procedure on Rusextracted by Sir EDWIN, and if the latter sia's part as the waging of war does not resort to wearisome iteration for the purpose of disavowing any claim to ter declines to surrender a portion of originality, he certainly adopts precau- her territory. If there were any cause of tions which ought to have guaranteed quarrel between the two empires; if him against a charge of plagiarism. Russia had any shadow of claim against However, the sensationalist of the New China, the situation might wear a different York journal has had his "fling" and we do not suppose that Sir EDWIN ARNOLD bery. Is Russia prepared to place herself will be much hurt. But since he can not outside the pale of civilized Powers so descend into the lists to defend himself, completely and unequivocally? That is we, who are in a position to speak with what we doubt. It has long been the habit authority, venture to set down the true with some Englishmen to lay all kinds of facts of the case, with the further remark sins of perfidy and unscrupulousness at that the Herald's essayist has fallen into the door of Russian statecraft. Such errors not only of judgment but of fact, to views have never been endorsed in these say nothing of taste concerning which columns, and nothing short of accomplished every man has his own standards. The fact will convince us that the Government essay alleges that when Mr. CONDER dis- of St. Petersburg has deliberately comcovered how he had been served in the mitted itself to a course which, so far as pages of "Japonica," the "pride and pleas the canons of inter-state morality are consure" with which he had placed his manu- cerned, is absolutely without precedent. script at Sir EDWIN'S disposal "were There is, perhaps, something in the backtion," which statement we have Mr. will be wise to suspend judgment. As CONDER'S authority to deny in toto; and things now stand, the most credible inthat "when the information about Japo- ference is that Russia counts on China's European colony," we deny absolutely. The whole incident merits mirth rather than grave treatment, but if we in Japan remain silent, our reticence may be very wrongly construed.

THE FAR EASTERN SITUATION.

N Wednesday we learned by telegrams from London that Russia had preferred certain arbitrary demands in Peking, giving China only five days to consider her reply. On Thursday we were inthe House of Commons, had disavowed any knowledge of the above facts. Mr. CURZON'S statement is not easy to understand, for there appears to be no room to doubt that Russia has asked China for a lease of Port Arthur and Talien, and has required an answer in five days. Telegrams independently received in Tokyo confirm that news, so that Mr. Curzon's made one, should have been furnished on the 7th, at latest. But it does not appear age overland through Manchuria would be that China has given any answer. She an immense task, requiring transport facilities on a vast scale. The use of the spared. This is the kind of story that ought to

folly of attaching any importance to moral principles as guides of international against China solely because the lataspect. But as it stands it is frank robchanged to wrath, chagrin and mortifica- ground, and until every detail is known it nuca reached Japan, the European colony yielding and does not seriously contemrose in wrath against the plagiarism," plate the contingency of a resort to armed which statement also, as a member of "the force. The threat which is said to have accompanied her demand, the threat of moving troops into Manchuria, means so much that one shrinks from contemplating the results. It practically means the annexation of Manchuria by Russia, or, at any rate, the annexation of the whole portion lying eastward of the Liao River. We may reasonably doubt whether, even in the absence of strong military opposition, Russia would attempt an operation of such magnitude with Vladivostock for her sole base. Many wild rumours have been circulated about the numerical strength of the forces massed formed through the same channel that in and about Vladivostock, but on the Mr. CURZON, replying to a question in most liberal estimate we cannot suppose Eastern nation simultaneously with the an army of more than forty thousand men first proposal made to it, especially when available for a campaign into Manchuria. That is a ludicrously inadequate number. Every mile that separated the advance column from its base would involve the detaching of additional troops to guard the communications, and long before the invading force reached Kirin, the strength of its fighting line might be measured by alleged ignorance seems very singular. hundreds. Besides, it is more than doubt-Russia's demand is understood to have ful whether sufficient supplies could be to force in the event of China's refusal. been presented on the 3rd instant. Con- drawn from Vladivostock. Even suppossequently China's reply, supposing she ing that they have been accumulated there

the use of the sea-board requires neutrality on the part of Korea, Japan, and England, and access to bases of supply other than Vladivostock is a condition inconceivable under existing circumstances. After the completion of the Siberian Railway, establishing direct overland connexion with Europe, and after the organisation of large depôts at various points along the route, it is not difficult to imagine a Russian campaign against Manchuria, as all the vital lines of communication would then be beyond an enemy's reach. At present, however, the talk of invading Manchuria sounds like an empty threat. Yet, we can not hide from ourselves that after Germany's experience at Kiao-chou no project seems too daring when China alone has to be reckoned with. And it is just possible that Russia may have made up her mind to seize the opportunity; may have determined to strike an almost reckless blow for the consummation of her Far Eastern programme while England is occupied in the Soudan, in West Africa, and on the Indian frontier; while China is impotent, and before Japan is prepared. She could not well be less prepared herself, indeed, but perhaps she counts on entire immunity from interruption. That is an imaginable interpretation of her acts, and it gathers some strength from her strange proceedings in Korea, where, also, she seems disposed to force a crisis. But so far as we are concerned, we are unable to put such constructions on the situation. We doubt the truth of the statement that an invasion of Manchuria has been threatened, and are inclined to believe that Russia has done nothing more than prefer a somewhat peremptory regest for a lease of Port Arthur and Talien, basing her demand on the precedent of Germany at Kiao-chau, and not accompanying the intimation with any menace of war as a consequence of China's refusal. After all, some sketchy outline of international etiquette may still be detected in the communications between Occidental and Oriental Governments. A cannon is not pointed at an the proposal refers to a friendly concession. In short, while there appears to be no room for doubting that Russia has applied for a lease of Port Arthur and Talien, and has asked for an answer in five days, there is much room to doubt whether any threat of armed coercion accompanied the application, or whether Russia contemplates recourse

One of the home sporting papers tells a

# THE "JIJI" ON THE REVENUE.

The estimates for the 3 tst fiscal year, says the Jiji, will correspond with those for the previous year according to Article LXXI. of the Constitution. But it is absolutely necessary that a supplementary budget should be presented at the special session of the Diet in May. Whether the proposed revenue is to be derived from increased taxation, and how the railway and public undertakings loans in arrear are to be raised, are questions now under investigation by the Minister of Finance. Supposing, however, that the programme of increased expenditure contemplated by the Matsukata Cabinet is to be followed in its entirety, and that in lieu of resorting to increased taxation or to raising loans, foreign or domestic, appropriations may be made of the Indemnity already received, the accounts will stand thus:

ustallments of Indemnity received	245.745 046
Special war expenses	78,957,164 40,022,623 50,509,118
Loans for railways and public undertakings	15,400,000
95 - 1	184.488.205

When this deficit is added to a loan of 13 million yen—which must be obtained from the Bank of Japan for the 31st year—and reductions are made in various taxes under revision the figures will stand as follows:—

Deficit	51,943,781 13,512,566 3,795 646
Total	

Thus it is plain that even though the portions of the indemnity already received are appropriated, there still exists a deficit of over 79 million was

We (Japan Mail) think it well to point out that the installments of the Indemnity entered in the Jiji's accounts do not include the portion still due, and now certain to be paid in May, namely 72½ million taels, or 108 million yen, approximately.

# MARRIAGE OF MISS SAITO.

On the 6th instant Mr. and Mrs. Saito Shinichiro entertained a large party at the Maple Club to celebrate the marriage of their eldeat daughter to Mr. Kasai Nobu. The guests, numbering about a hundred and thirty ladies and gentlemen and including many of the most proniment men in officialdom, journalism, banking and commerce, met in the suite of spacious rooms forming the western wing of the building, and after inspecting the wedding gifts, which were sumptions and numerous, proceeded to the upper storey, where dinner was served, and where many beautiful dances were subsequently performed by the artistes of the Club. Mr. Saito, whose services in the Foreign Office and afterwards in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, seemed to promise a brilliant official career, resigned his position as Vice-Minister of State owing to a grossly unjust attack made upon him in the House of Representatives in its stormy days, and after two or three years of work in the capacity of a railway president, became chief editor of the Shogyo Shimpo, which is proving a great success under his able management.

#### FIRES IN TOKYO.

At 9 o'clock on the evening of the 10th inst., fire broke out in the northern portion of the following account of the destructive fire which barracks lying outside the Sakurada Gate and occurred that morning at the Kobe Pier Co. overlooking the Hibiya Parade Ground. By godowns:—This morning about one o'clock the northern portion, we mean the wing standing opposite the back gate of the Foreign Office, on the lower slope of the street leading to the Privy Council Building. There are not any troops now quartered in these barracks, and at the appnear of writing we have not learned any the moment of writing we have not learned anything as to the origin of the fire. Fortunately the night was perfectly calm. Had the conflagration occurred on either of the preceding nights, when half a gale was blowing, wide-spread destruction of property must have resulted. Indeed, a very slight breeze from the north-east would have carried the flames across the narrow street to the outer buildings of the Foreign Office, and thence, perhaps, to Prince Arisugawa's residence. Five steam-engines were speedily at work, and although the situa-tion was not favourable for obtaining water, the firemen succeeded in confining the conflagration to the building in which it occurred.

#### MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for January last, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

1807.

ь	LLVER YEN.		LVER YEN.
Renorts	48.712.020	IO,0	16,330,080
Imports12.7	21 222 780	18.8	71,155.900
Importa minimo	u-,a.,		7-7-55-3
m		20.1	87,485.010
			07,463,010
Excess of imports			54,825,890
	CONTONE BOT	ien.	1
			20,365.189
Exports			84,161.755
Imports	*** *** *** ***		
Miscellaneous		,.,	25,620.521
Total			530,147.465
_			
COLVE AVENUE OL MESOREI	IMI EKA OT 8	ONL! ANDM AYE	HUGH SONETON
ì	COUNTRIES		
	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.		Silver Yen.
	1,861,084.540	2,652 522,680	3,513,554.210
Hongkong	2,351,794-083	851,467-778	3,40 at 1.850
		. 0 40-	z.835,857.x6a
			1,05,308,560
			1,044,470,793
		181.703.480	187,c52.380
			148,277,410
Dutch India	734-350	26,388.479	27.122.820
Russian Asia	8,997-140	1,414.870	4.439 010
Great Sritain			6,225.053-540
	E.315,385.760	578,520,590	x,893,893.350 x,554,000.860
Germany		1,414,520,410	345,842.480
		60.218.000	an3,307.300
		zB7,413.100	101,585.50:
	2,710,000	20,858,770	11,068-770
Austria	x, 198.900	11,000.110	18,354.020
			9,815.610
	1,765,750	0,000.900	8,465 050
			4,705-130 494-830
Aurkey	23954.000	494-130	434.780
12-41			
Portugal	06.000		277 980
Denmark	95,000	sBa.980	377 980
Denmark United States of Ame-			377 980
Denmark United States of America Canada and other Bri-	3,001,590.574	18i.98a 4:344,784 63a	377 980 7-347-3#4-#00
Denmark United States of America Canada and other British America	3,002,590.574 89,454-494	sBa.980	377 980 - 7-347-3#4-#60 xx2,9x8-040
Denmark United States of America Canada and other Bri-	3,001,590.574	:Bi.980 4,344,784 639 38,963,950	377 980 7-347-3#4-#00
	Exports	Imports	Exports

	Hawaii	94,150.390 13,443.160	140.650 140.650 144.779.550 7.383.110	34,396.950 358,220.710 7,383.810
	Total	10,748,639.710	18,892,155,900	89,619,795.610
i	TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORT	SOTHI GEA B	ONA KURY SF	TO BACH PORT
	Yokohama	\$,292 888 410	7.382,199.770	19,575,188.180
		3,987,467.360 116,948.930	9,207,754.190	308,155,290
	Osaka	474.455.980	1,963,599.540	2,838,153.510
1	Hakodate	85.017.237	093.380	26,320.540
ľ	Shimonoseki	349+40,150	251,000.300	590,536 450
ď	Moji	379,777.000	2,413.760	379.777.000 1,413.760
'	Karatsu	18,446 180	114131700	11,446.1B0
•	Kuchinotsu	321,390.600	29,010, <b>63</b> 0	345,420.830
	Idgusahara	6,318.740	10,954.750	83,283,490
	Shishimi	a,84±.700	2,563.260	5,394-960
	Sasuila	8,634.680	8,919,900	17,354,580
,	Hamada	-	306.550	
ı.	Sakai pransissississis		4,494,630	44,650 000
£	Otara	44,650.000		(1,125.000
,	-	4 Exports	7	.603,756.020
_	Specie and Bullion	Lungaria		807.851.630

mmerce, seemed to promise sareer, resigned his position	Specie and Bullion (Exports	7.603,756.020 807,851,630
of State owing to a grossly upon him in the House of its stormy days, and after two ork in the capacity of a rail-	2 32 m = = 1 =	6,795,904,190 4,000,290,820 6,091,565,870 6,743,348,890
	I Imported by Government	12,703.950.120 75,639.910
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#### FIRE AT KOBE.

The Kobe Chronicle of the 3rd inst gives the godowns:-This morning about one o'clock fire was discovered to have broken out among the raw cotton under the Pier Company's largest shed. An immense quantity of cotton was there, and the flamea must have got a firm hold upon it before they were discovered. As the first fire brigades appeared on the scene in response to the alarm, the flames broke through the wooden roof, and the volume of fiame which ascended cast a lurid glow all over the harbour and the town. The roof soon fell int. Superintendent Sim, who had four Settlement engines at work, Sim, who had four Settlement engines at work, directed his attention first to saving the shed in line with the K. R. and A. C. boathouse premises. The flames had already leaped across the little roadway and had got a hold upon the cotton stored there and the roof mithe shed, but skilful work and an abundant water supply enabled the brigades to save this shed. Of the great quantity of cotton stored therein only about 50 or 60 hales were this shed. Of the great quantity of containing astored therein only about 50 or 60 bales were damaged by the fire. The larger abed and all the cotton under its roof, which amounted to hundreds of bales, was destroyed completely, much of the cotton being reduced to white ash. At the back of this shed were some brick godowns and a wooden godown quite full of rice. It must have been an extremely difficult job for the brigades to save the wooden godown, but they succeeded. One end of it is completely burnt off, but the principal damage to the rice has been caused by water. Between the brick godowns were wide passages with wooden roofings which readily lent themselves as fuel to the flames. These constituted a great source of danger to the other godowns as yet out of harm's way, and it is due to the work of the brigades in the neighbourhood of these sheds that the conflagration was not doubly as disastrous as it has proved to be. One of the passage roofs was burnt completely, but only the end of the other suffered. The heat was so intense that the brick godowns had begun to crack. The damage to cotton alone is estimated at not less than 100,000 yen. The other cargo which has suffered includes cement, iron plates, and rice. Upon what insurance companies these losses fall it is scarcely possible myet to say. The cotton is still burning me we go to press, and engines will probably need to play upon the debris all day. Only the Settlement engines and one or two Japanese brigades are standing by, and the men look throughly tired out.

Particulars are to hand of the fatal fire at Kobe, on Tuesday. The fire occurred in Sannomiya, Ichome, on the south side of the railway, between one and two o'clock. It originated in a grog-shop kept by an Englishman named Talbot, where some American sailors are said to have been staying, and one of these, a mannamed George Eaton, was burnt to death. When taken from the dibris the body was unrecognisable. Next to the grog-shop was a kerosene store and this burned so furiously that about half a dozen Japanese houses were burnt to the ground. The fire was caused by a lamp accident in the room which Eaton, who had been drinking heavily, was occupying.

The cost of improving the public thoroughfares in Tokyo is estimated, says the Chuo, at 173,314 yen, which amount is to be disbursed from the 1st April this year to the 31st March next. The area to be repaired covers one-fourth of the highways, as it extends over 478,534 fsubo, the average expense being 36.2 sen per fsubo. With regard to bridges, improvements have already been made in some, but others are to be repaired during the 31st year at a considershie expenditure, the number marked out for whole or partial reconstruction being twenty, of and four of iron.

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## TAPANENE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The issue of the Industrial Bank's Special bonds is to be undertaken, asserts the Zokyo Asahi, by April next.

On the evening of the 1st instant, an entertainment was given by Count Itagaki at the Maple Club to Marquis Ito, the Premier; Baron Suyemaisu, Minister of Communications, and Mr. Sone, Minister of Justice. Several of the Liberal leaders, Messrs. Kataoka, Okageki, Suzuki, Nishiyama, Saito, and Sugawara, were also in attendance. The cordislity displayed may im regarded, the Tokyo Shimbun remarks, as a sign of future co-operation.

From the Tokyo Shimbun we gather that the government forests in Hokkaido extend to about one and a half million cho (3# million Some of them must be reclaimed for colonists, though others may be retained in their present condition. The area which has already been faid under cultivation is in Ishihari 635 cho, in Iburi 1.399 cho, in Shiribeshi 6,922 cho, in Toshima 471 cho, and in Kitami 1,219 cho. An area of 59,767 cho was reclaimed in the 28th year of Majji and 93,116 cho in the 28th year of Majji and 93,116 cho in the 29th year, the aggregate total being 152,884

The, Nippen publishes comparative tables showing the stock of silk in Yokohama during the past five years m follows :-

	1898.			1895.	
	Bales.	Bales.	Bates.	Bales.	Bales.
Filatures				4,903	
Zakuri	1,670	9,716	7,307	4,003	6,956
Orikayeshi	1,659	1,254	673	908	1,711
Hamatsuki	373	14	44	311	119
Hanks	22	. 125	211	257	110
Miscellaneous.	20	40	14	54	16
TT 1			-06		

Total ..... 9,724 17,621 28,396 10,435 20,024 Sales of tea last month amounted, according to the Nichi Nichi, to 47,100 catties, while stock in hand aggregated 94,000 catties.

The High Agricultural, Commercial, and Industrial Council was, according to the Tokyo Asahi, inaugurated on the 2nd instant, with Mr. Shibusawa as President and Mr. Masuda as Vice-President. The members, twenty-two in all, are as follow:-Messrs, Yasuda Zenjiro, Yamamoto Tatsuo, Takahashi Korekiyo, Okura Ribachiro, Shoda Heigoro, Otani Kohei, Naka-no Buyei, Yamamoto Kametaro, Kanematsu Fusajiro, Okuda Shōko, Suguki Chozo, Yendo Rusajiro, Okuda Shoko, Siguni Chozo, Yendo Keishi, Metaudo Gengoro, Tauaka Gentars, Nakamura Yeisuke, Inouye Kakugoro, Inouye Zintaro, FujitajDanzaburo, Thaka Ichibei. Sano Rihachi, Suyinoba Miehinari, and Kondo Rempei. Mr. Otsuki, secretary of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and Mr. Micoba Conneillor of the same Department. Minobe, Councillor of the same Department, were appointed as Mausgers (Kanji).

The tendency to excess in imports noticeable since last year is not, remarks the Shogyo, likely to cease in a year or two. The trade for January this year presents surprising features of inequality, the imports reaching 18.870,000 ren in value, while exports fell short of 16,900,000 yen. In investigating the condition of trade since 1887 it will be found that an excess of imports in the trade for January was noticeable in 1888, 1890, 1894, 1896, and 1897, exports predominating in all other years. The amount of excess in January, 1988, was 560,000 res; in 1890, 720,000 yen; in 1894, 1,290,000 yen; in 1894, 1,290,000 yen; in 1896, 6,520,000 yen, and in 1897, 1,470,000 yen. In no year has the excess reached 8 million yen, as in January of this year. The outflow of gold during January did not fall short of 6,790,000 yen. The Shegye anticipates that this disadvantageous tendency will continue for some time to come.

The imperfection in the means of communication in the capital in universally recognised, asserts the Jifi. There have been two different

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The indifference of the anthorities, our contemporary remarks, is indeed startling. The latest information places the length of tram-ways at a little over three rf, railways at 13 and the number of jinrikisha at 42,005. While the capital is possessed of 230 ri of high-ways of over 6 feet in width its citizens cannot be contented with rail and train lines of less than

The idea of extending the silk trade in Kobe will, remarks the Chuo, be discussed at a general meeting of silk dealers from Kwansai to be held there on the 10th instant. This project has a near connection with the opening of a branch in Kobe of the Yokohama Specie Bank, inasmuch as the trade in silk cannot be successfully carried on without special loans by the Bank on the security of goods. These loans are granted free of interest by the Bank of Japan. But the amount already appropriated for this purpose by the Head Office in Yokohama has been considerable, and it may be supposed that the issue of similar loans in Kobe will be attended with more or less embarrassment. The Specie Bank. however, having approved the Kobe silk trade scheme, will, the Chuo asserts, shortly arrange to increase its present capital.

The Nichi Nichi has from time to time published reports with regard to the new agricultural and industrial banks throughout the empire. The same paper now states, as the result of the latest investigation, that the district branches and amounts of capital for which Minister are as follow:—Tokyo, 350,000 yen; Kanagawa 400,000 yen; Chiba, 800,000 yen; Aichi, 1,500,000 yen; Shizuoka, 1,000,000 yen; Yamanashi, 300,000 yen; Shiga, 500,000 yen; Gifu, 1,000,000 yen; Yamagata, 600 000 yen; Tottori, 300,000 ven; Okayama, 1,000,000 ven Kagawa, 300,000 yen; Kagoshiina, 500,000 yen; Miyazaki, 500,000 yen; Saga, 300,000 yen. Of the above prefectures thirteen have already received funds from the Treasury.

The excessive abundance of subsidiary coins in the market has, alleges the Chue, caused serious inconvenience to the various banks in the capital. The Central Bankers' Council was lately entrusted by the Finance Department with the work of investigating the matter with a view, if necessary, to altering the policy hitherto pursued with regard to the withdrawal of one ven paper. But so long as the scheme for the recoinage of subsidiaries is in operation, it is impossible to suspend the exchange of paper. A certain financier has remarked that the teminting of yes pieces into subsidiaries is not an enterprise just devised, but that it was contemplated at the time when the new coinage system was introduced. A sum of forty million yen was to be minted into anheidiary coins, while thirty millions were to be sold as bullion. The stock in the Treasury amounts to fifty millions, and if out of this sum forty millions were sold, the Government would incur serious loss in view of the present depreciation of the metal. Recoinage, under the circumstances, is a step absolutely indispensable.

We have already commented, says the Jiji, on the curtailment of the means of com-munication and the increased risks to mail matter. It may now be added that number of telegrams has increased fourfold during the past ten years from the 20th to the 20th year of Meiji, while the lines show an increase of more than double the length, and telegraph offices are about five times the original number. Despite the expansion of machinery, however, delays and errors have greatly increased. The authorities are disposed to attribute these defects to the insufficiency of the funds available, but it is none the less certain that perfunctoriness and want of activity on the part of the Government in making necessary arrangements are the direct

a disproportionate arrangement naturally contributed to the occurrence of delays and errors. The length of wire is still quite disproportionate to the number of offices where telegrams are dealt with. The bungling of the authorities, the Jiji adds, necessitates an outlay of twenty million yes for the improvement of the telegraphic system.

The inequality of foreign trade seems to grow more serious with the lapse of time. The figures for the two ports, Yokohama and Kobe, during last month show an excess in imports of ever 8,300,000 gen. Thus :-

-		Yen.
Exports	**************************************	9,933,060
Imports		18,255.966
Totall	*******************	28,189,026

The chief factor in the inequality is the increused import of rice, cotton, machinery, and iron, while a serious decrease is noticeable in the export of silk, (?) ailk textiles, and cotton fabrics. The present adverse condition of commerce, remarks the Shogpo, is likely to continue. As a result there was a large outflow of gold and silver, as the following figures will

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Yan.
Export of specie	5,966,294
Import	796,670
Total	6,762,964
Excess of exports	5 160 624

The four prominent marine insurance companies in the empire recently passed a resolution with regard to the revision of fees, and the boats and sailing vessels are now dealt with according to the altered regulations. The next amendment, which is to come in force from the 1st May, refers to steamboats and their cargo. The ordinary rate of insurance, says the Shogyo, was formerly three sen, but it is now the Sacgro, was formerly lines sen, but it is now raised to five sen. As regards the insurance of cargoes in steamships, the following increases are made in the rates:—(i) Anything contained in a box lined with zinc plate, increased by 20 per cent. (2) Things packed with varnished paper (shibukami) and then wrapped over with oil paper, riukiu, or coarse mat, or those packed with rugs after the foreign fashion, 30 per cent. (3) Goods not definitely specified, but perfect in package in all ordinary points, 40 per cent. (4) Sugar, tea, tobacco, flour, faucy goods, matches, cotton-seeds, &c., 60 per cent. The 1st and 2nd of the above items are to apply only when the mode of packing is a curately stated in the application for insurance. In all cases of disspeciation for insurance. In an cases of dis-sion, full componention is to be made whether the losses are entire or in part. The fees for ordinary boats as against ships of improved plan and greater size are considerably raised. Below are the details :-

	Improved	Ordinary
Between.	beats.	hosts.
	Sen.	Sen.
Osaka and Hiogo		30
Hiogo and Osaka		35
Osaka and Sakai		30
Sakat and Kobe		30
Tokyo and Yokobama		20
- Vokobama & Vokosuka	12	30
Yokkaichi and Atsuta	10	20
Vakkaichi & Kuwana		10

That China will pay the remainder of the indemnity at once is now to be assumed as a fact asserts the Hochi. How the indemnity should be used is a question under discussion in all parts of the empire. The arguments may be epitomized into tour as follow:—(r.) Finan-ciers are of opinion that the full payment by China of her indemnity affords a unique opportunity for adjusting tangled finances; the amount of public loans—60 or 70 million yes—to be raised for the 30th and 31st fiscal years, together with the deficit in revenue of 70 or 80 asserts the Jiji. There have been two different making because, and selected for providing an electric railway, the causes of the grievance. From 1887 to 1891 million year might be supplied by the indemnity, applications for them being presented in telegraph wires increased in length at the target for the 23rd and 28th year of Meiji respectively. The course of the grievance while offices show money should be appropriated for the redempent to neither was official sanction granted. An increase varying from 3 to 43 per cent. Such the Original from

various companies which are about to crumble to dust in consequence of the policy of curtailment adopted by the Bank of Japan, will revive, and no more complaint about tradal depression will be heard, (3 Scientific economists assert that as the indemnity installments received during the past two years have had the effect of fostering an excess of imports to the amount of over 100 million yes, so the receipt of the whole re mainder, whether the money be appropriated for government undertakings or for the liquidation of domestic loans, will surely bring about greater embarrassment and more serious depression in trade than has hitherto been experienced. The prosperity which the Indemnity money seems to secure is anything but real. The indemnity, if paid, ought to be preserved = a deposit in the Bank of England till the economic community is restored to its normal condition. (4) Politicians suggest that in order to show the magnanimity of the Japanese the remaining installments of the indemnity shall be given to China as a present.

The ordinary general meeting of the Central Tea Dealers' Council was held on the 26th ult. to discuss the estimates for the 31st fiscal year Of a subsidy of 5.715 yes for the year under review, 2,007 yen were delivered to each of the Corporations in Kwanto and Kwansai, while 1,700 yes were allotted to the Kiushiu Corpora-The estimated exponditure for the extension of the market for the 31st year was also discussed, and fixed at 70,000 yen, 57,000 yen to be appropriated for expansion of the trade in Canada, 10,000 yen in Russia, and 2,800 yen as expenses for the Central Council. above amount is to be supplied by a subsidy from the Government. The programme is re-gard to the extension of the market is as follows :- (1) Advertising the excellent quality of Japanese tea in the principal newspapers and magazines published in North America and Canada, and by the adoption of other means.

(2) Distributions of green tea and tea-utensils gratis in the important parts of North America and Canada. (5) The despatch of a number of commissioners to those countries on a tour of inspection, and the maintenance of branches in New York and Chicago. (4) A tea house or houses to be established in North America, or a subsidy to be granted to such an institution already existing there. (5) Advertisements or notices to be put up at shops opened in the above mentioned countries or at places of public resort. As to Russia, sub-offices in Vladivostock are to be maintained, and commissioners despatched to the Siberian districts as occasion requires. There is to be a rigorous inspection of iea in the three leading ports—Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki. There is to be a rigorous inspection

On the night of the 3rd inst. Count Itagaki, accompanied by Mr. Suzuki, repaired to the Premier's official residence to deliberate upon the various topics which require the immediate attention of the Cabinet. The points at issue attention of the Cabinet. The points at issue were the adjustment of finances, the reform of domestic as well as Formosan administration, the revision of the Election Law, &c. The Count is reported by the Chuo to have freely expressed his opinions on those problems. The question of financial adjustment, he stated, is now under investigation by the Finance Department. To put the finances in order for a year or two is a matter of no serious concern; but to establish the foundations of a permanent financial arrangement is a matter of immeasurable difficulty. The condition of the economic market as well as the future prospects of the foreign trade of Japan, must be taken into considera-The necessity of introducing reforms in domestic administration can not be denied With this in view the former Cabinet had appointed a special commission consisting of officers from the various Departments, and not infrequently had it happened that, in discussing military affairs, a delegate from the Agricultural and Commercial Department, who was entirely ignorant of matters of warfare, committed the folly of expressing his views on the subject. How could success be expected from such a hetero-assassins turn out to have been under the geneous Council? It was absolutely necessary, leadership of a Russianized Korean. Digitized by Google

therefore, that a general policy should be followed by the various Government Departments in regard to the proposed reform of finances. Formosan administration, too, ought no doubt to be reformed, and steps in this direction would shortly be taken. The revision of the Law of Election, the Premier remarked, had long occupied his mind, and he pledged himself to make it a far better system than it now was. Steps would be taken to remove all the abuses inherent to the free municipal systems of administration.

#### INCIDENT OF THE RUSSIAN INTERPRETER.

We take from the last-received issues of the Soul Independent the following items with reference to the recent attempt on the life of the Interpreter of the Russian Legation in that city—not the Russian Interpreter of the Imperial Court, as we stated when the telegram arrived in Tokyo:--

Mr. Kim Hongnink, interpreter of the Russian Mr. Kim Hongniuk, interpreter of the Russian Legation, was attacked by three assassins last Triesday night about half-nast 8 o'clock on his way from the Palace to the Russian Legation and received several cuts on his right ear and shoulder, t seems that Mr. Kim went to the Palace early in the evening and transacted some business and later was returning to the Russian Legation. He had with him two policemen who were waking behind him as body guards. Three Koreans appeared on the road as soon as Kim and his policemen reached the lane behind the customs buildings. Two of the three men grabbed she policemen and threw them down the bank, while the other man attacked Kim with a swood. Kim policement and threw their down the hand, while the other man attacked Kim with a swood. Kim raised his caneaud warded off the blow and can into the little back gate of the Palace. While he was running he received another blow from was running the received another blow from behind. His screams and noise brought out the soldiers and policemen from the inside of the Palace gate, who rescued the wounded man. The assessing escaped as soon as the escaling party ceached the spot. It is said that the wounds are not serious, and by careful treatment Kim will

Edict :- How is it that police authorities permit hereby order the Police Department to Capital within three days (from the 22nd inst.) and if it should fail the chief commissioner of police will be severely punished. The Home Office is also hereby ordered to use special efforts in capeturing the perpetuator of the crime, (The edict is intended to facilitate the capture, of the would-becomes of Kim Monthing the interrete of e assassin of Kim Hongnink, the interpreter of the Russian legation.)

the Russian (egation.)

The Police Department has an ested several suspicious men in connection with the attempted assassination of the Russian interpreter. The Pa assassination of the Russian interpreter. The Po-lice Department thinks that some of Kim's briends from Hamkyeng Do attempted the deed to satisfy from Hamkyeng Do attempted the feed to satisfy a personal grudge. A man named Kim Seikuk is supposed to be the guilty one and is now lodged in the police station. The suspected man is from the same viitage in Hamkyeng Do where the interpreter formerly lived. Romour has it that Kim Seikuk is a naturalized Russian and has been very intimate with the wounded man. If he is found to be guilty the Romour has recommended. to demand of the Russian government ampli-ted demand of the Russian government ampli-rediess for the wounding of a valuable and useful citizen of this country, that is if the guilty man is

a Russian subject.
The following official despatch has been received by the Foreign Office from the Russian Minister:
"As the meritorious interpreter of our Legation, Rim Hongrick was returning to his own house inside the Legation compound last evening from the Palace, he was attacked by a hand of scoundiels who intended to kill him, but fortunately they missed him. I extremely hate such unheard of daring gang and hereby request Your Excellency to report the matter to His Majesty, Your Emperor; and to search out the compitators. It is necessary not only to punish the acmal culprits but to find out the instigators of the crime. Even if the instigators be high in rank, their stations must not be considered in the proper administration of justice," etc.

We give verbatim our contemporary's quaint version of the Russian Representative's note, It will be curious if the Interpreter's would-be

#### KOKEAN NOTES.

In an obituary notice of the late Prince Parent, the Tai Won-kun, the Independent, alter stating that from 1863 to 1872 he was practical ruler of the country, gives the following resume of the remarkable incidents of his sway:—

Some of the leading features of internal administration were the rebuilding of the Kyengkok palace at a tremendous cost; construction of the stration were the rebuildings in the typesquare palace at a tremendous cost; construction of the government buildings in the front of the same palace, now used by the various departments, widening of the streets in the city; repairing of the city gates and walls; establishment of arsenals in five different localities; mganization of war junks in Kangwha and Tongyong districts; minting high denominationed cash and manufacturing old fashioned cannon for the army. Besides these improvements, he also inaugurated some of the most corrupt practices among the officials and cruellest punishments for the people. He commenced the practice of selling offices, especially the provincial offices, to the highest hidders, and instituted the custom of borrowing money from the well-to do classes without the least intention of paying it back. One of his most cruel acts was the wholesale massacre and persecution of the native Christians. It is said that he had some ten thousand innocent men, women and children killed because they were supposed to be believers in Christianity. In this men and children killed because they were sup-posed to be believers in Christianity. In this connection we might mention that many brave souls suffered martyrs' deaths with Christian for-titude and misweeving faith. This massacre may titude and miswetving faith. This massacre may be an indelible stain upon the character of the Prince, but the hernic deaths of so many faithful followers of the Cross will go down in the history of the Korean church as a glottons demonstration of the firmness of faith which the native Christians possessed. We must not criticise the Prince too severely for the cruelty he practised because he thought such was his duty. In recent years he realized his mistake, and, to some extent, he confessed his barbarity. he confessed his barbarity.
The unfortunate and noncessary bloodshed at

the infortunate and numersary bloodshed we kangwha between the crew of an American war ship and the soldiers in the Korean fort took place two years after the beginning of the Tai Wônkuo's régime. This unpleasant affair could have kun's régime. This umpleasant affair could have been avoided if each side had understood the

motives of the other.

For nearly ten years the Prince was known among the people as a tiger. His name was reverenced in all parts of the country and his orders were obeyed from the highest to the lowest. However, he was more feared than leved by the

It is stated that the Korean Foreign Office failed to offer any expression of condolence to the Japanese Representative in Soul on the announcement of the news of H.I.H. Prince Yamashina's death.

An appleasant little affair has occurred between the Japanese Legation and the Police authorities in Sönl. A Korean employe of the Legation, while en route for the telegraph station carrying message from the Japanese Minister to be despatched to the Consulates in Chinnampo and Mokpo, was arrested by the police for smoking a long pipe in the street. Despite his remonstrances, he was detained five hours at the police station, and finally re-conducted to the Legation by two policemen who asked the Japanese Minister to authorize his arrest. The Minister declined to consider the application unless it came through diplomatic channels and complained to the Foreign Office of the conduct of the police, the Chief Commissioner of the latter having refused to apologise. There the matter rested at the date of latest advices,

The Independence Club in Soul has addressed a very strong memorial to the Throne protesting against the surrender of financial authority and military control to foreigners, The memorial is, of course, directed against

The Tai Won-kun's death occurred at 7 p.m. on the 22nd of February. He had completed his 88th year in January. It appears that he had suffered for a considerable time from chronic dysentery, and that the death of his wife last December aggravated his ailment to such an extent un to dispel all hope of his recovery.

It is stated that the life of the Interpreter of Original from

the Russian Legation was caved by the British marines stationed near the Custom House. They interfered in time to prevent the consummation of the deed.

There are now six Korean newspapers in Soul. Two of them are Christian publications.

The first locomotive for the Soul-Chemulpo Railway has arrived in Chemulpo from America.

The camp of the Soul-Chemulpo Railway Company on the other side of the river at Soul was destroyed by fire on the 15th February. Mr. Carley, the Engineer in charge, lost some 300 yen worth of clothes and instruments.

It is alleged that the Russian Representative in Soul has asked the Korean Foreign Office to grant to the new Russo-Korean Bank the privileges (1) of issuing notes and mintingcoins, (2) of transmitting the interest, &c., on the country's foreign loans; (3) of collecting the Govern-ment's revenues and paying the officials' salaries; and (4) of establishing branch offices and agencies throughout the country. To the officials of this Bank is attributed the objection to the use of stamped yen and chopped dollars which, they are represented as saying, bring only the value of bullion and thus cause loss to the Government when silver depreciates. We should like to know what silver coins-spart from subsidiary—bring more than the value of the bullion they contain.

#### CHINESE NOTES.

Shanghai is to have a system of electric trams. At least the Municipal Council has decided to submit a scheme at the next annual meeting of the rate-payers, and no doubt is entertained of its acceptance.

"We understand," says the N.-C. Daily News of February 28th, "that an Imperial decree was issued last week authorising the construction of a railway from Tientsin to Chinking by way of Shanting; and that on this the German Minister, Baron Heyking, protested on the ground that Germany must have the first right to construct railways in any part of the province of Shantung." We regard this news as very apocryphal. No Power can obtain from the Chinese Government a national concession In construct railways in any part of China to the exclusion of other tresty States. That would be a plain violation of the most-favoured nation clause.

Prince Henry of Russia is expected to arrive in Shanghai about the 19th instant. It is proposed to give a ball in his honour.

Seven or eight years ago we used to hear a great deal about the navigation of the upper Yangsize; Mr. Archibald Little's presistent attempts to obtain permission; the carious objections raised by the Chinese Authorities, who declared, among other things, that the monkeys in the gorges would toll rocks down on any steamer attempting to pass, and the apparent supineness of the British Government. Perseverance, however, conquers all difficulties. We now read in a Shanghai journal as

follows:—
We have already noticed the departme from Ichang for Chungking on the 15th inst, of Mr. Archibald Little's small steamer, the Leachnen. We understand that Mr. Little had a great deal of trouble in getting off, pilots and engineers all getting frightened at the last moment. The Chinese officials did all they could—of course, they had never heard of the Shimonoseki treaty or "fayoured-nation" clauses, and had no instructions from Peking—to delay the Leechnen's departme, but Mr. Holland, the British Countl, showed himself most capable and energetic, and successfully frustrated all their devices. Dr. Collins, who went a little way in the Leechnen, reported on his fully frustrated all their devices. Dr. Collins, who went a little way in the Leechnen, reported on his return that she reached a point twenty miles above Ichang in three hours, thus making between six and seven knots against the stream, though towing a suspan, with 15 men and 8 tons of coal in her, on one side, and mired life-boat with her crew on the other. We trust soon to hear of her arrival table for mattern part to which he is hound. on the other. We trust some to hear of her arrival at the far western port to which she is bound.

The Japanese were understood to be planning

a steamship service from Ichaug to Chungking, commencing this spring. How will Mr. Little's proceedings influence them, we wonder. now will Mr. Little's vessel get past the New Rapid? The enterprise is of the greatest in-terest. It successful, it means that Szechuan, with its twenty millions of inhabitants and immense resources is at length open to trade.

A noteworthy departure has been made in the Chinese tea trade. It is the organization of a company by the teamen of Hankow for preparing tea by machinery. China has lost the British market almost entirely and now depends chiefly on Russia for a market. The fact is attributed to, her faulty preparation of the leaf, and judging from the result of experiments made last year at Wenchow, the theory seems to be right. The new Hankow company is remarkable in the fact that while its members are Chinese of good commercial standing, its chief director, who is to have full power to manage the affairs and engage the employer, is a foreigner, Mr. R. B. Moothead, Commissioner of Customs at Hankow.

It is alleged that something in the nature of a sharply defined difference of opinion has occurred between the Emperor of China and the leading provincial authorities. His Majesty desires to do away with the territorial regiments, which proved themselves quite useless in the war with Japan, and to apply the funds squandered on their maintenance to the organization of an efficient, foreign-drilled army. He issued orders in that sense at the beginning of last year. But the provincial authorities find their account in handling the pay of the regiments. Hence they desisted from disbanding the regiments. Then came the recent troubles with Germany and Russia. Once again the Emperor sent an urgent decree requiring the disbandment of the useless regiments. But several Vicerays and Governors replied by sending up memorials in which they virtually refused to carry out the Imperial instructions. The Emperor is now said to have sent round a peremptory order which must be obeyed within six months on penalty of imneachment for treason.

The municipal budget of Shanghai for 1898 shows an estimated revenue of 992,408 Tls. and an expenditure of 989.368 Tls. The Land Tax is raised from  $\frac{3}{10}$  to  $\frac{7}{16}$  of one per cent., and the Foreign House Tax from 8 to 10 per cent. on assessed rentals. The outlay on roads is 80,000

"Viceroy Chang Chih-tung," says the N.-C. Daily News, " according to a letter received from Wuchang yesterday (March 3rd), has appointed six of his most promising young military officers to go as a Military Commission to Japan for the purpose of studying the military system of that country. It is not unlikely that as a result of the Commission a number of Japanese officers will be invited to come over to China to give the benefit of their knowledge to the mililary organisation of the Liang Hu provinces. It is also reported that the Viceroy has been atrongly advised to employ Japanese in preference to German military instructors for his new disciplined army.

It is stated that the Chinese Government has decided, for strategic reasons, to build a railway between Hankow and Chinking before commencing the great trunk line from Hankow to Peking. Dr. Yung Wing D.c., otherwise Ex-pectant Taotai Yung Hung, is to have the direction of the construction of the Hankow-Chinking road.

The pantomime of "Cinderells," with ballets and all accessories, was given at the Lyceum Theatre in Shanghai by the Shanghai Amateur Dramatic Society on the 3rd instant. Over 120 persons took part in the performance. It seems to have been m brilliant success.

We find the following in the Peking and been taken. Tientsin Times :-

duty, can be taken to any place in the interior free of likim—were valid only on the condition that the goods described on the pass were actually taken to the place of destination given on the pass and there disposed of. The goods were sot ablowed to be sold on their way to destination, i.e., in transit. But Baron von Heyking has persuaded the Isung, if Yamén to alter this regulation and in future imported goods will be allowed sale in transit. Only some trifling formalities have to be gone through, in order to safe-guard fiscal interests, otherwise there are no longer say restrictions, and merchants will thus be able to take advantage of every favourable opportunity of selling their goods on the way. We may add that by the direction of the Isung-ii Yamén the regulations for the new mode of inland transit were drawn up by Sir Robert Hart, and in a form entirely meeting the wishes of the German Minister, to whom great credit and thanks are due for having opened a new road for fair trade.

#### MR. YUNKER'S CONCERT.

Mt. A. Junker, who, assisted by a number of Yokohama amateurs, gave a concert on Thursday night at the Public Hall, is a violinist of quite exceptional attainments, and his performance was one of the most enjoyable the music lovers of the Treaty Port have had for a long time past. Mr. Junker has a complete mastery of the instrument, his technique is perfect, and he plays with great expression. All his selections—and he appeared in seven out of the ten items on the programme—were ex-cellent, but perhaps the most appreciated were solo, De Berlot's Ninth Concerto, a duet with Mr. Ellis (who also contributed in capital style Chopin's E. Flat Polonaise), and two solos, F. Riess's Gondoliera, and a Gavotte by C. Bohm. The singing of Mrs. Mollison and Mrs. Payne corrected any tendency to monotony in the pro-gramme. The duet, Rubenstein's "Song of the Birds," was very nicely rendered, and fully deserved the unmistakable encore it received. Mrs. Mollison was also heard to great advant-age in Gounod's Serenade. Mrs. Doering played several of the accompaniments.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Dr. James Cantlie, late of Hongkong, has been appointed joint editor with Dr. Simpson, late Health Officer at Calcutta, of a new medical journal entitled The Fournal of Tropical Medicine. Dr. Simpson was at one time Medical Officer of Health for Aberdeen where Dr. Candie graduated.

What a terrible thing a misplaced comma can be! The China Mail desired to pay a high compliment to one of the amateur scireses high compliment to one of the amaicur actresses in the recent A.D.C. performance, but this is how the "comp" frustrated its good intention:

"Kathleen," as we have already slated, is what the critics correctly call an "acquisition," and we can only express the hope that we shall see Mrs. Bagnail, Wild in many more important called driving this and other express. roles during this and other seasons.

The steamer Setsuyo Mars, which arrived in Yokohama on Friday morning last, is reported to have encountered a very severe gale in Genkaiuada while on her way from Nagasaki, and had a narrow escape from foundering. The same steamer is also reported to have ex-perienced a terrible time in a storm while on her way from Taku to Nagasaki, the vessel having left the former port on the 19th ult. with a cargo of rice and augur.

We learn from the Boycei Shimbun that legal proceedings were Instituted in the Yokohama Local Court on the 4th inst. by Mr. J. M. Cotta, of No. 114 Settlement, Yokohama; against Mr. Kobayashi Kurakichi of No. 30 Nichome, yamainoto-cho. Yokolisma, for the recovery of yen 150 yen. It appears that Mr. Cotta sold 405 cases of leather for yen 400 to Mr. Kobayashi on the 23rd February last and received yen 250 in cash, the balance to be paid by the 28th February. The date having passed and payment not having yet been made of the balance due to Mr. Cotts, the present action has

Hitherto, inland-passes—that is to say, passes under cover of which all imports, on paying an extra half ham & Co., represented by Mr. C. N. Crosse, Original from On Monday afternoon Mesers. L. D. Abra-



brought a claim in the U.S. Consular Court at Kobe for the recovery of a sum of \$3,000 (gold) against Mr. C. W. Collier, formerly a partner in the firm, as money due for advances on goods consigned to the defendant in the United States. Mr. Collier filed no answer, and did not appear. Messrs. Olmstead and Ziegfeld were sworn in as associates to act and belowith the Judge, Mr. S. S. Lyon. Judgment was given next morning in favour of plaintiff.

A and accident is reported by a Kobe contemporary :-- " On the afternoon of the 28th ult. three children, two ten years old and the other thirteen years, were playing together in a match factory at Knjo, Osaka, and in the temporary, absence of the father of one of them, who had been crushing muriatic potash, the children took hold of the pestle. The potash suddenly exploded and one of them was killed instantly. The two others were badly burnt and died on the following morning.

On Saturday afternoon Superintendent Morgin of the Yokohama Fire Brigade was called in to the Central Hotel, No. 179, Settlement, one of the chimneys being apparently on fire. On examination Mr. Morgin found that smoke was coming through the floor of one of the rooms over the kitchen, the wall of the room, which was of wood and plaster, having caught fire from overheating of the cooking range, which was erected too near the wall. After the wall had been broken into a few buckets of water extinguished the fire.

In the Far East it is hard enough to follow the Chinese question; but the English of Sierra Leone must find it harder. Here is the "news" provided in an issue of their local paper:—

London, December 29th. It is reported that thirteen British warships and

Chemulpo, Russian, have occupied Kinchan.
December 31st. The report is confirmed that four British war-

ships are at Chemulpo.
Protest supersession of the Britisher Brown by
Russia as Financial Adviser.

A real Chinese puzzle this.

The association of the different Japanese emigration companies has been practically effected. The chief officers of the various companies have been holding their general meeting at the Imperial Hotel since the 28th ult., and on Saturday important resolutions were passed, and signed on behalf of the Oriental Joint Stock Emigration Co., the Japanese Emigration Co., the Hiroshima Co., Ltd., Kissa Emigration Co., the Japan Emigration Co. of Osaka, the Kosei Emigration Co., Ltd., Kumamoto joint-stock Emigration Co., Morioka Emigration Co., and the Emigration Co. of Tokyo. A deputation has waited on the Vice-Minister of the Foreign Department. Mr. T. Huga, M.A., was elected President of the Association.

The recent scenes in the French Chamber were so exceedingly rowdy that even the reporwere so exceedingly and became rampant.

"We," writes one, "were all in it: we sload on
the seats and yelled our own ideas." Students the seats and yelled our own ideas." of French history, remarks a home paper, know that every revolution in France has begun by the interference of the public in Parliament. One of the "heroes" of the disgraceful scene has refused a duel. M. James, one of the foremost in bandying insults, says :- " When, in reply to an insulting interruption of M. Bernis, I treated him as a scoundrel and a coward. I made up my mind to call him out, but as a few minutes later he attacked me and struck me from behind, I consider that he has placed himself outside the rules of honour, and henceforth I ignore him."

On Friday evening last the house occupied hy Mr. W. Styles in Yamoto-dori, Sanchome, Kobe, was burnt to the ground. Mr. Styles, we learn from the Chronicle, was in the act of opening a drawer in one of the bed-room upstairs, but the drawer being locked the force of the pull caused the small glass lamp which had been standing on top of the chest of drawers to topple Digitized by Google

over on to the floor. The oil container broke and the room was at once enveloped in flame. The fire alarms were slow in being rung, and when the fire engines came upon the scene it was too late. Even had they been earlier, it would scarcely have been possible to save the house, which was built not twelve months ago and belongs to a Japanese. The furniture was

On the evening of the 9th instant, Baron Y. Iwasaki and Baron H. Iwasaki entertained Mr. T. Walsh, who is now on a visit to Japan, at T. Walsh, who is now on a visit to Japan, at their Fukagawa mansion. Among the guests were their Excellencies Marquis Ito, Count Matsukata, Count Incuye, Count Okums, Sir Ernest Satow, Colonel Buck and Baron Rosen, and Mr. G. Lowther, Mr. H. W. Denison, Mr. E. Duu, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. J. Conder, Mr. N. Zumoto, Mr. Uriu and Captain Brinkley.

A Japanese employé of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works met with a fatal accident on the P. & O. steamer Borneo on Sunday night about 11 o'clock. The unfortunate night about II o'clock. The unfortunate man fell down the hold of the vessel, a dis-tance of some 30 feet. The doctor of the ship was on board at the time and did all that was possible, but the injuries received were so serious that the man died a few minutes after the fall. The body was removed to the Police

Early on Sunday morning the body of a seaman named Rock, belonging to the British steamer Oopack, was found by the police near the northern gate of the Yoshiwara enclosure at Magane cho, with very severe injuries on the The Kotobuki-che Police advance the head. theory that the man had gone to sleep under the influence of liquor and had been frozen to death during the night. A Coroner's Inquest will be held at H.B.M.'s Consulate at 10 a.m. to-day.

Unrest seems to have existed in Saltama prefecture for some time past in consequence of the electoral campaign of Mr. Hagino and Mr. Mochida, the former being a Liberal and the latter a Progressive. On the 6th instant a dispute arose between the adherents of these two candidates the result being that five of the Progressives were more or less wounded. Mr. Kamishio, of the injured party, went to lay information against the rioters at the Police station, but on his way was stabbed to death. The whole prefecture, according to the vernacular press, is in an uproar.

#### ARNOLD, NORMAN, AND AN INTERVIEWER.

Concerning the Arnold-and-the-New York Herald incident to which we have already re-ferred, the London Morning Leader prints a couple of interviews that will certainly interest our readers. Before reproducing these interviews we may note that the London journal shows itself fairer than the New York, for it points out that Sir Edwin prefaces his pages on flower arrangement with an explanation which leaves no doubt as to the source of their facis. The first interview is particularly delightful, for it shows Sir Edwin baffling his questioner with the suave and polished resolution which he knew so well how to display :-

A representative of The Morning Leader called upon Sir Edwin Accord last night to show him the Herald's half-page article, and ask him what he thought of it. One reporter writes as follows: The great journalist welcomed the small one with extreme kindness and courtesy. He led me from the thing-room, into which I had been shown, to his cosy study, and, pointing to a couple of big easy chairs standing close together before the fire, said we would make ourselves comfutable in them for our conversation.

New York Herald," I replied, and started to hand tile paper across.

" Indeed I " said Sir Edwin, as he looked at the

"Indeed I" said Sir Edwin, as he looked at the paper and was closing his fingers upon it, "What is it about?"

"It is about yourself, sir; but you have seen it, or heard of it perhaps?"

"About me, is it? What is the date?" and Sir Edwin withdrew his hand from the paper.

"It is the latest Sunday issue to reach this country, and is dated 26 Dec. last."

"Ha! I have not seen it and I won't,"

"But Sir Edwin, this——"

"I do not care what it says. I never read them, never—reviews, flattery, nothing, no, never. I won't look at it put it away."

"But this is neither a review nor flattery." won't look at it put it away."
"But this is neither a review nor flattery."

What do you say it is, then !"
It is about your book 'Japonica,' and it says

you—"
"I tell you you are not to tell me what it says, I will not hear it. What odds is it to me what it says? Now, I am imperative, put it away, and we'll telk of something else."

"Sir Edwin, I'm sure you'll forgive me, but this is a sarious—"

is a serious—"
"I do not case. I haven't seen it and I do not intend to. No! I say I won't hear even what it's about, and then I shall never know."

"But, sir, this acticle says you—"
"Let it. That's no reason why I should know what it does say, and I will not know. Put it away at once or I shall bid you "Good night."
"Indeed, Sir Edwin; but you should know. My people might publish something of this. It is a matter of public interest. But I should not like your refusal to be misunderstood."
"My dear sir. The Meaning Leader will take

"My dear sir, The Morning Leader will take care of itself. Nice thing! Here you want to thelme and hear my defence before-hand and all I've got to say about it. I tell you I do not know that the article says, and I will not. There, he done. Sit down. Is there anything else I can do for you? What, you came about that alone? Then I must wish you good night." Delighted to have met you. Very kind of you to come and to take so much trouble about me. But I won't talk about myself, nor care what anyone says of talk about myself, nor care what anyone says of me. Good night, sir, good night,"

Consequent upon the public interest excited by the accusation of plagiarism levelled at Sir Edwin Arnold by the New York Herald in relation to his work entitled." Japonica," a representative of The Leader yesterday waited upon Mr. Henry Norman, the author of "The Real Japan," and resistant editor of the Daily Chronicle. It should be stated that the interviewer himself by should be stated that the interviewer himself has travelled much in the Far East,

"Clearly it is a matter for Sir Edwin Arnold and for him alone," said Mr. Norman, "It is impossible for anyone else to say one word, interesting though the matter undeniably is,"

" Here," said Mr. Norman, producing a beauti-"Here," said Mr. Norman, producing a brantiful volume magnificently illustrated with Japanese
points, "here is the copy of Mr. Conder's book—
the volume said to have been 'plagiarised'—
which Mr. Conder was kind enough to send me
all the way from Tokyo. I scarcely think Mr.
Conder's knowledge of his fascinating subject
could be bettered or improved upon. He loves
Japan, its people, its institutions, its wondroms
flowers—a language in themselves, as it were—in
short, so saturated is he with the atmosphere of
the Flowery Land that I believe Mr. Conder
thinks Japanese." thinks Japanese."

At this point Mr. Norman's clever wife—the much-travelled "Méné Muriel Dowie," whose "Girl in the Karpathians" is yet in demand—joined in the conversation with an evident interest in the accusation and in Si Edwin's possible at-titude. Alis. Norman knows and likes "Japoni-ca," and knows and likes the Conder hook, too.

ca," and knows and likes the condct. "that my "It is a cutious chance, said sue, that my husband should possess a copy of the billiantly clever and interesting book by Mr. Conder, upon which is based the New York Herald's 'grave charge,' is it not? I shall be quite concerned to see what — if any—developments attend this storm in a Japanese tea-cup,"

with extreme kindness and courtesy. He led me from the thining-room, into which I had been shown, to his cosy study, and, pointing to a couple of big easy chairs standing close together before in them for our conversation. For a moment we stood in front of the fire while I took the copy of the Herald from my pocket and spread it open, with its linge type headlines standing boldly out making its charge.

"And what is it I can do for you?" began Sir Edwin.

"I want, sir, to show you an article in the

# CORRESPONDENCE. THE GOLD STANDARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,-Was there any definite reason actuating the Japanese Government when it determined to establish a gold instead of a silver standard in Japan a year ago? This is a question that must Japan a year ago? This is a question that must puzzle the minds of all who have taken an interest in the monetary legislation of Europe and America during the past quarter of a century.

To anyone who has studied the advantages of the silver standard and who securizes the fact

that Japan industrially and commercially has reaped those advantages as long as she clung to that standard, "T.W." in his letter to the Japan Mail of February 11th, gives the only rational explanation. According to this opinion the Govern-ment in power intended to fix or crystalize the benefits it had derived from the silver standard, do so beyond the possibility of recall Were silver to be restored by any legislation of at international character to its old parity with gold, Inpanese industries would aufler a reverse in al japanese indistries wante suffer a reverse in al-most direct proportion to the benefit received from the so-called depreciation of silver, and to avoid this contingency Japan adopted the gold stan-dard at the ratio of 1 to 32 (nearly). This same explanation of the motive of the Government was given in a Routil particle of The Division. given in an Roglish periodical ("The Bimetallist") when the news of Japan's monetary legislation reached London. It was also the reason at first assigned by the Japan Mail when it became evident that the Matsukata Cabinet intended to introduce a gold bill into the Diet.

But little or no evidence in support of this view can be found. This was not the reason offered by the Government, it was not mentioned by mem bers of Parliament, or even, with a single excep-tion, by the Japanese press. If one were m question a fundred intelligent and well informed apanese I is doubtful whether a single individual would mention this motive as the true raison d'stre of last year's monetary experiment. It is clear from this that another reason or other reasons

must have been at work.

I should like to offer the following explanation of the change. The adoption of the gold standard in Japan was a Government measure. If was not demanded by any political party or by any definite being of business men. The then Government was dominated by a belief in gold par so, as are certain Americans and Europeans at the present time, In Count Matsukata's speech before the Diet will be found abundant proofs of this preference for gold. The speech is a long glorification of gold and a deprecation of silver. The same attitude a depiecation or suver. The series when taken by all the other gold advocates when hill was under consideration. Their speeches the hill was under consideration. show an enthusiasm, a state of mental elevation, when they refer to the supposed superiority of the when they refer to the supposed superiority of the gold standard. According to these penetrating intellects prices in Japan fluctuated more than in other countries and these fluctuations were attributable to the variations in the value of silver. They did not stop to consider the changes of prices with which gold countries have been afflicted in the past twenty five years. According to their views the labouring man in Japan was defrauded of his seal wages by the fall of silver! Did they compare the conditions of the labour market in Japan with these of gold countries? Nay more, these savections critics attributed to the silver Japan with those of gold countries? Nay more, these sugacious critics attributed to the silver standard the want of foreign capital in Japan, and prophesied an economic paradise when the gold standard was adopted.

From all this it is clear why the motive offered by "T.W." as an explanation of Japan's action is inapplicable. In order to accept his explanation the gold advocates would have been constrained to acknowledge the benefits conferred by the silver standard upon Japanese industries and commerce. They would have had to confess that Japan derived immense advantages in nearly every department of her economic life from the decline of the gold value of silver during the past fifteen years. But this did not suit their purpose. Count Okuma, Count Matsuketa and their supporters—the entire coterie of gold standard-men—have always had a strong pre-ference for the gold standard. They have gone so far in extreme cases as to confess regret that Japan ever departed from the gold standard. It was out of the question, then, for them to urge rationally the resumption of gold only on grounds of prudence or expediency, as "T.W." does, viz. to guard the prosperity that Japan had derived from

guard the prosperty the white metal.
It is difficult to get even from the best informed to difficult to get even from the change of

That the gold standard would facilitate the introduction of foreign capital.

That it would eliminate the fluctuations of exchange with the countries of Europe and America.
That is would prevent a further rise of prices

That gold is the money of the more civilized countries.

That gold is by its nature better than silver as its value is much greater weight for weight. Connected with this is an unreasoning pre-judice forgold existing not only in Japan but in certain circles of Europe and America.

After much sifting of evidence I have come to he conclusion that the last two reasons had most influence in promoting the gold legislation of last Some well informed people assign other motives, but as the latter are strenuously denied by other equally well informed individuals, we can hardly accept them as true.

#### CALIBAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Six,—I really do not know if it be worth while to bore yourself and your readers by reverting to the subject of our late little encounter. Only with respect to what you call my "explicit grievance" about the delay in the publication of my letter to you, I think it only fair to say that I have no reason whatsoever to doubt your explanation of it, more especially as I must frankly acknowledge that my handwriting is not unlike the fist of an ancient Egyptian in an advanced state of intoxication, and that the manager of the Fapan Mail very courte-ausly did send me a proof of the communication in question. But with respect to your editorial com-ment a week later, you must do me the justice to acknowledge that I wrote in the Kobe Chronicle Question. (what is the use of always referring to it as a Kobe journal?) as follows:-

" Possibly the crime of republishing it (my letter to you) with approbation in the Robe papers supplied a legitimate pretext for adverting to the matter at such a belated date. However that may be, at all events the *Mail* has justified my calculations and played my game just to a nicety."

Your explanation shows that the supposition in the first of these two sentences was correct. Now, it is equally true that I honestly did count upon what has actually taken place, when I primed the letter to you. Once already (in Oct., 1890, I think,) I sent you a letter which you refrained from publishing till I had it in type in the Gasette office (with an accompanying note of explanation), and when you did publish it on the morning of the day when it was to appear in the Gasette, I got into sad trouble with Paddy Auglin in consequence. Since then I have, with much amusement, seen you play their people in the same artistic way; one gentle-man especially you luted on to thin ice in a fashion that showed that the gods must have originally masked you sate either for a diplomatist or a Socra-tic philosopher. It is certainly not by any means on my last letter to you that I venture to rear what you call my "imposing edifice of inference" about your "minor tactics." The inference about them your "minor tactics." The inference about them was drawn long agn, and the letter in question was concocted to fit in with my theory (whether right or wrong). And it suited too,—pat,—although after your explanation it would seem that, as we say in Scotland, that came "mair by luck than gude guidio."

However, that is not the main thing, and I don't lancy the local public find much spiritual joy in fancy the local public find much spiritual joy in the casual fencing of a pair of journalistic gladiators. All that I am anxious about is that for the good name of Japan, and for the comfort of myself-and my fellow-lieges—more especially of the petticoated section of them—Caliban be put in his place. Of course cooles have rights (we have left the age of shita m iso far hebind us) and these rights must be respected. But His Majesty King Coolie must understand that other people also have rights, and that these too must be respected. ights, and that these too must be respected.

Very truly yours, Omori, March 5th, 1898.

TOPICS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

SCOTUS.

[SPECIALLY WRITTED FOR THE " JAPAN MAIL."]

Ithaca, February, 1898. In this age of the world, when the ocean no In this age of the world, when the ocean no longer separates but unites nations, and when even wars may be decided on sea rather than land, the interest in naval matters has reached high water mark. Captain A. T. Mahan has done not a little to ravive the general interest, both and a state of a st Japanese a consistent reason for the change of an a little to ravive the general interest, both tor. I doubt not that one could, in the archives standards. A list of motives would include the emplessional and popular, by his writings on the of the lighted his of the lighted his of the lighted his of the lighted his of the lighted his order in battle, caused following:

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made his mark first in 1883, by his fascinating monograph in the handy series issued by the His was the third volume, and dealt with "The Gulf and Inland Waters," the work showing not only the conscientious historian but also a grasp of principles and details and a mastery of language, that were in themselves the prophecy of greater things. An account many and the second control of the second cont Scribner's on age, that were in themselves the prophecy of greater things. An equally warm welcome to his later writings has been given in all countries where the English language is spoken, and in nearly every maritime country in Europe and in Japan his works have been translated.

Even the launching of a ship has become a matter of considerable popular interest. This is matter of considerable popular interest. This is not only because of the personal element which enters into all things human, but (1) because of strong opinions both for and against the continuance of ancient pagen customs; (2) because of strong prohibition and temperance opinions as against the sentiment for and personal liking of Kentucky whisky, California wine, and imported it on the sentiment of the sentiment of the sentiment of the sentiment of the sentiment of the sentiment of the sentiment of the sentiment of the ship. It is well known that among anilors, who are usually reckoned superstitious, there are with are usually reckoned superstitious, there are very strong notions of orthodoxy concerning the personages and auguries at a ship launch. To this day, as I have seen in new books published only last month, and as I know from acquaintance with sailors, the tradition about the Chespeaks with sailors, the tradition about the Chespeaks with sailors, the tradition about the theory that there but here. still holds its own, like a dogma that defies both science and ridicule.

The unprejudiced historian reckous as the chief elements in the victory of Captain Broke and the Shannon over Lawrence and the Chesapeke in 1813, the superiority of British seamanship, discipline, valour, and perfect unity on one side, as against disorganization and even matiny in a new and raw crew and the death, early in the battle, of the American commander. All these, however, weigh as feathers only in the scale wherein is placed, on the other pan, the fact that the Chesplaced, on the other pan, the fact that the Chespeake was a failure from the first, that she stuck fast on her ways when being launched, and was always an unlucky ship from this formal hitch between land and water. No wonder, then, that she struck her colours, when assaulted, in an atterly imprepared condition, by the treacherous broadsides of the Leopard. This was during a time of peace and only a few miles away from the spot where the new battleship Kentucky is, during this mouth to slide from her ways and chause the month, to slide from her ways and change the world of her habitation from land to water.

It is no wonder, then, that the nautical teapot has been recently quivering with a tempest of no slight force, for the proposal to have a married slight force, for the proposal to have a married lady christen a man-of-war has roused the wrath of all upholders of traditional naval orthodoxy. From the time of Helen of Troy, has it not been appropriate that a wirgin only should break the bottle over the bow as the keel kissed the water in tribute to Neptune? The idea that a married woman should usurp the function which belongs only to the maidet, is something horrible to the mind of Jack Tar. To-day it is orthodox that only a virgin should name the ship. Hence the flutter in Washington society, naval and official, because of the alleged promise to a wife rather than to a virgin that she ahould name the Keniuchy. There seems to have been some lack of formality in making and keeping covenant, but no sooner is the Secretary of the or some some the best of the secretary of the Navy out of one trouble, than he is in another, for whereas the possessor of a bottle of fifty-year old Kantucky whisky, which is famous all ever the United States, complains of the use to which his nectar was applied—to the delight of a dinner party rather than to Neptune—there are others who protest against the idea of baptizing (by affirwho protest against the takes of specific by white since is sign) the battleship Kentucky with either native or imported champagne or with mellow whisky. It is now definitely decided that the fair sponsor, Miss Christine Bradley, will meork a beautifully embellished vessel fall of pure Kentucky water. embellished vessel full of pure Kentucky water. This is to come from that unfailing spring of cold, clear water in Jarne country, where Abraham Lincoln was born and at which he used to slake his thirst in boylood. There was a precedent for this; during the civil war the gunboat Bedford was launched at Philadelphia, a bottle of Bedford spring water being broken the bow.

But now the Japanese have come to teach us a good lesson, which lovers of temperance and believers in prohibition welcome with delight. The love of liquor in mankind generally, and especially in pations, needs no artificial or sentimental

ly in patriors, needs no artificial or sentimental stimulus. I have often wondered why some teetotaler, with a taste for research and a powerful pen, did not attempt what awaits the clover investiga-

by too much alcohol in the stomach of captains, com-modores, and admirals. I have myself read enough in the archives of Washington to know that frequent disaster has happened to American aims and property, because of too much love of the bottle. One may not be too certain that the sinking of the Victoria or the Oneida was directly or indirectly caused by indulgence in the convivial glass; yet there are those who do believe that the prime cause of the defeat of the Union arms at the first battle of Bull Run was too much brandy in the stomach of a certain officer. To push sumour too far, without documentary basis, might encourage rar, without documentary basis, might encourage presidents like Lincoln, who, on being told that General Grant drank whisky, proposed to send a barrel of the victorious General's favourite brand to every other general in the army. Whatever may be said of officers, it is certain that the abolition of the liquor ration in the United States Name. tion of the liquor cation in the United States Mavy has given us a better set of men and improved general discipline.

The breaking of a bottle of alcoholic liquor of some kind over the bow of a ship, as it first touches the water, is a survival of the old classic libasome kind over the bow of a ship, as it his towners the water, is a survival of the old classic libations and of the association with pagan mythology. To propitiate Neptime, a bottle of wine is shivered in his honour over the prow, but the Japanese ceremony of releasing doves seems to be better. I have not been able to find the origin of the custom, which has been used, I believe, only since the modern navy of Japan began. The lamoching of a ship means the changing of worlds, and the symbolism may be that of new life, possibly of resurrection. We remember that Yamato Daké, the legendary conqueror of the Kwanto, was brided in Ise, and that from his tomb a white bird flew up. In his memory, his father bad white birds (pranes) brought from every province in Japan. According to the report gathered from the Japanese officers at the lannthing of the Kasagi, it is said that "a feudal chief of the Shintofaith, whose devotees worship the spirits of the ancestors, had devotees worship the spirits of the ancestors, had a daughter who was asked in marriage by a chief of another faith. Refusal made their a daughter who was asked in marriage by a chief of another faith. Refusal made their determination to wed firmer, and an elopement followed. Pressed by the father's followers, the fugitives hid themselves in a cave in the mountain. As the hiding place was about to be invaded, two dows flew from the entrance. To the father they betokened the spirits of ancestors protesting in a feeble way at the desecration of their abode. Rebuked by them he turned away, his depandents went with him, and the lovers soon made their way to the shore and put out to sea. Ever since Japan had a may, the custom of liberating doves has been in vogue."

I should be glad if any of your readers can verify the statement or give in full the story and tell us in what book it is found. There is a good deal of symbolism in Chinese art, concerning doves and pigeans. Every one of us from childhood has been familiar with the blue porcelationates of Canton, with the trees and river, and bridges and pageadas, above which were flying a pair of love birds or turtle doves, which were the spirits of the two lovers, separated in life, but united in death.

Moved by the appropriate that Miss Helen

but united in death.

Moved by the announcement that Miss Helen Long, the daughter of the Secretary of the Navy, would loose a white pigeon, (though coloured ones were released) a well-known poet [Miss Edith M. Thomas] sent to The Critic this graceful quatrain) :--

O Land of the Isles in the ocean afar,
O lovers of symbol—of Beauty, of Worship, of

symbol we choose you (launching a strong

A maid shall release to you Peace in the form of the dove.?

A maid shall release to you Peace in the form of the dove."

It is among the writer's very first impressions of the dove."

It is among the writer's very first impressions of the form of the dove."

It is among the writer's very first impressions of the first that the stood on a platform overlooking the Navy Yard in the southern part of Philadel phia to writers the leauching of the seam first gate has a diement of politics, and the formal first should be seam first gate the first makes the leauching of the seam first gate based with the first makes. It is a platform accommedating over 100 spectators and overlooking one of the based with the first makes. The property of the city, in 1775-76, the writer's accessors—two of those "free Quakes" of which Dr. S. Weir Muchell has told in his remance of Hugh Wynne (which is one of the literary successes of the season)—built the first men for the Continental Congress. On to mear this same spot the Japanes cruiter Kasegi was faunched at Measure. The writer can be known as published simultaneously in was launched at Measure. The writer is a platform dynasty of Hokucho rallied to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory, in the raph century. The vessel is 222 feet long, with a displacement, at a mean leaf to victory in the first makes th

A large party came on from Washington to be on board. Despite the rainy weather, thousands of speciators gathered in the yard. At the right time, just before one o'clock, the rain ceased. When all was ready, Miss Helen Long, daughter of the Secretary, began to pull the white sibbon of the Secretary, began to pull the white suborn which held the great white sphere, about 2-1/2 feet in diameter, which hung from a pole projecting from the bow. The sphere was in reality a cage, composed of concentric strips, exactly like an orange cut from top to bottom, but covered on the outside with tulips, lilies, and other fragrant flowers. Inside were six doves, of the usual slate colour, that were gladly awaiting their hour of deliverance, for the rain evidently made them un-comfortable. The cord, however, slipped from the hand of the fair sponsor and fell down in front of the great steel close of the mighty rain. Forof the great steet dose of the mighty rain. For-tunately, however, the workmen who were stand-ing below leaped up to catch the string and release the imprisoned life within. One of them, James Engard, caught hold of the ribbon, and the concentric strips fell away. The birds whired and wheeled for a moment or two and then sailed away to the northeast, while the people below enjayed the fragrant shower of bloom. The below enjayed the tragram shower in mooth. The omens were all, from our point of view, favourable. Soon the graceful hull slid into the stream, while the lively breeze kept the num-flage at right angles with their staves. There was a large number of Japanese, both ladies and gentlemen, as well as of Americans

Meanwhile, we are all waiting for naval news from the Far East. The number of telegrams, which we have for breakfast every morning, suggest that "to be or not to be, that is the question." I remember when first arriving off Yokohama on the P.M.S.S. Co. steamer Great Republic, when friends came on board, besides French and Germany inquiring for the latest news, British officer from the 10th regiment, then in the camp on the fift at Yokohama, inquired whether there was to be war with Russia. The answer, which events gave I trust, be the same now. much for Russia, Japan, and England to do, be-

sides,
Concerning Cuba and Hawaii, the two "Islands of desire," it seems to be the sincere purpose of President McKinley, backed by the larger portion of our people, to wait. The harmony of ripeness and gravitation is desired rather than the forcible placking of half-ripe fruit. One element forcible placking of half-ripe fruit. One element in the case, scandalous, but working in the interest of peace, is our bloated pension system. To the reform of this, and of the revenue and currency, our law-makers must give their attention for the contraction.

#### THE RECENT "COUP DE GRACE OF THE DOSHISHA.

[WRITTEN FOR THE " JAPAN MAIL."]

BY J. D. DAVIS, FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS PROPESSOR IN THE SCHOOL.

PROPASSOR IN THE SCHOOL.

In Oct., 1874. Mr. Neesima, who had spent ten years in the United States, was present at the annual meeting of the American Board of Foreign Missions, in Rutland, VI, and made an appeal for money to found a Christian College. He had himselt experienced the benefit of a Christian education during ten years and in response to his tearful annual nearly five thousand dollars were tearful appeal nearly five thousand dollars were learful appeal nearly five thousand dollars were given. Returning to Japan, he tried in vain for eight months to get permission to start his Christian school in Osaka; the governor of the city refused permission because it was to be a

bers who shall own the property of the com-pany, and shall see that it is used for the main-tenance of Christian schools, and shall have charge of all business arising between said schools and the Japanese Government.2 The present Constitution. which was adopted a few years later, bagins with six articles, constituting the first chapter which is headed "Fundamental Principles." The first, second, third and sigth articles read as fol-

Kers Cherry D. J.

1. This company is established to promote moral and intellectual education in close union.

2. The name of this company is the Doshisha Company. All schools of the company must have Doshisha as a part of their name, and this Constitution applies to them all.

2. Chairmants is the foundation of the maral.

stitution applies to them all.

3. Christianity is the foundation of the moral education promoted by this company.

6. The above five articles are nothingeable.

The Trustees at their meeting in Tokyo, February 23 d, voted to strike out article six entirely, and to strike mit the last clause from acticle two. They took this action because they wish to secure privileges for the Jinjo Chu Gakko of the Doshisha from the Mombusho, as I hear, refuses to grant any privi-Gakko of the Doshisha from the Mombusho, which, as I hear, refuses to grant any privileges if the Chu Gakko has any relation in Christianity. By striking out number six, they think they can change any of the other articles at will, and they have changed number two so that they man say that Christianity has no connection with the Jinjo Chu Gakko. But so long as they leave number three, Christianity must be the foundation of the morality taught in the Chu Gakko, if they teach any morality there. Number three will also have to be changed or stricken such a present there are very few students out. At present there are very few students left in the Doshisha, except in the Chu Gakko, and if Christianity is to be discreed from that it changes the whole nature of the school.

The first printed appeal for the Doshisha University was prepared and issued by Mr. Neesima in May, 1884. The following extracts from that appeal show Mr. Neesima's firm and miswerving pose to make the school thoroughly Christia purpose to make the school thoroughly Unristian, "When we look carefully at the condition of the country, there is one thing which gives us great socrow. What is that? It is that there does not exist in Japan a University which is founded upon the most pure morality and which teaches the new science. This is a necessary foundation of our civilisation. . . In the year toxo, the Pigram Fathers landed at Plymouth, Mass.; the gram that they might enjoy freedom to worship God. They established a school which was founded upon Christian morality. Since that time, for 260 years their descendants have inherited the spirit years their descendants have interested the spins and carried out the purpose of the fathers; they have believed that such schools would diminish the number of toose who do good; that they would encourage the spirit of liberty and become the foundation of the State; they have believed that in order to become a union with the best for growth. order to become a nation with the best free govern-

order to become a nation with the best free government they must have universities which are founded upon Christian morality, where the sciences will be taught. We cannot doubt but that their free institutions have been the result of this spirit. . . . Some are trying to improve the morality of the people, but they demand that the old morality of China shall be used with the people, and hence we cannot rejoice at their efforts, for the Chinese morality has no influence upon the mind of mee generally. All Oriental States are almost destinute of liberty and Christian morality; they cannot therefore rapidly advance in civilization.

"The growth of liberty, the development of scients."

"The growth of liberty, the development of science, the advancement of politics, and the power of morality have brought forth the European civiliza-

and spiritual principles and to train up, not only men of science and learning, but men of consciencions supera and learning. This we believe can never be attained by one-sided intellectual education, nor by Confucianism, which has lost its education, nor by Confucianism, which has lost its power to control and regulate the mind, but only by a thorough education founded on the Christian principles of faith in God, love of truth, and benevolence to one's fellow men. That our work is founded on these principles in the point in which we take differed from the prevailing views one-education, and owing to this we failed to gain the sympathy of the public for a number of years. At that time our condition was very weak, with almost a friends in the whole country with our notice. ne friends in the whole country, with our principles of education not only despised by the igno ciples of education not only despised by the ignorant, but treated with contempt even by men of enlightenment. Nevertheless, being convinced of the ultimate victory of truth, helping and streng thening each other, we proceeded on our way with a single eye to the end, and with strong determination amid the greatest difficulties. Formostely, general opinion has now changed respecting religion, so that even those who do not themselves believe in Christianity are ready to arknowledge that it contains a living power for themselves believe in Christianity are ready to acknowledge that it contains a living power for the regeneration of men. Thus society has been prepared to walcome us. . . . . We think that Western civilization, though many and various in its phenomena, is in general Christian civilization. The spirit of Christianity genetrated all things even to the bottom, so that, if we adopt only the material elements of civilization, and leave as a clinical in the heidelings are a human hode. out religion, it is like building up a human body of flesh only without blood.

or nesh any without clood.

"Our young men, who are studying the literature and science of the West, are not becoming fitted to be the men of New Japan, but are, we regret to say, wandering out of the true way in consequence of their mistaken principles of education. Alas, of their mistaken principles of education. Alas, what a sad prospect this offers for the future of our counity? . . . . To express our hopes in hief, we seek to send out into the world not only men versed in literature and science, but young men of strong and noble character, but young men of strong and noble character, but which they can use their learning for the good of their fellow mess. This, we are convinced, can naver be accomplished by abstract speculative teaching, nor by strict and complicated rules, but only by Christian principles—the living and powerful principles of Christianity—and we therefore adopt these principles as the unchangeable foundation of our educational work, and devote our energies to their realization."

The above extracts are taken from Dr. Nes-ma's appeals for the University addressed to the smals appeals for the University addressed to the unochristian public of Japan. It is needless to say that he emphasised the same Christian foundation for the school in all his appeals for aid to the Christian public in the United States. That Christian public had faith in Dr. Neesima. They had faith also that his successors would keep the sulemn compact contained in those articles of the constitution which were declared to be forever malterable, and that Christianity to be forever malterable, and that Christianity would remain the foundation of the school. Not one dollar of all the hundreds of thousands of dellace which have been given to the Dashisha by earnest Christian friends in the United States would have been given had it not been believed that the school was securely established on a Christian foundation.

It was this conviction which called forth the princely gift of one hundred thousand dollars from Mr. J. N. Harris, of New London, Conn. Many things have occurred during the last few years which have caused solicitude on the part of the friends who have supported the school during more than twenty years. Its Christian spirit declined; lecturers were allowed upon its platform, and professors retained who publicly attacked the Christian foundations of the school. These things wen so far that two years ago the American Board and its missionacies were separated from the school. Mr. Harris was greatly troubled at this change and his anxiety probably bastened his death. A short time before his death he wrote as follows:—" This

gift, and had revealed almost an absence of what the regarded a moral sense of integrity. He could not understand why his wishes as to the use to be made of his gift should not have weighed more with those who administer the funds. I had never seen him appear so grieved and pained. It may be that this hastened flis death. White revealing such pain, he repeatedly said, "Nevertheless, I ne that this hastened flis death. While revealing such pain, he repeatedly said, 'Nevertheless, I cannot believe that the prayers and faith of Dr. Neesima and those who have been so interested in the Dr. State of the said in the Doshisha for twenty-one years of its history, will all go for naught, but that the institution will yet be a centre of Christian influence and power for Japan."

What would Mr. Harris say could be speak today, after the trustees have taken this entirely un-lawful action which no one of the foreign friends of the school would have believed it possible to

By this action they virtually annihilate any sure foundation. When the object in view is consider-ed the action virtually takes the Christian foundation away from the school. By this act they strike a fatal blow to the school, for if it is not to be a tion away from the school. By this act they strike a fatal blow to the school, for if it is not to be a Christian school it has no sufficient reason for existence, and they strike out the only thing which can possibly give the school success. It can compete with the government schools only on its moral side. With a growing Christian constituency; if it kept its original genuine earnest Christian spirit and reputation, it would be supported by the increasing number of parents who will desire to place their sons to be educated under the influences of Christian morality. By this act they also strike a heavy below at Christianity in Japan, for the Doshisha has been considered one of the Christian centres of Japan, and such an act by a Christian board of trustees will do much to disparage Christianity in the eyes of the such an act by a Christian board of trustees will do much to disparage Christianity in the eyes of the whole nation. By this act also, the Trustees of the Doshisha have struck one of the heaviest blows at the fair reputation of Japan among the nations of the world which could possibly have been given. If a board of trustees, all of whom are or have been professing Christians, many of whom are men in high positions to-day, and who have inherited such a sacred trust, can deliberately strike out, sweep away, that which has from the beginning been the foundation of the school, and which was

sweep away, that which has from the beginning been the foundation of the school, and which was declared in the constitution to be finever matterable, where is the honour, and what foundation is there for trust, among the Japanese people? This will be the inevitable and swift verdict which will be passed by all the enlightened nations of the carth as soon as this action is known.

The writer has put most of his life into Japan, twenty-one years of it into the Dushisha. He loves the school, he loves Japan; it is hard work for him to tell which he loves most—bis native America or Japan; and hence it is with unsiterable sorrow that he witnesses this fatal stab at the school and at the fair reputation of his adopted country. He feels that it is due to his loved and country. He feels that it is due to his loved and sainted friend Dr. Neesima, who founded the Doshisha on Christianity and gave his life for it, and also to the many thousands in the United States who have given their prayers and their money for the school, that the above facts should be made known.

Kvoto, March 5th, 1808.

# THE KENNEDY MURDER CASE.

On Wednesday morning at a little past 10 s.m. the adjourned trial of Nagai Yoshito, charged with having killed Thomas Kennedy, a seaman belonging to the British ship Glenericht, on the night of the 16th September last, was continued in the Yokoliama Local Court before Judge Yamanuto and Amirtust Intera Entited A. mamoto and Assistant Judges Fujise and Oyagi. Public Procurator Kitaoka prosecuted, and M. Futami, barrister, appeared for the defence. Mr. Lay, of the British Consulate, was present and

had a seat on the bench.

After the case was called, Dr. Neil Gordon Minro gave the following evidence through the

the effusion of blood in the fourth ventricle. brain was broken in two places, corresponding with the fracture of base of the skull. There was a large blood clot under the brain and another between the brain and the bone. There was not only compression of the brain, but wounding of the brain, and either were sufficient to have caused death.

Caused death.

This concluded Dr. Munro's evidence.

The Chief Judge, addressing the prisoner, asked

—When you struck the seaman in what direction
were you facing?—For Kanenohashi (the iron
bridge, near Isezakicho Police Station).

The Judge—Did you not say in your preliminary examination that you were not so much intoxicated at that time and that you had only drink sake worth 20 sen together with your commades? Sake worth only 20 sen is not much when divided among your comrades?—Mr. Furukawa, my master, added some more among us.

Judge-I do not think that you could become Judge—I do not think that you could become quite intoxicated with sucil a small quantity when you generally take 5 go of liquor?—From the morning I had been taking some liquor,

Judge—You did not say that till now,—It might

have been so.

Judge—You must have been following close on to the seaman, when he turned round you must have faced him?—I changed my position when the seamen turned round.

Judge -You must have been following the sea-

Judge—Southeast did you strike the seamen first,—with the bamboo or the huge log ?—I do not

Judge—You said in the preliminary examina-tion that you struck the seaman many times. Did you not?—No.

you not?—No.

Judge—Your statements are utterly incompatible. Each time you speak your words are found quite different. Is it true that you struck the seaman thinking that he was a wicked fellow? -Yes, that is so.

Judge—Do you want to say any more on your own behalf?—I have not any more to say,

An Assistant Judge—Where was the place that you struck the seaman in the presence of the multitude ?-I cannot tell exactly, as the streets were filled with people.

Assistant Judge—Near the fish-monger's shop or the fire-watch box?—Near the fish-monger's.

Assistant Judge—When you were quite near the seaman did he brandish his knife over you?

Just when 5 or 6 people were pursuing the seaman Japanesed to search him and after this. man I happened to approach him and after strik-

ing him I can away.

Assistant Judge—Was not there any moment when the seaman faced against you?—There was, for the space of a moment when the seaman faced

me as I was coming close to him.

Assistant Judge—Did you not have any time to pick up anything?—I had some moments to

pick it up

Assistant Judge-Can you pick up anything so fast?-I was able to pick it up as the stick was just lying there.

Assistant Judge-How many people were about when they pursued the seaman?—About 15 people were pursuing the seaman, and two or three ahead of him.

three ahead of him.

Assistant Judge—Is it not false that you used a bamboo stick? You must have used the huge club?—No, no. Assistant Judge—Did you see the seaman vomiting blood?—No.

Clief Judge—You must have been looking? your present statement is quite contrary to the

tatement made previously.

Public Procurator—He stated that on the night of the 16th of September four seamen belonging to a British steamer, then at sector in Yokohama quanteled in the streets of Isezakicho under the influence of liquor, when the crowd becoming excited, pursued the seamen, one of them, who is thought to have wounded a jurikisha coolie being Thomas Kennedy, and upon seeing Kennedy flying towards Sugatamicho the prisoner, Nagai, struck the seamen with a club in Sugatamicho. It is usual with every man not to speak against himms anxiety proparty described as follows:—"This is not the end of Christian education at the Doshisha. God will not permit the sun of Neesima to go down in darkness so soon. He is yet to reckon with unfaithful ones who succeeded that great ethnics. I do believe that rich harvests are yet to be respect from this field.—I shall see it, but not here; I shall behold it, but from above." Secretary Barton of the American Board, wrote the next day after Mr. Harris' death, October 19th, 1896, as follows:—'I was greatly shocked this moning, as this bouse, of Mr. Harris. He was leve last Friday to talk over the situation in the Doshisha. He was intensely pained at the still de symmetry and the caused an effusion of blood on the base of the still de symmetry of the knees, elbow, which was broken, nuder the presoner they moning, at his bouse, of Mr. Harris. He was leve last Friday to talk over the situation in the Doshisha. He was intensely pained at the still de symmetry and not to speak against himself. But there is evidence as to the prisoner to salud the seaman, for the prisoner to salud the seaman, for the prisoner to shout half a dozen slight bruises on the body, in different parts—on the knee, elbow, which was broken, and the salud over the view of the salud over the prisoner was a swelling over the left temple. Only two were severe, there was other evidence to show that the death of the seaman was caused by the prisoner was from the sudden death on Sunday, (yester day) moning, at his bouse, of Mr. Harris. He was five last Friday to talk over the situation in the Doshisha. He was intensely pained at the still the prisoner was skull, which caused an effusion of blood on the brain. There was a blood clot in the fourth venity to the fourth particles. The brain substance was broken, and this source the prisoner said.

I have nothing to say about the assault, I have nothing to say about the seaman, in the prisoner told was the fellowing to say about the seaman in the should dozen the body in different particle the body a Furukawa, his master, that he should hereafter put a stop to taking liquor as he generally become quarrelsome when in liquor. Again on another occasion the prisoner tried to fly away from Yokoliama by pawning his carpenters's instruments. The evidence that the prisoner is the man who struck the seaman Kennedy, causing his death, is now apparent. Such being the case the prisoner is subject to Art, 299 of the Criminal Law and is liable to undergo imprisonment with labour. Not alone in the present instance, but in others, the abuse has recently become marked, or ordered called yajimma, (meddlers.) taking the law into their own hands, which they have no sight to do even when, as in this case foreigners may have been guilty of creating a disturbance. This is an abuse which cannot be too strongly condemned. Even though the seaman struck him he ought not to have returned the blow. So the prisoner should be dealt with severely by the Court.

Court.

Mr. Fonami, Counsel for the defence, submitted that the evidence that the prisoner had killed the seaman was not conclusive, for it was clear that the prisoner used the bamboo and not the huge club. When the prisoner ran after the foreigner he did not pass the spot where the piece of wood was standing, so that he had no chance pick up the club. He believed that the prisoner had struck the assman but not with the club. Hence he did not believe that the prisoner was the murderer of the seaman. As to the statement that the prisoner told his comrade in Maganecho that he killed the foreign seaman, Counsel would suggest that it was contrade in Maganacho that he killed the foreign seaman, Counsel would suggest that it was rather strange for the prisoner to speak of his having killed the seaman in such a place. At the time of the struggle there were plenty of other men wearing similar clothes, though the murderer was also of short statue like the prisoner. He begged the Court that the prisoner might be treated as the striker of the seaman but not as the ed as the suiker of the seaman but not as the

Chief Judge-The Court will announce its judgment upon the prisoner on the 11th inst. at

) a.m. The Court theo cose.

# LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

ENGLAND AND FRANCE ON THE NIGER.

London, March 7.

The Niger Company has despatched a force to Sokoto, to assist the Sultan, should the French refuse to re-cross the Niger.

HEALTH OF LORD SALISBURY.

Lord Salisbury is making fair progress but is still extremely weak.

FATAL DUEL BETWEEN ITALIAN DEPUTIES.

The Italian deputy Signor Cavolotto has been killed in a duel with swords with deputy Macola owing to a press polemic.

"VICTORIOUS" ON HER WAY AGAIN.

Said, and not at Suez as was at first to compass her designs in the affair by stated, left Suez on the 2nd inst. for the ordinary method of diplomacy.

CABINET CRISIS IN AUSTRIA. The Austrian Ministry has resigned.

SOUDAN CAMPAIGN. The British battalions have reached

Atbara.

#### THE FAR EAST.

London, March 8.

The Times Pekin correspondent telegraphs that Russia has requested China to surrender her sovereign rights over Port ther for the laying of a railway between Arthur and Talien-wan with the same conditions as granted to Germany at RUSSIA MAKES ANOTHER DEMAND; RAIL-Kiao chow. Russia also asks for the right to construct a railway from Pekin to Mukden and Port Arthur, and in the event demanded within five days.

REPORTED RUSSIAN DEMANDS.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon stated that he had no information confirming the Times' statements.

Almost a panic prevails on the Stock Exchange owing to fears of a conflict with Russia in connection with Chinese Affairs.

# SPAIN BACKS DOWN.

Finding that the United States of North America resented her demands, Spain has withdrawn them.

A bill has been introduced into the House of Representatives, with the approval of President McKinley, appropriating fifty million dollars towards the national defence.

# RUSSIA'S LATEST DEMANDS.

London, March 9.

Russia has demanded the lease of Port Arthur and Talienwan for 99 years, and

insisted on a reply by to day.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon announced that the Government had telegraphed to Pekin and St. Petersburg, enquiring about the matter.

# BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES.

The British Naval Estimates amount to £23,778,000 and provide for an increase of 6,340 men, three new battleships, four cruisers, and four sloops.

#### AMERICA'S DEFENSIVE MEASURES

The Washington House of Representatives has passed the Credit for Defensive Measures unanimously.

#### CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST.

Russia continues hurrying troops to the Far East. Her own cruisers being insufficient, it has been arranged to employ French steamers for the conveyance of reinforcements. The first of these will reinforcements. The first of these w leave shortly with a force of 2,000 men.

#### UNITED STATES DEFENSIVE MEASURES.

The Washington Senate has passed the the Appropriation Bill for the defensive measures.

(Received by the Fift)

# THE PORT ARTHUR AFFAIR.

Pekin, March 6.

Russia has sent an application to the Chinese Government for the lease of Port Arthur and requested an answer within five days.

Peking, March 7. The Tsung-li Yamen shows no sign of complying with Russia's demands in re-The Victorious, which grounded at Port believed here that Russia will not be able

#### ARRIVAL OF PRINCE HENRY.

Shaughai, March 9.

cruiser Deutschland, The German having on board Prince Henry of Prussia, has arrived here.

ANOTHER RAILWAY CONCESSION SECURED BY GERMANY.

Peking, March 9.

Besides the railway concession already secured, Germany has also acquired ano-Chinampho and Ichow.

WAY IN LIAOTUNG.

Peking, Mar. to.

Russia has made a request that she of non-compliance, threatens to send should be conceded the privilege of laying troops into Manchuria. A reply has been the Liaotung railway terminating in Port Arthur.

CHINA NEGOTIATES WITH RUSSIA. Peking, March 10.

China, investing full authority in her Minister Hu King-ching in St. Peters-burg, has opened negotiations with the Russian Government as to the latter's demands.

#### ENGLAND COUNTENANCES CHINA.

England, while advising China to take a firm decision, has informed her that were she to acquiesce in Russia's demands, England would make a similar demand in order to maintain the balance of power.

# LATEST FROM KOREA.

Chemulpho, March 9.

The Maya entered here to-day.

Soul, March 4:

Cho-pyong-ho has been appointed Minister of Finance, and Min Chhong-muk Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Soul, March 6.

The Ministers of the other State Departments have impeached Min Chhong-muk, Foreign Minister, to the Throne on the charge of having arbitrarily leased Deer Island to Russia without having consulted the opinion of his colleagues. At the same time they have submitted their resignations, which, however, have not been accepted. Min will probably be dismissed from office.

Söul, March 9.

On the 7th inst. at 6 p.m. the Russian Minister presented the following demands to the Korean Court.

In compliance with the Korean Court's request the Russian Government assisted the Korean administration by dispatching military officers and other advisers to Korea, but the ibehaviour of the Korean Court of late has greatly changed towards Russia and it has refused a proposal made by Russia. Should the Korean Court see no necessity for accepting Russia's help it must return a reply within 24 hours.

Soul. March o. The Consuls of Great Britain, Germany and the United States had audience with the Korean Emperor yesterday. This audience is thought to have connection This with Russia's recent demand.

Soul, March o. The members of the "Dokuritsu Kai" are engaged in a hot discussion regarding the dismissal of Kin Koriku and others.

Inquiries made regarding Russia's demand show that the Korean Government gard to the lease of Port Arthur. It is has asked for a delay of three days before answering Russia.

Soul, March 10. Yesterday a Cabinet Council was held as to the reply to be made to the Russian Legation. With the sole exception of Min Chhun-mak, acting Foreign Minister, all the Ministers of State maintained that a reply should be forwarded in the sense that the Russian drill-instructors, financial adviser, and others should be dismissed. Min Chhun-muk opposed this contention and avowed that the independence of Korea could not be maintained unless by

the help of Russia. To-day, at various principal points in the city private gentlemen of repute, literati, and leading merchants will address public meetings, in order to ascertain the opinion of the people as to the reply to be made

to the Russian Representative.

Söul, Mar. 10. The acting Foreign Minister has forwarthin als resignation.

#### CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Chib holds its meetings 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchone (next to the Tokyo

_		
	SOLUTION OF	<b>Р</b> ВОВЬВМ No. 359-,
	WHITE.	BLACK.
	1-B to Kt 6	r-Kt to Q 6 ch
	2-O takes Kt ch	2-K takes Q
	3-Binkes Rmate	2 12 14 14
	•	if 2-K takes P, or moves
	3-Q takes R mate	
	3 2	1-K to Q 4
	2-Kt to B 7 ch	2-K to K 5
		2-16 10 15 3
	3-Q to K 3 mate	. 17 . 9 -
		1-K to B 5
	2-Q to K 3 ch	2-K to Kt 5
	3-Q to Kt 3 mate	
		r-P to K 3
	2-Kt to Q & ch	2-K to Q 4
	3-Q to B 5 male	2-1110 2 4
	3-2 to D 3 mare	W. W. D.
		if 2K to B 5
	3-Q to Kt 3 mate	
		1-P takes P
	2-Q to K 3 ch	a-K to Q 4
	3-Kt to B 7 mate	•
	_,	1-B to Kt 7
	2-0 to 0 4 ch	2-15 to B 6

2-Q to Q 4 ch 2-K to B 6
3-B to R 5 mate
Correct solution received from W.H.S., Skak,
D.D., and Voila.

"Marshall" (Kobe) is to be credited with correct Solution of Problem 358 which reached as last Saturday just after we had gone to press.

PROBLEM No. 362. By W. B. Mason, Tokyo.



White to play and male in three moves.

GAME. No. 368. The Hastings Chess Festival has been conducted with great success. Four masters were engaged—namely, Bird, Blackburne, Gunsberg and Janowski, Each of these played a number of very interesting consultation games against the others. There were also simultaneous against the others. There were also simultaneous and blindfold, as well as consultation games against amateurs. A notable performance was that of Janowski, who played twenty-nine games in three and a half hours, winning twenty-four. We append a consultation game played.

pend a con	15 B R3 ch			
•	10 R B sq Ch			
	ura. Gunaberg	Black,-Meast		
	Dobeil.	#HITE,	BLACK.	(a) P to C
WHITE,				(b) Hemi
1 P K4	P K4	20 Cits. QR		ing to an eq.
	KLQB3	21 QR Kt sc		(c) As in
3 P B4	PxP	22 Q Q2	K R2	called "frie
4 Kt B3	P KK14	23 BxP	Q Ka	
5 P KR4	P Kt5	24 B Q5 25 B QB4	B B3(I)	Knight's Del
6 Kt K(5	P KR3	25 B QB4	Q B3(e)	K 3, trying t
7 KtxP	KĸKt	26 P K5	QxBP(b)	(d) R to F
📕 🖪 Bachi	(a) P Q4	27 B K2	Ø B₂ `	(c) Movin
g BxP cli	™ Ki2	28 Bx Kt	₿́xR	avoided the s
10 P Q4	P B6(b)	20 Q Q3	B B3	
tt PxP	Kt B3	30 B R2	Q B <sub>7</sub> (i)	Here is a
12 B KB4	Kt K2	3t BxKt ch		tween two m
13 B QK13		32 Q Q2	QxRP	feeling sorry
14 Kt Kt5		33 F K6	ŘКВза	
15 B K K 13		34 B K5	R B <sub>7</sub>	WHITE.
15 B K K K	Q K sq	35 Q K3	R Kiz	1 P K4
		32 6 12	BxR	2 P KB4
17 Q Q3	B Q2(e) Brict	36 KxR		
18 Kt Q6		37 B×R ch.		3 8 B4
19 BxB	K R sq	38 P K7	Resigns.	4 K Beg
		TES.		5 Kt KB3
		ation, 8—P to		II K₁ B₃
	e, the same a	s in the ordina	ary Allgaier	7 P Q4
Gambit.				8 Ki Q5
		rse, better var	iations than	9 KixQP
	is somewhat			10 Kt Kt5
(c) 13	Kt to Kt	3 would hav	e gained an	II Kt Q5
important	move. Black	k could give	up the piece	12 B Q2
alread and	remain in co	rtain valiat itized by	ms with the	48 P 13 13
	Dig	itized by 认	CTUU	YIC.
		, ,		
				_

preferable game after a series of exchanges. takes K1, Q takes P; 16—R to Q sq. B to Q 3. &c.; and it I;—Q to Q s. then I;——Q takes R, Q takes P; 16—R to Q sq. B to Q 3. &c.; and it I;—Q takes P, ch, then I;——..... Q to Q 2; 16—Q to K B 4, B to K 3, and White cannot play 17—P to K 5, because of 17—..... B takes P threatening R to K sq. Olcourse, White would plus B to K sq. would play B to K 3.

(d) Since they have to capture the B P, it might

as well be done at once,

Position after White's 17th move.



(e) 17-..... Kt (R 4) to B 5 seems to be a owerful move now.

(f) 24-...., B to K 3 would have forced the exchange of this powerful Bishop, leaving Black with a more defeasible position.

(g) Losing time again. As White might be expected to advance P to K 5, opening a daugerous diagonal for the K B. R to KB sq might have

GAME, No. 369.
YOROHAMA CHESS CLUB
The match Pollack v. Fire flander is proceeding slowly, as both players are engaged in offer matches and toinneys just now. The score to date stands, Pollak 3, Friedlander 2, the latter having scored a win in the third game which follows below the standard process.

	E.*	VANS' GAMBI	T, DECLINED		
	White-Frie	edlaoder.	Black-	Pollak,	
	WHITE.		WHITE.	BLACK	
1	P K4	PK4	17 K ( B3	Q K <sub>3</sub>	
2	Kt KB3		18 R B81	QxQ P R3	
3	B B4	B B4	19 KtrQ	P K3	
4	P QKt4	E Ki3	20 Kt B4 ch		
5	P QR4	P QR4(a)	21 Kt K6	Kt B3	
0	PKIS	Kt K2	22 K1xP	RxR	
7	KtxP	P Q <sub>4</sub>	23 BxR	R R2(4)	
8	PxP	KixP(b)	24 B B5	P QKi3	
9	KixP	KxKt	25 BxP	R K12	
lo	Q R5 ch	K B ·q(c)	20 BxP	K∈Qa	
1	BxKt	Q K2 ch	27 P Q4(r)	R R2	
	Q K2	BxP ch		BĸKı	
3	К×В	Q B4 ch	29 PxB	REP	
4	K K sq	Q B4 ch QxB	30 B K14	Kt Kt3	
	B R3 ch	K B <sub>2</sub> .	31 P R5	Resigns	
ő	R B sq Ch	K B <sub>3</sub>	_		

(a) P to Q R 3 was a better move.
(b) He might also have played B to B 5 lead-

(b) He might also have played B to B 5 leading to an equally pictly variation.

(c) As in the well-known defence commonly called "fried liver" (a variation in the Two Kuight's Delence) Black might have played K to K 3, trying to save the Kuight,

(d) R to Kt sq was here the proper move.

(e) Moving the Knight instead would have avoided the subsequent loss of a pawn.

GAMB, No. 370. GAME, No. 370.

Here is a lively game recently contested between two members of the V.C.C. (who can help feeling sorry for the black Queen?)

KING'S BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

NOTES OF STANDARD STA ушти. 1 Р К4 2 Р КВ4 BLACK. P K4 P×P Q R5 ch P KKt4 BxR R K sq O R4 B K12 P K15 B K4 R R +q 20 QxKt 21 B Q6 22 QxB 23 BxR K Q sq Q QR4 Kt KR3 P QB3 Q R5 Q R6  $B \times B$ R K sq 24 K K sq and mate in

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hangkeng	P. M. Co.	Peru #	Sa. Mar. 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic s	Su. Mar. 13
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Roselta 3	81. Mar. 24
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 4	To. Mar. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hobenzollern 5	Tu. Mar. 15
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Su. Mar. 20
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Venus	M. Mar, ax
Hongkong	M. M. Co.		W. Mar. 83
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Mar. 24

I Left Kobe on the 12th inst.

2 Left San Francisco on the 23rd February.
3 Left Nagazaki on the 22th inst., with the English Mail.

. Left Vancouver on the 3rd inst.

#### 5 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

	For	Line	Steamer,	Date,
	Hongkeng	C. P. R. Co.	Em, of China	Tu. Mar. 15
	America	P. 61.80 o.	Peru	Tu. Mer. 15
	Burope, via S'hai.	M. M. Co	Melbourne	W. Mara 16
	Shanghal	N. Y. E. 🕥	Saikio Meru	W. Hir. 16
	Hougkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Bri. Mar. 18
	Hongkong	P. M. Co. 2	City of Peking	M. Mar. ne
l	Hoogkong	P. & O. Co	Rosetta	Tit. Mar. se
	America	O. & O. to.	Venus	W. Mar, ny
	Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Mar. ay

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

ARRIVALS.

Rio, German steamer, 1,280, C. Chriatensen, 5th March,—Hongkong, Rice.—Simon Evera & Ca. Ceres, German steamer, 2,663, Freick, 7th March,—Hamburg via ports & Hongkong, 27th Feb., General.—Simon Evera & Co. Middleham Castle, British steamer, 1,923, Jackaman, 8th March,—Antwerp via Suez Canal, General.—Sale and Co. Melbourne, French steamer, 2,032, G. Duchateau, 9th March,—Marseilles via ports, 8th March, Mails and General.—N. M. S.S. Co. Pakhoi. British steamer, 1,248. A. Scott, 19th

Pakhoi, British steamer, 1,248, A. Scott, 10th March,—Takow, 28th Feb., Sugar.—Butterfield

Courie, British steamer, 3,156. S. Parsons, 11th March,-Batoun, 19th Jaouary, Od.-Samuel Samuel & Co.

oakkio Marse, Japanese steamer, 1,632, G. W., Counce, 11th March,—Shanghai vià ports, 5th March, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen

Benadler, British steamer, 1,958, R. Thomson, 12th March,—New York via Snez Canal and wayports, Kobe, 10th March, General.—Cornec

#### DEPARTURES.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 5th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails & General.—O. & O. S.S. Co. Obi, British steamer, 1,961, Richard Pinkham, 5th March,—Kobe, General.—Samnel, Samuel &

City of Rio de Faneiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 6th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mailsand General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Crefeld, German steamer, 2,988, C. R. Bardele-ben. 6 h March,—Antwerp and Bremen via ports and Hongkong, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachi.

Japan, British steamer, 2,795, Leigh, 6th March, -London via ports, Mails and General.-P. &

— Lendan via poris, mans and dental of O. S.N. Co.

7. B. Walker, American sleamer, 2,105, J. W.
Wallace, 6th March,—New York via Kobe,
General.—Simon Evers & Co.
Amasone, German bacque, 1,339, Morisse, 7th
March, — Astoria, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, Lockver, 8th March,—Hongkong via Kohe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Mails and General.—P. & Q. S. N. Co. Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1999, R. Nungmer, 8th March,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 9th March,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rio, German steamer, 1,280, C. Christensen, 9th March,—Hongkong, Ballast—Simon, Even & Co.

Co.
Oopack, British steamer, 2,517. J. Baker, 10th
March,—Lodon via ports, General.—W. M.
Strachan & Co.
Nontia, Gennan ship, 1,925. Rowell, 10th March,
—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—R. Isaacs & Bro.
Tamarind, Norwegian steamer, 738, John Dannevig, 13th Mar.,—Hongkong, Ballast.—Jardine,

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3.589, C. Hillcoat, 11th March,—London and Antwerp via ports and Hongkong, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Buccleuch, British ahio, 1,934, A. W. Robbins, Manila, Philippine Island, Ballast.—Coptain.

#### PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer Melbourne, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Harmand, Mr. H. Terao, Mr. S. Hirayama, Dr. Tsumato, Dr. G. F. Goncher, Bishop C. D. Foss, Mr. G. A. Kunkel, Mr. R. Rnegg, Mr. Ryle Holme, Mr. Perrin, Mr. Ymseng, Mr. Battlelmy, Mr. Schneider, Mr. Wolff, Mr. H. Kimura, Mr. J. Mizuhata, Mr. Cascarine, Colonel H. A. Sawyer, Mr. Lelomte, Mr. E. G. Bay, and Mr. and Mrs. Robius, in cabin; 8 in steerage. cabin; 8 in steerage.

Per Japanese stemmer Saikio Maru, from Shang-via posts:—Mr. A. Holbyd, Mrs. Konglek and child, Mr. Fadasselff, Mr. Ichoki, Mr. F. Mc-Kenzie, and Mr. B. Grundmann, in cabin; 26 Japanese, 4 Chinese; in steerage.

DEPARTED.

DEFARTED.

Per British steamer Belgic, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. G. Abrahamson, Rev. John Beard, Lieut. W. S. Biddle, U.S.A. Mrs. W. S. Ciddle, Mr. Stewart Clark, Mr. H. Curzo, Mr. A. G. Dent, Miss Drvine, Mrs. M. Farey, Mrs. W. Finch, Mr. J. B. Hinds, Mr. J. D. Hoge, Mr. E. Landesmann, Prof. Dr. Haus Molish, Miss S. E. Officer, Mr. John Reid, Mr. J. D. Stiosson, Mr. Geo. B. Swayne, Lieut. A. Troyte, Mr. L. Wradinneof, and Mrs. J. S. Cleak.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Fanairo, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. J. A. Norris, Mr. H. P. Wadman, Miss Sutton, Mr. F. Keine, Mis. F. Wildes, Miss Wildes and Lt. B. O. Scott.

Per British steamer Fapan, for London via ports:—Mr. H. J. Carew, m cabin.

Per British steamer Robilla, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. J. Carew, m cabin.

Per British Steamer Robilla, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. B. Swden and 2 sons, Miss Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. S. Russell, Miss Lilian R. Black, Mr. T. Chee San and servant, Mr. T. R. Singleton, Mr. V. R. Bowden, Mr. E. Kranse, and Mr. Envannel, m cabin; 2 Chinese and infant, in steerage.

Per Innauese steamer Kohe Mark, for Shangs.

and Mr. Emanuel, in Cabin; 2 Chinese and Infant, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Marn, for Shang-hai win purts:—Rear-Admirat K. Tsunodo, Mrs. and Miss Pukushona, in cabio; Mr. H. Saiki, Mrs. N. Saiki, Miss R. Saiki, Mrs. M. Saiki, Mr. T. Tsunodo, Mr. K. Yannakawa, Mr. T. Kikuchi, Mr. M. Kibakawa, and Mr. T. Matsumoto, in second class; 32 Japanese, and one Chinese in steerage.

moto, in second class; 32 Japanese, and one Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Tosa Maru, for London via ports: -- Third Inspector of Machinery Runahashi, I.J.N., Staff Paymaster Fujiki, I.J.N., Inspector of Surgery Suzuki, I.J.N., Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Davis, in cabin; Mr. H. Hiroki, Mr. K. Komura, Mt. J. Onishi, Mr. Philip Pamroy, Mr. A. Muter, Mr. T. Oki, Mr. K. Otani and Mr. Davis, in second class.

#### CARGOES.

The following are the shipments of Tea and Silk, per British steamer Victoria, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:-

		TI	EA.				
		CHICAGU	NEW YOL	RK		TUTA	L
	GANADA,	AND	AME	PACIFIC	DIMERSO	PACE	
		WEST.	BANTS	COABL	CITIES	AGRA	
longkong			_	40	-	4	0
kmoy	10	_	9,800	event.	_	9,80	g
rokohama	251	èvel	_	_	-	23	ı
		$\overline{}$			_		-
Total	151	_	9,809	40	_	11,00	0
		51	LK.			TOTAL	١,
		NEW Y	DRK.	WARTIOR	D.	BALRI	٨.
Hongkong	*******	338	*** 491 6	. – .	*1 175 148	138	
Shanghai.	*1	26	140 144	,	,	26	
Yokohama		45		,	** *** ***	45	
				_			
Total	40	183	484 589	—	40v 00v 000	133	

The following were the shipment of Tea and Silk, per British stenmer Belgie, for San Francisco

VIA Monolulu:—				
	TEA	١.		
	B 4 Is	N B W		
	PRANCIBLE	YORK.	NONGLULD.	PRIBATE
Shanghai	2,319	_	_	3,712
Yokohama	264	_		z64
Hongkong		1.578	. 136	2,238
Amoy		1,303	~-	34303
Total	2,954	4,874	186	8,024
	SILI	۲,		
	SAN	N E W		
	TRANCISC	Profit Eq.	HARTFORD.	9-19-55
Shanghai	_	170		176
Hongkong	-	79	-	79
Volcobama	_	531		531
Total	_	786	-	756
- 45 1 7 1		Fort F	5.4. 1	

Per British steamer Rohilla, for Hongkong ports :- Raw Silb for Buspey bale i V. Silk for Buspe, 3 bales.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

Some business has been done in yarns, but little in shirtings and nothing is reported in fancies and woollens, prices to which are nominal. There has been a fair demand for raw cotton and prices are hardening on account of the recent de-struction of stock by fire at Kobe.

COTTOÚ PIRCE GOODS.

	PAR PERCEN
- Grey Shirtings81%, 384 yds, 39 inches	\$2.55 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings-ulb, 384 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
I. Cloth-7lb, 21 ynide, guinches	1.8a to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 44 inches.	1.95 to 2.90
Prints-Assorted, at yards, 30 onchess.	
Stittle-Watter, at Autor In decided	2 00 to 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Sattrens Black,	Fin Tinb.
30 Inches	o.18§ to 0.15
WOOLLENS.	CONTARM.
Flannels	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, jo yarde, 32 inches bast	0.35 to 0:41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	
Madium	a 30 to 0,384
Medium	0
Соннов	0.25 to 0,274
Mousseine de Laine-Crape, 24 yands,	
11 inches	0.15 to 4.22
Claths-Pilota, \$1 00 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Chatha-Lugary 21 of 24 radios and and	
Clothu-Prenidente, \$4 00 56 inchen	p.00 to 0:75
Claths-Union, 50 of 56 inches	0.50 te 0.85
Montesta-Semilet aud Graen, 3 to 5th,	
ret W	n 50 lu n.60
	PROLIFERED
Velvets-Hlack, 35 yards, rainches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawen, 22 yards, 12-3 inches,.	0.75 In 1.00
Fuckey Reds-2.0 to 2.4%, 24'25 yards,	
an inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds-1.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards,	- '
to inches	1.75 to \$,10
Jo inches	
32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Finkey Reds-1.8 to 5/b, 21/25 vards.	
sainches	3 on to 3.50
guinchen	186 214.01
"Tas 16 24. Singles	8-50 to 39.50
	1.60 to 41 00
Nos. 38'42, Singles 4	4.00 to 45.00
Nos. 14. Doubles 4	6.00 to 48.00
	1 75 to 54.50
	I no to Oa.eo
	5.00 to 77.00
	9.00 to 100 on
Nee a fee Gassed	2 00 to 70 00
	9.00 to 95.00
	3.00 to 131.00
RAW COTTON.	PRR PICUL.
American Middling	
	20,30 to 21.00
	1 to 21 50
SECTION S.	

Very little business has been done in most lines, but a big deal is reported to have taken place in imported oads, something like 4,700 casks, having treen bought for Tokyo by a Japanese firm in Yokohama, from several foreign firms. We have not heard at what prices the sales were effected.

			150010.4
Round and openie f inch- and upward.			
Iron Clates, assorted 4			
Skeet Iton			
Galvanized from skeets			
Wire Nails, asserted announcement 6			
Tin Plates, per bus - maramanana 3			
Pig line, No. 3			
Hoop Iron (f to of inch)	-00	to	3.15
MARTIN ASSESSMENT			

A fair business has been transacted during the veck at well sustained cates. Acrivals have not been beave.

American	12 oo to	2.07
Russian,		
Langkatoronianonomianonomiano	_	1,85

#### SUGAR.

Prices remain unchanged and Formosa kinds to scarce in the market. There has been a small are scarce in the market. There has been a am, business done in White refined at former rates.

		PRIN PERSONAL
Brown Cakan .		24.10 10 4.10
Brown Manila.	** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***	4.50 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	and the street and constraints	3.85 to 3.90
Brown Canton.	********************	
White Java and	I Penaug	6.50 to 7.00
White Relived	*** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***	7.35 10 0.00

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

The arrivals of silk from the producing districts nave neen small, and sales during the week only amount to some 160 boxes, prices being well maintained. Stocks amount to 8,310 boxes, mostly of undestrable qualities. Shipments comprise 70 bales per Robilla and 87 per Crefeld, for Europe, and 45 bales per Victoria and 531 bales per Belgic, for America. have been small, and sales during the week only

#### OTHER ATTOMS.

	Filatures-Bates girr, rofen den.,	. Nomina
	Filatores-Entra 13/15, 14:16 den	010 to 040
	Filatures-No. 1, coley deniers	gro to ore
	Filaturen-Bo. 1, 13/13, 14/16 dan	850 to 800
	filatures-No. 14, 10/14 denierg	000 to 010
	Filaturen-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	850 III 860
		850 to 860
		Szo to 63a
		Son to you
	Re-raels-No. 14, 13/10, 14/17 den	870 to 830
	Re-raels-No. 2, 1 gftN denines	Soo to Bin
	Re-reels-No. 24, 14 in deniera	780 to 700
-	Re-reels-No. 3, e1/20 deniers	
	Kakedas-Estra	840 810
	Kakedas-flo. t	820 to 810
	Kakedas-Ho. Hamman	790 10 Boo
	Kakadas-Ho. 2	750 to 770
	Kanadas-No. si	700 10 778

#### WASTE SH.K.

Little or no business has been done. Stock amounts to 4,682 boxes. Three bales were shipped by the Robilla for Europe during the week. Prices are nominal.

Nashi-Filatore, Best	815 89 130				
	reg to rea				
	tau to bis				
	roa tri sna				
	go in 95				
Noshi-Shinsler, Heat	70 to 75				
Noshi-Shinshu, Good	de ter 674				
	115 to 120				
	ree to tre				
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to os				
Noski-loghu, Good	So to 55				
Noghi-Josha, Fair	55 to 574				
Kibine-Filatore, Heat	95 to 100				
Kiloiso-Filature, Seconds	as to go				
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to 30				
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	30 to 284				
	_				

#### TEA.

No business has been done during the week and quotations are nominal. Stock amounts to 92 000 catties only, nearly all inferior quality. The Victoria shipped 251 packages and the Belgie 264 for America during the week.

#### QUOTATIONS.

Choices:	Momingl.
Choice	Nomi nal no stock
Finest	15-7
Fine	LZ Z Z
Good Medium	\$ay to 28
Medium	23 30 24
Good Common	21 to 10
Common	10 15 20
	-



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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### EXCHANGE.

Rates all remain unchanged with the London price of silver the higher and no alteration in sterling from China.

terme trous come.
Sterling-Bank T.T
- Bills on demand 2/02
- 4 months' sight 2'0]
- Private 4 months' sight 1/0/2
- 6 months' sight, 2/01-
On Paris-Bank night 2,55
On Lyons-Private 4 months' sight .2.50to84
On America-Bank Bills on demand., 49
- Private 4 months sight 502
On Germany-Bank eight 106
- Private 4 months' night 210
On Hongwong-Bank sight7t07% /odis.
- Private rodays'sight qtoq 10/, dis.
On Shanghai-Bank night801to8:
- Private to days' sight 8210824
On India-Bank night
- Private 30 days' sight 156
Bar Silver (London) 1514
<del></del>
LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.
[Massas. Bisser & Una's, List.]
Vokobarta, March 11th.

ROKOHMESTY' IATMI	Cu IIIn
Yakahama Engine & Iran Works, Ld., \$50	pag 3a.
Japan Brawery Co., III., fron	300 St.
Grand Hotel, f.d., \$100	285 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ed., \$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ld., \$100	131 Jo S.
Oriental Hotel, Ed. (Fdrad, \$19)	450 8.
Neganaki Hotel Ldu, yen lousannan santanan	60 S.
North and Rae, Ld., \$200	200 B.
Brett & Co., Ld., \$00	8.05 St.
Langfeldt & Co., Ld., \$200	200 5.
Higgs Gas Co., I.d., \$100	180 N.
Club Hotel, Ld. 7% Deba \$100	100 N.
Ingan Brewery Co., Ld. 7% Dab. freo	110 S.
Yokohama United Club 53% Deb., \$100	100 Sa.
First & Car Ld. 30/a Deb , \$100	top S.
Kobe Club 6% Deb., \$50	30 50 S.

. [Jones Tue Texto-Street Signature Officeal List.]
Tokyo, March 11th

and the second s	Tab.
Five per Cent. Capitalized Panalon Hands	Eg 80
Bedamption Loan Hodds	90.15
War Loan Ronda	40-10
New Public Loss Bonds	97.80
Old Public Loan Bonds	ng. ye
Maval Loan Sands	90.50
Tokyo City Lann Bunds	96.Bo
врви Rallway Company-paid пр з п 54	71 50
danya Rallway Company—paid up 10033	46.30
Rypmu Railway Comeany-pard on ven swimm.	88.40
Kanasi Railway Company-paid up you go	50 BO
Kobn Rallway Campany-paid up ven if	104 00
Byushu Railway Company-paid up vor41	600



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45 A O LINE "TOILET POWDER imparts a delightful bloom to the anaplexion.
46 A O LINE "TOILET POWDER imparts a chiefs, (libres, &c.)
46 A O LINE "TOILET GREAM. Softening and beautifying for the complexion.
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47 A C A STRIKBON, Ltd., 24, 646 Send Street, London, JYERHOUSE OF THE CRIMERIES.
48 WHITE ROSE "PERFUME
48 A C La remine Scoat." "H.R.H.The Duchascof Vor"

"ACharming Scent."-H.R.H. The Duchessof Yor"

Tanuary 181, 1898.

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Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Venders throughout the World

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, at 51, Main Street, ettlement, by Aktiber Brilland Brown, of "Nocklands," to 150, Min, Yokohama. —Saturday, Marcu 12, 1898.
Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 12.]

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 19TH, 1898.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 可能會使過日三十

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## The Japan Meckly Mail.

" PAISCR QUE DOIR: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence,
Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN
WERKLY MALL" must be authenticated by the name
and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a
guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business
be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made
payable to same: and that literary contributions be
addressed to the EDITOR.

VORCHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH, 1898.

At Tottori, on March 12th, the wife of the Rev. Samuri C. Bartlett, jun., of a son.
On March 16th, at No. 70, Bluff, Vokohama, the wife of J. C. Nicholson, of the Hongkong Bank, of a son.
On the 15th March, at No. 177, Yamamoto-doii, Nichome, Kobe, the wife of Th. De Bergony, of a son.

#### MARRIAGE.

On the 19th inst, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champheys Irwine, M.A., Rector, Thos Wallace, fourth sou of the late Rev. John Mclimith, M.A., of Erskine, Renfrewshire, N.B., to EDITH HELEN EMMA, fourth daughter of A. T. Walson, B-q., Yokohama.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A JAPANEER Stenmer was upset on her trial trip near Osakijima. on the 12th inst. and 13 persons were drowned.

In the Saudan campaign the British brigade arrived at Barber after a splendid march of four days and three nights.

A PARRWELL dinner was given to General Kodama, the new Governor-General of Formosa, at Uyens, Tokyo, on the 14th inst.

LORD SALISBURY'S health is in a very uneatle-Loan Salissuar's health is in a very unsatisfactory state and his physicians have forbidden A Perting telegram states that a great change in tea, the market for the latter being practically him to transact any business. He has taken place in the feelings of the Chinese oldsed. It other exports, such as copper, etc., ordered to the Riviers and MA Binear and Court and people toward Japan, and that the party little business has been transacted.

conduct the business of the Foreign Office in

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD, British Minister at Pekin, has been appointed Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath.

THE German issue of the Chinese loan has been postponed until the 21st March, owing the regulations of the Berlin Bourse.

JAPANESE war-ships now in foreign waters are the Maye at Mokpho, Korea; the Tsukuba at Shaughai, and the Akagi at Taku.

On the night of the 10th inst., a woman of about 23 years of age was run over and killed by a train at Takanawa, Shiba.

Mr. Ishizuka Yrizo, Secretaryof the Legisla tive Bureau, has been appointed counsellor to the Governor-General of Formosa.

Tax triennial Memorial Service of the late Ito Juzo, father of Marquis Ito, took place on the 19th inst., at the temple of Shirokaue.

THE first steamers of the season for the ports of Newchwang and Vladivostock left Japan on the 17th and 18th inst. respectively.

Postman named Naito Hideo, Kamiya-Shiba, Tokyo, has been arrested on a charge of stealing money and cheques from letters.

A serrous fraces occurred on the British steamer Pathan, at Moji, on the 14th, between the crew and a number of coolies engaged in loading coal.

MR. GOSCHEN, First Lord of the Admiralty; in introducing the British Navy Estimates, dwelt on the continued expansion and improvement of the Navy.

A Russian Imperial Ukase has been issued ordering an extraordinary expenditure of minety million roubles for the construction of warships.

THE new steamer Tankijima Maru was launched at the Mitsubishi Yard at Nagasaki on the 12th instant. Baroness Suyematsu attended the ceremony.

MR. MURAKANI KYOTO, editor of the Shin Fakuin, has been fined 20 yen for having published statements made by some prisoners at their preliminary examination.

STRIKES of labourers occurred in Bombay, owing to the plague preventive measures, in the early part of this month, but were ended and quiet restored by the 15th inst.

A FARNER named Kaneko, of Fuchige-mura, near Tokyo, was arrested the other day in the act of putting stones on the railway line with the intention of wrecking a train.

MEDICAL-INSPECTION regulations have been put into force at Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki. etc., in the case of vessels arriving from Hongkong and China ports, in view of an outbreak of piagne.

THERE have been several skirmishes between the Japanese troops and the rebels in Formosa. On the 14th inst. a Japanese sergeant and eight men were killed in a fight with the rebels near

GREAT excitement is reported in New York on account of the Maine disaster, which has not yet been officially accounted for, and there was a semi-panic on the Stock Exchange on the 14th instant.

idea of looking to this country for support is spreading.

THE general election of members of the House of Representatives took place on the 15th and 16th inst. Up to Friday the results of the polling in 166 constituencies out of 300 were slightly in favour of the Liberals and allies.

The Times says that never since the Crimean war have the British people been less disposed to brook tamely the infringement of their just rights in any quarter. They are convinced of the justice of their cause and the magnitude of the issues both in China and West Africa.

M. MURAVIEFF has informed Sir Nicholas O'Congor, British Ambassadur as St. Petereburg, that Russia is negotiating for the lease of Port Arthur and Talien for a certain number of years, and for a railway across Manchuria. Russia had not demanded sovereign rights, and the ports if leased, would be opened to foreign trade.

THE half-yearly general meeting of the Yoko-hama Specie Bank was held on the afternoon of the roth inst. The total profits during the term amounted to yen 3,496,211 and the expenses to yen 2,440,747, leaving a balance of ven 1,055,464, to which yen 251,303 brought forward from previous account were added, making a total of yen 1,306,767. Of this amount yen 618,750 was appropriated to pay a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum.

THE projected Tokyo Kisen Kaisha (Oriental Steamship Company) will shortly start their line between San Francisco, Hongkong and lapan. One of the Company's steamships called the America Maru was launched on 9th inst., in England and the other two steamers—the Nippen Maru and Hongkong Maru—are expected to be finished and brought to Japan at no distant date.

THE Japanese torpedo destroyers now being built in England were named by the Minister of the Navy on the 16th inst. as follow: -No. 1 Ikasuchi, No. 2 Inasuma, No. 3 Shinonome, 1 Ikasuchi, No. 2 Inasuma, No. 3 Shinosome, No. 4 Murakumo, No. 5 Akebono, No. 6 Sagasami, No. 7 Yuyuri and No. 8 Shiranui. Those building in France are to be called the No. 1 Hayabusa, No. 9 Kasasagi and No. 4 Manasuru, and the one constructed in Germany the No. 3 Shirataka. All the boats are of 120 tons displacement. Six torpedo-boats are also being constructed at Vokosuka and Kure.

THE uncertain, if not critical political situation in the Far East has naturally had a considerable iffect both upon import and export business in Japan during the past week or more. In Imports some business has been fransacted in yarns-when buyers could get concessions on rising home prices,—but in cotton piece goods and woollens nothing is being done. Metals share the same fate and stocks are accumulating. In kerosene some transactions have taken place at the advanced quotations reported a week ago. but still something under the normal rates, another considerable import of cheap sumatra oil having arrived. A fair business has been transacted in brown sugar, a considerable shipment of Formosa having been disposed of on arrival at a small reduction from current quotations. The Export market has suffered fully as much from the war rumours in the air as the Import. Purchases of silk for Europe have been wil, in apite of considerable concessions from holders, but some little business has been done for America. No transactions at all have taken place in waste silk, nor

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Always conspicuous as an advocate of liberal and enlightened processes, the Jiji Shimpo now takes up the subject of anti-foreign sentiment (haigai shise) and discusses it in a frank and impartial manner. It declares that even among school teachers, of whom more cosmopolitan and sensible views might be expected, there are men who apply opprobrious epithets to foreigners, and the fact may well inspire unessiness now that the country is on the verge of being completely opened to foreign intercourse. Old traditions die hard; Japan long ago committed herself definitely to unrestricted intercourse with the outer world, yet the feeling of seclusion which, in the course of three hundred years, had become a kind of national instinct, lingers still in some quarters. The feeling is responsible for the assassination of Viscount Mori, the maining of Count Okuma, and the attack on the Czarewitch. Prior to the Restoration, the creed of aeclusion rested on foundations which, however they had been laid, were natriotic. Men lionestly believed that the only way to preserve the integrity of the empire was to keep aliens out of the country. The Tokugawa Regency discovered the error of that policy and concluded treaties of friendship and commerce with Western States. But the feudal system, at whose apex the Tokugawa samily stood, had run its course; its downfall was inevitable, and the reformers who plotted to bring about its overthrow did not hesitate to employ its proforeign policy as a weapon for attacking it. that way the haigai, or joi, sentiment received a fresh impluse, and when the new Administration was organized with the leaders of the Tokugawa's opponents at its head it might reasonably have been expected that they would give effect to the principles of seclusion which they had seemed to endorse before they came office. The result, however, was far different. It appeared that the promoters of the Restoration movement were themselves imbased with the conviction which the Tokugawa Government had obeyed. They adopted every means of weaning public opinion from its unti-foreign soutiment and putting an end to outrages such as the cutting down of for eigners, the burning of legation buildings, and so forth; outrages which, had they been con-tinued, would have permanently disgraced and discredited Japan. During the first fourteen or fifteen years of the Meiji era things moved in a very satisfactory groove; but a reaction then set in, and most unfortunately it was reflected in the educational policy of the Government, Confucianism once more found favour in the schools. Education is immensely powerful. In five or six years the ence more found Education is imeffects of that retrograde policy began to make themselves apparent. Their extreme form was illustrated in the attacks upon Viscount Mori, Count Okuma, and the Czarewitch; their more subtle workings found expression in a want of courtesy, sometimes amounting to absolute rudeness, towards foreigners. The existence rudeness, towards foreigners. The existence of any anti-foreign sentiment is a source of great unensiness now that the country is on the eve of mixed residence. Japan herself has in vited foreigners to come and live in her midst The responsibility of treating them with polite ness rests with her. Individual sympathics or antipathies are, of course, inevitable, but racial prejudices are unworthy of educated men.

\* \* The Nippon writes at some length about affairs in Korea, but the purpose of the article is merely to demonstrate that the complications now reported from the peninsular empire are due, not to political intrigues supported by American influence, but to a reaction against the masterful proceedings of Russis. After disgraceful coup d'état which led to the murder of the Queen, Japan effaced her-nelf in the peninsula and the Russophiles had the field entirely to themselves. The had the field entirely to themselves. The Chinese party did not count for anything. It Chinese party did not count for anything. It then the traditional encaries, Russia and Engan not be denied that the pro-Russian poli-land seem on the point of stepping into the ticians utilized their strategical traditions. Will the parallel cease there? In 1879,

and that they were powerfully backed by the Russian Legation. But they passed the bounds of prudence. Kim Hongniuk, whose life was recently attempted by assassins, bad originally been a man of no position. He owed his promotion solely to his knowledge of the Russian language and his thorough-paced advocacy of Russian influence. In a memorial addressed by him to the Throne it was stated that, as Korea could not hope to stand without Russia's support, the latter's application with reference to a coaling station on Deet Island, to grants of land at Mokno and Chinnampo, and to the concession of certain whale-fishing privileges, ought at once to receive the favourable consideration of the Korean Government. It is not improbable that the attack upon Kim was the outcome of that memorial. At all events, the resolutions subsequently passed by the Independence Club are categorically opposed to the steps taken by the Russophiles. Nothing could he more uncompromising than the conflict be-tween the views expressed by the Club and the measures hitherto adopted at the instance of the pro-Russian party. It is plain that public opi-nion has turned against Russia. Such is the Nippon's view.

The Kokumin Shimban thinks that the policy or the tri-partite alliance is now gradually being It was not merely to keep out of Liaoung and Manchuria that Russia, Germany and France combined against her: they had selfish purposes of their own which are now in process of consummation. England stands opposed to them, not absolutely unyielding, but still contriving always in attain her ends. Japan alone in inactive. Her role seems to be solely one of self-effacement. she steps aside to leave the path free for others; in Korea she yields to whatever pressure is exerted against her. Has she then no part to play in the Far-Eastern field? The Kekumin does not want her to imitate the aggressive, self-aggrandizing example of Western Powers, Her unique objects should be the development of trade and the preservation of peace, and to accomplish those objects it is essential that the independence and integrity of the Chinese em pire should be preserved. Japan, then, should devote herself to urging a progressive policy on her neighbour. Unless China becomes progres sive she can not possibly remain independent. It is essential that she should adopt Western civilization; build railways, work mines, reform her laws and her administration, re organize her army and navy. Japan must help her. It is evident, of course, that a country which already finds itself in straits for capital to carry on its own commercial and industrial enterprises, can not come to the pecuniary assistance of its neighbour. Indeed, Japan alone can not hope to do much for China. But England has adopted precisely the same policy as Japan. England, too, seeks the expansion of commerce on equal terms for all, the preservation of China's integrity and the maintenance of the balance of power is the East. Other countries are of the same way of thinking. Japan ought to make it perfectly plain that she belongs to that school of politicians, and that she is ready to further their programme by every means at her disposal.

The Hochi Shimbun recalls Lord Beacons field's high-sounding words at the Guildhall Banquet on the eve of the Russo-Turkish war of 1877, and wonders whether any memory of that time recurs to the aged Premier of England to-day, who was then Beaconsfield's lieutenant and upon whom the mantle of the Conservative leader has fallen. The English nation has declared itself frankly in favour of stretching out armed hands to stay Russia's aggressive advance, but the English Cahinet has not conrage to obe; the people's mandate. This crisis of 1898 closely resembles that other crisis of 1877. Now as then we have heard loky language from the leaders of British officialdom. Now as

Russia declared war against Turkey in the face of British menaces, and Turkey accepted the challenge. The Constantinople Cabinet knew well that its forces must be beaten to their kness by Russia's legions. But it counted on Eng-land's aid. That aid never came. If China reckons on British assistance now, will it come? The probabilities are that England will leave China to her fate as she left Turkey. unfortunately the Chinese braves are not like Turkish soldiers, nor has the Peking Government the resources, resolution, and ability of the Sultan's Administration. It is for Japan to apply the deficiency. England is an Occidental Power. It is not atrange that she should hesitate to move ships and soldiers to the aid of an Oriental country where, after all, her interests are only commercial. But Japan is very close to China racially, as well as geographically. If neighbourly instincts do not forbid her m stand by placidly while the Middle Kingdom is dismembered, her own material interesta condema such indifference. Marquis Ito is in the position now that the Earl of Heaconsfield occupied in 1877. He has the nation at his back. The people would welcome with acelaim a resolute policy. It is for him in interfere on behalf of the Turkey of the Far East. If he shrinks from the enterprise, his own weakbe to blame.

. . There has been a good deal of journalistic complaint recently about the "voiceless foreign policy" of the present Cabinet, and the Chuo Shimbun writes in answer to the complainers. It says, in effect, that a policy of many deeds and few words is infinitely preferable to a policy of few deeds and many words, and it hints very plainly that the policy of the last Cabinet belonged to the latter category. British diplomacy, our contempory thinks, is the best model to take. In the recent crisis, for example, the German Emperor's declarations were almost theatrical in their magnifoquence, but the facts accomplished were comparatively trivial. England, on the contrary, said very little. The world scarcely knew that she was moving until it learned that an Anglo-Chinese convention had been concluded covering so much more ground and dealing with issues so much more important than the German convention had covered or deals with that the two could scarcely be mentioned in the same day. That is the kind of procedure to which the Chuo accords its applause. It bids ils countrymen possess their souls in patience, and not be disturbed because their diplomate give little evidence of loquacity. Deeds not words are the desideratum.

The Yamiuri Shimbun insists on the necessity of appointing harbour-masters, enacting harbour regulations, and providing proper harbour equipment. This subject has so often been discussed already that we need not reproduce our contemporary's arguments in detail; They are easily conceived.

In the Tokyo Asahi we find an article which, were it an expression of lay opinion, would be at once interesting and disquieting. But the nom de plume (Doshi) of the writer indicates a Buddhist priest; a fact which, se our readers will presently perceive, deprives the article of much of its force. The subject discussed in a petition presented to the Government by the faculty of the Doshisha in Kyoto, Students of the Upper Middle Schools as well as of private schools ranking in that category, are exempted from military service until the age of 28, the object of the exemption being mallow them time to complete their studies. The faculty of the Doshisha pray that the same privilege may be extended to the students of that institution. The Arabi discusses the question from a funda-mental point of view. In what light, it asks, does the State regard Christianity? Accord-ing to the Constitution "Japanese subjects shall, Withihilimits and prejudicial to peace and older butte not unterbinging to their daties an

subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." Now the Government has made due provision for the supervision and control of Buddhism and Shinte. It is true that Japan has no State religion, in the generally accepted sense. Poli-tics and religion are entirely distinct. But the limitations imposed by the Constitution on religious freedom require that some machinery shall exist to enforce them, and the necessary machinery is provided by the Bureau of Shrines and Temples in the Home Department. That Bureau, however, confines its duties to the Buddhist and Shinto fields; it makes no scration whatever into the affairs of Christian chur-One of two inferences is inevitable: either the Authorities do not consider that Christianity falls written the category of "re-ligions," or they shrink from meddling with it lest appleasant complications should result. If the former hypothesis be correct, nothing more need be said on the subject. If the latter, then the obvious conclusion is that unless Christianity defice all supervision—in which case it must be regarded as a dangerous element in the State-, the supineness of the Government towards it will have mease after the Revised Treaties go into operation. Hitherto the number of Christian congregations has been so small, and so many of them have their head quarters in the foreign settlements, that no inconvenient results have been brought about by the absence of official control. But when mixed residence is allowed, a very dilferent state of affairs will probably ensue, and it will be expedient to see that the "peace and it will be expensed to see that any order" contemplated by the Constitution are insured. Pending some provision of that kind, it does not appear advisable to entertain an application like that of the Doshisha. But there is also another and a more radical difficulty.

What are "the duties of a Japanese subject" referred to in the Constitution? To answer that question we must consider what is the polity of the Japanese empire, for obviously the first duty of a Japanese subject is to uphold and defend that polity. Briefly speaking, the principle underlying all patriotism, all nationalium, in Japan in summed up in the old appropri ism e wajusen kami wa kiuzen (the Sovereign is wholly virtuous). The Sovereign is, in fact, placed above the Gods. Through fire and water his orders must be obeyed. That is the first placed above the Goos. Infough the and water his orders must be obeyed. That is the first article of the Japanese creed. But the God of Christianity is called the "saviour and master of the world" (kuiseishu); the "lord of all things," He is over and above everything. A faith founded on that doctrine is inconsistent with the prime tenet of Japanese loyalty and patriotism, and a disciple of such a faith can not fulfil his duties as a Japanese subject. It may be arged that politics and religion are wholly distinct and must be kept so. Doubttess. But scutiment can not be banished from any sphere of human life. The creed of the politician insensibly influence his politics. It is certain that the creed of the Japanese has knit them together in bonds of loyalty and patriotism which constitute an immense factor of national atrength. If Christianity apreads, its influence will be felt, little by little, loosening those bonds. The efore before the Government thinks of granting a polition like that of the Doshisha, Japanese Christians must be required to modify their faith so that, like Budd-hism, it shall come into conformity with the fundamental principle of Japanese nationalism.

#### FAPANESE LORE OF THE SEA.

[WRITTEN FOR THE " JAPAN MAIL."]

"Sea Phantoms: or Legends and Supersti-tions of the Sea and of Sailors" is the title of a book, written by the late Lieut. F. S. Bassett, of Chicago. The author served for a while on a U.S. gunboat in Asiatic waters, spent con-siderable time off Kores, and visited Japan. He was Chairman of the Folk-Lore Congress during the World's Fair; was the founder, and for many years president of the Chicago Folk-

Association. He was thoroughly fitted to write into the water. He is fond of cucumbers, such a book, and did the work well. But our present purpose is not to review the book, but to collect therefrom all reference to Japanese legends and superstitions of the sea. In some cases these references are made jointly III Japanese and Chinese lore. It is possible, of course, that some errors have crept in, and it is quite likely that the quotations made are far from constituting a complete repertory of Japanese nautical folk-lore. We shall be pleased, therefore. In receive correction of mistakes and additional legends and superstitions. We quote the following :-

The Chinese believe that supernatural beings cause the tides, and Japanese legends of the

ruler of the tides " still exist.

Chinese and Japanese say that the phenomena of waters; outs are caused by dragons, and affirm that the latter have been seen going up and down in the water apouts. Drums and gongs are beaten to dissipate them. Japanese call them tatsumaki (spouting-dragons). [This is rather a free translation of the Japanese name, which means literally "dragon's spiral"].

So Abbuto, the Japanese wind-god, is depicted with a bag between his shoulders.
[Query: What in the distinction, or the rela-tion, between = Abbuto " and " Faten " ?]

The Japanese wind-god was Abbuto, who had steel claws and a tigerish countenance.

Futen, another Japanese storm-deity, who often figures in engravings and in temple statues, has the face and claws of a cat. Kama-Itachi, a kind of weasel, is represented as the whiri-

Riuto is the Japanese god of the bottom of the sea, and is shown as a dwarfish figure, bearing a lantern on his bead. He, as well as Midsumo Kami [Mizu-no Kami], a water-god, and Jebiau [Ebiau] a sea-god, is adored by fisher-Susanno-no Mikoto, brother of the sungod [goddess], is also god of the sea.

In [apanese legendary history, the gods of the sea and air assembled to assist a great queen [Jingu] against Korea. Kai-ku O, dragon-king of the sea, sent his messenger Isors, with jewels that controlled the tides.

A favorite maritime saint in Japan in Jakushi Niurai [Yakushi Nyorai], whose emblem was the cutile-fish, often seen cut on his statues in sea-side temples. In a great storm at sea, a buge fish attacked a junk, and the mast and rudder were broken. A priest on board prayed to the saint, who appeared and bade him throw overboard his image, which the priest possessed. He did so, and the storm ceased. The image was afterwards restored to the priest by a cuttle-fish. Japanese fishermen deem it an illomen to meet a bonze or priest on their way to their boats

A recent traveller in Japan says coins were thrown into the sea to obtain a breeze, and

again to propitiate the god of storms.
In the Japanese story, "The Lost Fish-

hook," a boy had his hook carried off by a large fish. To him appeared the "ruler of the tides," who set him affoat in a basket, in which he sank to the palace of the sea-dragon, saw and loved his daughter. The fishes were bidden to find the book, which was in the red-fish's mouth. (Urashima ?)

Japan is, however, the head-quarters of the coy maidens of the sea. Here an old Dutch navigator obtained the first "veritable" mernavigator obtained the first "veritable" mer-maid, and tifey may still [?] be procured of ingenious natives. Numbers have been shown in museums, etc., deftly made by uniting a child's head to a fish's body. At Battholomew Fair in 1825, there was exhibited a mermaid, obtained by a Dutch ship from Japan. A Japanese legend relates that a mermaid prophesied as saidemic

prophesied an epidemic.

The Japanese represented that a monatrous cod-fish stretched its length under all their islands. This fish, Fishin uwo, seven hundred miles long, was formerly thought to cause the tides, as well as convulsions of the land,

A sea-monster was the traditional ancestor of the emperors of Japan. Rappa is a monster, with a monkey's head and body, and tortoise's Lore Society, now the International Folk-Lore claws. He seizes children and drags them tent, but nothing more."

and these are often thrown into the water, to propitiate him when boys go in bathing. Griffis was warned not to bathe in a certain place in Fakui, as he would be dragged down by this monster. A woman was accidentally spilled out of a "jinrikisha" into a pond, and drowned. It was said that Kappa got her. People in Tokyo say they often see Kappa in the river, and one is said to have dragged a man down in the typhoon of July 6, 1874. Japanese have a tradition that fish are the embodiment of the souls of naval officers. Jingu, a Jupanese queen, fished for an auspicions omen on the first day of the fourth month, and caught a fish Ladies fish on that day.

Shoals of fish are said to have sided a Japan-

ese fleet (that of Jingu) in their progress to Kores, by pushing their ships ahead.

A certain island on the Japanese coast in traditionally haunted by the ghosts of Japanese slain in a naval battle. Griffis aays, " Even to-day the Choshin peasant fancies he sees the ghostly armies baling out the sea with bottomless dippers, condemned thus to cleanse the ocean of the slain of centuries ago," Mariners feared to anchor near, and thought the phosphorescent sea the forernmer of these ghosts.

Japanese legend asserts that the mirage is the breath of a clam, which lies at the bottom of the sea. The mirage is called Ainkire—"The vision of the palace of the god of the bottom of the sea."

Mendoza heard of such [traditions] in Japan, where there is still a legendary woman's island. [Query: where?]

Onogorojima, the island of the congented drop, was a fabled Japanese Paradise.

Folk-lore tales abound with tales of curious boats and ahips, and even the Japanese, New Zealanders and Fijians have their legends conceruing them. The former people say that on New Year's day, Takara bune, the treasure-ship, manned by the seven gods of luck, will enter every harbour, dispensing gifts and favours.

Japanese legends of Jingu record that that queen sacrificed to the sex-gods.

Early travellers in Japan tell us of offerings to the sea-gods. Japanese, saved from wreck cut off their short queues, " a Japanese seaman's ordinary vow." A traveller says, that in 1822, on the occasion of the detention of a junk by unfavourable winds, a barrel of sake, or untive wine, and many copper coins were thrown overhourd, to propitiate Kompira, a god of the elements, and to obtain favourable weather. Chinese and Japanese junk sailors think it a good omen to cross the bows of a foreign vessel, and frequently give great trouble in crowded channels, and incur considerable danger from this cause.

In Japanese story, a large tortoine carried a fisherman down to a city in the ses, and returned him thence, long after his friends were dead. [Urashima!].

In Japanese story, Hirako, who as the third child of the first god-man, was the Noah, had an ark of campher-wood, made by his parents in his third year.

The Japanese have a tradition that their ancestors came from the skies in a boat. Japan it is considered lucky to dream of sailing in a ship.

The above references to Japanese legends and superstitions of the sea are all rather brief. Some of them are evidently avere allusions to long stories such or "Urashima." "The Princess Fire flash and Fire-lade," etc., etc. We hope that the readers of this will cooperate with us in making a larger collection of Japanere legends and superstitions of the and of sailors.

Here is a fragrant flower of thetoric from New South Wales. Mr. G. H. Reid, the Premier, was recently asked by an hou, member if he had received any notice of grave disaffection among the Free Trade party. He replied. "I believe that occasionally there is a small ripple on the smiling surface of our full con-



### PARTIZION OR PRESERVATION.

A month ago the Russian press seemed to have made up its mind that Port Arthur was to be permanently occupied by Russia. The Novosti and the Novoye Vremya, which are regarded by the world as true exponents of Russian opinion and which, being subject to official censorship in common with all their contemporaries of the same nationality, are to be credited with a certain measure of official sauction, spoke in terms of the utmost explicitness on the subject. In the Far East, too, from the time when the Russian squadron began to use Port Arthur as a winter station, very few people entertained any doubt that its continued use through many winters, and many summer too, would be found convenient by the Great Northern Power. We are not surprised, therefore, at the outspoken language of the St. Petersburg journals, though it must be confessed that the morality of their utterances does provoke some astonishment. Self-aggrandisement is a very old habit; as old as humanity. The French are, perhaps, its frankest exponents, for their artistic instinct forbids them to supplement the sin of robbery with the vice of hypocrisy. When M. Jules Ferry declared, in 1883, that upon every State devolved the duty of transmitting to early near generation. ting to each new generation a wider patrimony than the old had enjoyed, he expounded a creed which had at least the merit of being ingenuous. It would be too much to expect similar frankness on the part of every Power engaging in the game of international brigandage, but certainly exceptional callousness of conscience must be attributed to a nation whose journalists find no word of condem-nation for such a device as the borrowing of a friendly Power's territory with the secret design of never giving it back again. The Novosti and the Novoye Vremya, however, either fail to detect any chicanery in acts of that kind, or, detecting it, do not find their complacency at all disturbed thereby. However, the Russian Government has more conscience than Russian journals seem to suspect, for instead of quietly extending its "temporary" privilege at Port Arthur until the fact acquired some respectibility from prescription, it has come forward boldly and asked for a lease of the place.

Fair-minded Englishmen have generally been obliged to admit that their country's practice in the past has not been consistent with the preaching of international jurists. by England's bitterest enemies that she tries hard to be correct in her conduct and just in her dealings. With the ex-ception of the United States of America, a Power which, happily for itself, is not yet required to practically illustrate any code of morals, England undoubtedly, in these days at all events, lives up to nineteenthcentury standards as conscientiously as any State in the world. As between Great Britain and Russia we think it may fairly be claimed that a very different value is attached by the nations to the declarations of the two Governments. No one doubts, for example, that English statesmen are presectly sincere when they disavow all idea of territorial aggrandisement in the Far East. No one doubts that if England's hand were not forced by the unscrupulous aggression of other Powers, she would not seek to extend her possessions in

China by so much as a square inch. But, the same misapprehension, especially speaking frankly, how many persons believe that Russia's declarations about making free ports in the Liaotung Penin-sula are sincere, or may be relied on? The memory of Batoum is indelible.

One of the contentions of the Russian journals is that "Great Britain is apparently trying to create another imbroglio in the Far East;" that "her diplomacy is always planning new acquisitions, new grabs, yet she is perversely unwilling to see her European neighbours follow her example." is quite true, that, from an outsider's point of view, England's policy must often seem very exasperating. But in this particular case she is merely defending her rights. Il she opposes Russian seizures of Chinese territory, it is because her traders would be excluded from every region annexed by Russia. England's free-trade example has not produced many imitators among the nations of the world. She can not help that. It is no part of her mission to force others to be economically wise. But she has an undeniable title to oppose the expansion of protective Powers at the expense of her own freedom of trade.

"China can not lorget England's hostile attitude toward her," says the Novoye Vremya, "during, as well as at the conclusion of the war with Japan. It was Russia, France and Germany which then stepped in and saved China from threatened loss of much of her continental That argument is most China should doubtless feel territory." convincing. very grateful to the Powers which inter-fered to drive the Japanese out of her territory, and then turned round and appropriated it themselves.

But perhaps the most interesting part of the writings in the St. Petersburg papers is their explicit advocacy of the partitioning of China. We quote two extracts :-

Since, by the mere logic of events, we have seen a perfectly penceable division of a great part of the glube—Africa—without the resort to arms, then why might not the inevitable redistribution on the Asiatic continent be accomanns, then why might not the inevitable redistribution on the Asiatic continent be accomplished under equally anapticious circumstances? All that is needed is a proper and opportunate agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement the delineation of the various agreement the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the various agreement as to the delineation of the va

Great Powers of Europe, acting in agreement preconcerted for the purpose, is a programme in which England will never figure as a partner.

Considering that even in this part of the world-where the prime sources of inprefectly sincere when they disavow all formation were close at hand—the egregi. but subsequently he lapsed into complete

since, in their case, the wish was father to the thought. The Yournal des Débats, writing in the middle of February, con-cluded that Great Britain was bent upon repeating in the Far East the experiment which had resulted so successfully in Egypt. Just as Beaconsfield's purchase of the Suez Canal's shares had ultimately planted England on the banks of the Nile, so a loan to China by Salisbury's machinations was to make Great Britain supreme in the Middle Kingdom. The French journal deemed it expedient to warn China against entering into financial operations, with Findland Action operations with England. As for the German press, it was still more vehe-ment. The Kölnische Zeitung wrote quite excitedly on the subject, declaring that if England "attempted to close out foreign competition by underhand means, she must expect very serious opposition," and actually had the delightful assurance to claim for Germany, as compared with England, a policy of fair field and no favour in commercial affairs. It is distinctly satisfactory, as we remarked on a previous occasion, that the British Government did not do broker's business for China, but the fact can not be too strongly emphasized that England never made any offer of a loan. What happened was that the Chinese Government asked for the British Government's help, and Her Majesty's Ministers returned a straight-forward answer, to the effect that help would be given on such and such conditions. China found the answer quite acceptable, but was soon made aware that if she consummated the transaction her relations with France and Russia would be impaired. She therefore went to work in a different way. The even handed justice of Russia and France was well illustrated in this matter, for they themselves had set the example of political financing by lending money to China in 1895, whereas they stormed against the idea of England's doing anything of the kind in 1898. As for the Suez-Canal shares, France might have bought them herself when the Khedive placed them on the market. In truth, France might have done various things in Egypt which she did not do, and her usually artistic instincts serve her ill when she raises a sour-grapes clamour at this time of day.

#### SOSHI IN TOKYO.

Quiet and orderly as everything appeared in Tokyo on the 15th instant despite of the general elections being in progress, the city was not altogether free from acts of violence. Three soshi attacked the well known Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro with short swords, and though they happily failed to do him any serious injury, there seems to be no doubt that their intentions were murderous. Mr. Takanashi is a barrister. He has been returned by one of the election districts of Tokyo as a member of the Lower House ever since the Diet was first convened. In the early sessions he played a very conspicuous part and was counted one of the most eloquent speakers in the House,



#### DEER-ISLAND INCIDENT.

The despatches, memorials and so on, relating to the Deer-Island incident, have been published in the columns of the Soul Independent. From these documents we gather that the story runs thus:--In August last year, an area on Deer-Island was claimed for the purposes of a general foreign settlement by the Representatives of the United States, Great Britain and Germany, but the Representatives of Russia, France and Japan were not privy to the arrangement. The site had already been staked out by Mr. McLeavy Brown in 1895. Curiously enough, in the very same month of August, Mr. Waeber, the then Russian Chargé d'Affaires, applied to the Korean Foreign Office for a concession of eighty thousand square metres of the area thus set aside. The Foreign Minister made no immediate reply, and after the lapse of some months Mr. de Speyer, the new Russian Representative, repeated the application, asking, at the same time, for a speedy answer. With the excep-tion of the Vice-Minister, Min Jongmuk, all the officials of the Korean Foreign Office were opposed to making such an extensive grant to Russia, and the Minister invited the Foreign Representatives to meet for the purpose of discussing the affair. The meeting never came off, howbrought to bear, and the Minister became too sick to attend to his duties. On the afternoon of Saturday, February 26th, the Vice-Minister repaired to the Department, and finding there neither officials nor despatch paper, wrote a private note to the Russian Representative, in which he ex-pressed regret for the delay that had occurred in settling the question, and

I consider that the friendly relations between Korea and Russia are especially different from those of other countries, therefore I make the special concession in hopes that our relations may become yet closer. The conditions of the concession will be the same as those which we have stipulated with Japan concerning her coal godowns on that island.

At the same time the Vice-Minister wrote another private note to the Japanese Representative, as Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, in which he explained that, inasmuch as the appropriation of a certain area on Deer Island for a foreign settlement had not been definitely made by means of an official document, the Korean Government considered that it retained the exclusive right to dispose of the land as it pleased. He said nothing, however, about conceding any part of it to Russia.

Now the Minister of Foreign Affairs had very properly laid the Russian application before the Councillors of State, but their discussion of the matter had been postponed owing to the Minister's illness. When, therefore, they learned that the Vice-Minister had made the concession on his own anthority, they addressed to the Throne a strong protest, declaring that neither in the Deer-Island affair nor in the matter of granting certain state privileges to the Russo-Korean Bank, had their opinion been taken, and that as they were thus

Russia, and reminding him that the land was not his to give. Thereafter the Minister and Vice-Minister of Foreign Thereafter the Affairs memorialized the Throne. The Minister said that the concession had been made irregularly, and that al-though the irregularity had occurred during his absence, he felt responsible and tendered his resignation. The Vice-Minister defended his action, on the ground that, when settling the Rose-Island questions two years previously, the Foreign Office had not consulted the Council of State. Nevertheless, he, too, tendered his resignation. The Emperor accepted both resignations: the Minister's, because of his sickness; the Vice-Minister's, because the Council had been ignored by him. But his Majesty forthwith appointed the ex-Vice-Minister to be Minister of the Department, a most emphatic vindication of his action and a distinct approval of the concession to Russia. A curious point is that, in his reply to the Independence Club, the new Minister claimed to have consulted the State Council, though in his memorial to the Emperor he admitted that he had failed to do so. For the rest, he justified his action solely on the ground that a similar concession for the purposes of a coaling station had been made on the same island to Japan.

Such proceedings as are here outlined could scarcely fail to arouse indignant feelings on the part of Korean officialdom and the Korean people. It appears that the Russian Representative had only two supporters in the matter—the Emperor and the Vice-Minister, Min Jongmuk. Their united strength sufficed to achieve the object immediately in view, but only at the cost of an ugly complication. If Russian diplomacy in Soul has to work with such a paucity of advocates, there need be no surprise that Mr. de Speyer finds a difficulty in achieving brilliant results.

If the Jiff's telegraphic information from Soul be correct, it indicates a very important change of front on Korea's part towards Russia. Of course, it is easy for the Korean Cabinet to decide that the services of the Russian military instructors and the Russian financial adviser are no longer required, but it may not be so easy by any means to arrange for those gentlemen's departure. It is true that the emoluments paid to them from the Korean Treasury are inconsiderable, and could probably be commuted without a great financial effort. But Russia will naturally exert all her influence to secure them in their posts, and we have not much faith in the potency of Korean resolution when opposed by Russian influence. puzzling feature of the complication is the diplomatic action which precipitated it. Why did Mr. de Speyer create this op-portunity for the Korean Cabinet to turn against him? We do not understand the question, and must leave it undiscussed.

Inexplicable as the trouble in Soul has seemed by the light of the scanty details hitherto published, there does not appear to be much more to learn about it. M. de Speyer's reasons for asking Korea to declare the state of her affections were simply what the public now knows, He ignored, they begged to tender their considered that the attempted assassina-resignations. At the same time the Inde-tion of Kim, the Russian interpreter, the pendence Club sent an indignant commemorial addressed to the Emperor of
munication to the Vice-Minister demandDigitized by COSE

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ing why he had made such a concession to the Cabinet's protest against the course pursued by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in agreeing to lease a large tract of land on Deer Island to Russia without consulting his colleagues -- he considered that these things indicated the existence of estrangement on Korea's part, and he accordingly asked for an explicit announcement of her mood. It was a strange and rather hysterical procedure, so far as we can see. Had it alarmed the Koreans into making an emphatic denial of any desire to shake themselves free of Russia, M. de Speyer would have scored a success. But if it failed, he would be in the position of having created for them the very opportunity they were seek-It did fail. The Korean Cabinet ing. sent back a courteously worded but unequivocal reply that they were prepared to dispense with Russian instructors and advisers. One finds difficulty in imagining that Russia will move ships or troops against the Koreans because they say that they do not care to have their soldiers instructed and their finances managed by Russian experts. The probability is that the Government in St. Petersburg will not care to endorse M. de Speyer's procedure very vigorously.

> The Noveye Vremya of St. Petersburg, as translated for an American journal, writes

The Korean troops number only 6,000. The Korean troops number only 0,000. The former teachers of this little army were Americane and Japanese, who had no interest in raising its efficiency. They were satisfied to draw their pay, and glad that the Koreans did not ask them to de more. Since October last, however, Russian officers and non-commissioned officers have been appointed under Colonel Putjata, and a new spirit has come over the soldiers. When the first gyraappointed under Colonel Putjata, and a new spirit has come over the soldiers. When the first gyranastic apparatus was put up, the Minister of Warrefused to supply the necessary ropes. He leared that the Russians were about to tottine his men. The Koreans are not fond of exercise, and many left the army, despite the good pay offered them, when they were shown the use of the apparatus. Now, however, they begin to like their work. The Sin-ta-tai, the life-guards, are going through their athletic exercise as well as if they were Germany, and the Korean officers are so well satisfied that they threaten to leave if the Russians are dismissed. The soldiers are now well fed, and es, in the opinion of the Koreans, bravery is the result of a full stomach only, they are no longer afraid of the Japanese. The American advisers of the King will now soon lin sent out of the country, as they are no longer of service. The Japanese, of course, do not like this Russian influence; they lear that it will make their struggle for the posseslear that it will make their struggle for the possession of Korea difficult.

A Russian school has been opened in Soul, where instruction is given free. The pupils are boarded free, too. There are twenty-nine of them, between the ages of thirteen and thirty-five. Like all Koreans, these pupils take a lively interest in politics. Whenever Russia shows energy, the tudy of Russian is pursued more actively; if Russias seems to lose her influence, the Russian language is neglected. The English school is very much frequented, for English is necessary, as yet, in the postal and telegraph services, in the custom-house, and in trade. Russian is learned by the Koreans in view of cuming events. Russia's renemies in Korea, the Americans and the Japanese, enemies in Korea, the Americans and the Japanese, have command of much money, and it could be wished that Russia would take care in axiont systematically the work begun in her interest.

The Russian journal supposes Japan to be "struggling for the possession of Korsa." It The is an idle supposition, in our opinion. Japanese are a kind ill bugbear to some folks at present, and perhaps it is in their interest that they should bear that character, but there is good reason to doubt whether they have rises quite to the heights of ambition on which the imagination of their critics place them.

#### LIAOTUNG.

It will readily be supposed that Russia's action with regard to Port Arthur and Talien evokes very severe comments from the vernacular press. Germany, though she had a pretext, such as it was, for demanding a lease of Kiao chau, was declared to have behaved in a manner contrary to all the dictates of civilized intercourse, but Russia has not the shadow of a pretext for her demand of Port Arthur and Talien, so that it is difficult to find any terms appropriately describing her conduct. That is what the Jiji Shimpo and other leading Tokyo journals say, in effect.
They also discuss, with much interest,
England's probable action, and seem disposed to arrive at the conclusion that China's integrity, which the British Parliament has declared it necessary to protect, will become illusory if she has to yield to such pressure as Russia is now bringing to bear on her, and that England's interference consequently becomes in-evitable. We should have expected to find more emphatic references to the position in which Japan finds herself placed. Japan had acquired possession of Liaotung under the strongest right that the world recognises, the right of conquest. Russia turned her out, alleging that the tenure of the peninsula by a foreign Power would be a menace to the Chinese capital. There is not the smallest doubt that Russia thus incurred, vis-à-vis Japan, the responsibility of not occupying Liaotung herself. Her presence there would be at least as great a menace to Peking as the presence of Japan. The Japanese Government is therefore entitled to protest in the most emphatic terms against the course now attributed to Russia. That is a point which we should have expected to see strongly insisted on by vernacular journals.

Her Majesty's Representative in Peking is alleged to have informed the Chinese Government that if it yielded to the demand of Russia, Great Britain would be obliged to seek corresponding concessions in order to preserve the balance of power. We doubt the correctness of that statement. The telegrams from London show plainly that at the time when Sir Claude Macdonald is supposed to have thus addressed the Tsung-li Yamen, he could not have been in receipt of definite instructions from London. In fact, it seems evident that Her Majesty's Government is addressing itself direct to St. Petersburg, and as China has ordered her Representative in Europe to proceed to the Russian capital for the purpose of negotiating there, we conclude that the seat of the discussion has been removed from Peking to St. Petersburg. Hence Sir Claude Macdonald's action in Peking must have been guided by his general instructions, which are understood to be that Great Britain will not consent to the granting of exclusive privileges to any Power by China, and that all concessions must be equally enjoyable to all. Very likely he reminded the Chinese Govern-ment of that fact in connection with Russia's demands, but we do not imagine that he went any further.

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British Government for pecuniary assistance did not bear any direct fruit, there is no denying the fact that England won a victory in the loan affair. That may have been the proximate cause of Russia's very arbitrary procedure with regard to Port Arthur and Talien, but perhaps we shall be nearer the full truth if we say that, on reviewing the outcome of the recent complications, she found that she had been somewhat "left." England reaped a considerable harvest-though no part of it was exclusive—and Germany gleaned something, but Russia emerged from the scramble with nothing more substantial than permission to use Port Arthur as a winter station for her squadron; a privilege which had virtually no value, for since China is debarred by treaty from placing any one of the Western Powers in a more favourable position than the others, Port Arthur became, de facto, accessible to British ships from the moment that Russian men-of-war obtained the right of entry. It is not altogether wonderful that Russia should have chafed under such circumstances, nor would any one have been surprised to learn that she was negotiating quietly for a lease of Port Arthur. The inexplicable part of the affair is her peremptory and defiant method.

The telegraph says that French ships are about to carry Russian troops to the Far East, Russia not having sufficient vessels of her on for the purpose. means, we presume-if it be credible at all-that Russia intends to charter French steamers. She could charter British steamers, if she wanted them, and very likely she would.

#### AMERICA AND SPAIN.

There has been no sort of confirmation of the rumour circulated vid Hongkong to the effect that the United States Government had organized a naval demonstrations in Cuban waters. Neither is it conceivable that any necessity should exist at present for such a step. Spain persisted in her recent demands the case would be different. But she did not persist, and since, further, it is pretty plain that the destruction of the Maine has not led to any complications, we may fairly assume that things are quiet for the moment. But it is impossible to feel any confidence that the Cuban question can be settled without trouble. Spain seems to be as far as ever that so little cooperation should have from dealing effectually with the insur- hitherto existed between the Japanese and rection. Her autonomy scheme has evi- Foreign Chambers at the open ports and dently failed, and her military capacities in the three cities. In Kobe, however, Probably it is owing to a conviction Tokyo Chamber. Mr. Shibusawa Élichi, is a pretty solid kind of commencement. manufacturers of the capital. The advan-Il America goes to work in earnest to tage of an entente between such a body provide herself with a navy, she will "get and the Foreign Chamber in Yoko-there." She seems to be in a hurry, too, hama can scarcely be doubted. It is

#### FOREIGN SHAREHOLDERS IN TAPANESE COMPANIES.

There has been a great deal of talk lately about the desirability of inducing foreigners to invest capital in the shares of Japanese enterprises, that being the simplest and quickest way of replenishing the people's coffers. We are a little surprised, therefore, to find the Tayyo raising a note of alarm because that desideratum seems to have been partially achieved in the case of the Hokkaido Tanko Railway Company. It appears from the Company's register, as compiled last December, that a certain Mr. Kanakami, clerk in a stock-broker's office, was entered as holding 18,000 shares, which put him second on the list, the Imperial Household Department standing first. Mr. Kanakami is not, it would seem, a man of substance. He is supposed to have merely lent his name to a foreigner. Moreover, during the present year the same person is reported to have made additional purchases aggregating 20,000 shares, thus becoming the biggest share-holder in the Company. The Taiyo's comment is:-"If foreign capitalists take to buying shares in Japanese enterprises, they will obtain control of the foundations of our business. That is a matter demand-ing reflection. It will be well not to create sources of inevitable regret hereafter by allowing foreigners to become shareholders in our industries merely for the sake of causing the shares to appreciate." The comment stops just short of being intelligible. Will not the Taiyo explain what disadvantageous results it apprehends from foreigners becoming shareholders on a large scale? Is there any fear, for example, that half a dozen Mr. "Kanakamis" would carry off the Tanko Railway and the mines served by it? Nothing more senseless can be imagined than apprehensions like those of the Taiyo. They are childish and unreasoning.

#### YOKOHAMA AND TOKYO CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

It is pleasant to learn from Mr. W. B. Walter's letter, published elsewhere, that the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has approached the Yokohama Foreign Chamber with the object of establishing close relations between the two bodies. There is certainly something singular in the fact must be pretty nearly, if not altogether, the dawn of a more wholesome state of exhausted. The United States will inevitably have to interfere in the end, welcome the move now made by the in that sense that the Government in the well-known banker, who held the port-Washington has made an appropriation folio of Finance in 1873, is President of ten millions sterling—fifty million dol-the Tokyo Chamber, and it includes among lars—for purposes of naval expansion. It its members all the leading merchants and for she has been trying to buy the two now nearly eighteen years since Mr. Japanese cruisers now under construction Shibusawa Eiichi and Mr. Masuda Ko in Philadelphia and San Francisco. Japan, interested themselves directly in Yokoof course, would not sell. It seems a pity hama's commercial affairs. The occasion The most plausible explanation of Russia's suddenly aggressive activity is that a monetary basis. The United States the recent loan negotiations in Peking, for though China's application to the Original fron

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not believe in the practical possibility of the chief object contemplated by the promoters of the enterprise-namely, the abolition of the custom of entrusting parcels of silk to foreign merchants for inspection preliminary to purchase—, and they did believe that the real purpose of the scheme was to organize a big monopoly in the hands and interests of a few Japanese middle-men. The contest that ensued was very sharp, and Messrs. Shibusawa and Masuda were finally invited by their nationals in Yokohama to act as mediators. Their experiences on that occasion were understood to have impressed them very unpleasantly-so much so, indeed, that their friends foretold their permanent abstention from all connexion with Yokohama affairs thence-The Yokohama Chamber of course treat the proposition of the Tokyo institution with all courtesy. If the two Chambers could come to some agreement for organizing a kind of judicial committee to settle all disputes between foreign and Japanese merchants, without recourse to the law courts, a notable step of progress would have been made.

#### AN ACCIDENT.

A rather lamentable accident occurred some time ago at the Milke prison, which is one of the five "central jails" of Japan. When we speak of a "central jail" (Shuji Kan) it will be understood that we refer to a prison supported in the main by funds from the Treasury in Tokyo and controlled completely by the central Government. A foreign tourist, connected with an Australian journal, who happened to find himself in Milke, one summer's day, thought that he might obtain some interesting copy by visiting the jail and subsequently embodying his experiences in an essay. He therefore repaired to the place and asked for admission. Jails are not usually thrown open at a moment's notice for inspection by any chance visitor. Hence the tourist was not greatly surprised when a delay of three hours occurred before he obtained access to the prison, but, as will presently be seen, his failure to attach due significance to that fact entailed very deplorable results. Being shown over the prison with all courtesy and patience, he found "everything in apple-pie order and the whole place a great deal more comfortable as quarters than many places in which he had had to roost during his trip." use his own words in order that our readers may have a clear perception of the sad accident which ensued. His description of the jail appeared in print in due time, and was so eulogistic that the editor of the journal for which he wrote "hauled him over the coals for being infected with the Japan mania." Still, "as a sober matter of fact, the tourist had made no drafts on the imagination, but had merely put on paper what he had seen with his own eyes." These things happened in 1888. Just ten years later, that is to say, in this present year, the same tourist being again in Japan, found himself writing over the pseudonym of "Scotus," for a Kobe journal whose editor was engaged

they were based, not on anything so deceptive as his own personal observation, but on the statements of a Japanese who was much incensed against the prison authorities. "Scotus" might thus have been placed in a cruel dilemma, for whereas his private sympathies as well as the popularity of any attack upon Japanese systems urged him strongly to throw in his lot with the editor, his publicly recorded testimony as to the excellence of the Milke prison forbade such a volte face. But fortunately—and this is the only redeeming feature of the regrettable affair— "Scotus" had already discovered the accident that occurred to him at Milke, and was aware that a very gross deception had been practised on him by the prison officials. In short, to use his own words, "It had dawned upon him that, thanks to the three hours' delay, he had been had in Milke very badly." For during those three hours the prison authorities had altered the dimensions of the cells; had swept and garnished the prison; had provided new clothes for the ipmates; provided new clothes for the ipmates; had fattened up the prisoners so that they looked sleek and happy; had changed the doors and partitions so as to exclude draughts and provide proper shelter; had laid down fresh mats; and had altogether metamorphosized the conditions usually existing and the system generally pursued. It was because of his pardonable failure to see through this very shameful piece of chicanery that "Scotus" was accidentally betrayed into becoming an eulogist of Japanese jails whereas he should have been a scathing critic. His discovery of the trick may almost be called providential, for it was entirely due to "a very meaning smile by a Japanese friend who had himself been in jail." Possibly our readers may be surprised at the celerity shown by the Milke Prison officials, but that is easily explained; it was a merc matter of practice. From information conveyed by the friend who had been in jail, "Scotus" learned that such swift changes are habitually contrived at Japanese prisons when a foreign visitor is about to be admitted. We can not sufficiently express our satisfaction that the deception has been shown up, and when we reflect that the labyrinth of falsehood was explored by the aid of such a slender clew as "a meaning smile," we feel a renewed access of exulting confidence in the grand old aphorism magna est veritas et prevalebit.

#### NAVAL CONTRIBUTIONS ORDINANCE.

On the 12th instant the Emperor issued an Ordinance authorizing the revocation of Ordinance No. 5 of the twenty-sixth year of Meiji (1893). The latter was the Ordinance directing that civil and military officials should contribute ten per cent, annually of their salaries for ship building purposes, the Emperor himself contributing a similar proportion—three hundred thousand yen—from the Privy Purse. In accordance with His Majesty's authorization the Ordinance of 1893 will cease to be operative from the 31st of this month. Our readers may remember that the House of Representain a vehement crusade against the abuses tives, in its session of 1895-6, presented

might be dispensed with. An interesting situation was this created, for the con-tributions had been ordered originally by the Sovereign in consequence of the refusal of the House of Representatives to grant funds for ship-building unless the pay of officials was reduced. Hence when the House, two years later, suggested the desirability of dispensing with the contributions, it wirtually made an amende for its previous obstinacy. The Emperor. however, did not fully adopt the suggestion. He dispensed with further contributions in the case of officials of low rank, upon whom the payment had pressed very heavily, but he left the Ordinance in operation as regards higher officials. In their case payment has been required during five full years, which was the time fixed by the Ordinance—No. 5—of 1893. The Ordinance just issued has, in fact, no connexion with the Address presented by the Lower House two years ago.

#### COUNT ITAGAKI ON JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

The Chuo Shimbun gives a statement said to emanate from Count Itagaki with reference to the course that Japan should adopt in foreign affairs at the present juncture. After noting that Japan became an object of wide scrutiny after the war with China, and that peace is now-a-days a question of being prepared for war, the Liberal leader said that, although it was of course impossible to speak plainly on such a subject, he did not think there could be much room for doubt as 55 Japan's proper procedure. Relations of close and lasting amity between States were based not on political considerations so much as on tradal interests, religion and education. Germany's action in seizing Kiao-chow had suddenly changed the whole complexion of Far-Eastern affairs, and Russia had followed suit by a display of forceful aggression. But if China, which was one of Great Britain's most promising markets, were obliged to yield to Russia's demands, English interests would be so seriously affected that a conflict between Russia and Great Britain could scarcely be avoided. In that event, though neighbourly feeling might incline Japan toward Russia, the wrong-doing of the latter would leave the Japanese no choice but to throw in their lot with England. Such an alliance would signify a naval and military strength more than competent to deal with Russia, Germany and France in cooperation in the Far East. Moreover, Russia was about as little ready to fight as China. For example, on the occasion of the Triple Alliance in 1895, when Russia thought of sending out a force of cavalry, the necessary equipment was found to have decayed in store and become useless. The spirit of her troops, too, was not such as could be called one of readiness. An alliance with England was, therefore, the aim to which the nation's attention should be directed, for if further aggression were practised at China's expense, her resentment against foreigners would be aggravated to such an extent that the peace of the Far East could not be long preserved.

An extraordinary price has been given for an uncut first edition copy of Burns's works, in a vehement crusade against the abuses and defects of the Japanese prison system.

There could be no question about the correctness of the editor's views, because tives, in its session of 1895-6, presented at 50 guineas, and ended at 545 guineas. This is nearly three times as much for one copy as was realised for the whole of naval increment, the official centributions

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#### A DISPOSITION TO KEEP THE PEACE.

A telegram received yesterday by the Mitsui Firm in Tokyo says that the tone of the European press with regard to the Far-Eastern situation is decidedly pacific, and that there is an evident disposition on all sides to avert war. That is more or less re-assuring. But the situation must continue to be fraught with anxiety until the outcome of the negotiations in St. Petersburg is published. We now know that Russia's application for the lease of Port Arthur and Talien was not accompanied by any direct menace, as rumour originally said. But we have had no contradiction of the statement that it was accompanied by a limit of time for China to make reply, and the fixing of a period in such cases partakes very closely of the character of a and the armament, four 10-in., ten 4.7 threat. At all events, there stands the application. Supposing that China rejects it, what then? Will Russia seize Port Arthur British vessels are not quite so heavily and Talian as Garmany seized Kisoschou? and Talien as Germany seized Kiao-chou? We do not believe that she intends to proceed to any such extremity. granting that she possessed the disposition-which we doubt-she would be confronted by the difficulty of her promise to England. She has given a pledge to Great Britain that she will open to general trade any port acquired by her in China, and it is plain that she can not throw open to general trade a Chinese port, occupied by force and held in defiance of its owner's protests. It is not absolutely inconceivable that, reckoning on China's well-proved disposition to fold her hands in presence of an accomplished fact, Russia may seize the coveted places and trust to obtaining endorsement of her action subsequently. But the situation seems already too strained to admit of such heroic methods. England is in the field as well as China. The English Government and the English people have declared that the integrity of the Chinese empire must be respected, and of course if Russia were to help herself to the Liaotung Peninsula by force of arms, there would no longer be the slightest pretence of respecting China's in-tegrity. On the other hand, Russia can not retire from the field empty handed. Granted that she is playing a game of bluff, she must nevertheless be expected to take something out of the pool. Doubt-less there will be a diplomatic compromise. China may agree to lease Port Arthur and Talien, witholding permission forthe Manchurian railway, and stipulating that neither If that be the soluport shall be fortified. tion accepted, Great Britain will, of course, require a naval station in the north, and we do not see what is left for her except Wei-hai-wei, supposing that Japan vacates it. There would not then remain to China a solitary place suitable for a naval station in her Northern waters.

#### RUSSIAN AND BRITISH NAVAL ACTIVITY.

The Rossia and the Rurik are not the only additions to the Russian Squadron in the Far East. Very soon the Navarin and the Sissoi Veliky will be in these waters—if, indeed they have not already with "James Allan," in whom he finds not closer inspection throws doubt on the waters—if, indeed they have not already arrived, for they were to leave Penang only a liar but also a plagiarist. Mr. on the 23rd of February, proceeding Cowan may be presumed to know what thence direct to Hongkong without calling he is talking about.

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at Singapore. The Navarin is an armed ship, launched in 1891. Her displacement is 9,476 metric tons; her horse power, 9,000; her speed, 16 knots; and armament, four 12:in., 52-ton guns, eight 6-in., fourteen Q.F. 41., 6 torpedo tubes. The Sissoi Veliky, which, like the Navarin, was built in St. Petersburg, is also an armour-clad, and was launched in 1894. Her displacement is 2,880 metric tons; her horse power, 8,500; her speed, 16 knots, and her armament, four 12-in. 52-ton guns, six 6-in., twelve 1.8 in., four 1.4 in., two M. and six torpedo tubes. The British ship Barfleur, which is said to be coming eastward, is somewhat similar to the above. She is a sister ship to the Centurion, and was launched in 1894, the Centurion's date being 1893. The disis somewhat similar to the placement of each vessel is 10,500 tons; armoured as the Russian, and their armament is a little lighter, but their speed is For, even greater, and altogether they are more he disposi-powerful ships. We may note, en passant, that whereas the Barfleur (10,500 tons that whereas the Barfieur (10,500 tons and 18½ knots) cost £599,089, the Navarin (9,476 tons and 16 knots) cost £772,995. The St. George, which is also said to be coming out, is a first-class cruiser of 7,770 tons displacement with a speed of 19.0 knots and an armament of two 9.2 19.0 knots and an armament of two 9.2 in. guns, ten 6-in. Q.F., twelve 6-pr., five 3-pr., 7 M., 2 L., and four torpedo tubes. The Victorious, of course, will be more powerful than any Russian vessel out here, though her heaviest guns are of the same calibre (12-in.) as those of the Navarin and the Sissoi Veliky. In fact, these two last ships will prove a formidthese two last ships will prove a formidable addition to the Russian Squadron.

From telegrams received in Tokyo we learn that the Russian Government has placed orders for ships in the United States. Russia's building capacities are very limited, and the only countries to which she can apply for assistance in this respect are France and the United States, of America.

#### "UNDER THE DRAGON FLAG."

The London and China Express has taken as serious truth the long tissues of falsehoods which the author of "Under the Dragon Flag" has concocted for the purpose of deceiving the ignorant section of the public. That just bears out what we anticipated. Plenty of hardihood and a minimum of conscience are the only qualifications required by a romancer. Precisely in proportion as his possession of the former attribute and his deficiency in the latter are above the average will the number of his credulous audience be greater. It is not by any means easy for an ordinary reader to detect the deceptions of a writer dealing with novel in-cidents and wholly unfamiliar scenes. Mr. # James Allan " is # magnificent liar, and has done wisely in adopting a nom-de-plume. Mr. T. Cowan, The Times' correspondent in Liaotung and ShanWHY

Two questions propounded in many quarters at present are, why did Russia oppose opening Talien to trade, and why did England withdraw her proposal for its opening? As to the latter query, there has been much talk in Europe and some also in the Far East. French, German and Russian journalists find pleasure, not unnatural, in asserting that Great Britain received a severe rebuff and that Russian diplomacy scored a signal triumph. They labour under the disadvantage of not being acquainted with the facts of the England never proposed the opening of Talien as an independent demand prompted by her own view of the situa-tion. What happened was that the Chinese asked whether the British Government would guarantee a three-per-cent. loan, and the British Government replied in the affirmative on three conditions-first, that three new ports should be opened to trade, namely, Talien, Shanyin, and Manning; secondly, that no portion of the Yangtsze Valley should ever be ceded to a foreign Power, and thirdly, that the extension of the Burmah Railway through China was Yunnan should be permitted. willing, apparently, to accept these terms, but when she found that to rely upon the British Government's assistance in the matter of the loan would impair her relations with France and Russia, she resolved to abandon the project and to proceed by a different route. Of course her change of plan involved the disappearance of the British proposals. She had asked England to do her a cer-tain service; England had returned a conditional reply; China had resolved not to continue the negotiation, and the English conditions had naturally ceased to be matter for discussion. That is how the Talien question passed out of the field, as we understand the situation. The opening of the place was not a demand pre-ferred by England, but was merely one of the concessions which she formulated in the event of her being required to bestow a certain favour on China. The latter concluded that she would not avail herself of the favour, and therefore the contingent concessions ceased to be on the

As to Russia's alleged action in oppos-ing the opening of Talien, it appears that what she opposed, in conjunction with France, was not the opening of Talien in particular, but the whole transaction of which that concession formed a part. Having in view her subsequent application for a lease of the two Liaotung ports, many people will be disposed to conclude that the Talien item constituted one of her chief objections to the loan scheme, and will be led to deduce a disagreeable hypothesis which may be thus stated: - Russia has de-clared her intention of opening Talien and Port Arthur to foreign trade in the event of the two places being leased to her. If that declaration is bond fide, she ought not to have entertained any insuperable objection to the opening of the port at Great Britain's instance. Hence the fact that she did entertain such to closer inspection throws doubt on the justice of the epithet. Russia may be to quite sincere in her intention of opening the two places to trade, and may never-Original from

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theless desire to have a lease of them in view of her railway-development programme. If it is her purpose to make the Liaotung peninsula the southern terminus of her Trans-Asian Railway, there is every reason why she should desire to have some control of the ports at which the line will debouch. That would not be at all inconsistent with opening them to trade and keeping them open. It seems most desirable at the present juncture not to confound issues which are really distinct. If we fall into the error of supposing that England demanded the open-ing of Talien as an independent ing of Talien as an independent necessity, we shall be betrayed into the further error of imagining that she is irrevocably pledged to oppose the leasing of the place to Russia; and if we assume that Russia opposed the opening of Tailen when demanded by the British Government merely because she entertained the design of getting it into her own possession, we may find ourselves forced to the inference that she intends to follow the Batoum precedent. The situation is certainly not quite so bad as all that.

In connexion with this subject, we desire to point out to certain Japanese journalists that the guarantee demanded and obtained by England with reference to the Yangtsze Valley is not by any means to be interpreted in the sense of an aggressive declaration that the vast district watered by the Yangtsze falls within the sphere of Great Britain's exclusive in-fluence. The Yangtsze is the great waterway of China. Its sources lie near the confines of India; numerous flourishing marts and big cities stand upon its banks; it is the avenue to Shanghai, and withits various tributaries it constitutes a magnificent system of communications with the richest provinces of China. Not merely development but even the very existence of England's trade with Chinadepends upon keeping open this splendid highway. Hence it is that Her Majesty's Government is deter-mined guard the Yangtsze Valley against the incursions of hostile States. During the incursions of hostile States. During the China-Japan war the neutrality of the river was secured by a British fleet, and nothing is more certain than it will continue to be secured. But there is a wide difference between keeping a road open for general traffic and assuming sovereign rights over the districts through which it passes,

# THE SOUDAN.

Sir Herbert Kitchener has decided that no newspaper correspondents shall accompany the troops in the Soudan. His alleged reason is difficulties of transport. He allows an agent of Reuter's to go forward, so that the public may not be with-out news, but, for the rest, he does not intend to fight under observation. It is a courageous step, for, of course, it alienates the sympathies of the press, and will provoke much hostile criticism. The English papers seem to have found a good deal to say about it, but among a number of extracts we can discover only one that is thoroughly opposed to the Sirdar's decision, and the objector is the Daily Telegraph, which treats the question on clap-trap lines. There can not be the smallest doubt that the fourth estate wants a few drastic lessons, but we suspect that Sir Herbert Kitchener will be the chief sufferer in this instance. Digitized by Google

#### AN ARITHMETICAL ERROR.

In the February number of the Nine-teenth Century Mr. A. C. Moreing publishes a short essay on the question of a British loan to China. He assumes, as the basis of his argument, that Her Ma-jesty's Government have decided to guarantee a three-per-cent. loan for China, but although it was true, at the moment when he wrote, that, in response to a re-quest from the Peking Government, the English Ministry did agree to assist China, it is also true that the latter, in deference to the opposition evoked by her scheme in other quarters, abandoned the inter-State method of procedure and had recourse to private capitalists. Hence Mr. Moreing's paper possesses now very little interest. There is, however, one point calling for correction. He sets forth a list of the public indebtedness of the various countries per head of the population, and he puts the figure for Japan at £1.18s. 7d., and the figure for China at 2s. We do not understand how Mr. Moreing has been so greatly misled. Had Japan floated the Public Undertakings and Railway Loans contemplated in the post-bellum programme her debt would now be 21s. per head, in round numbers, but, as a matter of fact, it is only a little over 19s. Probably Mr. Moreing has confounded the yen and the American gold dollar. His figure for Japan is just about the double of what it ought to be.

#### FUNERAL OF THE REV. DR. VERBECK.

The funeral service in memory of the late Dr. Verbeck was performed at the Shiba Japanese Presbyterian Church, in Tokyo, on Saturday the 12th instant at half-past one o'clock, and the remains were subsequently interred in the Aoyama Cemetery. A very large number of Japanese and foreigners, representatives of all classes, assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to a man whose deeds and life will always occupy an honoured place in Japan's modern history. The service, being conducted in the language of both Japan and England, occupied a long time. It opened with the reading of the usual lesson by the Rev. Mr. H. Wada, prayers by Dr. Thompson and the singing of a hymn; after which eloquent and NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS IN detailed in-memorium addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Ibuka and the Rev. Mr. T. Ballagh. Then followed a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Okuno and a hymn. At the grave the service was per-formed by the Rev. E. S. Booth, the Rev. E. R. Miller and the Rev. Mr. Waddell. It is not too much to say that the obsequies of a foreigner in Tokyo were never before attended by such a great concourse of

> We are asked by Miss Verbeck to express on behalf of herself and the absent members of her family her sincere thanks for all the kindness and sympathy shown by numerous friends and acquaintances in connexion with her sudden bereavement. It will doubtless interest our readers to know that His Imperial Majesty the Emperor conveyed his condolences through Baron Sannomiya, and, in accordance with Japanese custom, sent a sum of 500 year towards the funeral expenses.

#### THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

An idea appears to be entertained in some quarters that the results of the general elections which took place on the 5th instant will be known immediately but the fact is that four or five days will elapse before a clear idea can be entertained. In the three cities, Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto, and in a few other districts where there is only one voting place, the ballot boxes are opened on the day after the elections, but in other parts of the country where the extent of the districts necessitates a number of booths, the figures are not ascertained till the second or even the third day after ballots have been cast. We can not expect to be fully informed before the 20th, perhaps. Meanwhile there are, of course, many conjectures. It is stated that, according to calculations made by the police, the Progressists will probably carry 115 seats, the Liberals 100, the National Unionists 25, and the Business Men and other fac-We find two estimates in tions, fo. vernacular newspapers, one in the Yomsuri and one in the Kokumin :-

E	<i>Yomluri's</i> Estimate.	Kohumin's Estimate.
Progressists	110	f10
Liberals	90	102
National Unionists	20	27
Doshit-Kai	10	Not stated
Tohoku Domei-hai	4	20
Kagoshima Seiga-ka	i 7	
Business Men	59	

It is impossible at present to say who will be found supporting the Government and who in the Opposition. Assuming that the Liberals and the National Unionists are on the Cabinet's side, the main body of the Ministerialists varies, in the above estimates, from 110 to 127, and the main body of the Opposition from 110 to 115. But as to the wings, which consist of the Business Men and minor factions, their political proclivities seem to be entirely a matter of conjecture, thus far at any rate.

Up to Wednesday evening, the following election returns were published (the first of the successful candidate in each district) :-

Tokyo City.
District 1- Votes. Party.
Mr. Takenouchi Ko 94LiberalNew member.
Mr. Suyeyouhl Tadauki 93 Progressist Former mem-
Mr. Hoshi Matausaburo 66 doNew member.
Mr. Engoshi Ko-uke 51, Independent, New caudi-
District 111 date.
Mr. Yumada Kinoauke 27 Progressist New member.
Fig. Nakajima Matagoro sg., Libaral Former mem-
Mr. Hamaguchi Kichizae- 300., Progressist do
District V- mon.
Mr. Toshlmitsu Tsuru- 165 Liberal New member.
Mr. Tatauta Akinobu 63 Progressiat New candi-
District VI— date.
Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro 197 Independent New member;
Mr. Sato Kaneaki 65 Liberal New c-udi-
District VII date, Mr. Matsuda Hideo 319ProgressistPormer mesa-
District VII' bes.
Mr. Taguchi Uzichi
Mr. Bina Shunichi
District IX date, Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo160 Progressist Former mem-
ber.
Management Bananaman

#### KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.

#### HYOGO PREFECTURE.

District r-- fir. Manjo Yasujiro ...........247... Progressist ... New mem Mr. Yamamoto Kameta o ... 193 Business man. New cand d

This return shows that out of eleven members 7 are Progressiate, 2 Liberale, and 2 Indepen-

It seems scarcely worth while to purplex our readers with partial returns of the general elections. We shall therefore postpone the publication of any detailed list until the full results are known. It may be interesting, however, to state here that a forecast, probably pretty accurate, Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

has been formed with reference to the results of the polling in 265 constituencies out of the total 300. The forecast stands

111	+ 4 4		***		98
ista	***		***		30
	***				84
***	***			444	23
***		***		***	7
**	144			4+9	3
	***			105	3
Kai	***	***	***		2
***		***	***	111	2
***	411		***	***	13
	  Rai	ists	Kai	ists	ists

Omitting the petty coteries, we may assume that fully 10 of the Business Men and 12 of the Independents would vote with the Cabinet. Hence, if the Liberals and National Unionists be on the latter's side, the above estimate gives the Government 150 supporters out of 265 members. But it is only an estimate.

#### TAPANESE PRISONS

We do not know whether the Kobe Chronicle intends to be taken seriously when it regards the writings of "Yamato Chuyo" as authoritative expressions of the Japanese Government's opinion. short time ago, our contemporary suggested that the editor of the Japon Mail must have been among the number of those that maltreated Japanese coolies and servants in the old days, since he seemed to know so much about their sufferings, and further, in very solemn terms, accused him of advocating recurrence to such maltreatment since he had brought the subject again upon the tapis. We referred, with some amusement, to these diverting charges, and the Kobe Chronicle's reply was that we are not gifted with the sense of humour. Perhaps, then, our contemporary's treat-ment of the "Yamato-Chuyo" incident is also intended to be humourous. Our readers can judge for themselves. Here is the paragraph:-

We direct the attention of readers to the article appearing on the second page dealing with the remarks by the editor of the Fapan Times attenuously opposing any discrimination being made in the treatment of foreigness who may be incarrectable treatment. the treatment of foreigners who may be incarce al-ed in Japanese prisons either before or after con-viction. What makes the matter so important is that the Japan Times is a strong supporter of the present Ministry and has intimate relations with certain members of the premier's enfourage. It may therefore justly be inferred that the Iliniatry has determined to make no distinction in the treat-ment of functioner, who may be interioused in ment of foreigners who may be imprisoned in Japanese jails, and that, so far as the Japanese Government is concerned, foreigners accused, not Government is concerned, foreigners accused, not necessarily guilty, of any offence will be subjected to treatment likely in many cases to prove a sentence of death. We are striking off a sufficient number of copies to send to the principal European and American papers, in order that our contemporaries and the people of our respective countries may be induced to realise the dangers to which foreigners will be exposed when the new Treaties come into operation.

It will be observed that the Kobe Chro-nicle speaks of "the remarks made by the editor of the Japan Times," and then proceeds to infer that because the Japan Times has intimate relations with the entourage of the Prime Minister, its editorial views of the present Ministry. Well, but there were no editorial utterances. The different forms, fabrics for clothing and material editors of the Trans. Time that the forms of the Trans. chitor of the Japan Times did not write as editor. He did not even write in the editorial columns. He simply appeared as a paragraphist signing himself "Yamato-Chuyo,"—thus explicitly differentiating his personal views from those of the journal. It must, of course, be a jest on the part of the Kobe Chronicle to make a pre-

tence of taking "Yamato-Chuyo" as the Japanese Government's mouth-piece, and no doubt the striking off of "a sufficient number of copies to send to the principal American and Eurepean papers" in order to rouse them to a sense of the perils awaiting foreigners, is also a practical joke. This is new style of journalism. We trust that it will find appreciation among folks less devoid of the sense of humour than we are ourselves.

#### " THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE."

Our very excellent contemporary The Shepherd's Voice pours out the phials of its wrath upon our unhappy head in its latest issue. We do not agree with the general editor's views about the social evil and do not endorse the Biblical editor's refusal to comply with the laws of his country, and it consequently follows, according to The Shepherd's Voice, that we are bad, radically bad; that there is no sound place in us from the sole of the foot to the crown of the head, and that "there exists just as wide a chasm between our aims and objects and those of the missionaries" as between their aims and objects and those of the Yokohama journal which loses no opportunity of abusing them. The odium theologicum is a fine, old-fashioned institution. too venerable to be laughed at; too human to be resented. For the rest, we have had so much abuse in our time that a little more or a little less does n't matter. If we have hurt the The Shepherd's Voice, we don't object to a little retaliatory hammering.

#### SILK FROM COTTON.

"It is a classic joke," says the Chronique Industrielle, as quoted in Cosmos (January 2: "to say, in speaking of silk of poor quality, that it is 'half silk and all cotton'; but this, it appears, is in a fair way to be actually realized, as a cotton fibre can be changed into a silky thread that has exactly the same durable bril-liancy as a thread of real silk. The operation that the cotton undergoes to bring about this result is called 'mercerization' under tension. This odd word is derived from the name of the inventor of the process in its primitive form. About fifty years ago a French chemist named Mercer showed that cotton, when subjected to the action of concentrated acids or alkalies, contracts and has a greater affinity for mordants and dyes; but it is only recently that it has been known that this 'mercerization' gives also a gives also a brilliant lustre to the cotton that undergoes it. The process was then improved; the cotton was atterched violently during the mercerization, and when an energetic rubbing was added to the tension the tissue received a permanent lustre. It thus can replace silk.

Indications are that the fibre of the pineapple leaf will eventually take prominent place among the constituents of textile fabrics. which, when spun, surpasses in strength, fineness, and lustre those obtained from flax; can be employed m a substitute for silk, and as a material for mixing with wool or cotton. Usedivided a specimen of this fibre to one tenthousandth of an inch. As to the value of the fibre, a London quotation for a lot of wellcleaned from an Asiatic source was \$150 per ton. There is no doubt that if the fibre could be produced in quantity at an economical cost, manufacturers would soon find a use for it and would know what price they could afford to pay for it. The market price would then be fixed by the demand and supply. The machine question enters largely into the problem, however, and as the leaves are small, a quantity would need to be cleaned at one feeding of the machine to make it pay. Estimating ten leaves to the pound, there would be over 22,000 leaves to the ton, which, as we have seen, would pro-duce from 50 to 60 pounds of fibre.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The Public Hall was filled with a large andience on Wednesday evening when an entertainment in aid of the funds of the Ladies' International Reading Room took place. The first half of the programme was devoted to a one-act comedy by Jerome K. Jerome entitled "Bar-bara;" the second being diversified with vocal and instrumental selections. We must own to a scuse of disappointment with the play. "Barbara" is a sentimental custain-raiser that taxes, in a peculiar way, the emotional abilities of the principal character. All the interest centres in her, the other three players being mere lookers on, quite unconscious of the passion of the drama passing before them. It is perhaps the ever present sense of this overpowering paties that robs the dialogue of the sparkle usually associated with Mr. Jerome; for, candidly speaking, the little play is deadly dull and ever bordering on the simply mandlin. To put the matter briefly, the selection of the piece was unfortunate, for all who took part in it are capable of producing work of a much higher calibre; The honours work of a trace inguer carrier. The namen's of the play fell to Mrs. McWilliams as Barbara. It was apparent as the tate slow-ly unfolded itself that she would be called upon to make a great sacrifice, and quietly and effectually, as only a thorough actress can and effectually, as only a thorough actress can do, Mrs. McWilliams slowly built up the fabric of her character and in the last phase of all, when she nobly renounces her own newly discovered identity and all that it means and implies in order that Litts (Miss Wheeler) and Carl (Mrs. Danis) was achieve in appropriet Cecil (Mr. Davis) may achieve happiness, she completely won over a lukewarm house by sheer force of natural impersonation. Little and Cecit were pleasantly played and Mr. Eddison III Dr. Finnicum was acceptable. Bouquets of flowers were handed to the ladies before they were allowed to leave the stage.

The comedy was followed by a pretty dance and chorus from Wang—" Baby, baby"—in which the Misses Chimmo, Merriman (2), Burns, Grösser, Brockelbank, Hilaté Moss, Lee. Salabelle, and McWilliams, with Messis, Plummer and Morse on first chop Chinamen, took part. This had to be replated twice. The second part. It is had to be replated twice. The second part was as follows:—Trio, for Violin, Cello, and Piano (Rubenstein) Messrs. Poole, Schmid and Mason; Song "The King's Minstrel" (Ciro Pinssti), Mr. A. C. kead; Cello Solo, "Tarantelle" (D. Popper), Mr. E. C. Davis; "The Possibilities of Mrs. Henry Hawkins," Mr. M. Ellis; Song "Amorita" (Guy d'Hardelot), Mrs. James Walter. Mr. Ellis was recalled, and Mrs. Walter was enthusiastically anolanded. Mrs. Walter was enthusiastically applauded. Mrs. A. C. Read accompanied Mr. Read's and Mrs. Walter's songs, Mr. Davis' 'cello solo, and the dance from Wang.

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#### RUSSIA IN KOREA.

T was at first very difficult to credit the telegraphic news with reference to Mr. DE SPEVER'S alleged despatch time to time during the past few months we have had occasion to note that signs of a re-action against Russian influence were beginning to manifest themselves in Korea, and that, so far as it there was little probability that they would it provoked much opposition. No wonder, Japan's policy, as directed by Count among the people also. That is, perhaps INOUYE, was animated by the utmost the most interesting feature of the reacconsideration for Korean susceptibilities. tion now making itself apparent. Public been involved directly or indirectly in the no longer be left to the undisturbed condoubt that the Japanese would soon bave had to choose between, on the one hand, other, overtaxing popular patience by trying to lead her, with some semblance of celerity, into the path of prohearts of the Koreans m record of violence and masterfulness as the Japanese shall continue, and accompanies'the sumintercourse with Korea from the conclusion of the KURODA Treaty of 1873, the The Russians did not bring that disqualification to the undertaking, and the situation was correspondingly easier for them. Still the prestige of her victory over China scored as a compensatory factor in Japan's case, so that, on the whole, she may be said to have been as well equipped for the enterprise as Russia. Possibly she might have succeeded better. We can not tell. She never had a fair trial. In no arena of foreign politics or foreign enterprise is it yet possible for Japan to have a fair trial. criticism of every amateur observer or minds by an assumption that she must of the Liaotung affair. From the moment

that she had to bow to the dictation of Russia, Germany, and France, and withdraw from the banks of the Yalu and the Peninsula of the Regent's Sword, Japanese chances of success in Korea became a to the Government in Soul. From vanishing quantity. The glamour of her armed prowess disappeared. The Koreans saw her humbled in the hour of victory, and the admiration they had conceived for her became tinged with a hue of contempt. We can not say, therefore, was possible to judge, the shadow of the what might have been the issue of her great northern Power had been cast too doings in Korea had not these special deeply over the peninsula. Let the obstacles lain in her path. But we can Koreans be ever so deficient in patriotism, say that, tentative as was her procedure, tamely submit to such a manifest drawing therefore, that Russia's more daring and of their country under the Eagle's wing, vigorous methods have incurred even Whatever may have been written to the greater unpopularity. Not merely unpopu-contrary by some critics, it is certain that larity in official circles, but unpopularity Nevertheless the Koreaus chafed against opinion seems to have been born in the it. Even though Viscount MIURA had not little empire, and national affairs will sanguinary affair which so terribly dis-trol of a few politicians. Probably the credited his country, there can be no influence of the change will not be very apparent at first, but it is in the nature of such a change to develop rather than to allowing Korea to drift back into the dwindle. Russia has forced the pace too old slough of stagnation, and, on the much, and the Koreans decline to keep up with her. Under such circumstances it does not seem particularly tactful on Mr. DE SPEYER'S part to have applied to them gress. Russia, in one respect, approach- the spur of an ultimatum. Things must ed the task under more favourable have reached a rather desperate pass beconditions than Japan. Her people had tween two friends when one summons not laid up against themselves in the the other to declare, within a given number of hours, whether the friendship had done-for it is beyond question that mons with a threat of unfriendly coercion throughout the whole period of their in the event of a negative reply. Such action might have been reasonably provoked by some distinctly hostile act on Japanese residents in the peninsula Korea's part, but, so far as we can see, behaved in a manuer which could not fail there has been no such act. Mr. DE to alienate the sympathies of the natives. Sprygg's protest is against a general want of cordiality, and although its vagueness will help Korea to frame a non-committal answer, if she he so disposed, it also displays a fretful nervousness and impatience which cannot tend to enhance the charms of Russian friendship. We shall not be surprised to hear that the Government in St. Petersburg declines to endorse Mr. DE SPEYER'S procedure. The Government in St. Petersburg knows how to have skilful recourse to the time-honoured device of having free commercial access to almost disavowing an over-zealous representative's action and punishing him by trans-She has no prestige to shield her from the lating him to a higher post. Mr. WAEBER was visited by a strong access of ambition the condemnation of every tyro judge. just before he left Soul and Mr. DE SPEY-All her efforts are prefaced in foreign ER may be similarly aftected. At all events, we do not think that any immediablunder, and blunders are easily found tely grave importance attaches to this when one searches for them with diligence. complication. Its chief interest consists Apart from that general disadvantage, in the evidence it furnishes of Korea's however, there was the specific handicap growing restlessness under Russia's hand, the resources and potentialities of the

#### THE FAR-EASTERN SITUATION.

DECENT telegrams received in Tokyo support the views expressed in these columns when the news of Russia's sudden activity first reached us. We said :--- While there appears to be no room for doubting that Russia has applied for a lease of Port Arthur and Talien, and has asked for an answer in five days, there is much room to doubt whether any threat of armed coercion accompanied the application, or whether Russia contemplates recourse to force in the event of China's refusal," The intelligence now received is to the effect that M. MURAVIEFF has informed HER MAJESTY'S Representative in St. Petersburg that Russia is negotiating for the lease of Port Arthur and Talien for a certain number of years, as well as for a railway across Manchuria, but she has not demanded sovereign rights or threatened to send troops, and that if the ports are leased, they will be opened to foreign trade. That statement imparts to the conjuncture an aspect very different from the appearance it bore when first presented to the public. Instead of blustering and threatening, instead of preferring a species of stand-and-deliver demand for a large part of China's territory, Russia is simply "negotiating" for a lease of two ports in the Liaotung Peninsula, and for permission to connect them with her East-Asian system of railways. We are without absolute warrant, indeed, for assuming that the "railway across Manchuria," spoken of by M. MURAVIEFF, is to have its southern terminus at Port Arthur; but that seems to be a reasonable inference. There can, of course, be no question that in preferring proposals of such a nature to the Tsung-li Yamen, Russia is acting strictly within her rights. Great Britain did not hesitate to apply for a lease of Kowloon, and were she to submit to the Peking Government a project for extending the Burmah Railway into Yunnan or even to the banks of the Yangtsze, no one would pretend that she was violating international usage or taking undue advantage of her superior strength. We cannot claim for England liberty of action which we deny to Russia. The only point is that the situations of the two Powers are radically different; for whereas England, already every sea on the face of the globe, would be merely making a small addition to her tradal or maritime facilities by building a railway in China or obtaining a lease of Chinese territory, Russia's project in Manchuria brings her at length within sight of the practical achievement of her traditional ambition, access to an ice-free port; an object the consummation of which signifies an immense development of Russian empire. It is a striking difference

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kind. What is likely to be the attitude it with whatever energy and patriotism of Great Britain under the circumstances? she possesses. England, however, need Can she justly offer any resolute resistance not adopt the same attitude of opposition. to Russia's proposals? The tone of the English press coupled with the recent may seek from the Chinese Government declaration of the House of Commons concessions such as would compensate makes it quite plain that if Russia had some of the disadvantages created for her demanded the cession of Talien and Port by Russia's policy. Scarcely anything Arthur, accompanying her demand by a threat of military coercion, she would have ask for, would restore the equilibrium, but found her path barred by Great Britain. But Mr. BALFOUR has publicly declared demand. It is conceivable that she that no objection exists to Russia's acquiring an ice-free port in the Far East, provided that she opens it to the trade of the world. That is exactly what she proposes to do. She wants to carry her Siberian Railway to a southern terminus in the Liaotung Peninsula, and she promises that all mations shall be free to share in the commerce thus developed. She does not ask for the right of levying laxes on the transit of goods through Manchuria or imposing tariff dues on their export and import at Talien and Port Arthur. The ness. The most peaceful and least selffiscal control of the trade would remain assertive people in the world, if brought in China's hauds, but Russia would be the within reach of the opportunities which landlord of the foreign settlements established at the new ports. It will not be easy for England to oppose that programme on commercial grounds. Yet its and her destiny could not be mistaken were consummation would completely upset the she once planted in Manchuria. That is balance of power in the Far East. A Russian railway connecting Port Arthur and Talien with Mukden, Vladivostock, and the Caspian regions, would practically convert Manchuria into a Rus- in the second sian province. There can not be the smallest doubt about that. Russia would then be in a position to mass a force of any desired dimensions within easy striking distance of Peking. The Chinese empire would lie at her mercy. She would become the indisputable mistress of Far Eastern Asia. No Western Power could interfere with her continental designs. At present her access to Manchuria is maritime only, and exists on England could at any moment cut her off from all these regions. But let Manchuria be once brought within the sphere of Russia's railways, and she will become in the Far East what she is already in Europe, a military colossus. She will also be able to collect stores and ships at the very place chosen by England for a basis of operations in the campaign of 1861 against Peking; will have command of the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili and the maritime traderoutes to northern China, and will be within a few hours' steaming of the mouth of the Yangtsze. Thus while in principle Russia's programme may not be open to not be over-rated. Its achievement would of preparing people to hear nothing that remark seriously, and exclaimed:—"Ah, render the maintenance of Chinese in-they have not already heard. "Julia," Pollock, it's my firm belief that no person dependence quite illusory, and would indeed, does not always act up to her connected with a newspaper will ever enter wholly disturb the balance of power in character. She makes in this last letter the Kingdom of Heaven!

An alternative offers in her case. She that she could obtain, or conscientiously something she would be compelled to will adopt that alternative, though it would mean the practical assertion of a principle placing China at the mercy of every Western Power solicitous about prestige or position in the Far East. For Chiua the crisis is vital. If she accede to Russia's proposals, she surrenders Manchuria and a great deal more than Manchuria. We do not think of preferring against Russia any sinister designs or any vast schemes of territorial expansion. But been with you to teach, to console, and to there is one thing that a great Power can not check: the growth of its own greatthan the tide can resist the attraction of the moon. Russia has to fulfill her destiny, what we mean when we refer to the immense significance of Russia's proposal, from a Chinese point of view, in the first place, and from the point of view of all States having interests in the Far East

#### BEYOND THE BORDER.

Mr. W. T. Stead is certainly the "boss" sensationalist of the century. Whether he is miraculously sincere or a magnificent imposter, who shall say? But from "The Modern Babylon" and "Should Christ come to Chicago," to "Borderland," he has always succeeded in raising public interest to concert pitch and keeping it there. The publication of "Borderland" has been suspended in obedience to a communication from the invisible world bearing the signature of "Julia." This ghostly lady sent to Mr. Stead three letters, which he publishes in full in the closing number of the periodical. "Julia" confesses that her "heart is somewhat sad within her at the thought that this may be the last time for some months that she shall have the much prized opportunity of communicating with her friends," from which we infer that the shadows living beyond the border are not of much account any how since they can not make known their gospel to folks on this side without the aid of a Stead and a magazine. Moreover, "Julia" admits in her last epistle that she "does not think that you will find that what we have to tell you differs from what more intelligent and spiritual believers have arrived at or have received by inspiration," not be over-rated. Its achievement would which is, of course, a very prudent method

but a difference of degree only, not of the Far East. China is bound to oppose the notable mistake of arguing about her own supernatural existence and capacities.
"These messages," she says " which you have received at all times and seasons, of which possibly a hundredth part has been published, may, you auggest, have been due solely to your sub-consciousness, your other self. Your hand which has written things unknown to you which have occurred in the past, and which has written things as yet unknown to any one which have been fulfilled in the future, is moved not by me, but by some hitherto unknown segment of your soul. Well, you can take it so if you please. But you know, best of all, whether these communications, many of which ran directly counter to your own views, and all of which form a consistent whole with a distinct character and individuality of their own, did or did not, emanate from your own mind. They certainly did not emanate from your conscious mind; and if you know nothing of their contents you know nothing of their origin. I, who know both, have always told you the same thing. I am your old friend on earth life who passed away some five years ago, and who has ever assist you in direction.

That kind of dissertion is very unspiritlike, but Mr. Stead remains fixed in his faith. He has now retired into a darkened room, in obedience to "Julia's" orders, where he is to engage in the task of "building a bridge between this world and the world of spirits" and when the structure has been thrown over the abyss, he promises to emerge and enlighten those who are qualified to be thus favoured. We must confess that, ever since we read "The Modern Babylon," we have expected to hear of Mr. Stead's retirement to a darkened room of some kind. However, he has played many fantastic tunes on the highly strung nerves of his world, and this declaration on the eve of his retirement is interesting :-

"The more we know of the mysterious realm that "The more we know of the mysterious ream that surrounds us the less ready are we to dogmatize. So marvellons are the things which we know to be true, so utterly at variance are they with everything that is ordinarily accepted as true by the ordinary world, that there is hardly anything that can be regarded as antecedently impossible. Hence, more than ever do I feel it necessary to held the indoment in suscence and, while adhold the judgment in suspense, and, while admitting all things to be possible, recognize that very few things are certain, and that even those which seem to be most certainly true may be proved to be mistaken by a little more light and a little more experience. Of one thing only I am more absolutely convinced than ever, and that is that the ordinary limited materialistic view of man and of the world on which he lives are absolutely inadequate to account for what we know to be happening all the time. Whatever else may be true, the faith in which the majority of people live and die, which is based upon the assumption that hold the judgment in suspense, and, while true, the raith in which the majority of people live and die, which is based upon the assumption that there is nothing but matter, is absolutely and de-monstrably faise."

An amusing story used to be told in Bar circles respecting a meeting of the late Baron Pollock and the late Lord Denman. The atter had the night before delivered one of his unutterably prosy speeches in the House of Lords which in the customary manner was disposed of in the London dailies thus:—'After a few words from Lord Denman," &c. Baron Pollock overtook his learned colleague in the park, and found him fuming over this latest Pollock, in a mildly ournalistic indignity. ironical fashion, condoled with his friend, and expressed regret that so magnificent an oration was not reported. Lord Denman took the remark seriously, and exclaimed :-- "Ah,

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#### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

A writer signing himself Chikuhô contributes to the Fukuin Shimpo a review of the history of religion in Japan during the past thirty years, which contains a number of interesting facts that have not, as far as we are aware, ever been grouped together in the same way before. We reproduce the gist of such of Mr. Chikuhô's articles as have appeared, for they are not yet concluded.

The first period of which Mr. Chikuhō gives a history he designates the "Era of progress and reform," and the following is what he has to say on this subject :—At the beginning of the Majji era, Shinto was the established religion of Japan, Buddhism received no govern-ment assistance whatever, and the Anti-Christian edicts still remained in force. But in the neighbourhood of Nagasaki there were numerous professors of Christianity, descendants of the Roman Catholic converts of Hideyoshi's time. In the year 1868 some 4,000 of these adherents were arrested and various attempts were made to induce them to recant. Very extreme measures would no doubt have been resorted to had not foreign ministers interceded, and had not the Government stood in awe of French retribution. Six hundred of the prisoners were released, but the remainder were kept in prison till 1873, the year in which the public notices forbidding Christianity were removed. The removal of these notices is not to be regarded as an indication that the Government of that time was favourably disposed towards Christianity. The step was taken as a concession to foreign sentiment on the question and to facilitate Treaty Revision, which, as was represented by Ito and others, was rendered quite impossible by such edicts. While the Roman Catholic Christians were in prison there arrived in Japan those pioneers of Christian work in this country Messrs, Williams, Verbeck, Ballagh, Brown, Hepburn, Thompson, and one or two others. These missionaries began by teaching English or science or by opening dispensaries, and thus gradually gained an access for their Gospel message. It was during this period, too, that Mr. and Mrs. Green arrived and founded the Kumini Church, translation of the Bible was commenced by the Protestants in 1872, and in the same year the Yokohama Church known as the Kaigan Kyökni, consisting of eleven members, was founded. Turning to Shinto and Buddhism and their connection with the Government. many changes of policy took place during the first four or five years of the Meiji era. In 1868 the Buddhists, who from aucient times constantly dabbled in politics, took umbrage at the favour shown to Shinto by the Government and, Oshu especially, stirred up sedition to such an extent that the Government repented of its hostility to the sect and publicly denied that it intended to suppress Buddhism. But this did not satisfy the Buddhists. They naturally felt jealous of the high posi-the 太政官 Dajokwan, or Council of State, so that when in 1870 an Imperial Edict was issued proclaiming the oneness of Shinto and the State (政祭一致 Seisal-itchi) and constituting Shinto priests 宜數值(Senkyozhi), the Buddhints made a great sur throughout the country. Partly influenced by this and partly by the rapid progress of Christianity, which they regarded with jealous eyes, in 1873 the Government abolished the Yingi-kwan and created the 数部海, Kyöbushö, (Department of Religion), which asnamed the control of Buddhism as well as Shinto In order to further conciliate the members of the former sect, some of the leading Abbots were raised to the pecrage. But at the same time, Shintō priestastill occupied a higher

sects at this time, as was evidenced by the burning of the Daikyōin (大數院) and the attempt to set fire to the Asakusa Hongwanji.

No history of the progress of thought at this time would be complete without referring in that select society of thinkers known as the 明六社 (Meirokusha), of which Messrs. Mori Arinori, Nishimura Shigeki, Tsuda Shindō, Nishi Shū, Nakamura Masanao, Fukuzawa Yukichi, Katō Hiroyuki, Kanda Kôhei, Sugi Kōji, Mitsu-Ringho, and Miteukuri Shuhei the chief members. The meetings of the society were held at the Mikawa-tei, Kanda, Tökyö, once a month, the first of which took place in July, 1873. Though the members of this club, with the single exception of Mr. Nakamura Masanao, were not professing Christians and were not altogether in favour of Christianity spreading in Japan, their discussions, which were published in the Society's organ, the Meiroku Shinshi, helped forward Christianity in various ways. The ideas of these scholars on numerous topics were ahead of the times, as may be seen by a perusal of their writings. Mr. Mori urged the abolition of concubinage and polygamy. Mr. Nishi Shū discussed the subject of mixed residence, and nsisted on the necessity of a change of the attiinde assumed by the Government to Christianity. Mr. Fukusawa discussed mean the improvement of the Japanese race. Mr. Fukusawa discussed measures for

The leading educational establishments of the capital in early days, all of which exercised t wide influence in preparing men's minds for the reception of new ideas on all subjects, were the Kaisei-rakko, established by the Bakufu. out of which the present University grew; the Keiôgijuku, founded by Mr. Fukuzawa; and the Doninsha, eriginated by Mr. Nakamura Massuao. The principal teachers at the Kaisei-gakko were Messrs. Kato, Kanda, Mitsukuri, and Nishi. In the provinces three schools turned out some of the ablest Christ-ian teachers to be found in the Japanese Church. From the school in which Mr. James taught in Kumamoto came Messrs. Kosaki, ways, the transmotor came Messes, the season, Yebina, and others. From Mr. Brown's school in Yokohama came Messes, Osbikawa, Uemura, and Ibuka; and a little later Mr. Clark's work in the Agricultural College at Sapporo gave such men as Messrs. Saio, Uchi-mura, and Watase to the Christian Church. It was in 1875 that Mr. Niijima utilised the ability of the graduates of the Kumamoto school in the new Christian establishment known as the

In the mean time the policy of the Government was changing in the direction of allowing greater freedom of belief. In April, 1875, the Krōbushō ahared the same fate. The separation of politics and religion began to show itself as a distinct tendency and only waited for a favourable opportunity to enable it to be put into practice. One great change was essential to the spread of Christianity, and that was the realization on the part of the people of their right to freedom of thought on all matters They had lived for centuries as slaves to the Government, had waited to have their thoughts dictated to them by their superiors before they ventured to call them their own. To remove the shackles that bound the minds of men was the ambition of a score of earnest minds. Mill's work on "Liberty" and the writings of Bentham and Spencer and a history of the French Revolution were all trans lated, and the result was that in a short time public opinion underwent such a change that members of great political parties like the First to and Kaishin-to were able to discuss freely and fully the steps in be taken to secure for every person in the empire that liberty of choice which is so essential to true progress and development of thought.

Abbots were raised to the peerage. But at the same time, Shinto priests still occupied a higher rank than their Buddhist confrience, they slone holding the position of Kyōdōnhośu, official teachers of religion. The feeling of autinitial to each other state of the s

Fukuchi Gen-ichitô, and others founded a party known as the (帝政黨) Zeisei-to, whose chief principles were of a decidedly conservative type. Confucianism was revived. Even Mr. Katô Hiroyuki medified many of the views he had previously championed. This reaction was specially noticeable in 1881 and 1882. Christianity felt the effect of this movement very keenly. The anti-foreign sentiment was in most cases also anti-Christian. Then doubts as to the intentions of Russia prevailed. It was said that she had designs on the Hokkaido and that the Greek Church missionaries had been sent to Japan for political purposes. Buddhism commenced vigorous attack on its great rival. The enemies Christianity, in order to check its progress, translated the works of the leading aceptics of the West, Bentham, Mill, Spencer, Rousseau, Huxley, Ingersoil, Comte, and others. Various professors in the Univeristy, such as Mesers. Morse, Toyams, Katō, and Yatabe made use of Herbert Spencer's doctrine of evolution against Christianity and Mr. Fukuzawa utilised Buckle's views m expressed in his History of Civilisation, combined with the opinions of advanced materialists for the same purpose. Mr. Naka-mura, though a professing Christian, did little to stem the tide of anti-Christian sentiment. The narrative will be continued in our next Summary.

The Seilero Shimpo (Greek Church) protests against the unfair methods of controversy adopted by the Nippon Shugt and other conser-vative organs. Christianity is said to be the cause of numerous evils and abuses with which it is in no way connected. It is supposed by some to be part and parcel of Occidental civilisation, and hence it is argued that it is one of the causes of the contempt in which old moral standards are held by the rising generation. But the fact is that Christianity is by no means to be identified with Occidental civilization, although in the opinion of the writer it lies at root of all that is best in that civilination, thing is certain that the part of Western civilisation which has been adopted by Japan is its material, and not its spiritual, part, and hence to argue that the part which the nation as a whole has not received is the cause of existing looseness of morals shows singular carelessness or perversity.

In the Kirisutedyo Shimbus and in one other magazine we find a report of an address delivered by Mr. Shimada Saburd entitled Tenshoku to Tenshaku, in which the speaker traces the connection between the gifts conferred by Heaven and the duties which such gifts involve Mankind, says Mr. Shimada, may be divided into three classes (1) Those whose death is to be desired (confirmed criminals). (2) Those whose existence or non-existence is of little consequence to the world at large-a very large class. (3) Those whom the world is agreed in wishing continued health and long life-the great benefactors of mankind. It is true that no one perishes without being mourned by somebody. But there are crowds of people who are missed by their own families only, and not by the world at large. The men and women who are most widely missed are those who, in return for the rank conferred on them by Heaven (天衛 Tenshaku) in the form of superior moral and intellectual gifts, realise that these gifts render obligatory to them certain duties to their fellow-men. With their *Tenshaku* there is ever a 天職 *Tenshoku* to be performed which demands the utmost exertion and perseverance. The men who do the most good in the world are those who realise most their responsibilities. They are humble men, because they have ideals which they are conscious of not reaching and because they know how limited in this complicated world of ours is the influence of any one individual, however gifted. They are men who feel that they have their duties to the past, the present and the future. There is to be ranked as Heaven's noblemen unless they figure as the benefactors of their fellow-men.

We have often referred in these Summaries to the difficulty we have encounted in obtaining information as to the work carried on by the Roman Catholics in this country. Their one organ, the Koye, is altogether inadequate, and we should say is in no way considered to be a representative organ by the learned missionaries attached to the Roman Catholic Church: The Fukuin Shimpo confirms the statements we have repeatedly made on this subject when drawing attention to the translation into Japanese of at excellent little work, the Japanese title of which is Nihon Shugi to Schai Shugi. The name of the author of the French work is given in kana as Rigioru, which we can only conjecture may be intended for L'Abbé François Ligneul. The Fukuin Shimpo says that the newly published treatise is full of sound common sense and constitutes wholesome reading for those narrowminded Japanese who imagine that patriotism is confined to these shores. It is pointed out by M. Ligneul, if we are right in ascribing the authorship to him, that all the fuse that has been made by the "Nippon Shugi" party displays no small amount of ignorance and a calculated to do mischief, since to insist on Japanese rights irrespective of the rights of other nations in the way that has been habitually done by writers of this school is to sow the seeds of fanaticism, and in the minds of uneducated readers may act as an incentive to violence. It is quite may act as an incentive to violence. It is quite plain, it is argued in the book under consideration, that "Nipponism" unqualified by Cosmopolitanism can only do harm. The Japanese cannot assume a rank above other nations. As there is no real superiority, it is a mistake to make it appear as though there were. The "Nippon Shugi" patriorism is of a spurious type and out of harmony with the enlightened spirit of modern times. As the " Nippon Shugi ' movement is undoubtedly wide-spread, the cir-culation of such treatises as the Nihon Shugi to Sekai Shugi should be encouraged by all who feel sorry when any section of the Japan-ese nation makes itself look ridiculous in the eyes of the great outside world.

No. 9 of the Shakai Zasshi discusses in a lengthy article the tendency of thought in the religious world during the past year in a liberal and enlightened spirit. After condemning the narrowness of view of the "Nippon Shugi" party, it takes up the subject of mixed residence and denounces the measures being taken by Buddhists and Shintoists as savouring of the exclusiveness of the Tokugawa ers. There is too much of the narrow island spirit abroad nowadays, says the Shakai Zasshi. The Nippon Shugi represents one class of conservatives. The Jogu kyökai, whose new organ is named Mikuni-no Hikari, represents another. But wide spread as are these movements, they cannot stem the tide of progress, and are regarded with indifference by the great majority of thinking men. In the meantime Christians are showing considerable activity. The Yushi-dendôkai and the Fukuin-domei-kai are both carrying on evangelistic work in an energetic manner and have lately started an organ of their own called the 新世紀 Shinseiki (The New Century.) Among Buddhists great literary activity has been shown both as regards the issue of new magazines and new books. The same cannot he said of Christians. Among them the trans-lation of the Bible by the Roman Catholics is perhaps the most notable literary effort of the year. In the whole of the religious world there is a marked improvement in the interest taken in social questions, many of the magazines devoting considerable space to the discussion The article concludes with reof these topics. marking that, notwithstanding certain encouraging features, neither Buddhiam nor Christianity made any remarkable progress during the year that m past. With learned Buddhists there is little real faith in the creed. With Christians there is much pettiness, party-apirit, and jealousy. The Kirisulokya Shiphynizing hyricle in

the Desire for Vengeance in Japan, expresses the opinion that among large classes of people there is still a feeling of admiration for the men who bring to a successful issue schemes of revonge. The graves of the men who killed Okubo and Mori are visited by hundreds of devout people and well supplied with incense and flowers, and vendetta tales and plays are very popular. People's habits of thought on such matters do not change in a day and the Christian doctrine of loving one's enemies is still far from being accepted in this country.

An interesting series of articles on the condition of the poorer classes in Tôkyō, entitled Himmin Kuisu, has been appearing in the Hochi Shimbun, from which we have culled a few particulars bearing on the religion of the lowest classes. The majority of poor people are Buddhists and belong to the Nichiren, Shin, Sō ō, Shingon, Jōdo and Tendai Secta; among which the first has by far the largest share of patronage. The observance of rites and ceremonies connected with the spirits of ancestors in the houses of the poor is very strict, the family alter being regularly supplied with in-cease and flowers. The substitutes for regular alters are often extremely primitive, orange and persimmon boxes being frequently utilised for this purpose. Among all the expenses that are forced on the poor by the usages of society burial rites are the must onerous. These in late years have been heavier than they used to be, owing to cemeteries being situated far away from the centre of the city and to the numerous regulations enforced by boards of health relative to enterment. In olden times poor people paid to a temple a small sum usually about one bu, and handed over the corpse to the priests, who dug a huge grave which served for a number of coffins. prayers for the dead were combined, thus saving the priests a good deal of repetition.
This mode of burial was called Nage-Komi. It is still practised in some parts of the city among paupers, more especially in the suburbs.

In the Tōyōtetsugaku appears a report of Professor Toyama's speech at the Confucius memorial meeting held a few months ago on "Authority" in things religious and moral, of which we give a brief epitome :- Though a certain amount of authority is absolutely necessury for the atrengthening of faith and for the reformation of society in the religious world, authority has on the whole done more harm than good. Even in politics and science authority which is incapable of reluxation hinders the progress of inquiry and hence be comes an enemy to progress. In the West both Roman Catholiciam and Protestantism, have suffered much from the exercise of authority; and in the East, China's position to-day may to a large extent be traced to the servile deference to authority which for ages has been common in that country. The rule of Buddhism and Confuciantsm in China rests upon authority rather than on conviction. Although the teach ing of Confucius, if practiced, would doubtless in some respects prove beneficial to mankind, yet Confucianism as a creed lacks the ardour and full-blooded life necessary for stimulating men to great deeds of virtue. It is decidedly fatalistic in character. By this we do not mean to say that in the mind of Confucius his great respect for the unalterable laws of Heaven rendered him careless as to his own actions. He was no fatalist in the modern sense of that word. But nevertheless the general result of his teaching on the Chinese mind has been to make it regard the existing state of things as unalterable. In a word that teaching has paralysed effort in the direction of reform by making the Chinese feel satisfied with low ideals.

The new Christian magazine mentioned above, the Shinsdill, is very strongly supported and promises to be a first-class organ. It sime at being quite unsectarian, as is evidenced by the Amelof its chief supporters, Messrs Ko-

saki Hiromichi, Honda Yöichi, Ibuka Kajinosuke, Uemura Masahisa, Hiraiwa Kempo, Motoda Sakunoshin, Tsunashima Kakichi, Niwa Sejjirō and others. It is proposed to discuss politics, science and other subjects from a Christian standpoint, as well as religion. The first number covers over 80 pages and contains a partety of carefully prepared matter.

a variety of carefully prepared matter.

An atticle entitled, "The position occupied by Christianity in Japan III the present time," gives a detailed account of the various phases of development which the Church of Christ in Japan has undergone. Messus. Honda, Shimada Saburō. Uemura, Kosaki and other well-known writers have contributed articles III the opening number. Altogether the new organ promises well, as there is certainly room for a magazine, in which popular writers can ventilate their opinions on neutral ground. Pursly sectarian organs abound, but these do not answer all purposes.

The new magazine noticed in the last Literary Summary, the Tenchijin, edited by Mr. Takuhashi Gotō, pours no small amount of scorn on the discussion of Messrs. Snodgrass and Takahashi on the subject of Christianity. These self-constituted champions are pronounced by the Tenchijin to be unworthy of the causes they espoused. It is reported, says this organ, that the two gentlemen have been asked to give another performance in Yokohama, that they have been offered 50 yen each per night and that tickets will be sold at 1 yen each. We

have not yet heard, says the Zenchijin, whether the two gentlemen have agreed to the proposal. Anyhow the affair is the Chaban Kyōgen

(grotesque parade) of the day,

The Tenchijin gives extracts from other
publications on the Ethical Standard of the
"Hundred Essays" published by Mr. Fukuzawa, a topic which has been discussed in several magazines and in certain newspapers from time to time. The fullest criticism of Mr. Fukazawa's ethics that we have seen, says the Zenchifin, is that of Mr. Yamada Ichiro, published in the *Pomiuri Shimbun*, according to which the Mita Sage has never pretended to rest his teaching upon any definite philosophical basis. Mr. Fukuzawa's othics are of an essentially practical type. In a sense he is an evolutionist; but by no means a consistent one. The logic on which his teaching rests reminds one of the dragon with two heads; when one is attacked the other comes to the rescue. The way in which Mr. Fukuzawa and his numerous followers apply their ethical principles to the things of every day life is certainly very clever and quite unique in this country. It is the facility with which their ethical creed is made to III the exigencies of the ever shifting scenes of life that makes the Mita teaching so popular. Where Mr. Fukuzawa attempta, as in the essay entitled "Anshinron," to base his teaching on philosophy, he fails. He who studies these essays must cease to expect logical precision in the system of ethics advocated. The teaching is more of the nature of a series of insuitions which have impressed an eminently practical mind, and as such are very valuable.

In the editorial pages of the Seikyō Shimpō it is announced that this magazine will no cidedly do not not consider that the magazine will no confluctus announced that this magazine will no confluctus the second of the Greek Church and will not confine itself in the discussion of religious subjects only. Whether this scheme of expansion can be carried out seems doubtful, if one can judge from the first number of the new series. Among other articles is a lengthy one entitled, "Kiritulekyō to Shakai opobi Kojšn Shagi" in which the writer argues that Christianity does not teach individualism to the extent of excluding the State to which individual believers belong, and that its doctrine of altruism is not to be pushed to the length of indifference to the welfare of one's country. Objectious to Christianity on the score of its opposition to patriotism are founded emirely on a misconception of the real import of its teaching.

at being quite unsectarian, as is evidenced by Original from Original from the supporters, Messas Ko. No. 24 of the American a short history

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

of Buddhism in 1897, from which we extract the following observations. A great deal of fruitless energy has been expended on the discussion of mixed residence, the reform of ecclesiastical laws, the better preservation of old temples. The long controversy concerning the Otani and their system M government yielded no satisfactory result beyond showing that in Buddhist ranks there is an earnest desire for progress and for the eradication of acknowledged existing The Nichiren commotion ended in a crushing defeat for the leaders of that sect who figured in the controversy. What should figured in the controversy. What should be the connection between Buddhism and the Government has been earnestly discussed in various magazines, the greatest variety of opinion being expressed on the subject. While other organs have advocated. Government control of the sect, the Dento and the Hansel Zasshi have consistently argued in favour of an entire separation from the State. The abolition of the celibacy of the priests and of the custom of abstinence from meat has been strongly advocated by the Shin-shu magazines, and as strongly opposed by the Nichiren organs. What has been very noticeable during the past year has been the distinctness with which the two great schools, the new and the old Buddhists, have figured. Their hostility in each other has been most marked of late and will no doubt lead to fresh developments. It cannot be said that either of the three great causes of recent dissension among Buddhists, the Köys-san, the Hongwanji and the Sötöshü affair has been finally disposed of. They still cloud the horizon in a certain extent. The following magazines have come into existence during the year. The 宗製 Shuhō (Sôlō); the during the year. Ino 宗教 Shino (Solo); the 宗教 Shūsui (Jōdo); the 和 融 Wayūshi (Sōlō); the 歌海一瀾 Kyōkai-ichiran (Shin); the Shūnhū Shūnpō (Otaul-ha anti-reform party organ); the Shūnhō sekai, the Kyōgaku (歌亭) Hōchi, the 菩提 Bodai, 東光 Tōkō, the 常堂 Tokiua (Shin-shū, Otani-ha) and the Hantel-no-Kagemi, a woman's magazine.

The subjoined items of information have been culled from various sources. The centres of the Roman Catholic Missions are Tokyo, Osaka, Nagasaki, and Hakodate. Each of the districts connected with these centres has about thirty Churches, presided over by some 30 odd priests. Each priest has several evangelists under him. The total number of Roman Catholic converts in Japan is stated to be 50,000. Among the hundred odd priests attached to the Mission 30 are Japanese. The progress of the work has been so encouraging in recent years that never a year passes but new Missionaries arrive from Europe.

The Hansel Zasski, is facile princeps among Buddhist magazines and is constantly under-going improvement. The January number surpasses anything issued by the Hansei-kai. In addition to the usual amount of matter there ii an appendix over 60 pages in length.

The following is a concise table of statistics designed to show the amount of work carried on by Christians in addition to ordinary evan-

B-11-2-1	Institution.		No. of	lumates
Boys' Sci	sools	59		3,133
	reals ,	64		5,041
Nurses' 7	Craining Schools			262
Kinderga	erten Schools	20		ნვნ
Schols for	the Poor	60		3.032
Orphan A	Liylams	19 16		719
Hospitals	and Dispensaries	1Ő		_
Institutes	of various kinds	14		289
Thereto.			- clica	Tita Ta

During 1897 numerous were surance Companies started by Buddhists. The Shin, Zen, Nichiren, Meikyd, and Soio sects all figured in this line. One of the chief reasons for this new form of activity is the desire to obtain a fresh hold on Buddhist believers prior to mixed residence, by offering them worldly as well as spiritual advantages, and thus making them less inclined to accept Christianity. It is said that some preachers of the Buddhist faith spice their doctrines with Life Insurance condiment in order to make them more paletabligitized by

Tôkyô Kankwa-in (Reformatory), The ounded in 1885, for the first few years of existence was not very successful, owing partly to the lack of method and organisation, but has since shown marked progress. The total num ber of persons who have entered the institution Of these 55 are still inmates; 40 have left the Reformatory without having any special occupation in view; 211 have given evidences of being reformed. Out of these 133 have found situations in the following manner:— 18 have become Government officials; 47 have gone into business, 34 have become students, s, school-teachers, 1, a newspaper writer and 31 have followed miscellaneous call-Taking the total of those who have passed through the Reformatory, the number of the reformed is stated to be 63 per cent.

The Shidyo says that the Unitarians are more

anxious to establish the principle of liberty then to gain adherents to their sect; that they are equally pleased when they find the champions of the spirit of Christian liberty and free inquiry belonging to other sects, m they frequently do. They are not particular whether those who have joined have or have not been baptized, placing more value on actual attainments than on profession and outward badges.

The Kumiai Churches have separated them-selves from the Dösbisha and have started a new school in Kyôto, called the Fukuin Gakkwan which has already commenced work.

Mr. Onishi Shuku, whose labours in connection with the Senshin Gaku-in and whose vigorous writing are so well-known, has been ordered by the Government to proceed in Germany tu continue his studies.

No. 67 of the Shūkyō comments in some length on the Takahashi-Snodgrass discussion, drawing attention to the slipshod character of the arguments deduced by Mr. Snodgrass in support of the doctrine of the Trinity. The Shukyo says that the majority of those present at the discussion came to increase their knowledge of English rather than from interest in the subjects discussed.

#### KLECTRICITY INSTEAD OF GUN-POWDER AND BALLS.

The electric current possesses such instantaneously deadly power when its contact is established with an animate being that its substitution for artillery as an agent of destruction in war has often been suggested. But the manipulation of such an agent being, apparently, an dangerous m its attack, no one seemed greatly disposed to experiment with it for the proposed purpose. There is a certain Mr. I. H. Hartman of Bridgeport, in Connecticut, who claims to have discovered a means of pouring an electric current upon a distant object just us a ship throws the rays of a searchlight upon a place to be illumined. Indeed, waves of light are to be the conductors of the current. They possess, says the inventor, the property of carrying it, under certain conditions, which, however, he does not explain. Mr. Hartman is thus quoted :-

Hartman is thus quoted:—
The gunt will stand on a tripod and can swing in any direction. A button pushed sets it in operation. The current I expect to use will be the highest alternating current obtainable; the higher the more deadly and the Inther it will carry. A man operating this gun can awing it to the right or left and everything it strikes will go down. It can be focussed and sighted the same as any gun. Its use, of course, will be limited, as it has to be connected with powerful dynamos. But when thus connected it can not be compared with anything now in use. A stream of water with anything now in use. A stream of water will carry a current of electricity, but you can not shoot it far enough to make it effective. The light rays will carry it an immense distance.

The idea is magnificent. Could it be realized, either war would have III be abandoned or some system of insulating armour would have to be invented.

We learn that all the P.M. and O. & O.

#### THE JAPANESE TEA TRADE.

The Central Ten Dealers' Council is reported by the Nippon to have presented the following answers to the questions put by the Agricultural and Commercial Department:-

Question No. 1.—Is there any necessity for revising the Regulations for the Tea Dealers' Corporation? If so, in what way?

Ans.—The Regulations in question require amendment to a certain extent, but II no serious inconveniences have been experienced with regard to them for many years past, there is no urgent need of revision for the present.

Question No. 2.—In Kobe there are offices established by the allied dealers for the inspection of teas from various parts of the empire. Is there no necessity for a similar institution in Yokobama? If there is, what would be the advantages and disadvantages of such an institution as well as the legitimate process of organization?

Answer-Offices for the inspection of tea ought to be established in every open port.
The institution in Kobe has doubtless been beneficial to the dealers, but as it was optional in principle—in other words, an the combina-tion was left to the choice of a corporation uniformity in the methods of manufacture could not be secured.

Inspection is absolutely indispensable, in as-much as the prosperity of the export trade, especilly in tea, depends upon the rigour with which inferior or spurious manufactures are rejected, so that a fixed standard of quality may be secured throughout the Empire. There can be no better acheme for the attainment of this end than to organise an inspecting station under the direct supervision of the Central Tea Dealers' Council. The Central Council therefore disposed to urge that the following provisions should be made for the inspection of teas containing dust :--

One in every 20 chests of tea shall be inspected, (the limit of inspection to be exceeded if the occasion requires). The removal of dust sha!! be undertaken first by No. 8 seives and then by No. 20 seives (of Chinese model), and the percentage of dust shall be strictly limited, in accordance with the following:—
Value of tea per picul.

Limit of dust

catties. Above 20 ven ...... Below 20 yes .....

If any, what i ventive measures be taken?

Ans.—The best plan will be to organise a warehousing company or companies in con-venient places throught the empire.

#### YAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENTS.

The Official Gazette announces the issue by the Finance Department, on the 12th instant, of war bonds in the amount of 1,200,000 year of 100 yen face value. They will be put on the market at 91.32 yen, but have doubtless been already disposed of.

Rice cultivators and dealers in Shiga prefecture --- 60,000 in number --- recently formed themselves into a corporation with the special sanction of the Agricultural and Commercial Department. This is the first instance, remarks the Skogye, of a rice corporation having official sanction.

Unless the extraordinary happens, asserts the Perosu, the result of the forthcoming general reposts, the result of the little between the littl not belong to any party, and the balance of power depends upon their attitude.

On the afternoon of the 13th instant there trines with aleamors—with the exception of the chartered was some excitement at the Yasuda Ginko's a loan, the policy out and home.

On the atternoon of the 1st instant there was some excitement at the Yasuda Ginko's a loan, the policy out and home.

On the atternoon of the 1st instant there was some excitement at the Yasuda Ginko's a loan, the policy out and home. and on being requested to give security he produced—a loaded revolver. The bank officials ran for dear life, but a crowd quickly collected and the robber, before he could help himself to booty, was arrested.

The Nichi Nichi reports the discovery of a valuable gold mine in the neighbourhood of Tokawatsu village, in Iwate prefecture. mine is said to be the same as that which was worked in olden time by the famous warrior Fujiwara Hidesato. Application for trial borings was lately granted, and the work is shortly to be

The fees for primary schools in Tokyo are three times as much on the average as those in other cities and prefectures, and eleven times as large as the lowest rate in the empire. has the effect of preventing a large number of children of school age from receiving common instruction. Only 57 per cent, of Tokyo children attend school—against 92.7 in the case of Okayama, and 87 per cent, in Osaka. The Ozaka Asahi comments on this state of affairs.

The Joint Stock Oriental Steamship Company ordered three vessels in England for pany ordered three vessels in England for the new line between Hongkong, Japan, and San Francisco. One of these ships, to be called the America Maru, has a gross ton-nage of 6,000, and was launched at Newcastle on the 9th instant. She will shortly be finished and sent to Japan. The other two vessels, the Nippon Maru and Hongkong Maru, now building It James Llang's Dockyard, are also expected, says the Mainichi, to be completed immediately after the America Maru.

According to statistics compiled by the Agricultural and Commercial Department and published in the Shogro, the amount of rice produced during 1897, with the exception of Okinawa, did not exceed 33 million koku, showing a decrease of 8.8 per cent as compared with the previous year (in which the figures reached 36,200,000 koku) and a decrease of 16.8 per cent as compared with the average of ordinary years. The original estimates of the Department, placed the diminution at 9.6 per cent. of the average, but the reduction seems to have been in reality nearly double that anticipated.

On the 9th ultimo the Bank of Japan raised the rate of interest by one rin. We observed at the time, says the Yorosu, that such an inaignificant increase would be utterly ineffectual, and it has since appeared that the officials of the Finance Department concerned in the matter were also convinced of this fact ; but taking into consideration the bad results that might arise from a sudden change they resolved to undertake the increase by degrees. An immediate necessity again exists for raising the rate, and the Directors of the Nippon Ginko are reported to have recently held a conference with a view to this step.

Sales of foreign rice continue brisk, and the amount of import increases day by day, Prices are steadily rising. On the 14th instant telegrams were received by two or three firms in Yokohama to the effect that a union was organised with the view of "rigging" the rice market to the amount of 250,000 tons (2,500 000 bags) with a capital of twenty million ren. The Shopyo, however, throws doubt on this statement, though it says the Yokohama dealers appear to have resolved not to sell their stock even at a higher rate than that at present prevailing.

Count Inouye, Minister of Finance, has now determined on his policy in regard to financial adjustment, and the annual allowances for the various Government Departments are to be considerably curtailed. On the gross estimates for siderably curtailed. On the gross estimates for the 31st fiscal year there will be a reduction of about forty million yen. These estimates, to gether with a supplementary budget compiled in conformity with the Minister's new programme, are shortly to be submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

Cabinet for approval.

The Nippon discusses the turner policy of the Cabinet, District and the Community of the Cabinet, District and the Cabinet, D

uye is only required to hold his portfolio until the completion of the general elections, after which he will be replaced by another Mini-ster of high qualifications. Baron Ito, Minister of high qualifications. Baron 110, minister of Agriculture and Commerce, will probably be the new Foreign Minister in succession to Baron Nishi, Mr. Hoshi being nominated to succeed Baron 110. Marquis Ito seems to have been embarrased by liagaki's claims, and has found it expedient to appoint Mr. Hoshi is propitize the Liberals. These changes are to be carried out soon after the general elections.

Foreign rice, remarks the Jiji, is now popular throughout the empire. Farmers have sold their own production and bought foreign cereals for their dist, the latter being much cheaper. Formerly the middle as well as the lowest classes Tokyo were ashamed = eat imported οŧ grain, as is clearly proved by the fact that despite the brisk demand secured for it from the interior in the 23rd year of Meiji, not a bag was sold in the capital. This year the reverse is the case. Wherever we go we find a notice put ap proclaiming the cheapness as well the economical quality of foreign rice. domestic rice, now quoted at 57 sho per ren, is not adulterated, but grain below that quotation contains more or less imported rice. Ten to fifteen per cent. of for-eign cereals are, under present circumstances, eaton either consciously or unconsciously by the citizens of the intermediate class, the poorer classes preferring the pure imported grain. I is estimated that the amount of rice imported last year did not fall short of 27 million yes in value. The aggregate total of imports by the fall of this year is expected to exceed forty million yen.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha after the war with China, increased its capital to 22 million yen, out of which 1,320,000 yen were appropriated for the construction of new vessels to be placed on the American, European, and Australian lines. Owing to the great rise in prices, however, the construction of new ships for the American line has had to be postponed, 12 new vessels being built for the European, and 3 for the Australian service. Nine of these vessels were completed last winter, while one now in course of construction in Nagasaki is shortly to be launched, the rest coming from England. The Company reaps considerable profits on the Australian and Bombay lines, but as regards the European route it has to incur serious losses on account of the insufficiency, of cargo and passengers and the heavy dues of 5 000 rem per vessel for passing up and down the Suez Canal. Such losses during the latter half of last year amounted to 400,000 yen, and were liquidfied by the profits of coast navigation. After the completion of the fifteen new vessels the appropriations from the Navigation Encouragement Fund and the special aubsidies will aggregate three million yen, and then the annual distribution of dividends will become a matter of certainty.

If may be worth while to note, says the Shogyo, the classification at well as the deatingtion of Formosan staples of export. The exports and imports for the island during 1896 amounted to 11.402.226 yen and 8,631,000 ven in value respectively, making a total of 20,033.227 yen. The excess of exports was 2,771.224 yen, and the figures for each port were as follow:—Tamsui, 7.821.419 yen; Anpling, 2,315,619 yen; Sakan, 860.504 yen; Anpling, 2,315,619 1:28; Sakan, 860,504 yes. Takow, 251,643; Keeling, 16,681; Kyukan, 136,358. The chief markets for Formonan exports are China (especially Amoy) and Hong-kong, as the following figures will shows:— Exports to China, 8 675 575 yen; Hongkong, 2 454,168 yen; the United States, 265 121 yen; other countries, 814,155 yen; Among the staple exports those that bring in more than 100 000 yen annually are :-- tea, 5 860.637 yen ; camphor, 2,247,930 yen; augar, 1,529,460 yen;

cultural products constitute the largest item of exports, while the majority of imports are of manufactured goods. Formosa is no exception to this rule. Analysed, the Formosan staples of export consist of tea, camphor, sugar, and rice, by which a sum of 10,551.319 yes is realized annually conventing almost to 2. realized annually, representing almost 92.5 per cent of the whole export trade. Commerce in Formosa, therefore, depends almost entirely upon the production of the four commodities referred to.

#### DRAWING CLOSER THE LINKS BETWEEN FOREIGN AND FAPANESE MERCHANTS.

The following letter has been placed at our disposal for publication:—

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE, YOROHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Dark Strs,—When in Tokyo a few days ago, I learnt that there was a desire on the part of some of the most influential Japanese gentlementhere, for the establishment of friendly relationship between themselves and the foreign community of the stable of th nity at Yokohama, and to afford opportunities los

nity at Yokohama, and to afford opportunities for an exchange of views regarding matters in mutual political and commercial interest.

It has therefore been suggested that the com-mittees of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, might form the nucleus of an association which would eventually contain amongst its members a would eventually contain amongs, is members a much larger number of gentlemen willing in com-bine for the above objects, and that probably a monthly meeting might be held alternately at Tokyo and Yokohama.

Tokyo and Yokohama.

I regret that owing to my early departure for Europe, it is will im impossible for me to go further into a plan which appears likely to give favourable results and to lead in a good understanding between Japanese and loteigners resident in Japan; but I would commend it to your kind attention at an early date, and would suggest that an intercliange of views in the first instance be made with Mr. Eilehr Shibusawa, Chairman, Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and President First National Bank.

I remain Dear size, Young faithfuller

I remain, Dear sits, Yours faithfully,

W. B. WALTER

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Lord Salisbury, the British Premier, entered his sixty-ninth year on February 3rd, hence the wide-spread suxiety inspired by his present ill-

Messrs. L. G. C. Graham, Phillips, J. T. Pratt, W. P. M. Russell, W. P. Thomas, and R. T. Tebbitt have been appointed Student Interpreters in the Consular Service of China, Japan, and Siam.

The Iriz tells a story of a performance of the Chicese play The Cat and the Cherub at Oxford. During the play one of the actors Oxford. During the play one of the actors prays before his joss-sticks, and while this ceremony was proceeding a voice in the gallery was heard to exclaim, "Now we shan't be long." The actor, his prayer over them long." The actor, his prayer over, then rose, saying, in a tone of deep melancholy, "The gods are silent." But how he must have longed to vary that speech!

By the courtesy of Admiral the Hon. Sir E. R. Fremantle, K.C B., C.M.G., Naval Commander in Chief at Devonport, Lieutenant Takarabe, of the Imperial Japanese Navy, was shown over Devonport Dockyard and Keyham Factory on 9th Feb. It is understood that Lieutenant Takarabe has been justructed by the Japanese Government to obtain information respecting the character of British naval ship construction,

Captain R. A. J. Montgomeria, C.B., who is in command of H.M.S, Bonaventure, now on her way out to the China Station, has a splendid record of Egyptian service, and was specially mentioned in the dispatches of Lord Wolseley. He was in charge of all armed steamers and camphor, 2,247,930 yen; sugat, a.529,400 yen; hemp, superintendent of River Transport on the Nile. rice, 913,291 yen; fruits, 269 310 yen; hemp. Superintendent of River Transport on the Nile. 222,936 yen. In any country whose finen-Tier Hymnychior will replace the craiser Rain-tier resources are now unsecondclass cruisers, the naval strength of the station will be considerably increased by the exchange, for the Rainbow has only a displacement of 3,600 ions, an armament of 17 guns, and a com-plement of 273 men, while the Bonaventure has a displacement of 4,360 tone, a crew of 318, and is armed with 20 quick firers.

The Grante, a Cambridge undergraduates paper, publishes the following curiosities of spelling and orthography. For the benefit of those who do not know, it may be stated that Pembroke is usually known to Cambridge men as "Pemmer" and that Geogeghan is promounced "Gaygan":-

There once was a scholar of Pembroke Who found himself in a dilembroke, For he sent to the Dean What he didn't quite mean, A letter beginning " Dear Embroke," There once was a freshman named Geogeghan Who refused to keep chapels, the Peogeghan! When hauled by his dean He became quite obscene, And declared he'd as soon worship Deogeghan

Thursday, the 17th March, was St. Patrick's Day, but so far as Yokohama was concerned the sons of Erin celebrated the occasion very quietly. We hear that there has been some private discounion as to the celebration of St. George's Day in Yokohama. The chief difficulty in the way of a ball—the usual form of celebration is that the population of the place has outgrown the accommodation provided by the Public Hall as a ball toom. A good suggestion has been made in Kobe, which is, that the ball to be given there on the 22nd April, the birthday of Shakespeare, be made a Shakespearean Fancy Dress affair.

The Lee-Metford rifle appears in have a drawback which may disqualify it for use in Arctic climates. It is stated that with a temperature below zero the bolt action becomes in-The breech will not open, the operative. cartridges will not work out of the magazine, and the trigger will not move. This was the experience of a Halifax sportsman who found himself with a Lee Metford sporting rifle within good range of a fine moose, but unable to fire; and as it was of no use to throw the rifle ifself at the animal, he had eventually to go away without doing anything. Afterwards, in the warmth of his hut, the rifle thawed and worked perfectly. The contraction of the metal in the low temperature is supposed to have been the cause of the trouble.

The Chinese Eastern Railway, says an ax-change, will be connected by two lines with the Russian Railway system. The first runs from the Onon station on the Trans-Baikel Railway, a distance of 440 versus (275 miles), and the second from the station of Nikolskoe, on the Ussuri Railway, 95 versts (60 miles) distant, to the mastern frontier of Manchuria. The Ministry of Ways and Communications has decided to furnish both railways with the following rolling stock :- The Trans-Baikal line, forty-four 8-wheeled locomotives, forty passenger carriages, 458 goods waggons, and 453 open platform waggons; the Ussuri line, ten locomotives, eighteen passenger carriages, 140 goods waggons, and fifty open platform waggons. All the goods waggons will be constructed in such a way as to be capable of use for military purposes. If one may judge by these preparations, the lines are destined to serve principally strategic ends.

A valuable addition has been made to the collection of models of modern warships in the Museum at the Royal United Service Institu-Museum at the Royal United Service Institu-tion, by a very fine one of the Japanese first-class battleship Shikishima, which has been lent by the Thames Iron Works and Shipbuild-ing Company, who are building the vessel. The Shikishima is an Improved Majestic, being The Shikishina is an improved Mafestic, being 10 ft. longer than that class of ship, and instead of the armour belt extending only for two-thirds of the length of the ship, as in the Majestic and has never been out of London. He tells his has never been out of London. He tells his has never been out of London. He tells his has never been out of London to London that they are for the length of the ship, as in the Majestic and that will probably carry conviction with the generality of readers and therefore we feel it round the ship. She carries four 14-in. guns in cessary to state in the strongest manner position with the said, destroy all the suburbs of your capital

firing guns in casemates, as against twelve of the Majistic, the two additional guns being carried in casemates amidships on the upper deck. Her engines are also more powerful, developing 14 500 indicated horse-power, instead of 12,000 in the Majestic. Altogether, when com-pleted the Shikishima will be the most formidable battleship afloat.

Miss Frances E. Willard, President of the the W.C.T.U., died at Hotel Empire, New York, shortly after midnight of February 18th, Her physician announces that "Miss Willard suffered for some years from profound anemia, and on several occasions had been given up to die. Last summer slie seemed to take on a new lease of life, and gained in weight and strength, so that she went through her convention work III Toronto and Buffalo, which was most arduoue, and came out much better than was expected, but on her arrival at New York five weeks ago, she was much prostrated and readily took the grippe, which attacked the stomach, liver, intestines, and later the nervous system. The disease progressed favorably, and in many respects she had considerably improved when the fatal issue came and overwhelmed the nerve centres. There was no cancerous degradation of any organ, as has been stated."

An amusing case was heard in a London County Court the other day. An action was brought by the chief of a brass band against the secretary of the "Good Intent" Lodge of the Grand Oriental Order of Total Abstinence Sons of the Phoenix for money due for playing in a certain procession. The defence was that the Band began by being late, and subsequently insisted upon stopping the demonstration in order to obtain alcoholic refreahment. In the course of the proceedings, it was shown that the Bandmaster had displayed considerable delicacy. He had represented at the outset that his performers were not tectotallers, and had suggested that, in order to save the feelings of the Sons of the Phoenix, and possibly the paternal Phoenix himself, the marshal of the procession should a shout three o'clock connive with the Band for a strategic retreat to a side street for the purposes of allaying thirst.

This was charmingly tactful. But, instead, the maralial stopped the procession while the band was opposite an exceedingly public house, with the result that scandal ensued.

An interesting paper by Dr. William C. Deming, in the New York Medical Record, shows the diminution which has taken place in the prevalence of infectious diseases during re cent years. Whether we take phthisis, typhoid fever, or scarlet fever, and whether we trace their course in Massachusetts, in England, in Glangow, in Paria, or in New York, we find a diminution in their mortality compared with what they caused about 30 years ago. The interesting question is how far we shall be right in attributing this to the spread of sanitary knowledge and to the largely increased expenditure on sanitary objects, which have been so marked a feature of the past quarter of a century; or, on the other hand, how far the improvement is due to some unknown influence, in accordance with which these diseases tend to run in long cycles of 20 or 30 years. however, a good deal to show that, taking sanitation in its large sense an covering all that improves the conditions of life, sanitary improvement has had a great deal in do with the prevention of death from infectious diseases.

Here is part of the Hongkong Telegraph's criticism of the work "Under the Dragon Flag " which purports to be the experiences of a Mr. James Allan:—After careful perusat we are perfectly convinced that Mr. James Allan was never anywhere near the war and probably in fact, a huge perversion of facts from be-ginning to end. If it is rather hard on Mr. Allan that his book should be reviewed by a writer who did go through the war and witness the scenes which Mr. Allan misrepresents; it is also rough on a war correspondent who had a hard time and did hard work to see his own work stolen, parodied, distorted, and mutilated as hadly as any corpse in Port Atthur. Whatever there is of truth in the book is taken, in some cases word for word, from the reports of the Times' correspondent, and on this substratum of fact Mr. Allan has erected a huge superstructure of fiction which he has the effrontery to palm off as truth.

In the letter to The Times on the subject of India's purchases of silver Mr. Ottomar Haupt -" How is it that the Indian Government, which apparently does its utmost to favour the introduction of a gold standard in the great dependency, does not put a stop to these enorinconsiderate purchases of silver mous and made by the population for hearding purposes, in spite of the deplorable aimation the white metal has been involved in since the closing of the Indian mints? It is really as if in India all that is going on in this respect inside and outside of the country were ignored on purpose. In 1893 war is declared on the metal by the Indian Government itself, the price of it falls from the so called mint price of 106.75 rapees per 100 tolas fine-about 10 per cent, in the bazaar-and India buys all the same heavy amounts of silver after the event. Later on the Russian Government throws silver roubles out of her monetary system altogether, degrades them to token money, say, actually puts a lower price for the acceptance for Customs dues on them than has been established for paper and even for copper money-and India buys ailver, Afterwards the Indian Government gives a port or warning in its turn to the ignorant popular by levying a tax of 5 per cent, on the import-ation of barr—and India, unheeding a hint too beadquarters, buys silver. Then, what I call the greatest monetary event of the time—the introduction of the gold standard in Japan-takes place, and gives the finishing stroke to the white metal in the Far East-and India buya silver. A host of other countries follow the example given by Japan—and still India buys silver. How will this all end, and in what way will at a given moment sales of silver by the population of the country itself be met? Why, since the closing of the mints, or, to be more correct, from 1894 to 1897, India has taken from London alone £19.300,000 of the more and more depreciating stuff, while the net imports from the fiscal year, 1893-94 to 1896-97, came to 234 million rupees. perfectly well that part of the motal had been destined for the coinage of British trade dollars for the Straits Settlements in the Bombay Mint. butthis fact matters little in presence of the big figures at stake. In reality, in 1895-96 only 3.316,063, and in 1896-97, 6,135,617 dollars had been struck."

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### RUSSIA IN CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sen,-Russin's intentions have been quite un-Sam, Russian a intentions have been quite the veiled for years past. The after dinner chat of the Russian Legation in Peking has for a long time turned on what they were going to do when they were in the Palace, pointing in its direction. I have heard this from folks in the Chinese Customs Service, and my last informant was a lady who passed a few hours recently at Kamakura and who. with her husband, was pretty constantly at Count Cassini's table in P-king, during a visit paid last Spring to China. She told me the Russians made no secret about their intentions in North China



and "move your Queen Bee to Nanking, where she ought to be." These were Gordon's own words to me at the Astor House in Shanghai, where I tiffined and dined at his table daily for a week,

as I was then living at the Astor House Hotel.

Now assuming that China is invaded by Russia and that she seizes within a month all she wants, where are the British troops to oppose her? We may scour the high seas, but we can't prevent Russia's action on land unless Japan's legions are in the game with us. Are they? I have urged an alliance for over 12 months past in every letter hours. an alliance for over 12 months past in every server home. The Novoe Vremya recently gave us our ultimatum, i.a., that we must either ally with Japan, or both by word and deed participate in the demolition of China. England hasn't moved a soldier Eastwards lately. Then how can she prevent a Russian invasion of Manchuria except with Japan's and yourse.

March 14th, 1898.

#### THE KABUKI-ZA PLAY.

#### EXPERIENCES AND IMPRESSIONS OF A GRIFFIN.

(WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

My last glimpse of the English Theatre was taken at Her Majesty's, the Haymarket, which is probably the finest, as it is the newest, of the West End Houses. The best dramatic talent of England was on the stage; the velvet-covered lantenils of the dress circle were as comfortable. as one could wish; the scenery was splendid; there were luxinious lounges for a quiet smoke between the acts; everthing was as good as it could be made. And yet—such is the perversity of man—at the end of the first act I was frankly bored, and by the middle of the second I had made up my mend that the time would be much more satisfactority spent in bed. I obtained my first gitingse of the Japanese stage at the Kabuki-za, Kobikicho, Tokyu--which I am told is one of the largest and most fashionable houses of the Japanese capital. The circumstances were much as computable and most fashionable houses of the Japanese capital. The circumstances were not so comfortable—at least to my barbarian mind. I had to squat on a cushion for a length of time sufficient to make me lose all sense of proprietorship in, or common feeling with, my legs; I was asphysiated by the fumes of countless hibachi; and I understood not one single solitary word of the performance. But for all that I was not bored. Whatever its faults, the Japanese stage is interesting—to a foreigner.

the performance. Dut for an tous a was now bored. Whatever its faults, the Japanese stage is interesting—to a foreigner.

Everything was, of course, exactly in opposition to European ideas. Take the manager, for example. Up to that time I had never been able to picture a theatre manager without the glossiest of tall hats, the nattiest of evening suits, the operacloak flung in picturesque carelessness over his shoulder, the choicest of Havanas, the equally choice repertoire of smoke-room stories. I had always accepted that as part and parcel of the profession. I should have been as shocked to see Archbishop Temple taking the service at Westminster Abbey in a tweed suit as to see a theatrical manager in any other garb. But the manager of the Kabukt-za con trives to face the difficulties of life in a kinone and slippers; and, as fac as I can see, he manages as well as if the cyroning workmen of Lincoln and as well as if the equipment workmen of Lincoln and Bennett and all the tailors of Bond Street had lahoused to make him as the lilies of the field.

We were rather a queer house-to English ideas at least. Many of us came in at eleven in the mornat least. Many of us came in at eleven in the morning and sat the whole day through till eight in the evening—and thought what a roming time we were having. People say of the English that they take their pleasure sadly—but what of a people who can last out nine mortal hours of acting, even the best acting in the world? It speaks volumes for the tenacity of the Japanese character. I have always admired the dogged pertinacity with which a coolie will drag a forthing from morn till dewy eve, never allowing himself to feel tired, and always ready to take—and take in—a new face. Next to that Leavenese. and take in-a new face. Next to that I-everence the heroism that can face an all-day sitting-or

Of the play I cannot speak with any degree of certainty. From beginning to end I could comprehend no single word of it, and whether it was the sublimest tragedy or the most laughable burlesque I haven't the ghost of anidea. When the curtain went up there was revealed a Japanese lady sitting on a mat, and beside her were two children, also on mats. The lady spoke to the children in a lauguage which was not English, and which was certainly not Japanese; it was like nothing ever heard on land or sea outside a Japanese theate. I suppose it would be bad art for a Japanese actor to speak like a human being; at any rate I noticed that the gentlemen who took the chief rôles had the stage lisp most strongly, and the nearest approaches to an erdinary dialect were on the part of quite inferior and insignificant supers. The stage voice struck me as altogether about and unnatural, but the actions and attitudes of the actors were quite admirable. The fidelity with which the dainty gait, the winning manners, and the graceful novements of a Japanese lady are imitated on the stage to most a lapanese lady are imitated on the stage to most animal manual contents of a Japanese lady are imitated on the stage to most animal manual contents of a Japanese lady are imitated on the stage to make the manual contents of a Japanese lady are imitated on the stage to make the manual contents of a Japanese lady are imitated on the stage to make the part of the stage to the part of the actors and attitudes of the actors are the part of t Of the play I cannot speak with any degree of ful movements of a Japanese lady are imitated on the stage by men is simply marvellous—no weaker adjective can be used.

adjective can be used.

It was not very exciting—the first act. The lady taked and talked in that strange stage voice; the children answered in an unnatural treble that took my mind back to the "infant prodigy" of small provincial theatres at home. I didn't know what those children were saying; but it brought back to my mind that dreadful affliction, the stage innocent who used to say, "Why oo so sad, man-ma! Why oo not sin' and play as oo used to do? Is it cause wicked men come and take poo Papa away to naughty prizzen! Don't weep, mam-ma! I'se so sad to hear oo weep!" At the end of which the heroine clasps the dear child passionately to her maternal bosom, and weeps passionately to her maternal bosom, and weeps some gallous of sentimental tears for the behood

of the gallery, who admire virtue—on the stage.

On the whole I am inclined to believe, after all, that the piece was a tragedy. It sounded too doleful even for a faccical comedy. The mother grew more low-spirited every moment, and the children's treble became thinner and thinner. At last they became so doleful that two gentlemen in a box above the stage, half way between the floor and the ceiling, could contain their feelings or longer. I believe these gentlemen act the part of the chorus in a Greek tragedy. They bust out at times into dismal music, and apparently explain the situation to the andience in song. I have no doubt their performance was excellent and classical in the extreme. Probably it was as good in its way as a blend of Paderewski and Sims Reeves in his patiny days. But to an outsider it seemed as if the singers were afficted with a kind of musical stomach ache; they sang as if some houtible spasmodic pain were grasping at their vitals. I really felt sorry for them; their angush appeared to be dreadful, and seemed to call for prompt medical treatment. Every two or three bars ended with a heart tending, "Yosho! Yosho! Yosho!" till it sounded like an amputation without chloroform. of the gallery, who admire virtue—on the stage.

On the whole I am inclined to believe, after all dreadth, and seemed to call for prompt medical treatment. Every two of three bars ended with a heart rending, "Yo-ho! Yo-ho! Yo-ho! Yo-ho!" fill it sounded like an amputation without chloroform. It would almost have seemed as if indigestion really were at the bottom of the matter, for when the lady began to brewtee and hand round rice with quaintrand pretty ceremony the musical stomach-ache increased in violence, and a terrific = Oh! Yo! oh! oh! oh! "appeared to indicate intolerable torture. A quaint little dance by one of the children set the choice men off again and I was honestly relieved to find there was nothing the matter with them when I noticed one of them just afferwards emptying a large glass of sake—I cannot swear it was sake—with a good healthy thirst. He was as other men after all. I ecognised in him, despite his kimono, that Japanese fiddler, a man and a brother. It was refeashing to find him as mortal as those lofty beroines of low-down melodrama who, after five whole acts of low-down metodrama who, after five whole acts of afflicted innocence, find substantial solace in samages and mashed potatoes, and mashficiency of Guinness's stout.

of Guinness's stout.

Then there was a dog—an artificial, frankly artificial, dog—which came on and wagged its tait in a most wooden manner. That was the whole of its part apparently; and why it was introduced I don't know. Apparently it supplied the comedy of the piece, for every one langhed: and therefore I suppose the Manager was right in himming it on. Then there entered—him against and himself to mea new face. Next to that freverence the heroism that can face an all-day sitting—of rather squatting—at a Japanese theatre.

We ate and drank as pertinacionsly as we watched the stage. When we were not drinking hot sake we were dinking tea; when we let either the tea pot or the sake bottle lave a rest we munched all kinds of fishly Japanese loods and sweetmeats. When we did neither we smoked. This reminded me very much of a Saturday night at the Britannia or the Middlesex Music Hall—a Saturday night at the Britannia or the Middlesex Music Hall—a Saturday night performance when 'Arry, in the fullness of his heart and the comparative plentitide of his breeches pocket, "stands" the fair 'Arriet countless pennorths of whelks and bottles of beer.

I don't know. Apparently it supplies and the picker, for every one laughed: and therefore a displaced and therefore I suppose the Manager was right in bringing it on. Then there entered—by a gangway ritioning right through the authority manufacture—a notification of the last meeting and a distinguished-looking, grey-headed man. I believe he was a daimio—the piece evidently deal with the days of old—and he acted with much dignity. I recognized in little and a distinguished-looking, grey-headed man. I believe he was a daimio—the piece evidently deal with the days of old—and he acted with much dignity. I recognized in the minuted type; the pickes have a daimio—the piece evidently deal with the days of old—and he acted with much dignity. I recognized in the minuted type; the pickes have a daimio—the piece evidently deal with the days of old—and he acted with much dignity. I recognized in the comparative piecities of his breat and shifted the accounts, remarking that the Committee had arranged to wears a dress coattand a snowy wig, who plays the piece.

Original from

and unbending till late in the third act, when his thawing brings about the curtain; and without whom no drama is genuing.

To him one of the ladies, kneeling, pres cake. The said cake is evidently more deadly than the ordinary cake of the amateur cook-in fact one can see at a glance that the dramatist means it to be a pulsoned cake. But for whom it is poisoned, by whom, and for what purpose, the wit of the Occidental knoweth not. The cake is received with thanks (unlike the contributions of the annatem poetly, but every one on the stage is sagacious enough to leave it alone. Suddenly there rushes on a boy, the son of the daimio apparently—one of the children who had been there at the rising of the curtain, but had gone out meanwhile. He grabs the cake with a greediness which would have done discredit to Jackie Horner, eats it, and falls-whether at surprise at finding a currant in it, or from the deadly effects of the poicurrant in it, or from the deadly effects of the poison, does not appear. The excitement of the chous men at this time again becomes painful; they yell lugubrious words at the top of their voices; and some of the more susceptible of the audience join in. The lady who presented the cake step forward, seizes the boy, draws a long knife and stabs hime-quite unnecessarily one would think at first, for he appears to be already ready for an inquest. But this boy takes a long time in the killing. Ten seconds after the first stab he gives a shriek; then the lady stabs again, and after half a minute he gives another shriek. Altogether she gives him half a dozen stabs before he is satisfactorily and completely dead from a stage—including the presumed father—look on as if the killing of a child by a well dressed and apparently respectable lady were the most ordinary incident, and one to be witnessed with philosophic calm. The chorus men, however, are excited enough; long groans ending in a wild.

look on as if the killing of a child by a well dressed and apparently respectable lady were the most ordinary incident, and one to be witnessed with philosophic calm. The chorus men, however, are excited enough; long groans ending in a wild "Ye ye-ye-yuppp!" come from their box as they sing the rythmic explanation of a deed that certainly does need more light on it.

After a little of this the whole party get up in a stately manner and march magnificently off the stage, leaving the dead child lying there. The mother, who has not seen the muder, contestin, sees the child, and mourns over it. I shall not speak lightly of this scene; it was pathetic in itself and well done, and the antipet deserves respect. The acting had a great effect on the audience; the teats of the women fell fast; and the men showed some entotion. Eyidently Japanese theatregoers are not so stolid as the Anglo-Saxon, who does not as a rule like "wet" scenes, and never cares to admit that they move him.

I should very much like to know all about this wicked lady with the cake and the knife; I should like to know whether she was sentenced to death or only imprisoned during His Majesty's pleasure; I should like to know, above all, why the relatives took it all as a matter of course, and appeared mit in the least annuyed over the matter. But all these are mysteries to me. I can only say that I was, if puzzled, interested by this random peep mor Japanese demantic art; and I would advise all globe-trotters and residents of Japan, if they want a curious and interesting spectacle of native life and manners, to take an opportunity of paying a visit to the Kabukiza Theatre. If they do not, they miss seeing a very instructive and entertaining phase of Oriental life.

#### YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce was held on Thesday afternoon at Keil's Brilding, Main Street. Mr. W. B. Walter was in the chair, and there were also present, Messis. H. Halm, C. J. Strome, R. Abendeim, H. Bent, P. S. Bent, W. Ross, E. Frint Kilby, W. F. Mitchell, J. P. Mollison and R. D. Robison.



last general meeting, and they considered Mr. Keil was fully entitled to receive an advance of salary.—(Hear, hear).
Mr. Mollison (J. P. Mollison & Co.) proposed that the accounts be adopted; Mr. Roalon (Robison & Co.) seconded, and it was carried.
The accounts were as follows:

The accounts were as follows:---

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1897. RIGHTEIL

To Balance from 1806		***	***	778	44.0	453-30	ı
Members Subscriptions	000	100	**1	27 at 1		100 0	ı
Girculars sold :-				_		m_665.00	ł
To Members,		23,026		Y. 1,75			ı
" Non-member-,	***	3,301	for	35	11.55		ł
			_			0,175.39	ı
last-yearly Statistics sold	441	Exe	for	444	44.5	99.86	ı
Sundry Publications seld		. *** .		4.40	+11	40 50	ı
Interest allowed by H & 8	, III.	PER ON (	ntle	nt Acco	mnt.	5.84	ŀ
					_		ŀ
						5,469.35	ı
Marketon and					_		ı
Balance	***	***		***	14.0	3H 7º	1
P	·	DITURE			_		ł
		Dirokte					1
Sulary of Secretary and Str	a,ff	***		***	***	\$23\$0.00	ı
Rent		***	***	4+1	+11	486 OU	I
Balastan Classian Castina							

938.85 79 53 49 80 30.35 88 86 Petty disbursements, fuel, lighting, collector's fees, postages and sundries 920.62 5,114.63 344-72 Balance, carried to new account ...

£. & O. E. 5,469.35 O. Kall, Secretary. Examined and found correct, 18th March, 1898.

A. S. GARFIT, Auditor. Yokohama, 11th March, 28st.

The CHAIRMAN then read-

#### THE REPORT.

According to the Customs returns the total Import and Export foreign trade of Japan for the past year amounts to no less than year 382,435.800, or about 383 million pounds sterling, and shows an increase as compared with 1896 of year 92,918,600,

An increase in Imports of was 47,626,300

The larger receipts of Railway material, Raw Cotton, Kernsene, Sugar, and Rice probably account for most of the increased lapports; while, as regards Exports, Raw Silk, and Silk Piece Goods, make between them an increased value of version of the contract of the increased value of version of the contract of the contra yes 30,000,000.

yes 30,000,000.

While the growth of the Export trade may be considered wholly satisfactory, the increased Import trade of the year has resulted in the accumulation of heavy stocks of staple goods at the principal ports, a considerable portion of which, though sold to arrive, had not been taken delivery of at due dates.

In consequence of this greater volume of Imports, the Customs ground became for some time so blocked with goods of all kinds that there was no space on which further landings could be made; while it became also most difficult for consignees to find and take delivery of what

could be made: while it became also most difficult for consignees to find and take delivery of what had been landed, and it was only by the great exertion of Mr. N. Okoshi, the able Commissioner of Customs at this port, and the special arrangements made by him for landing Cotton, Rice, etc., slaewhere than at the Hatoba, that the Customs ground was eventually cleared of accumulations of Impacts.

of Imports.

Mr. Okoshi has now been transferred to the Department of Communications at Tokyo and, Department of Communications at a usys and, while congratulating him on the promotion, the Committee of this Chamber desire to express their appreciation of his courtesy, energy and unfailing attention to the interests of the trade of this port

attention to the interests of the trade of this port and their great regret at his departure.

The need of a considerable extension to the Customs area has had the attention of your Committee and some correspondence has ensued with the Commissioner of Customs and the Japanese Chamber of Considered at Yokohama. It is hoped that the Customs ground may eventually be enlarged by the inclusion of the ground at present occupied by the adjoining Engine Works.

A most important feature of the year 1807 has been the establishment in Japan from the 1st October last of a gold standard on the basis of about 2/0} sterling per yen, which has been of considerable benefit to importers by preventing the difficulties which would have occurred through the further fall of silver, amounting to 7 per cent, that has since taken place; and which does not appear to have any iff effect, so far, on Japan's staple silk to have any ift effect, so far, on Japan's staple silk

On the other hand, the Imports of this country were last year yen 56,000,000 in excess of the Exreally neater yen 80,000,000 in excess of Exports, as the Customs values are only those of the country of origin. The difference has to be made up by

gold export while large quantities of silver yen have (as silver declined in value) come up from China and the Straits Settlements to be also ex-

China and the Straits Settlements to be also exchanged for gold, which passes out of the country. Whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the need of a gold standard for Japan, there can be no doubt that now the new system has been entered upon, every effort should be made on the part of the Imperial Japanese Government to fully maintain the value of its currency which has now partity of table with that of the invision contracts. a parity of value with that of the principal countries of the West,

By the exercise of the greatest economy oy the exercise of the greatest economy of public expenditure in Japan, and by the gradual decrease in the supply of silver yes from almosal, the gold export may before long be considerably reduced; while the issue of a moderate Foreign lean would probably fill the void for a while and allow time for the further growth of the Exports on while the country has a decader a section. which this country has to depend so greatly for its continued prosperity.

The Government will shortly be further aided by the higher scale of Customs Duties which seems likely to come into operation towards the end of

this year.

In connection with these Duties I would ask your attention to the Table, based on the British Tariff, which our Secretary has prepared and which is attached to the report showing the differences between the old and new duties on the instant angle impacted. incipal goods imported.
This Table is subject to some slight alteration

later, owing to a few acticles having been since charged at slightly lower rates to meet the request of Powers lately entering into new treaties with lapan.

EXPORTS.

EXPORTS.

RAW Size.—The shipments for the first half of the year, 1897 amounted to 26,980 belos and were about equally divided between Europe and the United States, while the second half of the year took no less than 41,688 belos, of which nearly two-thirds went to the United States.

This results about the second half of the year took no less than 41,688 belos, of which nearly two-thirds went to the United States.

thirds went to the United States.

This considerable increase in the shipments of Japan Silk to America has been largely due to the more settled condition and greater prosperity of business there as well as to the shortage in the

business thate as well as to the shortage in the Europeau and China crops of this year.

During February and March there was an active and advancing marker, the demand more especially being for silkes situable for America.

Prices by the end of March showed an advance of year 80 per picul upon those of February.

During April and May but little business was

owing to the political complications in Europe.

Europe.

Reports in June of a poor out-time for the European crops led to a good demand at rising prices, but until July purchasers were restricted by the scanty stock available.

The Japan crop of 1897 proved to be a good average one and first arrivals were keenly competed for; prices advanced some year 30 per picul during August and again year 40 to 50 in September, remaining quiet but firm in October. During November, however, there was a sharp decline, but an active demand in December again raised prices to October level and the year closed with a firm.

an active demand in proceedings again caused prices to October level and the year closed with a firm market and very small stocks.

Taken as a whole, the quality of this season's Silk cannot be said to show any improvement on former years though Cocnous were generally better than in the previous season. Spinners appear to have taken no trouble to improve the recling. The making up and selections of Oshu Kakedas were very defective, and even in good Filature silks there has been a greater variation in size than is

The business of the year must have been eminently satisfactory to the silk producer financially weak, has, by reason of the good and persistent demand from Europe and America, been able to obtain full prices in spite of his eager-

been able to obtain full prices in spite of his eagerness to sell, which has been in marked contrast with the tactics of previous years.

The Bill that passed the Imperial Diet on the 24th March, 1897, granting bounties to the direct exporters of silk to Europe and America, if Japanese, and discriminating against foreigners, has not been carried into effect and in all probability will be repealed at the next meeting of the Diet.

WASTE SILK.—The luminess in this staple during the year 1897 has been of a monotonous character without any appreciable changes in prices and a ready supply af all demand.

The year commenced with a stock of about 13,000 piculs, which figure has never been surpassed, and closed with about 8,000 piculs still on hand.

The following prices may perhaps be considered the basis which has ruled throughout the year:— 

The Export for the year amounts to round numhere 36,000 piculs, or whout 750 piculs more than in

	THE TO STATE THE TELEVISION OF STREET		
Ta	Marseilles	20,000	picul
To	Switzerland	7,000	
To	London	2 960	1.1
To	America	150	- 11
To	Other Ports	5,890	

Total ...... 36,000 piculs. Classifying this figure as to kinds, the Export

ands as goder :	100 F.	D
N. I. O. I.	Piculs,	Piculs.
Noshi -Oshin	. 4.800	
Joshiu	4.000	
Shinshin, Echigo	. 2,500	
Tegara	1.500	
Fdature	1,200	
Hachisji	500	
Ossori	500	
Zaguri	400	
Atino, Santanshin	200	15,500
Kibiso - Filature	9 500	
Zaguri	. 3 500	
Joshiu Hachinje	3,000	
Oshin and Shinshin	. 000	
Mino, Santanshiu	200	17,100
Sandries Noils	1,600	
Sundries	. 000	
Agemai and Bichomai.	420	
Carded	150	
Pierced Cocoons	130	
Neri		3,300
Total	_	26 poo

SILK HANDKERCHIEVS AND SILK PIECE GOODS.—The export of silk piece goods for the year 1897 was greatly stimulated by the passage of the Dingley tauff bill in the United States whereby the duty on p'ain goods was raised from whereby the duty on plain goods was caised from 45 % to \$350 per the or approximately 75 % advancem. The first six months showed heavy shipments to the U.S. on this account. A revival in the trade for fancy Kaiki silk seems also to have taken place and the weavers in Kicin and Ashikaga are in full work on orders for this class of goods at better prices than ever received before. The output of these goods on the whole is fairly satisfactory in quality.

The export of handkerchiefs again shows a heavy dectine, both Europe and the United States seem to be taking less and less of these goods year by year, the falling off in demand from the latter being especially marked.

Tea.—The market for New Teas was opened early in May under a Daty excitement, and prices culed very high throughout the month, but early

early in analy index a Day excitement, and prices called very high throughout the month, but early in June it was decided not to impose any duty on teas entering the United States, and prices consequently declined rapidly.

During the early part of the season prices ruled from yest \$5.00 17 per picul higher than at the corresponding date of the previous season, and the average for the year is about yest 5 per picul shous \$405. above 1896.

above 1890.
The quality of the crop was decidedly inferior to that of 1896 as regards the make of the leaf, the cup quality, however, was fairly good. The leaf was very coarse, badly solled and showed signs of careless and hurried preparation, owing probably to the desire on the part of the producers to hurry their Tens to market while the dury excitement lasted.

In spite of all that has been written urging the In spite of all find has been written in ging the Japanese in pay more attention to the improvement of their less, they appear to be doing very little good in that way. In the meantime Ceylon and Indian Teas are rapidly gaining favour in the United States and Canada.

United States and Canada, The restriction act in America requiring the quality of Teas to be up to a certain standard has been strictly enforced during the past season and has undenbtedly done a good deal towards improving the quality of both China and Japan Teas shipped to the United States.

On the whole the past season has been fairly remunerative to the Exporter and the amount exported in just about on a nat with that of 2806.

ported is just about on a par with that of 1896. The cost of Firing Teas has again greatly increased owing to the advance which has taken place in the price of labour, charcual and boxes, etc., being fully 20 per cent, higher than this time

st year. The attempts to introduce Japan Teas into Russia do not appear to have met with much success

Corper.-The year 1897 commenced with a considerable portion of its copper production already contracted for, and prices continued firm, showing an advance of about four yet cent, during the course of the year, with a fair lustiness during, The output of the largest mines, those of Furu-

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kaws at Ashiwo, was, however, reduced owing to the necessity of carrying out works to prevent damage in future to the farming districts in the

damage in future to the farming districts in the neighbourhood through the contamination of the water coming from these mines.

The Export from Yokohama which had been 7,211 tons in 1896 declined to 6,760 tons in 1897. Quotations closed at yess 26\(^2\) per picul for Slabs and yess 27\(^3\) to 28 for Ingots and Tites.

FISH OLL.—The year under review opened very quiet with heavy stocks which depressed the market. Nothing was done until April when a larger transaction took place on the basis of yess 4,50 for ordinary quality. Prices advanced somelarger transaction took place on the basis of yan 4,50 for ordinary quality. Prices advanced somewhat in consequence but fell again, and at the end of May reached as low as yen 4,30 per picul, at which a few hundred tons changed hands. In September stocks became very small and prices rose to yen 4,70 for common dark and yen 4,90 for light quality.

The market closed very firm as the Sardine architected or the second test and the sardine architected or the second test and the sardine architected or the second test and the sardine architected or the second test and the sardine architected or the second test and the sardine architected or the second test architected or the sec

catch turned out a complete failure and the new year opens with almost no stocks.

year opens with almost no stocks.

RICE.—The Export of Rice for all Japan for the season ending 31st October, 1897, was in round figures 89,000 tons against an Import from abroad of about 310,000 tons, including Korenn.

The Japanese crop harvested in November, 1897. In a japanese crop narvesieu in tovenner, 109, is estimated at 15 per cent, below the average of 40,000 koku, or a shortage of 822,321 tons (estimating the kohit at an average of 307bb.). Owing to the increased properity of the country and growth of population there is little doubt but

that the consumption is on the increase and the result is that even with an average crop there is some demand for foreign rice which, though of lower quality, is cheaper than Japanese grain

The importation of rice to Japan during 1898 will probably be on a larger scale than ever before.

Good exportable grain was quoted on Decem ber 31-4 at yen 5.75 to yen 5.80 per picul, say 10/per cwt, f, o. b.
ToBacco.—The export of this staple has de-

creased by 15 per cent. against the preceding year, heing 6,004 piculs in 1897 and 7.052 piculs in 1896. This is doubtless owing principally to large purchases made for home consumption, in acticipation of the Monopoly which came into force on

January 1st, 1898.

Flus Monopoly is expected to work beneficially for the export trade, as the Law requires that the leaf be properly assorted before being handed into the Government warehouses, whereby the tedious and vezations examining, sorting, and ejecting in private godowns may to some extent be done away

IMPORTS.

YARNS AND GREY SHIRTINGS.—It is no longer possible to give detailed information as to counts of yarns and weights of shirtings, as the names of importers from whom details could be obtained are

importers from whom details comimporters from whom details comnot now published.

From such information as is now obtainable it
would appear that the Import of all Yarns for 1897,
has falled off considerably as compared with 1896,
though still greatly in excess of 1895, the respective figures being as follows:

1897.

1896.

1895.

71,293 piculs.

Regarding the course of the Yarn hade during 1897, in the absence of actual detailed figures a 1897, in the absence of actual detailed figures a general knowledge of the business done has to be depended on, and this points to a continual and increasing demand for Gassed Yarns, with perhaps Fine Plain sorts, rather less in evidence, 2/42s. have again been largely dealt in, and 2/32s. and 16/24s. have also met with more enquiry than in 1896, but 28/32s, show a distinct recognate movement, because of the improvement in Japanese spinnings of this count. Consumption of 38/42s, seems to remain about normal.

GREY SHIRTINGS have followed the same lines.

GREY SHIRTINGS have followed the same lines as Yarns in regard to the amount of business done, the record for 1897 being less than 1896, but greater than 1895. Actual figures are as tallowed.

1897. 1896.

1897. 1896. 1895.
700,300 pcs. ...... 804,900 pcs. ...... 604,295 pcs.
T. Cloths again exhibit a marked decrease, imports only teaching 34,825 pieces in 1897 against 58,600 pieces in 1896, and it looks as if a few more years would see the Lancashire product practically superseded by the native made class. cloth

After the depressed condition of affairs that After the depressed condition of affairs that prevailed at the end of 1896 and beginning of 1897, the prospects for fresh business in the apring and early summer of the latter year seemed to promise fairly well, but a constantly drooping Raw Cetton Market throughout the autumn months upset calculations, and whilst, in Poreign Importers, results on the whole can hardly have been very profitable, there is no adoubt that Japanese dealers found themselves that alargely grown applies have been excessive

face to face with many heavily losing contracts. In contradistinction, however, to former experience, it is pleasant to record that with the exception of a few irresponsible speculaturs in Gey Shirtings, who ought never to have been en-couraged, buyers have "stood to their guns," and that everything considered clearances of contact Yains and Grey Goods have been fairly satis-

INDIGO SHIRTINGS, DYED SHIRTINGS AND INDIGO SHIRTINGS, DYED SHIRTINGS AND TWILLS, PRINTS, COTTON ITALIANS AND SAT ARMS.—Figures show a falling off all round and business in these acticles generally has been anything but satisfactory. Cotton Italians in particular have given tise to many and heavy claims, avowedly on account of quality.

THEREY REPS.—Rather against expectation

TURKET REDS.—Rather against expectation the trade in imported cloth has increased again, No doubt this primarily may be gut down to consumers having found that these goods are fully worth the extra price as compared with

Inlly worth the extra price as compared with mative dyed stoff.

BLACK VELVETS.—As might well be supposed from last year's report, which showed a stock sufficient for about I months' consumption, fresh sufficient for about I months' consumption, fresh imports during the year have been only about half the quantity of 1896. The outlook for the corrent year is more encouraging.

VICTORIA LAWES are evidently destined to become of lesser importance from year to year.

SILK-FACED SATINS have continued to be imported in limited quantities, almost exclusively of

the better grades.

FLANNELS,-The year under review has not been a satisfactory one for this article. Stocks at the close were, however, within reasonable limits and lower qualities particularly bid fair for the Current year

ITALIAN CLOTH .- Deliveries fall short of those for the previous year by something like 30 per cent. In spite of considerably smaller impurts stocks at the close of 1897 was a rather beavy; and on the basis of last year's consumption would suffice for 8 months.

MOUSSELINES show smaller quantities for

Moussatinas show smaller quantities for both imports and deliveries, and are likely to further love ground, as the native spinning and weaving establishments, now in course of erection, get into working order.

get into working order.

WOOLLEN CLOTHS.—With very heavy stocks carried over from last year, business has been difficult and the demand poor, considerable concessions being made to clear old stocks; while new business has been confined to such qualities and assortatents as could not be bought locally.

\*\*Manuary — Dealers membased were freely

METALS.—Dealers purchased very freely during 1897, and the result is seen in a facther advance upon the figures for 1896.

Prices rose gradually in sympathy with increased cost until about October: since then a considerable decline has taken place and the immediate processors. immediate prospects are by no means bright,

Pig Iron.—As anticipated in last year's reporting steady growth in general demand is shown by an increase of some 2,000 tons compared with the previous year. Hitherto the trade had been mon-fined entirely to English make, but this year several lots of Alabama pig iron, aggregating prob-

ably 4,000 tous, have arrived.

Bar Iron.—Imports amounted to nearly 30,000 tons, an increase of six per cent. This quantity is, however, in excess of actual requirements, and present indications point to a diminished trade in

PLATE AND SHEET IRON.—The large imports noted in the report of 1896 have been followed by n traction, the imputts being 144,600 piculs

GALVANIZED IRON .- The growth of this trade is remarkable,

Besides the Government requirements noted in last report the demand for roofing purposes has

increased considerably owing to the continued rise in the price of lumber throughout the country.

On the whole the trade is hardly satisfactory as the small margin of profit is greatly interfered with by the heavy claims made by buyers for the corrosion that seems a necessary feature of this article, probably caused by damp or sweat on the voyage.
Wirk Nails shows a decrease of about 10 per

WIRE NAILS shows a decrease of about 10 per cent. The American makers had control of the market, very little coming from Germany.

During the year machinery has been imported from the United States for a factory in Tokyo, but it does not seem likely that this project will immediately interfere with the trade to any extent.

The Plates increased from 25.727 boxes in 1896 to 59,008 boxes in 1897. While the demand

and prices remained at an unremunerative level

r the greater part of the year. Hoop Iron.—The imports continue to decline, old cotton hale hoops have been found equally useful for most purposes and considerably cheaper.

KEROSENE.—The volume of business during 1897 shows a considerable increase over the rogy shows a considerable increase over the preceding year, deliveries being 443,518 cases American and 130,599 cases Russian over those of 1896, while Langkat Oil has again made its appearance here, the total delivered being 48,862

lapanese production is estimated at 500,000

Japanese production is estimated at 500,000 cases annually.

The stocks at the end of the year are sightly larger than at the end of 1896.

At the beginning of 1897 the very small visible supply kept prices up; but by the end of April a decidedly weaker tone showed itself and prices gradually receded to to 15 sm. During the summer the market was quiet, and prices did not fluctuate to any extent. In September the improvement which is usual at that time of year hegan to manifest itself, but interruption to rail transport throughout the country interfered with business until the close of the year. The net result of the year's working shows a decline in the spot value of 10 to 15 sen.

The total value of the Yekohama Kerosene

The total value of the Yekohama Kerosene

and the above to a				
ade for 1896 is:-				16
American	1,679.791	case	5	3,408,900
Rissbines	1,135,157	61	134224	2,740,000
Laugkat	48,802	47	*****	95,800
		-		
2	1,863,810	case	9	5,854,600
an increase over	1896 of	:		
American	413,518	case	5	617,000
Russian	130,559	94	*****	166,100
Langkat	42,792	-	*****	82,790
	P86 860	-	. '	0 0

\$86.869 cases...... 855,800

SUGAR.—BROWN.—The import of Brown Sugars for the year 1897 shows a considerable increase even that for the preceding year, being 1,247,132 piculs against 1,029,086 piculs.

Of these receipts there were

338,349 piculs from Formosa, 555,642 , , Manila, 353,141 , , , China, otc.

Mauila Sugare find more favour with huyers and this tends to depress prices for than formerly

FORMOSAS.—A feature of this trade has been the increasing quantities imported by Japaness direct, generally through the medium of the foreign from established in Formosa.

WHITE SUGAR has been in good demand, the

warra SUGAR has been in good demand, the chief feature of the year being the increasing Import of Buropean Beet Sugar viz —308,000 piculs as against 116,500 piculs for 1896. Formosa has also supplied us with a small quantity, some 16,000 piculs, but most of the supply has been obtained from the Housekong Refine in

piculs, but most of the supply has been obtained from the Hongkong Refineries.
Total Importation for 1897 is 989,000 piculs as against 678,000 piculs for 1896.
Pices have remained fairly steady with an advance in some kinds towards the close.
Shipping show a decreased immage as compared with last year but are somewhat misleading because a large proportion of the foreign trade is cause a large proportion of the foreign trade is now carried in Japanese vessels, say :- by

a fortnightly line to and from Europe. a monthly ps. --61 п Australia. a weekly Shanghai,

all large steamers which, if included, would enorall large stramers which, it included, would enormously increase the published figures. Besides this, in 1896 a number of foreign vessels were under charter III Japanese and employed in the Coast trade, so swelling the figures for that year whilst 1897 has but very few additions on this

RAILWAYS.—The extension of the Japanese Railway system steadily continues and there are at present 1,594 miles of new line under construction of which 612 miles are Government and 982

miles private undertakings.
The doubling of the Tokaido Railway has now been carnestly taken in hand but, owing to the The doubling of the Tokaido Railway has now been carneally taken in hard but, owing to the great number of tunnels and long bridges to be built, will take a good while yet before heing completed, the only sections with double track now working being Tokyo-Yokohama and Ovama-Numadzu on the eastern and Kobe-O-aka, Suita-Kyoto and Kyoto-Otani on the western section.

YOKOHAMA DOCK Co.—The first of the Three Dry Docks eventually to he built was opened on April 26th, 1897, and received up to the end of the year 31 steamers and 4 sailing vessels, of which two steamers and one sailing vessels, of which

the year of recomers and 4 senting vessels, or which two steamers and one sailing vessels were foreign. This duck can take in vessels up to 4,000 tens te-

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gister, and should prove of great benefit to ships requiring docking here as the Yokosuka Ducks are no longer available to merchant shipping. The work on the second basis is being rapidly pushed forward and this will probably be completed before

the end of this year.

Labour.—Alt cost of labour has gone up greatly during the year, and charges for landing, storing and handling goods generally are on a far higher scale than formerly.

AUCTION SALES.—The Chamber of Commerce

AUCTION SALES.—The Chamber of Commerce has had a complaint from one of its members as to the impossibility now of getting a fair competition at anction for any goods brought to the hammer owing to these sales being invasiably controlled by a ring of all the dealers interested in the special article said, who boycut any other buyer; and this Chamber is in communication with the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce on the subject.

THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS HE submitted bere-

THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS are submitted here-THE ANNUL ACCOUNTS are submitted herewith. These show a slight increase in the income which has been made use of so grant an advance in salary to the Secretary. The balance of funds in hand on December 31st is yes 344.72. Thanks are due to Mesers. A. S. Garitt and P. C. Potts for

auditing these accounts.

auditing these accounts.

MEMBERSHIP.—Besides the addition of It members in the beginning of the year, as already mentioned in the last annual report, two more firms joined the Chamber during 1897 bringing the number of members on December 3234 up to 77. Since then two members have resigned upon-leaving Japan, so that at date the number of mem-bers remains, as a year ago, at 75.

This Chamber has deeply ill regret the loss it has sustained through the death of two most valued members of Committee, Messia, M. T. B. Mac-

pherson, and C. G. Buchanan Duntop.

W. B. WALTER, Chairman,

The report was adopted without discussion on the motion of Mr. ABREHER (Bould Fières), seconded by Mr. Robison.

THE NEED OF HARBOUR REGULATIONS.

In introducing the next item, the election of Committee, the CHAIRMAN said it had become the custom to have nine members of the Committee, who made their own arrangements in regard to the choice of a Chairman. They had, as the report mentioned, unfortunately lost two members —Messes. Macpherson and Dunlop—by death.

Mr. II. FLINT KILBY (Flint Kilby and Co.) said he thought there should be a representative shipping man on the Committee. The shipping interest in Yokohama was so large that it would be advisable to introduce some gentleman connected with that interest—Mr. Woolley, for example—on that Committee. In the case that was now being heard before the Consul II had been mentioned that there were no proper harbour regulations. It was an anomaly that in a port of the size of Yokuhama there should be no barbour regulations in force, and be thought that if that Chamber took the question up it would have the support of the whole shinping community.—(Hear, hear). The Chairman said it was no doubt very desi-

able that harbour regulations should be adopted by the Japaness Government. They had seen within the last few weeks owing to the want of re-gulations and of a harbour master, that a very lamentable collision had occurred, and such a collision might occur again. In fact they might easily have the entrance in the harbour completely stopped by a large steamer coming to grief at the breakwater entrance. The Chamber during the year, through its correspondence with the Japan-ess Chamber and also with the Commissioner of ess Chamber and also with the Commissioner of Customs, had afready drawn attention to the need of a harbour master and harbour, regulations. He would suggest that while electing a member on the Committee In represent the shipping interest it would also be well to get a gentleman representions arising when his advice would be very valuable. He might mention, to simplify matters, that he should not be a candidate for the Committee as he should he beaut from Viscolance mittee as he should he absent from Yokohama during this year.

#### THE COMMITTEE.

The ballot for the Committee resulted as follows:—Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. J. Stiven, Mr. E. Flint Kilby, Mr. H. Holon, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. Alfred Wootley, Mr. Geo, Middleton, Mr. J. D. Hutchison, and Mr. J. P. Mollison.

THE NEW CATTY.

Mr. MOLLISON said he wished to being a matter forward. It might some a small matter, but he thought it dosesved the attention of the Committee. thought it desired the attention of the Committee. by I think I have heard that when Mr. Mollison the new Tariff regulations it was stated that when took some touble to call the the catty mentioned in the new regulations was "the Japanese weight of 600 grammes of the which has occurred in this manner, and I hope which has occurred in this manner, and I hope by Trench metric system or 33,227 ba." This was that his representation may have borne fruit, and carried to was 112; there were five officers UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Fper cent less than the catty that had been in ise from time immemorial, which was 1 3333 lbs. use from time immemorial, which was r.3333 lbs. He believe this original catty measure was imported toon China; it was a measure that had always been used; and the alteration was likely to lead to friction. He thought they would all prafer that the old catty should be preserved. It might has a difficult question, now it had been settled, to reopen, but he thought it was worth the attention of the Chamber of Commerce, and that II should in taken up by the incoming Committee.

The CHAIRMAN said they were all indebted to Mr. Mollison for Bringing forward so important a point, and a point which hitherto they had overlooked or which had not been brought before them. looked or which had not been brought before them. The present picul was 133,33 lbs., and presented no difficulty in calculation. A picul of 132.27 as proposed would upset their calculations more or less and appeared to him likely to lead to much inconvenience. What the object of the alteration was he could hardly divine, and as far as he knew they would all segret a change in the weights which had been so convenient both to Japanese and foreigners. He hoped this matter would have the early attention of the incoming Committee.

Mr. HOLM (Illies & Co.) said the matter was not a new one, and the attention of the authorities

not a new one, and the attention of the authorities in Tokyo had been drawn to it.

Mr. Mollison said he had some communica-

Mr. Morrison said he had some communica-tion with Mr. Keil and also with Sir E. Satow on the matter. The latter regretted that the question had not been brought up before, as it would be very difficult to get the standard altered now. His suggestion was that they should place themselves in communication with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, and also that the Kobe Chamber should place itself in communication with the Japanese Chamber in that port, with a view to petitioning ministers that the old picul should be retained. The new standard had ap-parently been settled by international agreement, parently been settled by international agreement, and he presumed that it would have to be altered, if at all, in the same why. It would be rather a cumbious proceeding, but he thought they ought

to take it up,

The CHAIRMAN: As I understand it this is
the weight to be adopted for the calculation of

Mr. Mollison: I don't understand so at all. I understand it is the weight for commerce

understand it is the weight for commerce generally.

MR. FLINT KILBY: Yes, I think it is the new standard weight. It is based on the metric system, and equal to 600 grammes.

The CHAIRMAN: It is a question which should have the ramest attention of the Committee, and I have no doubt that a little discussion with the Japanese Chamber on the subject will lead to a very much clearer understanding. The Japanese Chamber has shown itself of late well disposed and desirous of entering into friendly relation's wish desirous of entering into friendly relation's wish the Vokultama Chamber, and I hope the incoming Committee will see its way to extending these relations, which will be likely to lead to a still more cordial feeling between the two bodies,— (Hear, hear).

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

Mr. MOLLISON introduced a short discussion on the subject of the Vancouver mails. He said he noticed that the Kobe postmaster had notified that the mails for Eugland should be made up "via Vancouver and New York" instead of "Vancouver and Halifax," and that letters thus marked would be delivered six days quicker in England. Ha had asked Mr. Payne and had communicated with the Post Master on the subject; and he was told that there was something in the Postal Guide, published in Japanese, with reference to the matter. He wondered II any gentleman had received any positive information on the subject. He believed the system was to have come in force from January of this year, according to the notification of the Kobe postmaster. The Chambar las received. THE CANADIAN MAIL

The Chairman: The Chamber has received, as far as I know, no intimation. I may be mistaken; I cannot say exactly, as the Secretary is not here. There was a notice which appeared in one of the Yokohama papers to the effect that the change had been made. There is no doubt that the transparents of made. effect that the change had been made. There is no doubt that the transmission of mails by way of Montreal only instead of proceeding from Montreal in New York and taking the steamers from there (which are so very much quicker than the Canadian beats)—I say this system of tolding back the mails at Montreal has caused very considerable delay; and it is very much to be desired that the change, if it has not been already made, should be made very promptly. I think I have heard that when Mr. Mollison was in England he took some trouble to call the attention of the British Government to the delay which has occurred in this manner, and I hope

that the mails may no longer suffer this loss of time. Members ill this Chamber have been ac-customed, in order to ensure the prompt arrival customed, in order to ensure the grompt arrival of letters, to send their correspondence to their agents in New York to be reposted there; and these letters have arrived sometimes four, sometimes six days in front of the mails delayed at Montreal.

mails delayed at Montreal.

Mr. Mollison said it was true that when he was in England he wrote a letter to the Manchester Guardian on the subject and sook other steps. Sir E. Satow saw this letter, and made it the subject of a despatch to Lord Salisbury; and the latest despitch stated that it had been arranged. Sir E. Satow, however, had had no official intima-tion from the Post Office. He thought that the Chamber should approach the Post Office direct. The Chatrian: No doubt it will have the early

attention of the gentlemen forming the new Com

VOTE OF THANKS.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his services during the year, on the proposition of Mr. Robison.

#### THE "BORNEO" COLLISION.

COURT OF INQUIRY.

A Court of Inquiry into the collision between the P. & O. steamer Bornes and the Japanese steamer Wayo Maru, of Kobe, was opened on Monday morning at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Yokohama, before James Troup, Esq., Consul-General and the following three assessors:—Captain Parsons, of the British ship Course, Captain Porter, of the British ship Benalder, and Captain Scott, of the Pakhof.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared on behalf ill the master, first and second mates, and the crew ill the Borneo. Mr. A. B. Walford represented the owners of the Wayo Maru.

Capt Lyons, of the Borneo, stated that while in Yokolama Hubour his vessel was lying at the

Pier. They left the Pier on the outward journey at 6.24 2.m. on the marning of the 20th February. Pier. They left the Pier on the outward journey at 6.24 a.m. on the morning of the 200t February. The hands were turned out at 6.15, and witness went on the bridge and the ship was got clear of the Rosetta, which was lying close by. When clear of the Rosetta he gave the order to go ahead slowly, and manceuvred the ship to get clear of shipping and buoys, and also to get in position to pass out of the harbour. They salely passed the buoys and some of the shipping, and were heading towards the entrance when from the bridge witness saw the Wāyō Harts and also the Argyle. The Argyle was at anchor; the Wayō Maru was about three points before the starboard beam. Witness at first supposed that the latter was at anchor, as he did not think it possible for a minute that any ship would attempt to come into the harbour as he was coming out; but the chief officer informed him she was under way. Witness immediately ordered the siren to be blown a prolonged blast to attract her attention. Seeing then that she was still coming the avery high rate of speed he ordered a short blast to be blown on the steam whistle to indicate that he was directing his course to starboard. Being close to the Carracter her as the clear of the firer, who speed he ordered a short blast to be blown on the steam whistle to indicate that he was directing his course to starboard. Being close to the Caermartheashire—so close that the chief officer, who was on the bridge at the time, told him of the fact—he could not of course gy astern or drop anchor. The engines were going dead slow the whole time—just enough to give steerage way. It was blowing hard from the north-north-west; the ship was very light—in ballast in fact, and very high out of the water, and consequently the wind had a grant effect on her. Still noticing the Ways Blazu coming in at a high rate of speed he blew another short blast, but, seeing the angle at which she was, he still did not think she would actually attempt to enter. Witness could not round the end of the breakwater; he was too close. When he saw a collision was inevitable, and it was impossible to get out the Wayo's way, he rang the engine room telegraph "full spead ahead" two or three times (so that the engineer should know it was of great importance) with the object of gathering speed in order that she should quickly answer her helm, the then put the helm to starboard—for two reasons: in the first place to round the north of the breakwater and in the second tar receive the blow on the quarter in a less vital part. The Wayo Marx struck the Berneo with great force, and, rebounding, struck her a second time. He thought they must be sinking, and therefore headed towards the beach, but, the chief officer reporting that they had made no water, he cast anchor outside the breakwater.

By Mr. Lowder—The number of the Borneo'

the carpenter, and boatswain, six able seamen, and 24 Lascars; the rest in the engine room and steward's department. At the time of the collision the Chief Officer was on the bridge with witness; the second officer at the stern at his station to see the propeller kept clear; supernumerary second officer on the forecastle head; the third officer is the case the station of the state of the stat numerary second officer on the forecastle head; the third officer at the gangway on the hurricane deck on the port side; the fourth officer at the telegraph on the bridge; the carpenter attending the windless; and the boatswain under the supernumerary second officer on the forecastle head. One A.B. was on the look out; one on the chains; one at the bridge; one on the after part of the hurricane deck to pass the word; and one on the poop under the second officer. He had prepared a sketch of the Borneo's course from a Japanese chart corrected to 1897; the sketch showed the positions of ships and buoys in the harbour. It also gave the course of the Wayo Marts. When he first blew the siren the Borneo was abreast of the Caerthe siren the Borneo was abreast of the Caermarthenshire. Up to that time he had been on the port helm practically the whole time making toward the entrance. He did not starboard the helm until the Wayo was almost into the Borneo. The actual distance between the two light houses of the breakwater was 800 feet. The width of the practicable channel under the resource transport to the practicable channel. under the circumstances that morning would be at the very outside 500 feet, in view of the wind that was blowing and the light condition of the Bornes. His original object was to pass the break-Borneo. His original object was to pass the breakwater as near as possible to the southern lighthouse. If he had gone more to starboard instead
of to port he would have crossed the Wayo's bow;
if he had put the helm hard aport he would have
fouled the breakwater; if he had stopped he would
have "sagged" down on the shipping; if he had
gone astern he would have run into the Caermarthenshire and a German ship. He did not think
any manucurre could have been made on the part
of the Borneo, to avoid the collision or lessen its
force, more than was actually done.

By Mr. Walford: The distances in his sketch
were approximate: they were guessed as nearly

By Mr. Walterd: The distances in his sketch were approximate; they were guessed as nearly as possible. He did not see the Wayo till they were abreast of the Caermarthenshire; his sketch of the course of the Wayo was approximate. The only signal he heard from the Wayo was just before she struck; he then heard one faint whistle. He did not hear her signal that she was action states. He have the near signal that she was whiste. He did not hear her signal that she was going at quite eight knots when she was making for the break-water entrance. She had not stopped when she struck the Borneo. The Borneo had just gathered speed enough to answer her helm. When he first sounded the whistle he never dreamed for a moment

sounded the whistle he never dreamed for a moment that the Wayo was going to enter the brakwater as the Borneo was coming out. He could not pass her on her stern on account of the breakwater.

By Mr. Lowder—He could have done nothing in the harbour with shipping on all sides. The Argyle was heaving up her anchor to enter at the time witness was about to leave, but on seeing the position she let her anchor go again. The bow of the Wayo after the collision was much twisted round towards the starboard side. Witness gathered that she was going at eight knots an hour from the terrible blow she hit the Borneo; the highry to her bows showed that she struck injury to her bows showed that she struck

will great force.

By the Court: When he blew the first short blast he estimated the distance of the Ware Mars. at three quarters of a mile.

at three quarters of a mile.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming the log of the Borneo was put in.
John Ferguson, first officer of the Borneo, was called. He said he had been at sea 22 years, and had held a master's certificate since 1894. The log of the Borneo was in his writing. He had been in Japanese waters off and on ever since he had been at sea. He had never known two vessels try to pass the harbour mouth at the same time: it would be dangerous. If he were entering a harbour and saw a ship teaving it he should either ease down or stop. The sketches which had been put into court represented the actual positions as meanly as could be. When he first sighted the Wayo she was about three quarters of a mile away. She was coming at such speed that it was necessary to blow the siren, although that signal was not ordered by the regulations. This blast sary to blow the siren, although that signal was not ordered by the regulations. This blast could not mistaken for a short blast. The Wayo did not reduce her speed, and a short blast. The Holast was sounded. The Borneo was then between the Caermarthenshire and the German between the Caermarthenshire and the German between these two vessels. Just afterwards he saw the Wayo passing under the stern of the saw the Wayo passing under the stern of the saw the Wayo passing under the stern of the law the westward afterwards the Wayo might to the westward afterwards the Wayo might have avoided the cullision, but she changed her course just before the collision. If the gave the times of the different orders on the mosu-

Borneo had stopped at this time she would have drifted on to the Caermarthenshire; the same consequence would have followed if she had drifted on to the Caemarthenkirs; the same consequence would have followed if she had gone astein; if she had gone to starboard she would have collided with the Ways: and if hard to poit she would have fouled the Erato and the heakwater. There was no other mancouve, beyond what was done, to avoid the collision or lessen its force. Everything possible was done. Witness should judge, by the wash at the Wayo's hows, that she was going at least eight or nine knots an hour prior to the collision; at the actual time of striking she was going at six to eight knots. She strick the Borneo and rebounded, and then humped her a third time. Witness saw her strike twice. The Borneo was strick in the strongest part of the slip, and in his opition the damage done could not have been effected if the Wayo had been going at two of three knots an hour. It was quite impossible that the Wayo had stopped and reversed before the condition. He concluded that from the condition of the Wayo's hows. There was no painted rule. of the Wayo's hows. There was no printed rule on the matter, but it was generally understood that in case of a vessel leaving and a vessel entering a tarbour the yessel entering should give way to the other

the other.

By Mr. Walford: The course of the Wayo in the chart was drawn by the commander from what the officers of the Borneo saw; it was merely an approximate sketch of the course. The Wayo Mars must have changed her course after the Borneo's second signal: but witness did not himself see her change it. The position in which she was at the time she struck the Borneo could not have been produced by the Wayo stopping and going astern.

have been produced by the Wayo stopping and going astern.

By the Comit: It was seven minutes between the time of the collision. He thought he heard fainful one signal from the Wayo. It might have been one, two, or these blasts—he could not say. He saw the steam from the whistle. That was about a minute and a half before the collision, and the Wayo might have been then about a ship's length and a half from them.

and a half from them.
The Captain of the Bornes, recalled, said be

The Capitais of the Borneo, recalled, said be ordered the two short blasts given just before the collision: but, being in a hurry and standing near at hand, he placed his hand on the gear and put the whistle in operation himself.

James Sims, able seaman, said he was steering on the morning of the collision. The Wayo was about two ships' lengths away when the last two blasts were given; and then the Capitain called out to the other steamer to go astern and called out to witness to go hard a starboard. He did so and continued so until they were struck. He heard no signal from the other steamer.

Red Gambier, alle seamans, said he was on the

heard no signal from the other steamer.

Red Gambier, able seaman, said he was on the bridge at the time of the collision. He remembered the Captain's were on the instrument at the same time. The collision took place almost immediately afterwards. He estimated the speed of the Wayo at the time of striking at nothing under five knots. Herry Byron, second officer of the Bornes, said he was stationed on the poop when the collision took place. He first sighted the Wayo as they were rounding the Caermarthanthire. He put her speed then at seven or eight knots and she appeared to maintain that speed up to the time of the collision. He generally coroborated the

of the collision. He generally corroborated the other two officers evidence as to the signals given by the Borneo, but added that immediately before the collision be heard three blasts, very faint, from the Ware.

the wayo.

Chicton Edward Dormer Trelawney, supernumerary secund officer of the Borneo, said
he was stationed on the forecaste head. He
thought the Wayo slowed down a little
just before the collision, but nothing very
perceptible. He heard the Wayo give one short
least on the subjuste year triaths, and there perceptible. He heard the Wayo give one short blast on her whistle very taintly, and three other thats, also very faint, just before she collided. The first short blast was after the second signal of afthe Borneo. He had seen the bows of the Wayo since the collision and they twisted decidedly to stanboard; that might be an indication that the Wayo was on her stanboard helm in the time.

By the Court: At the time of the collision the Ropping was an hear as notable ables and the nor-

ing of the callision showing the ships struck at 6.48. He heard one short blast from the Ways and afterwards three short blasts; but unless he had seen the steam from the whistle he should not have noticed them. The second three blasts were less than a minute before the collision. He did not notice any alteration in the course of the Wayo, and very little in her speed. He should judge her speed to be not under seven knots, and her course to be north and west. The Barnes was very close to the

morthern breakwater.
Thomas Edward Legg, second engineer on the Borneo, produced a record of the times at which the different orders were received in the engine

At the conclusion of his evidence the Court adjourned till 9.30 this morning.

The Court reassembled at the British Con-

Walter Kemble Tresize, examined by Mr. Low-sulate at 9,30 on Tuesday more sing.

Walter Kemble Tresize, examined by Mr. Lowder, deposed—I am an engineer and manager of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works. We are repairing the Borneo. The damages sustained included 8 plates—two plates below the water line, formed are three plates in the none. forward, also three plates in the poop. Internally decks and water tanks broken, beam ends in Nuc deces and water tanks proxen, peam engs in Nu-4 hold fractured, also frames damaged. The damage includes the bulwark plating and sails. The after damage on starband side of poop in-cluded, internally, tavatory fittings, frames, decks (iron) and waterway. This was the principal dam-age. I should say from the damages that the Bor-neo had been struck first violently and then again, neo had been struck first violently and then again, causing damage to the two lower plates—damage to the six plates in a vestical line. A third blow occurred at the poop. The tonnage of the Wayo Maru, late Bingloe, 1.854 official tonnage, 1.758 gross, 1.183 net. This is from Lloyd's Register. A ship travelling at the rate of five feet per second would strike a blow of 500 tons, taking her tonnage at 1,000. I should consider that the speed was above 5 feet per second, from the damage done. I have surveyed the bows of the Wayo Maru and made a report of the damage (identified and put in). I also made a sketch of the bows of the Wayo Maru (tracing of sketch put in.) I should say from the damage to the Wayo that she must have struck the Borneo at right in.) I should say from the damage to the Wayo that she must have struck the Borneo at right augles,

angles.

To Mr. Walford—I have no sketch of the damage to the Borneo, nor a photograph. The most toward of the three blows was the most serious. It was a very heavy blow. The second blow was six III eight feet alt. It might have been done by the rehounding or heeling back. The third impact was sixly to eighty feet alt of the second blow. The third blow was slighter than the second. It could not have been done by the Borneo striking the Wayo. The air ports were torn alt, showing that it was a sliding blow from the stem III the Wayo. From the damage done to both ships I concluded that the speed of the Wayo was over five feet per second. I did not take into consideration the speed the Borneo was travelling. ation the speed the Borneo was travelling.

ation the speed the Borneo was travelling.

Kawano Sotara, master of the Wayo Maru, examined by the Count, deposed that the steamer belonged to Hyogo; on the 20th Feb, she arrived at this port from Hyogo and passed the Hondrow Lightship at 6.2 a.m. He passed the lightship on the north side, about 4 to 5 onbles off when abeam. From that punct he steered W. N. 2 points. He was steering direct for the rad lighthouse at the entrance to the harbour. Before arriving at the entrance he did not pass by any other ship. He saw a ship at anchor, and passed on the south side. He did not alter his course to pass the ship; it was not in his way. After passing the ship at anchor he altered his course, about two cables from the white light. He changed the course half a point to starboard, so as just to clear inside, the ted lighthouse. He first saw a steamer about to leave the pier at 6.25 a.m. He was then in the position marked on the chart, and blew a long blast on the whistle. A little further on he saw the steamer in mution leaving the pier. He was then going a little over two namical miles an hour. He continued that course till 6.42; at 6.43 he reversed his engines to go astern. The other ship was then slightly shead of the position marked on the chart when the bow of the Wayo Mark turned slightly to starboard. The Borneo then came on in front and struck the Wayo The Borneo had a good deal of speed on and Kawano Sotaro, master of the Waye Maru, exbowof the Wayo Mark turned slightly to stabband. The Borneo then came on in front and struck the Wayo The Borneo had a good deal of speed on and the wind caught her and she drifted on to the bow of the Wayo Mark. The Borneo have to the left, and was going in full speed. He did not know at the moment the Borneo struck whether the Wayo Mark tea stopped or not. The Wayo Mark tea bounded and then struck the Borneo again slightly. The Borneo then made a curve to the north. Witness was steering for the northern side of the

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harbour entrance because the harbour inside there was less crowded. When he saw the Borneo leaving the pier witness could not tell whether he would be able to get inside the harbour before the Borneo reached the entrance. Until he reached the week the positions marked D, and E, he could not tell what the Borneo was doing. He heard a short blast from the Borneo's whistle; he did not a short blast from the Borneo's whistle: he did not hear a long blast from the syren. He thought the whistle meant that the Borneo was going to the starbeard. He thought the Borneo was coming out of the barbour; her fore stay-sail wan np. He afterward hard two blasts from the Borneo's whistle: rather more than four minutes after the first. He understood that to mean that the Borneo was altering her course to port. Wilness had been in command of steamers for ten ness had been in command of steamers for ten years, He had seen local regulations with regard to Yokohama harbour. He did not know walting for a vessel going out. On making the port he began to slow down the engines at the lightship. He stopped for daylight about 25 minutes before coming to the lightship. The Waye did not attain full speed before entering the harbour. On passing the lightship he was going a little over 2 knots. The wind was due north, force 2 to 5. The Wayo was fully laden. The time batween reversing the engines and the collision was about 2 minutes. After the first impact of the collision her engines were still going astern. Theton-nage of the Mayo Mark was 1,173 tons. It was a little more than 2 minutes before the collision that he heard the two blasts from the Borned's whistle-He thought to pass the Bornes port to part.

To Mr. Walford-He took a bearing at 5 50 no Mr. Wantord—The took a bearing at 550 a.m. and again at the lighthlip. He never went south of the lighthlip on entering the harbour. On hearing the first blast of the Berneo he ceplied with one blast and altered his course slighty to starboard. He could see about half the hull of the Borneo through the entrance. The Borneo was then distant about half a knot from the Waye Maru. He heard a shout from the Borneo less than a He heard a shout from the Borneo less than a minute before the collision. This occurred at 6.45. When he heard the two whistles he gave the order to go full speed astern. At the time of the collision some speed had been taken off the ship; he could not say if she was still going ahead. He thought it was the Borneo's swering round in the left which caused the second impact. was no third blow

At this point an adjournment was made for tiffin

When the Court resumed the enquiry after siffio :

Kawano Sotaro, in reply to Mr. Lowder, de posed that when he blew a long blast from his histle at 6.25 he intended to notify to the shipping that he was coming in. Among the harbour regulations there was one requiring a vessel com-ing in to steer due west for two cables inside the points of the entrance, inside the harbour. The place of collision was putside the harbour. He had in view this regulation. The times that he had given in his evidence as having taken certain steps were taken from a clock hanging no and written down by the second officer. Rule No. 19 of the Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea was in his mind when entering the harbow. This provided that if two ships were crossing their courses in a way likely to cause a collision, the ship which had the other on her own starboard side shall keep out of the way. He also had rule 21 in his mind. The latter was that when one of two ships must avoid the other, the other must

op her course and speed.
To the Court—When the Borneo blew her blasts she was a little to the north of the centre of the fairway.

Hirai Shekichi, second officer of the Wayo Maru, examined by the Court, deposed that on the morning of the 20th February he was on watch at 545 a.m. The ship was then have to. At 550 they got under way and proceeded "slow" by the telegraph, starting at 2 ceeded "slow" by the telegraph, starting at 2 knots in hour and continued at the same speed till they went astern. Writness was on the bridge, and at about 6.25 saw the Borneo at the pier flying the blue peter. He heard a short whistle from the Borneo after she telt the pier and a fittle over 4 minutes after two blasts. At that time the Borneo was near the mouth of the harbour. The two blasts were blown, Il might be, a little over two minutes before the collision. When the two whistles were heard the Captain of the Wase gave The Court then rose,

Borno after she left the pier and a fittle over the minutes after two blasts. At that time the Borne was near the mouth of the harbour. The two blasts were blown, Il might be, a little over two minutes before the collision. When the two whistles were heard the Captain of the Warg gave the order "full speed astern." The two vessels struck twice; the first time severely, and then slightly out the stern of the Warg, going to port.

Yueyama Genhachi, chief engineer of the Warg Mark, testified that he was on duty in the engine room of the steamer on the morning if the engine room of the steamer on the morning if the engine room of the steamer on the morning if the point and preferred by Squire Shires, third engineer of the Warg, going to port.

Yueyama Genhachi, chief engineer of the Warg Mark, testified that he was on duty in the engine room of the steamer on the morning if the engine room of the steamer on the morning if the charge of the the complainant who was a second engineer, and Karston again came up for hearing.

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The Court then rose.

The Count then rose.

About half-past seven c'clock this morning, the German ocident has leave and outside the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the port can define the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th February. The vessels remained outside the port can define the harbour, from Singapore, which port they left on Monday. 28th Februar

ceeded at 5.32, stopped again at 5.40, and went on again, very slowly, at 5.55. They were making about 28 or 30 revolutions to the minute. The telegraph was indicating slow. They continued at that speed until near the harbour when an apprentice told him he could slack down a little, and he reduced perhaps two or three revolutions. The engines were reversed about 643. The order was given by the telegraph and he carried it out immediately. The engines continued reversed about 5 minutes. Before 5.25 the number of revolutions minutes. Before 5.25 the number of revolutions had been about 32. About two minutes after the reversal of the engines he felt the collision.

The pitch of the propeller was 20 feet.

Captain Lyons, recalled, deposed that the number of his certificate was 04710. The number of passengers they had on board was nine. All his

orders were promptly obeyed.

The master of the Wayo recalled at his own request supplemented his evidence to the effect that in his evidence he had referred to the regulation regarding navigation in narrow channels, where the ship had III keep the starbnard side. He wished it to be noticed that he was awase of this rule,

No. 25.
Oshio Iyosaburo, chief officer of the Wayo Maru, Oshio Iyosaburo, chief officer of the Wayo Maru, testified that he was on duty at the forecastle head at the time of the collision. The Wayo passed the Argyll outside the tathour about 6.30, passing south of her, about two or three cables distance. After the collision witness took a hearing of the position of the Argyll, which was lying East by South of the place where the Wayo Maru was such and Whan he trook the abservation he saw the chored. When he took the observation he saw the chored. When he took the observation he saw the Argyll over the north breakwater. The position of the white lighthouse was S.E., 7 deg. E. from where the Wayo, anchored. The deviation of the compass was 1 deg. W. The bearings of the budy from the Wayo was E. 7 deg. S. He took the hearings a little after 7 a.m. in the 20th Feb. The Wayo was heading N.N.W.

To Mr. Lowder—When witness took the bearing the Argyll was heading northerly; he did not take any special notice. The wind was from the north. He took the bearing at that time because the Borneo had gone in that direction the management and for future reference. He knew and anchored, and for future reference. He knew of the damage to the Wayo Marse then; she was leaking; orders were given to the crew to was leaking; orders were given to the crew to go to the boat stations. It was after seven when he took the bearings but he did not remember exactly. The Argyll followed the Way into the harbour very soon, but witness was en-gaged in other work and did not notice at what time. The Argyll was not getting up her anchor when he took his observation. He had time to take the hearing after coming to anchor before the Argy# was under way.

Captain Lyons, recalled,-It was reported to me e Captain of the Argyll that he was heaving in his anchor when the Borneo was going through the harbour entrance. He might of course have dropped it again. He believed that the Argyll

was inside the harbour when the Borneo came to anchor; she was certainly under way.

The Court then settred to consider its verdici, declining to hear Counsel, and delivered the following finding at about 8 45 p.m. :-

#### FINDING.

After a prelude setting forth the circumstances brought out by the evidence produced, the Court found that the prime cause of the collision was, that the other vessel (the Wayo Maru) attempted to enter the harbour in the direction in which she did, at a high rate of spead, white the Borneo was confined by the shipping and the breakwater in

getting out of the harbon.
The master of the Bornes, Fuzhingh C. A. Lyon. appears to have navigated his vessel in a seam like manner and when a casualty was inevitable to have done everything in his power to mitigate it. The conduct of the officers and crew appears to have been satisfactory and proper discipline maintained. The expenses of the Court were fixed at £16.4.9, which were approved and must be paid by the master, R. C. A. Lyon, as one of the parties thereto.

hit him on the jaw, threw him down, and jumped on him.

In cross-examination complainant denied that

he had challenged defendant to fight because defendant had refused him leave of absence.

Defendant—Did you say several times that you wanted to put a head on me (meaning to knock me down)?

Complainant-Not I; I shouldn't he en silly as

to go for a man twice my size,
William Weatherall, chief officer, said he heard a disturbance, and found defendant on top of the complainant on No. 3 hatch. The defendant was punching complainant about the head and face. Witness Witness got hold of him by the collar and drag-ged him off.

Cross-examined - He did not see the third

engineer take off his coat and challenge defendant to fight.

Defendant asked for an adjournment, as his principal witness, the chief engineer, was ill and could not attend.

could not accesso.

His Bostour—I believe there is a charge against the chief engineer for being absent without leave.

Captain Cameron—Yes; but he came on board stright. This morning he was too ill to came

His Honour—What is the nature of his illness?
The Captain—I believe he is suffering from the effects of drink.
His Honour—Well, I adjourn the case tiff to-

morrow. I suppose 24 hours is sufficient to re-cover from the effects of drink.

Defendants—I don't think so, your Honour.
His Honour—Then it must be very bad. At any rate 48 hours will do.

Eventually, for the convenience of the solicitor, the case was adjourned till Monday.

John Neshit, boilermaker on the sameship, w

John Nosbit, boilermaker on the same ship, was then changed with refusing duty and unlawful neglest of duty from March 8th to March 15th.

The Captain stated that he received complaints from the second officer that defendant declined work of the second officer that defendant declined by the second state orders. Witness spoke to defendant, but the latter said he would take orders from no one but the chief engineer.

Mr. Karston, the second engineer, wave similar

Mr. Karston, the second engineer, gave similar

Mr. Weatherall, the chief officer, was called for the defence, and said he heard the chief engineer say to the defendant on March 8th that he had no more work for defendant III do just then, that he would "boss" defendant, and give him all his arders.

George Thomas Bright, the second officer, gave

similar evidence.

The Captain said it was the recognised thing that the second engineer was the executive officer, and that the other men were under his histructions.

and that the other men were under his instructions. Karston, recalled, said the chief engineer had never mentioned to him anything about releasing the boiler-maker from duty. He had, however, told witness that he was to give orders to the men under him according to his discretion. The chief engineer was now suffering from the effects of drink.

The chief engineer was now suffering from the effects of drink.

His Honour (to defendant)—Technically you may be guilty, but it is clear by the evidence that this is brought on you by the chief engineer giving contradictory orders. I think the captain ought to have enquired into that part of the matter before this case was brought into Count, I don't think I can punish you for the chief engineer's giving these contradictory orders. The evidence shows that at the present time hais intoxicated, and I think that as a question of discipline that is a matter for the captain menquire into. You is a matter for the captain III enquire into. You are discharged. I am told the owner of the ship is in court, and I should like to see him in my private room.

#### PRINCE HENRY AT HONGKONG.

The China Mail of the 8th inst. contains the following account of the landing of Prince Henry at Hongkong :--

**URBANA-CHAMPAIGN** 

high out of the water and her width is disproportionate to her length, so far as shapeliness is concerned, her dimensions being; length 280 ft., beam 62 ft. 4in, and mean draught 24ft. 7in. Although of 7,310 metric tons displacement her normal coal supply in only 710 tons, her speed design being for 14.5 knots and her engines of 5,360 indicated horsepower. Her armament has been brought up to date, and consists of eight 10.2 in, guns, seven 5 yin, guns, nine 3.4 quick-firers, twelve machine guns, and two light guns, whilst she carries five torpedo tubes. The original heavy rig has all gone, and there are now two light fighting maste, fore and main, with a movable mizzon for signalling ourposes that is not at present up. The cobin accommodation is most sumptuous, and the wardroom is a luxurious apartment, white panelled, with elaborate brass electric light fittings. A large photograph of the Kaiser, with his father and grandfather hanging on each side, is one of the prominent features of this apartment. On the opposite will hang the two colebrated allegorical pictures of Wilhelm II., with a pencilled autograph inscription on each. "Meiner Panzorschiffe Deutschland, Wilhelm K, and I." These were presented to the ship by the Kaiser when she left Kiel There is also au autograph portrait presented by the Princess Irene. The Prince's cabins occupy the alterpart of the ironclad, a good-sized dining-room, with a large drawing-room cabin opening into it. Both have white-wood furniture, very nice, but with no special aplendour about them.

The Geffon in quite a modern deck-protected second class twin screw cruiser, and was launched in 1893 at Schiebau. Elbing. She is of 4007 metric tons displacement, and her dimensions are; length 314ft 6in, and beam 48ft. Sin. Her engines of 9,000 in dicated horse power are capable of propelling her in a speed of 20 knots per hour, she has a coal capacity of 950 tons. The armament of the Geffon consists of eight 59 in. guns, ten 4.1 in. quick-firers, six 19 in guns, two machine guns and

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(BRON THE " JAPAN TIMBA")

RUSSIA'S PREPARATIONS. HUGE EXPENDITURE ON WARSHIPS.

London, March 11.

A Russian Imperial Ukase has been issued ordaining an extraordinary expenditure of ninety million roubles in the construction of warships.

THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST. SIGNIFICANT ARTICLE IN "THE TIMES."

The Times in a leading article, says that never since the Crimean war have the British people been less disposed to brook bidden Lord Salisbury to transact any tamely the infringement of their just rights in any quarter. They are con-vinced of the justice of their cause and the magnitude of the issues both in China and West Africa.

### MR. CURZON'S SPEECH ON CHINESE AFFAIRS.

A CORRECTION.

In his speech in the House of Commons on March 3rd, Mr. Curzon said the Chinese political concessions to Britain proved the friendliness of China and the ability of Sir Claude Macdonald, not the loan negotiated with the banks as was erroneously stated.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. RENEWED FEARS AND PANIC: WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

London, March 14. A renewed state of semi-panic prevails 

in connection with the Maine explosion. Active warlike preparations are proceeding in both countries. It is officially stated at Washington that the Government has no knowledge as to the cause of the disaster to the Maine and that no report about it has been received.

THE BOMBAY PLAGUE.

GENERAL STRIKE.

A general labour strike has been de-clared at Bombay as a protest against the plague measures.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. THE NEW MINISTER'S CORDIAL RECEPTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

London, March 15. The new Spanish Minister has presented his credentials to President McKinley amid mutual expressions of cordiality and the desire for close and friendly relations.

THE SAFETY OF HONGKONG. STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Curzon stated in the House of Commons that steps were required for the proper security of Hongkong. The question had been occupying the Government for some time.

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN. REMARKABLE FORCED MARCH OF BRITISH TROOPS.

The British brigade arrived at Berber after a march of four days and three nights, a remarkable feat. Numbers of men wore out their boots and arrived barefooted.

#### LORD SALISBUBY'S HEALTH. ORDERED ABROAD.

The doctors have ordered Lord Salisbury to leave for the Riviera in a week's time. Mr. Balfour will conduct the business of the Foreign Office during the Premier's absence.

END OF THE BOMBAY STRIKE.

London, March 15.

The Bombay strikes are at an end, and quiet has been restored.

BARNATO BROTHERS' PARTNER SHOT DEAD.

Mr. Woolf Joel, of the firm of Barnato Brothers, has been shot dead in his office at Johannesberg, by a man named Wertheimer, who had demanded £2,550.

LORD SALISBURY'S HEALTH.

business.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA

The return match between Stoddart's team and the Australians was won by England by seven wickets.

> (Received by the Flift) -EXCITEMENT IN HONGKONG.
> Shanghai, March 10.

The latest from Hongkong states that the situation is regarded there as critical, and public excitement is intense.

THE AMERICAN SQUADRON TO DEMON-STRATE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The American Squadron staying at Hongkong has received orders to proceed to Manila.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

Prince Henry of Prussia will stay at Hongkong for about four weeks longer.

she should fail to give her a definite reply by the 26th inst., Russia would adopt the last measure open to her.

ENGLAND'S ATTITUDE.

Soul, March 11.

Mr. Jordan, British Consul in Soul, has been appointed Minister Resident.

CHANGE OF KORRA'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS RUSSIA.

Söul, Mar. 12.

Last night the Cabinet held a council and came to the decision to discontinue the services of Russian drill instructors and the financial adviser. This morning at five a communication to the above effect was sent to the Russian Representative.

EXAMINATION OF YE CHAI-SUM.

Soul, March 15.

The Supreme Court has been opened, appointed to examine Ye Chai-sum on the charge of complicity in the Kim Hong-muk

TREASURY APPOINTMENT.

The Vice-Minister of the Treasury has been appointed acting Minister of the same Department.

A FRESH BATCH OF RUSSAIN SOLDIERS IN SOUL.

Over 60 Russian Officers and men accompanied by 70 coolies carrying their baggage arrived here yesterday from Chemulpho.

THE OUTLOOK BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Peking, March 16.
The War Minister and other members of the Tsung-li Yamen are reported to have lately addressed the Throne as to the policy they should adopt in the event of Russia attempting to obtain her demands by force. The Emperor's reply was that they should strive to minimize the concessions. Such being the case, China will be obliged to agree to the extension of Russian railways through Manchuria and the lease of Talien-wan. China on her part, however, would endeavour to obtain the withdrawal of similar concessions in regard to Port Arthur.

#### JAPAN-CHINESE RELATIONS.

A great change has taken place in the feeling of the Chinese Court and people towards Japan. Gradually the idea is spreading as to the necessity of looking to Japan for support.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

THE	MEXT M	IAIL IS DUI	S.
From	Lines	Steamer.	Date.
Assèrica	P. M. Co.	City of Peking s	Su. Mar. a
Hongkong	O, & O, Co,	Venue a	M. Mar. m
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Brnest Simons 3	W. Mar. ag
iléngkeng	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Jepan	Th. Mar. sq
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	C, Rio J'ntro	3 h. Har. 31
America in account	O. & O. Cu.	Doric 4	Th. Mar. 31
Canada, &c.,,,,,,	C, P, R. Co	Em, of India	Su. Apr. 10
Curope	N. D. Lloyd	{fahenzollern	W. Apr. 13

- 1 Left San Francisco on the ard inst
- . Left Hongkong on the 15th inst. a Left Hongk og on the 14th Inut
- 4 Laft San Francisco on the 14th innt-

THE	NEXT M	AII. LEAVE	S
For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Mat. 18
Hongkang	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. Mac. st
Hongkeng	P. & O. Co	Rosetta	Tu. Mar. an
Americk	0. lt 0. to,	Venus	W. Mar. 25
Shangbai	N Y. K.	Nagato Mani	W. Mer. 23
anada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Ein. of Japan	P. Mar. 05
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	Tn. Mar. 19
Europe, via S'hai.		Kanest Simons	W. Mar. 34
America	P. Mario,	C. Rio J'niro	Se. Apr. u
*or w ∩r	ioums-lateo	173m of facility	50 5

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Canal Rollion.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Chib).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 360. 1-R to B 3 2-R to Q 6 mate 1-K takes R 1-Q takes R (B 3) 2-Q to Q 5 mate I-Q takes R (B 6) ch 2-B takes Q mate 1-Q 10 Q3 2-R takes O mate 1-Q to B 5 2-R to B 5 mate 1-Quny other 2-R (B6) to B 4 mate 1-K to K 4 2-R to E 6 mate

I-Moves either Kt 2-R to K 6 mate Correct solution received from W.H.S., D.D.,

Miss S., Voils, and W.K.
Skak--Von overlooked the R (B 6) being pinned by the black Queen.

# PROBLEM No. 363. By F. B. Frast, Edmburgh,



White to play and mate in two moves.

GAMR, No. 371.

The following is one of the games, recently referred to, between Mesers O. Balk and R. A. Cleland, played in the Dunedin Championship

White-Cleland.		Black-Batk.		
WHITE.	BLACK.		BLACK	
1 P K4	PK4	9 K   B 5(c)	B×K+!	
2 K1 KB3	Kt QB3	to PxB	Q R5!	
3 B B4	P KR3(a)	11 QK2(d)	K Q 5q ! K: Kt5!	
4 III Q4	PxP	12 K B ·q .	Ki Ktg!	
5 KtxP	Kt K4	13 B K3	RxB1	
6 B Kt3	B B4	14 PxR	KtxPch	
7 Kt BS	P Q3	15 K Kt sq	KixQB	
8 KtxKtP		"	P, dis cl·(e)	
ch(b)	K B sq	16 Resigns(1)	)	

Notes from the Otago Witness.

(a) It is difficult to discover the purpose of the move, and the only thing that can be suggested is that it was intended to throw White off his guard which it does.

—which it does.

(b) A bad move. Something similar may occur in the Scotch game, thus:—I—P to K 4, P to K 4; 2—Kt to K B 3, Kt to Q II 3; 3—P to Q 4. P takes P; 4—Kt takes P, B to B 4; 5—Kt to B 5, P to Q 4; 6—Kt takes P ch, K to II sq. and Black gets the best of it. In the present game the move is even worse for White.

(c) If q—Kt to R 5, B to K Kt 5 wins it.

(d) There seems to be no better move.

(e) Black has played the end-game in first class

(f) Black mates in five or six moves.

THE RICE GAMBIT.

Professor Rice has discovered a gambit within a gambit, or, in other words, he sacrifices another piece in the famous Kieseritzky Gambit and secures an overwhelming attack. The Professor has cures an overwhelming attack. The Professor has published his gambit with thorough analysis by Mr. S. Lipschutz. The general idea is as fol

1-P to K 4	t-P to K4
2-PtoKB4	2-P takes P
3-Kt to K B 3	3-P to K Kt 4
4-P to K R 4	4-P to Kt 5
5-Kt to K 5	5-Kt to KB 3
6-B to B 4	 6-P to Q 4
7-P takes P	 7—B to Q 3
8-Castles	8Blakes-Kt

Here is where the gambit comes in. White plays 9-R to K sq, etc. There are very many variations, and in several positions White has only one satisfactory answer, which seems so very no-likely that hardly any player, possibly no one ex-cept Professor Rice or Mr. Lipschuz, would find

#### GAME, No. 372.

CONSULTATION GAME PLAYED AT HASTINGS.

SICU	LIAN DRYKNOM.
WhiteH. E. Dobell, G	inner, BlackM.  anowski.
Mrs Stevens,	· ·
WHITE, BLACK	. WHITE. BLACK.
1 P K <sub>4</sub> P ΩB <sub>4</sub>	
2 KI QB3 PR3	
3 K: B3 P Q4	
4 PxP PxP	1 (g) Q R4
5 P Q4 B K3	
6 PxP BxP	23 KixP(i) RixKt
7 B Q3(a) Kt Kl	
8 Q K2(b) K1 B3	25 Q R8 ch K K2
o P OR3 Castle	s zőŘKsqchKtKó
10 B KKI5 R K -	q 27 Q R4 ch K Q2(k)
11 Cols KŘ B KŘ	
12 Q Q2 BxKt	
13 FxB Kt Q5	30 Q K14 P KK13
14 Q B4 Kt Ri	
15 OxKt(c) QxB o	:l-(il)   32 P Kt4 - B Q5
16 Q K14 Q R3	33 R K8 ch K B2
17 QR K 29	34 P B3(I) B K4
(e) RxR(f	
18 R×R Q Q7	36 Q Kış eli Resigns.

(a) Or, 7-B to Kt 5 ch, followed by castling.
(b) As castling on the queen's side was too dangerous, this move was useless.

dangerous, this move was useless.

(c) If 15—Q to Kt 4, Q takes B; 16—Q takes Q, Kt takes P ch, &c.

(d) If B takes Q, 16—B takes Q, I takes Kt, with a trifling advantage for Black.

(e) If 17—Kt takes P, R to K 4, threatening R to Kt 4.

(f) The exchange was prompted by Black's desirted to play Q to Q 7 attention desired.

(1) The exchange was prompted by Diack's desire to play Q to Q 7 afterwards.

(g) A very clever move; it sent the queen out of play entirely.

(b) If P to Kt 4, Q to R 5; 23—Kt to B 3, Q

takes R P. &c.

(i) A plucky and well-judged mov (k) He should have played P to B 3.
(I) Good again. Black has no answer.

#### NEWS BY THE MAIL.

There is, says Gunaberg, in the St. James's Gazette, a time and a season for everything. A Grazelle, a time and a seasmit for everything. Ayoung player seeks to play matches; an old player, if he be discreet and not too conceited, will avoid playing matches, especially if he can employ his chest talents for the benefit of the public in other directions. At Janowski recently issued a challenge for a match to any player in England. As, however, there are no young players in England. sowever, mere use no young prayers in England, the challenge was not accepted. In the case of the English players there is only one way of getting them to play a chess match, and that is, for those of the public interested in such contests to accarge it for them on a profitable basis.

According to La Stratégie M. Janowski has challenged M. Charonsek to play a match for a minimum stake of 1,500 marks.

The Chess-Editor of The Times-Democrat, New Ocleans, is of the opinion that "if Lasker had to choose between Pillshury and Charousek for the easier adversary, he would choose the latter."

The Westminster Gazette gave this opinion of Charonsek (winner of the first prize at the Bedin Tournament) in 1806:—" We are of the opinion that since Morphy and Kolisch no more promising player has risen in the chess would than Charousek. We can testify that this opinion was shared by all the competitors at the Noremberg Congress, with the exception of one, Lasker, but his evidence was somewhat biassed by the fact that he loat his game with Charousek. We have so much pleasure in recording this fact since the appreciapleasure in recording this fact since the apprecia-tion of Charonsek's genius by the large majority of the Nuremberg competitors was only a corrador in recording this fact since the apprecia ration of our own opinion expressed the very first day of the tournament."

#### PROBLEM COUNTERPEITING.

The Canterbury Times (\* N. Z. paper) takes up the question of counterfeiting problems, and illustrates the plan suggested for its supression by Mr. S. S. Blackburne. The Times says:—"I seems clear therefore that, if problem competitions are to have any value, some guarantee for honesty and originality must in future be insisted on; and we have not yet seen any better proposals than that which two of our composers—Mr. Blackburne and "X,Y,Z,"—independently made in their

letters to us last July. These correspondents sug-that former judges should require every composer to send in with his competing position diagrams showing his problem in its various stages of evo-lution, from the first conception to the finished production."

There can be no doubt that the plan suggested might perhaps be effective for the detection of this very mean kind of fraud. It is hardly to be supposed, however, that such frauds are at all common among problem composers. On the contrary, they are very rare, and it would be an insult to competitors in problem tourneys to treat them as likely to be guilty of such vile conduct, and insist upon their furnishing evidence of honesty and originality of work before permitting them to compete in tourneys. Would it not be better to punish pere in conneys. Would a not be better to phonon the guilty when the guilt is proved? To obtain a prize in a problem fourney by means of a counterfeit problem is clearly an offence against the law; and at the present day it is by no means an easy matter to issue a counterfeit problem without its being detected, especially if it takes a prize out its being detected, especially if it takes a prize in a tourney. Moreover, it does not necessarily follow that all problems go through the same process of evolution as those put forward by Mr. Blackhume. Is it not possible that a billiant conception may sometimes flash upon the mind at one inspiration, as Athena sprang from the head of Zeus full grown and completely aimed? Take Morphy's gamer, and see how many brilliant and charming endings were produced by him—not by an elaborate system of evolution, but on the spur of the moment. May it not also be so in the case of some problems? On the whole it is better that a counterfeit prublem should pass undetected and the utterer escape punishment than that the insult the atterer escape punishment than that the insult of suspicion should be cast upon the great number of honomable men who amuse and delight chessists by their ingenious problem compositions.

## MIRANDA-THE OLD AND THE NEW.

(Tempest, Act IV., scene L) Fair were the match conditions, The contest without grole, The contest winder gane,
When Ferdinand and Miranda
Played chess on Prospero's I.de.
And still their whispers one can hear,
The sudden scene nothiled,
The soft, 'You play me false, I fear,'
I would not for the world!'
Local war not deamy of them.

Luceus was not disanit of then. Nor Ruy with shaven pate, Nor he who left to after men The famous smothered mate; Chess, in whose now entangled maze

One scarce a key discovers,

One scarce a key discovers,

Was in those early, happy days

A paradise for loyers!

Then champions, mild as habes new born, Pursued no private ends, Nor scattered journalistic scorn On rivals and on friends;

They played without a thought of fame,
They recked not of the spoil;
The subtle beauty of the game
Made capture of its toil!

Nay; thus let crutes very cook apthus let critics vent their spicen; Chess is, as it has ever been, The noblest game on earth I We'll modectake, should born a new

Miranda come our way, To teach ber in a month or two The charms of modern play C. C. P. in the British Chess Magazine

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540. D. Friele, 12th

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 12th March,—Hongkong via ponts, 3rd March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co. Nord, Norwegian stramer, 767, Ball, 12th March,—Sumatia, Oil.—M. Raspe & Co. Mogul, British steamer, 1.827, W. H. Wright, 13th March,—Pontland, O. egon, 19th February, Mails and General.—Distwell Caroll & Co. Oesona, Geiman steamer, 1,629, Formos, 14th March,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 6th March, General.—Simon Evers & Co. Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, A. Gow, 14th March,—Victoria, B.C. and Facoma Wash, 19th Feb, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 15th March, Hongkong, 6th March, Mails and General. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pybus, 15th March, Vancouver, B.C., 3rd March Mails and General, Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

0.25 10 0.221

Langbank, British steamer, 2,966, W. J. Rout 15th March,—Antwerp via ports, Kobe 14th March, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co. Rosetta, British steamer, 2,130, E. B. Bishop, 15th March,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, and Kobe 6th March, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,261, Williamson, 16th March, -London and Liverpool via posts, Robe 14th March, General. -Dodwell Carlill & Co.

14th March, General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co. Dardanus, British steamer, 2,846, Thus. M. Gregory, 16th March,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 15th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire. Gaetic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 17th Mar.,—San Feancisco via Honolulu 14th Mar., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co. Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, John Paine, 17th March,—London via ports, Kobe, 16th March, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co. Glensarn, British steamer, 1,425, W. Murray, 18th March,—Saigon, Rice,—Jardine, Mathieson & Co.

18th March,—Saigon, Rice,—Jardine, mathieson & Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Tsuji, 18th March,—Shanghai via ports, 12th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, J. A. Davies, 12th March,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 17th Mar., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Min. British steamer, 1,981, J. Johnson, 12th March,—Moji and Kuchinotsu, Ballast.— Samuel, Samuel & Co. Cerrs, German steamer, 2,663, Foetck, 12th Mar., —Havre and Hambing via ports, General.— Nippon Vusen Kaishu. Hashidate Kan. Laganese coast defence vessel.

Mippon Yaleen Karsine.

Hashidate Kan, Japanese coast delence vessel,
4,278, 30 guns, Capt. S. Kamimura, 14th March,
—Taleyama.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 15th March,-San Francisco, Mails and General.-P. M. S.S. Co.

P. M. S.S. Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, W. H. Wright,
15th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and
General.—Dadwell Carlill & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003. Henry
Pybus, 16th March,—Hongkong via ports,
Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Rail-

Columbia, British steamer, 1,688, A. Guw, 16th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and Gene-ial:—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Melbourns, French steamer, 2,033, D. Duchaten, 16th March, Marseilles via ports, Mails and General, M. M. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 16th March, Shanghai via ports, Mails

Conner, 16th Maich, — Shanghai via ponte, Maila and General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pakhoi, British steamer, 1.248, A. Scott, 16th March, — Otatu, Baliast. — Butterfield & Swire, Dorothea Rickmer, German steamer, 2.499, H. Pape, 17th March, — Moji, Bullast. — Samuel, Samuel & Co. Cowris, British steamer, 3,156, S. Patsons, 17th March, — Kobe, Od. — Samuel, Samuel & Co. Tokio March, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. W. Haswell, 18th March, — Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Maich, Mails and General. — Nippon Yosen Kaisha.

en Kaisha.

sen Kanna.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 18th
March,—Hongkong via poets, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker,
18th March,—Hongkong via Kote and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.,

Middleham Castle, Beitish steamer, 1,923, Jacka-man, 18th March,-Kobe, General.-Sale and

Co.
Oceana, German steamer; 1.629, Formes, 18th
March,—Kohe, Greeral,—Simon Evers & Co.
Akitsushima Kan, Japanese cruiser, 3,150, 19
guns, Capt. V. Inouye, 18th Mar.—Yokosuka.

#### PASSENGERS.

ABBIVED

Per American stemer Peru, from Hongkong wia ports:—Mr. J. Friesland, Mr. H. B. enuninger, Mr. F. G. P. ice, Mr. A. Dewhirrst, Mrs. Jacobson, Mrs. F. Redzway, Mr. Chas. Mouchet, Mr. G. Poullet Osler, Mr. and Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Westall, Mrs. Paullisen, Capt. J. W. Lee, Mr. Geo. Flood and servant, Mr. Schwab, Mr. F. T. Gause. Rev. F. H. Marshall, Miss Leavitt, Mr. T. Devenport, and Mr. K. Hidala; in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. J. A. A. Hauser, Lieut. W. G. Miller, Mrs. Geo. Flood, Master Flood, Mr. W. Kerr, Mrs. W. Kerr, Miss Kerr, and Mrs. Leavitt; in cabin. Leavitt; in cabin.

Per British steamer Columbia, from Victoria, B.C. via ports:—Mr. and Mr. Thus. Skinner, Mr. Carl Johnson, and Mr. E. M. Bamby, in cabin; 33 Chinese, 1 Japanese, to steame.

Per British steamer Empress of China from Vaucouver:—Mr. F. W. Breed, Mr. D. W. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Barnwell Clarke, Mr. Charles de La Camp, Mr. P. A. Hillhouse, Mrs. A. Laurie, Mr. W. P. Laurie, Mr. D. G. Lambert, Mrs. Thomas W. Mack, Mr. E. Rogers, Mr. G. Stanbury, Mr. R. Schwab, Mr. Shillito, and Mr. F. Schusser.

Schlusser.

Per German steamer Hohensollern, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Max Kanfmann, Mr.

T. H. Kershaw, Oscar Ritter von Loest, in
cabin; Mr. E. Achilles, Mr. A. Chaston, Miss K.
Vollner, Miss P. Weise, Mr. A. Hochgrassl, Mr.
Quang Shing Loong, Mr. C. Wolff, and Mr. H.

T. Drake, in second class; one Chinese, third
class: 26 Chinese in deck. class; 26 Chinese in deck.

#### DEPARTED.

Per American steamer Peru, for San Francisco:
—Mr. B. C. Assan, Mrs. B. C. Assan, Mrs. Geo.
Rhood, infant and nurse, Mr. K. Frosell, Mr. J.
A. A. Hanser, Mr. W. Kerr, Mrs. W. Kerr, Mrs.
Ken, Mrs. Leavitt, Lieut. W. G. Miller, U.S.N.,
and Mrs. Paulisen, in cabin.

and Mis. Paulisen, in cabio.

Per British steamer Empress of China Ioi
Hongkong and ports:—Count Wydenhuck, Mr.
J. Cander, Mrs. A. V. Atchison, Mr. Geo. Hays,
Rev. W. H. Hoy, Mr. and Mis. E. B. Shaw, Mr.
H. I. Chope, Mr. T. Glover, Mr. A. Launn, Mr.
E. E. Rittenhouse, Mr. N. B. McQueen, Mr. Gen.
Rhond, Mr. Adam MacDonald, Rev. A. D.
Woodworth, Mr. H. Delacamp, and Mr. O. D.
Richardson, in cabio.

Per British steamer Gaelic, for Hongkong via
norts:—Mai. H. S. Pinckand, Mrs. H. S. Pinck

Per British steamer Gastic, for Hongkong via ports:—Maj. H. S. Piuckand, Mrs. H. S. Piuckand, M. J. L. Ftood and valet, Miss Flood, Mr. Walter Fritz, Miss Fritz and maid, Col. C. A. Hopkins, Miss C. A. Hopkins, Rev. R. H. Wal-ker, Miss E. F. Boughton, Mr. W. N. Crane, Mrs. W. N. Crane, Mr. E. S. Smith, and Miss J. M. Garber. L. M. Gerber.

L. M. Gerber.

Per German steamer Hohensollern, for Honge kong and ports:—Mr. F. Schoene, Mrs. J. C. Hardand, child and servant, Mrs. V. Blad, child and servant, Mrs. W. B. V. Watter, Mrs. Donlop, child and servant, Mrs. E. B. S. Edwards, child and servant, Mrs. E. B. S. Edwards, child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Hughes, Mr. Okushina, Mr. S. Mryske, Mr. V. Read, Mr. K. Voss, Mr. W. C. Tyler, Mr. B. F. Fisher, Mr. W. Branne, Mr. H. Dobro, Mr. S. Wattning, and Mr. M. Garvano, in cabin; 8 Chinese, on deck.

### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

Some sales of yams have been effected when any concessions in prices could be obtained. Nothing has been done in grey shirtings or in fancy contons and woodlens, with the exception of a few small transactions in Italians. The market generally rally is quiet.

#### COTTOG PIKCE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—1848, 384 yds. 3y inches 55 to 4.85 Grey Shirtings—oth, 384 yds. 45 inches 1. Cloth—7th, 21 yasda, 32 inches 1. Cloth—7th, 21 yasda, 32 inches 1. So to 2.00 indige Shirtings—12 yasda, 32 inches 2 to 2.00 to 3.75 Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, contrast, 45 to 2.00 inches 2 to 2.00 to 3.75 cm rang. в 1916ck, - ган гано. ..... = г8€ to o.e5 32 inches ....

WOOLLENS.

Flannels . \$0.30 to 0.30 flalian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches loost 0.35 to 0.40 flating Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Madium 0.30 to 0.324 0.30 10 0.324 u.15 tu u III u.15 tu u.54 a.60 ta u.75 a.50 ta a.85 o 50 to 0 60 Valveta—Black, 35 yarda, azinckan

Valveta—Black, 35 yarda, azinckan

7 75 to 9.90

75 to 2.00

76 to 2.00

77 to 2.00

77 to wan mieria 

Italian Cloth, 30 yaufe, 32 iuclius

Very little business has been transacted during the week and stocks are accumulating. Dealers are inwilling to purchase except at considerable reductions on current quotations.

		ran i	инсен.
- 1	Round and square ( itch, and upward.4.3)	5 10	4.60
- (	rou Plates, assorted	10	4.50
- 5	Sheet Leve	o to	5.30
- (	Galvanized from sheets	o to	10.50
	Wire Duile, associed		
	Fin Plates, per box		
	Sig lean, tio. v		
	loop Iron (1 to ++ inch) 5-0		
	GROSEGE,	-,-	51-3

A fair business has been done on the basis of the advance made last week, and the market is firm. A cargo of Sumatra oil acrived during the week by the steamer Nord.

American accompanies and accompanies and accompanies	\$2 00 to 2.07	
Russian	1.95 to 1.05	
Langkatory	1,85	
SDRAR		

Arrivals of Brown at the end of last week included 36,000 piculs of Formosa, and some 13,000 piculs Manila and China. All the Formosa sorts were disposed of at a price slightly below quotations. Very little doing in White refined.

		PRE PROBLEM
	l'akao	
	Manila	4.50 to 5.35
	Daitung	3.85 to 3.90
	Canton	3,85 to 4.50
	Java and Pensug	6.30 to 7.00
White	Refined	7.35 10 9.00

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

A few sales have been made during the week on a small scale, total transactions only amounting to 194 boxes. Stock consists of 7,973 boxes. Holders' have in some cases reduced their demands but buyers for Europe are not disposed to do business. Shipments consist of 360 bales for Europe per Holtensollers and 35 bales for America per Peru. ca per Peru.



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# 

No sales have been reported. Prices are unchanged and firm; stock amounts to 5 531 boxes. The only shipment has been 219 bales per Hohenzollern for Europe.

QUOTATIONS,			
Noshi-Filature, Bagt	tris	ţo	120
Nonhi-Filature, Good	105		
Noshi-Ushu, Bast.	810	ŧα	115
YORD-Cann, Good	100	to	103
Nushi-Oshu, Mediana accompany	90	to	95
Noshi-Shinsha, Best	70	ťο	75
Nousi-Shiushe, Good	őş	to	674
Noshi-Bushu, Heat	115	ŧο	120
Nashi-Bushu, Good	100	to	911
Nochi-Bushu, Mediast	90	to	95
Note:   onhu, Guod	őo.	to	65
Noshi-joshu, Fair	55	to	37t
Kilmen-Filaturg, Best			100
Kihisa-Filature, Seconda	85	to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25	to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20	ta	224
TKA.			-

No business to report, a small parcel amounting to about 3,000 lbs, being the only sale during the week. Stocks remaining amount to only about 800 piculs, of puor quality.

Sections:	
Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	Normi- nal no Kock.
Finest	35-5
Cond M. Marian	\Z 2 g
Good Medium Medium	\$27 to 98
Good Common	21 to 20
Common	10 to 20
	19 10 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Rates have undergone no change to-day, though a decline of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  in silver and  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  in China sterling quotations has made rates on China filmer.

Sterling-Rank T.T.	2/Ol-
- Bills on demand	2/01
- 4 months' sight	2 0.7
- Private 4 months' sight	1/0
- 6 months' night	# O #
On Parts-Bank sight	2 55
On Lyona Private 4 months night .	2.504
On America-Bank Bills an demand.,	49
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight</li> </ul>	501
On Germany-Bank night	306
- Private 4 months sight	210}
On Hongkong-Bank night	6
- Private to days sight,	8
On Shanghai-Bank sight	801
- Private 10 days' sight	82
On India-limb sight	150
- Private 30 dava' sight	156
Bur Silver (Lundon)	251



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Sun Sanua. Bazza, in his work entitled "The Nite Tribut tarice in Abpasinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomes to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis, in I short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an ex-plorar, an possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undersiable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value,"

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of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing olderations, curing
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Ma.J.T. Coores, in his account of his extraordinary travels
in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of
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could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, mills, fowls,
butter, and horse feed ponted in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas,
and the demand become as great that I was obliged to lock not
the small remaining "stock."

May "st, "Rep.

Original from Printed and Exhanded toy the Proprint of a Nochlands, and Jay, the Tokensa, Saturbar, March 19, 1891. URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 13.]

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 26тн. 1898. 月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 開電者体理月三十

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## The Japan Meekly Mail.

" PAIRCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for issertion in the "Jaran Werkly Mail." must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the Manager, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the Editor.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH, 1898.

#### RIRTH.

Ou March 21st, at 18, Suzukiche, Tekyo, Ma-dame in Vicontesse De Bondy, of a daughter. MARRIAGE.

RAINES-()LIVER:—On the 19th March, at Christ Chunch, Vokohama, by the Rev. E. Champunys Irwise, HAROLD HENRY BANKISTER, second son of the late Hemy Rathes of Hull, to Annis, fourth daughter of the late Edward A. OLIVER, of Landon.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THURR have been further attacks by rebels on Japanese posts in Formosa, and some losses on

THE services of Mr. Clarence Greathouse, adviser to the Korean Government, are to be dispensed with.

THE Russian advisers and drill instructors in the Korean Government employ have been dismissed and paid off.

A POSTRAN was killed and robbed of 600 yen in his charge by a highway robber at Shiba, Miyazaki, on the 20th inst.

Two fires occurred in Tokyo on the 21-22nd, in one of which the

College, Imperial University, was burned to

Ix is reported in Sonl that M. Waeber is to return as Russian Minister to Kores, M. Speyer being recalled.

A NUMBER of Japanese men-of-war have been engaged during the latter part of the week in manceuvres off Shimizu.

SEVEN fishing boats capsized, and five men were drowned in a gale on the 19th inst, off Habashira-mura, Oshima province.

THE Comte de Pimodan, military attaché of the French Legation, Tokyo, is expected to leave Japan for France on the 13th April.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has decided to keep secret for the present the finding of the Court of Inquiry into the Maine tragedy.

A COMPANY called the Tox Kerosene Oil Company has been formed with a capital of 500,000 sen to works wells in the northern provinces.

Tur steamer Zoyoshima Maru, while endeav ouring to get off a small steamer stranded at Takamatsu, ran on a rock and had to be beached.

A CONFLAGRATION occurred in Hongo, Tokyo, on Wednesday morning by which 1,112 houses were destroyed and one fireman was burnt to

Owres to the high price of coal and other commodities the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are raising their rates of freight on coasting lines by 10 per cent.

CHINA is said to have offered the lease to Rus sia of Tailen. She allows the railway, provided that Port Arthur remains Chinese. The report is probably inaccurate.

THE German portion of the Chinese loan has been largely over-subscribed in Berlin. The loan was issued on the 22nd and the list was closed on the 23rd inst.

A CELEBRAT ON of the 30th aniversary of the opening of the port of Kobe is to be held on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th April. The cost of the fete is estimated M II.771 ven.

THE Fine Arts Exhibition in Uyeno Park will be opened on the 1st April. Many fine works of art have been sent for exhibition from the Imperial Household Department.

Two cargo boat coolies in Yokohama have been arrested on a charge of having stolen four bales of silk, valued at \$4,000, from the P.M. and O. & O. steamers during November last.

A MIDSHIPMAN belonging to the Japanese cruiser Parhima Kan was killed in a quarrel among officers of the war-ship at Shimizu, and another officer severely wounded, on the 20th lust.

OWING to the despatch of nearly half the police force of Yokohama to various districts during the election, robberies during the past week or so have largely increased in the town.

Ir is expected that at the half-yearly general meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to be held on or about the 20th May, a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent, per annum will be declared.

CHINA has absolutely rejected the demands lately preferred by France, and the French Representative has sent a massage to the home

daughter of Professor, Yamagewa of the Medical British Government has intimated to the Chinese Authorities that it is firmly resolved not to allow China to accede to the French demands.

> DAVID LOGAN, keeper of a saloon in Blood Town, Yokohama, has been committed for trial in H.B.M. Court on a charge of cutting and wounding a seal hunter named John Jacobson.

> COUNT YOU LEDDEN, the new German Minister to Japan, arrived in Tokyo on the 22nd inst., and, after a visit to the Legation, proceeded to the Imperial Hotel, where he will reside for a

> A REPORT from Mr. Arakawa, Japanese Consul in London, states that large shipments of merchandise are being made for Japan, in anticipation of the new tsriff coming into operation in July next.

> THE ratifications of the revised treaty between Frence and Japan were exchanged between M. Harmand, French Minister, and Baron Nishi, Foreign Minister, at the Foreign Office on the roth instant.

PRINCE KONOYE TADANIRO, grandfather of Prince Konoye, President of the House of Peers, died on the 19th inst., at the age of 9t years. The funeral took place on the s4th inst., at Kanyei temple, Uyeno, Tokyo.

A FARRWELL dinner was given at the Tokyo Club on the 22nd inst. to Mr. G. A. Lowther, Secretary of H.B.M. Legation in Tokyo, who is about to leave for England on leave, and Baron de Cartier, Secretary of the Belgian Legation, who has been transferred to Peking.

NEGOTIATIONS are proceeding at Paris between M. Hanotaux and the Chinese Minister regarding the fresh demand that China shall not code any portion of the four provinces of Kwantung, Kwangsi, Yunnau, and Kweichau, and shall allow the prolongation of the railway from Lungchau into Yunuun, and a coaling station at Laichau.

THE Import market in Yokohama, which a few weeks ago showed a little activity—in some lines at least—has suffered a relapse and is an lethargic as it was in the closing months of last year. Stocks of all kinds are acof last year. cumulating and running up godown and in-aurance charges, m even cargo imported to order fails to be taken delivery-of by purchasers in many instances, owing to the small demand and the high rates of interest on loans and discounts demanded by the banks. A few sales of yarns are almost all there is to report in the cotion and piece goods market, while metals are almost equally unseleable though arrivale continue on a large scale. In kerosene and augar a small business has been done and there have been large arrivals of foreign rice. In connection with this latter import it is reported that an order has been issued by the Taotai of Canton suspending the export of rice from that port for one month, owing to the considerable rise in the price of the grain caused by the purchases for Japan having resulted in great hardship to the poorer classes of Cauton and its neighbourhood. The larger portion of the rice imported into Japan, liowever, comes from Tongking and Saigon. The Export market is as quiet as the import, though from different causes. The unsettled condition of political affairs in the Far East exercises considerable effect upon silk buyers for Europe, and during the past week there has been scarcely any demand for this staple, while the business done in tes amounts Government to ask for further instructions staple, while the unsures divided piculs. Other ex-Paking telegram to the Jiji states that parts are equally quiet AT

#### SPIKIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Now that industrial enterprise is beginning to assume large proportions in Japan, the old question which has so long disturbed society in the West, will inevitably present itself for solution here—the question of capital and labour. Already symptoms of the trouble have showed themselves—for example, the recent strike of the Japan Railway's employes—, and it certainly believes leading men to give timely attention to the problem. The Fift Shimps, from which we are quoting, suggests two remedies. One is cooperation on a limited scale. Workmen should be encouraged to leave mail percentage of their pay in the hands of their employers, and when, by means of compound interest, it has accumulated sufficiently, a share in the business ought to be purchased with it. An employé holding a share might be trusted never to take any part in a strike, or otherwise in imperil the prosperity of the enterprise. The second and not less effective mea-sure is to invoke the aid of religion. The inculcation of the moral law could not fail to educate a disposition opposed to everything in the nature of a strike. Twice or thrice a month arrangements should be made for the delivery of homilies by Buddhist priests. It is the fashion to make a mock of Buddhism, and to say that, so far from being qualified to teach others, the Buddhist priests want to be taught There is some truth in the critithemselves. ciam, but if the Buddhist priests no longer deserve reverence, it is chiefly because, men having ceased to respect them, they no longer respect themselves. Let the public treat them differently, and their own conduct will soon reflect the change. They are the repositories of a beautiful moral code whose observance has proved of great service to Japan in the past, and is capable of conferring no less benefit on her people in the future.

Two articles are devoted by the Nippon to the Far-Eastern Question. They contend that Russia is the only Western Power bent upon the partition of China, and that China needs only a little courage to ensure her safety. Concerning the former point our contemporary has good deal to say, but no new reasons are adduced. The general line of argument is that Russia's recently formulated demands would, if complied with, inevitably make her mistress of Manchuria, and that, since she is herself perfectly well aware of that fact, her intentions can not be mistaken from the moment that she formulates such demands. But she is not in a position to enforce them. China seems w have lost heart completely since her beating by Japan. She appears no longer to place any reliance in her own military capacities. It was that mood of despondency that induced her to bow to the seizure of Kino-chou by Germany. mere handful of German troops undertook the enterprise: a few hundreds. They might ultimately have been increased to a few thou-They might sands, perhaps. But even then China could have swept them into the sea had her resolution been equal to making the effort. Russia is certainly more formidable foe than Germany owing to her geographical position. Her empire borders that of China and she has a considerable force of troops massed in the Amur region and around Viadivostock. But on the most liberal calculation it is doubtful whether she could move more than forcy thousand men across the Manchinian border; which means that, by the time the invading army reached Shan-haikwan, it could not put more than fifteen thousand men into fighting line. The Chinese empire can not be conquered by fifteen thousand men. A slight effort on China's part would easily burl them back. Her seaboard, indeed, would be helplessly exposed; she has no flect to defend it. But she is not valuerable from the sea. Her people do not depend upon foreign countries for their means of sustenance, and Great Britain would take care that the open ports at which the country's

Russia's face it she only takes heart. There is but one Power competent to beat her, and that is Japan, for Japan lies within easy striking distance and could place a large army in China's territory. The defeat that she suffered at territory. The defeat that she suffered at Japan's hands has produced in her the mood of the man in the proverb who blew on his salad because he had found his soup too hot. It China has a spark of courage she can maintain her independence and integrity, but if she dare not raise a finger in self-defence, ber time has assuredly come.

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, one of the best known among the Liberal leaders, contributes four articles to the Tokyo Shimbus on the degenerate condition of constitutional government in Japan at present. The Restoration was a work of genuinely unselfish patriotism. The heart of the nation turned towards the change, and so atrong and universal was the sentiment in favour of Imperial administration and the overthrow of feudalism, that a system which had flourished for three hundred years, a system - whose support and maintenance innumerable personal interests pointed, almost without bloodshed. The individual did not figure at all upon the arena of that epoch. The country was everything. The capital was moved from Kyoto to Tokyo without a remonstrance on the part of those whose vested interests were seriously affected by the transfer; the samurai, without a murmur, agreed to lay saide their swords, the badge of their aristocracy and the token of their privileges; the feudal chiefs showed no reluctance to aurrender their fiels; though the step deprived them of wealth and authority and condemned them to obscurity. But unfortunately that self-effacing mood did not last very long. The common proclivities of human nature asserted themselves. Those that had tasted the aweets of office became so unwilling to abandon the feast that they set themselves postpone the introduction of constitutional government, which was the unique goal of the men that planned the Restoration. It was then that a split took place in the ranks of officialdom. Superficial observers detected no reason except the Korean complication. But that was only a proximate cause. The true explanation was that some of the sincere, upright men who had worked for the overthrow of feudalism, could not consent to be associated any longer with colleagues who prostituted their newly acquired power to personal ends. Count Itagasi was among those that broke away, and Mr. Kataoka followed him. They retired to Tosa and applied themselves to propagate the doctrines for the sake of which they had sacrificed office and opulence. It was a hard, and at times it seemed a hopeless, struggle, but they could not forget how recently the leaders of thought had been moved by a genuine and unanimous impulse of patriotism. What had once been might be again. They had to resist temptation and endure oppression. At one moment they were offered money to emigrate to Hokkaido, where, they were told, they might till the soil to much better advantage than they could cultivate constitutional institutions in Japan proper; at another, they were thrown into prison and warned to expect the treatment accorded to rioters and incendiaries. But at last the nation received a constitution and the Diet was opened. sult did not at first seem very admirable. It appeared at though the chief aim of the members was to be avenged on the officials at whose hands they had suffered so much. Possibly, there was some feeling of the kind at work. It would have been natural. But profounder and more potent was the conviction that a keen accuting ought to be undertaken into financial affairs, where great abuses had unquestionably existed, public funds being too often appropriated to private purposes and general confusion having been allowed to obscure the distinction between the property of the State and the per-quisites of the individual. In those early days the members worked conscientiously and disin-But over them also gradually crept terestedly.

sight of in the strife of political parties. Members learned to take prids only in having defeated this bill or passed that, without any reference to the nature of the measures themselves. Then sothi appeared upon the scene, and close on the heels of intimidation followed bribery. Supporters of the Government learned to regard it as a natural thing that they should be rewarded for their support; opponents, that theirvates should be purchased; and electors that they too should be paid for votes which placed men in such valuable positions. The root of the evil must be traced to officialdom, which set the example of purchasing the privilege of remaining in office. Thus the nation has to lament the degeneracy of the constitutional system. It may be said, indeed, that the decadence of con-stitutional systems is a feature of the era, and the cases of Germany, of Austria Hungary, of Italy, and of France may be pointed to. But in each of those countries government by parliament has a bright record: it flourished once if it is now in decay; it achieved great things once if it is now a failure. But in Japan decay has come before vigour was attained; failure has preceded success. Is there no remedy? The remedy consists, first, in the orgaination of parties having a programme of clear principles and pledged to uphold them without hope of reward or recourse to corruption; secondly, in the practical adoption of constitutional principles by the Government. So long as there are no recognised principles to fight for, men will be led away by all kinds of trivial issues, and so long as politicians resort to improper methods to obtain votes, their own parliamentary conduct will not be regulated by the rules of integrity. So long, on the other hand, as the Government shows no respect for the Diet's opinion, the Diet will not respect the Government. There can be no question that the Government has learned to fear the Diet. But it shows its fear by trying to exjole or seduce the members instead of challenging them to an honest scrutiny of its principles and policy, and either bowing manfully to their decisions or frankly appealing to the verdict of the country. Mr. Kataoka elaborates these points at some length. The tone of his articles is somewhat desponding, but they have a ring of sincerity and high purpose.

The Far-Eastern Question occupies the Nichi Nichi Shimbun. Our contemporary deals with the complaint, frequently formulated of late by the vernacular press, that Japan has no fixed policy towards China and that her hand is not seen in the great game which the nations are now playing. Japan's policy towards China has long been perfectly clear. It is a policy directed towards the peaceful development of the great empire. China's resources are enormona. She has been justly called a mine of wealth, and the promotion of commerce and communications with her is the key-note of Japan's policy. Naturally such a policy does not lend itself to striking displays of force or masterfulness. It is a policy in be pursued quietly and steadily. Besides, strong atrokes are never dealt except when the occasion demands them. To that extent the foreign policy of all nations is opportunist. Japan gave sufficiently clear evidence of her policy when she concluded the Shimonoscki Tresty. She stipulated for the opening of new ports in Chies and for other concessions calculated to facilitate the world's trade with the Middle Kingdom and to draw the latter into the path of progress. Her policy may, therefore, be summed up in two words "peaceful competition." That, of course, involves the preservation of China's integrity, Dulies of propinquity, ties of racial kinship and obligations of past intercourse, is say nothing of strategical reasons, impel Japan to maintain that China shall be for the Chinese. There is much talk now of the partition of the great empire, and, at first sight, she seems to lie at the mercy of any Powers anxious to divide her. But the feat would be very different in practice from what it appears to be. The blows China affiguate berginen to her are due to her foreign trade is carried on should not be inter-the bifeful shadow that had so soon marred the China many impact the person to her are due to her ared with. China many impacting the color of the Restoration. Principles were lost own publishments. It is about to suppose

that Germany could have wrested a port from her had the Chinese shown any resolve to withhold it. Any State attempting aggression on a large scale in China must reckon with the con-tingency of China's resistance. The Chinese will not always tamely submit to be swallowed up. No Western State, with, perhaps, the sole exception of England, is in a position to coerce China if China resists enercion. It may be doubted, too, whether any Western State except Russia has serious designs upon Chinese territory, and Russia certainly is not competent at present to undertake a large scheme of territorial aggrandisement. It is generally assumed that when her trans-Asian railway is completed she will be mistress of the Far-Eastern situation on land. But the trans-Asian railway, a single line traversing long stretches of waste regions and having stations separated in some cases by many hours, will not have large potentialities for military pur-The Nichi Nichi argues at some length that Japan's armaments are not destined for any aggressive purpose, and that if she were disposed to seek territorial expansion at China's expense, she might do so immediately without waiting we complete her programme of armed expansion, since she is of all Powers the best prepared for such an enterprise.

A writer signing himself Kinugawa Taichi discusses the subject of maritime enterprise in the columns of the Mainichi Shimbun. After dwelling upon the topographical features of Japan and the natural advantages possessed by her for the purposes of such enterprise, he notes that the Ito Cabinet evidently appreciated the fact when it introduced bills providing encouragement for ship-building and navigation. Japan is not altogether without reasons for activiaction. She already stands fifth on the list of steamer-owning countries, as the following table shows:-

IC SHOWS:								
Country				Number of steamers				
United 5	inte	8	***		***	6	.044	
England		***	***	*4 *		5	,661	
German	у	900	64.6	***			846	P.
Norway	,,,,	***		444	-0.07		650	
aphn	144	***		***	++4	4+4	570	,
France		144	***	*14	4 = 4	144	543	
Spain			***	911			355	
Ratesia							250	

Turning, now, to the aid granted by the State for pavigation purposes, we find these figures :-

			,		Yen.
France		***		***	12,270,423
England		411			8 027 363
Italy	***	***		***	6,585 705
Germany				***	5.879,906
Argentine	Rep	ublic		***	5.640,000
јарап	***			***	4,111,005
Portugal					3.196,000
Spain	***			***	2 953.545

Although the United States heads the list as owing the largest number of steamers, the great majority of the vessels flying the stars and atripes ply in inland and home waters. The navigation of the high seas is practically monopolized by England. It is doubtless a worthy ambition that Japan, also, should endeavour to gain a place in the carrying trade of the world, but unquestionably she ought to turn her attention in the first instance to the seas in her own immediate vicinity. There she is threatened with serious competition. The subsidy granted by Russia to sea going steamers is one rouble per nautical mile. With such aid, a vessel is practically independent. Freight and passengers become secondary considerations. Now when the trans-Asian railway is opened, and Vladivostock becomes the eastern outlet of Siberian trade, the conditions of maritime enterprise in this part of the world will be materially changed. Anticipating that event, and relying on the munificent subsidy granted by Russia, certain capitalists are said to have made arrangements for establishing no less than eight steamship services having their basis at Vladivostock. These services will include lines to Shanghai, Hongkong, Chefoo, Newchwang, Korean porta Tientsin, Hankow, Shimonoseki, Kobe, Yoko hama, Petropaulovski, Nikolaievak and so forth.

should be competent to exploit. It becomes then, an important question whether instead of spending large sums to encourage a trans-Pacific carrying trade, and to aid lines to Europe, the Government should not devote the money to assist Far Eastern services. It is between the countries of the Far East that a vest development of commerce may be looked for in the immediate future. If Japan has three or four million yes to appropriate for the encouragement of maritime enterprise, she should use the money for lines in her own neighbourhood before she goes far a field to challenge powerful competitors who have already built up a solid business.

The Kokumin Shimbun has an article on the subject of mixed residence. It admits that there are still a few Japanese who have not fully divested themselves of the narrow-minded love of isolation educated during the Tokugawa era, but it claims that the sentiment of the Japanese nation as a whole is cosmopolitan, and that the fact is clearly proved by history—not the history of the past thirty-five years only, though that in itself should be sufficient evidence, but the history of the country since the most ancient eras. Foreign intercourse was never eschewed by the Impanese in old times. They welcomed strangers, ssociated with them freely and visited all the countries within range of their sea-going caps. cities. They gladly accepted and assimilated everything that foreign nations had to give them in the field of either science, or politics, or art, or philosophy, or religion. Their civilization is permeated with foreign elements, and objects of art from India, from China, from Persia and from Korea are to be found among the Yamato heir-looms. Circumstances, not instinct, were responsible for the policy of isolation adopted in the seventeenth century, and circumstances having radically changed, the nation's instinct has re-asserted itself. Mixed residence comes in the natural sequence of the country's career. The prospect is to be regarded not with appre-hension but with sincere satisfaction. The better Japanese and foreigners know each other and the closer their intercourse, the more completely will all causes of mutual distrust disappear, and the greater will be the mutual profit.

#### CHARITY CONCERT IN TOKYO.

The charity concert in Tokyo on the 19th instant proved a signal success. The large hall of the Music Academy was crowded in every part, and many people could find standing room only. Of course the great features of the performance were the playing of Mr. Junker and Von Koeber, on the violin and plane re-spectively, and the ainging of Mrs. Mollison. Mr. Junker is unquestionably a violinist of very order. Among the artists whom we have had the pleasure of hearing in Japan there has been only one of corresponding rank, and that was Remenyi. It is unnecessary to carry the comparison any further. Junker is still a young man, and it may be that when he reaches Remenyi's years he will have conquered as many worlds. However that may be, it is a rare treat to hear such a master. A little more repose of demeanour seems to be alone wanted to perfect his style. His technique and feeling bave already been spoken of enthusiastically in these columns, and we need not add any further ealogy here. Doubtless many people con-cluded that the gem of the concert was the sixth number on the programme, violin solo with Dr. von Koeber at the piano. Seldom in a life-time-above all, a life-time passed in the East-is it given to any one to hear two such artists play together, and we can not sufficiently express the chagrin universally felt that an occasion so unique should have been marred by the miserable quality of the Music Academy's piano. The instrument is execrable, and truly in the name of every lover of music it is necessary to protest strongly against the sacrilege of asking an artist like Dr. Koeber to use such a piano and a master like Mr. If that scheme matures, Japan will find herself Junker to play to its accompaniment. Dr. excluded from routes which she, of all countries, Koeber, playing a Sonata by Beethoven, some-

times succeeded in making the audience forget the misery of the instrument, so delicate was his touch, so crisp his execution. But when Mr. Ellis undertook to make the decrepit instrument pour out the rushing notes of Mendelisiohn's "Rondo Cappricciosa," the sweet-ness and delicacy of the composition were almost completely lost in the tin kettle clatterings of hammers and strings. Mr. Ellis has a facility really marvellous in one so young. Nature acems to have indicated a public musical career for him. Certainly, if he adopted it, fame would be assured. Mrs. Mollison was down for two numbers on the programme, but on each occasion she was vociferously encored, so that she sang, in all, four songs. Neither among professionals nor amateurs have we ever heard such a voice in Japan during the past thirty years. Its richness, its tenderness, its force, and its flexibility would rouse the enthusi-asm of any audience. Mrs, Garst sang the sad song, " When " in her own charmingly simple, straightforward fashion, and, being warmly en-cored, gave the *chanson* "Lullaby." She was not heard to the best advantage, her voice not having aufficient volume for a building so spacious as the hall of the Music Academy, but nothing could mar the mellow aweetness of her notes: There were two performances of No-Kyogen and one of Japanese music, concerning which we have no criticism to offer, except that the acting in the former was eminently clever, as Japanese acting always is. We must say a word of sincere praise, however, for the opening chorus sung by the Pupils of the Music Academy. It was rendered with perfect accuracy, and if the quality of the in-dividual voice left something to be desired, the dividual voice left something to be desired, the general effect was most pleasing. Before the programme was attacked, one of the Faculty of the Academy delivered a brief address in Japanese and English, stating the objects of the concert, and expressing hearty thanks to those who lent their kind assistance. We may be permitted to echo his words. To Mrs. Mollison, we believe, special resulting land the for without her putting expressions. gratitude is due, for without her matiring exer-tions the project could never have matured. Such generous aid tendered by foreigners for the sake of Japanese charities deserves to be noted and appreciated. We say nothing of the Japanese and foreign ladies in Tokyo who took the initiative and laboured hard in the same benevolent cause, for we understand that it in their wish to be without public witnesses of their good deeds.

#### GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

On the afternoon of the 19th instant, the Vice-President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Mrs. Kuto gave a party in the Koishikawa Botanical Garden to c lebrate the marriage of their daughter, Miss Sumi, to Mr. Kato Masaharn, who, being adopted into the bride's family, takes its name, according to Japanese custom.

The day was cloudy, and rain hung so imminent overhead that many of those invited did not attend, supposing that the party would be postponed until the following day. Nevertheless a large number-about three hundred-were present, and the affair passed off with great colat. Among the guests were Count Okuma, the two Barons Iwasaki, Viscount Enomoto and many other distinguished personages. The bride's costume was very beautiful but to give any detailed description of it is beyond our capacity. There were some picturesque and highly skilled performances of No. Kyogen, and in their intervals a band played. Refreshments were afterwards served, and the genial hospitality of host and hostess supplemented by the excellence of all the arrangements made the guests forget the gloominess of the weather.

A large party of German residents of Kobe met at the Beach House Hotel, Tarumi, on Sunday, where a farewell tiffin was given in honour of Mr. and Mrs. von Krencki, The German Consul and his wife left Kobe for home by the Hohensollern.



#### THE EMPEROR AND THE BEHAVI-OUR OF THE LOWER ORDERS TOWARDS FOREIGNERS.

We read in the Fiji Shimpo that the Emperor has been making inquiries with reference to the conduct of the lower orders towards foreigners. At the beginning of this month, his Majesty questioned the Chief Chamberlain, Marquis Tokudaiji, on the subject, and the Marquis addressed himself for information to Mr. Sonoda, Chief of the Tokyo Metropolitan Mr. Sonoda replied that, so far as concerned the district under his control, there had not been of late any noticeably rough demeanour on the part of the lower orders towards foreigners. On the following day, the Emperor directed that a similar inquiry should be sent to the other open ports. The in-struction was carried out telegraphically, and from Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki answers were received to the effect that no special change had been observed in the sense of the inquiry. The Fiji further says that, on the 16th instant, the Emperor again summoned the Chief of Police to the Palace, and caused Marquis Tokudaiji to question him about the state of the country with regard to the general elections and about the result of the elections. Mr. Sonoda reported that things were, on the whole, quiet and orderly, and that the result of the voting would be reported the moment it was known. The Chief of Police is said to have then addressed his Majesty as follows :-- "Your Majesty always condescends to devote attention to matters at home and abroad and to ask questions about affairs of importance. Your Majesty shows special about those persons who, advocating what they call a 'strong foreign policy,' are so ill-advised as to dislike foreigners and to behave towards them sometimes in an improper manner without regard to the duties of friendly intercourse. Probably the questions addressed to us by Your Majesty on these points were suggested by something that Your Majesty saw in the newspapers or heard in conversation. I venture to assure Your Majesty that the solicitude shown by Your Majesty on all

Assuming the Jiji's information to be correct, it will be seen that although no specially unsatisfactory state of affairs was reported to the Emperor, the chief of the Metropolitan. Police did not attempt to conceal the fact that a rude and improper demeanour is sometimes assumed towards foreigners by the "stalwarts," as they may be called; that is to say, by men whose idea of getting even with the masterful alien, or asserting the prestige of their country, is to shout out opprobrious epithets to any stranger they encounter, and sometimes even to hustle him. In the case of the student and the coolie that kind of mood certainly exhibits itself much too freely for Japan's interests, though not freely enough to call for any open behest from the Throne. The Emperor's purpose in making inquiries is, however, plain enough. It will be very clearly understood by the local authorities at the various open ports that His Majesty is perturbed about the matter, and desires that effective but declared that he would be content if was cast. As a matter of common sense measures shall be adopted to put an end the Treasury set aside a million silver yen that view has much to commend it. But to these happenings.

#### PREMIUM BONDS.

The directors of the Japan Industrial Bank (Nippon Kwangyo Ginko) have been dining and wining an influential section of the Tokyo public, apparently with the idea of giving a good send off to the premium bonds which the Bank has received official permission to issue. The Japanese have taken with remarkable kindliness to the "under-the-mahogany" methods of the West. It can not be said that they show much inclination to adopt our fashions of social intercourse en bloc. The solemn dinner party does not attract them, neither does the ball where young folks go to carry their charms to market and old folks attend to assist the bargain. But the neutral ground of the dining room commends itself very strongly to Japanese business men as a place where politics may be forgotten, or remembered, according to convenience, and where affairs of the pocket may be discussed to great advantage. Like everything else the new fashion seems likely to be carried to excess in the days of its early popularity, but so much the better for hotels and restaurants at all events. We can not understand, for example, what direct or indirect benefit is likely to accrue from the dining together of a hundred persons at the Imperial Hotel simply because the Industrial Bank is about to issue bonds. It is all very well to invite a number of friends to congratulate and make the acquaintance of a newly married couple, but a costly banquet seems a rather clumsy method of "informing the public at large" that a loan is about to be placed on the market. However, 'tis the shareholders' concern, after all. So far as the loan is concerned, the conditions of its issue may be trusted to make it popular without recourse to feasting and speechifying. Twenty thousand bonds are to be issued of a face value of 50 yen, carrying interest at the rate of 5 per cent. They are to be redeemed annually, the operations extending over 40 years. Thus five hundred bonds will be drawn for redemption every year, and to each yearly batch twenty-five prizes will be attached, namely, 1 prize of 500 yen; 2 of 200 yen; 5 of 100 yen and 17 of 50 yen. If is, in fact, a lottery, the prizes aggregating these subjects inspires us with profound 2,250 yen for every 25,000 yen of subscriptions, or 90,000 yes on the total loan of one million. In a word, the bonds carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent., and a further sum, aggregating 9 per cent. of the loan, is to be given away to drawers of prize numbers in the annual lotteries. Of course there will be a demand for bonds of such a character, but whether resort to financial devices of this kind is a wise step from the point of view of public morality many people will be disposed to doubt. However, it is after the fashion of the municipal loans of the city of Paris, and although two wrongs do not make a right, we presume that where the French lead, the Japanese can afford to follow. It was just such a scheme as this that the late Mr. John Robertson, formerly Manager of the Oriental Bank, submitted to the Japanese Government in 1880, as, in his opinion, the only practicable exit from the slough of an inflated and depreciated currency, Mr. Robertson had such faith in his plan that he asked for no direct consideration in the event of his advice being adopted,

between the value of that sum in paper notes at the time when his suggestion was formulated and the value it would have after his scheme had been in operation for five years. The Government turned its back resolutely on the programme. Resort to a lottery seemed, according to official views, to be the only thing wanted to drag Japan's credit finally into the mire. But the times have changed.

#### AN ELECTION QUESTION.

An interesting question has come up for decision in connexion with the recent elections in Tokyo. In the First Election Division of the city the successful caudidote was Mr. Takenouchi Ko, who stood in the Liberal interest. He polled 94 votes against Mr. Suyeyoshi Tadaharu, whose number was 93. It appears that among the ballots there was found one having inscribed upon it the single word "Suyeyoshi," in the place for designating the candidate, and the words "Chiujo Rihei" in the place for the voter's signature. Now the Law of Election provides that "every voter shall at the voting place inscribe upon the voting paper the full name of the person he votes for." The term used in the original is seimei, which signifies family name and personal name together. Hence, by writing "Suyeyoshi" only and failing to add "Tadaharu," Mr. Chiujo Rihei certainly did not comply exactly with the provisions of the Law of Election. On that ground his ballot was adjudged void, and the Liberal candidate came out at the head of the list by one vote. Had the partially inscribed ballot been admitted, the two candidates would have polled an equal number, and Mr. Suyeyoshi would have been returned in virtue of his seniority of He considers that he has been unfairly dealt with, and has appealed to the Tokyo Local Court through his counsel, Messrs. Hatoyama Kazuo and Kishimoto Tatsuo, the action being laid against Mr. Ishizuka Kosuke, Headman of the Election District. At first sight it appears that the Headman, who is ex officio Chairman of Election, had no choice but to reject the imperfect ballot. Looking a little more closely at the Law, howclearly defines the various kinds of ballots which are to be considered void. There are six enumerations, and not one of them can be said to bear directly on the case in point. The only words having any application are these :- " Ballots shall be void on which either the name of the voter or that of the person voted for can not be deciphered on account of erroneous characters used, stains, erasures, or injuries." In short, one plain object of the Law is to ensure that the ballot shall be written in such a manner as to obviate any mistake of identification. Now among the candidates for the First Electoral Division of Tokyo there was only one "Suyeyoshi." Indeed, it is claimed by Mr. Suyeyoshi's counsel that in all Tokyo there is only one person bearing the name of "Suyeyoshi" who is qualified to present himself for election. They therefore contend that the purpose of the Law was fully satisfied, and that there could not have been the slightest doubt as to the identity of the person for whom the ballot and handed over to him the difference it leaves one point out of the account.



The Law is not framed for the sake of the candidate or the election officials only. It is intended to secure the voter also against error. The Chairman of Elections, knowing that there is only one "Suyeyoshi" among the candidates, and that his personal name is "Tadaharu" may think that he is able to identify with certainty the proper destination of a ballot bearing the surname "Suyeyoshi" alone. But who can pretend to say that the voter's purpose was to designate "Suyeyoshi Tadaharu?" The voter alone can settle that point. He may have imagined that there was question of some other Suyeyoshi among the many bearing that surname in Tokyo, and it is conceivable that had he added the personal name, it might have been "Yukichi" or "Tarojiro" or anything else, in which "Tarojiro" or anything eise, in which case his ballot might have been cast for a "Suyeyoshi" not having the due qualifications for election. We may go a step further and imagine that although willing to vote for "Suyeyoshi Yukichi" or "Suyeyoshi Torajiro," he would rather and the Liberal caudidate than have voted for the Liberal candidate than for "Suyeyoshi Tadaharu" After all it seems safest in such cases to stick to the letter of the law. If a voter will not take such a modicum of trouble as to inscribe his ballot paper with the full name of the candidate he wants to support, he does not deserve to have a vote.

#### COTTON SPINNERS OF JAPAN.

It is plain that the cotton spinners of Tapan are awake to the perils threatening their business. There are more than eight hundred thousand spindles at work mow, and their production exceeds the clemand of the home market for the special counts that they turn out. They must look abroad, therefore, to fine buyers of the surplus, and the Chinese are, at present, their only customers. China they have to contend not only against formidable competition on the part of spinning mills established under foreign auspices, but also against un-favourable exchange. Labour in China is now cheaper than labour in Japan; the running expenses of the Shanghai mills are defrayed with currency which is also cheaper than Japanese money; raw material is obtainable more cheaply than it is in Japan, since it has not to pay export duty or freight, and the product of the mills is cheapened for consumers by the expense of the voyage between China and Japan. These facts constitute a serious handicap for Japanese mill-owners, and they have wisely decided to form a combination, so as to be able to command cheap capital, to employ competent experts and a skilled staff, to be in a better position to mani-pulate the market by avoiding com-petion among themselves, to reduce their expenditures by general organization, and to obtain raw material at low prices. Mr. Miyashita appears to be one of the chief promoters of the movement. He is prominent man in the business world, being closely connected with the Mitsui Bank, and with the Miike Cotton Spinning Mill, of which the Mitsui

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. G. A. LOWTHER AND BARON DE CARTIER.

On the evening of the 22nd instant the members of the Tokyo Club gave a farewell dinner to Mr. G. A. Lowther, Secretary of H.B.M. Legation in Tokyo, who is about to return to England on leave, and to Baron de Cartier, Secretary of the Belgian Legation, who has been transferred to Peking, and will leave for his new post in a few days. Sixty-five members were present at the dinner, including all the Foreign Representatives, with the exception of Sir Ernest Satow, who was unfortunately unable to attend, nearly the whole of the staff of the Legations, the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and many Japanese friends. The Belgian Minister, Japanese friends. The Belgian Minister, M. le Baron d'Anethan, who is one of the Club's foreign Vice-Presidents, occupied the chair, having Mr. Lowther on his right hand, and the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Komura, who is the Japanese Vice-President, faced him, with Baron de Cartier on his right. After the health of the Emperor of Japan had been drunk, M. le Baron d'Anethan proposed the toast of

the evening in the following words :-I rise from my seat with a feeling of great emo-tion and pity in my heart. Pity for our guests of to night when I think of the numerous and abun-dant meals that during the last three weeks they have been forced to swallow—they have been break-fasted, tiffined, dired and no doubt they have also often supped far into the solemn hours of the night. Let us hope that their digestions will not have suffered nor that their sweet tempers will be spoiled by the truffles and champague that we have offered to them. We did it for the bestgentlenen. It was our only means of showing our regard, may affection and regret. Pity I also leel for you my fellow-givers of this feast. A few minutes ago I saw you husyant and gay and now I gaze on sad and serious faces. I grieve for you that you have to listen to my speech which, compared to those yofs former Vice-President accustomed you to, must sound halting and weak. He indeed was a Vice-President among a thousand, a capital fellow and a good and dependable friend. All of us who here to night can count onselves as his friends must feel as I do, that Mr. Lowther's departure from among us will leave a void that is not easily filled. He says he is going home on leave, but we all know what that means, when a brilliant Secretary takes his departure from a have suffered nor that their sweet tempers will be not easily med. He says he is going none on leave, but we all know what that means, when a brilliant Secretary takes his departure from a post, and we can hardly hope to see him back amongst as again. He will return pershaps at a future date, but then as Minister. The odds are, it seems to me, that one day we shall see him representing nobly his queen and country in Japan. When that day comes I can predict that he will be very happy, judging by my own sentiments and those of my colleagues who had previously occupied the position of secretary in their younger days. With regard to our other guest, Mr. de Cartier, it is not my place to say all that is in my mind to night. In losing him I am losing a charming colleague and first ate secretary. He has been but five years in the service but those few years have passed brilliantly for him. At each post he came—he saw—he con quered, leaving always behind him a tangible trace of his personality and many regrets. Like his queied, leaving always belind this a tangible trace of his personality and many regrets. Like his colleague Mr. Lowther he has made many friends here and it is indeed a blow to our small community to lose two such good fellows within a few days of each other. And now gentlemen I must not try your patience longer—you have been indeed already wonderfully patient and forbearing. deed already wonderfully patient and following. There is only one thing more I ask you to do and that is to fill your glasses and to join me in drink ing with three cheers a bumper to our guests of this evening.—Hip! Hip! Hurrah!

The toast was drunk with hearty cheers and great enthusiasm. Mr. Lowther.

flattering words in which you have proposed my health, and you all, gentlemen, for the very cordial manner in which you have drunk it. I am fully aware that it is to no merit of mine that I owe the aware that his been done me, but to the warm honour that his been done me, but to the warm and kindly cordiality which distinguishes the members of this Club. A diplomatist for some reason or another is regarded as a person who is in fact somewhat of a hand. The unkind definiin fact somewhat of a feard. The intkind definition has been given of him that he is a gentleman
sent abroad to lie for his country. In general I
deny the soft impeaclment, but as regards myself
to night I must admit that I feel I am rather a
feard. The compliment of a Club dinner is one
that is usually reserved for departing members
who have no immediate intention of relating, but
I have, as I am going on leave—well deserved or
not it is not for me to say—and shall return
in the winter, so that I feel that I am accepting
this dinner under somewhat false preferees. this dinner under somewhat false pretences. Your Vice-President has been good enough in cefer to the duties I fulfilled when I occupied the honourable position he now holds. I was fortunate enough to be in that position during a year tunate enough to be in that position during a year which for the Club proved a very satisfactory one, but I lay no claim to having expended any exceptional energy. I was ably supported by active members of the Committee both Japanese and foreign and there were other factors that assisted us. Notably perhaps the extreme popularity of that very popular institution of the Far East, the Bar. When I first came to Japan I was told all sorts of things which I have since found to have been not quite accurate. Fur instance, I was told that a junikisha was a delightful mode of conveyance, I have not found it so, but that I attribute to my a junikisha was a delightful mode of conveyance, I have not found it so, but that I attribute to my own excessive proportions. I was told that I should find in Japan a delightful climate. Gentlemen, some times in the month of September, when the rains descended and the winds blew for days and days together I have been ted to wonder whether was informant was a strictly truthful person or my informant was a strictly truthful person or whether he was, what is vulgarly called, pulling my leg; on the other hand I was told that there was some thing so peculiar about the wind and the dust of Tokyo that those who arrived with the dust of Tokyo that those who arrived with the tempers of angels became sullen, morose and disagreeable.—I cannot say claim to having evented the temper of an angel but I don't feel that I have suffered in that direction and when I look sound the table to night I can only say that not one of you has been attacked by these strange winds and dust, for I have never met a community more genial and good tempered. I was told that in this town of magnificent distances, social intercourse was a matter of the greatest difficulty. I have not found it so, I have no doubt this Club is in a great measure responsible for this. The world is divided into two classes of persons, those who cannot tolerate their own society this. The world is divided into two classes of persons, those who cannot tolerate their own society and those who adore it. I belong to the former class. And this reminds me of a story of a friend of mine whom I met on the Boulevards in Paris one day. He invited me to dine with him quielly that night, adding "You know, I would sooner dine with a dog than dine alone." I accepted the contreous invitation and enjayed myself. The other class of persons semind me of a chief of mine who throughout a long career had never given a ball. He was at last induced to do so, and all went well till, in the small hours of the morning, he was accosted by a youthful guest who did not ecognize him as the best and thinking he had found a sympathetic spirit accosted him with the temark: "This is an awful hore, is it not." "Yes," replied my chief, "but you have the advantage of me." "How so?" said the young man, "Because you can go away but I, as host, must remain." Gentlemen, in life in general, in love, and even at Chib Dinners, middle age must make way for youth and so I must make way for my friend and colleague M. de Cartier whose health you have also drunk. I have regarded it as specially graifyling that our names should have been joined together te-night, for M. de Cartier, was not only a colleague, but a friend of mine before either of us came to Japan. But I must be brief, but pray do not judge of my gratitude for the honour you have done me by the brevity of my speech. I feel it very highly and shall carry away with me the pleasantest recollections of the members of the Tokyo Club to which I wish every possible success. sons, those who cannot tolerate their own society

Baron de Cartier spoke as follows:

Family are the principal shareholders.

The Extrime Orient reports an explosion of fire-damp at Kebao coal-mine, whereby eleven convict labourers were killed on the spot and seven seriously wounded, some badly as to live far greater embarcassment in thanking you, liave no chance of surviving.

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TISING to reply, said:

Mr. Vice-President, and Gentlemen,—It which seem to be the happy privilege of the members of the Tokyo Club. Furthermore M. Lowther in this brillant speech has taken such advantage of everything that was to be said, and besides has so well expressed my own sentiments towards the Members of the Club, that I really feel at a loss of the find or say anything new and original. So I think there is the find or say anything new and original. So I think there is the find or say anything new and original. So I think there is the find or say anything new and original to conclude this long UNIVERSITY OF HIMMORE AT GENTLEMBN,-Never before have I more tespeech and to thank you for the many tokens of friendship I have received from you all, and to assure you that my Club recollections of Tokyo will always rank amongst the very best. Gentlemen, I have the bonour to drink to your very best health and prosperity.

#### THE DUSHISHA.

The Doshisha directors have been successful in their application to have the Ordinary Middle School of the institution placed on the footing of an officially recognished public school. In other words, they have secured for students in the School the privilege of exemption from conscription up to the age of twentyeight. In order to obtain favourable consideration for their application, they were obliged to bring the curriculum of the School into strict conformity with the official standard, and to make a solemn declaration that all religious teaching is excluded from the course. We do not understand how such a declaration could have been conscientiously made, seeing that the School is part of an institution founded and endowed by Christian men and women as an instrument for the spread of Christian morality. been suggested by correspondents in these columns that the Government should have rejected the application on the ground that the Trustees of the Doshisha had broken faith with their American supporters in the matter of religion. We are of opinion that the Government could not reasonably have taken any step of the kind. The Government has no concern with religious questions or disputes. It would be guilty of most improper inter-ference if it undertook to pass unsolicited judgment as to the rights and wrongs of be doing precisely what the Government is specially careful not to do, meddling in matters of religion.

The Doshisha question is attracting much interest at present among for-eigners. Our readers have been fully informed of the action taken by the Japanese Trustees of the institution, and will, therefore, be glad to hear what the present President, Mr. Yokoi, has to say on the subject. A member of the Osaka Mainichi's staff interviewed him recently, and the following is the gist of his explanation, as translated by the Japan Times :-

To refutation of the reproach that the Doshisha has sacrificed its principle in order to secure the privileges of connection with the Government schools by amending its principal rules in comformity to the national measures, Mr. Yokoi diew formity to the national measures, Mr. Yokoi drew a comparison between the history of the institution and the guiding principle it will pursue in the future. There were two different elements in the composition of the Doshisha—one being the cooperation and pecuniary assistance of foreigners and the other those of Japanese, Foreign co-operators did not look upon the institution as a more instrument of propagating the Christian religion, as was shown by various evidence; while Japanese patrons evidently intended that their pecuniary donations to the institution might cone to the development of education in Japan, these premises, Mr. Yokoi concluded that tibute to the development of education in from these premises, Mr. Yokoi concluded that the Dishisha was not a purely mission school. He believed that it was an appropriate step towards securing general advantages to adapt the principles of the institution to the national educational measures; and that to do so was really to perpetuate its principles. He admitted the appropriateness of the arrangement on the part of the Automation with

The Doshian injury to its religious principles. The Doshisha did not abandon its Christian principle because of the exclusion of the Scriptures from its cause of the exclusion of the Scripturas from its class-norms; it had ceased to exist in name but not in deed. Furnished with funds of over half a million, the Doshisha could pursue its end in view directly and independently, but, with the present financial resources, the institution was under the necessity of adopting some suitable means to gain its end. Such a procedure meant the maintenance of the institution, and that in turn was synonymous with the continuance of its principles.

We do not find that Mr. Yokoi touches the real point at all. No one has contended, so far as we are aware, that the Ordinary Middle School of the Doshisha shall be a "purely Mission School," if by that term is meant a school having for its prime purpose the propagandism of the Christian creed. The contention is that the teaching of Christian morality should form part of the curriculum of the school, and that, unless it does form part of it, the school ceases to be the kind of institution for the establishment and endowment of which Christian people in the United States contributed large sums of money. Unless we mis-understand the conditions under which private schools are admitted to the same class as public schools and granted the same privileges, the Director of the Doshisha Jinjo Chiu-gakko has given a pledge that no religious instruction of any kind shall be imparted at the school. If such a pledge has been given, it is useless to contend that "no injury has been done to the school's religious principles." Either the pledge has not been given in good faith, or the paramount object of the school has been abandoned. Either the Japanese Authorities are the victims of a deception, or the American Christian contributors have been deceived. We can not see any exit from that dilemma. If Mr. Yokoi has an intelligible explanation to offer, the public will be delighted to listen to it, for no one desires to pass an unfavourable verdict. As for the excuse that the school's existence was at stake, we have only to say that the demise of a hundred schools would have been better than the preservation of one by means such as seem to have been adopted.

#### MR. KIRKWOOD ON FORMOSA.

The Kokumin Shimbun writes thus: "We have already published some remarks of Mr. Montague Kirkwood, Adviser to the Judicial Department, who, in compliance with instructions from our Government, recently travelled round the colonies in India, Burmah, Ceylon and the Malay Peninsula, inquiring into the causes of the success of Great Britain's colonial administration in those place, and subsequently visited Formosa to inspect the state of affairs in our new territory. We learn that, as the result of his investigations, the following may be regarded as the principal reasons of England's success in colonial administration :- First, she exercises the greatest care in choosing officials for duty in the colonies; secondly, she is cautious not to violate the ancient customs of the people; thirdly, she gives the very privileges which the Convention had people local autonomy and makes them already secured to her, but which she was their own guards; fourthly, she issues pledged not to openly profit by until an laws and ordinances of the most succinct opportune time presented itself. The and lucid character; fifthly, she studiously fact is that the "Cassini Convention" was

affection, of making them contented, and of keeping the public expenditure strictly within the income. Undoubtedly that is the correct view. There is nothing in the nature of chance in England's colonial successes. It can not be questioned that there are here many points which might be advantageously considered with reference to Formosa." The Kohumin then goes on to urge that measures should be taken to secure special qualifications in civil officials for service in Formosa, that they should first be appointed as probationers to study their duties, the language, laws and customs of the country, and that they should then undergo a second examination. Having passed it successfully, they should receive good pay and be able to look forward to generous pensions, and should be required to remain in office for at least fifteen years unless physically incapacitated. The number of officials now serving in Formosa might, also, be largely diminished. All the remainder of Mr. Kirkwood's advice is strongly endorsed by the Kokumin, and its thorough adoption is earnestly recommended.

#### THE CASSINI CANARD.

Nothing could be finer than the pertinacity of the believers in the "Cassini Convention." The Kiao-chou incident ought to have shaken their confidence, but even if it survived that ordeal recent events should have dissipated it utterly. Human nature, however, especially the phase of human nature represented by journalists, finds nothing so painful as to confess an error. The North-China Daily News, which gave the "Cassini Convention" to the world and has ever since stood sponsor for it with noble obduracy, now offers this interpretation of Russia's latest doings:-Russia has demanded an immediate fulfillment of the Cassini Convention." not that delightful? By the "Cassini Convention" China undertook to lease Kiao-chou to Russia for 15 years, but stipulated that Russia should not enter into immediate possession in order to obviate the danger of exciting the jealousy and suspicion of other Powers. Just a year after the conclusion of the "Convention," Germany came along and seized Kiao-chou, and China gave her a ninetynine years lease of it. It had already here leased to Russia but the "Convention of the series of the been leased to Russia by the "Convention" but Russia ultered no word of protest. The same "Convention" gave Russia the right to use Port Arthur and Talien as military bases. The "Conven-tion" was supposed to have been signed at the end of September, 1896, and in October, 1897, Russia asked China's permission to use Port Arthur during one winter as a naval station. She had already acquired the right to use it at all times, yet she was obliged to obtain special leave to use it temporarily | And now, finally, we have Russia coming forward and asking at a most inopportune time for the very privileges which the Convention had the appropriateiess of the arrangement on the part of the Authorities, that the connection with the Government schools, together with the privileges it involved, should not be granted to schools which explicitly proposed to be considered on religious principles. This was necessary to unify the national measures for education. In his opinion this concession on the part of a religious school did not necessarily imply Digitized by

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### THE CHINESE LOAN.

The German moiety of the Chinese loan has been fully subscribed, but the British portion seems to have fallen somewhat flat, and, according to telegrams received yesterday, the whole issue has not been covered. From a purely financial point of view the opposite result might have been expected, nor is it altoether easy to detect the cause of the lifterence. Of course the explanation difference. most readily conceivable is that the British public do not feel easy about China's future, and are disposed to think that her fate will soon be put to the arbitrament of the sword, Russia and France fighting in one camp against Great Britain in the other. It is difficult for people like ourwho see Far-Eastern things in a close foreground, to believe in the immence of any such danger. Russia and France seem to be laying the foundations of claims for future building, rather than getting ready to construct the edifice at once. They are delimiting their prospective spheres of influence and will be content for the present with moral effects. That is what the situation suggests to us at any rate. For neither Russia nor France is prepared to fight in the Far East just now. The outbreak of war would limit them at once to the squadrons already in Eastern waters, and would leave them practically without coaling stations or dockyards. Of course they may be thinking of what they could do in the European arena. That is a hypothesis opening up a very different class of considerations, not, however, more consistent with circumstances, so far as we can see, than the idea of a contest confined to the Far East.

#### FORESHORE RIGHTS AT THE OPEN PORTS.

The Times, commenting upon the question of foreshore rights in Japan, falls into an unfortunate error. With reference to Yokohama, it says:—"At the time the land forming the foreign settlement was set apart, the frontage there was a shingle beach over which a road was gradually formed. The area of the concession was marked off in lots which passed into private ownership by public sale. Front lots commanded, as water lots, higher prices than lots standing farther back; purchasers being under the natural impression that they were acquiring frontage rights. From this position of security they were awakened, first by the the construction of a harbour-works office and observatory on reclaimed land in front of the original water line." The impression produced by this statement is that, when the foreign settlement was staked out, the Japanese Government, or, at any rate, the Japanese owners of the land, sold the site to foreigners, and received prices that varied according to the propinquity of the lots to the foreshore. If that were the case, a moral obligation not to deprive the them and incurable, medical experts have now water lots of their sea-frontage would have devolved on the sellers of the land. But the transaction was not of the nature described by *The Times*. The whole of the original Foreign Settlement, extendfrom the sea in front to Otamachi at the back, was assigned to foreigners without payment. It was not until emensions of lepers from perpetual imprisonment in Original from

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the Settlement being found necessary, the isolated settlements where persons were negotiated by special conventions in 1864 and 1866, that the practice of putting up lots for sale came into operation, and even then the funds thus accruing were either devoted, by explicit stipulation, to municipal purposes, or were applied to defray the expenses incurred by the Japanese Authorities in reclaiming the The sole distinction between water land. lots and rear lots was that for every 100 tsubo of the former buildings to the value of 150 yen must be created, and for every Too tsubo of the latter, buildings to the value of 50 yen. In short, the present Bund lots having passed into the possession of their original foreign holders without pecuniary consideration, no claim can now be based on the conditions or circumstances of a sale which never took place. It is generálly admitted now, we believe, that the terms upon which the sea lots were acquired in the first instance do not confer any legally recognisable title to water frontage. During the 39 years that have elapsed since then, however, vested interests of a very tangible character have probably arisen in many cases, and any arrangement which ignored those interests could scarcely be considered equitable.

#### LEPROSY.

An international congress met in Berlin at the close of last year to discuss the subject of leprosy, which appears to be spreading to such an extent as to demand special scientific attention. The subject is particularly interesting in Japan, where this awful disease has had a home for many centuries. Speaking broadly, there are two forms of leprosy; one ending fatally in 9 or 10 years from the time of seizure, the other requiring about 20 years to finish its work. The outward evidences of the former are brownish and red spots round the eyes and on the backs of the hands. The spots swell gradually into knotty growths which finally develop in the internal organs. In the second type, large boils appear, leaving white spots where all sense of feeling is lost, so that burning with hot irons causes no pain. Loss of hands, feet, eyes, and nose are not infrequent results of this form of the malady. The Berlin congress arrived at these conclusions :-

these conclusions:—

"The producer of leprosy, as determined by the modern scientific methods of research, is bacillus lepta, known to the scientific world fur the period of twenty-five years through the investigations of Neisser and liansen. All are agreed that only a human being can be the bearer of this bacillus, and it is a fact that leprosy is contagious. Every leprous person is a source of danger to those around him, and the danger grows the more closely the patient associates with others and the worse the general sanitary conditions are that surround him. For this reason the existence of leprosy is especially dangerous among the power classes. However, it can not be deaied that the transfer of this diseause to people in better circumstances has been observed in more than one case. The opinion that leprosy is harditary has been losing adherents in recent times, while the view that it is contagious has gained advocates. As yet no method of treatment has been found that is effectual in cases of leprosy. Leprosy is incurable."

decided that it is not hereditary. been demonstrated again and again," writes Dr. Stinde, summing up the most recent conclusions on the subject, "that the descendants of leprous parents ing from No. 1 (Yes-ichi) to the Creek and are perfectly healthy and remain so." We

afflicted with the disease have to be con-fined. That consideration derives new importance from the fact that leprosy, which in the Occident used to be limited to Russia, Scandinavia, and Iceland, has now found its way into eastern Prussia. Dr. Stinde's essay, from which, as trans-lated by the Literary Digest, we take these details, concludes thus :-

these details, concludes thus:—

The ways and means in which leprosy is carried from place to place has been made the special subject of study by Sticker, who, as member of the German committee, went to India in late years to study the plague there. His views were warmly approved by the congress. According to his view the part of the body from which all leprous persons during their entire sickness send forth the greatest number of bacilli, and do so with the greatest of regularity and in great abendance, is the nose. On the other hand, it was discovered that the part of the healthy body which is most ready to receive these bacilli, and where the contagion in nearly all instances takes place, is again the nose. Just as tuberculosis begins at the endsof the lungs, so leprosy begins at the ends of the nose.

The congress agreed to agitate for the establishment of leprosy colonies wherever needed. This seems the only means of staying the destruction caused by this "eldest daughter of death," as leprosy is termed in the original text of Job.

#### THE "MAINE" AFFAIR.

President McKinley's resolve to observe temporary secrecy with regard to the finding of the Commission appointed to investigate the Maine catastrophe, is ominous. Had the Commission decided definitely in the sense of an accident, the President would not have lost a moment in making the decision public. The inference is plain. Then we have a Spanish semi-official refusal to endorse the idea that the cause of the explosion was external to the vessel. In everything points at present to foul play. Yet we fail to see why the event should precipitate war. If the explosion was the work of insurgents it must have been contrived with the express object of embroiling Spain and the United States. It would be a miserable result that such a plot should succeed. If, on the other hand, the guilt is with the Spaniards, no one can imagine that officialdom had any concern in it. A fauatic must have been the agent, and States are not held responsible for the deeds of their fanatical subjects or citizens. An idea has been mooted and apparently credited that the ship was blown up by a mine which could not have been fired without access to the battery and without knowledge such as an official expert alone would possess. But how could the vessel have been anchored over a mine. Is it conceivable that she was deliberately invited to occupy such a berth by the harbour authorities?

#### KOKEA.

There is a rumour—whether trustworthy or not we can not tell-that the Russian Government has recalled M. de Speyer and that he will not proceed to Peking. If such be the case, the inference is at once suggested that M. de Speyer exceeded his instructions, and that the recent fiasco in Soul was brought about by his precipitancy. That was our own idea precipitancy. originally, and it is certainly the easiest way of explaining the situation. But M. de Speyer's despatch is very difficult to reconcile with any hypothesis of the kind. Further developments will doubtless help us to a solution of the puzzle.

#### THE FAR-EASTERN SITUATION.

DEUTER'S telegrams certainly furnish Regrounds for considerable uneasiness, if it be not necessary to discount them largely. They attribute to France an attitude which scarcely admits of any interpretation except a deliberate attempt, in combination with Russia, to strike a heavy blow at British interests in China. Two of the demands said to have been addressed by the French Government to Peking are natural enough: those relating to the extension of a railway from Touquin into Yunnan, and the leasing of a site for a coal depôt on the coast of Kwantung at the head of the Gulf of Tonquin. If there be such things as "spheres of foreign interests "in China, the Gulf of Tonquin lies within France's sphere, and if she wants a coal depôt on the northern littoral of the Gulf, no Power except China has any title to say her nay. So, too, of the Mang-hao-Yunnan line. She has long entertained the project of tapping southern and eastern Yunnan from the upper waters of the Songka River, and she has just as much right to pursue that aim as England has to seek railway communication with Western China via Burmah. But the remaining French demands are of a very different complexion. She asks China to guarantee that no part of the provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan shall be ceded to a Foreign Power. What does that mean? Considered cursorily, it appears to be analogous to England's recently obtained guarantee that no part of the Yangtze Valley shall be alienated. But in truth the two conditions are radically different. England's object is to secure the free navigation of China's great waterway, which, with its tributaries, affords access to some sixteen provinces The closing of the Yangtze to British vessels would involve the ruin of British trade with China, and England is determined that it shall be kept open to the ships of all nations and that no foreign Power shall acquire a position from which its navigation could be interrupted, or the freedom of trade on its waters hampered. A guarantee with regard to the three provinces of Kwantung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan can not be construed in any similar sense. It is plainly an attempt to establish a "sphere of influence" with a view to future contingencies. In short, the recent proceedings of Russia and France are obviously directed to the dismemberment of the Chinese empire; Russia taking Manchuria, with, perhaps, the vast project of gradual extension thence in westerly and northerly directions until all the provinces north of the Yellow River, together with Mongolia, are absorbed; France appropriating the three southern provinces, and England being left to work out her destiny in Central China along the Yangtsze Valley, sandwiched between Russia and France. It is a stupendous programme,

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but the demands formulated from St. Petersburg and Paris are unmistakable pointers. England, however, already possesses an island lying off the coast of Kwangtung, where she has created the Liverpool of the East. She also possesses a portion of the mainland of Kwangtung, and has been for some time openly thinking of asking for more. She has, further, large tradal operations with Canton, and it was through her enterprise that the West River was opened, which runs through two of the very provinces included in the French demand. It must be presumed that England intends to keep the West River open to the trade of the world just as she intends to keep the Yangtze open. The establishment of French control in Kwangtung and Kwangsi would mean the ruin of Hongkong and the exclusion of British commerce from Canton and the whole of the regions watered by the West River. That would scarcely be tolerable.

With regard to the third demand-the concession of the exclusive right to work mines along the route of the railway from Tonquin into Yunnan-China is precluded by treaty from granting anything of the kind. She has pledged herself not to give to any one Power privileges that she does not extend to all alike. Hence, if France has made such a demand, she has done so in defiance of the Treaty rights of other States. That is a question in which all Western Powers are interested. But the demand relating to the posts is aimed direct at England. Sir ROBERT HART is now in charge of the Chinese postal system. England, of course, had nothing to do with his employment for that purpose; Sir ROBERT HART himself, in choosing the personnel of the Customs and Postal services, makes no attempt to confine his appointments to any one nationality, whether British or what not. It has been stipulated that until the last loan raised by China is paid back, a British subject shall remain at the head of the Customs, since their revenue is pledged as security for the loan. That is a legitimate and perfectly natural arrangement, not dictated by any sentiment of international rivalry or jealousy. But France's demand aims simply at getting the postal business into the hands of Frenchmen qua Frenchmen. It is a distinct effort to strike a blow at British influence and prestige, arbitrarily taking out of the hands of a British subject an enterprise organized by him and conducted in such a manner that a change to other control would be merely capricious. If France has really preferred the demands attributed to her by the telegraph, she is evidently working in combination with Russia for Great Britain's discomfiture.

#### RUSSIA IN KORKA.

RUSSIA'S latest move in Korea is exceedingly difficult to explain. The telegraph seems to be transmitting the truth in this case. The St. Petersburg Government has really signified its intenof withdrawing its financial and military experts lent to Korea. Moreover, we are informed that when Mr. DE SPEYER propounded the question which has been followed by this strange result, he did not accompany it by any veiled menace-as was originally reported-but intimated rather that if Korea signified her desire to dispense with the devices of the experts, measures would be taken for their removal. That, of course, may have been intended to imply a threat, but, judging by what has ensued, such an inference is scarcely reasonable. What are we to think of it all? Russia seemed to be seated firmly enough in the Korean saddle. She was forcing the pace a little unwisely, no doubt, but it certainly did not appear that she was riding for a fall, or that a fall was imminent. Suddenly, however, her Representative challenged the Korean Government to make a declaration of sympathy or autipathy, and when the Government chose the latter, Russia seems to have said :- "Very well, then; since you don't want me you shan't have me. I'll leave you to your own devices." But that is very like a fiasco. It is as though Russia had voluntarily manufactured an extinguisher for her own head, and one does not expect sentimental selfeffacement of that kind on her part. Several explanations offer. The simplest is that Mr. DE SPEYER made a mistake, and that the Russian Government deemed it a point of dignity not to attempt to correct the situation. Russia's line from the first had been that she merely complied with Korea's request in sending drill-instructors and financial advisers to Soul. Possibly when Korea declared publicly that she wished to get rid of those gentlemen, the CZAR considered that to force their continued services upon the Koreans would not have been the part of a great Power. Most people will decline to believe, however, that Mr. DE SPEYER blundered into an impasse. They will think that he acted with eyes fully opened to the consequences and under explicit instructions from St. Petersburg. If that were so, it would appear to follow that Russia has changed her attitude towards Korea, and that she is disposed to step quietly out of the peninsula. But why? Because she finds it a hopeless place? Because experience shows her that she can make nothing of it? Well, but she had at least posted herself in the position to profit by an opportunity, and there was no reason why she should throw away chances acquired with so much trouble. We can not believe for a moment that she has abaudigiechtlisosteld in disgust or despair.

Patience and tenacity have always been characteristic elements of her policy. There is another explanation. It is that circumstances have rendered Korea comparatively useless to her. "If Vladivostock is to be the terminus of her trans-Asian line, it is essential that Korea, which abuts upon a long stretch of the railway, and from whose harbours her maritime communications with Vladivostock could be commanded, should be kept from passing into the possession of any possibly hostile State. But if Shingking is to belong to Russia and if the terminus of the railway is to be in the Liaotung Peninsula, then Viadivostock loses nearly all its importance and Korea ceases to have any special value. There is nothing incredible in such a change of policy except its precipitancy. Can we suppose that Russia has been working along purely experimental lines for the past three years, and that she sees her way clearly only now? It is difficult to be so credulous. Frankly speaking, we find ourselves unable to fit any working theory to the facts.

#### THE DOSHISHA QUESTION.

CINCE the summer of 1896 the Doshisha question has attracted much attention. The Doshisha is a college which was started in Kyoto by the late Mr. NISHIMA -or "NEESIMA," as his name is often written by foreigners. He obtained funds for the purpose from American sources, the explicit intention of the donors being that the institution should be conducted on the lines of Christian morality. Richly endowed with American money and assisted by a number of highly educated American gentlemen who worked as professors and teachers, the Doshisha flourished and acquired a high reputation. But there came a time when freedom of thought, newly born among the Japanese, ceased to be compatible with the comparatively rigid views of the religious Society having direct relations with the college-the American Board Mission. The Japanese Trustees, not considering themselves pledged as educationists to any definite syllabus of Christian doctrine, saw no reason why professorial chairs should not be occupied by men of unorthodox views : the Foreign Faculty objected to anything of the kind. That seems to us to be the fairest and most compendious statement of the case. There were, doubtless, minor causes of friction, but the fundamental difficulty appears to have been what is here set down. By and by, the schism grew so marked that the American Board deemed it necessary to send to Japan a special Committee, charged with the duty of investigating the facts. The this point it could not justly be alleged that first business of this deputation being to the Doshisha had ceased to be tributary to obtain assurances such as would satisfy the growth of the Christian religion. American subscribers that they could still Christianity still continued to be the conscientiously contribute to the support foundation of the moral education furni- course which they have apparently taken. of the Doshisha, the Committee required shed at the institution. But, on the 3rd

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endorse a certain declaration of faith. which exposes them to the gravest sus-The Trustees refused. They said that in picion. They elided from the Constitution their opinion the consequence of the proposed step would be to confound religious propagandism with secular education, eyes of the public a character which its Briefly stated, the meaning of the elision said, at the same time, that, speaking as the foundation of the moral education individuals, they did not hesitate to affirm furnished at the Doshisha's affiliated capacity as Trustees of an educational institution they must decline to make such a profession; and they added that, with regard to the moral atmosphere of the College, seven out of the nine Trustees two were graduates of the College; that all the Deans of the Schools, with one exception, were professing Christians, as Sunday, at which the members of the Faculty and the Students were required Bible was offered to all the students. In propagandism, but simply education permeated with the spirit of Christianity. Now it is emphatically denied on the part of the American Board that religious propagandism was ever the purpose of the Doshisha. The college was intended not to be an instrument of propagandism but and the Trustees. But in practice the Trustees allowed their breadth of view ber of the Japanese Faculty showed offensive antipathy to the missionaries, and that also likely, if unrestrained, to imperil the character of the College. Under these circumstances the connexion between the Board and the College was severed, the latter ceasing to receive any further pecuniary support from the former.

Earnest people could not but regard the incident with profound regret, and foreign critics, knowing the kind of men sent out by the American Board to assist at the Doshisha, were constrained to conclude that the fault lay chiefly with the Japanese Trustees and Faculty. Nevertheless, up to

the Trustees of the College to publicly of last month, the Trustees took a step a clause providing that all schools of the Doshisha Society must have "Doshisha" as a part of their name, and must be governand thus to impart to the Doshisha in the ed by the principles of the Constitution. founder had not intended it to bear. They was that Christianity need no longer be their belief in the articles formulated by schools. The Trustees have not declared the Committee, though in their collective that they intend to abolish that kind of moral education at the schools, but their action scarcely admits of any other interpretation when we consider its ostensible purpose. What is that purpose? The question brings us to not the least were members of Kumini Churches and interesting part of the story. Under the present educational system of Japan the students of all schools classed as "Middle " or " Upper" enjoy the privilege of were also a large majority of the Japanese exemption from military service up to professors and instructors; that chapel their twenty-eighth year. No missionary services were held twice a week and on school has hitherto been admitted to this classification, and it was to obtain admission for the Doshisha's principal school to be present; and that instruction in the that the Trustees laid aside its nominally Christian affinities. Such is the stateshort, they took up the position that the ment made recently in these columns by object of the Doshisha was not religious the Rev. Mr. DAVIS, who was for 21 years a Professor in the school. It amounts to an accusation of the gravest character against the Trustees, for they are placed in the position of having committed something very like a fraud. The funds needed for establishing and endowing the Doshisha were contributed on the distinct consimply to be tributary to the growth of dition that they should be used for religion. Hence there existed no radical purposes of education on the lines of difference of theory between the Board Christian morality. The Trustees have no more right to dispense with the teaching of Christian morality in a Doshisha to exceed the limits of liberty regarded school than they have to obtain money by the Board as permissible, and there under false pretences. Philanthropic Ameseems to be no doubt that one mem- ricans furnished funds to build and support an institution where not merely intellectual education but also moral education the Trustees themselves began to assume founded on Christianity should be provided towards the Board an attitude of in- for Japanese youths. They would never dependence which appeared to the latter have given the money had they anticipated not only improper and ungrateful but such a step as that said to have been now taken by the Trustees. It may be urged on behalf of the Trustees that the Doshisha is no longer in receipt of pecuniary aid from America, and that, in order to make it self-supporting, expediency must be consulted, not moral obligations alone. It may also be urged that from the time when the American Board decided to dissociate itself from the institution, the responsibility of the Trustees towards the original foreign contributors underwent a radical change. If the Trustees rely on these or any other arguments, they should lose no time in making them public. As things now stand, there can be only one verdict : they should rather have closed the Doshisha altogether than adopt the

#### SCHOOLS AND PRIVILEGES.

I N connexion with the subject of the Do-shisha and the application made by its Faculty for official recognition, it may be applies to all religions. A school where useful to set forth some facts which do instruction is given in the Buddhist or not appear to be generally known. Public Schools in Japan are classed as Normal, Upper Middle, Ordinary Middle, and Primary. To the first three classes short, religious training is excluded from the privilege is accorded that students the curricula of all educational institutions entered in their books are exempted from recognised officially in Japan. That is military service up to the age of twenty-Under ordinary circumstances every Japanese youth becomes liable to conscription at the age of nineteen, and, if drafted into the service, has to serve with the colours for three years, a fatal interruption, of course, to the completion of any studies in which he has engaged. He may, indeed, escape with one year's service-and that comparatively lightby entering his name as a volunteer and paying a sum of 100 yen, but we are not speaking here of special exemptions: our concern is with the general rule. is plainly an immense boon to a lad to be sure of escaping conscription until he reaches the age of twenty-eight. By that time he may reasonably hope to have embraced some profession or attained some position in virtue of which final exemption from military service will be procurable, or he may look to be in possession of funds sufficient for the purchase of a volunteer's privilege. At all events he is sure of being able to complete his education, which consummation, we need scarcely say, is the Government's purpose in granting the privilege. By the term " public school" is to be understood an institution having a fixed course of studies, receiving a certain measure of State aid-whether from the Treasury or from communal funds-, and subject to official inspection.

It is evident that if the privilege of exemption from conscription were limited to "public schools," private enterprise in the field of education would be fatally handicapped, for students would unhesitatingly prefer schools to which a privilege so valuable was attached. To prevent injurious discrimination of that kind, it is provided that any private school having a curriculum in strict conformity with the standard prescribed by the Educational Department shall be entitled to rank with a public school of corresponding curriculum. In order to obtain such recognition, application must be duly made to the Department, and a solemn engagement must be given that no religious teaching enters into the scholastic course, or shall enter into it so long as the privilege is enjoyed. Naturally no misobject of missionary schools may not be (\$20,000) and "Surplus from last year" (\$508,t60). The "Government Tax" is morality is taught at them all, and they

are thus incligible to be entered in the Department's list. It should be clearly understood, however, that this rule is not directed against Christianity alone. It Shinto creed finds itself just as effectually debarred from the privilege in question as does a Christian missionary school. In is taken off in view of possible failures of the point to which we would draw attention. Modern intelligence has laid down the broad principle that no State aid should be given to any school unless it is conducted on strictly secular lines. That] principle is based on the obviously just consideration that public money, which is contributed by persons of all shades of belief, can not properly be appropriated for the teaching, or inculcation, of religious doctrines which may be obnexious to many of the contributors. The whole question, as we understand it, turns upon one pivot-pecuniary aid. On the other hand, it is equally incontrovertible that there exist great numbers of people who condemn all school teaching unaccompanied by religious instruction; people who do not believe that there can be any education in the true sense of the word unless it includes an element of religious morality. The Japanese system seems to discriminate unfairly against such people. Its practical effect is that, whereas all persons willing to have their children educated without religious training, are granted twenty-eight years wherein to complete the work, parents who think that secular learning divorced from religious morality is not sufficient for a boy's welfare, are allowed only nineteen years to educate him. If to place a private school officially in the same rank with a public "middle school" involved any contribution of State or communal funds towards its maintenance, the case would be different. But where there is question only of exemption from military service, we fail to see why a youth whose education has comprised religious training should be placed at a very serious disadvantage as compared with a youth whose education has been purely secular.

#### KOREAN FINANCE.

The Korean Budget for 1898 is given in the pages of the Korean Repository. The income is put at \$4,527,476, the expenditure at \$4,525,530, the surplus on the side of the former being less than two thousand dollars. That looks like a close fit, but the fact is that the revenue is estimated on a very low scale. Its principal item is "Government Tax," which furnishes \$3,779,316, the remainder being made up of "Miscellaneous In-

Land Tax	2,227.758
House Tax	229,558
Miscellaneous	24,000
Attears of Taxes	358,000
Imseng Monopoly	150,000
Gold Mines	40,000
Customs	730,000

A curious point is to be noted with respect to the first two items in the above list. The Land Tax, as actually assessed, aggregates \$4,876,475, but a sum of \$420,959 crops, and the remainder is then reduced by one half, on the ground that the basis of the estimate being a three-hundredyear-old survey, can not be trusted, and that many influential folks do not pay. The case of the House Tax is worse, for the true estimate is \$688,674 and only \$229,558 is reckoned as a good asset. There must be magnificent opportunities for tax-collectors in Korea.

With regard to the expenditure, we quote the Repository:-

The detail of the expenditures is so clearly laid down that no comment is necessary. One item; however, we feel, deserves a passing notice of leastly endorsement and approval. It is proposed to organize twenty new government schools in 1898, one in Sönl, one in each of the thirteen provincial capitals, and one in each of the six open ports. The appropriation to each of these schools is \$350. Their number should be increased until them is a use in every term of the content of the content of the six open parts. The detail of the expenditures is so clearly laid parts. The appropriate the increased until there is one in every town of 1,000 or more inhabitants throughout the empire. The following is the table of expenditures :-

In the reason of the		
ORDINARY EXPRI	RDITURES	4
[,-Imperial Household		
Department		
Imperial Household\$	500,000	
Sacrificial Rites	60,000	\$ 500,000
IL-Council of State	_	32,016
IIIForeign Office		_
Department Expenses	25.984	_
Superintendency of Trade	31,732	_
Three Legations abroad	74,680	132,396
IV Home Office	_	
Department Expenses	28,410	_
Police Department	161,175	_
Prisons and jails	12,158	_
Government of Soul	7,050	
Provincial Administration	140,916	_
Prefectores, 1st class	30,186	_
Government of Chairju.	4,265	_
Prefectures, 2nd class	786,123	
Police at open ports	42.375	-
Vaccination	4,000	
Travelling Expenses	10,000	1,025,655
VFinance Department.		-10031033
Department Expenses	49.534	-
Privy Council, etc	10,173	_
Customs Administration	120,000	-
Mint operations	100,000	
National debt	12.690	_
Transport of currency	200,000	892,197
	200,000	46.853
VII.aw Department	_	40.033
VIIDepartment of Edu-		
Cation		_
Department Expenses	19,124	_
Astronomical Board	3.550	_
Schools	50,466	
Grants in aid	6,200	89,340
VIII.—Department of		
Commerce, etc		_
Department Expenses	29,230	
Post Office	73,000	
Telegraphs	87,000	189,230
IX.—War Office		-
Department Expenses	95,000	_
Military establishment.,	1,155,736	1,251,745
Total		\$4,418,432
EXTRAORDINARY EX	PERDITU	RES.
Sacrificial cites	9	70.000

Mr. Frederick Tennyson, the eldest brother of the late Lord Tennyson, is dead. He was himself the writer of some poetry of note, and part author of the now famous "Poems by Two Brothers." The Tennysons are a long lived race, for Frederick was 92 years old at the time of his death.

Total appropriations ...... \$4,524.530

480

30,000

Sacrificial tiles....

Department of Commerce, etc...

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

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#### RESULT OF THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

According to our reckoning, the results of the	ĺ
general elections are as follows :-	1

Liberals	103
Progressists	104
National Unionists	27
Business Men	g
Independent	32
Minor Parties	
Total	299

### If we divide these into camps we have the following :- LIBERAL CAMP

LIBERAL CAMP.		
Liberals	103	
National Unionists		
Business Men	9	
	139	
PROGRESSIST CAMP.		
Progressists	104	
Mirror Parties	22	
	_	
	126	٠
Neurona Cano		

But our estimate does not tally with others pub lished by vernacular newspapers, nor are any two of these identical. Here, for example, are

P <sub>t</sub>	0g1655*	Libe-	National
	ists.	tals.	Unionists
Fiji Shimpo	110	99	22
Mainichi	105	92	25
Kokumin	106	111	30
Nippon	105	109	35
Chuo	105	110	53
Yominri	110	95	25
Tokyo Asaki	110	95 98	24
Yoresu Cheho	011	97	25

There discrepancies are due, in some degree, to the fact that each political party has a fringe the colour of which is not quite certain. On the whole, however, we shall not be far wrong if we say that, assuming a coalition between the National Unionists and the Liberals, the Liberal Camp has a strength of 140, and the Progressiat Camp a strength of 130, approximately, and that there are some 29 neutrals. As a general rule the Government can count on the support of the Independents, so that if the Cabinet allies itself with the Liberals, it will probably have a clear majority of about 20 or 25 in the whole House.

It is a noteworthy fact that out of 299 members returned, only 89 sat in the last house. The most marked change in this respect has taken place in the Liberal Party, only 26 of the former members being returned against 77 new members, or 3 new members for 1 old, approximately. The Progressists, on the other other hand, have 43 of their former members gainst 63 new representatives, or something like 3 new members to every 2 old.

If we consider the names of men who have distinguished themselves in debate, we find that all the parties have suffered heavy loss. Thus the Progressists lose :-

Tunnda Shimpei. Kamnchi Tanetsune. Abe Ikito Minoura Katsuto

Hamawo Shigern. Higashio Heitaco. Sazuki Shigeto Orita Kenshi

Kawashima Jun The Liberal losses are :-Ishida Kannosuke Sakurai Tsutomu Takata Sanaye Noguchi Kei Hoshi Toru

Suzuki Juhi Ebashi Ko Misaki Kantenosoke Shigeoka Kunguro

The National Unionists lose:-Facustic Kamen Hayakawa Ryosuke lmai Isoichiro

Among the Independents and Minor Parties we miss the names of :--

Hara Zenzaburo Horikoshi Kwansuke Mochizuki Unai Gamo Sen Konishi Januasake

We do not suppose that very many of our readers will be interested in the above names, but to those that have followed the debates in the Lower House, they are all familiar.

There have been five general elections, since \$300 a month. Digitized by Google

the Diet was first convened, in 1890, and the number of men who have been returned on every one of these occasions and will sit in the new House, is only 22. They are :-

#### PROGRESSISTS.

Shimada Saburo Ozaki Yukio Isugai Ki Minoura Katsundo Nakamara Yaroku Kuda Kakan Rikneln Knro Ohigashi Gitetsu Tanaka Shoze Nakane Buyei Sato Satoji

LIBERALS.

Kurihara Rysichi Ebara Soroku Kaino Kozo Yamada Taizo

NATIONAL UNIONISTS. molusa Asakma Chikatame Hajime Sasaki Shozo Sassa Tomolusa Motoda Hajime

#### MINOR PARTIES

Kono Hironaka (Tohoku Domei-kas) Arai Shozo (Shin-Fiyu-to) Haseba Junko (Sei-rukai)

The Liberals, though they have gained appreciably in numerical strength, have undergone a very marked sifting at the polls. It looks as if the evil reputation attaching to some of their members in the last Diet had followed them to the constituencies.

#### THE JAPANESE NAVY.

The Minister of State for the Navy has caused the following classification of the Japanesc Fleat to be made and posted :-

LINE-OF BATTLE SHIPS.

First class .- 1. Fufi. 2. Yashima. 3. Shikishima. 4. Asahl.

Second class .- 5. Fuso. 6. Chinyen. CRUISERS.

First class .- 7. Asama. 8. Tokiwa. 9. Yakumo. 10. Asuma.

Second class -11. Naniwa. 12. Takachiho. 13. Itsukushima. 14. Matsushima. 15. Hashidate. 16. Yoshino. 17. Takasago. 18. Kasagi. 19. Chilose.

Third class,-20. Isumi. 21. Chiyoda. 22. Akitsusu. 23. Suma. 24. Akashi. COAST-DEFENCE SEIPS.

Third class.—25. Tsukuba. 26. Kongo. 27. Hiyei. 28. Seiyen. 29. Kaimon.

30 Tenyru. 31. Kalsuragi. 32. Yamalo. 33. Musashi. 34. Takao. Gunborts.

First class .- 35. Tsukushi. 36. Heiyen,

Second class.—37. Soko. 38. Hosho.
39. Amaki. 40. Iwaki. 41. Chinto.
42. Chinnan. 43 Chinhoku. 44. Chinsei.
45. Chinchu. 46. Chimpen. 47. Maya.

45. Chinchu. 40. Chimpen. 47. may 48. Toriumi. 49. Alago. 50. Akagi. 51. Oshima.

DESPATCH VESSELS.

52. Yaverama. 53. Talsula. 54. Miyako. 55. Chihaya.

TORPEDO DEPOT SHIP.

56. Toyohashi.

TORPEDO DESTROYERS. 57, Shinonome. 58. Murakumo. 59. Pu-giri. 60. Shiranui. 61. Ikasuchi. 62. Inasuma. 63. Akebono. 64. Sasa nami.

TORPEDO-BOATS. First class (6) -Kolaka. Fukuryu. Haya busa. Shirataka. Kasasaki. Manasuru. Second class (4) .- No. 21. No. 23 No. 24. No. 25.

No. 25.
Third class (21).—No. 1. No. 2. No. 3.
No. 4. No. 5. No. 6. No. 7. No. 8.
No. 9. No. 10. No. 11. No. 12.
No. 13. No. 14. No. 15. No. 16.
No. 17. No. 18. No. 19. No. 20.
No. 26. No. 27.

Fonttii class (1).—No. 38.

News has been received at Singapore of the death of Captain Blair, formerly manager of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Co., Singapore. Captain Blair retired in 1896, when he received a gift from the Company of \$10,000 and a pension of

#### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPAN. ESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the Kyōiku-jiron are given the opinions of the well-known member of the Diet, Mr. Sasa Tomofusa on the rank occupied by Japan among civilised countries. The following is the gist of what Mr. Sasa has to say:-The object of my visit to Europe was to ascertain what Occidental nations actually think in referout Japan's place in the scale of nations without comparing her with the most advanced and powerful States. It is an undoubted fact that her victories in China advertised Japan in the Western world. But exactly to what position in the aver of the world has the here spired? in the eyes of the world has she been raised? That was the question I wished to see answered. I may quote one or two of the opinions of prominent men in Europe on the subject, which, with others, tend to show that the leaders of thought in the Western world have not made up their minds as to what will be the future career of this country. An eminent lecturer at Berlin University not long ago observed that the three great States of the world were America, England, and Russia, and afterwards spoke of Japan as a country that was attracting notice. "As to how far this new Power will advance in the path of Occidental civilisation," observed the lecturer, "is as yet andetermined." The French statesman, M. Clémencsau, made the following remark to me: "It is reported in this part of the world that at the present time your progress is suspended. I can't believe this. In order to settle the question I purpose visiting Japan next year." I hope facilities will be given to this eminent politician and art connoisseur to make athorough investigation. I told M. Ciémenceau that there was nothing that I desired so much as unsparing criticism of our institutions and life. A professor of the Heidelberg University, quoting from Yoko-hams papers, informed the students that since the war Japan had grown conceited and self-satisfied and was making little effort to make berself actually strong. One thing is certain, berself actually strong. One thing is certain, and that is that since the war Occidental nations have ceased to regard Japan an amere child whose pretty ways fascinate all who come into contact with it, but an a formidable rival in the field of industry and commerce. The proof of this is to be seen in the carefulness with which accrets connected with manufactures. are guarded. The German Cement Companies have agreed to refuse permission to any Japanworks. And in France secret instructions have been issued by the Government forbidding Japanese inspection of industrial works or the disclosure to Japanese of industrial secrets. There is no doubt about our having risen in Occidental estimation, but what is important for us to bear in mind is that we have not tor us to bear in minute is that we have risen in foreign estimation to the extent we have risen in our own. We rate ourselves higher than others rate us. The war brought us much good, but it also brought us much evil. We were the means of revealing to the world the weakness of our great Continental neighbour. Western Powers are now resping the benefit of that revelation. And thus we have brought a source of trouble in our very doors.

The KyōiAu-jiran publishes an account of the recently expressed views of the new Minister of Education, Marquis Salonji, from which we extract the following, allowing the Minister to speak for himself:—The late Mr. Mitsukuri commenced a series of works called "Science for the People." We want more of this kind of writing. We are far behind Western nations in the amount of instructive non-technical literature at the disposal of our people. If, instead of perusing silly novels from morning to night, our women were poring over scientific booksworks on domestic economy, etc., how much better qualified to bring up families they would become. I quite anticipate that my assumption of office will be the signal for a good deal of op-Original from

position from the party which professes to champion the cause of patriotism. My steadlast adherence to cosmopolitanism as a principle of action on a former occasion created no small ambrage in certain quarters. I have not changed my mind on this subject. Occidentalised I may be, but as regards patriotism I yield place to none. People's methods of showing their patriotism differ considerably There are those who think that patriotism is best shown by everlastingly vausting the praises of Japan, by representing her me head and shoulders above all other countries. As for me I confess I am strongly in favour of foreign ways. On foreign civilisation and foreign learning we are chiefly dependent for the position we hold in the world. Our only possible chance of success in the future depends on the thoroughness with which we adopt Western civilisation. This being so, is the man unpatriotic who recommends what slone can save his country from degradation? I say now what I said some time ago. We must adopt foreign ways. There is no alternative. We must push on female education. We are addly behind in this matter. The zeal which was displayed a few years ago has cooled down, and there is little earnest effort made to raise our women to a higher standard. There are those who think that the nearness of the time when the new treaties will come into force calls for some special educational measures to meet the new situation. I do not attach such importance to the approaching change as some are inclined to do. We have known all along that Treaty Revision was bound to come and that mixed residence, &c., would follow, and have been preparing for these events. There is no occasion to change the policy of the Department in order to prepare for the new situation For years past we have been working up to the point we are now about to reach. General progress, and not spasmodic effort, is the best preparation for the new era on which we are entering, and that progress has to a certain extent been going

The Rikugo Zasshi, when discussing the views of Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo on nationalism, makes the following observations:—The narrow views of certain writers on what they conceive to be true patriotism are already beginning to work mischief in our newly acquired territory. Japan's method of governing Formosa reminds one of the course followed by England in Ireland a century or Iwo ago. But in Formosa there is not even the affinity of race that exists between the English and the Irish. Permeated with the notion that we are a superior race of people, we treat the Formosans like so many slaves. The fact is that all the narrow-mindedness of islanders clings to us, and there are a very large number of us whose ideas resemble those of the English 300 years ago. Our government of Formosa can never be a success until we learn to forget racial distinctions and treat the Formosans like brothers and sisters.

The Taijo has an interesting article on "Speculators" which it divides into two classes, namely, speculators in shares and speculators in rice. The former are said to be as a rule intelligent and well educated and to belong to the upper strata of society. The latter class consists of a number of different kinds of speculators which the Taiyo distinguishes as follows :-(1) 思蒙師 Omewakushi. The purchases of this class are founded on forecasts of the probable state of the market a few months ahead. No influence likely to affect prices escapes their vigilance. They pay special attention to the weather, to the supply of rice in the market or held in stock ready to be offered for sale when scarcity begins to be felt. The Omowakushi are the boldest of all speand their transactions are usually sufficiently large to yield great gains or involve

those of the Omowakushi. The Mesakishi are for the most part very ignorant, and frequently depend on diviners for information about the future. In connection with these, there are what are called Nakagainin, commission agents or middlemen. Some of these, while doing basi-ness for their employers, carry on a good deal of speculation on their own account. This class speculation on their own account. of speculators bear the name of **脐食**屋, Shōbuya. Then there are what are called 春屋, Nomiya, a class that is dependent on the Sho buya, whose license notices (kamban) they him in order to attract custom. Various tricks hire in order to attract custom. resorted to by this low class of speculators are of a dishonest kind, among them is to be reckoned misquotation of prices.

(3) Next come the n. Sayatori. Many of the classes noticed above deal in rice without actually handling the grain, but the Sayatori purchase rice and move it from one place to another when varying prices allow of a margin of profit.

Added to the above classes are two sets of amblets and cogues known as meguriya and 合百量 gohyakuya, into whose meshes many in nawary country-bumpkin is hauled. They borrow kamban from nakagainin, but only in order to deceive their customers and the police.

According to Mr. Tsubouchi, in the 7 aijo. there is no reason for expecting that the kind of novel which the public demands, the tale that shall cease to reflect the thoughts and desires of the present generation and treat of life objectively in an entertaining manner, will be forthcoming. There are laws which govern the world of literature which nobody can alter. England has no great dramatists now, but she had them in the days of Elizabeth. There are stages in a nation's progress when a variety of influences conduce to the production of great literary works of the non-subjective type, but it is quite clear that Japan is not in that stage now. In the history of Japan, the Genroku era (a.D. 1688-1703) may be said to correspond to the age of Elizabeth as regards dramatic writing. Japan is engaged in too earnest a struggle to allow of her representative men regarding life with the levity and frolicsomeness of the auccessful writer of what is called the witty novel. In the works of Aeba (Kōson) we have samples of what the public desires to have in abundance, but the spirit of the age in against the development of the state of mind necessary for the production of this class of literature. The age in which we live is essentially subjective and egoistic. This is seen as much in art as in literature. Mr. Tsubouchi concludes his remarks on this subject by urging the necessity of introducing the best foreign works here by means of trustworthy translations. [apanese literature can only make rapid strides by the supply of new ideas to the minds of the chief writers.

We observe that the subject of improving the Japanese language is again attracting considerable attention, and it seems to be felt in certain influential quarters to be of imperative necesaity in view of the ever-growing competition with which the Japanese have to contend in their struggle for a place among the foremost nations of the earth. In No. 2 of Vol. V. of the Toyotetsugaku, allusion is made to the discussion on the subject that took place at the Oriental Congress held last autumn in Paris, at which Dr. Inouye Tetsujiro and other apanese were present, and surprise is expressed that a topic which has been taken up so earnestly by foreign linguists should be treated with such indifference by the majority of learned Indancae.

In the Talyo, under the title of "Questions for Consideration after Mixed Residence has begun," Mr. Ueda Mannen has discussed begun," Mr. Ueda Mannen has discussed very fully the changes which it is necessary to

paration on our part necessary for effecting this end? We know of no greater obstacle to the smooth working of the new treaties than the confused state of the Japanese lauguage. Speaking strictly, Japan may be said to be without a distinct language of her own. The existing tougue is so full of contradictions and inconsistencies that it is next to impossible to reduce it to grammatical rules. As for the use of written signs, they convey according to context and general connection the greatest variety of meaning. They may be intended to suggest a sound and convey no meaning, as when used for proper names. They may be used as expressing half of the meaning intended to be conveyed, as do one of the ideographs of the jukuii, or they may be placed as the substitute for a spoken word conveying a distinct idea.

The reforms proposed by Mr. Uede are (t) That the Tôkyô language should be made the national tongue, that all class books and all general literature should be compiled in this dislect. and that there should be no distinction whatever made between the written and spoken language. (2) Pronunciation should be made a special study. The method of pronouncing words hitherto in use should be retained, but in the case of foreign words they should be adopted as they stand, untranslated and untransliterated. (3) In order to effect the desired changes, the Departments of Education and the Imperial Household should combine in creating a special bureau, to consist of the leading linguists of the country.

There is far too great a tendency in Japan, continues Mr. Ueda, to despise the native language and favour some foreign tongue. The unity of a nation depends very much on there being only one language spoken, which all respect and love. There will in the near future be an increasing demand for men acquainted with foreign languages, but this should not induce us to neglect the development of our mother tongue. Mr. Ueda at the conclusion of his article discusses the subject of teaching foreign languages in Japan, observing that there ere a number of poorly qualified instructors in various parts of the country, Germans teaching English with a strong German accent, and so on, but this is quite another subject.

The Kyoiku jiron combats the notion that foreign languages should be taught in all schools as a preparation for mixed residence. Nothing of the kind will be necessary, says this organ. The mass of the people will only need their own language, but this should be rendered more efficient ma method of expressing thought.

Reviewing the progress of Japanese art, the Tenchijin was, Art in the Meiji era may be conveniently divided into three periods. The first period was one of disintegration and destruction, lasting from 1868 1877. At the beginning of the Meiji era Japan's best attists anddenly found themselves deprived of all the support their profession had enjoyed for 1,300 years. Under the Tokugawa Government they were specially favoured. They received regular stipends, were exempted from all taxes and enjoyed other privileges. After the Revolution they found themselves stranded and their condition was pitiable to behold. In order to eke out a living, some turned to other occupations, some tried to learn foreign art. In 1873 at the Vienna Exhibition Japanese painting received favourable notice and this encouraged artists of the old school to renew their efforts to win popular favour. The next period lasted from 1878 18 7, which may be described as a conservative era. But during this period Japanese artists did little more than regain the ground that had been lost during the previous ten years. But mere conservatism cannot hold sway over men's minds for any length of time So in 1888 it gave place to a new influence. There arose a school of artists who felt confident that it was possible to blend the old and enormous losses.

(2) Next to these are the 日光间. Mesakishi.

Theze, as the name implies, are guided by the appearance of things from time to time. Neither their profits nor their gains are equal to

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revealed the new tendency. From this time forward we may expect marked progress. Already there are signs of this. Among the pic-tures exhibited last year, according to compe-tent judges, there were some that showed great The mixture of styles and the general chaos in the art world of which so many complain iii in our view the unavoidable prelude of the cosmon that is to be evolved. The creation of the new world has commenced and will go

In No. 2 of the Chugal-firen appears an article entitled Genron Shakai no Keisei oyobi Fimbutsu (Learned discussion and the men who take part in it), which is evidently written by some one who has made a special study of medern ephemeral literature. Reviewing the past, the writer we are quoting calls attention to the enormous progress that has been made nince the days when the late Mr. Baba Tateni and Mr. Kato Hiroyuki published treatises on political and civil rights. The men who have figured most conspicuously as the expo-nents of English political theory and practice are Mesers. Yano (Minister to China), Inukai (a noted member of the Diet), Fujita (dead) Ozaki and the late Mr. Numa. The four Dailies that in former times did so much to en lighten the public on the aubject of advanced politics were the Chopa Shimbun, the Nichi Nichi, the Hochi, and the Mainicht. The first of these expired some years ago, deeply regretted. The last is so changed that its antecedents can hardly be guessed. It has deslecturers and the advertiser of the merits of stage-actors. It exists, and that is all one can The only paper that from early days has pursued its even course and lost none of its vigour and grasp of ever varying political situs. tions in the Nichi Nichi Shimbun, whose editorship is now in the hands of Mr. Assins, writer who in the treatment of political and legal questions has no equal among Japanese, and whose pen combines force with great seriousness of purpose. Mr. Assina is one of the keenest of controversialists, quick to discover flaws in his opponent's armour and careful to reveal no weakness in his own. He has just returned from a two years' visit to Europe and the effects of his study of the latest developments there are revealing themselves in his writing. The position occupied by the Nichi Nichi in politics is filled by the Jiji Shimpo in social and business affairs. Its whole tone and character is derived from the extensive knowledge and gound common sense of its proprietor. Mr. Fukuzawa, whose unsulfied career stretching over more than half a century has won for him a place in the heatts of his fellow-countrymen shared by no other. Next to the above men-

tioned papers in distinctiveness of character

though in some respects out of sympathy with

them, come the Rokumin shimbun and the

The first of these was called into

Nippon. The first of these was called into existence by Mr. Tokutomi, whose brilliant Sho

rai no Nihon (Japan of the Future) attracted the attention of the public many years ago. The Nippon has figured conspicuously on all ques-

tions connected with foreigners as the chauvi-

nistic organ of Japan. It clamoured long for

treaty revision and when that was effected pro-

tested against mixed residence. The Nippon is the champion of national rights and the Koka-

questions the views of these papers have usually

been as opposite as the poles, but recently they

have been drawing nearer each other. Mr. Kuga, the Editor of the Nippon, has advocated

party Cabinets, a thing he would not have done

years ago when he brought out the translation

known as 法治論 Höchiron, and the Kokumin

Shimbun has been arguing in favour of increasing the army and navy, levying new taxes and

the like. Has Mr. Kuga advanced? or is it Mr.

Tokutomi that has made progress? As regards

the future of the two papers, the Nippon's posi-tion is more assured than that of the Kekumin.

Many of the writers formerly connected with the

latter paper no longer belong to its staff, where-Digitized by

min of the rights of man as man.

years ago when it was first established. The subordinate members of the staff are all devoted to the chief and consequently the work of the office goes on smoothly. Leaving out of consideration high-class discussion, as a vigorous and common-sense commentator on passing events, Mr. O-oka of the Chūō Shimbun has few equals. His style lacks the polish to be found elsewhere, but he has the art of vivid description. High among the leading journalists of the day is to be ranked Mr. Takenokoshi, Editor of the Sekal no Nihen, whose talent, extensive knowledge, application and integrity have won for him no small distinction. He has lately been appointed private secretary to the Minister of Education." specialist, a man of wide knowledge and full of practical wisdom, as the master of a rare style and as averse to flattery of every kind, Mr. Taguchi, the editor of the Keisai Zasshi holds a high position. As, among journalists, the only remaining powerful representatives of the old Kaishin-to, Messrs. Nakai and Ishii of the Yomiuri Shimbun are worthy of notice. On them alone do the fortunes of the paper depend at the present time. What there is of subtlety and pointedness in the pages of the Nikonjin comes from the pen of Mr. Shiga. The conclusion reached by the writer we are quoting is that there are only four great papers, the Nicht Nicht, the Yili, the Nihan and the Kekumin Shimbun.

The following table of statistics shows the number of newspapers circulated in the year 1896, or at least those whose circulation exceeded one million copies per annum.

	No. of copies
Name of Paper.	circulated.
Yoradzu Chôlô	24 458,240
Cl üð Shimbun	21,026,922
Chūgai Shōgyō Shimpō	14.704.355
Tokyo Asabi Shimbon	13 712,145
Miyaka Shimbun	10.926,077
Kokumin Shimbun	10,801,601
Yamato Shimbun	8,176 286
Jiji Shimpô	7,133,868
Hochi Shimbun	6,369,062
Yomiari Shimbaa	5,631,860
Nippou	5.506 957
Tokyo Nichi Nichi	5 480 909
Meiji Shimban	4,782,203
Mainichi Shimbun	
Ye-iri Nippō	3,516,316
Taijō	
Beikyō (米况) Shimyō	
Shōsen Sekat	
Tokyō Shōkyō (商况) Shimpo	
- S⊩ōji ( <b>商事)</b>	1,154.500

Dr. Ariga Nagao has made a specialty of diplomacy. In addition to the magazine which he has lately started called the Gwaito Jiho he has published a valuable work called Kinfi Gaitarhs (a History of Recent Foreign Diplomacy) which covers 700 pages. It is issued by the Tokyo Seminon Gakko and sells at 1 ven 50 sen. For some time Dr. Ariga lectured at the Semmon Gakko and the Military School on these ambjects, and a few years ago he was sent by the Government to the West to study the laws of international intercourse ar practised today. The volume gives a history of all important international transactions in Europe, from the Vienna Congress of 1814 down to the year 1897.

In the opening number of the Gwaiko fiho which is to be a monthly magazine issued by the Tökyö Semmon Gakkö, Dr. Ariga says that foreigners know far more about Japan than Japan-se know about foreign countries and foreign affairs, and yet the importance of Japan's leading men being well acquainted with what is going on in the great outside political arena was never more apparentthan it is to-day, when threatening clouds have begun to darken the Eastern sky. The objects of the new organ Dr. Ariga states to be to throw light on all the chief diplomatic questions of modern times by discussing them historically and to furnish discussing them readers with the latest information on all inter-

The second instance of a journalist being appointed private Secretary to a Minister of State is that the former is started and controlled by the within the past few months, Mr. Zumoto of the Mombusho and the latter is established and configurable of the Original Provincial or Municipal Assemblies.

national topics that in any way affect Japan. The following are the headings of the subjects to be treated :—(1) Facts bearing on international diplomacy. (2) International Law. (3) The diplomacy. (2) International Law. (3) The revised Treaties. (4) Public documents—Treaties, &c. (5) Miscellaueous items of information. Dr. Ariga contributes two lengths. articles to the first number-one on the Franco-Russian Alliance and the other on Japan's connection with recent developments in the Far East. In addition to these is an article by Mr. Fachi Sakutarō on "the Form of Treaties," and an article by Mr. Kojima Genzaburo on the Legal Status of foreigners residing in Foreign Settlements." The text of the "Additional Act modifying the international Copyright Convention of Sept. 9th, 1886, (signed at Paris May 4th, 1896, Ratifications deposited at Paris Sept. oth, 1897) is given and a Japanese translation furnished. The new magazine has been favourably noticed in all literary quarters. It occupies a field of its own and supplies a long felt want.

The following statistics have been culled from the Official Report of the Department of Education for the year 1896, which, for reasons best known to the Department, was only issued a month or two ago. The increase in Elementary School teachers over the previous year amounted to 2,911, in scholars to 207,636 and in graduates to 38,065. The number of children attending school increased by 2.98 per 100 available children. The increase of Ordinary Normal School teachers was 14, of students 736, of graduates 96. The increase of Ordinary Middle Schools was 25, of teachers 398, of scholars 9,907, of graduates 229. The increase in Higher Female Schools was 4, in teachers 51, in scholars 1255, in graduates 101. Industrial schools of various kinds were augmented by the opening of 61 new establishments. In these 242 new teachers were employed, the attendance of scholars in all Industrial schools being increased by 5,558, and the number of graduates by 717 (the result in the war and what followed it, when the need in increased development in the industrial line was emphasised in a special manner). The increase in Local Government Municipal School\* teachers during the year under review was 3.584, in scholars 228,345, and in graduates 41.735. The total number of Local Government Schools throughout the country was in 1896 26,621 and the number of Private Schools was 1,762. The total number of teachers employed in these schools wie 83,229 and the scholars in attendance numbered 4 021.652. Of these 528,388 graduated during the year. The figures show that while the number of Local Government Schools increased by 293, that of Private Schools decreased by 117. The record for Higher Schools shows an incre-se of 32 teachers, 122 students and 48 graduates over the previous year. A among the educational Establishments under the direct control of the Department of Education in 1896 were :- 1 University, 6 Higher Schools, 1 Higher Normal School (for men) 1 Higher Female Normal School, 5 Industrial Art Schools, I School for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, I Industrial Normal School, I library. Comparison with the previous year shows an increase of r Industrial Art School and a decrease of a Higher Middle School. The total number of teachers in the above normal schools is 785, of students, 9,321 and of graduates during the year 1896 1,819, showing an increase on the previous year of 88 teachers, 445 students and 168 graduates. The increase in expenditure compared with 1895 was 105,738 pen.

In No. 132 of the Tetrugahu Zarth; ispublish-

\* These institutions are called 公立學校, Köritsu Gakkō, which is sometimes rendered Public Schools. This is misleading; as English public schools would in Japanese be called 双立事故, Shiritsu Gakkō (Schools established by private individuals). The only, difference between the Tark Karritsu Gakkō and the Kōrāsu Gakkō white Korāsu Gakkō and the Kor

ed the official report of Dr. Inoue Tetsujito and Dr. Tomii relating to the part they took at the Oriental Congress held in Paris last September, which they attended as Government Delegates. The China and Japan Section of the Congress was presided over by the Chinese Minister to totalle France. At a meeting of this section held on tons. September 7th. Dr. Tomii read a paper entitled Transformation Politiques du Japon. On the following day Dr. Inoue read an essay entitled Sur le développement des idées philosphiques au Japon. And on the 9th a number of Japanese works of art were exhibited and a short history of Japanese art was given by the The titles of other papers read at Delegates. the Congress on Japanese subjects were:—
"The Tokugawa System of Law"; "The Triad of the Original Shinto"; "The Future of the Japanese Language, and the Japanese No." The names of the authors being all given in Rana, we are unable to identify them with certainty. It is to be regretted that Japanese do not transcribe the Roman letters instead of unavoidably misrepresenting them in kana. The next Oriental Congress is to be held in Rome in October, 1899. The invitation to make Tokyo the place of meeting was declined, on the score of distance from the homes of the principal members of the Congress.

A new newspaper called Rodo Schoi (The Labout World) has been started, whose object it is to represent the opinions and grievances of the working classes. One side of the sheet is covered with contributions in English, which in the matter of spelling and grammar leave much to be desired. No. 1 of the new publication contains congratulatory letters from Professor Foxwell and Mr. Garst. Among other things Prefessor Foxwell says, "These labourers, many of whom are young children, demand the serious care of states. men just now. They have entered on a totally new life, that of modern factory work, and as much in need of help as men small boats on an unknown ses .........One thing we know from experience, that either in writing or acting on behalf of labourers, excitement and passion are worse than useless. Sober consideration, common sense, and a desire to be just will solve most difficulties "†
The paper is published formightly and sells at I sen per copy.

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In the Aippon Shugi Mr. Kimura Takata o, writing on Japanese art, contends that Japan is wrong in trying to denationalise her art and make it resemble. Occidental art as much mossible, in order to attract notice at foreign exhibitions. The lack of appreciation of Japanese art shown by foreign art critics is to be attributed to ignorance of Japanese ways of think-ing and taste. To give up our own standard in favour of a foreign one is surely a suicidal policy, says Mr. Kimura. Is there such a thing as a standard that applies universally? To study foreign styles and methods for the purpose of perfecting our native art, this, argues Mr. Kimnes, is the course to be adopted. Mr. Kingga has something to say about architecture. music, literature and oil paintings, to the dis-cussion of which he applies his "Nipponism," being one of the most stalwart supporters of the "Nippon Shugi" movement, of which so much has been written.

† Advice very much needed, if we may judge from the heated manner in which labour questions have been discussed of late.

The London correspondent of the Melbourne Argus says that the cost of the French system of governing colonies is causing dismay in Paris. The French colonies and dependencies will this year cost the mother country £3 750,000. French critics contrast this with the limited expenditure upon the vasily larger colonial system of Great Britain, and express surthat Mr. Chamberlain's scheme for Imperial federation and closer contralization should find any support.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Information from Hongkong published in the Nicht Nicht announces that the number of Japanese vessels cuteting that port last year totalled 851, their gross tonnage being 297,009

Two cases of cholera are reported by the Tokyo Shimbun to have occurred in Asakusa and Koishikawa districts respectively on the 19th instant. The patients are now under treatment in the hospital.

A statement is presented by the Osaka Mercantile Marine Company with reference to the reduction of its capital. The gross capital of the Company, 10,000,000 yes, is to be reduced to 5,500,000 yes. The 400,000 original shares are to be reduced to 220,000.

In consequence of the recent dissensions in the Japan Railway Company all the principal officers have, the vernacular papers state, tendered their resignations. A special general meeting is shortly to be convened to discuss questions connected with the reform of the Company.

The dwelling house of a medical practitioner in Mayebashi, Gumma prefecture, is reported by the Tokyo Shimbun to have been set on fire twenty times during the past four years. The crime, it is alleged, has at last been traced to the physician's serving maid, twenty-four years of age. She is said to have acted through pique II the scolding of her master.

From the Jiji we learn that the number of prisoners in the Kajibashi Prison awaiting judgment is at present 976—929 men and 47 women. Of these 32 are confined on the charge of armed robbery, another 32 for wilful murder, 23 for incendiarism, 188 for ordinary theft, 235 for fraud, 144 for forgety, and 95 for gambling. Appeals by criminals under sentence of death number 8.

The Yokohama Five Staples Exchange auddenly anspended business on the 17th inst. on account of general depression caused by a law-suit between buyers and sellers. Brokers have in consequence been seriously embarransed, and as no prospect exists for carrying on business smoothly until the dispute is settled, they have resolved, remarks the Tokyo Shimbun, to exert themselves towards bringing the two hostile parties to a compromise.

The recent strike of engineers and other employes of the Nippon Railway Company has brought about serious losses to consignees and the question has arisen whether the Company ought not to be called on for compensation Imperial Ordinance No. 12 of the 20th year of Meiji, furnishes data for determining the point and the Nippon thinks that according to this regulation the responsibility for compensation must be borne by the Com-DARY.

Article XLV, of the Constitution provides that the Diet shall be convoked within five months from the date of its dissolution. There are now only sixty days before this period expires, and Article I of the Laws of the Houses requires the members to be convened at least forty days prior to the limit. The ordinances for the Diet's session will probably, asserts the Main chi, be issued in a few days. The principal subjects of debate are connected with civil, commercial, registration, and census aws, and finance.

"The Government," says the Mainichi, "considered that it would be able to command a working mojerity in the Diet, as it had secured a union between Liberals and National Unionists. Its position, however, is far from being free from auxiety. It has therefore been resolved, at the instance of Baron Ito, Minister of Agricul-ture and Commerce, and Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, that steps shall be taken to purchase the Neutrals by paying the coats of Digitized by Google

joining either the Liberals or National Unionats, but will be required to form themselves into a special party to support the Government."
That is a very pretty statement. The Mainicki's regard for truth seems in be quite on a par with the political integrity that it attributes the Government.

A society which was organized at Kanda, Tokyo, under the auspices of two or three aminent lawyers, for the purpose of making necessary arrangements in view of the revised treaties and mixed residence coming into operation, is reported to have resolved upon publishing a monthly magazine for distribution among the members. All the problems connected with civil and judicial administration. commerce, industry, political economy, and mixed residence will be discussed in this publication, and all important questions answered or explained. Admission to membership, says the Chuo, can be obtained by either politicians or business men.

The ten trade of Kobe was almost at a standstill during last month, arrivals reaching 1,400 cattles only. Compared with the corresponding period of last year the figures stand thus :--

31st Year, 30th Year. Decrease. Arrivals ...... 1,400 36,600 35,200 24,300 24,300 13,190 . 32,086

February ......26,500 The amount shipped abroad from the 1st to

the 28th February was as follows:-To Sau Francisco, 14,561 cattles; to Chicago, 84,649 cattles; to New York, 27,668 cattles; total 126,878 cattles.

The Hankaku Railway Company, at its special general meeting in Osaka, resolved upon raising loans on the following terms. The Company being in need of a capital of 1,500,000 ven in addition to the funds already in its possession, the sum of 1.300.000 yes is to be supplied by the issue of bonds, and the remaining 200,000 year to be raised at the period of opening the traffic up to Fuku-chiyama. The payments in arrear—960,000 yen—in respect of shares are to be postpoued till the 32nd year. The principal conditions of the issue of bonds are m follows:—Art. I.—
The bonds shall be registered of the face value of 100 yen each, bearing 10 per cent. interest per annum. (Note .- A number of bonds may be made into one at the request of the subscriber). Art, III.—The issue-value of the bonds shall be over 95 yen for every 100 yen face value, payments being made in May, July, and September. Art. VI.—The bonds shall be retained for one year, after which they will be redeemed within five years by lots. Art. VII.—Whenever necessity arises for increasing the Company's capital at the time of redemption, new shares shall be issued for the liquidation of the old loans.

The gross amount of leaf tobacco collected by the Government up to the end of last month, in accordance with the Tobacco Monopoly Regulations, reached 400,000 kwamme. of stamps, as well as actual payment for the stock held by the tobacco dealers prior to the enforcement of the present regulations, aggregated five million yen, as shown in the latest reports issued by the Finance Department and published in the Tokyo Asahi. The amount in the case of leaf toba: co shows a decrease of almost 40 000 kw mme as compared with the estimates compiled by the Government, but in eash and atamp accounts an increase of double the sum is noticeable, and the gross receipts on the whole will exceed the estimates. Leaf tobacco to the amount of 50,000 or 60,000 Awamme is expected by the end of this month from Fukushima and Tochigi prefectures, but the planting period is generally much later in the north-eastern districts than in Chiugoku and Kiushiu, the whole crop is not likely to be dried within this month, and there can be no doubt that a portion of the stock will have to be their election. The members so purchased will, preserved until next year with the special sancthe Mainichi adds, be strictly probibited from tion of the Government. Of the amount of Original from

400,000 hwamme received last month 350,000 Awamme were sold at the rate of 50 sen per Awamme. This year the largest amount was produced in Takabashi, Okayama prefecture, the gross weight exceeding 110,000 kwamme, representing about one-fourth of the total crop throughout the empire. Next comes Oita prefecture, which is followed by Tsuraki in Ishikawa. Yokohama produced the least quantity. quantity.

The amount of Chikuzen and Buzen coal brought into Wakamatsu port during last month by land and sea exceeded, according to the Osaka Asahi, 300 million catties, showing an increase of 30 million cattles over the pre-vious month. The quantities transported from Wakamatsu m Moji, Osaka, and Kobe, last month aggregated 288,471,892 cattles, showing un increase of 18,750,000 cattles over the previous month. The number of vessels employed in the transport of this coal totalled 2 738,

Immigrants to Hokkaido, asserts the Fomi urt, increase year by year. The figures for this year are reported to have already reached over 10,000, up to the beginning of this month, while every steamer going north continues to carry from 1,000 to 1,300 emigrants. No fewer than 30,000 persons from the interior are expected to emigrate to the North by the end of the year. The immigrants are, as a rule, from Shikoku, Chingoku, and Hokuriku. Those from the first two districts are especially numerous this year owing to the failure of crops in consequence of inundation and injury from worms. But the direct cause is the stimulus given by large lauded proprietors who have endeavoured to enlist tenants for their farms.

From the Fominei we gather that owing to the scarcity of silver coins in Korea not a little inconvenience is experienced in business transactions. The necessity for a large native sactions. The necessity for a large native coinage had thus arisen, but there is neither sufficient bullion to be minted nor funds to buy it with. The Korean Government is reported to have applied to Japan through the Director of the Copper Foundry in Osaka, to which orders have hitherto been given for the manufacture of aubsidiary coins, for a loan of one million yen in bullion. Baron Iwasaki, President of the Bank of Japan, is inclined to grant Korea's request, while some of the Ministers of the Cabinet are also of the same view Count Inouye alone hesitating to accede to the proposal.

The result of the general election is as fol-

<u> </u>	
Liberals	102
Pro-Liberals	14
Total	116
National Unionists	28
Pro-National Unionists	6 8
Total combined	158
Progressives	91 6
Neutrals apposed to government	25
Total	122

Of the Liberals 102 represent members whose names actually appear in the register kept by the party, while those mentioned as "Pro-Liberals" are, according to the Zokys Shimbun, members who have pledged themselves to co-operate with the Liberal party, though they are not yet formally registered. There are other members who were elected with the aid of Liberals on condition that they would support the cause of the latter, but they are excluded from the above table.

Silk is one of the staple exports of Japan. Its export increases year by year, the value realized being considerable. Quotations rose abnormally last year, but sales were so brisk as to amount to over fifty million yen. Next to reigners and make up our own defects. It will saving. At the time of the Matsukata Cabine raw slik come habutas and silk textiles. Not be of paramount importance to strictly observe the necessity for raising the rate was suggest-many years have elapsed since the commodities principles of friendship. Apart from the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

ties were first exported; but progress han been so great that last year alone the amount realised was thirteen million yen. The turn-over in the silk trade on the whole was about seventy million yen for the year under review. But, says the Mainichi, merchants appear to be contented with the growing export of raw silk, little thinking that the silk exported is again imported in the form of woven goods and other commodities into which it is manu-factured. The native dealers ought to direct their attention to this point. They would be able to reap much more profit by weaving silk at home than by exporting raw silk for foreign manufacture. The amount of silk imported into America from Europe and Asia is reported to have reached 64,000 bales, valued at 28 millions dollars, while the manufactures from silk aggregated over too million dollars. From these facts it may be perceived that manufactured silk as a staple of export yields a greater profit than the raw material.

The first instalment of the premium bonds of the Japan Industrial Bank will, the Nippon assetts, be issued from the 12th to the 22nd April next, on the following terms: -- (1) The premium bond shall not bear the name of the holder, but will have coupons subjoined. (2) The gross amount of bonds shall be 2,000,000 yen in 40,000 shares of 50 yen each. (3) The bonds, the lowest face value of which is 50 yen, will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent, per annum, payable in January and July. (4)

The amount of redemption M each of the appointed periods shall not be less than 52,500 yen. (5) All bonds issued shall be retained at least until June 30th of the 31st year of Meiji, but during torty years from the 1st July redemptions will be made twice year - June and December-by lot. The premiums for the bonds shall be twenty-five in number, representing 2,250 yen, divided into four different sums, the first and largest of which is to be granted to the person upon whom the lot first falls. The money paid as security on application shall be included in the amount of aubscription, the remainder being paid between the 16th and 3 tst May. If the subscriber fail to pay the requisite amount within two weeks after the expiration of the prescribed period, he shall not be furnished with the bonds, and his security deposit shall be confiscated.

At a social gathering recently held, Viscount Acki is reported by the Tokyo Atahi to have made the following remarks on the subject of mixed residence:—Treaty revision will probably be put in operation from the 14th July of next year. Mixed residence will then take place, and foreigners will be allowed to enjoy the same privileges as natives except in regard to the ownership of landed property. are shrewd in business, and will not hesitate to penetrate into the interior to engage in commercial and industrial undertakings. If natives, in this conjuncture, prove inferior to them in any respect the honour of the country will be impaired. Precautions are absolutely indis-pensable on this point; above all the greatest attention must be paid to that odious anti-foreign spirit which still exists in some parts of the country. In my youth aliens were regarded as brutes no better than dogs or sheep; and it is not unlikely that such an anomalous notion still prevails in remote districts. When travelling through Europe or America, I was everywhere afforded protection as regards life, property, and reputation; such is the general principle of hospitality shown by foreigners whom the Japaneze, thirty years ago, looked upon as brutes. Japan has indeed made remarkable progress since she was open-ed to the world, but she must not be contented with her present development in regard to wealth, the arts, and commerce. "A precious stone owned by another may be utilized to polish one's own," is a proverb well known to as. The opening of the country may be used to assist us to acquire the talents of fo-

enforcement of the law the whole nation ought to exert its atmost energy in protecting the lives and properties of foreigners when mixed residence comes into operation.

The Tokyo Asahi calls attention to the statisamount of coin struck during last month, also the aggregate total from the outset. Thus:

Denomina-		Total from be-
tion.	February.	gioning. Yen.
20 yes		944,500
10 ,,		18,691,780
5 "	_	47,138,015
2 37 *********		17,767,116
I 12 **********	_	2,036,656
Total		70,578,060
Converted to current		
value according to		
the Coinage Regula-		
tions	_	141,156,138
New gold coins.		
20 984		37,220,000
10 9	12,09,887	25,125,747
5 ,,	30	558,300
Silver coins.		
1 yes		162,077,062
Trade dollars	_	3,0 <b>56,</b> 638
50 sen	10,70,000	7,904,723
20 ,,	930,000	15,919,273
10 30		17,681,608
5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6,		2,526,710
5 sest nickel coins	15,000	6,760,848
Capper coins.		
2 5428	. –	5.514.053
L 31	_	4,881,741
5 rin	_	1,977,764.
_I n	_	44,491
Total	-	432,405,106

The subsidiary coins issued during the past two months were:-50 sen silver pieces, 1,070,000 ven; 20 sen pieces, 1,600,000 yen; 10 sen pieces, 369,000 yen; 5 sen pieces, 15,000 yen.

The vessels ordered abroad by the Japan Steam Navigation and the Oriental Companies, their gross tonnage, and the cost of bringing them to Japan may, according to the Jili, be tabulated as follow :-

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

	1	Expense of		
		aluging to		Pate of
Nan e of steamers.	vennel.		onnige, c	ompletion
	Yen,	Yen.		z <b>898.</b>
Sado Maru	833,092	39.052	5.800	March
Kasuga Maru	755.656	39,052	3,500	March
Futami Main	755 656	39.052	3,500	May
Yawata Marn	755,656	39,052	3,500	May
Aomori Maru-1.		24,408	1,000	Aug.
Anmori Maru-2.		24,438	0.000	Sept.
Aomoci Maco-3.		24,408	1,000	Oct.
Red Cross Asso-	50.		-	Within
ciation transport	527,203	29,289	2,500	1898
Red Cross Asso-	3.31.	- 3	-0	Within
ciation transport	527.202	29,289	2,500	1808
=	3-710-	-919	-13	
Total4	,740,244	288,ota	24,300	
ORIBETA	L STEAM	SHIP CO	MPANT	•
Nippon Main1	,150,000	39,052	6,000	Completed
Hongkong	_			
Macu	150,000	39.052	6,000	April
San Francisco				
Marn	,150,000	39 052	6,000	April
_				
Total3	.450,000	117,156	18,000	
Grand total8	,190,244	405,166	42,300	

The completion of the above vessels will increase the tomage by 42,300 this year, while specie to the amount of 8,505.410 year will be paid out of the country. Of this amount 756,030 year are reported to have already been disbursed by the Oriental Company. As the Osaka Mercantile Marine Company has also placed orders abroad for a number of vessels, the total outflow of gold in payment for ships will not fall short of eight million yen.

While the interest on loans to individuals has been universally raised to six or seven per cent., the rate adopted by the Postal Savings Banks has remained the same, being fixed at 4.2 per cent. This soon gave rise to the withdrawal of depo-sits by persons who were hitherto interested in

ed to 4.8 per cent. The scheme, however, was suspended on the dissolution of the former Cabinet, but as interest rises steadily and shows no signs of falling, Baron Suyematsu is reported by the Chuo to have made the following suggestions to the Cabinet for approval:-It is in no way desirable that the Postal Savings Banks should endeavour to compete with private institutions of a similar nature by raising the rate of interest. He might suggest, however, that out of the receipts of the Savings Banks what remains after the necessary expenses are subtracted may be appropriated for the encouragement of the spirit of thrift. The scheme is something like that of the premium attached to the Industrial Bonds. It consists in granting a certain amount of money by lots to persons who have deposited a fixed sum during a fixed number of years. The profits arising from the Pos-tal Savings Banks amount at present to about 30,000 yen, a portion of which may be distribut-

t. Any person depositing more than five yen a year for over five years shall be entitled to draw lots for the special dividend. A lot may be drawn

to revery five yen.

2. The special dividend shall vary from 20 yes to 3,000 yen, while the diawing of lots shall take place twice a year.

Referring to the completion of the general elections, Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister for Home Affairs, is reported by the Chuo to have expressed great gratification at the fact that there was no repetition of the scenes and acts of violence that had taken place on former occasions. "These matters," he said, "were deeply considered by the Cabinet, and by the promulgation of a special Imperial Ordinance measures were adopted to place the responsibility of preserving order upon the local governors and Chief Police Inspectors, and instructions were issued to the same effect by the Minister of Justice. These officers faithfully carried out the orders of the Government, and the election was almost entirely free from any cause of complaint. The facts may be recorded as an plaint. The facts may be recorded as an honourable precedent in our constitutional his tory. A few persons of course have violated the Imperial Ordinance as to corruption, while a few others were injured or wounded. latest reports to hand show that the number of persons wounded, either severely or slightly, totalled 29 only, while at the election in the 25th year of Meifi over 210 were wounded and 26 killed. The figures for the 26th year are far more startling, the number wounded being stated as no less than 300. The smallness of the figures on the present occasion may well be regarded as a proof that the public have appreciated the advantages of constitutional government. In order to bring about these favourable results, I have refrained from sleep for several nights, while the Local Governors and police officers were in most cases required to be on duty day and night, and even without food. Some of the candidates have been an unscrupulous as to censure me by stating that the local functionaries were extremely partial and unjust, some of them having even ventured to assis: this or that party. The opposite party, however, has in some cases made a similar representation, and from these facts it may be inferred that the officers of the Government refrained from affording special protection to any particular party or clique. A certain politician commented to me upon the excessive caution with which the arrangements were made by the As each elector was escorted or police. guarded by policemen, he remarked, not a little inconvenience was caused to them, and some were even obliged to give up their right of voting. But it cannot be foreseen where a riot or assault may take place, and every possible precaution is therefore necessary on the part of the Government. That Mr. Takanashi was saved from an armed assailant is the result of the efficiency of the police. The police are organised against an emergency, and their functions are very much like those of an umbrella. The umbrella in one's hand is really a burden to one except when it is raining. But its use is greatly appreciated at the time of a shower. Thus it is with the police. Digitized by Google

#### KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The ferment in Korean political circles seems to have been very active a forinight ago. It has already been related in these columns how the Councillors of State tendered their resignations en bloc because the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, without consulting them, had promised lease a portion of Deer Island to Russia for a coal depôt; how the Vice-Minister endered his resignation at the time; how the Emperor refused the former resignations and accepted the latter, and how his Majesty, immediately afterwards, gave the portfolio of Foreign Affairs to the ex-Vice Minister. This last act on the part of the Sovereign elicited the following memorial from the Councillors of State: -

"A few days ago we, Your Majesty's humble ser-vants, jointly memorialized the Throne, pointing out to You the irregular and modignified manner out to You the irregular and undignified manner in which the former acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mim Jongmuk, has decided the Deer Island question. Your Majesty, two days after his resignation, again appointed Min Jongmuk to the position from which he resigned. We have countersigned his reappointment because we consider that if was Your Majester's wish to have him in the that it was Your Majesty's wish to have him in the cabinet again. But if we do not resign our positions under the circumstances, even if we are insignificant beings, we cannot be inconsistent. Moreover we consider that one minister will be enough for transacting all government business, and we ought to leave the government without delay. Therefore we hereby send joint resignations and hope Your Gracious Majesty will accept he same.

Doubtless the translator in responsible for the somewhat "mixed" verbiage of the above document, which we take from the Söul Indipendent, but there is no mistake about the fine irony of the Councillors' suggestion that one Minister will be enough to transact Government business. The Emperor, however, gave the recalcitrant officials a Rowland for their Oliver. He replied :-

"You have already countersigned this re-appointment and again sending in this joint re-signation does not seem to Us to be consistent and and it seems to Us unwise. We are sorry because of your action. You ought to understand Our reason of relieving him temporarily and reap-pointing him again."

The Councillors again tendered their resigna tions and were again told to retain their posts. There the matter seems to have ended, so far as they were concerned. Meanwhile, the Foreign Minister Min Jongmuk, also had resigned, but the Emperor told him that he had been "re-appointed for good reason," and that his desire to go out of office seemed to be due mu inability to bear criticism.

So far as we can see, the action of the Russian Representative in asking the Korean Government to make a declaration of its disposition towards Russia, was partly prompted by the above behaviour on the part of the Conneillors of State and by the memorial which the Independent Club sent to the Throne, as quoted in a previous issue. The sequence of events is not perfectly clear, but it is at all events certain that M. de Speyer's despatch was sent to the Foreign Office on March 7th, and that the two resignations of the State Councillors, as well as the Memorials from the Independence Club to the Throne and to the then Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs-Min Jongmuk-preceded the sending of the despatch. The following translation of the des-patch is given by the Soul Independent:

"Recently I have been informed that there exists a deplotable condition of affairs in Soul; many ideas among your people, claiming to be gifted politicians, create disturbance by opposing Russian interests. This state of affairs naturally causes great aurprise to my Imperial Sovereign, the Emperor of Russia. At the request of your Imperial Sovereign and your Government, the Russian Government had sent military instructors to drill the soldiers and to guard the palace, and an adviser for your Rusance Department. This action on the part of my Government plainly indicates Russia's intention of helping your country as a neighbour and her desire to strengthen your independence. But your Government did not seem "Recently I have been informed that there

to appreciate the importance of Russia's action at the time and now your Government freely prevents Russia from accomplishing the advantages and beneficial results for your country presents Russia from accomplishing the advan-tages and beneficial results for your country which she intended. The present attitude of your Government is so plain that Russia cannot ending this condition much longer. Therefore endure this condition much longer. Therefore my Emperor has graciously ordered me to report fully to your Emperor and inquire of your Government definitely whether Korea still desires to be benefited by Russia's help or not, and if the military instructors and finance adviser are not considered necessary by your Emperor and your Government, my Government will make some other necessary arrange-ment will make some other necessary arranges. ment according to the circumstances, but your Government must maintain your independence in the future according to its ability. I am awaiting your reply and hope it will be received within twenty-four homs, and I further request Your Excellency to report to your Emperor that I desire to obtain an audience with him for the purpose of informing him of the instructions I have received from my Imperial Sovereign concerning this matter."

The language of this despatch disposes effectually of the hypothesis that M. de Speyer acted on his own responsibility, and that his Government subsequently decided to abide by the consequences of his mistake. It is now plain that he had explicit instructions from St. Petersburg throughout, which fact adds to the perplexity of the situation. But the despatch brings out another point, namely, that M. de Speyer's complaint was not merely against the conduct of 'idlers among the people claiming to be gifted politicians," but also against "the attitude of the Government" itself, which he accuses of "freely (?) preventing Russia from accomplishpoliticians," ing the advantages and beneficial results in-tended by her." Exactly on what grounds this tended by her." Exactly on what grounds this accusation was based we have no information, but it is necessary to assume that M. de Speyer had ample reasons for his conclusion. Doubt-less he telegraphed to St. Petersburg, that both in official and in non-official circles an anti-Russian sentiment had been developed, and that it had assumed proportions demanding some notice from Russia in the interests of her dignity. We may be permitted to doubt, how-ever, whether either the statesmen in St. Petersburg or M. de Speyer expected to receive an answer such as the despatch elicited. The document is pervaded by a tone not actually menacing, perhaps, but certainly portentous. The Koreans are plainly told that Russia's object in supplying them with military and financial experts was to assist them in a neighbourly way and to strengthen their independence, and that if they do not choose to take advantage of her help, they will be left to their own devices and must maintain their independence as best they can. Judging from the experiences of the past filteen years, it would have been a reasonable supposition that such ominous language must throw the Koreans into a state of extreme nervousness, and render them more anxious than ever to take shelter under Russia's wing. Possibly; therefore, a step planned with the intention of drawing the coils more tightly round Koren's neck has unexpectedly resulted in her shaking them off altogether. It is all a matter of conjecture, however. Only one fact emerges distinctly: Korea can no longer reckon on Russian forbearance or sympathy. She must shift for herself, and as that in not a habit of her's, the loneliness of the effort is likely in tax her fortitude severely.

The Korean Government was not left in any doubt as to the sentiments of the people with reference to the answer that should be given to M. de Speyer's despatch. On March 7th the

to the Russian Minister that the people of this country desire to have the Russian military country desire to have the Russian military instructors and financial adviser relieved from instructors and financial adviser selieved from the service of the Korean Government. They said that the people of Korea consider that the controlling of the Military and Finance Department by foreigners is detrimental to the independence of this country. They expressed their thanks for the kind feeling Russia entertains for Korea's welfare, but as to allowing her to control these two most important departments in the Government, the measure were strongly opposed. ment, the masses were strongly opposed.
The following communication was

upon unanimously amidst much excitement and applance, and in to be forwarded:—

applause, and it to be forwarded:—
"To his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Min Jongmuk:—
"Stg.—"We, the undersigned, are authorized by the mass meeting of the people of Korea to inform Your Excellency that the people desire the Government to reply to the dispatch of the Russian representative concerning the military instructors and finance adviser that they shall be relieved from their engagements for the sake of maintaining our independent sovereign rights. We pray Your Excellency to consider the wishes of the people in deciding this question. people in deciding this question.

" March 10th, second year of Kangmu.

"Ye Settingman.

Considering the immense number of people assembled the meeting was an orderly one and the addresses were moderate in tone, and any inflamand tesses were indexed as a minediately suppressed by the leaders. These were many foreign spectators, among whom the Russian representative and his staff were interested onlookers.

Not the least curious feature of the whole affair is the publicity given by the Korean Government to its diplomatic correspondence. M. de Speyer's despatch must have been made known generally almost immediately after its reception. It reached the Foreign Office on Monday, and on the following Thursday a mass meeting of citizens was held to make suggestions about the manner of replying to it. Korea may claim the credit of novelty in her manner of conducting inter-State discussions. There is no precedent for such doings. It is not at all improbable, however, that the Soul people's demonstration, supplementing the action of the Independence Club, not only forced the hands of the Government of the supplementation. ment, but also convinced Russia of the advisability of stepping' gracefully out of the turmoil. It is a pity that she ever sent drill instructors and a financial adviser to Soul, and a still greater pity that they did not discharge their functions with a little more circumspection. But who could have anticipated such a display of spirit on the part of the Koreans? They are certainly miles above the Chinese in point of patriotism and national feeling.

The Independence Club has been very much en evidence during this affair. In addition to the documents which we have already publish-ed se emanating from it, we find that it sent the following communication to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Min Jongmuk :-

"We have received your reply to our communication requesting for information concerning the much talked about question of Deer Island. You state that you have decided the question without consulting the council because while the Government was making the similar concession last year on Rose Island, the Minister of Foreign Affairs at that time did not consult the cabinet concerning that time did not consult the cabinet concerning it. We beg to call your attention to the fact that the rules of the former cabinet and the present council are different. According to the rules of the cabinet then existing, the Minister of Foreign affairs had the right is decide such questions at his own discretion, but the present system of our Council of State has curtailed this power.

"You further state that you have remeated."

similar purpose. Our land does not belong to any particular individual but in morally belongs to the particular individual but II morally belongs to the whole nation. If the Government begins to lend pieces of land any foreign power may claim the same privileges whenever they see that it will be to their advantage to make such a claim. In order to avoid this possible danger the Government must not lend a single inch of land either to Japan or Russia. We therefore suggest that Your Excellency notify the Japanese Government that within a ceasonable space of time she must evacuate the land on Deer Island upon which the Japanese coal go-down has been erected. If the Japanese coal go-down has been erected. If Japanese coal go-down has been erected. If this obnoxious precedent is abolished then it will not hamper Your Excellency in giving a refusal to all similar requests from other Powers. Such action on the part of our Government will be perfectly justifiable, as the land was temporarily leased without a time limit. We hope our suggestion may be approved and accepted by You Excellency.

To this the Minister replied :-non was mavordable, and I consider that it does not deserve such particular criticism from the public. I thank you for your suggestion, but as I am not discharging my duties at the Foreign Office for the reason that I have sent in my resignation to His Majesty, I am not able to consider the question at present."

Another communication tion was unavoidable, and I consider that it does

Another communication was forwarded by the Club to the Minister of Finance :

The public has been informed that the Finance Department diew the deposits of Government money from the two local Korean banks and deposited it in the Russo-Korean bank. Besides deposited it in the Russo-Korean bank. Besides there is a surrour to the effect that your department has transferred a large sum of money from the treasury wault to that of the Russian bank. Furthermore, the said bank has been authorized to collect and disburse all the Government revenues for the Finance Department. This matter concerns the people and they ought to know the facts of the case. If these cumous are true we must consider that the Russo-Korean bank is practically our treasury and your depart ment will be a figure head. We hope this is not true but after hearing such rumours we are, in the tine but after healing sizer rumours we are, in the sense of our moral obligation which we owe to the Government, deeply interested and are auximis to know the exact relation and privileges which said bank has obtained from the Government.

The Finance Minister's answer to the above is not yet published.

The Soul Independent says that the following placard, with reference to the interpreter whose ife was recently threatened, was posted in conspicuous places throughout the Korean capital on the 6th of March :-

"Kim Hangenk is an interpreter in a foreign legation. His only knowledge is the Russian language and his duties are to translate one language into another during interviews between our people and the Russians. But he has overstpped and the Russians. But he has oversupped the province of an interpreter and has been interfering with state affairs concerning both the ones at home and abroad. His deportment has been most outrageous towards both the high and the low and his language insulting in the exteene. The Government is ruled by this one Kim and other ministers of state have become his hired men. He has openly sold Government offices to the highest bidders and has caused the dismissals allower ministers who were not subservient to to those ministers who were not subservient to him. His immoral character shocks the hearts of him. His immoral character shocks the clearly of all decent men. He has manufactured imperial decrees to suit his own advantages and delivered them to the judicial officials in order m imprison dignitaries of state to reverge his personal gric-vances. He has been in control of the palace so that values. He has been in control of the palace so that no other official could have access to the palace without obtaining this man's silent parmission. No country can administer instice when such an on-law controls the state. If he is not served as master the man who faits in this respect is no longer in the Government survice, hence wickedness, deception and underhandedness reign suprement and straightforwardness, patriotism and manliness gradually disappear. Our for bearance manned

several thousand men from different provinces. It looks as though this movement had been pre-mediated by these men because quite a large number of countrymen are coming in daily to join this company.

#### CHINESE NOTES.

A Swiss gentleman travelling from Hongkong to Shanghai by the Loongmoon to enter the service of Messrs. Gensburger & Co., jumped overboard near the Kintoan lightship and was lost.

We find the following in the N.-C. Daily Nesses :-

The following official telegram from Peking has been received at this post;—" Owing to the financial embarrassments of the Central Government it has been found impossible to pay the Japanese Indomnity this year as formally agreed to between our respective countries. Japan, on the other hand, to show her time friendship to China, has forborne from pressing for the Indemnity and a new agreement has been signed extending the payment of the said Indemnity for another flow years."

Our contemporary gives that item of news under date of March 15th, knowing that the issue of the Chinese foreign loan was to take olace within a week.

The Peiho, prematurely declared navigable, had become choked with drift ice on March 10th. That is something very unusual.

Mr. Melton Prior continues "My Visit to Kiao-chou Bay" in the columns of the leading Shanghai journal. It is indeed my visit. There is little but my in it from first to last.

The Governor of Hunan has issued a proclamation calling on the people to extend to Christian missionaries the same treatment they give to Buddhist and Taoist priests, and promis ing that any one violating this precept will be shown no mercy.

The Tientsin correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News, writing on March 9th, says :-

A significant move has recently been made in connection with the camp at Lural. All the German drill instructors have been removed, and connection with the camp at Lutai. All the German drill instructors have been temoved, and a Russian General placed in charge in a most autocratic manner. The Chinese did not ask for this Russian General, nor were they consulted as to making the change. He was sent to be accepted and placed in charge under certain stipulations—five, if I mistake not. All Germans were to be discharged. All future instructors were to be discharged. All future instructors were to be selected by him. He is lent to the Chinese by the Czar so can receive to salary, but they can make him an annual "allowance" for incidental expenses of not less than Tls. 300 per month. He holds equal rank with General Nieh, and matters for reference he will refer to the Russian Minister, and Gen. Nieh to the Tsugli Yambu. His own instructions with the received from the Czar, not from Peking. The case was referred by the Peking officials to Viceroy Wang Wès shae, but he declined opinion or advice, and returned the matter to Peking for decision. The Chinese are not likely to do anything: they will simply let it slide along, accept the present situation, hoping for "something to turn up" to their advantage some time. This is the most high-handed step yet, and it does seem as if all other nations ought to protest in the interest of homourable dealing, and other probable action the most nightnanded step yet, and it does seem as if all other nations ought to protest in the interest of honomrable dealing, and other probable action of the aggressor to the detriment of commerce and good understanding all around. What next?

The Chinese people, hitherto so lightly taxed, are now to feel the effects of their Government's financial embarrassment. The N.-C. Daily reports:-

Conneil of State has custailed this power.

"You further state that you have repeatedly laid the matter before the council herore deciding the question. But according to the joint memorial of the councillors a few days ago they asserted that you had decided it before the council had time to discuss the question. It seems to us that your statement and that of the council at at variance. We have no doubt that the matter will be ultimately cleared up so that it will reveal the guilty party.

You further state that you have decided to loan that land to Russia because our Government and the plant on the above the made a precedent by lending a piece of land on the same island to Japan some years ago for a land to the matter will be the same island to Japan some years ago for a land to the matter this memorial will be signed by the Board of Revenue to fill the depleted exchequer of the Central Government and lately sanctioned by Imperior except the first and we hereby proclaim to loyal citizens of our empire on intention of praying the Throne to drive out all these peaterons insects from the palace and show to the world that our nation is not all composed of such that the matter will be ultimately cleared up so that it will reveal the guilty party.

You further state that you have decided to loan the land to Russia because our Government and the land to Russia because our Government on the above its:

The headquarters of these memorialists is that all shops and institutions dealing in loreign goods of any kind or description, as well as they wrote was to be sent in on the 29th instant, as those selling wholesale ar retail raw or presument and the product of the council had the depleted exchequer of the Central Government and and the legislation of the council had the would that our entire to drive out all these peaterons insects from the palace and show to the world that our entire logistics of our empire out all these peaterons insects from the palace and show to the world that our nation is not all composed of the c



per shop, irrespective of the size or extent of the business of the places so taxed. Another scheme was also put into execution at the same time which was to levy, monthly, to per cent of the rents on houses paying Tls. to and over rent per mensem.

This is a sort of income tax and falls upon house. This is a sort of income tax and falls upon house-holders and landlords throughout the Empire. With reference to the above the promise is given by the Throne that the taxes shall "cease as soon as the foreign debts shall have been paid off," which, under present aspects, means never. It remains now to see how the people of the country will receive this news although, according to northern dispatches, no opposition has so far been met with in the capital, the said taxes being paid without any denure. without any demur.

The report circulated on March 181, that an attack had been made on native Christians in Chuhi, at the close of February, that the missionary chapel had been wrecked, that fatal casualties had occurred and that troops had been sent up to restore order and protect the missionaries, turns out to be wholly groundless.

It is rumoured that the Viceroys and Governors of Chinese provinces have been instructed to be prepared to specially engage, or receive Russian military experts for the instruc-tion of the various provincial armies now being organized after foreign models.

#### FRESH MISSIONARY TROUBLE IN CHINA.

A telegram from Chungking, dated March 16th, to the N.-C. Daily News says :-

The American Mission in the sulmibs has been sacked by a mob. The Chinese medical assistants were maltreated, and one murdered.

Our Shanghal contemporary, which is never disposed to minimize the gravity of any intelligence, comments thus on the above :-

At Changking of late missionaries, of whom At Changking of late missionaries, of whom there are now some forty in the city itself, have been getting along quietly, though, as our correspondents have from time to time informed us, the Methodist Episcopal Mission has had constead trouble at Kiangpell, on the other side of the Siao Ho, or Little River, that runs into the Yangtze at Changking. It will be some time, probably, before we get particulars of this recent riot and its causes; but there is too much reason to fear that it may turn out to be a symptom of the unrest that is felt throughout the Yangtze Valley at the present time. present time.

present time.

For this unrest there are a great many causes. The Yangtze Valley has been for years the favourite recruiting ground of that formidable secret society, the Kolao Hué, which is always threatening to organise a rebellion, but which so far secure to confine itself to local risings, which the authorities easily suppress, as long as they keep their superiority in the armament of their men. But as we mantioned lately arms have been pouring into easily suppress, as long as they keep their superiority in the armament of their men. But as we mentioned lately, some have been pouring into the Yangtze Valley during the last lew months, and it is said that high officials are interested in their introduction. The real ruler of the Yangtze Valley is H. E. Chang Chih-tung, the Viceroy of Hupeh and Hunan, for H. E. Lin Kunyi, the Viceroy of the three lower provinces, Anhoi, Kiangsi, and Kiangsu, is under the sway of Chang's stronger personality; and Chang Chih-tung is, as we have shown lately, disgusted with Peking on account of the decree ordering him to disband his troops, and on account of the weakness of the Government generally, which has left China a helpless carcase for her enemies to divide. It is galling to him, a patriotic Chinaman if there is one, to see that China has no voice at all in the discussion of the question of her own spoliation, which is only postponed by the disputes among her spoilers. Though believed to be personally a man of scengulous honesty, he spends the reson ces of his satiapy recklessly in wild schemes which might become reminerative if there were a practical man to direct them; and being in constant want of money, he does not like the mesopert of having a next of his libit releas rative if there were a practical man to direct them; and being in constant want of money, he does not like the prospect of having a part of his likin taken away, and extra taxes imposed on his people, to pay the interest on loans rendered necessary by the mal-administration at Peking, for which he does not consider himself responsible.

The unrest in the valley of the Yangtze is being maintained and stimulated by a very able native newspaper published, we understand, in Shanghai, which is read by the educated classes, and which is very outspoken in its articles on the necessity of reform. Its motto is apparently "China for the Chinese;" but its opposition at the present time

is directed at the Government of China, more than at the Foreign Powers, whose opportunities for aggression have been provided them by the weakness of the Government. It is understood to have official support, if not backing, and we are told that its atticles, many of which are translations from the foreign journals published in Shanghai, have a wide influence on sublic actions are civil a more of the control of the contro which are the assistance of the integral pointain published in Shanghai, have a wide influence on public opinion, especially among the upper classes, The highest official in the Yangtze Valley is reported to be in sympathy with the aims of this journal; which does not want to dethrone the Emperor, but to make him a constitutional sovereign, the model set before the nation being the British Constitution. As far as we are aware, no definite steps are being taken at the present time towards a revolution, the want of a leader being generally recognised; but, as we have already said, there is a wide-spread feeling that something is going to happen; and all stations in the Yangtze Valley where there are foreigners should be on their guard, lest the evil-disposed take advantage of the existing excitement to foment outrages which the leaders of the reform movement would be the first to deprecate. They are not anti-foreign themselves, but there is the danger that they will molose forces which they will not be able to control. be able to control.

#### AFFRAY ON THE "PATHAN."

Captain Day of the Pathan has furnished the Kobe Chronicle with a few particulars of the conflict which occurred on the ship at Moji between the coolies and the crew. It was caused, he says, through some of the coolies attempting to take the Chief Engineer's tally-book out of his hand when he objected to some cheating which he had perceived in the coal supplied for the bunkers. The Chief Officer and the Fourth Engineer endeavoured to pacify the coolies, who then attacked them with crowbars, broomsticks, &c., and bombarded the Chief Officer in his room for about five minutes with lumps of coal, cutting and bruising him about the head and body. By this time the other officers and engineers, Malay sailors and quarter-masters had armed themselves with the ship's bayonets, and, charging the coolles, drove them off the ship in about five minutes. The one man in the leg. There were about 80 coolies, and only eleven of the ship's company engaged in the row, and the police did not turn up for nearly an hour later.

#### KOREAN STUDENTS.

It is probably fresh in our readers' recollection that the Government in Soul recently stopped all remittances on account of the expenses of the Korean students studying in Japan. The lads had consequently to choose between abandoning their studies or continu ing them at the charges of anyone willing to assist them. Several of them appear to have adopted the latter course, for we note that a charity Bazaar is to be hold next Sunday at the Uyeno Academy of Music in aid of the youths' education. The chief promoter is Mr Takao. Sayeji, editor of the Yorozu Choho, Sanjikken-bori, Kyobashi, Tokyo, and the tickets of admission are 1 yen, 50 cen and 25 ten. From the fact that three grades of ticket are advertised, we infer that some kind of entertainment is contemplated, but the term used in the circular is Fisen-Kai by which a charity bazaar has hitherto been understood.

#### TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society on Monday, 21st instant, was very successful. H.E. the United States Minister presided, and the following programme was given :-

- 1. Pianoforte Duet Misses Gertrude and

- s. Pianoforte Duet Misses Gentrue Darathy Page, 2. Reading—Miss Terry, 3. Song—Miss Buncombe. 4. Pianoforte Duet—The Misses Page, 5. Reading—The Rev. W. White, 6. Song—Mis. Gaist, 7. Reading—The Rev. W. White.

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#### FATAL FIRES IN TOKYO.

About 1.25 a.m. on Tuesday fire broke out in the quarters occupied by Professor Yama-giwa in the Medical College of the Imperial University, Hongo, Tokyo. In the excitement, the Professor's little daughter, nine years of age, appears to have been left in the burning building, and her charred remains were found among the débris after the fire was extinguished,

At about 2.30 the same morning fire broke out in the Takasaka Komaye printing office, in Minami Odawaracho, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo, and assumed large dimensions, no less than 113 houses being destroyed before the flames were acrested at 4.15 a.m.

#### OVER A THOUSAND HOUSES BURNT.

On Wednesday morning m about 2.30, fire broke out in a store shed at No. 6 Nichome, Harukimachi, Hongo, owned by Mr. Yokomakura Shotaro of Ichome, Harukimachi. The flames, fauned by a strong north-easterly wind, spread very rapidly and 1,112 houses were re-duced to ashes, including the Haruki Theatre and many other important buildings. It was not until 6.30 a.m. that the fire was got under control. During the fire one person is reported to have been burnt to death. The cause of the fire, though not accurately known, is believed to have been incendiarism.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A well-known butlesque actress was thrown from her wheel in turning the corner of a London street. One of the papers stated that some "painful bruises on the pavement were sustained." The pavement, however, everyone will be pleased to hear, is making fair progress towards recovery.

Towards the end of February the British Isles were visited with very severe weather, the bright, sunny days that had previously characterised the winter turning to days of snow, frost and sleet. London was attacked, at the same time, with an epidemic of measles, the malady being mainly experienced by grown-up people. So severe and wide-spread was the epidemic that in one week alone over twenty balls and receptions had to the postponed.

Señor D. H. de Uriate, Consul General of Spain, has communicated to the N.-C. Daily News the following official telegram :-

Maoile, 13th March, 11 30 p.m.
Disturbances in the North of Luzon, district of Bolinao, entirely local, no importance, caused by hill Indians rescuing criminals being conveyed to prison and assisted by Actas Indians cutting wites. Already severely punished by forces sent, and order re-established. The rest of the Archivelago entirely quiet. pelago entirely quiet.

Kobe is making a record for fires. Another occurred on the 31st inst, when the house of Mr. M. Lossman, on Waterfall Road, was burnt to the ground, and the contents also destroyed. The loss of furniture and effects was covered by a policy for yen 3,000 in the London Assurance Association. The building, the Robe Herald believes, was insured in a Japanese office. The origin of the fire is reported to have been accidental.

Mr. Genzo Akiyama, formerly President of Mr. Genzo Akiyama, tormerly Fresident or the Yokohama Law Court, who was lately promoted to the Chokunin Judgeship of the Court of Cassation, has resigned his position, and proposes to practise in Yokohama and Tokyo as a soliciter and barrister. Mr. Yackichi Inouye, also a former Judge of the same Court, is about m take a similar step.; and Mr. Ryokichi Ozawa, the Court translator, will work in conjunction with them.

The seventh ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the National Bank of China was held in Hongkong on March 12th, Mr. D. Gillies in the chair. In proposing the adoption of the accounts the Chairman stated that the Bank was in a perfectly sound condition. He regretted that the Bank could pay no dividend

for the past year but had hope that at the end of the ensuing twelve-months a more substant tial and creditable report would be submitted. The accounts were adopted, but a proposal to add another European to the Hongkong Board of Directors was negatived.

A Hongkong paper of March 16th published accounts of serious disturbances in Manila. pointing to a recrudescence of the rebethon.

The cable companies issued a notification stating that the Spanish Government land lines beyond Bolinao had been interrupted since Sunday night, oth inst. and from this it was inferred that the rebels were in possession of the country between Bolinso and Manila. H.M.S. Edgar was hurriedly prepared for sea, and ordered to leave for Manila on the 13th.

The record of the Rev. Robert William Duncan, who has died at Liverpool, is probably unique. He was a curate for half a century; he was connected with St. Peter's Parish Church all this time; and his duties were mainly those of baptising and marrying. To solemnise 5,000 baptisms and conduct 1,000 weddings To solemniae as an ordinary year's work; but before 1868, when interments ceased at St. Peter's, he officiated at burials as well. During a cholera visitation which devastated Liverpool, it is stated that he read the burial service over several hundred victims III the same time.

This is to be a year of centenaries. France will have three-the centenary of Jasmin, the barber post, who was born at Agen in 1798, and died in 1864; that of Auguste Comte, founder of the Positivist School, who died in 1857; and that of Jules Michelet, the famous historian, who was born on August 21, 1798. There will be two centenary festivals in Italy, in memory of the post Leopardi and of Savanarola. Besides the centenary celebration of the independence of the Cauton of Vaud, the Swiss will commemorate the fourth centenary of Hans Holheir, the great painter. On May-21 Portugal will commemorate the fourth centenary of the explorer Vasco de Gama.

Ireland is once more united, save the Globe. Considering what they have said of one another and how they have lought, it is certainly very astonishing to find all parties collected in perfect amily in one of the Committee Rooms of the House of Commons. It is even more amazing when one sees Colonel Saunderson elected chairman on the motion of Mr. Dillon, seconded by Mr. John Redmond. It is no wonder if English and Scotch members subbed their eyes and asked each other if the millennium had auddenly arrived. When, however, it was realised that the combination was for the purpose of getting more money out of Great Britain, the wonder ceased.

In H.B.M.'s Court at Kobe, on the 21st inst., before Mr. J. Carey Hall, Consul and Judge, the case against Richard Pubic and Alexander C. Lang, chief and second engineers of the steamer Hing Sang, for assaulting and wounding a Japanese constable, adjourned on the 16th inst., was called. Neither of the defendants, who had been allowed bail on a deposit of \$200 each, put in an appearance, and his Honour, in accordance with Sec. 9 of the Summary Jurisdiction Act, declared the money (yen 400) forfeited und ordered it to be paid account of the Crown. He further directed Mr. Lucas, Court Constable, to continue to use all efforts to find the accused, as the charge could still be prosecuted.

In the Calcutta Review, a stronger case than usual is made out for the claim of the Afghans to be considered the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel. In the first place, the Hebrew aspect of the Afghan is striking, and in the second place all of his commonest names are Biblical. Such are Yusul (Joseph), Yakub (Jacob), and Ishak (Isaac). Aighan tradition, themselves Beni Israel, or Children of Israel. prominently identified with every movement similar way by Russia.

The oldest Afghan customs, moreover, distinctly suggest Israelite origin. Such are the obligamarrying a deceased brother's widow, and the capital punishment of stoning. But the strongest evidence of all is a discovery by Dr. Moore, which ought, if entablished beyond doubt, to settle the question. He states that a number of archaic inscriptions exist in Afghanistan which cannot be interpreted by any other means than transliteration into auclent Hebrew, when their sense becomes clear.

It is stated that Ching has asked for the services of an officer from the British army to raise a force, consisting of six thousand Chinese troops, his head-quarters to be at Pinyang, whence he shall be ready to defend the Chinese capital.

Coffee, it is believed, will cease to be an export of Ceylou in two or three years, the amount exported rapidly decreasing, especially of native coffee. Sir Thomas Lipton, however, says that coffee growing is not played out in Ceylon, and that he finds no difficulty in growing it.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's trans Pacific steamers commencing with the steamer Yama-guchi Maru, hence April 2nd, have been authorised by the Imperial Postal Department to carry through mails; this will enable shippers to pass their papers through the Banks and post by the steamer carrying the cargo.

Telegraphic information was received in Yokohama on Thursday that the Reichstag has granted the extra subsidy for the Imperial German Mail fortnightly service to China and Japan, and the same will in future be carried on conjointly with the Nordd-Lloyd and Hamburg-America Line.

The death occurred at the Grand Hotel on Wednesday night, of Mr. James Heelis, a gentleman belonging, we understand, to Manchester, England, who was on a trip round the world. Mr. Heelis arrived in Yokohama from Kobe only a few days ago, suffering from dysentery, and was attended by Dr. Hall. He was to have left for Eugland by the Empress of Japan to-day. Deceased was unaccompanied by any of his relations or friends.

Mr. N. J. Ede, who is shortly retiring from his post as Secretary of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, which he has held for the last twenty-seven years, has been presented at Hougkong with an address from the members of the Eastern staff of the Society, the address being accompanied by a souvenir in the shape of a gold watch.

An inspection in dock at Hongkoug of the damage austained by the Coptic proves that extensive repairs will be necessary before the ship is ready to proceed to sea again. The three decks of the vessel will have to be removed, and the repairs to the vessel will take more than two months to complete. The Dockyard Company has undertaken the execution of the work for \$120,000.

Tenders for 500 tan of canvas duck and 500 kama of grey shirtings are invited by the Inspection Bureau (Kansa Kyoku) of the Comunications Department; to be opened on March 28th. Tenders are also invited by the Inspec-tion Bureau in the Department of Communications for 15,000 yards of rubber covered wire and sundry other material. Tenders to be submitted to the Treasury Office in the above Bureau before noon on April 4th, Particulars are open to inspection at the same office. ders for 5,000 feet English-made hose-pipe are invited by the Third Section Office (Dai Sanopened at tra.m. on April 4th.

Among the homeward passengers by the Em press of Fapan are Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Baggallay, who leave Japan with no intention of returning. Mr. Baggallay's health has for some

calculated in be of benefit or interest to the whole community, and throughout his ten years' stay he has been one of the most popular residents in the port. His departure is universally regretted, the more especially on account of the cause, and in expressing a hope that the change will lead to his complete recovery, we are but re-echoing the sentiments of every member of the community.

An amusing story used to be told in Bar circles respecting a meeting of the late Baron Pollock and the late Lord Denman. The latter had the night before delivered one of his unutterably prosy speeches in the House of Lords which in the customary manner was disnosed of in the London dailies thus :- 'After lew words from Lord Denman," &c. Baron Pollock overtook his learned colleague in the park, and found him fuming over this latest journalistic indignity. Pollock, in a mildly ironical fashion, coudoled with his friend, and expressed regret that so magnificent an oration was not reported. Lord Denman took the remark seriously, and exclaimed:—"Ah, was not reported.
remark seriously, and exclaimed:—"Ab,
Pollock, it's my firm belief that no person
connected with a newspaper will sver enter

The naval correspondent of the Globe writes: Commander Lewis K. Bell, in command of the sailing training sloop Cruiser, in the Mediterranean, has found time amid his multifarious duties to invent a range finder for use in the navy. I do not know the principle of the instrument, but I hear that on a first aspect it is so satisfactory that the Admiralty have given directions for a series of exhaustive trials to be made with it at Portsmouth." The Singapore Free Press recalls the fact that Commander L. K. Bell was well known on this station in command of the Plover in 1891-92, his officers being that go-shead pair of lieutenants, Brownrigg and Shakespeare, the former of whom is now a sonin-law of Sir Cecil Smith.

The man who brings politics into a love letter must be an enthusiast. In an action brought at Liverpool against a poulterer and fishmonger a letter was read from the ardent swain, in which he says, describing Mr. Chamberlain :-

He stepped on to the platform as if he had walked out of his frame. His sonorous voice was adapted to the building, and in a dramatic, telling manner he emphasised his several points. His earnestness, humour, sarcasm, and ironic praise of his opponents was unequalled in my personal experience. His single eyeglass he wore with refeeshing assurance.

The only satisfaction which a young woman (who probably wanted to read nothing but that her eyes were perfect and her hair adorable) could derive from such a screed was in the subacription :- "Yours by a large majority, Tom,"

The present position of the currency question in Russia is decidedly interesting, says Finance. Russia is one of those countries where the population is so completely used to paper money that they actually prefer it to gold, but a gold standard had to be established, and the thing has been done. The idea was to create thing has been done. a gold standard " similar to the English pound sterling "-and now, instead of the rouble being a fluctuating unit—it is fully established as a definite standard. To get over the difficulty of making the change popular, paper is being gradually withdrawn, particularly the notes of smaller values, and the silver coins are being made mere tokens. At the present time there is 13.1 per cent. more gold than paper in Russia, and at the end of last year, the amount of paper roubles in circulation was 199,000,000. So that it may be taken that Russia has become definitely, if not irrevocably, a monometalist This action is unquestionably procountry. foundly interesting to England as a monometallist nation. It will-modify the relations existing -financial and commercial-between Russia and Asiatic countries, and will, so far as currency in concerned, place the great northern (Jacob), and Ishak (Isaac). Aighan tradition, months post been such as to render the change empire on the same plane as ourselves. The moreover, distinctly alleges an Israelitish descant, and the modern Afghans still call the Chronicle, Mr. Baggallay has always been the silver standard of Asia will be felt in a

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#### FOREIGN PARCEL POST REGULATIONS.

The following official translation of the Foreign Parcel Post Regulations is published by the Tokyo Post and Telegraph Office:-

Articles forbidden to be sent by Parcel Post.—
Articles of a nature likely to soil or injure the other parcels, liquids, oils, or fatty substances; explosive, inflammable, or dangerous substances; animals or vegetables or articles which are not allowed for transmission by the laws or regulations of the countries to which the parcels are destined; and parcels containing any letter, or manuscript notes having the character of actual and personal currenpondence. correspondence.

Liquids, oil, or fatty substances may, however be sent if so packed as to prevent any injury and if approved after examination by the Post Office.

Address, &c.—Parcels must be addressed legi-bly and thuse addressed in pencil will not be accepted. Parcels must be sealed with sealing-wax or by some other means.

Customa Declaration, Despatch Note .- The Customs Declaration, Despatch Note.—Itte sender of a parcel (Hongkong parcels excepted) must fill in the Customs Declaration, also the Despatch Note in case of German parcels, and sent with the parcel. The weight to be filled in the above forms must be in pounds for Canada, in grammes for Germany, and in momme for Great Britain. Both of the above forms may be procured from the Part Office. from the Post Office.

Vessels.—Parcels to Canada and to Great Britain and beyond are despatched by the Canadian mail only, and to Germany by the German mail

Parcels to Hongkong and beyond are not forwarded by Steamers of the P. & O. and M. M. Companies; but the Post Office selects the vessels which are considered most appropriate to carry the parcels.

#### PARCELS TO HONGKONG.

Parcels beyond Hongkong —Parcels can be sent to the following places:—Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hollow. Macao, Malacca, Ningpo, Pakhoi, Penang, Shanghai, Singapore, and Swatow.

Limits of Weight and Dimensions .- Weight,

top To 5 bs. Dimensions, 2 feet in length and I foot both in breadth and depth.

Rates of Postage.—2 see per each 50 grammes.

Regists aton.—Parcels for the above places may be registered on payment of a fee of 10 sen in addition to the ordinary postage rate. Receipts are given for registered parcels only.

#### PARCELS TO CANADA.

Limits of Weight and Dimensions,-Weight, up to 7lbs. Dimensions, 2 feet in length and 1 font both in headth and depth.

Rates of Postage .-- 40 sen per each tib, or fraction thereof.

#### PARCELS TO GERMANY.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions.—Weight, up to 5 kilogrammes. Dimensions, 60 centimetres in any one direction.

Rairs of Postage.—Yen 1.90 per parcel.

Acknowledgment of Delivery.—10 sess in addition to the indicaty postage rate.

Remark.—One Customs Declaration and one Despatch Note may be used for 3 parcels and under, provided they be from the same sender to the same address. the same address.

#### PARCELS TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Limit of Weight and Dimensions.—Weight, up to 1 kwan 320 monms (11lbs.). Dimensions, 2 feet in length and 6 feet in girth and length combined.

Remarks.—A parcel must not contain another package addressed to a different person and place. Any articles liable to Duty which are not entered on the accompanying Customs Declaration are liable to be confiscated at the British Customs. Parcels may also be sent though the intermediary of the British Post Office to the following countries and places:—Argentine Republic, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chil, Columbia (Republic of), Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hawaii, Holland, Italy, Luxemburg, Mexico, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Servia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Constantinople (Turkey).

Note.—For less important places and for the details as to Customs Declarations, postage, etc. see Notification No. 199 of the Department of Communications of the 29th year of Maiji.

#### BRITISH OFFICERS.

An interesting article, on "British Officers." written by "An Ex. Attaché," appears in the Washington Post. The author quotes the opinion of a German military paper as follows:

"Despite all its bravery, the British Army has shown once again on the Indian frontier that it is as unfit for warlike expeditions as ever. training and even the arming of the infantry are faulty. The organization is cumbersome. Miserable mobilization, confusion in the assembly and preparation of the troops and the reserves, inadequate supply of ammunition and a hadly organized commission. a hadly organized commissariat, render it impossible for a British Army mappear with crushing force. If Russia were to make use of her opportunities, England, powerless make is from a military point of view, would be forced to leave the gates of India in Russia's hands, and to thank her stars if she did not lose India altogether."

"Ex-Attaché" considers the fault has been entirely and admittedly the gross incompetence of the officers, who have displayed a degree of inefficiency that is calling for the most scathing criticism from the English press itself. It is the English officer who, more than anything else, constitutes the weak point of England's weak army. Physically and socially he is superior to most of his Continental comrades. Devoted from his earliest boyhood to athletic sports, and keeping his body both before and after receiving his commission in a constant state of spleudid training, he is, so far as the mere physique is concerned, much better equipped for the hardships of a campaign than even his German colleague. But in military science and tactics he is lamentably inferior to most foreign officers, and the time which the latter devote to the arts of their profession the English officer spends in pig sticking, hunting, polo, and tennis.

"It is owing to this neglect on the part of the British officers that the English army has remained, as the great German field marshal, Count von Molike, was wont to declare, much the same as it was at the battle of Waterloo, more than four score years ago.

"The British officer, by his plack, his physique, and usually by his birth, is well equipped to act times gone by. He does not realize that the successful officer of the present day must be more of the student than of the athlete, more of the cold, calculating mathematician than the warm hearled, generous minded creature of impulse; in one word, that the military leader of the close of the nineteenth century must no longer be a Prince Rupert, but a Molike."

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### IAPANESE SAILORS ON THE "MAINE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JARN MAIL."

SIR,—A complete list of the crew of the ill-slated Maine is given in the Chicago Reader of Feb. 17. In that list I find the names of several Japanese, as follows:—Fusajino Awo, Suke Chingi, Olojino Ishida, Yukuchi Kitagata, Katsusahuro Kushida, Tomekichi Nagamine, Masu Oliye, Isa Sugisaki, and Katsutaro Suniki. Some of these names are rendered unintelligible by typographical or other errors; but all are natives of Japan. Of these Kushida and Awo are the only survivors, and in one paper the latter is said to have been and in one paper the latter is said to have been injured. These two were taken to Key West, Florida, with other survivors.

Yours sincerely,

ERNEST W. CLEMENT. Tukyo, March 17th, 1898.

#### RECENT "COUP DE GRACE" OF THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL." SIR,—Doctor Davis' very lucid letter in the Fapan Weekly Mail of 12th inst. beings into conspicuous prominence the following important paints which, in the writer's opinion, the Japanese Government is by honour bound to consider deeply before taking any final action in recognizing the Jinjo-Chu-Gakko department of the Doshisha:-

I. The lamented Doctor Neesima during his student life in America conceived the idea of founding a Christian institution of learning in his

beloved native land.

2. For the realization of this grand and noble aim Dr. Neesima, by the consent of the American Board, appealed to the Congregational Churches of the United States.

3. These churches responded with that munificent liberality which has made famous the whole history of their foreign missionary activities for

nearly a century.

4. The basic foundation of the Doshisha is:
Christianity in its moral and spiritual life, i.e. in

Christianity in its moral and spiritual life, i.e. in its totality.

5. This foundation is unalterable.

6. Notwithstanding these facts, immediately after Dr. Neesima's death the trustees who had pledged their honour to uphold the Constitution have betrayed their trust by endeavouring to subvert the fundamental principles upon which the Institution is erected.

7. This attempt to subvert the foundation of the Doshisha is done without heeding, may in beazen defiance of, the vehement protests of the Christian donor repeatedly expressed in a thunder-like

donors repeatedly expressed in a thurder-like voice that can never be misunderstood.

voice that can never be initial deritod.
Undoubtedly there have been in the long history of European education institutious of learning which in course of time have changed the spirit which created and monified them. Most of the modern great Universities of Christendam started centuries ago as monastic institutions when the priesthood monopolized all the learning of the age. Through a slow and gradual process of evolution the universal thought of the constituency underwent a radical transformation, the method of underwent a radical transformation, the method of study was changed and broadened, and the sciences began to occupy the position which formerly had been taken by theology to the ex-clusion of the rest.

clusion of the rest.

But the present case is entirely different. It cannot find a similar one in the whole history of education in the civilized world. It stands unapproclably unique. It is nothing short, in my opinion, of a high-handed robbery.

8. Notwithstanding the illegal action of the trustees in striking the Christian clause out of the Doshisha Constitution, still if the Government will recognize its Jinja-Chu Gakko department deliberately, it commits an action which will terribly pain the motal instinct of humanity. It will leave a deeper stain upon the good reputation of Japan than the Port Arthur massacre. Because there the crime was committed by the common there the crime was committed by the common soldiery, whose buman passions, at the sight of the mutilated corpses of their comrades were heated to a blinding and micontrollable intensity; while here the crime, because it is nothing short of moral crime, is being coolly perpetrated by the culting classes of Japan.

In the same number of the Japan Weekly Mail the writer of the article on "Civilization" finds it very difficult to define satisfactorily the meaning of that great and complicated word. Indeed, it is hard to define it postively. However, there are, in hard to define it postively. However, there are, in my opinion, encourging possibilities to find out the nature and constituent elements of civilization from a negative stand-point, thereby reaching ultimately the same desired goal. In the witer's opinion this Doshisha disgrace is not, a fortieri, the highest manifestation of a civilized human society's activity. Who are the men who are enacting this drama of injustice? They are not common and deprayed felous, They all are men of honour and integrity of character. They are men like Mr. Tokutami, who for more than a decade has stood as the chief guardian of the are men tike Mr. Lokutomi, who for more than a decade has stood as the chief guardian of the moral consciousness of his very intelligent nation. They are men like Mr. Yukoi who, not quite a year ago, was hysterically shouting at the top of his voice about the insufficiency of the present hooks on maral law, and urging the imperative necessity of a new ethical treatise with broader and more which intelligence. on marai aw, and triging the imperative necessity of a new ethical treatise with broader and more sublime ideals of existence. If such representative leaders of Japanese thought and life are liable to fall into such a deplorable condition of extreme moral stupour without the national conscience being stirred to its innermost depths I should not wonder for a moment if civilized nations refused to consider Japan morally a civilized country, in spite of the revised treaties. No civilization is worth a rotten turnip that is not based upon the eternal and immutable ethical law which governs human destiny. I think I am not mistaken if I say that the very honour of Japan and the Japanese is deeply concerned in this Doshisha question. Let the whole nation in its august majesty usize and protest, even if it cannot recitly, this flagrant injustice. The national conscience is above all forms of forensic technicalities. This is a test case for the national conscience to decide; and when the final judgment of that decide; and when the final judgment of that august tribunal is announced then civilized

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humanity can decide whether Japan is a really civilized country or not,

PHILO-JAPAN.

Yokohama, March 17th, 1898. [It is very difficult to see how the Government question directly or indirectly.-- Ep. 7. M.]

#### THE LATE DR. VERBECK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Str,-Although an acknowledgement has been Sign-Atthough an acgnowledgement has been made its the columns of your journal by Miss Verbeck of her sincere thanks for the sympathy and kindness shown by numerous friends and acquaintances in connegion with the lost of her severed father, I esteem it a duty and a privilege to express the gratinde felt by the Members of the Mission and the Church represented by our estemated by the father for the father of the mission and the Church represented by our estemated by the father for the father of the fat teemed bruther for the sympathy shown and assistance afforded by the Members of various Missions and of the U.S. Legation in this sudden and trying visitation, assistance which contributed so much towards the successful carrying out of the fameral services. The assistance rendered to Miss Verbeck by her Legates friends involving and the fameral services. Werbeck by her Japanese friends, including among them Baron Samoniya, Master of Ceremonies of the Imperial Household, Mr. Masujima and others, was invaluable for the right conduct of that part of the obsequies. But H.M. the Emperor's part at the obseques. But II. In the impetor a munificent thoughtfulness in providing for the entire funeral expenses, and the generous contribution, or gratuitous, toan of the but in poly of the but in poly of the part of the Tokyo Ru-City Government—are acts of kindness that call for heartiest expression of thanks not only on the part of the Mission and the body of Christians whom the deceased represented, but on the part of all his own and other nationals with whom H.M.'s Government stands in treaty relations.

The expressions of condulence, coming from offi-cials, thurches, prominent workers, former pupils etc., are both numerous and affecting. In cesponse to the desire expressed for a memorial ser-vice in some place large enough to admit the public vice in some place large enough to admit the public generally, it was thought well such a service should be held to-day, a week later than the funeral, at the Kanda Set Nea Kan. But owing to the fact that those who might be required to take part in such services were very much engaged, and the close of the school year at this season adding to these engagements, it was thought better it should be delayed till a more (avoiable time.

A letter sent in anticipation of such a memorial service by Members of the American Board Mission may be added as testimony from valued fellow-missionary workers of their appreciation of Dr. Verbeck's life and labours.

Kyote, March 17, 1898, In behalf of the American Board Musical, usis to express our great esteem for Dr. Verbeck, and to unite in heart with those who are honouring his memory. Dr. Verbeck was indeed a true lover of God and of man; he gave 38 years of his life to Japan, and we rejuice that he so fully manifested the breadth of the Christian love; he hancefully retailed the Japaness to the control of the Christian love; he thoroughly studied the Japanese language and used his linguistic powers to preach Christ to the Japanese in words easy to be understood and full of life, and also to translate the Psalms into lapanese.

Japanese. Although most of us did not have the opportunity to become well acquainted with him personally, yet we all exteemed him a friend and a brother in Christ. We thank God for the sending of such a man to Japan, and pray that we may be blessed to follow his example.

J. D. DAVIS, Chairman. D. W. LEARNED, Secretary.

I am, Sir, your abedient servant, JAS. H. BALLAGH,

necessarily involves delay, and it may often hap-

necessarily involves delay, and it may often hap-pen that the translation is not quite correct.

All addresses on letters, etc., when written in foreign style should be in clear legible writing, and in Roman letters (not Gothic or other style); and if, in addition, they are properly translated in Japanese writing they are more likely to escape any unnecessary delays or any risk of being lest being lost.

I should also like to suggest that all letters des-tined for Foreign Countries should have the name of that country written in Japanese; otherwise— and especially from summer resorts or places in the interior-such letters may risk being sent to some other Post Office than the one where the special mail desired is being made up.

Tam, sir, yours faithfully,
B. YASUHIRO, Tokyo, 21st March. Director-General of Posts.

#### ON THE RIGHT OF WAY WHEN LEAVING PORT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL." SIR,—The question as to the "right of way" awing been brought up before the Court of Indiry, recently held to investigate the circumstances having been b

quiry, recently held to investigate the circumstances attending the collision between the steemers Borneo and Wayo Maru in the fairway to Yokohama harbour, I consider this a most suitable opportunity to bring the matter up for public discussion, and I shall herewith start the same, If you will kindly allow me sufficient space in your valuable paper to express my opinious.

I may at once state that my object in writing is to warn shipmasters against too rashly concluding that of two steamers, one question and

is to warn shipmasters against too rashly concluding that of two steamers, one entering and the other leaving port, the one which is the outgoing vessel has the right of way and that the incoming steamer must give way to her; because the incoming steamer has generally pleuty of searoom, while the other is probably in a narrow roadstead. My opinion is that, unless there are appecial rules, duly made by local authority, relative to the navigation of any harbour or its fair way, the only rules applicable to the navigation of such places are:—The sevised Rules of the Road for preventing Collisions at Sea, if such are not overtuled by the custom of the Port, or Ports.

Before the above-mentioned Court of Inquiry, the

Before the above-mentioned Court of Inquiry, the Chief Officer of the outgoing steamer Borneo is said to have stated that there are no printed rules on the natter; but that it is generally understood that in case of a vessel leaving and a vessel entering a harbour, the vessel entering should give way to the other. On the other hand, the Captain of the incoming steamer Wayo Maru is quoted as having stated that he did not know of the practice of a

stated that he did not know of the practice of a ship entering harbour waiting for a vessel going out. I sincerely trust that the Borneo was not navigated under the idea that she had the right of way, and that the finding of the Court was not in any way affected by the Chief Officer's assertion. To show that the Chief Officer was probably wrong in stating that it is generally understood, in case of a vessel leaving and a vessel entering a harbout, that the vessel entering should give way to the other, I may quote a few sections from the local regulations in force at Belfast, as follows:—

Sect. 67. That, when steam vessels on different courses must unavoidably or necessarily pass so

Courses nitst inavoidably or necessarily pass so near that by continuing their respective courses there would be risk of coming in collision, the helm of each vessel shall be put to port, so that the one shall always pass on the imboard or portside of the other. side of the other.

side of the other.

Also, in the additional Rules it states:

1st. That, when steamers are likely to meet
at, or near, the Holywood Lighthouse, the outgoing steamer, being the one which has the other
on her own steamer has come round far enough to give

Suggestions of Note to Foreigness.

To the Editor of the "Jatan Mall."

Sir,—With the object of avoiding delays, and complaints arising therefrom, in respect to the delivery of letters and other small matter, the Minister of Communications recently issued some general directions and cautions on this special point; and I now write, by his instructions, to ask you to be good enough to point out to your readers one small, but important, point thereof, so that they may largely prevent such delays by using the precaution of leaving the correct address written in Japanese.

It now lacquently happens that letters for places in Japan (domestic mail matter) are posted with address written in foreign writing only—and in such cases some of the post office staff have to translate and write addresses is—Japanese. This

tions are in force, no captain should a his steamer has any right of way; and if he should be compelled at any time to meet a vessel in the fairway of the harbour he should then so mancovre as to be on the right side of the channel, as required by Article 25 of the Revised Regulations for Preventing Collissions at Sea.

I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,

NAUTILOID.

March 21st, 1898.

#### KYOTO UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,-I beg to express through the medium of Siz.—I beg to express through the medium of your paper my sincere thanks to the following for their valuable donations to the Library of our Institution:—"Anstralasia Picturesque Atlas," 3 vols., donation form Mrs. E. S. Patton; "Handbook for Travellers in Japan," 10 vols., donation from Prof. B. H. Chamberlain; "Joseph te Maistre," 10 vols.; "Philosophie de M. Guerre," 10 vols., "Collection des Meilleurs Auteurs," 20 vols., donations from M. M. Revon.

Vous tudy.

Yours truly.

T. SASAOKA.

#### PURELY PERSONAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " lAPAN MAIL," Sin,-In your last week's issue I find this state-

"We do not agree with the general editor's views about the social evil and do not endorse the Biblical editor's refusal to comply with the laws of his country, and it consequently follows, according to the Shepherd's Votes, that we are bad, radically bad."

cally bad."
The Mail and the Voice have lately been discussing the Social Evil in Japan, a matter that has no relation whatever to my "refusing to comply with the laws of my country." nor has the Voice, in its contention with the Mail, made the slightest reference to the matter in any way whatever; that the Mail, therefore, should go so entirely out of its way as to bring the matter into its contention with the Voice on the Social Evil question is truly surprising. Is it, that being hard pressed by the Voice the Mail wishes to divert attention from the point at issue? May be the Editor is not quite satisfied with his attempted defence of the American Legation and takes this method of trying to get even.

get even.
Since it has been brought before the public Since it has been brought before the public again, I may say I am not the only mass who has found difficulty of late in "complying with the laws of his country." Being at the Legation only a few days ago for the purpose of helping a fellow national about getting a passport, I was told that almost every one had raised objections to the present regulations. The particular friend, under consideration had made a plain, unvarianted statement, representing the facts of his own case. The Legation rejected his application and he had to modify his language before the passport was granted. (Some can do this; I can't.) The complaint is general, and the Legation has felt the force of it so strong as to be under the necessity of issuing a pamphlet of extracts from State papers in self defence.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the Editor of the Mail will not be overly auxious about myself in the future, but will devote himself to such issues as are being immediately pressed upon him; and that he may not be disturbed in mind further about my course I may be permitted in closing to say that I have both a resident and travelling passport and that Uncle Sam and I are getting on beautifully as far as I know.

Most respectfully, J. M. McCALEB.

Tokyo, March 22nd, 1898.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

imports, and that they were assisted in this by a number of Chinese and Japanese employés of foreign firms, and of Japanese landing and shipping agents. They did not all work together, however, but in small groups. During November, 1896, four employés of a Chinese firm at No. 27. Kaigan-dori, Nichome, arranged to hand to a tide-waiter named Aso Naritan and a clerk at the Customs House mamed Majima Shotaro the application for an export permit. Export permit forms were then procured by the clerk and tidewaiter, who put upon them, with intent to defraud, the seal of the Customs House and the stamp showing duty paid. The permits were then given to the servants of the Chinese firm, who took them to the Customs House in the usual way and passed the goods as though the duty had been properly paid. In December the same year the head of the Inspection Office at the Customs House discovered the fraud, amounting to yen 79.38, and directed the tide-waites Aso to get the application and collect the duty from the shipper. Aso concerted with the employés of the Chinese firm aforesaid, an application form was stolen, the firm's signature and seal were forged, and the form was presented the same mouth at the Customs House through the medium of Aso.

The Judge found that in February, 1897, an ex-Customs House official had various seals cut

Customs House through the medium of Aso.

The Judge found that in February, 1897, an ex-Customs House official had various seals cut by an engraver, including the seal of the Customs House, the official seal of the Superintendent, the official seal of the Treasury department, and private stamps of employe's in the latter department, the forged seals and stamps being used to defeated the Customs House of its lawful revenue. This defendant (Naito Manji) with accomplices continued to defeated the Customs House until October, 1897, when a dispute arose among the Iraternity concerning the division of the stolen money, and, fearing that this would lead to the discovers of the frauds, Naito destroyed all the forged seals and stamps. The dispute, however, was compromised, and the fauds were continued, the conspirators getting new seals engraved by the conspirators getting new seals engraved by

the conspirators getting new seals engraved by Asa Natitaru.
Forther, the Judge found that two office boys (kosukai) at the Customs House stole between January and October 1897 several hundred forms necessary to the passing of goods through the Customs House, putting on many of them the official seals and stamps. These forms were given to Naito, who concealed them at his house. Naito next prevailed on Matsumoto Scikichi, an employé in firm of Messis. Becker & Co. of No. 8, to join him in defrauding the Customs authorities by using the forged forms. Maisumoto accordingly landed Messis. Becker & Co.'s applications to Naito at certain tea-houses, and on every occasion the forged seals and stamps were affixed by Naito's accomplices, Matsumoto afterwards giving these to his employers as the receipts for duty paid, whereas none had been paid to the Customs House, which in this case had been defrauded of 1.716 yea. The money was divided among the prisoners concerned in the frauds.

Other frauds were perpetuated by Japanese and Chinese employés of other fluns in the same way, the amounts being given as follows:—

EXPORTS.

KXPORTS.	
	Yen.
Oppenheimer Prères	442
Itlies & Co. and Christensen & Co.	3,316
Morf & Co	297
Browne & Co	464
Browne & Co	736
Macy & Co. Christensen & Co.	7,325
Shin Taisho	500
1-sho,	1,749
Findlay, Richardson & Co	
Cornes & Co.	10,852
Tuck Cheer g	301
Tong Yen	108
American Trading Co	263
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	

Natto Manji and Akashi Tsunekichi destroyed the notes of goods landed sent to the Customs House by the official on duty at the Pier, and thus prevented the detection of the alterations in the ship's manifests. The returns for imports were effected by the employés of foreign films in complicity with the said Customs House officials as fullows:— Naite Manji and Akashi Tsunekichi destroyed

	Yen.
Simon, Evers & Co. Nickel & Co.	···· 7.555
Adachi Export & Import Co., Becker & Co.,	
Faber, Voigt & Co	837
19 91 010111111111111111111111111111111	

period January, 1896, to September, 1897. The employ 6 made false declarations to the nature and value of the goods he was passing through, and the Judge found that this had been done with the con-Judge found that this had been done with the con-sent of the head of the firm, Nakamura Shirokichi. The Customs House had thus been defrauded of 23,516 yen, being the difference between the declared value and proper value, the goods in question being landed for the Japan Sugar Refining Co., Messes, Strachan & Co., the Kwansai Bnyeki Co., Temma Weaving Co., Fushimi Spinning Co., and many other com-panies and merchants. But besides this, the head of the firm and an employed samed Fukui Suteichi of the firm and an employe named Fukui Suteichi defrauded the Customs House of various sums of defranded the Customs House of various sums of money paid in duty on goods imported by customers of the firm, though how these frands were perpetrated has not been definitely ascertained, these sums amounting in the aggregate to 1,539 yen. The facts heretofore cited, the Judge states, have been established by Mr. Egawa, the Superintendent of the Customs, by the evidence of Japanese witnesses, and also by the sankonin (referees), Messis, M. W. Kochen, B. Kummel, H. Clement, V. Lavaery, F. Jonas, Chas, A. Fraser, E. H. Gill, C. Z. Ede, James Green, S. F. Gillum, A. L. Robinson, A. P. Ball, A. E. Sargent, and others, as well as by a number of exhibits, and depositions of the defendants, affidavits produced by owners of goods in question and other evidence.

True bills were returned by the Judge against 31 Japanese and 12 Chinese.

31 Japanese and 12 Chinese.

### THE KIAO-CHOU INCIDENT.

The statement made in the Beichstag by Here The statement made in the Heichatag by Harron Bülow, German Secretary of State, on the Kiao-chou incident is of such interest that we reproduce it in full:—The despatch of a squadron to Kiao chou was not an improvisation, but the expression of a well considered, caim, and clearly-defined policy. It is indisputable that without territorial point d'appni in Eastern Asia we would be simply floating in the air, from an economical, maritime, and political point of view. We required an economical entrance-gate to the Chinese market, as France has in Tong Kiang, England in Hongkong, and Russia in the North. The four hundred million inhabitants of China provide one of the richest markets for imports in the world. hundred million inhabitants of China provide one of the richest markets for imports in the world. Our imports there have trebled themselves in the last ten years. We were, therefore, obliged to endeavour to obtain similar concessions to those enjoyed by other Powers. Without a territorial point d'appus, Germany's intelligence and the country's technical and commercial power would have been wasted, and master as moures for country's technical and commercial power would have been wasted, and meetly as manure for foreign fi-lds without fructifying our own garden. A station for the Fleet was consequently an absolute necessity, in order to make us independent of the good-will of foreign Governments in the matter of repairing and provisioning the dependent of the good-will of lorging documents in the matter of repairing and provisioning the ships we might require in those waters. The prestige and the fighting efficiency of our fleet are doubled when it no longer sails about without a home but has a harbour for its headquarters and its habitation. All the other Powers, including even Spain, Portugal, and the Netherlands, have territorial possessions of their own there, and we had to acquire similar rights if we did not wish to be a Power of the second or third rank in Eastern Asia. In addition to this there is the necessity of protecting the Musions, whose head, Bishop Auzer, declared the occupation of Kiao chou to be a matter of life and death. I think the moment closes for its acquisition marked the right mean between the Scylla of overlaste and the Charybdis of omission. Our relations with other Power shave in nowise head disturbed thereby. We are in harmony with Russia, whose interests do not cross ours anywhere in Europe (cheers), and run parallel to ours in Asia, and whose natural development we, as sincere friends, observe with unenvious sympathy Asia, and whose natural development we, as sincere friends, observe with unenvious sympathy (cheers). We regard the endeavours of France to open fresh outlets for trade in Tong-King as quite natural, and it is far from us to oppose England's just interests in any way, or in any direction (cheers). The contrary view expressed in English organs of the Press is in conflict with the actual state of a fine. English organs of the Press is in conflict with the actual state of affairs. Happily, no doubt exists in authoritative quarters in London that it is only in the interests of the advancement of culture and the peace of the world that we should regard relations of harmonious compensation with Great Britain as beneficial (cheers). Our modest demands did not call for any justifiable objections on the part of China, nor do they menace the integrity of China.

the details already published by the Imperial

the details already published by the Imperial Gasette:—

1.-The Imperial Chinese Government, in order to comply with the justifiable desire of the German Government to possess, like other Powers, a point in East Asiatic waters where German ships can be repaired and equipped, and where materials and supplies for that purpose may be stored and other arrangements for such objects may be made, transfers to the German Government on lease, provisionally for ninety-nine years, a portion of territory situated on both sides of the entrance of Kiao-chon Bay, in South Shanthing, and which is more exactly defined in Paragraph 2, in such a manuer that the German Government shall be at liberty to construct within this territory all necessary buildings and take the requisite measures for their protection.

12.—The territory leased to the German Government consists, on the basis of the English chait

"2.—The territory leased to the German Government consists, on the basis of the English chart of Kiao-chou Bay for 1863 (1) Of the spit of land in the north of the entrance to the bay, hounded on the north-east by a straight line drawn from the north eastern point of Potate Island to the sea coast in the direction of Loshan. (2) Of the spit of land to the south-west by a straight line drawn from the south-west by a straight line drawn from the south-west by a straight line drawn from the south-west by a straight line drawn from the south-west by a straight line bay, situated to the south-west by Chiposan to the sea-coast in the direction of the To-losan Island (Washer's chart). (3) Of the Island of Chiposan and of Potato Island, together with all the islands situated before the entrance to the bay, including To-losan and Sesilentan. Besides this the Chinese Government undertakes not to adopt any measures, nor make any regulations, within a zone of liftly kilometres, circumference around the bay, without the assent of the German Government; and in the assent of the German Government; and in particular not to place any hindrances in the way

particular not to place any hindrances in the way of any regulation or water courses that may become necessary. The Chinese Government further grants German troops the right of marching through the zone in question.

"3.—In order to avert every possibility of conflict, the Chinese Government, for the duration of the lease, will not exercise any sovereign rights in the leased territory, but transfers them, together with the sovereign rights over the whole of the waters of Kiso-chou Bay, to the German Government. The German Government will place bearons, buyer, &c., on the island and shoals near the coms, buoys, &c., on the island and shoals near the entrance to the bay.

entrance to the bay.

"4.—In the event of the territory leased on Kian-chon Bay proving unfitted for the objects of the German Government, the Chinese Government will grant the German Government a more suitable spot, and will take back Kian-chou Bay, at the same time giving compensation for all the expenses incurred there by the German Government,

"5.—A note detailed delimitation of the boundaries of the ceded territory and of the German zones in accordance with local configurations shall be carried by Commissioners of the two Governments."

In addition to the above statement the Minister

In addition to the above statement the Minister made the following explanatory remarks:—
"I.—The leased territory, the exact size of which has not yet been established, will have an area of from thirty to fifty square kilometres, and will thus be considerably larger than the British possession of Hongkong, including the concession on the mainfaid opposite.

"2.—The position of the leased territory and the approximate extent of the German zone is shown in a special map which I have submitted to the Budget Committee. That map has only to be corrected in this particular—namely, that for military reasons, which became known subsequently, the northern land boundary has been pushed forward a trifle faither than is shown on the map.

"3.—Exact information as to the number of infabricants in the German possession is at present

habitants in the German possession is at present lacking. It includes some villages in which there is stated to be a Chinese population of a few thousand heads.

"4 — As regards the size of the bay we have at present no statement based on quite exact measurements. It penetrates into the land for twenty nautical miles. Its entrance even at the narrower point is as much as three thousand metres wide. About tweethirds of the bay, with an area of about fifty equate matrical miles, are available for use as a harbour, including the southern part adjoining our tentiory.

"5.—As to the amount of the rent to be paid to China, nothing has yet been exactly settled. Anyhow, we need not get grey hairs over that. The tent to be paid will in no case be a large one, sinus it is not meant as something paid for the lessed land, but is simply a formality of the nature of what jurists call a "recognition payment, implying an acknowledgment of the continuance "4 -As regards the size of the bay we have at

Nakamura Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Nakamura Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and China, Shirokichi is Japanese Landing and China, Industry of the instruction payment, implying an acknowledgment of the continuance of t

— URBANA-CHAMPAIGN—

stonement to be made for the munder of German missionaries. I have already had the honour of submitting to the Budget Committee. Finally, as regards railway and mining concessions, the following points have been argreed upon:—The Chinese Government has promised to entrust to a German-Chinese Railway Company, which has yet to be formed, the construction of a railway from Kiao chow, to proceed first in a northerly direction and then westward until it eventually connects with the great Chinese railway system which is projected. The line is to be so laid that it shall, in particular, touch the coalfields of Weih-Sien and Poshan, situated to the north of Kiao-chow. The working of the coal deposits is to be granted to German contractors. The Chinese Government further undertakes to accord the proposed railway company at least as favourable conditions as are received by any other Ruropean-Chinese Railway Company in China. Further negotiations, partly for an extension of these concessions in a certain direction, and partly for the more definite settlement of their details, are still pending, and the position of those negotiations atonement to be made for the murder of German still pending, and the position of those negotiations is by no means unlawousable."

Continuing, the Minister said:—"I wish to state clearly that we sincerely desire the continued existence of the Chinese Empire. Only a few days ago a diplomatist, thirsting for information, asked me how long I thought China would last. I replied:—"China has already existed four thousand three hundred and seventy-seven years, and I see no reason why she should not go on existing for another three thousand."—(Loud and I see no mason why she should not go on existing for another three thousand,"—(Loud laughter.) We have no intention of encroaching in any way on the interests of Japan, whose rapid development inspires us with respect. In Kiaochou, English, Fiench, and Russian interests are all equally far removed, so that our interests there do not touch those of any Power. The reports of reliable authorities agree that Kiaochou is just the kind of place we require as a port and mercantile post. The harroon is easily defended, and is free from sand, affording accommodation for the largest fleet. For the construction of railways and for the necessary harbour works, we rely and for the necessary harbour works, we rely upon the co-operation of German private capital. I believe that the seed we have sown there will bear good fruit. Under any circumstances will carefully cultivate the seed. We shall as far as is possible strive that tisk, profit, investment, and returns shall remain in the proper proportions. We shall proceed step by step, hot as conguistadores, not as calculators, but as able merchants, like the Maccabees of yore, weapon in one hand, trowel in the other. I have raised up no castles in the air. The acquisition of the Christian faith, as well as to the economical development and the political power of the German people."—(Loud cheers.)

#### OUTBREAK IN THE PHILIPPINES.

#### EASTERN TELEGRAPH EMPLOYES' EXCITING EXPERIENCES.

EXPERIENCES.

The Bolinao (Philppine Islands) staff of the Rastern Extension Telegraph Company have had rather an exciting time owing to a rising of the natives against the Spanish Government. The station was besieged by the natives on account of some Spanish soldiers taking refuge there, the telegraph office and staff's quarters being the strongest building offering any chance of defence in the place. The following details, contained in telegrams from Mr. Patite, Superintendent of the company, are given in the Hongskong Dally Press.

kong Daily Press:
"7th March.—About two o'clock this murning "7th March.—About two o'clock this morning the Government landlines to Manila were cut and hundreds of rebels entered the village. They killed two European and one native soldier and the rest of the soldiers, consisting of eight men, escaped to our station, which we barricaded as well as we could. At six o'clock, the rebels sent word that they would not in any way interfere with us, but if the soldiers were in the Station at 4 p.m. they would attack. We told them we would observe strict neutrality, but we could not clear the soldiers out. The Spaniards in the village and priests managed to escape in a boat; the stebels are on their track, and, if they catch them, they will all be killed. Report says that there are about are on their track, and, if they catch them, they will all be killed. Report says that there are about 400 rebels. We cannot get any assistance from Manila, as the line is cut, and I suppose they have cut it in many places. It is the Bolinao people who are in arms, and as we have always been on good terms with them they don't want to hurt us."

Later in the afternoon it was evident that the Later in the afternoon it was evident that the European women and priests had been captured for they were led back to the village, and it appeared that two Spaniards had been killed.

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Nothing further happened at the Station after this, and the night of the 7th remained undisturbed.
On the 8th, the sebels sent round again in the morning asking the staff to leave the building, as they intended to attack atten o'clock. This, however, the staff would not do. On the 9th, the report came in from the rebels that the Governor-General had left Manila for Europe, on the 5th, and that the whole of the Philippines had lisen, all the Spaniards had been killed in Manila, and that the country was in the hands of the rebels. The rebels also stated that some Spanish gunboat had been captured. No further move was made by the rebels at Bolinao that day, owing to the absence of the rebel chief, a full-blood native, who was reported to be on his way to them.

was reported to be on his way to them.

On the 10th, the rebels seemed to be increasing—and there was no sign of any help from Manila. The staff were still able to get food from the village, but a servant who had gone out for freewood had not returned. The rebels sent in an ultimatum, that they would attack the Station if arms were not delivered up, and that

Station if arms were not delivered up, and that they would spare the soldiers' lives if this was done. Some parleying went on after this, and on the receipt of a long letter from the rebels, one of the Company's staff went to them to try and arrange matters, and brought back the news that the surrender of the two rebels captured by the soldiers and taken to the Station on the day of the rising was demanded, and that the Company's staff had permission to come and go whenever they liked. If these conditions were not fulfilled they intended carrying out the original plan of attacking the Station. The corporal in charge, whom Mr. Pattie describes as a splendid fellow, though only 2t years of age, refined to surrender the prisoners at any price. No attack was made that night, though all precautions were taken at the Station to meet it.

On the marning of the 11th, one of the Company's staff again went to the rebel camp to say that if the usual fortnightly steamer due the next day did not arrive, the corporal would surrender arms. While these negotiations were proceeding Mr. While these negotiations were proceeding nir. Pattie noticed great commotion amongst therebels and overheard one of the rebels say that a warship was in sight. There was, however, no sign of it from the Station, but it was considered probable, as the rebels had sentries at the mouth of the harbour, whence they could see further. The native

coaft suddenly became very active, and the men-craft suddenly became very active, and the men-al the Station concluded that they were either pre-paring to attack or m leave the place. At 2:40 p.m., a gunboat arrived, much to the relief of all, and after landing 107 marines, the doors of the Station were once more opened, but heavy firing followed between the Station and the

heavy firing followed between the Station and the rebel camp, during which many of the rebels are said to have been killed, the Spaniards losing one soldier. The night passed quietly.

On the 12th, at 8.30 a.m., a merchant steamer and a Spanish cruiser arrived at Bolinao with Mr. Jones, the Company's Manila Superintendent, and Telegraph Operator Wright, on the former.

On the 13th H.M.S. Edgar arrived at Bolingo, and with this and the teinlocements sent by Spanish authorities, the position of the Station

became quite safe.

The General in command of the Sonnish force The General in command of the Spanish force which marched overland to Bulinao reported five engagements with rebels, who suffered heavy losses. The garrison and priests of neighbouring villages had been killed, only six soldiers managing to escape. In some viltages the garrisons surrendered their arms on condition they would be sendered their aims on condition they would be allowed to go to the nearest friendly village. This the rebels agreed to, but after getting their aims the soldiers were killed, this proving that the Bolinao garrison was only spaced on account of the English staff being there. The telegraph line from Lingayen to within a few miles of Bolinao Station had been cut to pieces:

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(PROM THE "JAPAN TIMES." THE TRANSVAAL RECALCITRANT ATTITUDE.

London, March 16.

There are strong indications that the Transvaal is prepared to profit by the British entanglements in Europe, and repudiate the suzerainty. President Kruger, speaking at the Volksraad, said the burghers must stand together; nobody knew what might happen. He had replied to Mr. Chamberlain's despatch concerning the suzerainty. His reply would show that we are a government? There are strong indications that the

ENGLAND'S ENTANGLEMENTS. MR. RITCHIE TAKES A HOPEFUL VIEW.

London, March 17.

At the banquet of the London Associated Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade, admitted there was considerable ground for anxiety with regard to the foreign situation, but he believed all matters, both concerning China and West Africa, would be settled

# SPAIN ATTEMPTS RAPPROCHE-

WAR, A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY: UNITED STATES CONTINUE TO

Spain has made friendly representations to Washington, stating that war, considering the circumstances, would be a crime against humanity. Meanwhile preparations in the United States continue.

#### RUSSIA AT PORT ARTHUR.

STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT.

London, March 18. In the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon said that the Government had no knowledge of any special privileges having been accorded to Russia at Port Arthur.

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

TROOPS IN SPLENDID CONDITION: DER-VISHES ADVANCING.

The Egyptian position at Atbara is considered impregnable. The Sirdar inspected the whole army in battle array, the troops being in splendid condition. Meantime the Dervishes are advancing steadily northward in battle formation.

## THE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND RUSSIAN GOVERNMENTS.

Loudon, March 19, The Honorable George N. Curzon, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, declares that Her Majesty's Government has no information whatever as to whether China has granted any privileges to Russia in connexion with Port Arthur.

# SECRECY WITH REGARD TO THE FINDING OF THE "MAINE" INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

It was supposed that the finding of the Committee appointed to inquire into the blowing up of the war-ship Maine would have been published to-day, but President McKinley has decided that it shall be kept secret until the proper time arrives for making it known.

SPAIN AND THE "MAINE."

It has transpired semi-officially that Spain dissents from the statement that the destruction of the Maine was caused by an explosion outside the vessel.

THE FAR EASTERN CRISIS.

CHINA ALLOWS RUSSIA'S CLAIMS, BUT STICKS TO PORT ARTHUR.

London, March 20. China has offered the lease to Russia of Tailen. She allows the railway, provided that Port Arthur remains Chinese.

chau into Yunnan, and a coaling station at Halske.

CHINESE FOREIGN LOAN ISSUED.

The Chinese Loan has been issued in London and Berlin.

FUTURE ADDITIONS TO JAPAN'S NAVY.

In the course of a naval debate in the House of Coumons, Mr. Goschen mentioned that eight battleships and cruisers, and eight torpedo destroyers were being built in English dockyards for Japan, and two vessels for China.

#### BRITISH INDIAN BUDGET. BIG DEFICIT.

London, March 21.

The Indian Budget shows a deficit of five crores and twenty-eight lacs of rupees, the exchange being fixed at 15dg. The Secretary of State will draw sixteen millions, borrowing six millions in England and three crores in India.

THE CHINESE LOAN.

LARGELY TAKEN UP IN BERLIN. London, March 22.

The Chinese loan has been largely over-subscribed in Berlin.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR IRELAND.

SECOND READING PASSED.

The Irish Local Government Bill has been read a second time in the House of Commons.

(Received by the Fifi)

RUSSIA ACQUIESCES IN KOREA'S DEMANDS. Soul, March 13.

The Russian Government has acquixed in the Korean demand to disengage the Russian advisers in the service of the Korean Government. Russia therefore will recall Mr. Alexieff and the other gentlemen who are now making preparations for their departure. The Russian Government has intimated to the Korean Emperor not to send any ambassador, as he had desired to do, to specially acknowledge Russia's kindness in despatching advisers to Korea.

FRANCE APPLIES PRESSURE TO CHINA.

Peking, March 17.

France, following in the wake of Russia and Germany, has asked for the following concessions from China;

To guarantee not to concede to any other Power the regions situated south of the Yangtsze.

To lease to France as coaling depot Kwanchao Bay (?) in the vicinity of Leichow, Kwangtung Province.

To concede the extension of railways to Yunnan-fu.

To concede exclusively to France rights of working the mines situated along the railways.

To leave the postal affairs of the districts traversed by the railways in the hands of Frenchmen.

It was on the 13th inst, that the French Government formulated those claims, adding that a definite reply must be of his term of engagement. sent within eight days.

England is strongly opposed to the French demands.

AN ELECTRIC TRAMWAY IN PEKIN

Shanghai, March 17.

A telegram just arrived says that the accede to the French demands. Chinese Government had decided to construct an electric tramway in Pekin, the contract being given to the Japanese that the Chinese loan was issued to-day, Branch of the German firm Siemens and the list to be closed to-morrow.

by the Tokyo branch of Siemens and Halske to supervise the work. electric tramway will run from the terminus of the Government Railway to the wall of Pekin.

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ROBBED AND ASSAULTED.

Shanghai, March 18.

An American missionary in Chun-kiang has been robbed and assaulted and a Chinaman in his employ murdered.

THE FRENCH DEMANDS.

Pekin, March 19. The paragraph in the previous telegram as to the French demand, asking China's guarantee not to concede to any other power the regions situated south of the Yangtze, refers to the three provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan.

#### FRANCE'S DEMANDS DIRECTED AGAINST ENGLAND.

Peking, March 19, 6.30 p.m. With regard to the clause in the French Demands preferred to the Chinese Government which refers to the entrusting of postal business to French citizens, it appears that the reference is not merely to the postal business in Yunnan province, but to the postal business throughout the whole of the Chinese empire. The latter is now in the hands of Sir Robert Hart, The latter and the purpose of France's demand is to take it from him and place it under the management of Frenchmen.

#### CHINA'S FOREIGN LOAN IN JEOPARDY.

Appearances indicate that China's Foreign Loan will not be floated.

OFFICERS FOR PORT ARTHUR.

Soul, March 20.

A company comprising five Russian officers, one surgeon, and 24 marines is to start for Port Arthur within a week's

MINISTER TO RUSSIA.

Mr. Kim Keiro has been appointed of April. Special Ambassador to Russia to thank her for her past favours.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE NEGOTIATIONS.

Pekin, March 21.

Pekin has been selected as the locale of the Russo-Chinese negotiations, although it was rumoured that they would be con-ducted at St. Petersburg. Li Hung-chang and Chang Yinkwan have been appointed commissioners.

#### PAYMENT TO THE RUSSIA DRILL-INSTRUCTORS.

Söul, March 22.

The sum of 33,000 yen to be paid to the Russian drill-instructors who are about to be disengaged was duly handed over yesterday.

#### DR. PHILIP JAISOHN.

Dr. Philip Jaisohn, Adviser to the Privy Council, has decided to return to America, his adopted country, after receiving the salary due him for the remaining period

#### GREAT BRITAIN'S RESOLVE,

Pekin, March 22. The British Government has intimated to the Chinese Authorities that the former is firmly resolved not to allow China to

ISSUE OF THE CHINESE LOAN.

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An engineer will be despatched DOUBTS CONCERNING THE CHINESE LOAN. Peking, March 22.

The latest intelligence that has reached the British Legation, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and the Chinese Customs from London, states that owing to the occurrence of a panic in economic circles a satisfactory result may not be achieved even if the Chinese loan be issued. The cause is attributed to the anti-Chinese movements of Russia and France.

CHINA REJECTS THE FRENCH DEMANDS.

China has absolutely rejected the demands lately preferred by France, and the French Representative has sent a massage to the home Government to ask for further instructions. France will probably wait till the demands previously asked by Russia shall have been definitely settled.

### MAJOR SAITO.

Söul, March 23. Major Saito, Military Chamberlain to the Emperor, arrived here last night.

THE SOUL POLICE BUREAU.

Söul, March 23.

Mr. Min Yong Kwi has been appointed chief of the Police Bureau in place of Mr. Kim Chai Phung, who has been released from the post.

#### SPECIAL TRLEGRAMS.

THE "PATHAN" AFFAIR. MEMBERS OF THE CREW IN COURT.

(From our own Correspondent).

Kobe, March 22nd, 7. p.m. Five members of the crew of the steamship Pathan were charged in the British Consular Court this morning with assaulting and wounding some Japanese at Moji in the disturbance that occurred on that vessel while coaling in Moji harbour recently. After hearing formal evidence, the Judge remanded the case until the ninth

#### SHIPPING DISASTER IN THE INLAND SEA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Kobe, March 23.

The Toyoshima Maru, while assisting a stranded vessel in the Inland Sea, struck a rock and had to be beached at Takamatsu, Her cargo consists of Korean rice.

### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line,	Stenmer.	Date,
tiongkong	O. & O. Co.	Venus z	So. Mar. sy
Hongkong	P. & O Co.	Robilla a	M. Mar. of-
Hongkong	P. 61 Co.	C. Rio J'neiro 3	Th. Mar. 32
America	O. # O. Co.	Durle 4	Th. Mar. 91
Hongkong	M. M. Co.		W. Apr. 6
Canada, &c	U. P. R. Co	Em, of India	Su. Apr. 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hehensollern	W. Apr. 13
America	P. M. Co.	Chine	N. Apr. 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Chi. a	Th. Apr. 14

- s Left Nagasaki on the 23rd inst.
- a Left Hough me on the soth histi, with the English Mail.
- 3 Left Hongkong on the sard leat. 4 Left San Francisco on the rath last.

1116	MEXI. W	VIL PRVA	S
Por	Line.	Steamer,	Date.
America		Venus	Mr. Mar. all
Burope, via S'hai.		Friest Simons	W. Mar. 30
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Hungkong		km, of India	M. Apr 12
Hoogkong		Hoheszollern	Fel. Apr. 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M. Apr. 18
Unnada, &c	riginaalir	China China	I's Ans is

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHRIS EDITOR.

The Vokoliania Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Rehome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 361. BLACK. WHITE.

1-R to B sq 2-K takes P 3-K to K 3 mate Pm 86 cli 2-P to Kt 5 ch

1-K to K 5 2-K to H 4 2-R to K +q ch 3-Kt to R 6 mate 1-K to Kt 5 2-K to R 4

2-Kt to R 6 ch 3-R to R sq mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Skak, and D.D.

> PROBLEM No. 364. By V. TUZAR.



White to play and mate in three moves.

#### PROBLEM COUNTERFEITING.

TO THE CHESS EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL." DEAR SIR,-The correspondents of the Canter bury Times (quoted by your last week), who suggest that towney judges should require every composer to send in with his competing position disposer to send in with his competing position diagrams showing his problem in its various stages of evolution, can sirely have had but little experience in the art. At any rate their idea seems to me to be utterly impracticable. In the palmy days of Barbier, Healey, Meyer, mc., a problem rarely reached the stage of publication before having undergone two or three months' private scutting at the hands of fellow composers. Barbier would spend six months over a position, the final aspect of which bore little resemblance to the original idea. How then, if work is to be as thorough as it was in those days, can a composer produce his problem in the various stages of evolution? In my opinion the only deterent of dishonest pracmy opinion the only deterrent of dishonest practices would be to require each competitor to make a declaration of originality, and in the event of fearld being discovered (experts can always decide between intentional and unintentional resemblances), public exposure and exclusion thenceforth from all respectable publications

Yours, etc., Tokyo, 22nd March, 1898.

W.B.M.

GAME, No. 373. A BRILLIANT FINISH.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFRECE.				
White-Hirschfield.	Black-Kolinch.			
White—Hirschfield. WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE, BLACK.			
IPK4 PK4	20 P K(5 P QB4			
2 Kt KB3 Kt OB3	21 P K13 K R2(b)			
2 Kt KB3 Kt QB3 3 B B4 Kt B3	Castles P B4(c)			
A KI KIC P III	23 Q K13 Kt K B3			
5 PxP Kt QR4 6 B Kt5dh P B3	24 P Q1 O B2			
6 B Kisch P B3	25 B R6 P K13			
7 PxP PxP	26 P K14! K1xB			
8 B K <sub>2</sub> P KR <sub>3</sub>	27 QxKi KBPxP(d)			
o Ke KB2 P Ks	28 P B5(e) P K14			
10 Kt K5 Q Q5	29 PxP QR Ksq			
10 Kt K5 Q Q5 11 P KB4 B Q B4 12 R B-q Q Q3 13 P B3 Kt Kt2	30 R Q7ch!! KixR(f)			
12 R B-q Q Q3	31 Q Kibali H R-q			
13 P B3 Rt Kt2	32 OxPeli K Ktaq			
14 U K4 Kt U sq	33 OaPelt II R2			
15 P OK:4 B Ki3	24 () Risch 38 IS12			
16 Kt R3 B K3	25 OxPeb K B2			
17 QKı B4 BxKı	26 O Kloch KxKt			
18 BxB Castles(a)	37 Q K-7ch R B3			
19 B R3 Kt Q4				
and White announced	mate in six moves (g).			

Notes from the Newcastle Chronicle, England.

(a) All "hook" up to this point.
(b) Il 21—P to K 6; 22—Castles Q II, P takes P ch; 23—R takes P, Kt takes Q B P; 24—Q to

Kt 3, etc.

(c) II to B 3 to dislodge the Knight was the only move to avoid trouble here.

(d) H 27-Q R to K sq; 28-Q to B 4, etc.

(e) The beginning of a very brilliant combination.

tion.
(f) If 30—Q takes R; 31—Kt takes Q, R takes Q; 32—P takes R, Kt takes Kt; 33—R takes R, Rt takes R; 34—P to K 7, etc.
(g) By 38—Q to Kt 3 ch, K to Q 4; 39—P to B4 ch, K takes P; 40—Q to Kt 3 ch, K to Q 5; 41—R to Q sq ch, K to K 4; 42—R to Q 5 ch, K to B5; 43—Q mates.

#### YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The match Pollack v. Friedlander stands now "four alt," A well contested game was the tifth, which Mr. Pollak won. We will publish it next

The second round of the Championship Tour ney is a conclude on the 31-t instant, and we shall therefore be able to give the results next Satur-Here is the score of one of the games played, the only one available so far :-

#### GAME, No. 374. SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White.--Capt. Wellbach. WHITE. BLACK. Black.-Mr. Friedla der. WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. 7 PxKt K; Q5 8 K; K5 Q cP 9 K; kQP B Q2 10 K; K4 Q K; 3! 11 K; Q6 ch\* BxK; 12 K; xB ch K K2 P QB<sub>4</sub> Kr QB<sub>3</sub> P K<sub>3</sub> Kr B<sub>3</sub> P Q<sub>4</sub> 1 P K4 2 B B4 3 Kt QB3 4 Kt B3 5 P K5 P Q4 PxB 5 P Q3

\* A rash move

Position after Black's 12th Move.

BLACK. **1** 1 i 20 1 1 ĝ 3 3 8 8 ĝ W GO

The position now closely resembles the one oc-curring in that pretty catch we showed our readers in our issue of 27th November last, viz.;—

1 P K4 P K4 | 3 B B4 Kt Q5 2 Kt KB3 Kt QB3 | 4 KtxP? Q Kt4!

Now White had to lose the Knight or submit to a dangerous attack. The same applies to this eame as will be seen :-

13 Kt K4 OxP 14 Kt K3 K1 B6 ch 15 K K2 B B3 16 B B4 Kt Q5 ch 17 K K 5q B II6 23 K Q2 QxB ch 24 K K sq K: B6 ch 25 K B2 K: Qydis ch 26 K K: sq Q K6 ch 27 K Kt2 B B6 ch 28 K R3 Q R3 ch 29 Kt R5 QxK ch 30 K K3 Q K4 ch 31 Rasigns K sq Q2 n k B sq Kı Bố ch K2 Kı Kı8 d'ble Q2 QxP ch [ch B3 Q Q5 ch 18 Q Q2 19 Q B +q 20 K K2 21 K Q2 11 K B3

The chess season in England is now at its height. As gathered from the home papers, a profusion of challenge-cups, handicap and other tournaments are in operation at the different clubs, and all these events are well attended, the entities exceeding twenty, even at the uninor organizations. Matches between different clubs of county associations are of daily occurrence, the teams-numbering from twenty to thirty players each, though matches of fifty a side or more are by no means incommon. The services of expert players are in constant demand, and Teichmann, Blackburne, Gunsberg, etc., are busy with simultaneous and blindfolded performances, lectures, and so on. The number of cliess organizations already in existence is amazing, yet new clubs are constantly istence is amazing, yet new clubs are constantly springing up and they all thrive. The programme of the Ladies' Chess Club includes about forty on the Ladies Chess Chin includes about forty engagements, several being matches of filtern of twenty a side. Lady Newnes is president and the vice-presidents include Lady Thomas, Lady Waterlow, Mrs. Alterley-Jones, Mrs. Julyan, Mrs. L. W. Lewis, and Miss Burrell.

The match between Polishiny and Showalter for the championship of the United States began on 25th of February. Only one game was finished when the mail left, Showalter scoring a well-deserved win in sixty-one moves after six hours

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Wakasa Maru. Japanese steamer, 3,886, J. B. MacMillan, 19th March,—London and Antwerp via ports, 19th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen United

Via porty, 19th Jan, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3.128, J. T.

Smith, 20th March,—San Francisco, 3rd Mar.,

Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691. T. H. Dobson, 20th March,—Hongkong via posts, Kobe, 19th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill &

Co.
Terrier, Norwegian steamer, 1,008, W. Wilhelmsen, 20th March,—Hongkong, 10th March, Sugar and Rice.—M. Raspe & Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875. Ternick, 20th March,—Moji, 17th March, General—Mitsu Bishi Co.
Kwanon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Z. Yasuno, 20th March,—Robe, 18th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Gerda, German steamer, 2,052, Bhlers, 21st Mar.,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 12th March, General.—Simon Evers E. Co.
Sakura Muru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mumesono, 21st March,—Kobe, 19th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 21st March,—Shintonoseki, 18th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Foo Chow, British steamer, 1,253, Blackburn, 21st

Foo Chow, British steamer, 1,253, Blackburn, 21st. March, Takow, 14th March, Sugar, Butter-

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Yamanouchi, 21st March,—Yakkaichi, 20th March, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

March, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, A. E.

Moses, 21st March,—Seattle Washington, 12th
Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bentomond, British steamer, 1,754, C. K. Mc11tosh, 21st March,—London via poris, Kobe,
20th March, General.—Cornes II Co.

Urd. Norwegian steamer, 1,968, Hansen, 21st
March,—New York via ports, Kobe 21st Marc,
General.—Rizza & Co.

Glenshel. British steamer, 2,204, R. D. Iones, 21st

General.— Frazar & Co.
Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,204, R. D. Jones, 21st
March,—London via ports, Kotse, 20th March,
General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Chusan, German steamer, 780, W. Wendt, 21st
March,—Hongkong, General.—Simon Evers

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, N. Walter, 21st March, Kohe, 20th March, General,— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kohura Mran, Japanese steamer, 1,567, T. Higo,
21st March,—Otaru via ports, 16th March,
General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sunda, British steamer, 2,987, S. G. D. Andrews,
22nd March,—London via ports and Kobe, 20th
March, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Ernst Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Jourdan,
23rd March,—Marceilles v.a ports, Kube, 22nd
March, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
Funters of Fuham, British steamer, 2,003, Geo.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Go. A. Lee, 24th March,—Hongkong via potts, Kotte, 23 d Marth, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, K. No-beta, 24th March,-Yokkaichi, 23th March, General,-Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finten Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Naka-jima, 24th March,—Otacu via potto, 19th Mar., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain,
25th March,—Shanghai via ports, 19th Mar.,
Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507. Tibhalls,
25th March,—Kobe, 23th March, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Larensen, 26th
March,—Hongkong via Kobe, 12th March,
General.—Browne & Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 19th March,—Otarn via ports, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Borneo, British steamer, 2,943, F. C. A. Lyon,
20th March,—London via ports, Mails and
General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

E. B. Sutton, American ship, 1,939, A. L. Carver,
21st March,—Royal Roads, Ballast.—T. M.
Laffin.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,846, Thos. M. Gregory, 21st March,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, J. A. Davies, 21st March,—Muji via Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachen & Co.

Nation, Science and State and Tacoma, Wash, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co. City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 22nd March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co. City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 22nd March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co. Benalder, British steamer, 1,038, James Potter, 22nd March,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Cornes & Co. Rosetta, British steamer, 2,030, E. B. Bishop, 22nd March,—Hongkong via Koba and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co. Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 21st March,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Co. Nord, Norwegian steamer, 767, Ball, 22nd March,—Kobe, General.—M. Raspe & Co. Kwanon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Z. Yasuno, 22nd March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

no, 22nd Ma Yusen Kaisha.

Vusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,148, S. Tsuji, 23rd March,—Shaughai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Umezono, 23rd March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 23rd March,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hinza Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walièt,

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 88t, H. Walter, 23rd March,—Kobr, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaista. Baptess of Fapan, British steamer, 3,003, Gen. A. Lee, 24th March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Gorda, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, 25th Mac.,
—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—
Simon Evers & Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer Wakasa Maru, from London and posts:—Mr. C. H. Brown, Mr. J. Hirado, Mr. and Mes. Crawford, Mr. F. Young, Mr. H. Cazas, and Mr. G. Bequiet, in cabin; Mr. and Mes. Longe, Mr. F. J. K. Palmer, Mr. Kobina, Mr. V. Ogasawara, and Mrs. Young and child, in second class; 7 Japanese, and 2 Chinese, and control of the carriers.

in steerage.

Per American steamer City of Peking, from San Francisco:—Mr. Louis Eppinger, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. L. C. Poman, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Jas. S. Miller, and Mr. W. S. Gleason, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Countess Festetics, and Mr. A. G. Center, in cabin.

Per British steamer Olympia, from Hongkong and ports:—Mr. F. Kiene, Mr. W. Tallers, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Fock, and Mr. T. C. Howard, in cabin.

Per British steamer Sunda, from London via ports:—Mr. P. Crowle, Count Von Leyden, and Dr. and Mrs. St. Kynsey and maid, in cabtu.

Dr. and Mrs. St. Kynsey and maid, in cabin. Per French steamer Ernest Simons, from Macseilles via ports.—Mr. S. Kozaka, Mr. C. Kokayama, Mr. K. Yokoyama, Mr. K. Adachi, Mr. and Mrs. S. Kribedz and 4 children, Mr. Kochibe, Mr. Nicholas Makunine, Mr. Kwong Yong Cliow, Mr. Rydzewski, Mr. Belaid, Mr. John McArthur, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Collins, Mr. Yoji Wada, Mr. Monigs, Mr. Emile Levy, Mr. E. Foikny, Mis Buddinghans, Mr. E. Heinleid, and Mr. Denys Larrier, in cabin.

Per Ritish steamer Endower of Machine.

Buddinghams, Mr. E. Heinleio, and Mr. Denys Lartien, in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of Japan, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Hennings, Mrs. Hayes, Mr. D. R. Pocchagi, Mr. Kwong Ali Moon, Mr. G. L. Blashki, Mr. Holliday, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. MacEwen and child, Mrs. Hoffmeiske, Mr. Baikelt, Mr. A. F. Chamot, Mr. L. M. F. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. Horne, Mr. P. G. Fielder, Mr. Ramsay and 2 children, Mr. S. T. French, Mr. Gao, Haye, Connt Wydenbruck, Mr. S. Warming, Mr. Kuby, Mr. H. M. Bevis, Mr. C. Jackson, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. A. H. Dare, Mr. F. R. Daniel, and Mr. T. B. Pocklington, in cabin; Mr. Ton Kok Won, Mr. A. F. Chamor's servant and Mr. Geo, Hay, in second class. In Transitt—Mr. J. Richmond, Mr. W. H. Dixon and valet, Mr. C. E. Samuels, Dr. Blackburn, Mrs. and Miss Scott, Mrs. and Master Gill, Miss Robinson, Miss Pakenbam, Miss Dr. L. J. Wyckoff, Rev. & Mrs. Pakenbam, Miss Dr. L. J. Wyckoff, Rev. & Mrs. Pakenbam, Miss Dr. L. J. Wyckoff, Rev. & Mrs. Children, Mrs. H. C. Heffer, Miss W. H. Firness, Mr. T. E. Smith, Mr. J. Selles, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Baggallay, and Mr. W. Branne, in cabin; Mr. Wong Chung Shing, Mr. Platman, Mr. Symmonds, and Mr. History and Mr. W. Branne, in cabin; Mr. Wong Chung Shing, Mr. Platman, Mr. Symmonds, and Mr. Written Shing, Mr. Platman, Mr. Symmonds, and Mr. Written Shing, Mr. Platman, Mr. Symmonds, and Mr.

Peter Ehn, in second class; 520 Chinese and 1 amah, and 47 Japanese and 1 amah, Asiatic steer-

age.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Maru, from Shanghai via ports:—Capt. H. J. Carrew, and Mr. G. Stuart, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. T. Kamakura and child, Mrs. T. Minra, Mrs. Ah Ling, Mr. K. Ichida, and Mr. Ko Loo Dong, in second class; 69 in

#### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Borneo, for London and ports:—Mrs. Date and 3 sons, Captain Trotman, Mr. I. Woodbridge, Mr. H. M. Arnould, Mr. A. H. Dare, Mr. A. W. Teale, and Mr. C. Bell, in

Per British steamer Olympia, for Victoria and Tacoma, Wash.:—Rev. and Mrs. Carl Cremiassen and 3 children, Miss M. E. Ward, Mr. Jue. Thehaud, Mr. J. W. Rayner, and Mr. Frank McKenzie, in cabin.

Per American steamer City of Peking, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Sargent, Mrs. Kuhn, Mr. F. R. Daniel, Mr. H. M. Bevis, Mr. J. Guggenteim, Mr. W. T. Mills, Mr. E. L. Conan, Mrs. E. L. Conan, Mrs. M. Denigr, Mr. Henry Rider, Mr. R. H. Swayne, Mrs. R. H. Swayne, Mrs. E. W. Shattuck, and Mr. F. Coghill Jackson, in orbital.

Per Bitish steamer Rosetta, for Hongkong via posts:—Mr. Thomas Rider, Mr. G. G. Harvey, Mr. F. G. Price, Mr. Shan Chu Nin, Mr. P. M. Abdoola, Mr. Chan Kee Chun, Mr. R. Paget, Mrs. Ah York, Mrs. Ah Yaw, Mrs. Lo Yat Sang, Mr. A. Kulin, and Master G. Kulin, in cabin; 5 Chinese, in steerage.

Mrs. A. Kulin, and Master G. Kulin, in cabin; 5 Chinese, in steerage.

Per B. itish steamer Empress of Japan. for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. I., Baggallay, Mrs. H. L. Baggallay child and amab, Mr. L. V. Bell and valet, Mrs. L. V. Bell, Dr. H. Blackburn, Mr. E. W. Blodgett, Mr. W. Branne, Mr. Caldwell, Mrs. Caldwell and 3 children, Dr. Causland. Mrs. Caldwell and 3 children, Dr. Causland. Mrs. Cansland and a children, Mr. J. Cwnegie-Cheeles, Mr. S. Clark, Mr. J. R. Denison, Mr. Arthur Dewburst, Mr. W. H. Dexon and valet, Miss. K. V. Herson, Bishop C. D. Fess, Mr. G. D. Freeth, Mr. S. Y. French, Mrs. W. H. Funness, Mr. Gill, Mrs. Gill, Mr. Albert Graff, Rev. Juo. H. Gaucher, D.D., Mr. G. W. Grant, Mr. F. C. Heffer, Mrs. F. C. Heffer, Mr. E. Hittermann, Mr. Nigel Holmes, Mr. T. C. Howard, Mr. S. Ishikawa, Mrs. J. Jacobson, Mr. Walface M. Johnstone and valet, Mr. O. A. Jones, Mrs. O. A. Jones, Mrs. Kemp and 3 children, Mrs. P. Kushibiki, Mr. Gerard A. Lowther, Capt. Lawnoore, Mrs. Limmone, Mr. F. Paget, Mrs. Pakenham, Mr. W. Palmer, Mr. N. M. Pond, Mr. R. Past, Mr. Melton Prim, Mr. J. Richmend, Miss Robioson, Mr. C. E. Samuels, Mrs. A. K. Scott, Miss Scott, Mr. Juan Selles, Mr. Thos. E. Smith, Mr. G. Stoving, Mr. C. J. Stoone, Mr. H. Uyeki, Mr. G. Stoving, Mr. Call Witgenstein, and Miss Dr. L. J. Wyckoff, in cahin.

Per Japanese strämer Nagato Maru, In Shang-L. J. Wyckoff, in cabin.

Per Japanese stramer Nagato Maru, In Shanghai via ports: —Capt. C. Tamari (I.J. Navi), Capt. K. Matsumoto, Chief Surgeon T. Slukko (I.J.N.), Mr. K. Ruroda, and Mr. J. Tance, in cabin; Mrs. Y. Ogata, in second class; 25 Japanese, and 2 European, in steerage.

#### CARGO.

The following are the shipments of Tea and Sille, per British steamer Olympia, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:-

		TE	5 A -			
		иодеріне	NEW YOR	RR		TUTAL
	CANADA.	anu	AND	PACIFI	COTHER	PACK-
		WEET.	BAST.	COABI	COTIES,	AGEB.
Hongkong		-	40	éa.	-	100
Kobe	—	_	_	_	-	-
Vokobnora		-	_	_		_
Colombo		_	_	144	-	285
Colomba III				144	_	*03
Total	(41	-	40	204	_	385
		SI	LK.			TOTAL.
		NEW YO	RE.	HARTFO	Rp.	BALES.
Hongkong		85			*******	85
Yukuhama	-10	130	444 -1-14	. —	*******	150
						-
Total	4 *** ***	233	*** *** *	. –	*** *** 4*4	135

### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

A few sales of yarus have been made during the week, but the market is very quiet. For grey shirtings there is no enquiry whatever and next to nothing is doing in fancy cuttons and woollens, Stocks are far larger than required and a quantity of goods ordered remain on hand, buyers being rither make to movilling to pay up and take de-

#### COTTOD PIRCE GOODS.

Circy Shirtings-84th, 38pyde, 3gracher \$2 55 to 2 85
Groy Shirtings-olb, 386 gds. 45 inches 2.80 # 3.35
I. Cloth-7 h. 24 yardı, 32 inches 1.80 to 2 on
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 44 inches, 1.05 to 2.90
Prints-Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches. 1 00 to 5.75
24 į isches
WOOLLENS.
Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 Inches hast   0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 37 inches
Medium a 30 to 0.321
Italian Cloth, 30 yarda, 32 inches
Common a.25 to 0.274
Moussaline de Lisina—Crapa, ay yarda .
32 inches 0.15 to u 22
Cinths-Pilota, 51 #8 56 inches 0.35 to 0.30
Cluthe-Presidents, 54 of inches 0.60 to 0.75
Cloths-Union, 54 00 55 inches 0.50 40 0.85
Cititian Court of the 3 to the court of the
Mankets-Scurlet and Graun, 3 to 3ft,
pgr \$ a 50 to a 60
PRH rings.
Volvete-Itlack, 35 yards, sainches 7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 vants, 42-1 inches, 0 25 to 1.00
Inchey Reds-2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24 25 yards,
huttellermanning and miles and and and and and and and and and and
30 inches manufacturario 1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/25 yards,
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 10, 24/25 yards.
Turkey Stedan-2.B to 3b, 24/25 yards, 30 inches
30 inches
30 inches
30 inches
Turkey Reds—5.8 to 470, 24/25 yards, 32 inches
30 inches
30 inches 175 to 2,10 Turkey Reds—5.8 to 436, 24/15 parels, 32 inches 2,00 to 3,00 to 2,70 Turkey Reds—4.8 to 536, 24/25 parels, 32 inches 30 to 3,50 (,11) 111() YARTIS. 788 (10.15)
30 inches
30 inches
30 inches
30 inches 175 to 2.00 Turkey Reds=5.8 to 485, 24/25 yards, 32 inches 2.70 Turkey Reds=4.8 to 585, 24/25 yards, 3 oo to 3.50 (1.0 10 24, 5ingles 41.00 to 43.00 Nos. 18/32, Singles 41.00 to 43.00 Nos. 18/32, Singles 41.00 to 43.00 Nos. 28/32, Singles 42.00 to 43.00
30 inches
75 to 2.10
75 to 2.10
30 inches
75 to 2.10
30 inches
75 to 2.10

The market generally is very dull. Large arrivals—particularly of sheet iron, plates and bars—continue, and dealers are in many cases unable to take delivery of their orders. Before the accumulated stock can be much reduced considerable reductions will have to be made from corrent quotations. Pig iron has already fallen to a mass-imum of \$2.10 per picul. There is still some de-mand for nails, but no advance, rather a decline must be expected in view of large shipments now on the way out.

Path.	PISUL,
Round and square & inch. and upward.3.95 to	4.20
Iras Plates, associad 4.40 to	4.50
Sheet from the second of the second s	5.20
Galvanized Iroz alizeta 8.30 to	10.00
Wire Gails, assurted	6.10
Tip Plates, per box	6 00
Fig Iron, 140. 1	8 10
Noop Iron († to 📭 inch)	5.29
REROSEGIE	

Business is very dull and the recent advance in prices has scarcely been manitained. About 50,000 cases Russian have been placed since the amount to 537,618 cases American, 430,993 cases Russian, and 78,859 cases Langkal.

American	\$2 00 to	1.03
Russian	1.95 to	
Langkat	_	1,85

There have been considerable arrivals of Brown, including some 11,800 piculs China and Manila, and 23,500 piculs Formusa. Sales since the 12th instraumount to 9,880 piculs China and Manila and 19,500 piculs Formosa; the former at a rise of about 5 sen per picul. The stock of Manila is cleated out, There has been very little done in White refined and prices remain unchanged.

	A	BELL A SCHOOL
Brown	Pakan ang manaran manaran	\$4.10 to 4.20
Heoven	Manila	4.95 to 5.50
Brown	Daitong	3 85 10 3 00
14comb	Canton	1.70 10 4 55
White	Java and Penang	0.50 to 2.00
White	Relived mountainment property	7.35 *** 0.00

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

There has been next to no demand during the part week and sales only amount to about 50 piculs and quotations are purely nominal. Stock is estimated at about 5,500 piculs, or about 1,000 piculs less than at the same date last season. The Olympia shipped 150 bales and the Empress of Japan 216 bales for America.

#### QUUEA LIONA.

Cilaturas-Estin	gitt, toba	don	Nomical
Bilatures-Esten	13/15, 14/16	den	\$030 to gan
Flightuies-No. 1,	10 la denter	8	gro to gja
Filatores-No. a	TOTAL BASAS	A distant	980 to 900

900 la 910
850 M 860
850 to 860
820 M 830
Sgo to goo
810 to 810
Boo to Big
200 (0 210
780 to 750
_
840 to 840 -
820 to 810
790 to 800
760 to 770
700 40 770
-

#### WASTE SILK.

Nothing is doing in waste silk, the quality of that in stock being too poor, but some better cargo is expected from the interior next month. Present stock is estimated at 4.210 piculs. The Rosetta took 423 bales for Europe. Quotations are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.	
Nochi-Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Norhi-Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-Oshu, Best	JJG to DIK
Yoshi-Oshu, Good	100 to 103
Noshi-Oshu, Mediam	90 to 95
Noshi-Shinaba, Bent	70 to 75
Noshi-Shiushu, Good	65 to 67
Noshi-Bushu, Heat	115 to 110
Nashi-Bushu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to gs
Noshi-Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi-Joshu, Pair	55 to 574
Kibiso-Filature, Bast	95 to 100
Kibiso-Fileture, Seconds	85 to go
Kibise-Joshu, Good	12 to 10

#### TEA.

Sales only amount to about 250 piculs, at prices ranging from 26 to 32 yen per picul. There have been next to no arrivals and the remaining stock consists of only 600 piculs, mostly of poor quality. The Gaetic took 7,350 lbs. for America and the Rosetts 4,664 lbs. for Europe. Total settlements for the season to data amount to 215,000 piculs.

4+01211024	
Choices;	Nominal,
Choice	Nomi.
Final	13 = 3
Good Medium	\$14 lo a8
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common international actions and the contract of the cont	III to 20
Common	10 14 20

#### EXCHANGE.

No change in rates to day with London silver and China sterling quotations unaltered.



# RED ROUGH HANDS

Itching, scaly, bleeding palms, shapeless nails, and painful finger ends, pimples, blackheads, oily, mothy skin, dry, thin, and falling hair, itching, scaly scalps, all yield quickly to warm baths with Cuticura Soap, and gentle anointings with Cuticura (ointment), greatest of emollient skin cures.

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# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 14.]

YOKOHAMA, APRIL 2ND, 1898.

『言学基本言語器 Vor. XXIX.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

" PAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WYZEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business he addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND, 1898.

On the 28th March, at No. 3. Division Street, Robe, the wife of J. W. FRANKLIN, of a Son.

On the 31st March, at No. 241-a Bluff, the Wile of H. Bruss, of a Son.
DEATHS.

March 314, 1808, at No. 101, B'uff, Woodside, Helen, the beloved wife of Edward James Moss. At Valenhams, on the 31st March, FREDERICK JOSEPH, second son of H. Collins, aged 28 years.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

LORD SALISBORY has left England for the Riviera. THE British squadron liss left Hongkong for

the North. Oxford has won the University boat race by

twelve lengths. THE Spring Fine Art Exhibition at Uyeno Park was opened on 1st April.

Mr. GLADSTONE is very ill and his recovery regarded by the doctors as hopeless.

THE Times counsels a powerful British naval demonstration in the Gull of Petchili.

THE special twelfth session of the Imperial Diet will be convened about the 16th May.

other high officials, a new Club is to be formed in the Bank of England, has been withdrawn in Tokyo, to be called the Shako.

BARON Morioka Musafumi, a Director of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, died in Tokyo on the

MR. Inoura Katsunosuke, the new Minister to on the 30th ult.

THE laying of telephone wires between Tokyo and Osaka is to be commenced about the middle of April.

THE circulation of one yes silver pieces ceased at the end of last month. The exchange of silver yen for gold is therefore brisk.

In a skirmish between gendarmes and insurgents in Taichiu prefecture, Formosa, on the 23rd ult., two gendermes were killed.

THE Osaka Copper Factory has secured an order from Korea for the coinage of subsidiary silver pieces to the value of yes 100,000.

A MESSAGE from Peking states that the Chinere Government is preparing to pay off the in-demnity due to Japan on the 8th May next.

THE Tokyo Punch, which has hitherto appeared twice a month, will heren'ter be published as a daily paper under the title of the Maicho Shimbuu.

According to a telegram from Soul, Mr. Alexieff, Russian Adviser to Korea, is coming to Japan in the capacity of adviser to the Russian Legation in Tokyo.

Two more fires occured in Tokyo, on Tuesday. In the first 21 houses were destroyed and in the other fire, in Minato cho, Kyobashi, ten houses were burnt down.

THE Court martial which tried Capt, Uryo, of the foundered cruiser Fuse, has found him responsible for the casuality and sentenced him to three months' imprisement,

A STRIKE of employees of the Tokyo Tramway Company was started a few days ago, but was nipped in the bud by the discharge of the ningleaders and a rise of wages all round.

CHINA has granted to Russia a lease of Port Arthur and Talienwan, for 25 years, also rights of way for her railway. The two ports have been occupied by Russian troops and the Russian flag hoisted.

Among the supplementary Budgets of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is one for the encouragement of the fishing industry in foreign seas, the amount of the subsidy for which is estimated at yen 64,000.

THE Report of the United States commission attributes the Mains explosion to external causes, apparently a submarine mine, but does not fix the responsibility. The Spanish report states the explosion was internal

THE Washington Government has decided to inform Spain that the conditions of misery and stavation in Cuba have become intolerable, and that hostilities in the island must cease. The war preparations in the United States continue, and the scare is unprecedented.

THE latest telegrams regarding Spain and the United Stuter are to the effect that the former refuses to make concessions in Cuba and that there is a strong war feeling in America. Several resolutions have been presented to Congress, demanding intervention in Cuba.

since the close of last year, and at the end of February last only year 2,000,000 remained on deposit. This sum was withdrawn the other day.

A vary sad affair occurred in Yokohama on the MR. Indura Katsunosuke, the new Minister to 31st alt, when a well known resident of Kobe, Germany, left for his post by the French mail Fred. J. Collins, fatally shot himself in the Generally Cemetery. An inquest was held # H.B.M.'s Consulate on Friday when a verdict of suicide while in an unsound state of mind, was returned.

> Mr. Matuning, the newly appointed Russian Charge d'Affaires to Korea, arrived in Yoko-hama on the evening of the 23rd ult. by the French steamer Krnest Simon, and after proceeding to Tokyo, where he stayed a few days with Baron Rosen, the Russian Minister to Japan, left for Korea.

THE Department of Communications is making preparations for the establishment of harbour offices in Yokohama, Kobe and Nagazaki. The Tressury has decided to sanction the necessary expenditure, and the establishments are to come into force soon after the termination of the forthcoming session of the Diet.

On the 28th ult. Marquis Ito celebrated the marriage of his adopted son, Ito Yukichi, by a grand enterteinment at his official residence. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Arisugawa and the members of the Corps Diplomatique were among the guests, who numbered some ave hundred.

THE Authorities have sanctioned the expenditure for the constructing of railways in Hokkaido. Mr. Tanabe, Chtef of the Railway Bureau in the Island, who is now in the capital, has wired instructions for the commencement of the undertaking. The work on accord sections of the Tokachi Kitami and other lines will be offered for tender.

MARQUIS ITO gave a banquet on Friday evening the 25th inst, at his official residence to the Representatives of Russia, France, China, Austria, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain, Austra, the Reterlands, Portugal, and Spain, Among the guests were also Baron Ito, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Viscount Katsura, Minister of War and many other high officials.

THE Japanese warship Akitsushima, while on her voyage to the Bonin Island (Ogasawarsjima) in search of the missing steamer Tainan Mars found upon one island nine shipwrecked men of the Tokuyes Maru, who landed one the 27th January, and six men of the wrecked steamer Kolei Maru, who ianded on the 2nd February, The Akitrushina brought them all to Yokosuka,

THE Import market in Yokohama is about as dull and lifeless as it can be. Whether we look to cotton piece goods, woollens, yarns, or metals, we find the same thing-stocks accumulating, orders not taken up and general stagnancy. In such lines as angar and kerosene there is generally some business going on to meet immediate demands, and such is the condition at present. The only import which appears to be flourishing is that of rice, and of this large shipments continue to arrive from Tongking, Saigon, and China, with the result that quotations have slightly falles. The Export market is also very quiet, a very small business only having been done in raw silk, for America, and nothing whatever in waste silk, while transactions in tea are getting fewer and faither between. A fair business has been done in With a view to encouraging friendly intercourse among Minister of the sale of War Bonds, which was deposited that generally in far from flourishing.

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

During 1895 and 1897 the Treasury brought over from London large quantities of gold, the proceeds of the Indemnity and of the sale of war bonds. Hence, although the balance of trade was against Japan, there was no appearance of any outflow of the precious metal. But that abnormal source of supply having now come to an end, the Customs returns show an exodus of gold aggregating over 21 million yes from October to the end of February, and the gold reserve of the Bank of Japan, which stood in the neighbourhood of 100 million yes before this drain commenced, has now been reduced to 80 millions. The Till Shingo, recounting these facis, says that they seem to cause considerable uneasiness, but that if the true functions of a reserve be considered, no one need feel per-The idea that a mere hoard of precious metal adds in the wealth of a country has long been exploded. A gold reserve has only one legitimate object, namely, to secure the convertible notes circulating in the country.

There is some difference of opinion as to the proper ratio that the reserve should bear to the volume of the paper currency, but one to three seems to be the figure endorsed by the most eminent economists. In France the reserve is 83 per cent, of the paper; in Germany 84, and in Russia 132; but Russia's case is altogether exceptional. Japan's reserve is now 44 per cent, of her convertible notes, m that there is still a considerable margin of surplus, and even if the reserve fell to 60 millions there would be no cause for unexamess. As to the danger of excessive imports, concerning which so many writers disquiet themselves at present, it is a matter with which politicians and financiers have no business to meddle. Should it be found that the gold reserve threatens to dwindle below the limits of safety in regard to the volume of convertible notes, then the simple plan is III reduce the latter by raising the rate of interest at the Bank of Japan. So long as the true function of a hard-money reserve is kept clearly in view, the public will not fall into unreasoning alarm about its dimensions.

. . . . The old cry for a strong Cabinet is raised again by the Nippon. That the present Ministry is strong in one sense does not appear to be denied, but the Nippon's contention is that, in a country where con-stitutional institutions exist, no Cabinet can be called "atrong" unless it has the support of a majority of the people's representatives. The trouble with Japanese Cabinets now-a-days is that they are neither one thing nor the other. They are like houses built upon the sand: every political storm overturns them. They are not clan Cabinets and they are not party Cabinets. For administrative purposes they rely on clan influence; for legislative, on party support. Marquis Ito has always been regarded as a prominent opponent of party Cabinets, yet he found it necessary when he was last in office to join hands with the Liberals and to take their leader into the Ministry. After that it ought to have been perfectly clear that political parties could no longer be treated like puppets, to be set dancing or laid aside at the back of the Ministry. The general elections are now over, and it rests with Marquis Ito and his colleagues to determine whether the State shall have a strong Cabinet; a Cabinet competent to deal with the large problems, domestic and foreign, demanding immediate attention. Allianc's funnied on mere sentiment are of no use. If the Government wants the support of a party, it must identify itself clearly with the latter, not merely by com aring platforms, but by admitting the party's leaders to official ranks. So long as Japanese Cabinets continues to librate between party and clan, they can never be really strong.

There is a feeling in Japan that owing to the There is a recting in Japan that owing to the question of the Foreign Office the Indemnity before the 8th of May seems assured, country has fallen outside the circle of the Indemnity before the 8th of May seems assured, the question of Wei hei-wei is again mooted, was in fames shows, it is said, human remains powers controlling the destinies the controlling the destinies the part withdraw her troops or will she not? Digitized by the fire—Daily Press.

East. The Chuo Shimbun undertakes to prove that such can not possibly be the case. In point of fact the balance of power is with Japan. The two giants in the Orient are England and Russia, and Japan's alliance would ensure the victory to either of them. Indeed, if either of them were assured of that alliance, the other must submit without an appeal to force. The arguments adduced by the Chao in support of this view are already very familar. They may be summed up in the statements that England, strong as she is at sea, could not oppose Russia's advance on land without the aid of the Japanese army, and that Russia, even if allied with Gormany and France against England, would be cripped for supplies of all kinds and for dockyards unless Japan were with her. The value of a Japanese alliance to England becomes doubly apparent when we reflect that, in the event of a Russian move against India. Japan could easily lend a hundred thousand men for the defence of the British frontier. The Chuo elaborates these points at some length, but does not advance any new considerations.

\* \* #

The Kokumin Shimbun urges the necessity of large reforms in the railway system of Japau The railways, as at present organized and managed, do not confer anything like a maximum of benefit on the public or bring maximam of profit to the shareholders. They have been introduced from abroad without any discriminating attempt to adapt them to the condi-tions of the country, and their management abounds with defects. Passenger traffic seems to be the prime object, yet the provisions made for the comfort of passengers and for their quick transport are most imperfect, and the method of bandling their baggage is slow and vexatious. Immense improvements are needed in these directions. As for goods traffic, which is at least as important as the carrying of passengers, sometimes even more important, nothing could be worse than its condition. Not only have facilities for the collection and distribution of goods been neglected in choosing terminal points for railways, but little or no attempt has been made to tap the traffic of the intermediate regions, and such delays and difficulties have to be encounted by senders of freight that the advantages of railway carriage become a vanishing The Kokumin appears to think that one prominent cause of failure is the employment of incompetent staffs, the railway directors allowing themselves to be betrayed into the false economy of cutting down wages so that good men do not care to seek their employment.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun has an article which, though couched in somewhat ambiguous terms, seems intended to convey the meaning that the Liberals and the National Unionistic will be the allies of the present Cabinet. That information is furnished in a vicarious kind of fashion. Our contemporary notes the discrepancies that exist in the various estimates as to the strength of political parties, even when the estimates are made by impartial calculators, and the uncertainty that is displayed in many cases with regard to the political complexion of individuals. But every one appears to be agreed that the Liberals, the National Unionists, individuals. the Business Men and a section of the Independents will vote for the Cabinet, and that the Government will thus command a majority in the Lower House. On the other hand, everybody appears to regard the Progressists as opponents of the Cabinet. But there is nothing definite to show that the Progressists will assume that attitude. All that can be said of them is that their relations with the Government are not so close as the relations of the Liberala and the National Unionists. Our contemporary does not add any list of numbers, but the article is interesting as an indication of the grouping of parties towards the Government,

. . Now that the payment of the balance of the

It is understood that the present Cabinet answers unbesitatingly in the affirmative. But the Hochi Shimbun takes a different view. It considers that lapan has now to decide whether she will pursue a negative or a positive policy in the Far East, and that her procedure with regard to Wei-hai-wei will decide the question. The direct advantages of withdrawing the troops are tr fling. There will be a saving of expense and a concentration of military strength, and there will be less danger of friction with foreign Powers. The indirect consequences, on the contrary, are large: The peace of the Far East hangs in a delicate balance. The arms of the scale are pretty evenly poised, and the with-drawal of a weight from either side may mean immediate disturbance of equilibrium, Japan's presence at Wei-hai-wei certainly exercises an effect on the situation. She acts as a species of guard to the Chinese empire, which may be compared to a house surrounded by robbers warching to effect an entry. If the Japanese troops are withdrawn, the doors will virtually stand open to all burglars. Then, again, so long as Japan maintains her footing, she retains also a right to be consulted about all measures of a radical nature that concern China. Is it a wise policy to surrender these large indirect advantages? Of course the world say that Japan has acted honestly. That will be very pleasant. But will it not be called the honesty of fools?

The Pomiuri has an article on the new Tariff which will go into force, it expects, from October 1st. Our contemporary alleges that while the chief purpose of the increased rates is to provide revenue, there is also the covert aim of fording protection to native manufactures. The number of articles falling under the Conventional Tariff is 34 and the average duty on them is increased from 5 per cent, to over 10 per cent. The number included in the Statutory l'ariff is 497, divided into 16 classes, and the average duty is 12.35 per cent., the highest figure being 40 per cent. and the lowest 5. Under the former Tariff the duty on watches, machinery and glass is raised from 5 per cent. to 25; that on manufactures of gold from 5 to 35; that on articles of apparel from 20 to 30; that on leaf tobacco, to 35; that on cut to-bacco and cigars, to 40; that on beer, 12 25; that on champague, claret, vermonth, etc., m 35, and that on brandy and whisky w 40. The Yomiuri writes about the rise that will immediately take place in the prices charged to consumers of all these articles, but does not seem to apprehend any diminution of conaumntion.

#### YOROHAMA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

A meeting of representatives of the Committee of the Yokohama Foreign and Japanese Chambers of Commerce was held on Friday, the 25th instant, at the rooms of the Foreign Chamber, No. 61, Main Street, at which cordial assurances were given of the desire of both Chambers to be mutually helpful. The special subjects pro-posed by the Foreign Chamber were:—The establishment of an Arbitration Committee to be appointed by the amalgamated Chambers to decide any commercial cases that might be brought by members of either Chamber; and the establishment of Port and Harbour Regulations, The desirability of both these proposals was mutually agreed upon and the details presented to the meeting were to be discussed at a subsequent meeting to be held shortly.

A gentleman who recently paid a visit to Bolinso reports that the Spanish troops have been guilty of terrible cruelty towards many rebels who were injured and fell into their hands. The wounded were thrown into a wooden but in which were a number of rebels who had been killed. The hut was then set fire bands. who had been killed. The hut was then set fire in and the dead and living were burnt almost to

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### LAW FOR ENCOURAGING DIRECT EXPORT OF SILK.

The Government have thought it necessary to issue the Imperial Ordinance required for giving effect to the Law for encouraging the Direct Export of Silk. The Law passed both Houses of the Diet in March, 1897, but whereas the classification of the silk and the amount of bounty to be granted were definitely fixed in the original project, the Diet amended the Bill in the sense that the Government should take the responsibility of determining these points by Ordinance. In recommending this amendment, the Special Committee of the Lower House explained that the silk designated in the Project as " first quality "-namely, finest lustre; 80 tavelles; a deniers of variation, and 30 nibs per catty-was practically unproducible in Japan, and that even the second and third classes contemplated by the drafters of the Bill, were very highgrade silks. On the other hand, it did not seem wise to lower the classification for the whole period throughout which the Law was to be operative. Hence the Government were left to determine the necessary qualifications according to circumstances. In other words, the Committee sought to render the provisions of the Law less onerous; and the bounties correspondingly more accessible. The Imperial Ordinance issued on the 29th instant for the purpose of determining the qualifications shows that the standards of the original Law have been slightly lowered. For the sake of easy comparison, we place the provisions of the Law and those of the Ordinance side by side :~

ORDINANCE.

Class I .- Bounty 50 yen

Class II.—Bounty 30 year Good histor; va

tiation, 4 deniers; 40 tavelles; 100 mbs.

les; 50 miles.

per loo calties. High-est hister; variation, 23 denters; 80 tavel-

ORIGINAL LAW. Class I.—Bounty 50 year per 100 catties. High-est lustre; variation, 2 deniers; 80 tavelles;

Class 1L-Bunuty 30 pen. Good listre; va-riation, 3 deniers; 40 lavelles; 60 nibs.

30 nibs.

Class III .- Baunty 20 Fair lustre; vatistion, 4 densers; 27 tavelles; 90 nibs.

Class III.—Bounty 20 yen. Fair lustre; va-tration, 5 deniers; 27 tavelles; 150 nib-. The fact that this Law should have reemerged at all from the grave to which it seemed to have been deservedly consigned, will be generally regretted. But the Government are unable to exercise any discretion. The Law, as passed by the Diet and sanctioned by the Emperor, was to go into operation from April 1st, 1898, and, since it stands unrepealed, the steps necessary for giving effect to it must, of course, be taken in due order. It is understood that had not the House of Representatives been dissolved at the commencement of the Diet's last session, a Bill for rescinding this Law would have been introduced, and that such a Bill will be submitted to the new Diet in the special session next May. But, in the mean time, the regular routine has to be followed. The Government have no competence to ignore a Law which has been duly enacted, sanctioned, and promulgated. Baron Ito, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, probably regrets that the first thing more need be said. Imperial Ordinance countersigned by him should be of such a nature.

The Fakagawa granaries in Tokyo, the Nichi Nichi states, contain at present 303,592 and 57,874 of foreign production.

#### CHINA'S LOAN AND THE IN-DEMNITY.

The fact that only two millions sterling were subscribed out of the eight millions offered in London on account of the Chinese Loan will not, of course, affect the receipt of the money by China. The whole sum was under-written before the bonds were placed upon the market. Rumour says that the under-writers are now selling at 1 per cent. discount, but what that means exactly there is some difficulty in knowing. The bonds are understood to have been under-written at 83 and put upon the market at 90, so whether one per cent. discount signifies 89 or 82, or, again,  $89\frac{1}{10}$  or  $82\frac{17}{100}$ , we can not tell. It makes no matter to China, however. She receives 83 only, or a total of £13,280,000 out of £16,000,000. With regard to the sum that she has to pay to Japan, we mentioned in a recent issue that the rate of exchange is against the latter country at present. We were mistaken. It appears that the Japanese negotiators, at the time of signing the Shimonoseki Treaty, fixed the rate at an uniform figure for all payments of the Indemnity. They took the average market rate of the preceding three months, which seems to have been a little more than 3s, 3d, to the tael. Their proximate reason for considering the question of rate at all was that China expressed a wish to deliver the installments of the Indemnity in sterling in London, and the Japanese negotiators, before assenting, deemed it wise to provide against the danger of having the market "rigged" against Japan when the periods for receiving the installments arrived. They thesefore stipulated that, in consideration of their consenting to the proposal for sterling payments in London, the conversion of the silver in terms of which the Indemnity was stated should be made at the invariable price of 39.48d, to the tael. has proved a very fortunate stipulation, for the gold price of the same tael at present is only some 33 pence. To show what advantage Japan gains by the arrangement, we have to note that the payment to be made by China on or before the 8th of May is 721 million taels. The actually unpaid remainder of the Indemnity is 831 millions, but from that amount has to be subtracted the various sums of interest hitherto paid by China. These aggregate roa million yen, so that the indebtedness is reduced to 724 millions. that figure has to be added half a million for the maintenance of the Wei-hai-wei garrison, bringing the total to 73 million taels. Seventy-three million taels converted into sterling at 39.48 pence to the tael represents £12,008,857, whereas at 33 pence it represents only £10,037,500. Japan saves £1,971,357, or more than 194 million yen, by her precaution in fixing the rate three years ago. The sum that will actually come into her Treasury in May is 118,850,543 yen. It must be confessed that she showed remarkable prudence in the negotiations of 1895. Of course the ratio between the precious metals might have varied in the other direction, but it has not, and no-

China is the one that fares badly in lions sterling to pay off an obligation to work on the Sabbath, how can it possibly bugs of rice, of which 245,718 are of domestic, cording to market rates. It is true that not oblige any person to work except the the whole amount of sixteen millions does rider?
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not go to discharge her obligation to Japan, but neither does the whole of it come into her hands for disposal. She receives £13,280,000 as the proceeds of the sixteen-milion loan and she transfers to Japan's account £12,008,857, so that there remains to her a sum of £1,271,143, or, probably, 11 millions sterling after defraying expenses connected with the negotiation of the loan,

These debts incurred to pay debts assume very interesting proportions when we come to calculate them accurately. If China were in a position to discharge the installments of the Indemnity according to the original unabbreviated programme-i.e. in five more installments, the last handed over on May 8th, 1902-, her total remaining payments to Japan, including interest, would be 93% million taels, or £15,422,333, approximately. To wipe out this indebtedness at once by means of a single payment of £12,008,857, she contracts a loan of 16 millions ster-ling, which is to run, we believe, for 5 years unredeemed, and then to be redeemed in 25 years by equal install-ments, the rate of interest being 4½ per cent. Hence at the end of 30 years, China will have paid £28,960,000 (principal and interest) to discharge her debt to England and Germany. On the other hand, there remain to her 11 millions after paying off Japan. Hence the net result is that, in order to liquidate at once an obligation which she might discharge by May 8th, 1902 by payments aggregating £15,422,333, she takes upon her shoulders a debt that will have cost her £27,710,000 by 1928, thus making a loss of £12,287,667. That is the price she pays to get back Wei-hai-wei. How long will she keep it? Her wiser plan would have been to pay Japan for staying there.

#### MISSIONARIES AND BICYCLES.

From correspondence in the Soul Independent we learn that some foreign newspapers in Japan bave commented unfavourably on the use of bicycles by missionaries. That is decidedly intelligent criticism. If to ride a bicycle is improper for a missionary, he certainly ought not to travel by rail or electric tram. He might ride on an ass, perhaps. There is a precedent for that. But as his time is quite valueless and as there is not the least advantage in his extending the sphere of his ministrations, no excuse exists for him to use a bicycle. Even boots and socks, which belong to exactly the same category as a bicycle in so far as they aid locomotion, are superfluous luxuries on the feet of a missionary. Public opinion has learned to tolerate them, however, but a bicycle! Why, a missionary on a bike is as bad as a missionary rowing a boat or as a missionary mounted on a horse. What a singular thing prejudice is! It would be difficult to find anything more splendidly unreasonable and inane objection to missionaries than this mounting bicycles, yet the most liberal folks have not yet persuaded themselves to ride to church on a bike. Were they invited to explain their reluctance, they could not adduce the timiest fragment of a reason, for if it is right to go to church in a carriage, this matter. She incurs a debt of 16 mil- thus compelling horses and a coachman which represents only £10,037,500, ac- be wrong to go on a bicycle, which does

#### "SCOTUS" AND "QUILLET."

"Scotus" appears to have been driven into a fit of dancing exasperation by our recent comments on the sad accident which befel him at Milke in 1888, and by our expressions of satisfaction that the consequences were not more serious. He was quite enchanted by what he saw of Japanese prison life and methods at Milke in 1888, and not only might his eulogies, then placed on journalistic record, have remained permanently deceptive, but he himself might also have been precluded from joining the congenial crusade now inaugurated against the jails of Japan, had not an ex-jail-bird's "meaning smile" led him to discover that during the three hours which elapsed before he gained admission to the Milke prison, the arrangements of the prison, the condition of the prisoners, and, in short, everything that goes to make up a "system," had been radically changed. Could we do less than convey our congratulations to "Scotus" in particular and to the public in general that by the agency of a clue so subtle as a smile a discovery of such interest had been made—the discovery that Japanese prison officials possess an Aladdin's lamp, and can summon genii to metamorphose a building, its inmates, and its contents in the brief space of t80 minutes? "Scotus," however, takes it ill that we should have invited our readers to admire his acumen and to rejoice over his rescue from the glamour of the genii, Neither congratulation nor commiseration fits his fancy, and he appears to have assumed the attitude of his proverbial countryman who sprang into the middle of the road and swore at large. Unlike the latter, however, "Scotus" does not lose the thread of his argument or forget to be relevant. In his carefully kept note-books, where the Japan Mail seems to bulk largely, he finds some venerable entries of bygone years, recording how we once spoke of materies as a plural noun, attributed a saying of La Fontaine to Fénelon, and condemned portions of a book upon the Chinese which we had previously reviewed favourably. The close connexion between these reminiscences and the subject of the Japanese prison system imparts to them a special value in this context, and pleasantly recalls the logic of the school-boys who concluded that their dominie must be ignorant of algebra because they found some stale breadcrumbs in the pocket of his overcoat. We owe "Scotus" an apology, however. We ought to have included his possession of a conscience among our subjects of congratulation. He very justly pleads now that his eulogies of the Miike prison could never have been quoted against his present attitude unless be had himself drawn attention to them, since the journal in which they appeared exists no longer except in a file preserved in Paraguay. That is point deserving of attention because the usual habit of respectable publicists is to ignore all their previous utterances if they can he sure of doing so without inconvenient detection. We owe "Scotus" another appology, also. We left his last article unnoticed for a week. His personality had already acquired such importance ten years ago that the Miike officials invoked their benevolent genii and worked a regarding the latter as an exposition of the former, that is his own affair. We ventitious aids to consideration were shall have him insisting presently that the Shanghai Cricket Club to send a team to Koffe imithal stream. limited to the credentials of an obscure opinions about religion expressed by to Koprini the from UNIVERSITY OF ILLIN

Australian journal and to the wearing of a suit of pyjamas dilapidated by the assaults of a hungry pack-horse. Ill done

was it, therefore, on our part to lose even a day in replying to his article. Concerning "Quillet"—which seems to us the most appropriate epithet for the editor of the Kobe Chroncle, so solemnly does he deal with the gimeracks and whimwhams of controversy—concerning "Quil-let" of the Chronicle we would urge that his standards of accuracy are not attainable by common every-day folks. For sentence, we proceed, in the next, to give our own version in our own words of a certain occasion, we can not, without "Quillet's" teaching, perceive that we are making a "suggestion at variance with the facts." Again, when "Quillet," on the strength of an interview with a sometime inmate of a Japanese jail, commenced a vehement crusade against the prison system of this country, we could scarcely have imagined, without his guidance, that we were "consciously indulging in misrepresentation" because we spoke of his views being "based on the state-ments of a Japanese." It is true that we did not refer to his own subsequent personal observation, but surely our forbearance ought to have been appreciated, inasmuch as what "Quillet" saw at the Hyogo prison obliged him to admit that "from a Japanese point of view there was perhaps little room for criticism." How-ever, "Quillet" playing with puerilities and getting magnificent about minutize is a spectacle which we can not strain our poor intellect to appreciate. It is not Only to one matter of sober fact need we allude, namely, the Government's intention with regard to the treatment of foreigners in Japanese prisons. Having made inquiries in the proper quarter, we were enabled to state authoritatively that it had been decided to make such arrangements as would secure foreign inmates of Japanese jails against being fed with Japanese food, clothed in Japanese costume, and subjected, generally, to the same mode of life as Japanese prisoners, inasmuch as the foreigner's punishment would thereby be greatly and unjustly aggravated. Subsequently, a paragraphist calling himself "Yamato Chuyo," writing in the Fapan Times, employed language which seemed to show that he, personally, did not approve of any such discrimination, and the Robe Chronicle leaped to the very singular conclusion that this paragraphist, using a nom de plume and speaking in the first person, represented the views and intentions of the Japanese Government, "Yamato Chuyo" is believed to be a pseudonym of the present editor of the Japan Times, and "Quillet" professes to be greatly shocked by our suggestion that when an editor purposely steps out of the editorial columns and, by using a non de plume, differentiates himself from the journal he edits, he is plainly ventilating views to which he does not intend to commit the journal. In this case it is a question of fact against opinion—the fact being the

"Yamato Chuyo" and also about foreign politics in the columns of the Japan Times must be considered as the opinions of the Japanese Government, which would certainly be a startling assertion.

#### YOKOHAMA FORE-SHORE.

The question of the fore-shore at Yokehama has found its way into the vernacular press, but no definite opinion is expressed about it, a fact which we regard as significant. Four or five years ago, if any one example, when, having quoted m writer's had advanced a proposal that permission "own words" in inverted comman in one should be given to a foreign company to should be given to a foreign company to reclaim lands from the sea and become their perpetual lessee, there would not what he may be supposed to have seen on have been wanting publicists to denounce the scheme on the ground that alien ownership of Japanese soil must be interdicted. But the people of Japan seem to be reverting to the more liberal and sensible mood which they exhibited when the drafts of the Inouye and Okuma Treaties were prepared. At that time, namely, up to 1890, there was not the slightest opposition to ownership of land by foreigners. The privilege was inserted in the drafts as a matter of course. But when the "strict-enforcement" policy came to be distorted by extremists like Mr. Oi Kentaro, and when it was discovered that not a few foreigners had contrived to become vicarious owners of land outside the settlements, the silly, shallow cry that the soil must always be preserved in native keeping gradually grew into a national shibboleth. It was a temporary fit of delirium, however. A cure has been furnished by the want of foreign capital, and we look to see a more manly and Jarseeing disposition prevail soon. As for given to all to be great in small things, the talk of deepening the harbour and using the dredgings to extend the foreshore to a distance of a hundred yards, it is a very old idea, though none the worse for that. We never had the least doubt that it would some day become an accomplished fact. As the day approaches for the abolition of Treaty Limits and Settlement boundaries, the price of land in the foreign quarter of Yokohama is rapidly rising to the same level as that of the land in the Japanese quarter, and when ground having a value of from 50 to 70 yen per isubo can be reclaimed from the sea at a cost of from 12 to 20 yen, it is not likely that so fruitful an enterprise will be permanently neglected. There is, of course, a sen-timental objection to do away with the Bund, which has been one of the most picturesque features of Yokohama since the birth of the Settlement, but mere prettiness can not be seriously considered. where tradal facilities are in question.

#### KOBE CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Kobe Cricket Club was held on Monday evening last, Dr. Thornicraft, President of the Club, presiding. The report and accounts, which were adopted, showed a debit balence of \$182, which, the Chairman explained, was due to the purchase of new gear to the amount of nearly \$600. Dr. Thornicraft was unanimously re-elected President. On the ballot for Captain being taken Mr. F. J. Abbott stood first and Mr. J. Marshall Japanese Government's decision; the opinion, a newspaper paragraphist's individual views. If "Quillet" insists on regarding the latter as an exposition of Messrs. Cam. Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Talland Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Talland Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Talland Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Talland Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Talland Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Talland Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Lucas, Lightfool, Barto, Edwards, Lucas, Luca

#### RUSSIA AND CHINA.

It will be seen from a telegram which we publish elsewhere that the Peking correspondent of the Fifi Shingo continues to speak very positively of an agreement between China and Russia. Telegraphing on the 24th instant, he said that the Court, despairing of any substantial aid from England, had decided to lease Talien and Port Arthur to Russia for 25 years, and to sanction the extension of the Trans-Asian Railway to Lizotung. Telegraphing on the 25th, he gives us the dimensions of the area said to have been leased to Russia-an area 50 miles by 25. If the negotiations have progressed at that rate, they have been remarkably rapid. But, circumstantial as are the statements of the Jiji's correspondent, and accurate as he has hitherto proved himself to be, we can not attach credence to his account on this occasion, inasmuch as no confirmatory telegram seems to have been received officially in Tokyo. It is scarcely possible that, had such an important decision been arrived at, official information of it would not have reached the Japanese capital. The last official news we had was that the negotiations had been removed from St. Petersburg to Peking, and that their Excellencies Li Hung-chang and Chang Yin-yuen-who came to Japan on the fruitless peace mission of January, 1895-had been appointed plenipotentiaries to represent China. It is difficult to believe that the Peking Court would have taken that step had there been no intention of making a struggle against Russia's demands, especially as the answer for which France is waiting must be largely influenced by the decision arrived at in Russia's case.

#### FEATS OF NAVIGATION.

Really we do not see that the passage of the Suez Canal by the Fuji was a feat reflecting any special honour on Japanese seamanship. The *Hochi Shimbun* says that it "startled the naval world;" but how? There was nothing in the performance from the point of view of navigation. It was a mere question of draught. The Fufi and the Yashima were built expressly to be capable of making the voyage vid Suez, and that is all that need be said about the matter so far as the Canal is concerned. We do indeed think that the Japanese officers who brought out the ship deserve the greatest credit. They had never before bandled anything approaching her in size, and when men whose experience has been limited to cruisers of three or four thousand tons are suddenly set to navigate a twelvethousand-ton line-of-battle ship, they require a great deal of nerve and judgment to come through successfully.

The Hochi also speaks of the duty which Commander Nojimoto and his crew have undertaken to perform in navigating the torpedo-destroyer Yugiri from England to Japan. The little vessel is not to be accompanied by a "parent ship" of any kind, but will perform the long voyage all alone. That certainly will be a praiseworthy feat, and the Hochi may well convey the country's applause and good wishes to Commander Nojimoto and his comrades who are soon to start for Eng-Digitized by Google

KOREA'S REPLY TO Mr. DE SPEYER'S diction displayed in the above document. DESPATCH.

thus given by the Soul Independent :-Dear Sir:

I have received your dispatch of the 7th inst. relating to the question of employing Hissian military instructors and financial adviser. I have delayed in replying to your inquires through un-avoidable causes, for which delay I crave your

Since the disturbance of 1896 our government has been in the control of a deceptable lot who have rendered the safety of our country extremely precarious. Our Imperial Majesty went to your legation two years ago where he was safely domiciled and at the same time restored the safety of our Imperial house. Our Imperial Majesty appreciates the kindness of your government and our preciates the actioness by your government, and our people feel grateful for the protection you offered to our Sovereign, and through friendly motives, your Emperor especially dispatched a number of military instructors, and for the benefit of our Finance Department, he detailed an expert here. We all fully realize that he did these for the purpose of strengthening our independence and leading us into the path of progress and enlightenment,

Your despatch states that "there exists a deplorable condition of affairs in Soul, many 

Your inquiry makes our Emperor and our government feel ashamed but our government will be more careful and studious in the discharge of

our responsibilities, so that there will not be any further need of causing anxiety to your Sovereign.
Through your Sovereign's kind motives and your government's friendly disposition our military and financial affairs have made much progress. Both the adviser and instructors diligently and con-scientiously discharged their duties, so that the Imperial guard has been trained satisfactorily and the financial condition of the country placed on a systematic basis. These are all due to the un-ceasing efforts of your government and we will

ceasing efforts of your government and we will never larget your magnanimous spirit.

Our government has decided that we will continue to manage our affairs according to the methods which your officials have so kindly inreduced, though we must place the controlling power of these departments in the hands of our own countrymen. We will not employ any foreign military instructors or advisers. This decision was arrived at by the manimous wishes of the old statesmen, the present government, and the people at large, also through the sulightenment and independent spirit which your government has and independent spirit which your government has so diligently inculcated among us. I am sure that your Imperial Sovereign and your government will be glad to know that our people have become so progressive and enlightened as to desire to maintain their own sovereignty.

Before we were able to manage our own affairs we lead to solicit the assistance of the friendly powers, but at the same time we must consider the advancement and maintenance of our independent and sovereign rights. My Sovereign and the people unanimously desire that the friendly relations between the two nations may become still closer and that no misunderstanding should exist. Your officials have accomplished their work and it is convenient for us to have them'relieved from

it is convenient for us to have them'relieved from our service. I feel grateful to you for suggesting the idea of telieving these officials.

I am ordered by my Imperial Sovereign to thank your government sincerely for what you have done for us, and His Majesty will send an envery to your capital who will carry the personal messages of gratitude from our Emperot to your Sovereign. In the meantime I request your Excellency to inform your government of our decision in this matter, which, as I have stated above, was the manimous desire of our Sovereign and his people.

(Signed.) MIN JONGMUK.

It has evidently suffered a little in translation, but the sense does not appear The reply of the Korean Minister of to have been at all impaired. There is a Foreign Affairs, H. E. Min Jongmuk, to good deal of significance in the wording. Mr. de Speyer's celebrated despatch, is Indirectly, but still unmistakably, the Indirectly, but still unmistakably, the Minister records the fact long ago known to our readers, that the employment of Russian military and financial experts was the result of a promise made by the King of Korea during his sojourn in the Russian Legation. Whether Mr. Min Jongmuk intends to suggest that the arrangement can not be justly described as an outcome of appreciative spontaniety on the King's part, or whether he recalls this curious chapter of history merely by way of appeal to the hospitable feelings displayed at that time by the Russian Repre-sentative, it is hard to tell. But certainly he can scarcely have drifted by pure accident into the subtle sarcasm of the statements that his country's resolve to dispense with the services of the Russian experts was due, in part, to "the enlightenment and independent spirit which your Government has so diligently inculcated among us," and that he is "sure that your Imperial Sovereign and your Government will be glad to know that our people have become so progressive and enlightened as to desire to main-tain their own sovereignty." The bland naïveté of such language penned in reply to such a despatch as that of Mr. de Speyer climbs to quite a pinnacle of artistic irony, and must have excited in the bosom of even the placid and humane Mr. de Speyer an absorbing wish to tweek the nose of Min Jongmuk. It is excellent persiflage, too, to say that the mili-tary and financial experts "have accom-plished their work." The bulk of the officers and non-commissioned officers reached Söul last summer in a casual kind of way. They were understood to be making a tour without any purpose more profound than that of the vacuus viator. The financial adviser was installed in office a few weeks ago. Yet these officials "have accomplished their work." Min Jongmuk does not try even to be specious.

#### AGAIN.

As is usually the case with writers who are perpetually detecting motes in the eyes of other people, the Kobe Chronicle seems quite unconscious of the beam in its own. After a delightfully naïve disserta-tion on our remark that "The standards of accuracy set up by the Kobe Chronicle are not attainable by common every day folk "-which remark it interprets as a serious admission of general inaccuracy on our own part!--, the Kobe journal says:-" We have previously shown that that up to the time we began to draw attention to the question, no steps whatever had been taken to make any such discrimination"-i.e., discrimination between the treatment of foreigners and the treatment of natives in Japanese jails as to food, clothing, etc. Does the Kobe Chronicle claim to know, as a matter of fact, that the Japanese Authorities have not decided to provide foreign diet and foreign costume for foreign prisoners? It can not possibly advance any such claim. Therefore its assertion, as quoted above, does not satisfy the least exacting stand-(Signed.) MIN JONGMUK. ard of truth. But perhaps it means Our readers will understand that we to affirm that although steps for makare not responsible for the curiosities of oppoidiscrimination had not been taken

when it opened its campaign, they have since been taken. If so, what is the use of writing long articles to prove that "Yamato Chuyo's" objections to discrimination are expressions of official opinion, and that the Japan Mail's statements of information obtained from officials are too vague to be trusted? It is a pleasant dilemma. Either the editor of the Kobe Chronicle penned a falsehood when he claimed to have shown that no steps for discrimination had been taken by the Authorities up to a certain time, or he admits that such steps have now been taken. He may impale himself on whichever horn seems less deadly.

#### RECEPTION AND BALL AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S.

Our readers are aware that a reception and ball were to be given by the Prime Minister and Marchioness Ito at the official residence in Nagatacho, Tokyo, on the 28th instant, to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Ito Yukichi and Miss Takashima. The affair proved a brilliant success. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princesses Arisugawa honoured the occasion with their presence, and it goes with-out saying that all the rank and fashion of official and private Japan, all the Foreign Chefs de Mission, together with the staffs of the Legations, and all the principal foreign residents of Tokyo and Yokohama were present. The Marquis and Marchioness and the bride and bridegroom received the guests, who arrived in a continuous stream from 9 to 10 o'clock. The bride wore Japanese costume, as did also the great majority of the Japanese ladies present, a fact which is not unworthy of note where a reception by Marquis Ito is concerned. The decorations were confined to the entrance hall, which had been converted into a grove of bamboos, pines and plum-trees-the triplet of felicitationcontrived with much taste and charming effect. Two large salons en suite, both opening into the ball room, were occupied by the dancers and the onlookers, and upstairs in another wing of the building were smoking-rooms and a gentleman's supper-room, the ladies' supper-room being on the ground floor communicating with the principal salon. This convenient disposition of rooms and the excellence of the general arrangements combined to promote the success of the ball, which was certainly one of the most brilliant ever witnessed in Tokyo. For the first time at an affair of such magnitude in Japan a cotillon was danced, and the difficulties that might have been anticipated in or-ganizing an effort of the kind on so large a scale proved proved quite surmountable. A special train left Shimbashi at one o'clock for the accommodation of the Yokohama guests, and their departure was quickly followed by the dispersal of the brilliant assembly.

#### A DIRECTOR OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

A Director of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Yamamoto, has published an interesting ramamoto, has published an interesting essay on the economic outlook in Japan. Prominent place in the retinue of the He-has-a-name," "Give-him-a-name," and means ought to be devised for checking on the occasion of the latter's southward suitable for not a few houses, says the Globe. the yearly excess of imports over exports, journey from Yedo (Tokyo) in 1802, when Why so? The fact is that the conditions the Namanugi incident occurred—the of Japan's foreign trade are beginning to incident which cost the life of Mr. Richard-

resemble those of England's. She is becoming a manufacturing country and is consequently importing increased and increasing quantities of raw materials and machinery. Last year, her imports exceeded her exports by 56 million yen. But among the former were included raw cotton, wool, machinery, locomotives, iron and rails to the aggregate value of 67 millions. Looking at the matter a little more closely, we find that if the importation of raw cotton and wool showed an increase of 11 million yen, approximately, in 1897 as compared with 1896, the import of cotton and woollen manufactured stuffs diminished by 9½ millions and the export of cotton yarns and fabrics increased by to millions, so that, under this important heading, there is a balance of 81 million yes in Japan's favour. The increase of imports in 1897 compared with 1896 was entirely due to larger purchases of raw materials, machinery, sugar, rice, peas, and beans. Surely Mr. Yamamoto can not regard those items as regrettable, with the exception of rice, which is attri-butable to a bad harvest. Rice alone is responsible for disturbing the balance of trade to the extent of 172 million yen, and if we add the cost (221 millions) of machinery, locomotives, iron and rails, which represent so much addition to the nation's capital, we at once strike off 40 millions from the adverse balance. To us it seems that there is nothing at all disquieting in the state of the country's foreign trade.

#### THE LATE BARON MORIOKA,

The remains of the late Baron Morioka were interred yesterday in the Aoyama cemetery, Tokyo, and were followed to the grave by a very large concourse of distinguished mourners. Baron Morioka was one of the little band of men who made themselves conspicuous at the time of the re-opening of Japan to foreign intercourse by espousing, in conjunction with his Satsuma fellow-clansmen, Narabara, Kayeda, Matsukata and so on, the cause of the Sonno joi faction-that is to say, the cause of the men who advocated the restoration of the Administration to the Sovereign and the expulsion of foreigners. It is scarcely necessary to say that he soon abandoned the latter part of the programme, and adopted the liberal views of the Meiji era. His first official posts were connected with local government, and in 1880 he served as Governor of Kyoto, where he was very popular. Subsequently he was appointed Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and, after a short period of retirement from official life, he became President of the Kyodo Unyu Kaisha, and ultimately of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. But during recent years he ceased to perform any active duties, and, though sitting in the House of Peers as an Imperial nominee, he took no part in politics, devoting him-self rather to the study of art and the collection of art objects. He was sixtyfive at the time of his death, and the day before his decease the Emperor raised him to the peerage with the rank of Baron.

A specially interesting feature of Baron Morioka's career is that he occupied a

son and resulted in the wounding of Messrs. Marshall and Clark and the narrow escape of Mrs. Borrowdale. writer of this paragraph has heard Baron Morioka speak perfectly frankly of the affair. He said that it was not a question of cutting down foreigners qua foreigners but a question of asserting the right claimed by all the feudal chiefs of Japan at that time-the right of uninterrupted passage along the highway. Had a party of Japanese, mounted on horseback, attempted to make their way through the Prince of Satsuma's procession, as the un-fortunate Mr. Richardson and his friends did, they would have been cut down sooner than the latter were. Such was Baron Morioka's asser-tion. We may have our own mpinion of the rules that sanctioned such violent assertions of aristocratic privilege, but it is interesting to know what was the real motive in the Namanugi case. Mrs. Borrowdale, it will be remembered, had a wonderful escape. A sword-cut was aimed at her which shore off the feather of her hat without touching her head. Asked why the retainers of the Prince had committed the cowardly act of attempting a woman's life, Baron Morioka replied that not for a long time afterwards did any member of the procession suspect that a woman had been among the party of foreigners. They had never previously seen a lady wearing a riding-habit and a hat and seated on a horse, and it did not occur to them for a moment that they were raising their swords against a woman. That is certainly intelligible enough.

#### RACE HORSES STRANGE NAMES.

The names that have been given to horses are many and wonderful. No small ingenuity has sometimes been shown in inventing names which shall have some relation to pedigree. A parti-cularly neat example was due to the inventive genius of the late Earl Stanhope. He was once asked to name a house which had Rubens for sire and Election for dam. He effected an allusion to both parents by naming the offspring Canvas. A well-known racing Duke of Grafton of a handred and forty years ago, who owned a mare Pru-nella, called all her progeny, consisting of eleven good horses, by names beginning with the letter P, after the fashion observed among fox-hounds. The same duke owned a Derhy winner named Tyrant, whose sire went by the strange name of Pot-8-os. The usual explanation is that when Lord Abingdon, who bred the horre, mentioned to his trainer that he proposed to call him Potatoes, a stable boy standing by burst out laughing at the absurdity of the name. "So you don't like the name, my boy, eh?" said his lordship. "Nevertheless, we shall have it, and "—picking up a piece of chalk, and handing if to the boy—"if you can write it up over his com-bin I will give you a crown-piece." The boy seized the chalk and laboriously wrote "Pot 8-os," which so amused his employer that he determined forthwith that no other spelling tioned to his trainer that he proposed to call him he determined forthwith that no other spelling should be adopted. Still more singularly named were three horses belonging to the Earl of Glasgow, who was conspicuous on the turi all through the first half of the present century. The noble sportaman had a strange objection to naming his horses, and many and various were the efforts often made to get him to put a name them. On one occasion, however, his friends succeeded in getting him to name no fewer than three all at once, and these were the titles which figured in Messrs. Weatherby's register—
"He-las-a-name," "Give-him-a-name," and "He-isn't-worth-a-name." The last would be

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#### RUSSIA IN KOREA.

T is alleged that there is no truth in the rumour of Mr. DE SPEYER'S recall Mr. DE SPEYER expected, we imagine. by his Government. The programme of He thought that his despatch would imofficial changes is said to be taking place. exactly as originally arranged; that is to his post in Peking, goes on leave to St. Petersburg, and his place in Soul is taken by the new Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. MATU-TINE, who is now on a visit to Tokyo. Of course we are not in a position either facts, but there is a considerable difficulty in crediting it. The state of Russia's relations with China at present does not render it convenient or probable that her new Representative in Peking should take a trip to Europe on leave, instead of proceeding at once to his post. Moreover, as we remarked in a previous issue, the tone of Mr. DE SPEVER'S celebrated despatch to the Korean Government does not suggest that an unfavourable reply was expected. No threats are used, indeed, but the language has a distinctly ominous ring. The irresponsible agitators who "oppose Russian interests," are spoken of as "idlers claiming to be gifted politicians; " the resulting state of affairs is said to "cause great surprise to the Emperor of RUSSIA;" the lending of Russian experts to " drill the Korean soldiers, guard the palace, and advise the Finance Department" is attributed to an intention of "helping your country as a neighbour and strengthening your independence;" the Korean Government is charged with not having "appreciated the importance of Russia's action at the time" and with "now preventing Russia from accomplishing the advantageous and beneficial results contemplated by her for your country;" and finally the Korean Government is called upon to choose whether it "desires Russia's help or not," and is warned that, if it does not, Korea "must maintain her independence in the future according to her own ability." That this despatch was penned with the approval of the Government in St. Petersburg there can be little doubt, but that it was penned with any anticipation of eliciting an unfavourable reply seems most improbable. Upon Mr. DE SPEYER must have devolved the responsibility of advising his Government as to the course that seemed desirable to take under the circumstances of Korea's changing attitude towards Russia, and it would have been for him to predict the probable issue of the course that he recommended. No one can doubt that had such a course been adopted by the Russian Representative in Söul nine months ago-had such a despatch been sent to the Korean Government immediately after Mr. WAEBER'S departure from Soul, for example,—no one can

tinuance of the neighbourly assistance which was working for her independence 1884, the Patents Regulations in 1888 and protection. That is precisely what mediately recall the Koreans to their old mood of deference and dependency, and provision for protecting foreign patents say, Mr. DE SPEYER, before proceeding to he had advised his Government in that or trade marks. We say "as a matter of sense. The result, therefore, falsified his course," for although nearly all European foresight and placed Russia in an embar- States have laws under which a foreigner rassing predicament, for it was evidently can register a patent and obtain protection impossible that she should insist upon the for it within their dominions, and though continued employment of her experts after Japan would doubtless have been willing to deny or to confirm that version of the she had herself publicly invited Korea to to follow their example, it was impossible decide between retaining or rejecting for her to do so, owing to complications them. Thus we arrive once more at the connected with Consular Jurisdiction. simplest, and therefore probably the most It should be remembered, too, that Treaty trustworthy, interpretation of this interest- Revision has been presumably on the ing incident; namely, that the Russian verge of consummation for a great many Representative, confronted by some years, and that, simultaneously with the symptoms of recalcitrancy on Korea's restoration of Japan's judicial autonomy, part, had recourse to a measure which all obstacles to the protection of foreign was intended to tighten the leading patents within the realm could have strings, but had the unlooked for result been removed, so that no special legislaof snapping them altogether. Mr. DE tion on her part seemed necessary. SPEYER'S return to St. Petersburg is easily Meanwhile, the law enabled Japanese understood under such circumstances, subjects to obtain patent privileges Moreover, apart from this particu- for new and useful inventions of their event, there is no gainsaying the fact that the paramount influ-foreign inventions and patent them in ence secured by Russia in Korea prior Japan. The latter point should be specialto Mr. DE SPEYER'S arrival in Soul, ly noted, for it is precisely the feature of dwindled to nothing during his residence the law which is now found to work there. Perhaps the causes of the change to the detriment of foreign inventors. are to be sought in the fickleness of the Koreans themselves and in the hopelessness of moulding their chaotic affairs into any semblance of order. If so, Mr. DE SPEYER deserves much commiseration, since fate condemned him to deal with the crisis of an impossible position. From rangement under the circumstances. But every point of view, however, it is a Russian failure of no small dimensions.

> move was in consequence of an agreement with Japan, or that it was made with would, of course, have approached Japan for Japan and Russia to arrive at some protection for it at all. practically intelligible rendering of the Yamagata-Lobanoff Convention, but it is an opportunity with the making of which no combined contrivance on the part of the two Governments can be credited.

#### FOREIGN PATENTS IN JAPAN.

ME subject of protection for patents I in Japan has been discussed and fully explained more than once in these columns, yet to some people it seems as perplexing as ever. The facts are alteration was not possible pending the very simple. The Patents and Trade abolition of Consular jurisdiction. Of doubt that Korea would have fallen on Marks Regulations now in force in course this is a temporary dilemma

ago-the Trade Mark Regulations in ---solely for the purpose of affording protection to Japanese patents and trade marks. The drafters of the Regulations, as a matter of course, did not insert any own, but did not allow them to steal The invention for which a patent was sought must not have been " previously in public use." Consequently, an invention which had been already registered and used in a foreign country was excluded. That was a perfectly just and proper arwhen the negotiations for Treaty Revision were opened with Germany, she stipulated As to the suggestion that Russia's that, without waiting for the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, her subjects should become eligible for the privileges of the an idea of placating Japan, no such theory Japanese Law of Patents. Japan agreed, will survive a moment's reflection. If and the other Western Powers followed Japan's sentiments had been in Russia's Germany's example. Now, however, thoughts, the St. Petersburg Government the limitation "not previously in public use" was found to operate most inconin the first place, and it does not appear veniently against the foreigner, for that any step of that kind was taken, An unless he registered his patent in the opportunity certainly presents itself now first place in Japan, he could not obtain

If our readers have followed this account they will see that Japan was in no respect responsible for the difficulty. Her law was just and effective so long as its purview did not extend beyond her own subjects, for whom alone it had been enacted; but it was not suitable for the purpose to which the German negotiators sought to apply it, namely the protection of foreign patents. Te meet that end successfully it should have been specially altered, and the necessary her knees at once, and prayed for a con-Japan were enacted a great many years. When Japan recovers her judicial autonomous Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

my she will be able at once to join the foreign patents-, but as they are nopatents and trade marks, the Union which value and is exceedingly unfair to Japan-Great Britain joined within the past few years. We need not enter into an explanation of the purposes of the Union further than to say that the subjects or citizens of any State belonging to it are entitled to enjoy in all the other States with respect to patents or trade marks whatever advantages they enjoy in their own State under its own laws. Thus patents and the news of Russia's success in Peking, trade marks duly registered in Great is that a crisis which threatened to be Britain, for example, will become entitled very serious has passed, and that the is now presented to us in the guise of a to protection in Japan.

It will be seen that there has not been any remissuess, still less any bad faith, on Japan's part in this matter. She was not in a position to act differently. It has used by her statesmen, could look on with been charged against her people that they have freely copied foreign trade marks China concessions very closely affecting and often used them for purposes of de- the latter's independence. Nor could ception. The accusation is not to be there be any doubt that had England taken denied. But we must remember that, in a resolute stand in opposition, Russia Peking and the Gulf of Pechili. She the absence of restraining laws, other nationals have exhibited exactly the same

We offer this explanation because a suggested that the officials of the Japanese vehemently in a leading article. correspondent's argument is that whereas, since the beginning of 1897, foreigners same privileges as Japanese subjects in regard to patents, upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law, they have obtain legal recognition of their patents. politicians is that they neither claim nor The answer is simply that the patents had seek to secure anything beyond unrestrictalready been registered abroad, and that, ed commerce, and so soon as Russia consequently, it was not within the competence of the Tokyo Patents Bureau to register them in Japan under the provi- certainly ceases to be an opponent of the sions of the existing law. It is a very liberty or the expansion of trade. England unsatisfactory state of affairs from the foreign point of view, but the simple fact is that the German negotiators brought it Of course the choice she has made will has disappeared. about by prematurely asking for a privi- provoke a great deal of criticism, and we Asian trade will be deflected through lege which could not be practically en-shall hear renewed laments about her joyed under the existing laws of Japan, waning prestige. But she has adopted the The Kobe Chronicle calls the Japanese Regulations "a most iniquitous piece of legislation," whereas they were an ex- may now breathe more easily, for the chapter of Far Eastern history that has cellent and just enactment at the time moment at all events. Two great proof their promulgation; calls them "a new law," whereas they were compiled ten years ago; and further describes solved, and have consequently ceased to them as "the new law avowedly intended be sources of peril to peace: Germany to give foreigners protection," whereas has obtained a pied à terre for her comthey are an old law never designed to merce, and Russia had found an ice-free protect foreigners in any way. The Kobe outlet for her Asiatic trade. Sooner or journal evidently labours under a mis- later these two ends were bound to be correspondents have addressed us privateapprehension. Its criticism would be achieved, and that they have been ly on the question. They all condemn in revelant and just were the Japanese laws achieved peacefully is more than could very unequivocal terms the conduct of what it imagines them to be-namely, reasonably have been expected six the Trustees, but we need not make any

International Union for the protection of thing of the kind, the criticism has no ese legislators and officials.

> CLOSING OF THE LATEST CHAP TER OF THE FAR-EASTERN QUESTION.

THE first thought that must present itself to every one in connexion with foundations of a new order of things in the Far East have been laid. It seemed scarcely possible, at one time, that Great Britain, after the high language publicly folded arms while Russia wrested from would have suspended the prosecution of can put her hand at any moment on her design. But, on the other hand, HER an important artery of British commerce, propensity, and some continue to exhibit MAJESTY'S Government probably came to and cut it before effective defence could the conclusion long ago that the consummation of Russia's obvious descorrespondent of the Japan Times has tiny could not always be thwarted suggested that the officials of the Japanese without doing violence to reason; Patents Bureau discriminate invidiously that, in short, she must be suffered against foreigners, and because the Robe to acquire her much-coveted ice-free port. Chronicle has attacked the Japanese law Many Englishmen, Mr. ARTHUR BALFOUR The among the number, have been saying for years that England has no manner of title to prevent another Power's attaining have nominally been entitled to enjoy the what she would peremptorily insist on for herself as a natural right, and it must be confessed that reasonable minds can hardly take any other view of the matter. almost invariably failed in practice to Besides, the ground assumed by British enters the field in the character of a railway-constructor and port-opener, she incident is pregnant with other great was thus placed in a dilem ma between her sense of justice and her traditional policy. just part, whatever may be its worldly stream, will now find herself at some wisdom. The nations in the Far East distance from its bank. In short, the blems which have long pressed with increasing force for solution have been

the inauguration of an era which may by and by bring forth immense results. We can hardly come to any conclusion other than that Manchuria will be a Russian province long before the twenty-five years lease of Talien and Port Arthur expiresa province 800 miles in length and 500-in width, with a superficies of 390,000 square miles; a province very nearly as large as Germany and France joined together. That is a stupendous historical incident. It has been talked of hitherto as a vaguely probable contingency, but it virtually accomplished fact. Of course it will have an almost immediate sequel. England must procure a coaling station in North-Chinese waters. Whatever confidence may be placed in Russia's promises about commercial facilities at Talien, the naval position that she has acquired at Port Arthur gives her the direct command of the tradal route to be organized. We presume that England will ask for Wei-hai-wei. No other suitable station remains. She will probably ask for other things, also, but a naval station is almost a certainty. What is China to do then? She will have to acquiesce, which means that two foreign Powers wiff be posted as sentries on the road by which supplies of food-stuffs reach her capital. Peking will be no longer suitable for the Imperial Court's residence. For China, indeed, the time of unrest has only commenced, but for foreign Powers it has temporarily ceased. The atmosphere is freed from electricity. Russia and Germany have obtained what they wanted, and the development of their new acquisitions will give them ample occupation for several years. The Liao-tung results also. Vladivostock's future is destroyed. The prospect of commercial importance that lay before it as the terminus of the Siberian Railway Manchuria to Talien. Japan, too, which would have stood in the centre of the just been closed will prove the preface of epoch-making changes.

#### THE GOVERNMENT AND THE DOSHISHA.

HE Doshisha affair is naturally attract-L ing a good deal of attention. Several new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply to wonths ago. But in Russia's case it is further allusion in the new enactments designed to apply the new enactments desig

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

we have to say, and finding nothing new in our correspondents' letters. There is, however, one point which seems to call for another word. It is the Government's have been no obligation on the side of the and complications. We beg to point out to action in the matter. Some of our correspondents are of opinion that there devolved on the Authorities the duty of instituting a scrutiny into the integrity of the Trustees' behaviour before granting their application for official classification. One correspondent says: -" It appears to me that, indirectly it is true, but still undeniably, the Ministry's cachet of approval has been put upon this extraordinary proceeding. The Trustees, in violation of all moral obligations, changed the character of the school in order to make it accord with secular official standards, and the Department of Education, by bestowing upon them the privilege which they coveted, has put a premium upon wrong-doing." Another writes !- "While I thoroughly agree with you that the Government has no concern with religious questions and disputes, it does seem to me that a Government can hardly regard itself as justly absolved from all responsibility on moral questions; and, religion altogether apart, the violation of a most solemn pledge is surely inmoral. The first and chief responsibility for that must surely rest with the Doshisha Trustees, like the chief Priests and Pharisees who demanded the crucifixion of conscience make him a guilty partner in the crime. The Mombusho, with a full knowledge of the binding character of the solemn pledge involved in the Doshisha constitution, has put its imprimatur on the dishonest act of the Trustees, The chief guilt is certainly with the Truscourse, if professing Japanese Christians (or some of them) are as had as this Doshisha business has shown them to be, what better can be expected of the Government? But viewing the matter merely from the standpoint of Japan's international relations, I am convinced that she would have raised herself greatly in the estimation of the moral section of the foreign do in moulding public opinion—if she had ! held out strongly against such a sacrifice of moral opinion as is here involved."

Every one must sympathise with the sentiment underlying the above remarks. Trustees of the Doshisha should have succeeded in obtaining an end which into the pros and cons of the complica- secular basis would never have been

tion between the Japanese Trustees of queried. There is no wise and impartial the Doshisha and the foreigners who course for a Government except to abstract founded the institution. There would itself altogether from such controversies Trustees to answer questions propounded by the Department on that subject, and PILATE and JESUS that the analogy seems there would have been no lawful power on the Department's side to reject the application of the Trustees because they refused to submit to an inquisition into matters with which the Department had no authorized concern. An office of State, however omnipotent it may appear at first sight, must keep between the Doshisha and the American within the limits of the power vested in Board. That question did not come beit by law. The course to be pursued by fore it at all. It was simply asked to extend the Education Department with respect to a private school's application for official classification is clearly defined by regulation. Certain forms have to be complied. with, and certain pledges given, by the persons responsible for the management of the school, and thereafter the Department ceases to have any discretion whatever. Has it occurred to our correspondents to ask themselves how the Department of Education could have proceeded to ac-offence cometh." It is not right, it is complish the purpose they suggest? Would it not have been necessary for the Department to say :- "We gather from statements and facts which have come to our notice that, in pledging themselves to dispense with all religious teaching at the Ordinary Middle School of the Doshisha, our LORD. But though PILATE washed his the Trustees are breaking faith with the hands of the guilt, history and the human foreign Christians who supplied the the cruel choice of exposing their sons greater part of the funds for establishing to conscription at the age of 19, before the Doshisha. Before considering your application to have the school classed as a public institution, we require an explanation of that point, and we shall invite a similar explanation from the foreign Christians so that we may judge whether tees, but I wish the Government had had you are entitled or forbidden to no hand in the dirty business. . . . Of abolish instruction in Christian morality from your curriculum?" Does not It is well understood that anti-religious the mere statement of such an attitude demonstrate its impracticability? Apart from the total incompetence of the Department to institute any investigation of the kind, we can not doubt that the step would have been greatly and injuriously misinterpreted. The public, even the foreign public, would have said that the public-which at least has something to Doshisha was discriminated against, not because the Trustees had broken faith with the Christians, but because they had once been connected with them and were still believed to be in favour of Christian propagandism. The Japanese non-Chris-It is impossible not to regret that the tian public would have said that the action of the Authorities amounted to an indirect avowal of pro-Christian sympathies, since they employed such means to compass, they interfered to prevent a Japanese But we must adhere to our previously ex- school from changing its Christian foundapressed opinion that the Government had tion. The Japanese Christian public would no competence to make any scrutiny into have said that, had the question been, not the matter. The Department of Educa- of Christianity, but of Shinto or Buddtion would have greatly exceeded its law- hism, the independent right of the ful functions had it instituted an inquiry Trustees of a school to place it on a purely

our correspondent who instances the case of very imperfect. PILATE was asked to pronounce sentence of death upon the Nazarene in deference to the clamour of the Jewish leaders. He acceded and became a criminal to all time. The Department of Education was not asked to pronounce any judgment with regard to the dispute a lawful privilege to an institution which, by complying with the requirements of the law, possessed a legal title to demand the privilege. It seems unnecessary to elaborate the point.

We revert, nevertheless, to our original proposition that the prime responsibility for such unhappy and shameful incidents as that of the Doshisha rests with the Government. "Woe unto him by whom the radically wrong, that all Japanese subjects with strong religious convictions should be injuriously discriminated against in the matter of education. Many good men can not believe in the benefits of education divorced from religious moral training. According to the system now prescribed in Japan, such men are condemned to their education is nearly completed, or securing exemption for them up to the age of 28 by banishing moral religious training from their scholastic career. We call it a cruel, a most cruel, choice. The Japanese Government is in the position of having eliminated religion from the educational life of the rising generation. feeling did not prompt this legislation. The motive lies in an unlimited application of the principle that Church and State should be completely separated. But the best of all doctrines may become bad by abuse. Religion and the State are not separated when the latter virtually proscribes the former in the sphere of education. Freedom of conscience does not exist when people whose conscience forbids them to dispense with religion in the education of their children, find themselves excluded from valuable privileges which the State grants to all whose consciences are not troubled by religious scruples. In our opinion every school in Japan which provides satisfactorily for the instruction of students in accordance with the officially indicated curriculum, ought to be classed with, and to receive the same privileges as, a public school, whatever the religion taught there, provided that it be not an immoral form of

#### THE DOSHISHA AND ITS CON-STI2 UTION.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE TRUSTEES AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL, BY J. D. DIVIS.

[So many Japanese friends of the Doshisha have So many Japanese trieties of the Dominar late recently asked the writer of this letter for the facts in regard to the early history of the school, the formation of its constitution, and the way in which the buildings and endowment were committed to the Doshisha Trustees, that it seems hest to give the facts to the general public, as well as to the parties most interested,—J.D.D.]

In Oct., 1874, when Mr. Necsima, who had spent ten years in the Christian schools of New England, was about to return to Japan, he made an appeal at the Annual Meeting of the American Board of Foreign Missions, at Rutland, Vt., for money to found a Christian school in Japan. ror money to tound a Christian school in Japan. In response to this appeal, about 5,000 dollars was then given by earnest Christian men for this object. The money, however, was placed in the hands of the American Board, in Boaton, until their representatives, the missionaries in Japan, in cooperation with Mr. Nessima should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its rea for a Christian should source of its real for a Christian should source of its real for a Christian should source of its real for a Christian should source of its real for a Christian should source of its real for a Christian should source of its real for a christian should should be s Neesima, should approve of its use for a Christ-ian school. After his return to Japan Mr. Neesima tried for months in vain to get per-mission to locate the school in Osaka; the Governor refused, because it was to be a Christian school. As it was not thought advisable to locate the school on a foreign Concession either in Osaka or Kobe, Mr. Neesima next tried Kyoto, and finally, in the summer of 1875. he secured permission to locate the school in Mr. Tanaka, the Minister of Educa tion, warned him, however, to be very careful at first in regard to preaching Christianity, until the great prejudice of the people of Kyoto against Christauity and against foreigners should be a little dispelled. As soon as it was known that a missionary had entered Kyoto, and that a building was rented for a Christian school, very great excitement prevailed in the city and the priests sent a strong petition to central Government to have the evil sect expelled from Kyoto. Mr. Tanaka then sent word to the Governor of Kyoto, advising that until the excitement subsided, Christianity and the Bible be taught in the houses of the teachers, or outside of the school. This was done for about two years, although the Bible was read, hymns sung, and prayer offered in the chapel of the school every morning. When all excitement had subsided, the Bible

was used and taught in the class rooms. Soon after this was begun, an official of the Kyoto Fu visited the school, and, finding that the Bible was taught, complaint was made to the Kyoto Fu. The Doshisha, however, stood firm and refused to yield, giving as reasons the fact that, the excitement being gone, the reason for not teaching the Bible did not exist, and that, since the Bible contained the most perfect system of morality, it was made the foundation of the moral teaching of the school, etc. From this time forward, the Bible continued to be taught in all departments of the school until

about two years ago.

At its annual meeting in Kobe, in 1875, the Mission gave its approval for the use of part of the \$5,000, held by the Board in Boston, for the purchase of the land where the main buildings of the school now stand. In June, 1876, at its annual meeting in Osaka, the Mission voted to approve of the erection of the first two cheap buildings for the school, to be paid for from the \$5,000.

From this time forward, with the exception of one or two buildings for the Preparatory Department which were etected with money raised in Japan, the Mission, representing the American Board in Japan, asked the American Board for the appropriations for each of the ten dormitories, for the Recitation Hall, for the Library building, for the Chapel, for buildings for the Girls' School, and those for the Hospital and Training School for Nurses. The money for all these buildings was given by the American Board funds contributed by earnest Christian

in consultation with the Doshisha.

It was distinctly understood by the American Board and by the Mission from the beginning, that the American Board had no legal claims upon this property, because foreigners could not hold land in Kyoto. For this reason a Company was formed to hold the property. The first Constitution was short. The first article stated that the Trustees, as they have always been called in English, who were the Company, should hold the property and see that it was used for the maintenance of Christian schools, and that they should have charge of all business arising between said schools and the Japanese Government.

Auether article said that money contributed by the American Board should be expended under the direction of missionaries of the Board, after consultation with the President and Japanese teachers of the school. In the summer of 1887, some of the missionaries on the ground felt that it was desirable to perfect an arrangement whereby the financial management of the school could be placed entirely in the hands of the Japanese friends, and a committee was appointed by the Mission to confer with the Doshisha with this end in view. The whole matter was discussed by the Trustees and this committee of the Mission, and the present Constitution was proposed and finally adopted.

It had been understood from the beginning that only Christian gentlemen should be mem-bers of the Board of Trustees, and the first five articles of the present Constitution, in which Christianity is declared to be the foundation of the morality taught in the school, were made forever unchangeable. Chapter second of the Constitution refers to the Trustees, their number, etc., and declares that each Trustee on his election must make the following solemn promise: "I promise to labor for the interests of the Company in accordance with its fundamental principles."

With these three safeguards, Christian Trus tees, their solemn promise to labor for the interests of the school in accordance with its fundamental principles, and with Christianity made the unchangeable foundation of the school, the Mission and the American Board, on being consulted, were satisfied, and gave their approval to the Constitution, and then for the first time the American Board consented to pass the financial management entirely over to the Trustees of the school. However, three members of the Mission, nominated by the Mission, were made corresponding mem-bers of the Board of Trustees, to give their advice in reference to all matters pertaining to the school and its finances.

This committal of the management of the school into the hands of the Japanese Board of Trustees was made in good faith, with no expectation of ever receiving it back, but in the belief that this Christian Board of Trustees would be perpetuated and would hold the school true to its original purpose and to the desire of those who had invested their money in it, not for a few years only, but for many

hundred years.
Every dollar of the nearly three hundred thousand dollars which were given by the American friends of the school during twenty one years, was given because of the assurance which Mr. Neesima made at the beginning and reiterated in every appeal sent forth later, whether in America, or in Japan; that it was to be a Christian school, and because this same fact was made one of the fundamental and amalterable principles of the Constitution. Without these assurances, the money for the expensive buildings would never have been given; without these, Mrs. Clarke would never have given her \$11,500 for the Theological Hall; without these, Mr. Harris would never have made his munificent gift of \$100,000 for the Science School. A letter is on file which was received from Mr. Harris after he had made his gift in which he speaks of the great satisfaction he has in having made this gift, because

intendence of the missionaries on the ground, foundation which by its Constitution is unchangeable.

In December, 1895, when the Deputation of the America Board to Japan were about leaving on their return to America, President Kosaki, for the Trustees of the Doshisha, sent them a letter in which he asked them to have confidence in the future management of the achool by the Trustees, and gave m one reason the fact that the fundamental principles of the Constitution were for ever unchangeable, and that they would administer the school in accordance with those

When Mr. Harris made his gift of \$100,000. the question arose whether he should place that endowment in the hands of the Trustees of the Doshisha, to be held by them in trust for the school, or whether he should place it in the hands of the American Board, in Boston, to be held by them in trust for the school, they sending the interest each year to Japan. Harris was at first in doubt and inclined to place it all in America, but some of the missionaries of the American Board in Japan, the writer among the number, wrote to him, calling his attention to the unchangeable articles of the Constitution of the Doshisha, and advised him to trust the Japanese and place the endowment in the hands of the Trustees here in Japan. The result was that he sent \$75,000 to Japan and kept \$25,000 in the United States.

The Doshisha is not a joint-stock company; if it was and the present trustees had themselves contributed all the capital of the Doshisha, they could by a unanimous vote, perhaps by a large majority vote, change the fundamental princi-ples of the Company. But the Doshisha is not a joint stock company. It is a trust company. The Trustees have not contributed the money. The money for nearly all the land and buildings, and a very large proportion of all the endowment funds which are in the hands ill the Trustees, have been contributed and placed in their hands by earnest Christian men, for the purpose of a Christian school, a purpose which was de-clared from the beginning, and which was put into the Constitution as unchangeable. Even the endowment funds for the Department of Jurisprudence, which were raised in Japan, were given after the school had no established reputation everywhere as an extuest Christian school, and in response to printed appeals in the Japanese language in which this fact and purpose were clearly stated.

The Trustees of the Doshisha simply hold these buildings and this money which is thus committed to them in trust for the donors.

It is a sacred trust. They have no right to change the purpose for which the funds were given, or to change the fundamental principles of the school, without the consent of all the parties concerned. The real Doshisha is and always has been far broader than the Doshisha Companythe Trustees. It comprises within it all the Japanese and foreign friends who have contributed to the funds of the school. In one sense, it includes all the graduates of the school, and the Kumi-ai churches which have prayed for it all these years, to say nothing of the broader circle of Christian churches in Japan which are so vitally affected by any fundamental change in the Doshiska school.

In the case of such a public trust, be it hospital, asylum, or school, which has once been started in accordance with the expressed wish of the donors, it is doubtful if any court of equity would recognize the legality of a change of the purpose or of the fundamental principles of the institution even with the consent of the donors. What would a court of equity say to the question of the change of the purpose or of the fundamental principles of such an institution by the Trustees without consultation with, or the consent of, those who committed the funds in trust to the Trustees?

It is true that, being foreigners, who could have no legal property rights in Kyoto, the American Board has from the beginning waived all claim upon the property of the school, and has trusted the Japanese Trustees, believthe buildings were erected under the super- of the Doshisha schools, rested on a Christian tives, the Missionaries in Japan, those Japanese-

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Trustees would faithfully administer the funds and conduct the school during all the future in accordance with the purpose of its founders as Christian school.

Their aim has not been to make the school aimply a tool for the propagation of Christianity in a narrow way, or simply to train preachers all Christianity. The American Board and the Mission have been in sympathy with the broader purpose of Mr. Neesima from the beginning, realising that Christian teachers, Christian lawyers, Christian stateamen, Christian and the Christian christian Christian judges, Christian physicians, Christian merchants, atc, are just as necessary for the building up a solid and lasting civilization 📑 Japan as are Christian preachers. Thus, the hope of all connected with the achool during the most flourishing period of its history, the hopes of its founder, of the Mission, of the American Board, and of the earnest Christian teachers both foreign and Japanese, who worked side by side barmoniously in and for the school during many years, was that all the young men who entered would come under "the living and powerful principles of Christianity," to quote from Mr. Neesima's appeal which was published in twenty of the leading newspapers of Japan, and that they would go out into Japan, as the best and most loyal citizens of their country, and as faithful earnest Christians in whatever position they were called to fill.

It should also be said that some two years go, the relation previously existing between the Doshisha and the American Board ceased, and the American friends have ceased adding to the funds they had already committed in trust the tends they mud suready committee in trust in the Doshisha. This was contemplated from the beginning. The American Board is only helping Japan in these ways, temporarily. It expected from the beginning to cease its aid sooner or later. In the case of the Doshisha it came aconer than was expected, but when friends have put some hundred of thousands of dollars into the hands of Trustees or a Company, committing the funds to them in use for a specific purpose, which purpose was embodied in every appeal which was made for the com-pany, and which was also put into the fundamental principles of the Company and declared to be for-ever unchangeable, have those Trustees or members of the Company who have received this sacred trust, no obligation to respect the wishes of those donors, nor to keep the fundamen tal principles unchanged, simply because the original donors have ceased to put any more stock into the Company? To ask this question is to answer it: Having come to Kyoto with Mr. Neesima at the beginning, and having been thus connected with the school for twenty one years, and having been all these years one of the representatives of the many thousands of earnest Christians in the United States who have given their prayers and their money to the school, and who are now mourning its defection, and having myself again and again appealed to the American Board and in those friends for money for the buildings, for the yearly grant in aid, also to Mr. Harris and to Mrs. Clarke, the donor of the Theological Hall, I can do no less than state the above facts in reference to the founding of the school and the formation of the present Constitution,

The writer cannot close without an appeal to the Trustees and friends of the Doshisha, for he feels sure that unless this recent action of the Trustees is reversed, and the school brought back to its original foundation, it will not only seriously affect the Doshisha, which can compete with the government schools only in one thing, namely, its Christian morality, but that it will also seriously affect Christianity in Japan, and, still further, that it will damage the reputation of Japan, as a whole, with Western nations. The Doshisha is a household word throughout the length and breadth of the United States, it is known more or less widely among many of the nations of Europe. The writer is glad to see the protests which are appearing, not only from the Christians of Japan, but also in the secular papers. The more of these protests the less than a radical change in the present Doshisha can save the school, and Christianity in Japan, and the reputation of Japan, from serious mjury.

For these reasons, and because of these convictions, the writer makes bold to appeal to the Trustees of the Doshisha, to its alumni, to the Kumi-ai churches and the other churches in Japan, and to all the friends of the school, to restore the achool to its original foundation and spirit, to give it a Board of Trustees composed of earnest evangelical Christian men, who shall be elected for a term of years, instead of for life, subject to reflection, and to place the appointing power of the Trustees in the hands of some responsible body of men who will com-mand the confidence of all interested in the achool.

For example, if one half the Board were elected by the Sokwai of the Kumi-ai churches and one half by the general triennial Conference of all the evangelical Christians in Japan, all the friends of the school, Japanese and foreign, Christian and non-Christian, would have confidence in the achool. After all that has happened, the writer feels sure that no compromise or change less radical than something like that indicated above can restore confidence in the school or give it lasting success.

#### JAPANESE TEA IN FRANCE.

The Mainichi publishes the latest report received from the honorary Japanese Consul at Marseilles. It states that in France there are only two wholesale tea merchants, and one joint stock company which was lately organised with a capital of 500,000 year for the purpose of importing teas from China, India, and other countries. The tea trade in France is not yet conducted on a large scale, but it is suggested that if proper schemes be adopted large orders may be received in France from Switzerland, Italy, and Spain.

The leaf which has hitherto been imported into France in chiefly from China and India, the demand in 1895 amounting to 728,000 kilogrammes, an increase of 250,000 kilogrammes an compared with ten years ago. That fair m compared with ten years ago. That fair prospects exist for the ten trade in France may easily be perceived from these facts. It may be worth while to note, the Mainichi adds, the answers given by the dealers to the Consul's

Question t.—How is the Pormosan lea to be cruciesed as compared with other leaf? Ans.—Very few persons are acquainted with the Formosan leaf.

Q.—Is there any hope of extending the sale of

Q .- How can sales be extended? A .only necessary to send samples and indicate the prices as against the teas from other countries.

Q.—With respect to teas the import of which has hitherto been withheld, but of which prospects exist for securing a market, how can their sale be undertaken? A.—The best way is to establish an agency or agencies in France and to sell the commodity at the lowest possible price.

Q.—Of the teas imported from Japan, Foo-chow, Amoy, and Ceylon, which is best suited to the French? A.—Up to the present Indian and Chinese teas, especially that of Foochow, appear to have secured the public taste.

Q.—Are there branches or agencies in the various parts of the country for China and Indian tea?

Q -Do the French tea dealers carry on their trade on credit? A .- They buy direct from Chi-

Q.—Are abundant stocks laid in all one period for the purpose of selling the ten at the most favourable time which presents itself, or in the trade conducted on the system of "contract bargains"?

A.—The latter process of business is the case.

Q —What is the condition of trade compared with the previous years? A.—Since 1885 the rate of increase has been from 20,000 to 25,000 kilogrammes per year.

Q.—What are the principal cities or towns in which Formosan tea is consumed? A.—Formobetter for the reputation of Christianity and of sau tea is not at all suited to the French, though Japan. The writer feels, however, that nothing it is much used by the English.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE DIS-MEMBERMENT OF CHINA.

The following article it published in the Toniuri as representing the gist of remarks made by a certain eminent diplomatist with regard to the situation of China:—China is so seriously embarrassed by the exorbitant claims of France and Russia that site has found herself utterly unable to determine what course to take. In this state of perplexity she looks upon England as the only Power which may serve to lighten her burden by making a strong protest against the proceedings of the two other Governments. England has indeed assumed or retained of opposition against the demands of France and against the occupation of Port Arthur by Russia. But her opposition is entirely based on her commercial interests, and Il is quite natural that she should have con-sidered that any bloodshed in the interior of China would damage her trade in proportion to the extent of the conflict. England justifies herself in taking a hostile attitude wherever her commercial relations are impaired. She had intimated that, should the Chinese Government consent to lease any portion of its territory to other Powers, she would likewise insist upon a similar privilege for herself. Her stand on this question seems to have been based on military considerations, but it involved no other motive than the desire to prevent such aggressive Powers as Russia and France from formulating any extra-vagant demands against China; her main object is simply to consolidate her commercial interests in the Middle Kingdom. To attain this end however, it is absolutely necessary for her to protect China from being dismembered by other nations. If England had had in view the acquisition of a territory for military purposes, she would have taken steps similar to those taken by Russia and France, and would have brought the complications to a speedy conclusion. indifference in this respect is an unmistakable proof of her unwillingness to take part in the proof of the unwittingness to take part in the race for territorial acquisition, profit being her sole aim in her dealings with China. In the present state of affairs it is quite impossible to predict how far England will go in protest against the unreasonableness of territorial claims advanced by Russia and France. One thing is certain, and that is that she will refrain from taking arms until emergencies shall compel her to take such a decisive step in consequence of her commercial situation being en-dangered. Yet it is certain that she will never hesitate to take, either in the form of commercial privileges or of territory, as much as other Powers manage to secure; nay, will even endeavout in obtain four or five times the amount procured by her rivals. China, at such a juncture, must only expect to see her vast territory completely dismembered by the influential Powers with which she now holds diplomatic relations. Nor is it improbable that a dispute may arise between these Powers on the subject of the inequality of their acquisitions in China, and that they may attempt to decide the question by force of arms. Even supposing that there is little probability of a deliberate purpose to fight on the part of any Power, it cannot be denied that a casus belli may at any time be furnished by the action of the different squadrons at present demonstrating in the Far East. At any rate one thing is certain; China is doomed to humiliation and diamemberment.

#### CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA. AUSTRALIA & CHINA

The Agent of the Chartered Bank of India, etc., informs us that he received, yesterday morning, telegraphic advice from the Bank's London Office that, at the approaching meeting of shareholders of the Bank, the Directors will recommend a dividend for the half-year ended 31 December last at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of Income Tax, placing £75,000 to the Reserve Fund, which will then stand at £450,000, and carrying forward £12,000.

### SENSATIONAL AFFAIR IN SIAM.

A NEWSPAPER EDITOR ORDERED TO LEAVE.

The Bangkok Times of the 12th March contains the translation of a decree by the King of Siam ordering the expulsion from the country of Mr. J. J. Lillie, editor and proprietor of the Siam Free Press, within seven days. It appears from the Bangkok Times that Mr. Lillie has been acting as the representative of the A'ero Fork Herald, and, as stated in the decree, he has, in that capacity, been forwarding to Paris reports distanteful to the Siamese Government. Some few days before the issue of the decree, Mr. Lillie sent to the Telegraph Office a message which the Department refused to despatch.
The Banghok Times says:—

The Banghek Times says:

Mr. Lillie, we understand, protested to Mr. Graville, and telegraphed to the New York Herald that his measage had been atopped in contravention of all treaties and conventions. Then diplomacy got to work, and, having first received the consent of the British Government, the Siamese Government issued their special decree. This, we believe, Mr. Lillie refused to accept on the ground that he was not a Siamese subject or amenable to Siamese law. But Mr. Greville formally withdrew his right to British protection, stating in his letter that, in consequence of several insulting articles against the King of Siam in the Free Press, he was advised by H.B.M. Government to withdraw the protection of the British Legalian, if the Siamese Government, deemed fit to expel Mr. Lillie from Siamese territory. There the matter rests. The British Minister-Resident, we may say, has acted throughout an interpretate from them. Siamese territory. There the matter rests. The British Minister-Resident, we may say, has acted throughout on instructions from the Home Go-

TRANSLATION OF THE DECREE OF EXPULSION.

We, Chulalongkorn, King of Siam, etc. To all whom these presents shall come, know

ye;— Whereas Mr. J. J. Lillie, a foreign resident of Bangkok, and Editor of the Sam Free Press, has repeatedly published in the said paper insults against the Sovereign, the Government, and the

pagnist the Sovereigh, the Government, and the people of Siam:—
And whereas the said Mr. Lillie has repeatedly telegraphed from Bangkok to Europe, with the purport of having it reproduced in foreign newspapers, false news which might result in disturbing friendly relations between Siam and foreign States:—
And whereas the said Mr. Lillie also repeated.

ly sent from Bangkok to Europe, with the purpose of having them reproduced in foreign newspapers, alauming communications whereby it was falsely asserted that Siam was in a hopelessly disordered asserted that Siam was in a hopelessly disordered state, that the rights of foreigners were systematically violated and that there was no security either for persons or for their property.

And whereas it is the right and duty of the Siamese Government not to tolerate any longer the residence on Siamese territory of a loreigner who makes such malicious and injurious use of the hospitality granted to him:

It is hereby enacted, under the authority of the King of Siam, and by the advice of His Council, as follows:—

(1) Mr. J. J. Lillie shall leave the kingdom of

(1) Mr. J. J. Lillie shall leave the kingdom of Siam within seven days after the notification of the present decree, and, in case of his failing to

the present decree, and, in case of its do so, he shall be expelled from the kingdom.

(2) The present decree shall be notified to Mr. J.J. Lillie, and in so far as it is necessary, executed by the Inspector General of the Police of Bangkok.

Bangkok, Friday, the 11th day of March, 1898. -China Mail.

We (Fapan Mail) have not had an opportunity of examining the evidence upon which Mr. Lillie's guilt is based. His writings in the Siam Free Press have occasionally attracted our attention, but, recognising in them merely the splenetic vapoutings of the callow publicist, a figure so familiar in Far-Eastern communities —the man who feeds on fault finding, battens upon slander, and bristles with prejudice-we have paid little attention in them. His fate will, of course, elevate him to the martyr's seat in the eyes of some people, but, for our own part, we heartily congratulate the Siamese Government on its courage. The fact that the British Representative in Bangkok, acting under in-structions from London, withdrew his protec-tion from Mr. Lillie, is quite sufficient proof that the latter had exceeded all reasonable bounds as a journalist and correspondent. Had there been any possibility if protecting

him, his special privileges as a British subject would never have been taken from him with the consent of Het Majesty's Government. truth is that a most extravagant and absurd theory has gradually received public recog-nition with regard to journalism. Let a man be once placed in an editorial chair, and he becomes absolved from all obligations towards the canons that regulate ordinary conduct. He may be grossly unjust, he may cir culate falsehoods, he may devote his pen to the dissemination of partial views, he may enrich himself by the sale of sensational fabrications, he may stir up international strife, he may sow seeds of enmity and mischief broadcast in a community, he may, in short, pursue a course which would bring execration and ostracism on the head of any private citizen, but, merely because he is a newspaper-man, the sacred liberty of the press is held to excuse all his immoral licence. Public opinion will sooner or later rebel against such an unreasonable state of affairs. Great Britain is conspicuously free from it, but her colonies and foreign settlemeuts can not boast any such immunity. Mr. Little's fate may, perhaps, prove a wholesome lesson. By all means let us have freedom of apeech and pen, but on condition that the very large obligations it involves are duly recognised and respected.

#### ELSIE ADAIR'S FAREWELL.

A bumper house assembled at the Public Hall last night on the occasion of the farewell performance of the popular comedienne Miss Elsie Adair, assisted by a number of local amateurs, and a capital evening's entertainment and fun was provided. The programme was departed from in several instances, but this detracted little from the satisfaction of the audience, who were enthusiastic in their applause throughout. The first part opened with a well executed trio for violin, 'cello, and piano, by Messrs. H. A. Poole, E. C. Davis and C. F. Rhine, which was followed by a very amusing comedicita in one act, "A Happy Pair," which, it is needless to say, was played with plenty of verve and spirit by the fair beneficiaire and our leading comedian, Mr. W. G. Bayne. A character song and dance, "Chin Chin Chinaman," by Mr. L. Plummer was the next item, and was warmly encored, and was followed by a capitally randered song by Mr. A. M. Gale, "In Happy Moments," from Maritana. A "coon" song by Mr. F. M. Gowey, "My gal is a high born lady," was equally well received and the first part was brought to a conclusion by several songs by Miss Elsie Adair, which included the popular favourites, "Four fingers and a thumb," and "I want you, my honey." The singer was repeatedly recalled, and was not allowed to retire from the stage until she had sung four songs. In the second part, Mr. Gale gave another song, "She's plain Molly O," with good effect; Mr. E. Morse contributed two comic sings, and the entertainment was brought to an end with a clever musical sketch by Miss Elsie Adair and Mr. L. E. McChesney, in which a number of songs and dances were introduced. Mr. Lionel Jupp and Mr. Rhine rendered good service at the piano during the evening.

#### AN INTERPRETATION OF THE KOREAN AFFAIR.

Shanghai would not be true to itself did it not supply a sensational rendering of the latest events in the political arens. The North China Daily News tells us that Russia's action in withdrawing her military and financial experts from Korea was the result of an agreement with Japan. The latter Power is m have a free hand in Kores, and Russia is to enter into possession of Wei hai-wei-" as the Cassini Consession of Wei hai wei — "as the Cassim Convention allows her to do "—when its present occupants have left it. The Shanghai journal does not seem to place implicit confidence in this presentment of the situation, but nevertheless thinks it worthy of a leading article. are disposed, for our own part, to class it as another " Cassini."

TAPANE E FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The Tokyo Arahi states that the analysis of coins at the Osaka Mint will take place on the 1st proximo, by a process different from that adopted in ordinary years. The new five yen gold pieces, silver subsidiaries, and nickel coins will be tested by the new system. The analysis entails considerable trouble.

The brisk demand for coal has led to a rapid enhancement of its value. The freight between Kobe and Wakamatsu, remarks the Osaka Asa-In 1802 hi, has also been considerably raised. the rate was 3.50 ren per ton; in 1893 the rate was 3.50 ren per ton; in 1893, 4.50 ren. By 1894, however, it was increased to 6.50 ren, and this was retained till the end of the following year. In 1896 it was further increased to 7 ren, while this year 8 ren is the ardinary rate. ordinary rate.

The report of the Agricultural and Commercial Department published in the Mainlehi shows the extent of the failure in the rice crop last year. The average amount of production per lan was 1.209 koku in the case of ordinary rice, 1.077 koku in the case of mochi rice, and 0 707 Roku for upland grain, the general average being 0 997 koku. Compared with the past several years the difference is extra-ordinary. The figure for 1896 was 1 44 koku and that for the previous year 1-53 koku.

Hokkaido might have been considered unfit for the cultivation of tobacco on account of the severity of its climate. The Government's investigation, however, proves the con-trary. The soil, says the Tokyo Shimbun, retains warmtir sufficient for tobacco growing, no portion of Hokkaido being either geologically or topographically unsuitable. The tobacco larms at present do not exceed 84 che, but leaf is imported from the interior to the value of over 890,000 ren, while the demand is rapidly increasing. Tobacco farming in the North can hardly fail to be profitable.

From the Jifi we learn that a conference was lately held between the engineers and stokers of the Japan Railway Company and those on the Government lines, for the purpose of organiaing a society to be designated the Railway Association. A committee is now busily engaged in drawing up the prospectus and regulations of the society. Its main object is reported to be to preserve strict discipline among the engine drivers, and to secure a standard of efficiency among them. The association will give certificates of character to members whose services are required by Chinese, Korean, or Formosan railway companies.

Silver yen pieces will cease to be circulated on 1st April next, but have still an ex-changeable period of five years. The necessity of shortening this period is beyond question. Among the yen pieces now in circulation counterfeit coins are not infrequently found, and these are proved to he not entirely of Japaness make. The lengthy period for exchange facilitates the manufacture in foreign countries, especially in Shanghai, of large quantities of spurious pieces. Coinage, in fact, may be undertaken abroad, by the sid of perfect machinery, in such a manner as to secure uniformity with Japanese coins as regards weight, size, quality, &c. Such an enterptise, if it were carried out, would not only seriously affect Japan's financial administration, but would tend to impair the system of gold currency. The authorities have, under these circumstances, resolved to present a Bill for diminishing the exchangeable period. The Bill will take precedence of all other measures in the forthcoming session of the Diet,

A suggestion has been made in Kobe as to the necessity of cultivating friendly intercourse between Japanese and foreigners in view of the approach of mixed residence. The Kobe approach of mixed residence. The Kobe Chamber of Commerce, asserts the Yomiuri, seems to have taken keen interest in this auspicious movement, and lately issued a circular to the following effect:

"There can be no doubt that friendly inter-



course and mutual understanding between natives and foreigners will be attended not only with considerable advantage, but with impor-tant diplomatic consequences. The Kobe tant diplomatic consequences. Chamber of Commerce has, therefore, after consulting with the President of the similar institution in the Settlement, pledged itself to residual in the Sectioness, proceed according to the latter in future. Steps are further being taken to secure cooperation with the Chambers of Commerce abroad. The Kobe Chamber of Commerce proposes to invite the foreign merchants in the Settlement to dinner and requests the ununimous approval of the native dealers in the town. The cultivation of friendship with foreigners is a duty devolving upon the people in the open ports throughout the empire."

Acts of barbarity are still resorted to in various parts of the country under the influence of superstities. A girl named Sada, in Yokota town, Akita prefecture, was lately found to be demented. One of her relatives concluded that she was possessed by a fox, and declared that unless steps were immediately taken for exorcising it he would withdraw the farm leased to her family. He then prepared to drive away the fox, and with a dagger unsteathed treated her so rudely that she exclaimed, "Cursed be my family and my relations! Never shall I be pacified until I kill them all!"
As soon as she had spoken these words she received fifty sword cuts over the body, and immediately succumbed.

The Tokyo Poor Asylum has under its protection at present 552 persons, of whom, according to the Tokyo Azahi, 244 are paupers; 105 are persons who fell sick while travelling; 135 are foundlings, 67 lost children, and, one a released prisoner. These unfortunate creatures are amported by the interest on the maintenance funds and outlays from the municipal and rural districts of the capital, at the rate of 12 ren a day for an adult and to ten for youths. Males above seven years of age are kept in a different room from women while a separation is also made between sick persons and those is health. As the able-bodied are not generally admitted into the asylum, the majority are sick or children.

According to the Nichi Nichi, the financial programme for the 31st fiscal year was for-mulated at a special meeting of the Cabinet on the 18th instant, when the amount of expenditure for the various Government Departments was determined. The ten-year programme for-mulated by the last Cabinet has had necessarily to be altered, but it is a serious error to supbas adopted a mere negative policy of curtailment. The necessity of post bellum undertakings is fully recognised by him. He is the earnest advocate of schemes for the country's progress as well as its peace. He will, therefore, proceed with the programme of armament expansion, but in a gradual manner which will avoid financial embarrassment and the disorganisation of the economic system. Several curtailments have been made, but not to the extent of affecting the post bellum programme as a whole, the items having been altered only so as to meet the requirements of the present financial scheme.

The porcelain industry in Japan has, the Mainichi asserts, failed to make any remarkable advance, owing to abuses that are still practised by manufacturers. Apart from these considerations, however, insufficiency of capital seems to be the direct cause of the want of progress. A technical school in Tokyo has, through various experiments, proved the possibility of economising considerably by the use of coal in the manufacture of porcelain. The estimated saving in this respect was no less than 60 per cent. HE compared with ordinary fuel. The porcelain enterprise in now chiefly carried on by small capitalists whose joint funds are barely sufficient to provide a kiln. To introduce improvements is, with these, a matter of impossibility. Yet, = the keramic art of Japan makes a valuable addition

to her export trade, the manufacture of porcelain wares ought to be conducted in a manner calculated to extend their popularity in foreign countries. The Morimura Firm seems to have succeeded in acquiring considerable profits by securing a special contract with the manufacturers, which provides that wates imported from America shall always be used as models for production. Other manufacturers, however, are lamentably ignorant of foreign conditions. The chief factor being the scarcity of capital, it is necessary that sufficient funds should be invested in this important branch of industry, as its development could not fail to be a source of immense wealth to Japan.

Referring to the investigations of the Finance Department with regard to the rates of interest during the three months from October to December last, the Kokumin remarks that of the sixty-five main districts where national and private banks are established, the most prominent in respect of high interest are Miyasaki, Iwate, Hiogo, and Nagasaki, the rates paid varying from 16.2 to 18.2 per cent. for loans for three months. The lowest schedule is noticeable in Ishikawa, Kagawa, and Oita prefectures, where loans are issued for a period of three months at rates varying from 5.8 to 7 per cent. Other localities indicate 16 per cent, for the maximum, and 8 per cent, for the minimum interest. Below is a comparative table showing the rates of interest for the last

uarter of the phat the years,				
	Maxi	en um.	Mink	ANTI.
	joth year. Per cent.	enth year. Per cent.	Both year. Per cent,	Per cent.
October	.13 35	13.45	10.32	9.69
November	.13.71	13 67	10.45	9.16
December		14.03	10.53	9.90

As for interest on deposits Takasu stands highest with 7 2 to 8 per cent., and is followed by Toyama with 7.5 per cent, for three months. The minimum monthly rate is 3 per cent., paid in Shizuoka and Ichinoseki. In other districts the maximum is put at 7 per cent, and the minimum at 3.5. The highest daily in-terest is paid in Saycki, six sen being the rate for 100 ren. Nabeoka pays 5.6 sen, Himeji and Kochi 5.5 sen, while Hakodate, Akashi, Saseho, Akita, Tsuchizaki, Tsuwano, and Takamatsu retain the rate of five sen. Yawata and Sayeki are conspicuous for the lowest rate, 2 sen-other districts paying 4.9 sen for the maximum and 2.1 sen for the minimum.

The Osaka Asahi saye that the Osaka Harbour Bonds, amounting to 17,038 000 year, were originally to be raised within eight years at a minimum price of 100 yen. The money market, however, showed at that time an aspect almost of panic, and it was rightly considered that subscriptions to bonds at per 100 yen could not be secured m present. In these circumstances the Public Bonds Regulations were altered, and the limit of 100 ven face value was lowered to 95 yen; and the various banks in the city possessed of more than 500,000 rea in capital were requested to float the bonds by forming a syndicate. In the meantime the 3rd National Bank in Tokyo proposed to take delivery of the whole amount, the 1st installment—1,000 000 yen—for the 30th year being accepted at the rate of 98.18 yen. The selling price for the 2nd portion was to be determined by a special conference between the Bank and the Osaka Municipal Council, and, upon failure to arrive at an understanding, by arbitration. The amount to be raised for the 31st year is 1,800,000 pen, but after negotiating with the Bank; the Council found it impossible, in the present state of affairs, to issue its bonds at a price of 95 yes. The public bonds for Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki were successfully issued III 95 ren with 6 per cent, interest; and the failure on the part of Osaka to obtain a similar standard is a reflection on its municipal credit. It was resolved that despite the contract made with the 3rd Bank for its monopoly of the Osaka Harbour Bonds for eight years, the amount for this year should be raised by a general appeal to investors Bluff residents, who, while pleased throughout the empire. Five per cent. Water promotion, will regret to lose him.

Works Bonds at one time attained the price of 110 yen, and though they have gradually fallen they still stand at 96 yes. In the light of this, 6 per cent. Harbour Bonds should surely secure a rate above 95 yen.

### SAD FATALITY IN YOKOHAMA CEMETERY.

The foreign community in Yokohama was shocked on Thursday by the news of a peculiarly painful tragedy. About it a.m., some children heard the report of a revolver in the General Cemetery, and ran and informed the momban of the fact. The latter, on arrival, found the body of a European, which was afterwards identified as that of Mr. Frederick Joseph Collins, general merchant, of Kobs. Mr. Collins, who was well-known in Yokohama, where he was educated, had been staying for several weeks past in the house of Mr. C. V. Schmidt, 206, Bluff. He went to Kobe about a week ago, and had only been back in Yokohama a few days. When last seen alive he appeared to be in excellent spirits, and he was naturally of a cheerful and somewhat vivacious disposition; indeed on Wednesday evening he was particularly bright, and, referring to some business worsies, declared that he should get through them within two mouths. So for the present no motive can be assigned, but the inquest, which is to be held this morning, will probably throw some light on the matter. The weapon used was a fairly large six chambered revolver, which was found beside decensed with one cartridge The body itself was lying beside discharged. a grave, which on examination proved to be that of the dead man's mother,

### THE FOUNDER OF TALE.

A writer in an Indian paper rescuses from obliviou a number of facts in the life of Elihu Yale, a man who, though little remembered, enjoyed the rare distinction of fame in four continents at a time when travel was a luxury for the very few.

"Born in America, in Europe bred. In Africa travelled, and in Asia wed ; Where long he lived and thrived, in London

Are the opening lines on his grave in the churchyard of Wrexham, North Wales, ten miles from Hawarden. His name as a traveller in Africa is now completely forgotten, and in England the record from which we have quoted was only saved from obliteration by a party of Americans who visited Wrexham churchyard, and, finding the quaint lines almost effaced, caused them to be recut. Similarly, in India, the name of Elihu Vale, as one who filled the high office of Governor of Madras, has passed from public memory, save in connection with the ancedore—doubtless apocryphal—that he hanged his butler for leaving his service without giving him notice. In America, however, the name of Yale will live as long as the United States endure in the Yale University, named after its benefactor in 1718. As Yale was a Welshman by origin, though born in America, it is probable that the name of Fort St David, which the European official and military portion of Madraa City bears to this day, was given by him. More than two centuries have passed since Yale governed in Madras, and it is natural that he should have become a shadow of memory in a land which has gone through so many vicinitudes. But in America his name will be evergreen in the achievements of famous students of Yale.—The Globe.

Mr. Ikariyama, for eight years Chief In-spector II the Bluff Police Station, is to-day promoted to the chief inspectorship of the Kotobukiche Police Station. While at the Bluff Station his able and courteous conduct of affairs gained him the respect and confidence of all Bluff residents, who, while pleased to hear of his



### CHRISTIANITY IN CHINA.

(CONTRIBUTED BY "WILL PATTILLO.")

It is a strange fact that men as a rule do not understand or believe history until it is a century old. Few men are capable of reading current history correctly, for their prejudices often prevent them from observing some of the silent but mighty currents that are passing before their eyes. China to-day presents a good illustration. There are many clever men, and women too, who believe that Christian Missions in China are nothing less than a useless expenditure of money. The only results they see are riots, murders, and international complications. Such people are not to be blamed or censured for not seeing more. for it is just as true now as it was in the days of Christ that people have ears that hear not, eyes that see not. Dr. L. S. Baldwin, now of New York, but for thirty years a missionary in Foochow, China, has recently been to China to assist in the celebrations of the jubilee exercises of the Methodist Mission at Foodhow. who get tired of reading what the European Powers are doing or are not doing in the Middle Kingdom will be glad to read a few extracts from Dr. Baldwin's letter in the New York Christian Advocate. In describing his speech before a vast audience he said :-

The old dialect seemed familiar as I used it to tell of what God had done during these fifty years, When I called upon the first Foothow man who When I called upon the first Foochow man who was ever baptized to stand up, and Ting ling Kaw, who was immersed with the Rev. James Colder in the harbour of Hongkong, arose, and then called upon the first child baptized in our Mission to arise, and Mis, Yek ling Kwang stood up, the interest was intense. I recalled the time of my coming to the Mission, when there were only twelve members in the Mission, and spoke of the thirteen thousand and more in the Foochow and Hinghua Missions to-day, and about twenty-two thousand in all our China Missions. Our heats were filled with gratitude to God for His blessing upon the labours of His servants.

Readers of the Taban Mail have seen several

Readers of the Japan Mail have seen several notices during the past year about an Anti foot-binding Society in Shanghai. The following action taken by the Foochow Conference will be of much interest to lovers of humanity in general and especially to those interested in

Then Dr. Ha King Eng presented the resolu-tions on font binding which were, (1) that no Christians should bind the feet of their daughters; (2) that no Christians should betroth their sons to bound-facted girls; (3) that all Christian women whose feet have been bound should unbind them. whose feet have been bound should unbind them. The first resolution has been the rule of the Conference for many years, and the practice of unbinding feet that have been bound has been growing rapidly of lateralthough it was thought at first that it could not be done. So the Conference was quite ready. No debate was needed, and the resolutions were manimously passed. One notable fact spoken of was that the leading gentry of Foother have recently made public declaration against foot-binding, and that the high mandarins of the city have petitioned the emperor to prohibit both foot binding and early bettoflats. This is one of the important matters in which Christian influence has been making itself felt far beyond the body of Christian chinches.

Another extract from Dr. Baldwin's letter gives.

Another extract from Dr. Baldwin's letter gives a vivid insight into the really marvellous changes that are coming over the Chinese people in their attitude to women;—

their attitude to women;—

A spirited Epworth League anniversary was held in the evening. The addresses were by Brother Miner and Dr. Hü King Eng. I was much pleased to hear the earnest words of this young Christian physician, who addressed the large audience with entire self-possession and in a clear, distinct voice, so that she was heard by all. She closed with a very earnest prayer; and it was difficult for me to realize that the little girl whom I baptized thirty years ago was leading a whole congregation in prayer in a place where no woman would have dared to be seen in a public audience at the time she was born, or for many years afterward.

Then the Doctor closes his interesting letter

amazing. The numbers have already been men-tioned, but they are only a feeble indication of what has been accomplished. From the old days of a partitioned corner for the few women who would veiture to come to church, to this large, open church, with three hundred women and girls all ready to take part in the service, and speaking joyonsly in the great congregation of their own layously in the great congregation of their own happy experience, is indeed a wast stride. From the days when the feet of our leading women were tightly bound, and they thought their daughters would be degraded for life if their feet were not bound, to these times when ninety-seven women who have unbound their feet rise in one audience. and both the Women's Conference and the Annual and both the Women's Conference and the Annual Conference pass unanimously resolutions that all binding of feet shall be prohibited and that all bound feet shall be unbound, is indeed another vast advance. From the time when the mandarius were all unfriendly, to these days when the Tartat general kindly loans a crane from the arsenal to lift the immense timbers of our new church into place, is another great change. The good cheer and confidence with which our preachers step out into the second half century is an augury of success and victory. cess and victory.

If any one can read these extracts and still assert that Christian Missions are a failure or that they are making no progress in China, then such a person is incapable of understanding truth unless it lie parallel with his prejudices or previous beliefs.

### KOREAN NOTES.

A scene in Soul, as reported by the Independ-

Last Saturday afternoon a few officers of the Imperial guard and a dozen or so of the Ham-kyeng Du contingent (most of whem speak Russian) assembled on the balcony of the Cotton Ex-change in Chongno and announced that they wanted to address the people on political questions. This announcement prought out several thousand people from all parts of the city and before many This announcement brought out several thousand people from all parts of the city and before many minutes the whole street was simply packed with immanity of all descriptions who were eager to hear what these Northern orators had to say. But for some inexplicable reason these orators did not deliver their speeches. The populace became impatient and called loudly for speeches, but the Northern Demostheres continued to assume the attitude of a sphinx. An old citizen with a flowing white heard west up to the balcony and said that he came there to hear some speeches from the Northern friends, but the would-be orators were sushy that he would say a few words if the audience permitted him. The request was truanimously granted. The old man started his speech by making scorching remarks against the interpreter of the Russian legation, Rim Hongnish. The officer of the Imperial guard, who was acting as a sort of chairman, ordered himdenly to seize the speaker and take him down from the stage. The outrageous action of the officer enraged the audience. They lunded stones at the assembly of the Hamkyeng contingents and shouts of "down them" terrified the indiscrept amy officer. He begged the pardon of the populace for his hasty action and escorted the old man up to the balcony again. The restored speaker thanked the audience for the vindication of his rights and completed his speech amidst great applause. The officer detained the old man un the balcony and told his men to take him along to the barracks. The intention of the officer was great applause. The officer detained the old man in the balcony and told his men to take him along to the barracks. The intention of the officer was known to the people and they again threw stones at the assembly on the balcony and some of them rished up the stairs with shorts of "villany." The army officer and his braves hastily made their exit through the back windows of the exchange. Thus ended the mass meeting of last Saturday.

The Independent, has nothing but hearty praise for Russia's sympathetic consideration in giving Korea an opportunity to dispense with foreign aid; It accepts the whole arrangement in good faith, and defies "the correspondents of foreign papers to find an ulterior motive for the honorable way in which Russia bas acted."

The members of the Independence Club in Soul have submitted the following memorial to

Excellencies. We, on behalf of our twelve million Excellencies. We, on behall of our twelve million fellow citizens, desire to express our gratitude to you and assure you that we are one and all rejoiced over the wise decision your Excellencies have reached in the matter. We pray that your Excellencies will more carefully consider the future policy of our government with the object of ameliorating the condition of our people.

Mr. de Speyer's reply to the despatch of the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, intimating Korea's desire to dispense with the services of the Russian experts, was as follows :-

Sir,-I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your Sir, -- I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 12th inst. in which communication you have intimated to me that your government intends to send an ambassador to St. Petersburg. I have just been instructed by my Imperiat Surgerial to inform you that the sending of the envoy in not at all necessary and the Russian Government does not care to receive any mesage of thanks. Russia only desireste extend the friendliness, but she never cares to force it noon anyone. Your government asked us to send military instructors and a finance adviser and we anyone. Your government asked us to send military instructors and a finance adviser and we military instructors and a finance adviser and we complied. But now your government considers that Russian officials are no longer needed, and you state that Rosea can manage ther own affairs without aid from Russia. Russia only congratulates Rosea upon having made such progress in so abort a time that she is able to maintain her independence unassisted by foreign instructors and advisers.

I have already instructed our military officers and finance adviser to discontinue their duties in the Korean service.

(signed) (dated)

A. DE SPEYER. March 17th 1898.

A pro-Russian party has been organized in Korea. Its beginnings are thus described :-

About eight Koreans from Hampkyeng province, most of them having a smattering know-ledge of Russian, have organized a sort of society vince, most of them having a smattering know-ledge of Russian, have organized a sort of society among themselves for the purpose of propagating the doctine that Korea must be under the protection of Russia. The leader of this movement is said to be a man named Kwou Dongsu, who is a native of Fusan. He went to Japan some years ago and attempted to murder the late Mr. Kim Okkiun and his friends with Hong Jongwo, Ye Seijik and others. Hong succeeded in murdering Mr. Kim in Shanghai and Kwou and Yerciedtheir luck in Japan on the life of Prince Pak Yunghio, but failed. After the Japan-China was Kwou went to Vladivostock and attempted to muster out some Russianized Koreans for the purpose of attacking the then existing government, but he failed again in that enterprise. Kwon has now become the leader of this movement and he is said to be sanguine as to the success of his present scheme. They intend to memorialize the Throne first, incoming His Majesty of the necessity of Korea's becoming a protectorate of Russia. Then he will send out his orators to convert the people to his theory. Hong Jong wo and his comiades are said to he organizing another memorialist crowd in Sadong of this city with the intention of praying His Majesty to kill off all the traitors who were connected with the affair of October, 1895.

### CHINESE NOTES.

Apparently the discovery has been made in Shanghai that China's "rejection of the offer of a guaranteed British Ioan was because no bribes were forthcoming." This "startling revelation," as the N.-C. Dasly News calls it, furnishes the text of a very violent article in that journal, wherein Chinese corruption and so forth are denounced in aweeping terms, and the Foreign Representatives in Peking are accused of "al-Representatives in Peking are accused of "allowing themselves, after a few undignified atruggles, to be securely entangled in the folds of the soporific net whose meshes are woven of plausibility and bluff." It is quite pleasant and edifying to read the distribes of Far-Eastern editors gifted with the divine afflatus of diplomacy. If only they could be placed in charge of British interests, how splendidly the affairs of the little island would proposed. the affairs of the little island would prosper! We may observe, en passant, that the British Government never made an "offer of a guar-anteed loan to China." What happened was with these striking words:—

It has been every way a worthy celebration of an important epoch. It is nearly thirty-nine years since I entered upon work here. The progress is

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hably only a "hypnotised diplomat" would trouble himself about such distinctions.

On February 28th the blacklegs of Hengshan (in Hunnan) took advantage of a festival, when the atreets were crowded, to raid the Christian mission in that city and pull down the house. No personal injury was suffered by any of the Caristians. Dr. Griffith John thinks that the incident will bear good fruit. In fact, these occurrences have the effect of invoking official interference on behalf of the Christians.

There seems to be no doubt that a large portion of the likin hitherto collected by local authorities in China and devoted to local purposes, is now to be taken for the use of the central Government. Viceroy Liu of Nanking has been ordered to close all the tea, salt, and other likin stations throughout his jurisdiction, preparatory to the transfer of the duty of collecting that revenue to the Imperial Maritime Customs.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On Saturday Marquis Ito received from the bands of M. Harmand, the French Minister, the decoration of the Legion of Honour couferred on the Premier by the French Government.

The Scotch proverb, "A thocht can cure and a thocht can kill" is fully borne out by modern science. Worry, which often begins in a single, troubling idea, injures the cells of the brain beyond repair, and as the brain is the nutritive and controlling centre of the body, the other organs are gradually impaired, disease ensues, and finally death.

Wherever an Englishman has set his foot there also a beer bottle can generally be found.

A two-dozen case of Bass is reported to have been discovered by some of the officers of the British Squadron at Chusan in a cobbler's shop at Tinghai the other day. It had been there since Chusan was occupied by a British force over fifty years ago.

Answering a question put to him in the House of Commons on February 11th, Mr. Curzon, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Shanghai, would undertake the duties of Commercial Attaché in China; but a similar arrangement could not be made in Japan.

A home paper of last month says:—The tidings of the demolition of No. 15 Furnival's Inn, where Pickwick was conceived, should fill admirers of Dickens with regret. A few days ago the Society of Arts tablet was removed, and now the workman's pick-axe and crowbar are rapidly destroying the building-indeed, one can scarcely distinguish the outline of the doorway for the mortar dust with which the . Inn yard is filled.

Mr. Ernest Clement, hon, librarian of the Asiatic Society of Japan, writes that in accordance with the instructions of the Council of the Asiatic Society of Japan, he gives notice that the Library of the Society will be open daily (Sundays excepted), beginning on Friday, April 1, from 3 to 5 o'clock p.m., for the use of members only. The Library is in the south wing of the Parish Building, 54 Tsukiji, Tokyo.

Yokohama was alive with alarming bunders on Wednesday afternoon, from some of which if any credence were placed in them, we should be forced to believe that war had been declared between Great Britain and Russia. The canards appear to have been founded on certain private telegrams said to have been received in town and the purport of which naturally became grossly exaggerated in course of circulation

Australia, went ashore on the 24th instant at Perim. The mails and passengers were transferred to the Carthage, belonging to the same Company, which left on Saturday for Brindisi and London. There were no casualties either sing London. Takes were about the latter are supposed to be several from the Far East, who joined the *China* at Colombo, including Capt. Pollock and Mrs. More from Yokohama. No details, however, are to hand.

The Indian Planters' Gasette has the following amusing hit at Lord William Beresford :-"England has cause to be proud of such men as Wellington, Nelson and-es-iny brother Charlie!" (Spontaneous remark of a popular Charlie 1" (Spontaneous remark of a popular noble lord, over heard in a railway carriage, as reported by Mr. John Coulett.) Brother Charlie ought now to turn round and say "India han cause to be proud of such men as Warren Hastings, Bobs, and-er-my brother Bill !

A new steam-launch for the Club Hotel, Ltd., has just been launched by the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works. The new launch is a staunch and trim little craft, with a commodious cabin forward. She is 50 ft. in length overall, 47 ft. beiween perpendiculars, 9 ft in, extreme breadth aud 5 tt. 9 in, deep. The boiler is return multitubular; the engines are compound surface condensing, and with a working pressure of 120 lbs. to the inch. The propeller is 3 ft. 6 in. in diameter and it is expected the launch will attain a speed of over en knots.

It will interest many besides the Freemasons of Japan, says the Hisgo News, to know that in a letter just received here, Mr. J. Morrison Mc-Leod (Secretary of the Royal Masonic Insutation for Boys) writes:—"The boy Dallas, who is in our school and whose father belonged to your district, is doing very well, and has just passed the preliminary examination conducted by the Cambridge University, gaining a secondclass honour, which is very creditable for a boy of his youth." The School is celebrating its Centenary Festival in June, and one of the Stewards thereat will be the present W.M. of the Rising Sun Lodge (Kobe). His list of do-nations, practically all subscribed in Kobe, already exceeds £50, and there are some few sums still expected ere he in compelled to close it.

Oxford has now won the 'Varsity boat race for the ninth year running, Cambridge not having seen its colours carried to the front since 1889, when it won the race in 20m. 148ecs., by three lengths. The senior University has now 32 wins to its credit and Cambridge 22. An explanation recently given by a well-known oarsman for the long continued ancreas of Oxford in these inter-university contests is the of these litter-university contests is the migration of all the best Eton oars to the "city of churches and spires," only a very few Eton rowing-men going up to Cambridge. There is a lot in this theory; while of course it must not be forgotten that the Cam is a mere ditch even compared with the Isis. The wonder is that with such a tiny stream on which to practise, Cambridge succeeds in turning out paramen at all.

Yet another fire in Kobe. Early on Tuesday morning the house on the Hill occupied by Mr. Arnold Moia, near the Church Mission school, was burnt to the ground, and scarcely a particle of the furniture could be saved. Mr. Mola, the Chronicle learns, about two o'clock detected smoke in his room, and on proceeding to ascertain the cause found it to emanate from his wife's room, where a lamp had apparently exploded. Alarmed by the flames, Mr. Mola's first consideration was to remove his wife and child m a place of safety, and all the inmates had to escape scantily clothed, taking refuge in the house of a neighbour. In the course of an hour the house, which stood in its own grounds, was completely guited. The flames had leaped grossly exaggerated in course of circulation from mouth to mouth.

A cable has been received the the Yakohama office of the P. & O. Company to the effect that the mail steamer China, homeward bound from the mail steamer China, homeward bound from the mail steamer China, homeward bound from the preparation of the property of the save the house. Mr. Mola, we understand it is insuted for \$5,000, but we lear his loss will not be covered by that amount. The house about this sound O-tani: who she was, when I visited the island for the propose of doing missionary work, I went to the save the house. Mr. Mola, we understand it is insuted for \$5,000, but we lear his loss will receive the save the house. The house belonged to Mrs. Nankivell and was insured.

### ANOTHER BIG FIRE AT TOKYO.

Another fire broke out in the neighbourhood of Hongo, Tokyo-at No. 15 Sanchome. Tenjin-cho-on the 25th, at 11 15 p.m. The strong northerly wind rapidly spread the flames, and over 150 houses were reduced to ashes.

Five firemen and two engineers attached to the engine-pumps were injured. The loss suffered by the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company amounted to yen 10,000 for 26 houses insured, and the Meiji Fire Insurance Company lost ren 1,300 for 4 houses.

On Wednesday shortly before noon a fire occurred in Kuruma cho, Tsukuda jima, Nihoubashi, Tokyo, and some 36 houses were burnt to the ground.

### FAPANESE SILK REGULATIONS.

The Official Gasette of the 29th contains the following notifications:-

We hereby give sanction to the provisions rewe necesty give sanction to the provisions re-garding the inspection as well as the classification of raw silk, and the amount of encouragement funds to be granted in accordance with Law No. 48 issued in the 30th year of Meiji, embodying the Regulations for the encouragement of the direct export of silk, and direct the same to be pro-mulgated.

(Imperial Sign Manual and Great Seal.) March 26 hof the 31st year of Meiji Count INDUYS KAORU, (Counter signed.)

Minister of Finance. Baron Ito Miyout, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 51.

Art. L.-The inspection of raw silk shall be undertaken at the Raw Silk Inspection Office with reference to the items insultanted helow ;—

1. Original weight.

4. Fineness. 5. Nibs.

a. Lustre.
3 Re recling.

Act. II -Silk will be held to have passed ex-Art. If -3 in will be near to have passed ex-amination as to the above particulars when more than 500 catties of raw silk are found to fulfil the following provisions:--(a) Lustre and clean-ness to be uniform throughout; number of breaks, ness to be uniform throughout; number of breaks, not more than 3; diff-cence in fineness, 2.5 denier; number of ribs not more than 50. (b) Lustre and cleanness to be uniform; number of breaks, not more than 6; difference in fineness, 4 denier; nibs not more than 100. (c) Uniformity of the content of the c 4 denier; usts not more than 100. (c) United-nity of lustre and cleanness; breaks not more than 9; difference in fineness, 5 denier; inde not more than 150.

Art. 111.—The amount of encouragement finels

Art. III.—The amount of encouragement funds shall be calculated or determined according to the following classification, bactions of a carty being excluded from the calculation :-

### CORRESPONDENCE.

### JAPANESE LORE OF THE SEA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With reference to the query in the article "Japanese Lore of the Sea," published in your issue of the 19th inst., as to where a legendary woman's island is to be found in Japan, I may state that on the east coast of Oshima (Vries Island), whost one unde north from Habu minato, there stands an old shring on the seashore, enclosed by a stone walk which is known as "O tam's shrine," and where women from Habu still go and offer prayers and securities. closed by a stone wall, which is known as "O tami's shrine," and where women from Habu still go and offer prayers and sacrifice. Near by, only a few yards from the beach, there rises above the water a rock (it could searcely be called an island, properly) some 20 feet in height and probably measuring 8 or 10 feet in diameter; this is known as "O-tani's Island."

and enshrined, etc., but no one knew anything beyond that she was a woman (and that is indeed inscribed on the shrine) and had died on this spot, some lundieds of years age. Whether she died on the spot where the shrine stands or out on that rock, is not known, as either place is held sacred in her memory.

The rock being almost perpendicular on all sides, it is impossible m climb it without special aid. There is nothing on it suggestive of its being held sacred, but the islanders all know it by the name mentioned.

Had I been sufficiently interested in the matter at the time extensive inquiries might have revealed all the details concerning this traditional woman, but my object at present is simply to answer the writer's query:—" Where is any legendary woman's island to be found," leaving the rest for the person interested to find out.

Hoping this little information may in some degree prove serviceable to you. Had I been sufficiently interested in the matter

I remain, yours truly, F. O. BERGSTROM. Takayama, Hida, March 23rd, 1898.

### A CRY FOR HELP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Six,-Your tenders are aware of the disastrous is which swept over a large section of Hongo on Wednesday morning, carrying away over a thou-sand houses, and leaving hundreds of people homeless. The local authorities have been doing homeless. The local authorities have been doing their utmost to provide for the most needy, and already private charity has been coming to their relief; but much still remains to be done. Arrangements are being made to organize a Relief Committee among the Japanese; and I venture to solicit contributions from any of the foreign community who are disposed to help in this time of

As the officials of the Hongo Ward Office are best acquainted with the actual condition of the sufferers, all sums sent me will be acknowledged and handed to them for distribution.

Kindly address me at the Central Tabernacle, Hongo, Tokyo.

Very sincerely yours,

HARPER H. COATES.

Tokyo, March 25th, 1898.

### YOKOHAMA FORESHORE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Str.-Your article upon the Yokohama Foreshore again suggests to me a scheme for the im-provement of this harbour which ought to be urged provement of this harbour which ought to be urged upon the proper authorities. It is this:—Widen the northern breakwater, build warehouses upon it, and connect it by rail with the Tokaido road. Stips could then go alongside, cargoes would require but one handling here, lighterage and damage would be lessened, and the capacity of the port multiplied. There would be no difficulty in such a work, and abundant foreign capital unbe obtained for it, provided a proper concession be accorded. accorded.

The foreshore of the Bund ought not to be filled . It should be diedged. The harbour is too small now.

G.H.S.

Yokohama, March 28th, 1898.

### A HINT TO STUDENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL!

SIR.—Every foreigner attempting to gain a fair acquaintance with the Japanese language is under great obligations to Mr. Lay for his work on Chinese characters. Through its aid the number of those able to read newspapers and books without the kana will some day be reckned by without the kana will some day be reckened by tens instead of units. In convenience of reference the second edition is a marked improvement on the first, and yet I have found that by means of a supplemental marking I can use the book with twice as much ease and rapidity. This I venture to recommend to others through your columns.

My custom in searching for a character is to grasp the leaves in my left hand and roll them from noder my thumb to find first the radical:

grasp the leaves in my left hand and roll them from under my thumb, to find first the radical; but thus I can only take in at a single glauco, the radicals in the left hand margin. It is very inconvenient to keep glancing from the left mand in the right. So going to a print life in margin to the right. So going to a print inglit hand margin, and with size presenting in the right hand margin, and with size present directly opposite in the margin on the left. Thus, when rapidly twirling the leaves, while keeping my eye fixed in one direction, I can spot my radio.

cal in an instant, and know by the colour if its characters chance to be on the right-hand page.

From the printers I took the ten numeral types home with me, and at the upper left hand corner of this same left hand page, all through the book, printed with red the number of strokes in the radicals appearing on that page. Thus from 心 m 大 it would be 图 at the head of the marginal radicals, and from to to from I also stamped the proper numeral in the margin and in its square, by the first of the one stoke, two stroke, three stoke, &c., ladicals.

As I twin the leaves from the back of the book toward the front, it is desirable to know when about to pass from the six stroke radicals to the fives, and forms the fives to focus. Re. and I minted a star-

from the fives to fours, &cc, so I printed a star by the numbers where the six first appeared, by the numbers where the six first appeared, two stars on the next page to the right where it next appeared, three on the next, and so on up to five stars, doing this for each set of different stroked radicals. Thus rishimben (192) would have at the top of the page [1]\*\*, the next page [1]\*\*, the next [1]\*\*\*, &cc., up to five stars.

I have gone further recently, and following the example of the next edictionaries, I have, under the radicals whose characters cover more than a page, indicated where the characters of five, eight,

page, indicated where the characters of five, eight, en, and thirteen strokes in addition to the radical

begin.
If I have made myself clear, and the reader will be able If I have made myself clear, and the reader will put three or four hours into this, he will be able after some practice to find a Chinesa character almost as quickly as a word in Hepburn's Dictionary. Of the above by far the most important, of course, is the transferring all radicals to the left hand margin, and putting the number of strokes in the radical at the head of the column at the upper left corner of the printed marginal line.

SOJOURNER. Yours truly, SC Kagoshima, March 25th, 1898.

### THE DOSHISHA

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—After carefully considering the Doshisha affair, I am compelled to come to certain conclusions which seem to me inevitable to any person of normal moral faculties. If I am incorrect, I should like to have pointed out wherein.

I.—It seems to me that the American Board and its Missionaries who have given so many years

I.—It seems to me that the American Board and its Missionaries who have given so many years of consecrated service in Japan, and the general donors who have given so much wealth unselfishing and philanthropically for what they deemed would be the greatest good of an alien people, are entitled to the sympathy of every fair minded person over the miscarriage of their plans and their disappointment, and especially when brought about by methods (and by men) which must render the disappointment doubly keen. It seems to me a question not of theology but of morals and common honesty. But while it does not relieve the guilty at the same time must in not be conceded that the donors were not sufficiently specific in defining the purposes and pohy of the school, and not sufficiently careful in selection of those in whom to repose confidence? Was they not too confiding? Yet out of their sad experience may not good be derived: namely, that donors of property to charitable and religious purposes in the future will be more careful in defining their purposes, and in repusing confidence? Furtunately, as I am informed, the new Code goes into effect in June, which allows a donor for religious and charitable uses to make almost any reasonable restrictions and conditions he may please as to the use of the property, and the Courts will see that the will of the donor is carried out. use of the property, and the Courts will see that the will of the donor is carried out.

2 .- Although it is conceivable that the Trustees might have conducted a Christian School though not in harmony with the ideas of the donors and of the Missionaries, and thus have obeyed the letter of their trust, it would seem that monscionations trustee would endeavour to give effect to the intention of the trust as nearly as possible, and only depart from it so far as it became really impossible to carry it out. A true ethic is governed by the spirit, rather than by the letter. It will not take refuge behind a mere verbal technicality; and when it can no longer in accordance with conscientious convictions carry out a trust, it will re-

sign it to those who can,
3-I have read Mr. Yokoi's defense of his action
and that of the trustees, and, judged impartially,

victually says, then they are playing falsely with the Government. So in either case it appears that they are acting contrary to sound ethical principles, and are condemned by Mr. Yoko's own

argument.

His pleading is characterized by too much of that shiftiness and subtlety and lack of "commercial morality" which some foreigners complain is too prevalent in the Japanese character; though it must be confessed not to be without some emis-

than prevalent in the Japanese character; though it must be confessed not to be without some eminent examples in other countries. But this latter fact it no justification; it is wong all the same. Some seem to think the responsibility for the action of the Doshisha Trustees will not fall upon the Japanese nation, but it will, nevertheless, whether sightly or wrongly.

It will affect confidence in this nation abroad. People will argue:—"We know that the natural and logical effect of Christian training is to produce a high moral ideal. Here are certain men as good naturally as the average, more likely better than the average, of their people. They have had years of Christian training, were honoured and trusted by their teachers far years; some of them have had the advantage of the best training in foreign colleges, and yet, after all this, they have disappointed our expectations concerning their moral action. Whom then can we trust? This action can not be said to be the result of their Christian training for it is not in harmony with it."

4.—The action of the Government in the matter of granting exemption from conscription seems hardly according to the said to be the present action of the Constitution teams the said to be the result of their Christian training for it is not in barmony with it."

mony with it."

4.—The action of the Government in the matter of granting exemption from conscription seems hardly according to that article of the Constitution which grants religious liberty in Japan, breause the Government seems to have discriminated against this school expressly on the ground that it was a Christian School, but when the Christian principles of the School were abandoued, then it was admirted to the privilege of exemption. Hearn from the Fopan Hail that the Government this discriminates not only against Christianity in this manner, but against all seligious! So it would seem that the Government regard not only Christianity, but religion of any kind whatever, as undesirable in the State, and proposes not to be merely recotal, or non-religious, but anti-religious; a very different matter. This is not religious freedom, but religious oppression. I can see it would be allowable for the State to tolerate all religious that do not teach men in his bad men. I can onceive the State might, as a protection against ignorance, require a certain standard of excellence in schools recognized and assisted by the State, but I can not see why it should concern itself luther than to see that its secular demands are carried out. I do not see why it should adopt the cause of anti-religious secularism as its own. I have heard from time to time of students being expelled from Government schools, or life made miserable for them because they were Christianis, I have heard of public school teachers redicting and opposing not simply Christianity, but all religion: because they were Christians, I have heard of public school teachers ridicating and opposing not simply Christianity, but all religion; of children being persecuted by their school mates and teachers for attending temple, Chinch, or Sunday Schools; I have heard of Mission Schools being vexed and bothered by petry officials; but I had supposed that this was merely social persecution which the Constitution and the laws can not wholly prevent, or the work of petry officials, so obscure that the Government could not be supposed to be aware of their action—I did not suppose it to be the policy of the D nationary of suppose it to be the policy of the D partment of Education. But now it seems to be the policy of Education. But now it seems to be the policy of the Government, that if students will attend a non-celigious or anti-religious school, they shall be exempt for conscription from the age of 19 to 28, but if they or their parents prefer that religious instruction and training shall be mingled with their secular education, then they are to be subject to a penalty of 9 year's service in the army, deprived for that length of time of opportunity for instruction both secular and religious. And yet the Constitution guarantees liberty of religious belief.

I prefer to attribute this strange and inconsistent state of things eather to the fact that those in authority have not yet got used to working free institutions and hence do not yet understand how to treat the subject of religion justly in its relations to the State, rather than to any deliberate purpose

to treat the subject of religion justly in its relations to the State, rather than to any deliberate purpose to violate the constitutional provisions concerning religious liberty, which wan for Japan the confidence of the world and secured her admission among the sisterbood of civilized nations.



Rev. J. D. Davis in your columns a week ago, is too full of significance and involves too many issues to be passed over lightly by serious-minded observers of the course of events in this country, I am not connected with missions in any way, but nevertheless I have watched the Dō hisha experiment with considerable interest from year vear and was personally known to the late Mi. Niijima. I suppose that now the whole scheme may be regarded as a lings failure. It is a costly hit of experience for those concerned, and I for one heartily sympathise with Mr. Davis and his fellows werkers, and hold that no terms are too strong to apply to the methods adopted by the present trustees of the Döshisha. I think Mr. Davis was quite right in giving us the whole truthabout the affair, though his action is condemned by certain missionaries on the ground that the weakness of the Christian Church should not be exposed to the gaze of imbelievers. Mr. Davis has told us a great deal; but there in more that we want in know. How are the trustees of the Döshish ear and was personally known to the late Mr. want in know. How are the trustees of the Do hi-sha appointed ? How comes it that a body of men who are disloyal to the fundamental principles of the Association are entrusted with its manage-ment? Has the Doshisha no legal status whatment? Has the Doshisha no tegar transcribered ever? Has the American Buard of Foreign Missions no documents in its possession which guarantee that the money subscribed by it should be expended in the attainment of certain fixed

objects?
The names of the trustees whose recent action has caused such a stir are not given by Mr. Davis nas caused such a sur are not given by Mr. Davis.
A Christian journal furnishes the following names:
—Messrs Yebina Danjō, Tsumashima Kakichi,
Kanamori Tsu in, Tokutomi I-ichirō, Morita
Kumatō, Miyoshi Taizō and Yokoi Tokio---all Kumato, Miyoshi Taizo and Yokoi Tokio---all well-known men in the Christian Church. Now it is only fair to inform those of your readers who regard this episode as of a piece with the Japanese commercial distonesty will which they are so painfully familiar, that the action of the trustees is almost universally condemned by Japanese Christians as absolutely dishonest. The comments of tians as absolutely dishonest. The comments of the religious press on the affair will doubtless be reproduced in your columns later on. But one question still remains to be answered, how is in possible that a number of Christian men could bring themselves to act in definince of the most ordinary and palpable principles of justice? That erdinary and paspable principles of justice? That they have acted without deliberation is not for a moment to be supposed. They are not men unendowed with reasoning faculties. In point of intellect they have few if any superiors in the Christian Church. They no doubt weighed the pros and caus of the gourse they proposed adopting before taking action. That in moral sense they are lacking goes without saying.

ing goes without saying.

In order to throw a little light on what has occurred, without in any way attempting to palliate the beinductures of the offence against justice committed, I will go back to the time of the establishment of the Döshisha by Mr. Niiji ma. In its early days I had long talks with that gentleman about its prospects, and I was at that time in close communication with Japanese who knew the whole history of the founding of the school. Mr. Davis gives us one side of Mr. Niiji ma's character. He was undoubtedly a very devoted and sincere Christian and the teas that, added to other considerations, induced his audience to subscribe towards the school were no doubt the result of strong religious feeling. When he was in America he hardly realised the difficulty of the enterprise on which he had embarked. Subsequent intercorres with his own embarked. Subsequent intercourse with his own countrymen convinced him that in order to make the Doshisha succeed it was necessary that he should enlist the sympathy of leading non-Christian Japanese. In order to do that it became necessary for him to emphasive the educational adto be offered by the prospective school and to forber from saying too much about its function as a great proselitising agency. Much of the money given by Japanese towards the school was not subseribed out of any regard for Christianity. Thus it came about that from the very first the aims and objects of the supporters of the supporters of the support in the school have not been about the school have not been afternoon. the school have not been in entire accord. This the been repeatedly pointed out by Japanese and was emphasised in your columns some years ago. It is a view to which certain Board Missionaries strongly object, but on what rational grounds I strongly dispect, but on what rational grounds a lingue never been able to ascertain. Some mouths ago the Fukuin Shimpo gave this explanation of the dissension in the Doshisha in an article which was thus summarised in your columns—" Mr. Niijima played at cumulag with the lare and hunting with the beauth in turn. To Chistians he in laye never been able to ascertain. Some months ago the Firkerin Skimps gave this explanation of the dissension in the Doshisha in an article which was thus summarised in your columns—" Mr. Nitigina played at unning with the hare and hunting with the hare and hunting with the hare and hunting with the horizon in turn. To Christians he institution should be made there support on this understanding. But before non-Christians the past it has failed to prove itself to be a rise on this understanding. But before non-Christians and obtained their support on this understanding. But before non-Christians and not prove itself to be a rise on the placed the education of and particle which it institution offered and led them to think that con-

siderable freedom of belief would be allowed, and on this understanding obtained their pecuniary support. By adopting this course he combined two elements that never could blend, he called into existence two antagonistic influences whose power has been felt ever since, Mr. Kosaki for some time followed the same course. This is the real reason of the institution's turning out so un-

satisfactory from a Christian standpoint." Mr. Nijjima was human and he was a Japanese and, moreover, he had a hobby. Having said this I have accounted for his resort to com-profilise. It is the experience of us all that life is more or less made up of a series of compro-mises. It is not a case of doing what we would, but only what we can. Mr. Niijima was a Japan-ese and no stickler for dogmas and strict prin-ciples in the way that is exemplified every day in the West. It is an undoubted fact that Japanese Christianty is of an entirely different type to what we foreignets have known in Europe or America. Even the most bigoted missionaries will admit this at their own firesides, if no enemy of missions be listening. Mr. Nijima had a hobby. There is no saying into what indiscretions men with hobbies may be betrayed. Notwithstanding all this Mr. Nijima was a very fire man, and had he lived he might have found means of saving the

Do-hisha from its present degradation.

To sum up the result of the foregoing observations, we see that the position of affairs is complicated. The present trustees maintain that they
represent the secularian element among the subscribers to the institution and that they are Christ isn in all essential respects. They say that the management of the institution has been entrusted to them at a time when all foreign support has been them at a time when all loreign support has been suddenly withdrawn and that the measures they have taken and are about to take are with a view of enabling the institution to survive its troubles, and so on. But nothing that can be said in their favour hides the fact that they have no right to property purchased with mission money and only held in trust by them for a specific purpose agreed upon by the representatives of the Mission and the original trustees. There is not you have taken to the contraction of the mission and the original trustees. is only one honourable course open to the present trustees; and it is to be hoped that, as a result of the agitation which is being set on foot all over the country, they will follow it—namely, to self the whole property and pay back to the American Board of Foreign Missions the sums received from them, or such part of the money as they are able to pay, and to start afresh on their own account,

on their own account.

Unfortunately this Döshisha affair is not the only case by any means of glaring Christian dishonesty. By Christian dishonesty I mean of course the dishonesty of professing Christians. Numerous are the cobbrries that have taken place in Christian schools. Some of these have been perpetrated by persons who had obtained the confidence of foreign missionaries in charge. I do not mean to imply by this that there is no genuine Christianity; far from it. There is no doubt a good fleat of genuine Christianity, but a large number of missionaries seem to me to be poor judges of what Japanese human nature is made of, and hence are easily imposed on. Then made of, and hence are easily imposed on. Then the fact of their holding the purse strings of the Mission and of their having it in their power to provide cash for this and that tempts designing professors of Christianity to study how best to get svar then

This Döshisha affair again brings the question to the front, how high is the standard to which Japanese Christians have been raised? Is the average professor of Christianity superior or including the average Japanese to be met with all over the country? With every desire to say all that can be truthfully said of the beneficial effects of Christianity on the majority of those who can feet. Christianity on the majority of those who profess to believe in it in this country, honesty obliges me to affirm that I would rather trust a good old-ashioned Japanese who has known nothing but his native code of honour and who lollows traditional ideals of virtue, than any of the thousands of the semi-Christianised men and women who before they came into contact with foreign missio-naries had no conception of what virtue meant,

In nothing I have said above do I wish to imply that the whole of the Christian Church is to be blamed for the dishonesty of some of its members, but the question I should like 🗯 see answered is,

need no inducements to morality founded on religious grounds. With their acknowledged want of need so inducements to morality founded on religious grounds. With their acknowledged want of susceptibility to seligious influences, it is hardly to be wondered that religion does not reach the depths of Japanese hearts and that leading professors of Christianity are found acting in a way that would be quite impossible in the case of devoted Christians in the West. Impartial Japaness are of opinion that the highest type of man in this country is not of Christian moulding, and intimate intercours with all classes extending over intimate intercourse with all classes extending over we decades has led me to the same conclusion,

I am, yours, etc., OBSERVER. March 21st, 1898.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MALL" S1R,-The caudid criticism by "Observer," in your issue of to-day on the Moral Status of Christians in this country needs, I think, a word of ex-planation or answer lest it should be taken, which planation or answer lest it should be laken, which would of course be far from his intention, as a wholesale condemnation of mission work. The answer I would find is in the words of Christ Himself;—"I came not to call the righteous but inners to repentance." Thank God no community or society has ever been without many just and right-thinking men who are so far a law unto themselves, and who are to be indeed by the means of these and who are to be judged by the measure of their ubedience. In no country pechaps has there been a larger number of such than in Japan itself. But the message of Christianity is not, in the first place, to such as these. It is not to the elect, but to the mass of men. To the now, the suffering to the nessage of Constrainty is not, in the first prace, to such as these. It is not to the elect, but to the mass of men. To the poor, the suffering, to the publicans and sincers. And the question is not whether outside of the body of Christians there may be found men whose attained standard of moral conduct in higher than that of individual Christians that what Christianian is deline with these she ans; but, what Christianity is doing with those she has gathered in, it may be, even from the streets and bye-ways of society,—Are they better than they were before she touched them? Is she raisthey were before she touched them? Is she satisfied them? Is she giving them new hopes, new ideals, new strength, or new life. A longer acquaintance even than that of "Observer," with the oricumstances and conditions of life here, enables me III answer emphatically that she is doing ables me in answer emphatically that she is doing so, and that not only in the lives of individuals but in the general life of society she is exercising an ever-widening influence for good. And, let me remind "Observer" that under new conditions of life in Japan that standard of moral excellence which he and I equally admire is weakening. It is been and is crumbling fast away. What is to take its place? I number myself What is to take its place? I number myself among whom those of whom you speak in your issue of to-day, who neither from the point of view of theory nor of experience can believe in the benefits of education divorced from religious moralbetterns of education divolced from ferigiotis storial-training, and I therefore look with some amount of jealousy upon an attack, by one evidently se falt-minded as "Observer," upon what to my mind is the only possible source which we can look in the future for the basis of a new standard of moral life for Japan.

Tokyo, March 28th.

### RESULTS OF THE GENERAL ALECTIONS.

(Abbreviations - L = Liberal; P.=Progressist; N .= National Unionist; B .= Business Men; L=Independent; M.=Minor Party.)

Tokio. Patty, Former Member.
1. Suyeyoshi Tadaharu I
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P Tsunoda Shinpei
P Tsguchi Ukichi
P Ha'yama Kaguo
P Hamano Shigesu
P Asaka Kat'taka
N Takagi Shonen
M Ishigaka Masataki Taguchi Ukichi Hatoyama Kague Masuda Rentaro Asaka Katsulaka ín 12 Hirobayashi Kuhei 13 Aoki Shotaro 13 Nakamura M Ishigaka Masataka Nakamura Katsumasa M

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### THE FRENCH REVISED TREATY.

Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon et le Président de la République Française, animés d'un égal désir de maintmir les bous rapports déjà heureusement de mainimir les nous rapports nels neureusements établis entre sus en étendant et en augmentant les relations entre leux États respectifs, et persuadés que ce but ne saurait être mieux atteint que par la révision des Traités jusqu'ici en viguent entre les deux Pays, unt résolu de procéde à cette de la comment tévision sur les bases de l'équité et de l'uné-ét mutuels et ont nommé à cet effet pour Leuis Pénipotentiaires, savoir :

Pénipotentiaires, savoir:

Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon.

M. Sonn Arasune, son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Pénipotentiaire près le Gouvernement de la République Française;

Et le président de la République Française,
Son Excellence M. Gabriel Hanotaux,
Ministre de Affaires Etrangères,

Lesquels, après s'ène communiqué leurs pleins pauvoirs trouvés en bonne et due forme, ont arrêté M conclu les articles suivants :

### ARTICLE PREMIER.

Il y aura téciproquement pleine et entière liberté de commerce et de unvigation entre les États et possessions des deux Hautes Parties Contractautes.

Les Japonais en France et les Français au Japon junicont de la plus complète et constante otection pour leurs personnes et leurs pro-

pourront iéciproquement, Ils pourront tecrproquement, can't toute l'étendus des États III possessions respectifs, voyager, técides, et se livrer à l'exercice de leurs professions, acquérir, posséder, et transmettre par succession, par testament, donation ou de toute succession, par testament, donation ou de totte autre manière que ce soit, des biens, valeus, et effets mobiliers de toutes soites; ils juuiront à cet effet des mêmes privilèges, liberté, et droits que les nationaux on les resontissants de la nation la plus favorisée, sans pouvoir être tenus à acquittes des impôts ou taxes autres ou plus élevés.

Ils auront un libre et facile accès auprès des tribunaux de justice tant pour téclamer que pour délendre leurs droits en toute instance et à tous les degrés de juridiction établis par les lois. Ils seront libres de choisir et d'employer dans toutes les circonstances les législes, avoité, avocats, et agents de toute classe qu'ils jugeraient à propos, et jouront sous ce rapport des mêmes droits et privilèges que ceux qui sont ou seront accorderaux nationaux. Digitized by

Article 2 .- Les ressortissants des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront dans toute l'étendue des États et possessions de l'autre Partie Contracdes Blats et possessions de l'autre Partie Contrac-tante d'une entière liberté de conscience, et pour-ront, en se conformant aux Lois, Ordonnances, et Règlements du pays, élever et possédet des égli-ses, se livrer à l'exercice privé ou public de leur culte; ils jouront aussi, sons les mêmes condi-tions, du droit d'être inhumés suivant leurs cou-lannes religieuses dans des cimatières convenzble-ent, situé, leureste seront, établis, durc les ent situés, lesquels seront établis dans le cas où il n'en existerait point et seront soignensement entretenas.

Article 3—Les Japonais en France et les Français au Japon ne seront contraints, sous aucun prétexte, à subir des charges on à payer autem protecte, a sum des charges on a payer des laxes, impôts, contributions, on patentes, sons quelque décommation que ce soit, autres ou plus plus élevés que ceux qui sont ou seront perçus sur les nationanx ou les ressortissants de la nation la

Ils ne seront astraints à ancun service obligatone, soit dans les armées de terre ou de mer, soit dans les gardes on milices nationales. Ils seront exempts de tontes contributions imposées en lieu et place du service personnel, de tons emprunts

forcés, et de toute autre contribution extraordinaire de quelque nature que an soit. Article 4.—Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes pourront, en quelque lieu que ce soit des Etats et Possessions de l'autre Partie, exercer toute espèce d'industrie ou de métier, faire le commerce fant en gros qu'en détail de tous produits, objets fabriqués ou manufacturés, de tous articles de commerce licite, soit en personne, soit par leurs agents, seuls on en entrant en so-ciété commerciale avec des étrangers on avec des nationaux; ils pour rout posséder, louer, même par bail emphytéutique, et occuper les maisons et boutiques qui leur seront nécessaires, louer des terres, les prendre à bail emphytéotique; le tout en se conformant, comme les nationaux euxmemes et les ressortissants de la nation la plus favorisée, aux Lois et Règlements des pays respectifs.

aux Lois et Regionneuts des pays respectits.

Il est enleudu qu'en tout ce qui concerne l'agriculture et le droit de propriéé sur les biens insumbiliers, les Japonais en França and les Français
au Japon journout du même traitement que les

sujets ou citoyens de la nation la plus favoriseé.
Article 5—Les Japonais en France et les
Français an Japon auront pleine liberté d'entrer
avec leurs navires et leurs cargaisons dans tous
les ports, monillages, et rivières de leurs territoires respectifs qui sont ou pourront être ouverts au commerce ex étieur et jouitout, en matière de commerce et de navigation, du même traitement que les nationaux et resportissants de la nation la plus favorisée, sans avoir à payer aucurs impôts, taxes on droits de guelque nature on de quelque dénomination que ce soit, perçus au nom ou au profit du Gouvernement, de fonc-tionnaires publics, de particuliers, de corpora-tions ou établissements quelconques, antres ou plus életés que ceux imposés aux nationanx ou ressortissants de la nation la plus favorisée, le tout en se conformant aux Lois, Ordonnances et Règlements des pays respectifs.

Article 6.—Les habitations, magasina et bouti-ques des sujets on citoyens de chacune des Hantes Parties Contractantes, ainsi que leurs dépen-

dances, seront respectés.

Il ne sera point permis d'y procéder à des perquisitions on visites domiciliaires non plus que dexaminer on d'inspecter les livres, papiers on comptee, sauf dans les conditions et formes pre-scrites par les Lois, O donnances et Règlements applicables aux nationanx.

Article 7.-Les droits de douane perçus à l'en-trée au Japon et en Prance sur les produits de l'autre pays ne pomonet être autres ou plus élevé-que ceux imposés aux marchandises similaires originaires du pays le plus favori-é 🔳 en prove nant dans les mêmes conditions.

Les droits perçus à la sortie du Japon et de France sur les produits destinés à l'autre pays ne pourront également être autres ou plus élevées que ceux imposés aux mêmes produits destinés au pays le plus favori-é.

pays te puis ravorte.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes s'engagent, en outre, à n'établir aucune restriction ou prohibition d'importation ou d'exportation qui ne soit, en même temps, applicable aux autres nations.

Article 8.—Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouinout, dans les fints a Desparation de l'autres de l'accounting de l'accou

Etats et Possessions de l'antre, de l'exemption de tour droits de transit quelconques et d'une parfaite égalité de traitement avec les nationaux pour tout ce qui concerne le magasinage, les primes, les primes, les facilités et les drawbacks.

Les marchandises de toute nature originaires de

ceux qui grèvent ou grèveraient les marchandises similaires de production nationale.

Art. 9.—Les droits de douane perçus à l'entrée ou à la sortie des territoires de chacine des Hautes Parties Contractantes, les primes et les drawbacks secont les mêmes que les importations on les exportations aient lieu par les navires japonais on français on par des navires de toute

Art. 10,—Ancuns droits de tonnage, de port, de pilotage, de phare, de quarantaine ou autres droits similaires on analogues, de quelque nature ou sons quelque dénomination que ce sont, levés au nom ou an profit du Gouvernement, de fonctionnaires publics, de particuliers, de corporations ou d'établissements quelconques, qui ne seraient également el sous les mêmes conditions imporés en pareil cas sur les navires nationaux en général de la parent cas sur les navires nationaix en generat de la nation la plus favorisée, ue seront imporés dans les ports des États et Possessions de chacun des deux Pays sur les navires de l'autre pays. Cette égalité de traitement sera appliquée réciproquement aux navires respectifs, de quelque endroit qu'ils arrivent et quel que soit le lieu de destination.

Art. 11.-En ce qui concerne le placement des Att. II.—En ce qui concerne le placement des navires, leur chargement dans les ports, rades, havres, bassins, docks ou rivières des Etals et Possessions des deux Pays, il ne sera accordé aux navires nationaux aucun privilège ni aucune faveur qui ne le soit également aux navires de l'autre Puissance, la volonté des Hantes Parties Contractantes étant que, sous ce rapport aussi, les bâtiments japonais et français scient respec-tivement traités sur le pied d'une parfaite égalité.

tivement traités sur le pied d'une parlaite égalités. Act. 12.—Il est fait exception aux dispositions du présent traité pour le cabotage dont le régime reste soumis aux Lois, Ordonnances et Règlements du Japon et de la France respectivement. Il est entendu toutefois que les Japonais en France et les Francais au Japon jouiront, pour tout ce qui concerne le cabotage, des droits et privilèges qui sont ou seront accordés par ces mêmes Lois, Ordonnances et Règlements aux ressortissants de tout autre pays.

tout autre pays.

Tout navire japonais chargé au Japon ou à Tont navice japonais chargé au Japon ou à l'étranger d'une cargaisou destinée en tout au en partie à deux on plusieurs ports de France et tout avire français chargé en France ou à l'étranger d'une cargaison destinée en tout ou en partie à deux ou pluiseurs ports du Japon pourra, en se conformant aux Lois et aux Règlements de douane du pays, décharger une partie de sa cargaison dans un port, et continuer son voyage pour l'autre ou les antres ports de destination, dans le but d'y décharger une autre partie nu le reste de sa cargaison d'origine.

Le Gouvemement Japonais contêde en outre aux navires francais le droit de continuer, comme par le passé, et pour toute la durée du présent traité, à transporter des cargaisons entre les ports

par le passé, et pour toute la durée du présent trairé, à transporter des cargaisons entre les porta onverts de l'Empire, à l'exception des ports d'Osaka, de Niigare, et d'Ebisuminato.

Asticle 13.—Tout navire de commerce de l'une des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes qui sersit forcé par le mauvais temps on pour toute autre raison de se réfugier dans un port de l'autre Partie Contractante num la liberté de s'y faire réparer, de s'y pouvoir de tous les approvisionnements dont il aura besoin et de reprendre la mer sans payer d'autres droits que ceux qui seraient aconitée en pareille circonstance par les bâtiacquittés en pareille circonstance par les trâti-ments nationaux. Dans le cas cependant où le capitainé d'un navire de commerce se trouveraix dans la récessité de vendre une partie de sa car-gaison pour payer les frais, il sera obligé de se conformer aux Règlements m Tarifs du lieu « à il aurait relâché.

S'il arrive qu'un navire quelconque de l'une des S'il arrive qu'in n'avire que conque de l'ine des Hautes Parties Contractantes échone ou lassa naufrage sur les côtes de l'autre Partie, les auto-rités locales en informeront saus retàrd le Consul Général, le Cousti, le Vice-Consul ou l'Agent consulaire de la nationalité du naviro le plus voisin, legnet sera admis à intervenir en sa qualité pour procurer toute l'assistance nécessaire

Toutes les opérations relatives au sauvetage des navires japonais naufragés ou échoués dans les eaux territoriales de la France auront lieu conformément aux Lois, Ordonnances et Règlements français, m réciproquement, toutes les mesures de sauvetage relatives aux navires français naufragés ou échonés dans les eaux territoriales du Japon aurant lieu conformément aux Lois, Ordonnances et Règlements japonais.

Tous navires ou vaisseaux ainsi échonés ou man-fragés, tous débris et accessoires, toutes fournitures teur appartenant el tous effets et marchandises sauvé desdits navires ou vaisseaux y compris ceux qui auraient été jetés à la me, ou les produits desdits objects, s'ils sont vendus, ainsi que tous papiers trouvés à bord de ces navires ou vaisseaux Les maichandases de troute traine de granda de la maine de papiers trouvés à bord de ces navires ou vaisseaux pour de cas papiers de la maine de la ma les lieux, lesdits produits on objects seront remis Consuls généraux, Cousuls, Vice-Consuls ou Agents consulaires respectifs et ces officiers consulaires, proprétaires ou représentants payeront seulement les dépenses occasionnées pour la conservation desdits objects ainsi que les frais de sauvetage ou antres dépenses anaquels seraient sonnis, en cas de naufrage, les navires nationaux. Les effets et marchandises sauvés du naufrage seront exempts de tous droits de douane, à moits qu'ils n'entrent dans la consommation intérieure. Art. 14—Les navires de guerre de l'une des deux Phissances pour ont entrer, répouner et arradonber dans ceux des ports de l'autre Puissance dout l'accès est perufis aux navires de guerre de la nation la plus lavoriée; ils y seront soumis aux pêmes règles et y joutiont des mêmes homeurs, avantages, privilèges et exemptions concé lés à cette dernète. les lieux, lesdits produits on objects seront remis Consuls généraux, Consuls, Vice-Consuls ou

avantages, privinges et exemptions conte les acette deruièles.

Art. 15 — Les paquehots chargés d'un service postal et appartenant à des compagnies subveniumés par l'un des deux Erats Contrartacts ne pourrent être, dans les ports de l'autre Érat, dé tournés de leur destination ni être sujets à saisie, autèr, embargo ou arrêt du Prince.

Article 16 — Tous les navires qui, confornément aux Lois japonaises, sont considé és comme navires japonais et tous les navires qui, conformément aux Lois francaire, sont considéres comme navires francaire, seront respectivement considé és comme japanais et leacais pour l'application du présent Trairé.

Article 17 — Les Consuls gé éraux, Consuls, Vice-Consuls et Agents consulanes de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes résidant dans les Etats et Possessions de l'autre Partie receveront de autorités locales, pour la recherche, saise et

de autorités lucales, pour la recherche, saisie et acrestation des déserteurs des navires de leur pays

nerestation des desetteurs des navies de leur pays respectif, unite aide et assistance du pour out leur étre données conformémeen aux lois lest entendu que cette stipulation de s'appli-quera pas aux ressortissants du Pays ou la dé section aura lien.

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will be published in next issue.]	

### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE " JAPAN TIMES")

### THE RUSSIAN DEMANDS.

London, March 26.

The Times publishes a telegram from Pekin, stating that China has agreed to all of Russia's demands.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. President McKinley has informed the leaders of Congress that he is determined to uphold peace if possible.

London, March 28. Spain has addressed a note in reply to the American representations, stating that she cannot make further concessions, nor admit encroachments on her Sovereignty in the West Indies.

London, March 30. Despatches received from Washington indicate that Spain is willing to make large concessions, and the situation is decidedly more hopeful.

P. AND O. STEAMER AGROUND. The P. and O. steamer Come is ashore ports opened for foreign commerce. The P. and O. steamer Come is ashore ports opened for foreign commerce. The P. and O. steamer Come is ashore ports opened for foreign commerce. The P. and O. steamer Come is ashore ports opened for foreign commerce.

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The P. and O. steamer Come is ashore provided to the control of the contro

will probably be a total loss, passengers were landed. All the

THE "MAINE" EXPLOSION. London, March 27.

The Report of the United States commission attributed the Maine explosion to external causes, apparently a submarine mine, but does not fix the responsibility. The Spanish report states the explosion was internal. The Washington Government has decided to inform Spain, that the conditions of misery and starvation in Cuba have become intolerable, and that hostilities in the island must cease. The war preparations in the United States continue, and the scare is unprecedented.

THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST.

The Times counsels an immediate powerful naval demonstration in the Gulf of Pechili.

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.

The Oxford and Cambridge Boat race has been won by Oxford, by twelve lengths.

RUSSIAN OCCUPATION OF POR ARTHUR AND TALIENWAN.

The Times publishes a telegram stating that the Russians have occupied Port Arthur and Talienwan.

ENGLAND'S CHINESE POLICY.

Mr. Balfour will make his statement on the Chinese policy before Easter.

MR. GLADSTONE.

The doctors regard Mr. Gladstone's recovery as impossible.

GERMAN NAVY BILL PASSED.

The Navy Bill has been finally passed by the Reichstag.

SPANISH CONCESSIONS UNCON-FIRMED.

London, March 31.

The optimist reports of Spanish concessions are not confirmed. There is a vigorous revival of the war feeling in America. Numerous resolutions have been presented to Congress, demanding intervention in Cuba.

LORD SALISBURY'S HEALTH. Lord Salisbury has started for the Riviera.

(Special Correspondent of the Jiji Shimpo).

Peking, 9.20 a.m. March 25th. The limits of the land obtained by Russia from China on lease in the Liaotung Peninsula are 150 or 160 li in a

northerly direction from the hills, and 70 or 80 li eastward and westward. Chinchow Bay and Pitsz wo are not to be leased, but the portion of the sea-coast to which the railway is carried from the vicinity of the leased area will also be leased. The name of this portion of coast is not yet clearly designated, however. It is expected that the convention will be signed on the 27th instant.

(Received by the Fill.)

THE RUSSO-CHINESE TREATY SANCTIONED.

Peking, March 26.

The Russo-Chinese treaty received the Emperor's sanction this morning.

TALIEN AND CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Peking, March 26. Russia is to open Talien for foreign commerce, the rates of customs duties to be exactly the same as in the Chinese

Russia, to be subsequently delivered to

BRITISH MEN-OF-WAR.

Chemulpo, March 26. The British cruisers Powerful and Graf-

ton have cast anchor here, arriving from Chefoo, this morning.

MR. PAK GHONG YANG.

Soul, March 26

Mr. Pak Chöng Yang was to-day ap-pointed Minister President of State. VE CHAISUN RELEASED.

Söul, March 28.

Ye Chaisun, who was arrested in con-nection with the Kim Heung-yuk affair, has been released.

DEPARTURE OF BRITISH WARSHIPS.

Jinsen, March 28. The British men-of-war Powerful, Grafton, and Narcissus cleared from this port

to-day. ENGLAND SENDS ANOTHER WARNING. Peking, March 28.

England has again addressed warning advice to China in the sense that if China acquiesces in the demands of Russia, the result will be the disturbance of the balance of power in the Far East.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE TREATY SIGNED.

The Russo-Chinese Treaty was signed yesterday.

RUSSIA'S GOVERNOR FOR THE LEASEO TERRITORY.

Col. Olgok (Wogack?) will probably be appointed Governor of the territory leased by Russia.

RUSSIAN TROOPS REPLACING CHINESE AT PORT ARTHUR AND TALIENWAN.

The Chinese troops stationed at Port Arthur and Talienwan, have evacuated those places, which are now occupied by Russian troops. The Russian flag has been hoisted at both ports.

THE BRITISH SQUADRON READY FOR EMERGENCIES.

Hongkong, March 28. The British war-vessels here, with the single exception of the Edgar, have received orders to make preparations for a cruise to the north. All the vessels are hurriedly loading provisions and other necessaries. The special emergency docks were all opened yesterday.

THE NEW RUSSIAN MINISTER TO KOREA.

Nagasaki, March 31.
Mr. Matunine, new Russian Minister to Korea, arrived here this mountag by the steamer Genkat Maru, en route for Koren.

### MAIL STEAMERS.

### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Bongkong	M. M.Co.	Salezie s	W. Apr. 6
Canada, &c	C, P, R, Co	Em. of India	Sit. Apr. 20
conghong	O. & O. Co.	Gaeire	Su. Apr. 10
Enrope	N. D. Lloyd	Hohansolle: n	W. Apr. 13
America	P. M. Co.	Chissa	81. Apr. 28
Bongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Apr. 18
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Chlos.	Th. Apr
Bongkung	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W Apr. 18
America	D. & O. Co.	Heigic	Th. Apr. 19

r Left Hongkong on the sath March.

Į	THE	NEXT M	AII. LEAVI	(S
ı	Pot	Line.	Steamer,	Date.
ı	America	P. 51, co.	C. Rio J'neiro	Sa, Apr. (
	Hungkong	P. & O. Co	Robitia	Tu. Apr. :
	shanghal	N Y. K.	Sniki - Mara	W. Apr. I
	Hongkong		Em, of India	, M. Apr 11
	Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M. Apr. ti
	Europe, via S'hal.		Salazie	W, Apr. r
	America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Apr. 11
	langkong	N. D. L.	Hoheszollern	Fri. Apr. 1
	· Original -fr	OFIDP.R.Co.	Em. of China	P. Apr. 1.
	Honeyour			F. Apr. 8

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### CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Curse Epizon.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 362. (Ry W. B. Mason, Tokyo.)

(2)	and a duyany
WHITE.	81.4 CK.
t-Ki io Q B 3	I-P takes Kt
2-R to Q 3	2-P lakes R
3-Q to Q 5 mate	
	if 2-K to Kt 4
3-R to Q 5 mate	3 . V . O .
- D. D. (	it 1-K to Q 3

3-O mates acc. Correct solutions received from D.D., Voila, Skak, and Miss S.

2-Any

PROBLEM No. 365. First-Prize Winner. Author Not Known.



White mates in three moves.

### YOROHAMA CHESS CLUB.

Here are the results of the second round in the Championship Tourney.

	PLAYER.	Wox	. Lost.
J	Mendelson	0	
-1	Pollak*	3	
- 1	Friedlander	*	0
ŧ	Weilbach	* Winners.	3

Two more players are thus disposed of and Messis. Pollak and Friedlander left to play off in the third round which is to commence on Monday next.

Mr. Sachs has challenged Mr. Stornebrink to a match—on even terms—of ten games up, their position on the "Ladder" depending on this result of the match.

### GAMB, No. 375.

The following is the score of the fifth game in the match Pollak v. Friedlander.

### KING'S GAMBIT.

	40.21.0	Q. 11 12 2 2 4 1 1	
WhiteFr	iedlander.	Black.—F	oliak.
WHITE,	SLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
r P Ka	P K <sub>4</sub>	23 Q B2	P KR <sub>3</sub>
2 P KB4	PxP	24 B K3	P R <sub>3</sub>
3 Kt KB3	P KK4	25 P R3	R O <sub>3</sub>
4 P KR4	III R3(≈)	26 H B sq	K(B3) K2
5 B B4	R Q <sub>3</sub>	27 Kt R4	R B · q
6 KtxP?	BxKt	28 P R5	Kt Kt ig
7 Q R5 8 Qx B	Q K <sub>2</sub>	29 B B4	KtxB(f)
8 QxB	ÖxP ch ÖxBP	30 Qx Kt(g)	
9 B K2	QxBP	зт КжВ	PaR
to Castles	Q Kı3	32 Q Q2	K⊢B <sub>3</sub>
11 QxP(b)	K1 K2	33 K: B5	KCK5
12 R B3(c)	Kt Q4	34 Q K14	KixKi
13 Q Q4	R Ki∍q	35 PxK((h)	R B <sub>3</sub>
14 B B 8q	B K3_	36 P R4	P K4
15 P Q3(d)	Kt QB3	37 P R5	PK5
16 Q R4	B Q2(6)	38 BxP	RiB
17 Q K4 ch	B K3	39 P B6	R R2
18 Kt B3	K <sub>1</sub> (Q <sub>4</sub> ) K <sub>2</sub>	40 R B3	,Q B3
19 B K:5	Cits, QR		R B2
20 R B6	O Kız F Q4	42 Q B5	P Q5
21 P Q4	P Q4	43 Resigns	
22 Q H4	Kt Ki3		

NOTES.

(a) 4—P to Kt 5 is the orthodox reply, leading to the interesting Algaier Gambit.

(b) White emerges from this with a Pawe minus and a rather inferior position, the consequence of his sixth move, which was premature.

(c) 12—Kt to B 3 is preferable, preventing—Kt

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(d) Again 15-Kt to B 3 should have been

(e) Losing time; castling at once probably best.
(f) Quite correct. It instead 29—Kt or Q takes
R, then 30 B takes H and white should win. -R takes Kt would have saved the loss

(g) 30-R take of the exchange. (h) A last attempt at a desperate attack which

however, tails.

### GAMR. No. 376. A HUNGARIAN GEM.

The following gem of the Hungarian champion's as been touring over the world. It is an undoubthas been touring over the world. ed brilliancy and worth perusing.

DANISH GAMBIT

White-Charonack.	Black-Wollner:
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK
	11 P K6 Q R5(b)
2 P Q4 PxP	12 PxRch KB-q
3 P ÕB3 PxP 4 B B4 , K	13 B B4 KIXBP
4 B B4 K K B3	14 Q K2 Kt Kt5dis.ch
5 K1 B3 B B4	15 K R q B Q 2
6 KtxP P Q3	16 QR Ksq KiB3
7 Castles "Castles	17 Q K8ch RxQ
8 Kt KKis(a) PKR3	18 PxR(Q)ch BxQ
9 KIXP RxK(	19 BxQP
10 P K5 Kt KtS	. mate.

The notes are from the Westminster Budget. (a) Kt to K Kt 5 is no doubt the beginning of e uttack, but as it is not quite transparent for what purpose the text-move was intended, if Black had replied 8-Kt to B3, we suspect that Charon anticipated Black's indifferent P to E R3. combination, however, is so pretry that it was worth trying for—and it came off.

(b) Black attempted an ineffectual counter-at (b) Black attempted an nearconal commercat-tack with 11—Q to R 5, but 11—R to K 2; 12—Q takes Kt (the alternative) would not have been much better. As a matter of fact, 8—P to K R3 lost the game. The conclusion is exceptionally pretty.

### NOTES FROM ABROAD.

"All chess life seems to be with America," writes an estermed and particularly well-posted English correspondent of the Times Democras. " A English correspondent of the Times Democrat. "A great change has come over English chess. The old masters are dying out. The new horn-strength of amateurs has slaughtered them. They have no prostige. Names once of weight are now spoken of with contempt. No new Blackburnes or Birds. The 'nimble shifling' for which the old professionals played at the Divan is now too hardly earned. The country joskins know the openings and the principles, and instead of Bird giving a nonem and winning 20 names in an hour, as I have onem and winning 20 names in an hour, as I have queen and winning 20 games in an hour, as I have seen he plays on even terms, and of five games wins only the odd one and a shilling. The ancient 'Shilling Gambit' is no longer a thing of dead. Young men from Birmingham walk into the Divan without awe and speak of giving odds,"

For the International Cabb. Match, the British Team has been selected, and it is, probably, the strongest that can be found in Great Britain. The redoubtable Blackburne leads the host; then The redoubtable Blackburroe leads the host; then comes Amos Burro, one of the best the Britishers laye; E. M. Jackson, who won both his games in the other cable-matches; C. D. Locook, who rocks among the first non-professionals; D. Y. Mills, the Scotch champion; H. E. Atkins, the London crack; C. E. H. Bellingham, only twentythee years of age, but a tournament-winner to 1896; Herbert Jacobs, a fine amateur player; two new men—M. L. Caro, who made a record at Bertin, losing only four out of the mineteen games; and H. W. Treuchard, a veteran who will give a good account of himself. good account of himself.

The Team to represent the United States, has also been chosen. Pillsbury and Showalter need no introduction; Barry, the Boston crack, won both lis games in '96 and '97; Ed. Hymes held his own in the other matches; Delmar, the veteran, is known everywhere as a brilliant player; Hodges always gives a good account of himself. The other four are Franklin K. Young, of Boston, specially recommended by Pillsbury and Barry; John A. Galbreath, of New Orleans, who is ranked as one of the strongest players of the South; D. G. Baird, one of the Greater New York's experts; and Alfred R. Robinson, of the Franchlin Chess-Club, Philadelphia, who excels in careint's accurate play. The two substitutes are Major Hanham and Louis Schmidt, both of New York City. The general impression, among those able to give an opinion, is that the British Team is slightly stronger than the American, or, at least, that the chances are in favour of the Englishmen.

Literary Digest. The Team to represent the United States, has also -Literary Digest.

Steinitz was recently presented with a cheque for £100 by his American friends,

Lasker will shortly return to London, his adopted home. No doubt the big Vienna tournament will draw the champion, as the first prize is fixed at £400, with other good sewards for the remaining five positions.

J. H. Blackhume recently fulfilled a most successful engagement at Hereford, his record being thirty-five victories against no defeats and two draws in simultaneous play, and five successes and a draw in the blindfold exhibition. to one of the six games played simultaneously and without sight of board or men Blackburne sacrificed a keight on the twentieth move, and upon its acceptance, to the astonishment of the spectators, not only announced mate in six moves, but proceeded, to their further amagement, to call out with the utmost randity variation after variations. out with the atmost rapidity variation after varianoi until the position was thoroughly exhausted.

According to a recent report from Russia, Count Tolstoy has lately taken up thess, and taken it up vigorously, like all his other hobbies. He makes his family play with him all day long, and has cuted off a cliessboard on almost every table in his house at Moscow. Even his dogs and cats have been christened with the names of cliess pirces.

### LATEST SHIPPING.

### ARRIVALS.

Fathan, British steamer, 1,763, Day, 27th March;

New York via ports and Suez Canal, Kobe,
25th March, General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.
Ision, British steamer, 2,299. Nish, 27th March,
—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 26th March, Genetal.—Butta field and Saire.

van briter field and Swire.

Venus, British steamer, 2,350, McGregor, 27th March,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kole, 26 h March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S.

Benvorlich, British steamer, 2,164, Thomson, 28th March, London via ports, Kobe, 27th March, General, -Corner & Co.

Brasmer, Bottsh steamer, 2.316, Edward Porter, 20th March, Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 27th March, Mails and Groccal, Dodwell Carlill &

March, Antwerp via Sner Canal and Singapore, 17th March, General. Sale & Co. Robilla, B. irish steamer, 2,216, L. de B. Lockyer, 29 hMar., Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kube, Mails and General. P. & O. S.N. Co.

Amara, British steamer, 1,569, P. H. Rolle, 29th March, Hongkong, 21st March, Rice. Jar-dine, Matheson & Co.

dine, Matheson & Co.

Wally, German steamer, 3,038, S. Bebrens, 30th
March,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkung, 14th
March, General.—Simons Evers & Co.

Hachidate Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,003, I. Narasaki, 30 h March,—Hongkung via Mobe, 17th
March, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 31st
March, Son Escaping and Hamble visth.

March, San Francisco and Honolulu, 19th March, Mails and General.— O. & O. S. S. Co. Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagen, 31st March, Middlesboroughi, 24th Oct., Coke and Pig Iron. —Salr & Co.

— Sale & Co.

Waha, British steamer, 1,250, Bensoe, 31st Mar.

— Asping, 24th March, Sugar.— Jardine Matheson & Co.

Alton, British steamer, 2,169, Nicholsen, 31st March,—Singapore, 18th March, Ballast.— March,—Singapore, 18th Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Dodwell Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Faneire, American steamer, 2,275,
Wm. Ward, 3tst March,—Hongkong via poits,
23rd Mar., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Glaucus, British steamer, 3,350, J. Barwise, 1st
April,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 31st March,
General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Suminore Maru, Japanese steamer, 366, K. Nobeta, 1st April,—Yokkaichi, 31st March, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lillian L. Robbins, British Barque, 1,696, E. Robbins, 1st April,—New York, 27th October,
Kerosene Oil.—Standard & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W,
Conner, 1st April,—Shanghai vià ports, 26th
March, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

### DEPARTURES.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, John Paine, 20th March, London via ports, Mails and General. -P. & O. S.N. Co.

Riofun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, A. E. Moses, 26th March,—Hongkong vin ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Langbank, British steamer, 2,966, W. J. Rout, 27th March.—Moji via Kobe, General.—Samuel Original 1000

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,204, R. D. Jones, 27th March, Landon via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Chusan, German steamer, 780, W. Wendt, 27th March,—Amoy, General.—Simon Evers & Co.
Venus, British steamer, 2,313, It. McGregor, 29th March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Glenearn, British steamer, 1,425, W. Muttay, 20th March,-Kuchinoshu, Ballast.-Jardine Ma-

thieson & Co.

oo Chow, British steamer, 2,253, J. Blackburg,
29th March,-Moji, Ballast.-Butterfield &

Swite.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237. Lorensen, 29th March, -- Kuchinoshu, Ballast. -- Browne & Co. Terrier, Not wegian steamer, 1,008, W. Wilhelmsen, 29th March, -- Moji, Ballast. -- M. Raspe & Co.

Co.
Sunda, British steamer, 2,987, S. G. D. Andrews,
Soth March,—London via ports, Mails and
General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Edward Porter,
30th March,—Portland Oregon via Honolulu,
Mails and General.—Dudwell, Carlill & Co.
Ernett Simons, French steamer, 2,360, Jonidan,
30th March,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and
General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Nish, 31st March,
—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and
Swire.

Swire.

Swife.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,26t, Williamson, 30th
March,—New York via ports and Suez Canal,
General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Urd, Norwegian steamer, 1,968, Hansen, 31st
March,—Seattle, Washington, General,—Frazar

Benloword, British steamer, 1,754, C. K. Mc-lutosh, 31st March,—Saigon, Ballast.—Cornes

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 1st April, -Hongkong via ports, Mails and General, -O. & O. S.S. Co.

### PASSENGERS.

### ARRITED.

Per B. itish steamer Rohilla, from Hongkong and ports:—Mr. Hall Thomas, and Mr. Rhoden, in cabin; Mr. C. R. C. Narolay, Mr. Amarin and servant, and Mr. Lo Pon Kook, in second class; Hon Wing, and 3 Chinese, on deck.

servant, and Mr. Lo Pon Kook, in second class; Hon Wing, and 3 Chinese, on deck.

Per British steamer Dorie, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. Tabbis, Mr. F. H. Clark, Mr. C. E. Cushing, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hulbert & child, Mrs. W. H. Holbert, Miss M. Richards, Miss Caroline V. Dorsey, Miss M. R. Pratt, Mrs. M. C. Crow, Mr. W. L. Crow, Mr. Ralph Lowe, Mr. Sam. B. Lowe, Mr. K. Oaki, Mr. Ray Bowiel, Mr. H. H. Oliel, Mr. K. T. Watanabe, Mrs. Leigh Hont, Master Henry Hunt, Col. Churchill, Miss R. L. Lukens, Mr. Chas. Freeman, Mr. Lawrence Pervin, Mr. and Mr. John J. Valentine, and Dr. Fukuoka, in cabin. For Kohe: —Mr. and Mrs. Malcom McKenzie, Mrs. W. J. Schroth, Mr. R. E. McGlew, Mr. Oscar Gueriz, and Mr. Cam Lucas, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. B. S. Buckonau, Mr. C. S. Crow, Mr. G. A. Taylor, Mr. W. W. Taylor, Mr. F. M. Bechtd, Mr. Henderson, Mr. E. Schutes, Mr. E. W. Tompkins, Mr. Wm. Kopp, Mr. Geo. McCultugh, Mr. H. T. Yuoker, and Mr. C. H. Yunker, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. Wm. Martin & 2 children, Mrs. A. F. Channof, Mr. F. F. Davies, Mr. A. de Bavier, Mr. A. Heath, and Mr. R. Harper, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. & Mrs. Harper, in cabin. Beather, Mrs. R. Gore, Col. Preston, Mrs. J. M. Shotwell, Mrs. G. B. Efner, and Mr. F. Lloyd Junes, in cabin. F. Lloyd Jones, in cabin.

F. Lloyd Jones, in cabin.

Fer American steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, from Hongkong via poats:—Mr. Tho. Gittins, Miss V. Porter, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mr. C. Gibbens, Mr. Tho. Krishaw, Miss Gittins, Mr. F. M. Griffin, Rev. J. S. Patton, Mr. O. D. Richardson, and Mr. J. Gueggenheim, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb, Mrs. M. Reenols, Miss Knoke, Mrs. Cobunn, Mr. S. C. Longhurst, Mr. Wilmer Harris, Rev. F. A. Waples, wife and child, Dr. C. H. Furch, wifrand 2 childee, Mrs. J. I. Patton and child, Miss Sadie Patton, Rev. S. S. White, Mrs. S. S. White, Miss White, Master White, R. v. J. H. Pettee, Miss J. A. E. Gulick, Mr. and Mrs. Clembentson, and Mr. Jus, Barry, in cabin. Mr. Jas, Barry, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Sakio Maru, from Shanghai and ports:—Canat and Conatess Pounisky, Mr. D. Hataba, Mr. Conder, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. Geo. Stanbury, Mr. and Mrss Pakai, Mr. Matsumoto, Miss Pelton, Miss Short, Mr. Tojio, and Mr. Barbon Sathrop, in cabin; D., and Mrs. Sakamoto, Mrs. Iwami, Miss Iwami, and Mrs. K. Morita, in second class; 50, steerage.

### EXPECTED.

Per German steamer Hohenzollern by Prins Heinrich, from Hangkong:—Dr. G. Snecka, Mc. and Mr. W. Hagen, Mr. Homby, The Misses Homby, Dr. Dahlka, Accideacon and Miss. Harris, Miss L. Suhre, Mr. Y. Motono, and Mr. Harris, Mus L. Com.
M. Isobe, in cabin.
DEPARTED.

Per French steamer Ernest Simons, for Marseilles and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. K. Inouye, Mr. Thevenet, Mr. G. Brocketbank, Mr. Shillito, Mr. de Micheaux, Mr. R. Schmid, Mr. L. Besustiev, Mr. F. Alexandroff, Mr. P. H. Cowan, Mr. C. A. Barradas, Mr. M. Alexer, Mr. H. B. Collings, Mr. Robins, Mallante Okada Sumi, Mr. George Hay, Mr. Loo Wing Bun and infant, Mr. Cham Chil Ling, Mr. Guen Cheong Poo, Mr. Kwan Gk chin, in cabin; 184, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Maru, for Shanghai

revair Ok time, in canner Kobe Maru, for Shanghai via ports;—Mr. A. M. Khapp, Mr. H. J. Carrew, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hibara, Mrs. C. H. Otaldo, Mr. K. Tsuzuki, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hayashi, Mr. I. Tachino, Mr. and Mrs. S. Morita, and Mr. I. Hagiwara, in cabin; 40 Japanese, in sleerage.

### REPORT.

Sailed from Sau Francisco, March 12th at 4.45 p.m., arrived Honolulu, March 18th at 9.45 p.m.; sailed 19th at 5.30. Had fine weather throughout. Arriving at Yokohama on March 31st at 3.10 a.m.

### CARGOES.

Per British steamer Venus, for San Francisco, Mar. 29th :—

	1 1 14	NEW		
	BARGURURA	YORK.	NUNDLITLE.	Lizitata
Shanghai		-	_	_
Hiogo,	-	_	_	_
Yokehama	7450	_		450
Hongkong	301	8,660		8,978
Entatument con	763	8,566	_	9.428
	SILK			
	8.4.N	MKM		
	FBANCSEG	0.000	HART FORD.	* 1 - 1 - 2
Shanghai			_	-
Hongkong	_	49	_	<b>4</b> ]α
Vokohama	·	86	_	86
Total	_	126	_	€26
Per British ste	amer I	Braema	er, for 1	Portland
Oceans wis Hanni				

Oregon via Honolula, 30th March:

Yukohauna ...... 18

### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

### IMPORTS.

There is little or on demand and stocks of all kinds of piece good continue to accumulate, while very few sales of yaros have been effected. Some business has been done in raw cotton for the spinning mills, but as several of these are in defficulties owing to over-production, the demand is not large. Quotations are all nominal.

### COTTOR PIRCY GOODS.

PBE 1196	B.
they bluttings-#4 lb, 384 yds, Jyinches \$2 55 to 2	as.
Grey Shirtings -olh, 384 yds. ISinches 1.80 to 3	.35
l'. Cloth-7 16, 21 yards, 32 inches 1.80 in 2	
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 11 inches. 1.95 to 2	
Printe-Assorted, 24 yards, ju mehres,. 2 00 to 3	
Cotton-Italians and Sattrens Black, resesse	
as imber	28.0
WOOLLENS.	
Planne's a managementation with \$0.30 to 0	.50
Italian Cloth, je yanda, ju inches best - 0.35 to 6	
Hulium Cloth, ju gniele, 3e inches	
Afedium a 30 to 0	.321
Stalign Cloth, 30 yanda, 32 Dicher	
Guidhing	. 22 i
Monggeitne de Laine-Chape, 24 yards,	
it inches o 15 to u	22
Cluths-Pilots, 51 & 54 inches 0 15 10 0	
Cloths-Prenidents, 51 id 56 inches 0.00 to 0	
Cloths-Union, 54 of 56 inches o 50 to 0	
Blankels-Scailet and Green, 3 to 5th,	- 3
ret & e 50 to c	đo.
FEW Flui	
Velvetne-Blach, 35 yands, erinches 7 75 to 9	
Victoria Lawres, 14 yands, 12-3 inches, 0.75 to 1	
l'urkey Reds-2, o to 2,4h, 21, 45 yards,	
to inches manner annual 1.50 to 1	143
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 21/25 yards,	10
30 inches	100
Turkey Reds-3,8 to 4h, 24/45 yards,	
32 inches	-90
Unikey Reds-4.8 to 5%, 24/25 yards,	-34
32 inches 3 00 to 3	100
	-
LOTTOR YARRS. PREFICE	
ு நடி (6 24, Singles பாப்பார் 438-50 10 - 30	1.50
	013
	.00
	1.00
	1.50
1	

Noz. 2 60, Plain		
Nos. J 80, Plain	75 00 to 7	
Non. 2/100, Plain	gg.00 to 10	
Nos. a fin. Gassed	72 00 to 7	
Nos. 2 So, Gassed	8g. 60 to 9	
Nor. 1, 100, Gassed	1111.00 to 12	4.00
RAW COTTON.	THE P	CHL.
American Middling		
Indian Hroach		
Chinese	. 21 to at	50
51E FALS.		_

The market is still very dull in almost every line. A considerable shipment of Pig Iron arrived by the German ship Carl on the 31st oft, from Middleshio' and we understand that more is on the way ont. Prices generally have a downward tendency and stocks of all kinds are increasing with little prospect of immediate clearance. Quotations

		STORY
Round and equals & inch. and upward.3.9		
from Plates, association		
Sheet Iron 5.0		
Galvanized from sheets		
Wire Nails, assorted		
Tin Plates, per box	al o	ô oo
Pig Iron, No. 1		
tioop from († to 14 inch)	o te	3,15
KEROSEGE.		-

A very moderate business has been transacted at a slight reduction in prices. A cargo of American oil arrived at the 1st instant by the barque Lillian L. Robins, from New York.

American	
Russias	
Langkat	—. 1.8 <sub>5</sub>

During the past week there has been a a fair business transacted in Brown, principally Formosa and China. A very considerable shument of Formosa brown arrived by the steamer Wuhu, from Apping, but whether this has been placed as yet we are mable to state. There is little or no Manila in the market. Quotations are nominal. Very little business has been done in White refined.

				PAR PROFILE
Втожи	Takao		*** 141 ****** 14*	\$4.10 to 4.20
			41 **. 41.54.514	
Brown	Daitone	****** *****	****** * ********	3 85 10 3 90
Brown	Canton.			3.20 10 4 64
				6.50 10 7.00
			44-14-111 14-14 14-1	

### EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Demand has been very slack during the past Defining his been very stack cutting the part week, and sales only amount to about 200 hoxes, for America, Stocks amount to about 8,600 hoxes, Shipments include 18 bales per Braemar, 86 hales per Venus, and 108 bales per Empress of Japan, all for America.

QUITATIONS.

Filntures-Entre 9'11, 10/12 den	. Non	nina
Filatures-Entra 13/15, 14 15 den	late to	010
Rilatures-No. is to'in deniere	ozo to	Dia
Filatures-No. 1, 13115, 14116 dan	88e to	Sine
Pilatures-No. if, toft   deniers	996 10	Din
Filatures-No. 14, 13-16, 14.17 den	See to	860
Filatures-Ha. a. rofis demeis	State	94
Filatutes-Cin. a, 14 14 deniers	State	821
Re-reels-ile, 1, 13'15, 14 16 den,	Son to	
Re-reelsIlo. 14, 13'16, 14'17 den	San Lo	you
Re-icels-flo. 2, sgirf dentere	Paul Lu	o jo
Re-trels-No. 34, 1412 demein	900 Ed	910
De carlo Plus a cotas fondas		200
	-	_
Kakedas-Estea	840 to	840
Zakedas-No. 1	San to	830
Kaleedas-Horremanning	790 to	800
{akedas-Ho. 2	76n ter	770
Kawadas-Ho. at	-	

### WASTE SHIK.

No business whatever has been transacted, buyers waiting until some better qualifies than those now in the market arrive from the producing districts. Stock is estimated at 5,150 boxes, nearly all of undesicable quality.

### QUOTATIONS.

Noshi-Filsture, Bast	fis to	120
Veshi-Filature, Good	105 to	
Noshi-Oshie, Bestimmen and the comment	ttoto	
Noshi-Oshe, Good	100 to	
Voshi-Oshu, Mediam	go to	
Nushi-Shinshu, Rest	70 to	
Noshi-Shinston, Good	64 to	
Vinshi-Bushu, Heat	115 to	
	100 to	
Noshi-Bushu, Mediam		-
Nosti Justit, tiond a	go to	
Marki atasha P I-	60 (0	
Sashi-jashu, Fair	55 to	
Kibico-Fifature, Best	95 to	
Cibiso-Pilature, Seconds	85 to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20 to	321
TEN A		

No sales whatever have been reported during the week, and stock amounts only to \$2,800 lbs. A few small shipments of previous purchases have taken place, the Braemar having shipped 68 nackages, the Venus, 450, and the Empress of Fapan 267, for the United States and Canada.

Original from

QUOTATIONS.

Medium Good Common	Nominal,  Signature  No. 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10
EXCHANGE.	
Landon silver steady and all rates un both locally and in China,	
Sterling-Bank T.T.	3/01
- Bills on demand:	2/O-1-10}
- 4 months' sight Private 4 months' sight	2 017a
- 6 months' sight	2.03
Ou Parle-Bank eight	2 EASTOR
On Lyons - Private 4 months sight	. 1.50
On America—Bank Bills on demand	. 48 <del>7</del> 109
Private 4 months' sight	. rol
On Germany—Bank night	2051106
On Houghoug—Bank sight	, 210} 6}°/_dis.
<ul> <li>Private to developit.</li> </ul>	8
On Shanghai-Bank night	8ol
On total Private to days' sight,	82
Ou India-Bank sight	151
Har Silver (London)	157
	*5 <del>11</del>
LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE	LIST
[Massas Bissar & Don's Tree	.]
[Masses. Bisset & Une's List Yokohama, Apr	il ist.
I shaleidis have changed hands in-da	to the season
215. Iron Works are offering at yen 205 Hotela at yen 235, Oriental Hotels at and Founders' at yen 450. Bretts at yen 1 Clubs at par and Kube Chilis at yen 51.	Ven too
and Founders' at yen 450. Bretts at wen t	o, Y. U
Clubs at par and Kobe Clubs at yen 51.	
Ermittering Gulferte er tenn annen ' reer 62a "" M	- P
property was 1.00, mand	og S <sub>a</sub> , m Sa,
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	15 S.
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	99 Sa. 15 S. 15 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	15 S.
Grand Hotel, I.d., §100	9 Sa, 15 S. 6 Sa, 9 S. 90 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	9 5. 9 5. 9 5. 9 5. 9 5.
Grand Hotel, I.d., § 100	9 5. 9 5. 9 5. 9 5. 9 5.
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	99 50, 90 50, 95 5. 96 5. 96 5. 96 5. 97 50 8. 98 5. 98 5
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	99 5, 90 5a, 90 5, 90 5, 90 8, 90 8, 90 8, 90 8, 90 8, 90 8,
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	99 50, 90 50, 95 5. 96 5. 96 5. 96 5. 97 50 8. 98 5. 98 5
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	19 30, 19 300, 19 300
Crand Hotel, I.d., \$100	99 30, 15 S. 0 Sa. 15 S. 10 B. 10 B. 10 S. 15 Sa. 16 N.
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	99 36. 15 S. 98 S. 15 S. 15 S. 16 S. 16 S. 17 S. 18 S. 1
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	99 36. 15 S. 98 S. 15 S. 15 S. 16 S. 16 S. 17 S. 18 S. 1
Crand Hotel, I.d., \$100	50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5
Crand Hotel, I.d., \$100	10 5 6
Crand Hotel, I.d., \$100	95 26.  15 25.
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	50 Sa. 51 Sa. 52 Sa. 53 Sa. 54 Sa. 55 Sa. 56 Sa. 56 Sa. 57 Sa. 57 Sa. 58 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	95 5
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	50 Sa. 51 Sa. 52 Sa. 53 Sa. 54 Sa. 55 Sa. 56 Sa. 56 Sa. 57 Sa. 57 Sa. 58 Sa.
Crand Hotel, I.d., \$100	93 5 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	90 5a. 15 S. 15 S. 16 S. 16 S. 16 S. 16 S. 16 S. 16 S. 17 S. 18 S.
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	90 5 6.  15 5 5 .  16 15 5 .  16 15 5 .  16 15 5 .  16 15 5 .  17 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	15 S. 16 S.
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	15 S
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100	90 Sa. 15 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 17 Sa. 18
Grand Hotel, Ld., \$100	10 Sa. 15 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 16 Sa. 17 Sa. 18



### WATERING APPARATUS

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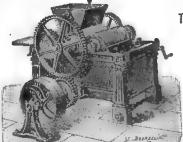
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART

No. 15.]

SGISTORED AT THE 6.F.O. AS 4. NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA. APRIL 9TH, 1898. 月毫甲五十二烷则 Vol. XXIX. 智能者使到月三十

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### The Japan Weekly Mail.

" PAISCE OUR DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN Warkity Malt!" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all latters on business be addressed to the Manager, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

VORDHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 974, 1898.

### BIRTH.

On the 5th inst., at No. 243-A. Bluff, the wife of H. Pollak, of a daughter.

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Hole Maru loundered off Tokohara on the and inst.

THE British squadron was to assemble on the 5th inst. at Cheloo.

On the 3 tat ult. 15 Formosan Chinese were killed at Shintenkei by aborigines.

IT is reported that several Japanese fishermen have been killed in a fracas with natives near Mokoho, Koren.

By Imperial Ordinance the Special Session of the Diet is convened for 14th May and the session will last #1 days.

GERMANY has demanded of the Chinese Government an enlargement of the limits of the lessed land at Kisochou.

Tuz revised treaty between Siam and Japan signed in March last, was received at the Foreign Office on the 3rd instant.

WITH a view to developing a tasta for fine

SEVERAL cases of choleraic seizure have occut-red in Tokyo and Yokohama. Therehas so far been only one fatal case in each city.

THE regattas of the Imperial University and the Higher Commercial School will take place on the Sumida River on the 9th and 10th inst,

THE Naval Court Martial has given judgment on Captain Uryu, of the atranded Fuse, and sentenced him in three months' minor confinement.

Texas Majesties the Emperor and Empress bave contributed yen 600 for the relief of sufferers by the five at Honge, Tokyo, on the agrd ultimo.

M. MURAVIEFF, Russian Foreign Minister, has assured Great Britain that Port Arthur and Talien will be open to foreign trade like other Chinese ports.

Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, who was in a critical condition of health, has progressed so far that he will be able to attend the Office within a week.

The crews commissioned to bring home several of the torpedo destroyers from England will leave Yokohama by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer Zamba Maru.

THE Chinese Government has officially reported to the Japanese Legation that the arrears of the judemnity to Japan will be fully paid on May 6th next.

A GRAND celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the removal of the capital to Tokyo is to take place on the 10th instant. The Emperor will he present during part of the ceremony.

THE Russian Ambassador at Constantinople has informed the Sultan that 20,000 recruits for the Far East would shortly traverse the Dardanelles in vessels of the Volunteer Fleet,

THE battle-ship Fuji, now at anchor in Yokosuka, was opened for inspection to the members of the Red Cross Society from the 5th inst., the number per day being timted to two thousand.

Aran extraordinary meeting of members of the Y. U. Club held on Wednerday afternoon it was decided to build a new Club house on Lot 4-B, adjoining the present premises, which will be occupied until the new building is erected.

Rumouns are affort in Yokohama that the American ship William H. Mercy, which left New York on 10th November last for Yokohama, has been in collision with a steamer on her way to this port, and received damage to her hull.

In connection with the strained relations between the United States and Spain a message has been received by a firm in the Settlement, Yokohama, from New York, instructing them that the purchase of silk should be postponded until further notice.

On the 4th inst. a man named Sakurai Shiro, who had been dismissed from the service of a money lender in Tokyo, attacked and wounded his former employer, his wife and maid servant, with a sword. The girl is likely to die. The man has been arrested.

SINCE last year the Communications Department has been constructing two great telegraph crisis between the United States and Spain pre-lines, one from Tokyo to Sapporo, through ventually purchases for the present. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

tion is to be held in the premises of the Eunai Exhibition, Kyoto, from the rath inst, to the from the capital to Kagoshima, via Nagoya, 15th May. to be finished by March next year.

> THE French Minister Resident III Peking Ins formally announced that in the event of the British claim for the lease of Wei-hai-wei being accepted by the Chinese Government, France would necessarily occupy some other ports in order to preserve the balance of power.

> China has conceded the British demand for the lease of Wei-hai-wei on its evacuation by the Japanese. It is believed that Japan regards the idea favourably. The Chinese Government has announced the opening to foreign trade of the three ports of Funing, Yochan, and Chin-WRUE.

A LONDON telegram of the 5th inst. says togarding the relations between the United States and Spain ;-Spanish and American statesmen express the gravest fear about the situation, Work in the two armies and navies is continu-ing day and night. The Spanish army is ready for mobilisation at any moment.

THE Times publishes a telegram stating that China has agreed to the French demands for a railway to Yunnan, the lease of a coaling station at Kwangchwan, the non-alienation of the Previnces of Kwangtung, Kwangei, and Yunnan, and the appointment of a Frenchman as director of the Imperial

THE steamer Esashi Maru, of Hakodate, struck a submerged rock early on the 26th ult, while on her way to Otaru, and is said to be breaking up. Fourteen of the passengers are reported in have been safely landed, while the remainder, whose number is not stated, are reported to have been drowned.

Owing to nearly all the available steamers being engaged in the transport of foreign rice to Japan, the cotton spinners are now greatly inconvenienced by lack of steam transport for cotton from Bumbay, and recently Mr. Wata-nabe, Director of the Cotton Spinning Association, came up to the capital to negotiate with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the special dispatch of a steamer to Bombay.

ALL hopes of peace bet ween Spain and the United States are reported to have been abandoned. The Spanish Cabinet has informed the American Minister that Spain must adhere to her resolve to wait until the insurgents ask for an armistice. Spanish patriotism # thoroughly aroused. Numbers of Spanish shipowners are applying for letters of marque, and privateering will be an important factor of the war.

THE Import market generally is as suggish as it was last week, the high rates of interest demanded by the banks and the unsettled state of affairs in the Far East contributing largely to this end. Cotton piece goods, yarns and woollens are only dealt in for immediate requirements, while in almost all lines of metals stocks are accumulating and many orders remain unexecuted owing to the inability of the dealers to pay up and take delivery. In kerosene and sugar some little business has been done, but not on a large scale. Numerous shipments of rice from Saigon, Bangkok, Rangoon and Tongking have arrived both at this port and Kobe. The quotations for this rice vary from yen 5.10 uncleaned to yen 5.90 cleaned. Exports have been very light during the week, nothing being done in ton and very little in silk, the

### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Under a constitutional government no secrecy ought to be observed with regard to affairs of domestic administration. Finance, education, and such matters ought to be managed on lines perfectly clear and intelligible to all. But a different rule applies to foreign politics. In that region it in the custom of all Governments to observe secrecy. England is to some extent an exception. Replying to questions put in the House of Commons, or delivering speeches on public occasions, the Ministers of the Crown occasionally make declarations as to the Goverament's foreign policy. That, however, is an exception. The general rule is secrecy. Experience shows it to be a necessary rule, and its necessity is recognised in practice by all intelligent nations. Look at Russia's case, for example. Until quite recently she seemed to have complete command of the situation in Korea. By cajolety at first, by a more or less arbitrary display of strength afterwards, she succeeded in making her influence paramount. et she suddenly stepped aside, abaudoned all the advantages the had gained, and virtually effaced herself. It does not appear, however, that the Russian people show any impatience or that they clamour for an explanation. They understand perfectly well that their Government is not acting unadvisedly; that it has some pro-found purpose in view, and that it must be trusted to carry out its plans. In truth foreign politics and domestic politics are radically different in one important respect. A mistake in the former is, for the most part, irretrievable, Japan has never got over the terrible blunder made by Viscount Minra; it will stand against her for many a day. Hence it is that everything resembling precipitancy, every premature adop-tion of a hard-and-last line, must be carefully avoided. Foreign politics are a series of compromises. A nation yields in one direction to gain in another; retreats at one point to ad-vance at another. The Ministers entrusted with the direction of foreign politics must be left a free hand, and not embarrassed by popular in-quisitiveness. Affairs in the Far East have reached a parlous condition. Germany has reacted a parious condition. Germany has obtained a commercial pied à terre at Kiso-chou; Russia has virtually established herself in Lizotung; England and France show signs of corresponding activity. In such a crisis Japan's policy requires the most skilful and circumspect direction. The people appreciate the fact and are remaining silent, trusting the Government to adopt wise courses. But their silence must not be consumed as evidence of thoughtlessness or indifference. They are keenly auxious and are not without atrong opinious. But they recognise that the Government must not be embarrassed by inconvenient inquiries and rash demonstrations

The above in an epitome of the Fift Shimpo's views. Evidently our contemporary's purpose is to encourage and maintain the state of reticence and self-restraint which it represents as already existing.

The Kokumin has an article urging the importunce of educating a spirit of maritime enterprise among the people of Japan. Apparently the ultimate purpose of the writer is to attract attention to the advisability of naval expansion, and to correct the old-fashioned tendency to attach paramount value to the land forces—a tendency which had its origin in pre-Restoration days when the laws interdicted over-sea voyages and the building of oceangoing ships, and when fighting was practically confined to the army. The Rokumin's thesis extends, however, to commercial maritime enterprise also. Its chief contention is that the only domain where Japan can hope to accomplish great things is the sea. Territorial expansion is not possible for her, but the ocean touches her on every side and invites her to profit by the innumerable routes and opportunities that it offers. Sundry statistics are adduced to prove that there will soon he as space for the Japan. Is it purely a selfish purpose? Possibly ese in Japan and that agriculture man not conherence in the sequel of a secret arrangement.

The recent complications at the Fine Arts time to occupy the people's attention or taken in the sequel of a secret arrangement.

School resulting in the resignation of Mr. Digitized by Google

supply their wants. But as the figures are distinctly erroneous in some important instances, re refrain from introducing them. Indeed, the interest of the article centres entirely upon the evidence it affords of the growing disposition to advocate naval expansion.

People talk of Russia in though she were immensely powerful and invincibly resolute. Powerful she certainly is in Europe, but her strength in the Far East is insignificant. quote from the Yomiuri Shimbun). From the moment that war breaks out, her communications with this part of the world are virtually severed. Her ships could not pass the Suez Canal, and could not obtain supplies of fuel for the voyage. It is precisely because she is so weak that she desires to obtain Talien and Port Arthur, for the possession of those places would enable her to establish an independent route from Europe and to mass a strong naval force in these seas. At present her condition would more correctly be described as one of weakness than as one of strength. With regard, again, to the character of invincible resolution attributed to her, history does not endorse the impression. The advantages gained by her in her war with Turkey in 1774 had to be surrendered in 1857, and the concessions embodied in the Treaty of San Stefano in 1877 had to be materially reduced at the Berlin Conference immediately afterwards. Russia's grip in not unrelaxable. She yields to necessity as do all Powers. Nothing is more essential to the successful conduct of foreign affairs than to look at both sides of every problem. Russia, studied attentively, is not the invincible giant that the Japanese have been wont to count ber since the retrocession of Liaotung. For the rest, no single State can take its own way in these times without regard to the interests, direct and indirect, of others. The records of Ito Cabinets do not dispel all apprehension that the country may incur loss through the pusilisnimity of its statesmen or disappointment through their imperfect grasp of the situation. It is to be hoped that such fears will not be realized on the present occasion.

The Hochi Shimbun has an article commiserating the Chinese inhabitants of Wei haiwei because they are about to lose the protection of the Japanese. It would appear that not until the Japanese occupation of the place did the Chinese become acquainted with the delights of living under just and upright admi-nistrators, and being secured against the extortion and corruption of which they are the constant victims under their own officials. It would have been better for them had they never had a glimpse of sunshine, for the darkness which is again about to fall upon them would then have been less unendarable. The Hochi says that they are much perturbed at the prospect of the Japanese evacuation in May.

\* \* \* The duty of preserving the peace of the world devolves upon all countries, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, but not in an equal degree. China and Korea, for example, can not even secure tranquillity for themselves, and are, of course, incompetent to take any practical thought for the peace of other countries. Then, again, geographical considerations come into the question. Events occurring in Africa can not possibly be counted within the range of Japan's purview. But in the Far East, she has a responsibility to discharge and a duty to fulfill. What ought to be her attitude under existing circumstances? It is stated that Great Britain has organized a naval demonstration in the Gulf of Petchili and has asked China for a lease of Wei-hai-wei. That port is at present in Japanese occupation, and England has paid due attention to the fact by making the lease which she nake for conditional upon the evacuation of the place by Japan after the payment of the Indomnity. apan has no reason to complain on that score, But what is the purpose of England's policy?

with Japan. Pussibly it is in the nature of a Japanese recognition of Eugland's services in supplying funds for the discharge of the Indemnity. Leaving aside such conjectures, however, the public would like to know the motives of Great Britain's procedure. After the acquisition of Kiao-chon by Germany and Port Arthur by Russia some measure to redress the balance of power became plainly necessary. But Japan's continued occupation of Wei-huiwei would have been such a measure, and it does not appear that less imperative reasons presented themselves for her remaining in posses. sion than for England's entering into it. Is England cooperating with Japan in this matter? Or has Japan made up her mind to retire from the place incontinently on receipt of the residue of the Indemnity? If the latter be the case, Japan is not discharging her responsibility as one of the guardians of the perce in the Far

The Nippon writes in characteristic style about the opening of the country and mixed residence. It says that the problem presents no difficulties at all so far as foreigners are coucerned. The trouble will be with the Japanese themselves, who may show a want of discretion. In business matters there is nothing to be apprehended. The Japanese can easily form guilds and take care of their interests. Great advantages may be anticipated from the experience of foreigners and from their capital, The more numerous they are the better. Paltey matters of official management and local administration need not perturb any one. As for the prisons, they certainly require improvement. Old abuses have not been swept away. But it is absurd to say that improvements should be effected for the sake of foreigners. The law considers the crime, not the criminal. It makes no distinction of persons. Very likely a foreign prisoner would find barley diet diengreeable. So, too, a Japanese imprisoned under Russian regimen in Siberia or under French in New Caledonia would suffer much more than if he were imprisoned in Japan. Such things can not be helped. Circumstances alter cases. To expect that they should not would be extravagant. There is much talk, too, about the necessity of studying foreign languages. That is all very well, but what for? As a mere question of erudition? Or for the convenience of foreign visitors? Erndition is a capital thing, but it is a little ridiculous that people who can not read newspapers in their own language should want to study foreign tongues in order to bring themselves into touch with the affairs of the world. The average man can get all the information he needs about such matters by perusing the vernacular newspapers. At all events, there is no occasion for liurry. Mixed residence does not make eradition more essential than it is already again, the idea be to promote the convenience of foreign visitors, it seems a little too goodnatured. The opening of the country is not like the opening of an international exhibition to which people are invited from all quarters as guests. Business intercourse is the chief thing to be considered, and for purposes of business the best thing is "pidjin English," unless a man can recken on two or three years of dif-gent study. "Pidjin English" goes a long way and seldom betrays one into mistakes. Instead of floundering among intricacies of case, tenre, prepositions and so on, it is easy and safe to say "me go Yokohama," "me arrange No. 1." Ordinary folks had better take the simplest and most convenient conte instead of overtasking their strength. Interpreters, of course, will be in demand. Just as the need of shorthand was not appreciated fully until after the Diet met, so the need of interpreters will be felt very keenly when the country is opened. But there will be nothing andden. No great ingress of foreigners is to be anticipated. In short, the Nippon treats the whole question as coming quite within the range of every-day work, and an not deserving of any anxious attention.

Okakara, the President of the School, are commented on by the Nichi Nichs Shimbun. teference is made to the exact causes of the trouble. The Nichi Nichi deals rather with the general subject. It denies that Japan has hitherto had any "fine art" (junsei bijuisu). in the true acceptation of the term. Her art has been simply decorative, or applied (koger bifutsu). It has been much praised by foreigners, and doubtless it possesses many excellent qualities; but it is, after all, an art of narrow range, rather peculiar than noble. There have been persons who, with axes of their own to grind—the Nichi Nichi mentions Professor Fenollosa among the number—insisted that Japanese art had some specially excellent features which placed it above foreign art and entitled it to independent culture. But that view will not bear candid examination. The Japanese people. are not artists, in the true sense of the Their gift is manual dexterity. They should cultivate that for all it is worth, but, at the same time, should study the fine art of the West. The mistake made at the so-called "Ait School" is that fine art and applied art have been confounded. The two should be kept sepa-Painting, architecture, and sculpture should be the subjects of instruction at a fine art school; other accomplishments should be cultivated at a school of applied arts, which might, if necessary, he adjoined to the fine art school. It is much to be regretted that the names of those honoured as "Imperial Artists" (Teishitsu gigei-in) do not include any sculp tor or painter in Western style. Artists of the Occidental school have struggled long and manfally against adverse circumstances since Mr. Takahashi Yuichi and Mr. Goseda Heriu started an academy at the beginning of the Miff era. Their achievements have not been great and their conduct has not always been free from causes of censure, but, on the other hand, their difficulties and embarrassments have been painful. They deserve the sympathy and support of wealthy men. The whole subject demands to be viewed differently by the Authorities, and the culture of the arts should be placed on a new footing.

### JAPAN WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

The annual convention of the Japan Women's Christian Temperance Union opened on Saturday morning at the Union Church, Yokohama. The Union, which has done much good work among the Japanese, has for its president Mrs. Yajima, principal of the Joshi Gakuin, and Mrs. Inagaku and Miss Pairish, the representative of the American Section of the movement, are among its controlling splitts, while Mr. Ando Taro, ex-Minister at Hawsii, Judge Miyoshi, Mr. Tsuda Sen, Mr. Ninomiya, Mr. Hayashi Shigern (President of the Yokohama Temperance Society) and others have greatly interested themselves in its opera-The present occasion was more than usually interesting on account of the banner presented by the Union for the largest proportional increase of membership having this year come to Japan-a fact which says much for the energy of the management and thoroughness of the propagandist work.

The convention opened with a prayer meeting and a business session, when addresses of welcome from the churches and lay organisations, were read, and Committees, &c. appointed. In the afternoon the various reports were presented, showing good progress in all directions' and poems, papers, and music were given by the girls, while the Hon-Taro Ando delivered an impressive address on the evils of intenperance.

The evening meeting was largely attended. After an organ voluntary by Mr. Edward Gauntlett and devotional exercises. Miss Parrish prevented the banner with a few appropriate remarks of praise and encouragement. It was a beautiful expanse of while silk, and represented woman holding up the world-as appropriate emblem of the potency of feminine with age. Although remarkably wily they hope their representations are not regarded they have influence in the affairs of the human tace. On to bag him before long. influence in the affairs of the hyman race. On to bag him before long.

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either side of this central figure were the words "For Gud, and home, and every land" and "Not willing that any should perish," while below was the inscription "World's prize Banner, 1897." Mrs. Kaji Yajima and Mr. K. Ito also spoke, and the Rev. G.H. Ballagh, in a neat speech, congratulated the Union on its achievement. Vocal sols were given by Miss Tsune Yamada, Misses Allen and Spencer, and Mrs. Garst. The church was beautifully decorated with palms, evergreeus, magnolias and Japan-eae flags, while a large picture of the late Miss Frances Willard, the President of the times, was displayed.

On Sunday morning a sermon was given at 9 a.m by the Rev. Hosokawa, and Dr. Meacham preached on the subject of "The relation of women to the Temperance Reform," making special allusion to the life work of Miss Willard. In the afternoon a memorial service for Miss Willard was held, and in the evening a mass meeting, at which addresses were given by the Pastors of the Settlement, took place.

### THE JOSHI GAKUIN.

A correspondent writes :- The opening of the session of the above Institution took place last week in the commodious Chapel, No. 33 Kami Nibancho, Tokyo. The hall was filled with pupils, graduates, friends, and patrons of the School. An interesting programme was gone through very successfully, the pupils evincing great proficiency in music, essays, recitations etc. Two English essays of considerable merit wate modestly and distinctly read by Miss Tesu Motaki of the graduating class. The address of the Rev. S. I. Milliken, a Presbyterion clergyman of Philadelphia, U.S.A., on a visit with his wife to a daughter, long a teacher and director of the School, was a happy effort, giving the young ladies high and lofty ideals of their Mission in life, and how best to meet them. conncelled them not to be dissatisfied with their environment but rather to make the home, the school, the community in which they are placed, the sphere for the accomplishment of the sweet-est and holiest duties of life. "Better to fill the home with sunshine, than to shine as a star in society."

The achool has the reputation of doing therough work, without attempts at, or striving for effect. One modest little girl was pointed out as not making a single mistake in her English grammar examination. The beautiful voices of several of the pupils gave evidence of unusual natural gifts and careful training. Mrs. Ya-jima, Japanese Principal, presented diplomas and certificates to twenty-six pupils and graduates of the different departments of the School. A feature of some interest was the singing twice over of the beautiful verse of H.M. the Empress' poem on education, and a class song composed by a member of the graduating class and sung beautifully by the four graduates.

The programme was as follows:

The programme was as follows:

Piano Duet, Sonatine, Diabelli; Misses M.

Yoshikawa, and K. Matsuda; Churus, "Christ
the Lord is Risen;" Essay, "A Japanese Heroine," Miss T. Nakann; Vocal Trin, "The
Gift of Spring," Smart; "Misses T. J. Kushihe,
M. Yoshikawa, and T. Mitseli; Piano Sola,
"Expectation," Concone, Miss T. Nagano;
Essay, "Shikuji," Miss N. Fujimoto; Chorus,
"Thon Hast Ascended;" Piano Solo, "Spring
Song," G. Merkel, Miss Y. Tsuda; Essay,
"Shiji," Miss J. Kushihe; Organ Solo, Voluntary, Löw, Miss Y. Kushibe; Vocal Solo, Chorus,
"Sweet is Thy Mercy," Barnhy, Miss J. Kushibe,
and others; Essay, "Friends," Miss T. Moteki,
and others; Essay, "Friends," Viocent, Misses
Y. Kushibe, and K. Karo; Song composed by the
Empress; Class Song, "Saniku," Words by Miss
M. Omori; Address, Rev. S. J. Miliken; Chorus,
"Halleluyah," Schubert.

A tiger, measuring 74 feet in length and weighing 210lbs, has been brought down from Kuliang and sold for \$80. It had been killed by one of the trap guns. The native hunters report having seen a very old tiger, nearly white

### MONTHLY CUSIOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for February last, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:-

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## CRISIS.

At a conference of Progressists held at the Kairaku-en, Nilionbashi, Tokyo, on the 4th inst. the following resolutions were passed unanim-

1. With a view to securing the peace of the Far East, with which idea Japan withdraw from Lisanas, with which her japan within the Lind-ning, strong protests must be made against the action of Russia and Germany.

2. In case Russia and Germany do not beed

aur profests the Japanese Covernment must take up a strong attitude regarding the evacuation of

After the resolution was approved an acting committee was chosen, Messrs. Shiga Juko, Kudo Kokao, Oishi Masami, Faguchi Ukichi, Kono Hironaka, Suzuki Shigeto, Komuchi Tomotsune, and two members of the Upper and Lower Houses being elected. This committee will wait on the Premier shortly, and if

### JAPANENE PUBLIC OPINION ON THE SITUATION.

The Jiji Shimpo, placing credit in the telegram that the British fleet has occupied Port Arthur, and that Her Ma-jesty's Government has declared Great Britain's intention of seizing the place unless China agrees to lease Wei-hai-wei unless China agrees to lease to England, says that Great Britain evidently entertains apprehensions about the by the Japanese. China's inability to retain possession of it is a foregone conclusion, and if it falls into the hands of some State other than England, the balance of power in the Far East will be completely upset. Great Britain gave to China the clearest possible warning that, should the latter agree to Russia's demands, the balance of Power would be disturbed and England would have to adopt measures for redressing it. There could be no doubt, therefore, that under the circumstances England was com-pelled to take some step. The step that she has taken is very exceptional. Port she has taken is very exceptional. Arthur virtually belongs to Russia. China has leased it to her, and she has entered into possession. Hence the demonstration made by the British fleet and the declaration made by the British Government amount to an announcement that England will not respect any arrangements concluded without her consent and in defiance of her protests. It is now quite plain that the movements of the British ships are not intended as a demonstration against China alone, but as a proclamation to all countries that Great Britain is determined to make her voice heard. If Germany obtained Kiao-chou by moving two or three ships, and Russia procured the Liaotung Peninsula without marching a soldier, it is not to be supposed that such a Power as England could have the slightest difficulty in getting a lease of Wei-hai-wei. The strong naval movements now in progress are consequently intended for the information of Western Powers, not for the information of China. If England could be sure of Japan's continued occupation of Wei-hai-wei, she might be content to let matters stand so far as that place is concerned. Her fears are for the ate of the port after Japan evacuated it. Her present attitude is one of extraordinary resolution. Some may regard it as an attitude calculated to precipitate war, but such an unmistakable display of determination is in truth the best way to bring about a solution of the present difficulties.

The Jiff writes also on the subject of the attitude that the Japanese people should maintain. It reviews the history of the retrocession of Liaotung, and says that the Japanese were not able to understand why their country's occupation of a portion of Manchuria should have constituted a menace to the peace of the East, as the three Powers affirmed that it would, Nevertheless, since Japan's original purpose in making war had been to establish conditions conducing to permanent peace, she refrained from obstinately adhering to acquisitions of Manchurian territory at the cost of a fresh appeal to arms, and acquiesced quietly in a material reduction of the fruits of her victories. It is not to be supposed, however, that her tacit acquiescence signified content or approval. On the

Doubtless the arbitrary and unjustifiable are the three Powers possessing incomaggressions of European States in the very regions from which Japan was required to withdraw must produce a strong effect upon the mind of the country, and recently. But Russia has obtained Talien may even lead to a recrudescence of anti- and Port Arthur, and England is on the foreign feeling. But all anti-foreign de-verge of obtaining Wei-hai-wei. China's monstrations would be perfectly futile communications with her two capitals, monstrations would be perfectly futile communications with her two capitals, and might be mischievous. The people rouse trust their statesmen to do the best manded by foreign States. In short, the

The Yomiuri Shimbun expresses great Great Britain and Russia will be equalized, admiration for the rapid and resolute Japan, on the contrary, will be left out methods of England's foreign policy. It altogether in the cold. She will have lost notes that when Russia entered the everything. field as a claimant for the Liaotung Peninsula, England refrained from making any direct protest to Russia, and contented herself with warning China that if the Russian demands were acceded to, the balance of power would be disturbed in the Far East and England must take steps to redress it. The motive of British procedure on that occasion was quite plain. Russia is a formidable adversary, and the perils of defying her are much greater than the profits to be acquired by defeating her. But China can be easily coerced, and considerable results can be obtained at small cost. England therefore selected China as vis-à-vis in preference to Russia, and her demand for a lease of Wei-hai-wei was perfectly in accord with that line of policy. But now comes the news that her ships have entered Port Arthur, and that she intends to hold the place, quite irrespectively of its lease to Russia, until China gives a pledge to lease Wei-hai-wei. That is a striking example of boldness and celerity. Russia sees herself confronted by the contingency of war with a Power far stronger than she is at sea. The only way to avoid the war is to induce China to accede to England's de-mand. Therefore Russia will bring all possible pressure to hear on the Peking Government in order to induce it to promise the lease of Wei-hai-wei. People are fond of talking of the weakness and want of ability that characterise Great Britain's foreign policy. There may be some grounds for such a criticism in ordinary times, but let England's interest be seriously menaced, and she steps out at once, defying the whole world and plainly showing her contempt for other nations (shriye ni nirami-tsukeru is the expression used by the Yomauri, which signifies "to glare at contemptuously over one's shoulder"). What a contrast she presents to Japan! Wei-hai-wei is at present in Japan's possession. She is under promise to surrender it as soon as the Indemnity is entirely paid off. But the promise was made under conditions totally different from those now existing. Japan would be perfectly justified in seeking to prolong her occupation of the port, Yet her statesmen have not made the slightest move in that direction. They seem bent upon evacuating Wei-hai-wei without a word. In short, Japan makes no figure at all in all these complications. She has a strong army; she has a strong navy; she has forty millions of patriotic people; but she has no foreign policy.

The Kokumin Shimbun has a short article insisting that Japan should either re-tain Wei-hai-wei or obtain some other contrary, the feelings of the people were port in exchange for it. Our contempostrongly excited, and they curbed them raty's line of argument is that Japan is with difficulty. That is the wisest course allowing herself to be effaced altogether reputation alone, but also to the cause

to pursue on the present occasion also, at this crisis. England, Russia, and Japan parably the largest interests in the Far East. They stood on an equality, so far as their rights were concerned, until quite that is possible under the circumstances. General position in the Far East will be by the Japanese. China's inability to

> We have already stated that public opinion in Japan begins to show signs of considerable excitement with reference to the Far-Eastern problem. The growing: sentiment is, of course, reflected in the columns of the vernacular press. politicians of the Opposition are evidenty disposed to make the Government's self-contained policy an object of violent attack, and to rouse the nation to strong protest.

The Mainichi Shimbun (Progressist) everts to the story of the retrocession of Liaotung and represents the incident in a light calculated to create indignation in the minds of readers. The gist of our contemporary's article is that, whereas the pretext employed to drive Japan out of Liaotung was that her occupation of the place would endanger the peace of the East by rendering the situation of Peking precarious, the very countries by whom that pretext was employed are now engaged in seizing the same territory for themselves. It was never a prudent policy on Japan's part to become the possessor of a large treat of territory in Manchuria. Her resources would have been severely taxed to maintain herself there, and the advantages would not have been commensurate. But she certainly needed a naval station, and the peninsula ought not to have been surrendered without some acquisition in that sense: Above all it ought not to have been surrendered without a clear understanding as to the principle involved. If Japanese tenure of the place endangered the peace of the Orient and menaced the security of the China capital, tenure by any other foreign Power must have the same consequences. In restoring the territory to China, the Japanese Government ought to have insisted on international recognition of the principle that no subsequent alienation of the same territory should take place. It ought, in fact, to have been made quite clear that Japan abandoned the fruits of her victories for the sake of securing the integrity of the Chinese empire and thereby preventing any dis-turbance of the peace of the East, and to that end the three Powers which interested themselves directly in the matter should have been required to give a guarantee that not only would they themselves abstain from encroachments upon the regions in question, but that they would also combine to protect them against encroachment from other quarters, as they had combined to protect them against Japan. Had that course been adopted by the Japanese Government, China would have recognised the sincerity and uprightness of this coun-

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for which she lad fought, the tranquillity of the Orient. Unfortunately nothing of the kind was done. This country simply bowed its head to the mandate of the three Powers, and accepted a money payment in lieu of its territorial acquisitions and of the moral rights obtained in the war. The net result of Japan's victories was that she exposed China's weakness to the world, and then left hey neighbour to be preyed upon by everr aggressive Power that chose to stretch out hands of spoliation. She is now a spectator of the results of her blunders.

The Mainichi heightens the effect of its sensational writing—which already derives sufficient force from the truths it embodies-by reporting that the Cabinet, at its meeting on the 2nd instant, resolved not to interfere in any way in the complications now occurring but to play the part of an uninterested spectator. It is admitted that this version of the Cabinet's decision is based on hearsay only, but the Mainichi thinks that it is just what might be expected from the present Ministry. For what purpose, then, asks our contemporary, has Japan spent hundreds of mil-lions of yen on her army and navy?

The Hochi Shimbun (Progressist) writes even more strongly than the journal we have just quoted. Its language is directly incentive to war with Russia. There should not be the least difficulty, it saysin determining Japan's policy at the present juncture. The situation is precisely analogous to that which existed at the time of the war with China. Japan entered upon that war for the purpose of establishing the independence of Korea, which was rendered illusory by the attitude of China. Japan believed that the peace of the East could not be maintained unless the independence of Korea were secured, and she did not shrink from war to attain that end. Russia now occupies the place that China held in 1894, and the China of to-day is the Korea of that time. Unless the integrity and independence of China are maintained, the peace of the East can not possibly be preserved. But China is being torn to pieces. The integrity and independence of her empire will soon be idle words. Who is the aggressor? Who is the destroyer of peace? Who was it that drove Japan out of Manchuria? Who is it that has now seized Mancheria? If Japan did not hesitate to enter the lists against her neighbour, her kinsman, her natural friend, China, why should she hesitate when an alien aggressor, Russia, has to be faced? To be true to herself she must stand forth boldly now. A greater task faces her, but that simply means a greater effort on her part. She must be consistent in her policy. Whatever reasons existed to fight China in 1884 exist with incomparably greater force to fight Russia to-day. There is no excuse, no palliation, for Russia's conduct in Manchuria. To look back upon the events connected with the retrocession of Liaotung and to contrast them with the events that are occurring now must make every Japanese thrill with indignation. If ever there was a time when the country should assert itself, now is the time.

The Nippon also writes in an indignant strain. The gist of its contention is that, by sitting quiet throughout this crisis, will soon come. There are other Powers Japan has allowed herself to be completely effaced. The coast of northern China less. When she gave Kiao-chou to Ger- his confederates at its true value, for he has passed, or is about to pass into the many, she had to anticipate Russian Ukinging the month of the Devil and compares UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

tion, including the valley of the Yangtsze, have been brought within the sphere of England's influence. Chusan is in effect has to anticipate French demands, and British, and Samsha also will soon have the Union Jack floating over it. In short, from Shantung to Hongkong, Great Britain is paramount, and southward of Hongkong France may be said to be mistress. Japan is totally excluded. Her position in Formosa and the Pescadores counts for nothing. Germany's seizure of Kiao-chou was an act of piracy. Russia's action in Liaotung is in direct contradiction of the grounds upon which she procured the retrocession of the place by Japan. Great Britain's procedure with regard to Weihai-wei, which is now in Japan's possession, belongs to the same category of proceedings. The Government must choose one of two courses. It must enter an emphatic protest against the action of Germany and Russia, and it must announce its refusal to agree to the unconditional lease of Wei-hai-wei to England. The alternative course is to abandon all expansion of armaments and step out of the Far-Eastern arena altogether.

The Chuo Shimbun (National Unionist organ) writes in a different strain. It does not offer any definite advice as to the course that the Japanese Government ought to take, but it represents Russia as having intrigued by every means in her power to prevent the leasing of Wei-haiwei to England. Wei-hai-wei in British occupation would destroy the usefulness of Port Arthur as a Russian naval station. Russia knows, however, that even in combination with France she would have no chance against England in the Far East if swords were drawn. She has been obliged, therefore, to resort to intrigue, endeayouring, on the one hand, to excite Japanese public opinion, and, on the other, to prevent China from paying the remainder of the Indemnity. France is abetting Russia by threatening that if China accedes to Great Britain's demands, a catalogue of French demands also will have to be considered. But England pays no attention to these obstacles. She steadily pursues her path, and already her demand for Wei-hai-wei, subsequently to its evacuation by the Japanese, has been acceded to by China. The Chinese Government is like a baby among grown people. It has to do exactly what it is told to do. At last, however, it is realizing the necessities of the situation and adopting the only method of preserving some of its belongings—placing them at the service of all nations as marts of general trade.

The Kokumin Shimbun (pro-Progressist) reviews the course of recent events briefly and strikingly. Germany probably took Russia into her confidence before seizing Kiao-chou, but the seizure nevertheless disturbed the balance of power from Russia's point of view. Hence Russia's measures with regard to Liaotung. But with Russia at Port Arthur and Talien the situation became intolerable for England. Hence her action with regard to Wei-hai-wei. These three Powers, then, have redressed the balance so as to suit their convenience. France remains, and France has given notice that her turn

guardianship of Russia, Germany, and demands, and they came. When she gave England. The shores of the central por- Liaotung to Russia, she had to anticipate Liaotung to Russia, she had to anticipate British demands, and they came. When she gives Wei-hai-wei to England, she they will come. All these Powers have interests in the Far East. But to Japan it is a question of more than interest: it is a question of life and death. Yet the Japanese Government is not heard from. What does it propose to do?

### " SCOTUS."

It is gratifying to observe that we furnish healthy and lucrative occupation to our friends. "Scotus" peppers us with broadside after broadside of his popguns through a column and a half of the Kobe Chronicle, and seems to be quite pleased with his own performance. We like to see him amused, and trust that his readers also enjoy the spectacle of his fumes and flashes. At the end of his numerous salvoes of blank ammunition, he gravely advises the Kobe Chronicle to leave us alone. Perhaps that would be wisest, and as "Scotus" is a goodnatured sort of soul, we presume that, like the lecturer on temperance who made himself tipsy by way of awful example to his audience, "Scotus" has been displaying in his own person the consequences of attacking us, We have already had occasion to eulogise his logic. We now extend the compliment to his consistency. He says that all his assaults upon Caliban, the coolie and the jails; all his talks about "meaning smiles" and the dreadful conduct of Japanese students; all his threats about appealing to a wider audience to procure the universal condemnation of these rude lads and truculent labourers, have been simply a trap to draw the Mail, and to obtain materials for a pamplet wherein our controversial methods might be shown up. A little hard upon Caliban, the coolies, and the students, perhaps, to be made the corpus vile of such a device. But let that pass. The evidence of our snarer's consistency is that while he himself complacently claims, to have been setting traps to draw us, he declares that the sin of "stirring up needless strife" lies at our door. Those two propositions hang together artistically. Had "Scotus" stopped there, he would have made quite a pretty little display of fireworks. But why does he spoil the effect by borrowing that rusty old blunderbus so often discharged at our head by our sporting local contemporaries? Why does he endorse their plaintive plea that if the Mail had never checked their liberty of abuse, they would not have degenerated into licence; if the Mail had not protested against their prejudice, they would never have been precipitated into useless attacks upon the Japanese?" Truly does "Scotus" call them "useless attacks;" yet he would fain persuade the public that to have suffered controversial defeat at the hands of the Mail justifies an editor in sticking knives into the Japanese. Vicarious revenge of that kind may be pleasing to the rudimentary passions, but to us it suggests the notion of a man who should contend that because a constable prevented him from stealing Paul's coat, no one could blame him for cutting Peter's throat. There is reason to suspect, however, that "Scotus" is indulging in saccasm, and to be considered, however. China is help- that he appraises this stock excuse of

the Fapan Mail with the parson who lived by rebuking the imp of darkness. Still we are paised by any lapse from logical methods on the part of such a scholar as "Scotus"-a logician who, while charging that one of our devices is to "rely on our own clientèle never see-ing the other journal" which we controvert, is himself careful to conduct all his assaults upon the Yokohama Mail in the columns of the Kobe Chronicle. enough. We must not contribute any more copy for the Damoclean pamphlet. Having fallen headlong into the trap set for us, and being now in imminent danger of execution in a brochure-which everybody will read, of course—we have only one hope left, namely, that "Scotus" will not finally enlist in the chorus of irresponsible revilers. A pleasant little sparring match is good in its way, but we seem to discern signs of moral degeneracy about our old vis-à-vis when he shelters himself under the backneyed and hypocritical pretext of the local drawpluckers-the plea that a benevolent desire to improve the Japanese is their motive for vivisecting them. Did he ever hear the story of the Cornish miner who, having fallen down a shaft and been shattered out of all human shape, was re-minded by the parson that "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." "Then," whispered the dying man, " Gawd Amighty must ha' been very fond o' we uns.

### GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

It is scarcely necessary, we imagine, to point out the utter incredibility of the telegram published by the Yis Shimpo from its special correspondent in Peking, to the effect that British ships have been sent into Port Arthur, and that the British Government has declared its intention of seizing the place, irrespectively of its having been previously leased to another Power, if China refuses to lease Weihai-wei to England. Unless we conclude that Her Majesty's Government has been carried away by a sudden vertigo, it is impossible to place any faith in such in-telligence. The step attributed to England would be a wanton precipitation of war. Russia would have no exit from the situation except to fight her way out of it. She has obtained a lease of Port Arthur and has entered into occupation of the place. She could not tamely allow England to wrest it from her, any more than England could allow Russia to deprive her of Hongkong by force. Besides, the procedure described by the Jiji Shimpo's correspondent would be the clumsiest policy conceivable in so far as its influence on China is concerned. China is threatened with the loss of all her good naval ports in the north. She could scarcely, under any circumstances, suffer greater loss than that now confronting her, and she might not only derive considerable satisfaction from seeing her enemies fight over the spoils, but might even hope to emerge with one of them for protector and ally. The idea that she should cut up her empire in order to prevent those that cover the pieces from flying at each other's throats is too romantic for every-day politicians. We can not doubt that the Fiji Shampo's correspondent has been misinformed. The British fleet is probably at Chefoo, and Her Majesty's Government is awaiting China's answer about Wei-hai-wei. As singularly perverted views that prevail in to the nature of the answer, there can be some quarters with respect to intercourse very little question.
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### PERILS BY FLOOD AND FIRLD.

A more wholesome state of affairs would be inaugurated, we venture to think, if a Japanese was not elevated to the pedestal of a hero by the local press. There have been two rather interesting illustrations within the past few days. Mr. E. B. lones, riding along one of the streets of Yokohama, found himself unable to pass four drunken men who occupied the road. Mr. Jones rode against one of them, and a row ensued, the upshot being that one of the Japanese came out with a blackeye, and Mr. Jones had a rather rough time on his way to the police-station. Now the obvious reflection is that Mr. Jones should have dismounted. If the men blocked the road, he had no manner of right to attempt to ride through them. According to his own account, he was riding very slowly. He could, therefore, have dis-mounted without any difficulty. When a cyclist runs into pedestrians under such circumstances, the consequences can not be predicted. It is absurd to infer any general hostility to foreign cyclists on the part of the Japanese lower orders.

The second case is more striking. Four cyclists, attempting to pass the bridge at Enoshima, were asked to pay 6 sen each by way of toll. They considered the charge exorbitant, declined to pay, and when the toll-keeper, assisted by some other Japanese, attempted to prevent them from passing, they aside all resistance and broke through." The toll-keeper followed them to their tea-house; the laudlord of the latter assured them that the charge was correct; but they still declined to pay. On their way home, the demand was again preferred at the bridge and again refused, whereupon the toll-keeper and his friends seized one of the bicycles and a kind of struggle ensued, which ended in a compromise for 3 sen. The newspaper by which the incident is recounted says: "The leader of the party had unfortuna-tely forgotten to bring his revolver, or the affair might have ended very differentty, Apparently this journal thinks that a dispute about the propriety of paying a bridge-toll of two farthings or three farthings per man and per bicycle would have been a proper occasion for using a revolver! Apart from that, however, what is quite plain is that these four cyclists were wholly in the wrong. If they considered the rate of toll too high, they had their proper remedy-complaint subsequently to a policeman. But to "thrust aside all resistance and break through" is an utterly unjustifiable course, which they would not have ventured to take in in any European country. There can be no second opinion about the matter. So far from sympathising with the four cyclists, we do not hesitate to say that conduct like theirs is largely responsible for the bad blood that has been created between foreigners and Japanese in and about the settlements. There was a right way of proceeding and there was a wrong way, and they adopted the wrong way, pursuing it to the bitter end. That they should be held up as heroes by a local journal is merely an indication of the batyesin foreigners and Japanese.

### THE BOOMERANG.

The "deadly parallel" is a very effective weapon when skilfully employed, but every foreigner coming into collision with it has boomerang qualities troublesome to the tyro. For example, a few months ago we took occasion to denounce a theory propounded by the Japan Gazette that England had entered into collusion with Germany, Russia, and France for the partition of China. We said that such an accusation was a monstrous misconception of English character and of the methods of British statesmanship. A few days ago, commenting on England's action in demanding a lease of Wei-hai-wei, we said that some people would probably accuse her of having joined the game of grab, but that such an interpretation of her proceedings would be quite erroneous. The Japan Gasette prints these two statements in parallel columns, intending to suggest that they are contradictory. Does the Tapan Gazette adhere, then, to its assertion of last November that Great Britain has entered into an agreement with Germany, France, and Russia for the partition of China? Does it mean to allege that England's application for a lease of Wei-hai-wei is made in consequence of such an agreement? If not, how can it possibly pretend to think that the present situation bears out its accusation of collusion between England, Germany, France, and Russia for the spoliation of China? A great many strange things have appeared in the columns of the Japan Gasette, but none quite so strange as this pretence that Great Britain, Russia, Germany, and France have formed a partnership for slicing up China. If, on the other hand, the Gazette has abandoned that extremely silly notion, what on earth is the meaning of the parallel it now attempts to draw?

### THE DEMONSTRATION.

Our loyal evening contemporaies seem determined to prove that Great Britain is making herself ridiculous by her naval demonstration. They laugh at every motive perceived by others for her actions, but are careful not to suggest any explanation themselves. In short they would have the public believe that Her Majesty's Government has ordered an idle and silly display, which can not possibly serve any useful purpose and is merely designed to over a pusillanimous retreat made by Great Britain during the recent complications. Doubtless the statesmen now entrusted with the administration of the British empire's affairs would be well advised if they took ship with all speed and came to Yokohama in order to sit at the feet of the journalistic Gamaliels of this Settlement and learn the rudiments of statecraft in our sapient local school. Such of us, however, as do not happen to be gifted with the magnificent insight of the Solons of the editorial stool, may find comfort in the reflection that foreign Powers do not experience any difficulty whatever in deciphering the significance of Great Britain's demonstrations, and that the contempt which her own patriotic subjects take pleasure in heaping upon her actions, is not felt in any measure by other national Cinal from

### THE CELEBRATION ON THE TENTH INSTANT.

A change has been made in the programme for celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the transfer of the capital to Tokyo, which falls on the 10th instant. The original idea was to organize the chief part of the fête in Uyeno Park, whither it was hoped that the Emperor would proceed and receive an address from the citizens. But for reasons which are not explained, it has now been decided that the ceremony shall take place in the large space opposite the front entrance to the Palace—that is to say, the space within the Sakurada Gate and on the east of Niju-bashi, which, as some of our readers are doubtless aware, is the name of the onter bridge into the Palace enclosure. The Emperor has signified his intention of being present, and, after receiving an address from the citizens, his Majesty will drive through the streets of Tokyo. We understand that very extensive preparations are on foot, and that, among other interesting spectacles, there will be a procession of several hundred geisha from Shimbashi to the Sakurada Gate, Particulars as to time and so forth will doubtless be published during the course of the next two or three days.

It has been given out that the Emperor intended to drive through the streets of Tokyo on the 10th instant, after receiving an address from the citizens in the grounds opposite the Niju Bridge of the Palace. The Nachi Nuchi Shimbun says, however, that the Imperial Household Department has prayed the Emperor to abandon the intention, inasmuch as influenza is very prevalent in the city, and the presence of crowds of people in the immediate vicinity of his Majesty's carriage might prove dangerous. The Nichi Nichi suggests that, under the circumstances, either steps should be taken to withdraw the petition asking his Majesty to honour the ceremony with his attendance, or the celebration should be postponed to a more favourable time. Postponement would certainly seem the wisest course, for the prospect of a fine day is not great. According to indications accepted as conby Japanese weather-prophets, rainy days are likely to be largely in the majority throughout the month.

His Majesty the Emperor has signified his intention of her gpresent at the principal event of the ceremony on the 10th instant, which takes place on the east of the main entrance to the Palace. The Imperial progress through the city will, however, he dispensed with. Preparations are now being made on a considerable scale, large sums having been subscribed by the citizens.

### THE SITUATION.

The British fleet appears to be assembling at Chefoo. Intelligence received yesterday (4th) in Tokyo indicates that eight vessels were anchored there on the 3rd. There was a rumour in Chefoo that the ships are ultimately to proceed to Port Arthur, but nothing appears less likely. Of course the sensational telegram of the 2nd instant from Peking turns out to be quite baseless. Some people suggest that the story of a British occupation of Port Arthur was purposely circulated in Peking with the idea of alarming the Chinese Government, or the part of the decard had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short buffeeling oration over the grave, expressing the deep sorrow felt by all piesent for the esteemed departed. In this small community it did not often occur to have to lay to rest a loving and devoted wife and mother, as well as a gould and sympathetic friend such as decased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short buffeeling oration over the grave, expressing the deep sorrow felt by all piesent for the esteemed departed. In this small community it did not often occur to have to lay to rest a loving and devoted wife and mother, as well as a gould and sympathetic friend such as decased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short buffeeling oration over the grave, expressing the deep sorrow felt by all piesent for the dead of the English Church, was concluded by the various service for the dead, of the English Church, was concluded by the various expension, and they are the mortal remains of the decased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short buffeeling oration over the grave, expressing the deep sorrow felt by all piesent for the mortal remains of the decased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short the mortal remains of the decased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short the mortal remains of the decased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short the mortal remains of the decased had

Majesty's Representative in that city, desiring to hasten a favorable decision with regard to Wei-hai-wei, suggested the possibility of some such extreme step. But, for our own part, we deem the story a veritable "bunder." British officials do not resort to such devices. The demonstration can have no object except to emphasise England's intentions on the subject of Wei-hai-wei.

### THE BUDGET.

In the list which we published on the 6th instant, showing the decreases effected by the Minister of State for Finance in the various items of the Budget for 1808-o. it will have been observed that a reduction of twenty-four million yen occurs under the heading of "Expansion," and a reduction of five millions under the heading of "Army Expansion." These figures are not to be interpreted as signifying that the programme of Armaments Expansion has been radically altered. In the case of the appropriation for the Navy, the greater part of the reduction is to be referred to the Engineers' Strike in England last year, which so seriously delayed the work on the ships under construction for Japan in British yards that payments which would otherwise have been due have been postponed. In the case of the Army, we are not able to speak with certainty, but we believe that there will be a certain measure of slackening in the rate of progress originally planned, so far as things not absolutely essential are concerned.

The Budget for the 31st year has at last been determined. Below are the details of the decreases:—

	Yen.
Riparian Improvement Funds decreases	
Monopoly of leaf tobacco	3,000,000
Miditary Armantent expansion	5,186,206
Naval expansion	
Organization of Iron Foundry	500,400
Telephone expansion and railway im-	
proventent	2,000.000

6,989.39

Aid to Formosan administration funds

### FUNERAL OF MRS. E. 7. MOSS.

The funeral of the late Mrs. E. J. Moss took place on Saturday afternoon. A large number of friends of the deceased lady and her family, including several ladies, assembled at 2 o'clock at the residence. Woodside, Bluff, where the first part of the burisl service was conducted by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine. Upon the coffin being conveyed to the hearne a long procession of friends and sympathisers, repre-sentative of all classes and nationalities of the community, formed in line, extending almost to the gates of the Cemelery.

The bereaved bushand, Mr. E. J. Moss, and his two sons followed the hearse as chief mourners, and Dr. Wheeler, Messrs, C.D. Moss, Andrew Patterson, E. Powys, J. B. McKinnell and J. W. Hall, acted as pall bearers. On the arrival of the cortege at the Cemetery, where a further large number of persons were assembled, the beautiful service for the dead, of the English Church, was concluded by Mr. Itwine, who, after the morial remains of the deceased had been consigned to their last resting place, made a short but feeling oration over the grave, expressing the deep sorrow felt by all present for the esteemed departed. In this small community it did not often occur to have to lay to rest a loving and devoted wife and mother, as well as a gentle

from the burial service, and the impressive ceremony was over. The grave and the banks around it were covered with masses of beautiful white wreaths, crosses, and chaplets of flowers carried thither or sent by the following sympathising friends:—

Patients & Staff of R.N. Hospital, Mr. & Mrs. Sharp, Mr. Hewett, Mrs. Brower, Mr. Elliott, Mr. & Mrs. Sadajiro, Dr. & Mrs. Howe, Capt. & Mrs. Swain, Mr. R. B. McKinson, Miss Webb, Mr. & Mrs. Vautier, Mr. Woodruff, Mrs. E. Morris, Mr. & Mrs. Vincent, Mr. & Mrs. Cole Watson, Mrs. & M. Wijsh. Woodruff, Mrs. E. Morris, Mr. & Mrs. Vincent, Mr. & Mrs. Cole Watson, Mrs. A. M. Wright, Mr. & Mrs. Jensen, Mr. Powys, Mr. & Mrs. Stauiland, Mr. & Mrs. Coiton, Capt. & Mrs. Harrison, Mr. & Mrs. H. Moss, Mr. & Mrs. Mc-Ilratil, Mrs. Goddard, Mr. & Mrs Dare, Harding & Co., Mr. Gentaro, Messrs. Ginn, Motton and Hayward, Mr. & Mrs. Annal, Mr. & Mrs. Abban. Mr. & Mrs. Craham. Mr. & Mrs. Strome, Abbey, Mr. & Mrs. Graham, Mr. & Mrs. Strome, Mr. A. R. G. Clark, Mr. & Mrs. Roth, Mr. & Mrs. P. F. Stone, Mr. & Mrs. Enstace, Mr Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Patton, Mrs. Burns, Mr. & Mrs. Komor, Mrs. Lowder, Mr. Eyton, Mr. & Mrs. Pollard, Capt. & Mrs. Young, Mr. Favre-Brandt, Capt. & Mis. Martin, Mr. & Mrs. McArthus, T. L. Brower, Mr. & Mrs. Bramhall, Mr. & Mrs. Mendelson, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Hegt, Dr. & Mrs. Hoskyns, Mr. & Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Cain, & Mrs. Konderdine, Mr. J Drunimond, Mrs. Donald Frager, Mr. & Mrs. C. D Moss, Mr. & Mrss Griffn, Mr. Itokawa, Mr. & Mrs. Thorn, Mr. S. Pazion, Mr. & Mrs. Mauley, Mr. & Mrs. Unite, Mr. W. Manley, Mr. Schellenberg, Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. E. B. Edwards, The Committee Christ Church, Miss Swain, Mr. F. W. Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. Bunting, Mr. J. Coulson, Mr. & Mrs. Townley, Mr. & Mrs. K. Crawford, Mrs. Mis. Townley, Mr. & Mrs. K. Crawford, Mrs. Cameron, Mr. & Mrs. Esdale, Mrs. J. R. Robinson, Mr. & Mrs. Tuska, Dr. G. Smith and Mrs. E. H. Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Lowder, Mrs. Hakata Hana, Mr. H. B. Haskell, Mr. & Mrs. Matthews, Mr. & Mrs. James Walter, Mr. & Mrs. Box, Mr. & Mrs. T. Rose, Mr. G. C. Booth, Japanese workmen, Mr. & Mrs. Eagling, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. L. Stornebrink, Mr. & Mrs. H. Poilak, Mr. Ah Sung, Mr. J. W. Hall, Mr. Tom Abbey, Mr. & Mrs. Flint Kilby, Mr. & Mrs. Neville, Miss Clausen, Mr. & Mrs. Clausen, Mr. & Mrs. Kuhu, Mr. Andries, Mr. & Mrs. Boag, Mr. K. Harumo, Mrs. J. Berrick & Mr. L. Berrick, Mr. & Mrs. Hutchison, Mrs. Guggenhelm, Mr. Harumo, Mrs. J. Berrick & Mr. L. Berrick, Mr. & Mrs. Hutchison, Mrs. Guggenhelm, Mr. & Mrs. Wingfield, Mr. & Mrs. Tresize, Mrs. Gibbs, Mr. Bowden, Mr. & Mrs. Binndell, Mr. di Mrs. Noble, Mr. G. Charlesworth, Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. F. Solomon, Capt. and Mrs. Efford, Mr. T. K. Black, Mr. and Mrs. Whittall, Mrs. and Mr. Bull, Capt. and Messrs. Eckstrand, Mr. and Mrs. Herb, Capt. Carst and family, Miss A. Woodward, Kings Daughtess, Mr. and Mrs. D. Scott, Mr. J. B. Barret, Mr. Marcus, Mr. W. H. Lea, Mr. F. Kiene, Messrs. Yass, Massa and Yushi, Dr. and Mrs. Munto, Mr. & Mrs. Dewette, Mr. Mr. F. Kiene, Messis. Yans, Massa and Yoshi, Dr. and Mrs. Munto, Mr. & Mrs. Dewette, Mr. & Mrs. & Miss. Booth, Mr. & Mrs. J. Curtis, Messrs. Bethell & O'Dell, Mr. A. B. Brown, Dr. & Mis. & Miss Tipler, Mr. & Mrs. Doering, Mr. O. Kiel, Mr. & Mrs. R. Hsy, Mr. Wm, Friedlander, Mr. & Mrs. Mollison, Mr. & Mrs. Weaver, Mr. & Mrs. Hauds, Mr. & Mrs. Pass, Mr. Vennaguchi, Dr. & Mrs. Eldidge. Mr. Yamaguchi, Dr. & Mrs. Eldridge.

# THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

It is stated that the candidates put forward by the various parties for the much coveted post of President of the new House of Representatives will be Mesars, Kataoka Koukichi and Hayashi Yuzu on the part of the Liberals; Mr. Hatoyama, on the part of the Progressists, and Messre. Sassa Fomotiusa and Motoda Hajime on the part of the National Unionists. All these names must be well known to readers of the Dief's debates, especially that of Mr. Hatoyama Kadzuo, a distinguished barrister, who held the post of President in the last House.

### ENGLAND IN THE FAR EAST.

the Far East, that England is impotent, that and jibes. It is the fashion, we know, in her diplomatists are old women and that some quarters to laud these displays as her pretensions to sway the situation are fine exhibition of the Englishman's love mere vapouring. The provenance of these of free speech and open discussion. Ascriticisms can be unfailingly predicted. suredly nothing is to be more deprecated They come from certain open-port English than servile silence, but between wholejournals, whose editors are either carried some liberty of criticism and the diseased away by the pot-house politician's mania licence practised by some journalists in be destroyed by the aggressions of other to ape omniscience, or can not, even the Far East, there is an immense gulf. where the interest and honour of their country are concerned, abandon their a different category. The Japan Times' chronic habit of abuse and detraction. It comments are among these. England's chou provided that the place were thrown is doubtful whether newspapers of any attitude is severely condemned by our other nationality are betrayed into simi | Tokyo contemporary. After recounting opposed the cession of Formosa to Japan lar displays of unpatriotic intemperance. the various stages of the recent complica-As a matter of fact, a journalist is seldom, very seldom, in a position to pronounce a conclusion :luminous opinion on international complications pending their final settlement, conclusion that England has all along been play-and pending the publication of all the corand pending the publication of all the cor- ing a game of alternate hope and respondence and proceedings connected with China for concessions, while she had long with them. Were any of us asked to discuss against Russia in any event, so long as her rights the rights and wrongs of a quarrel between two private persons, we should not dream -assuming our possession of our five wits-we should not dream of committing ourselves to a judgement until we had been given an apportunity of examining the explicit statements of the two parties, just rights in any gnarter. They are convinced of the justice of their cause, and the magnitude of the fusion of their cause, and the magnitude of the issue in China, etc." It indeed looks now, as power observed by the class of open-port though we alone will have to act if the status que never observed by the class of open-port journalists of whom we are speaking. Without the least idea of what is really These comments appear to us to be based and Germany "? The mere statement of these witers, simply for the sake of date to protect weak States against simulating superior wisdom, set them- strong, above all when the weakness of selves to bring their country into dis- the former is due solely to their own credit and to pull down the prestige obstinate conservatism and blind bigotry. Japan Times falls into an error at this whose decadence they pretend to lament. What the British Government has uni-point-had been made to China for It must unfortunately be presumed that formly declared is that it will not suffer concessions in the Liaotung peninsula such unreasoning detraction finds favour any disintegration of China such as shall analogous to the concessions already large to remunerate the writers. Doubt-commerce. That is a simple and intelligible Talien, like Kiaochou, should be less the explanation is that, just as the gible declaration of policy. It is not a opened to foreign trade. lower the order of intellect the more new policy. It is a policy that may be time, England warned the Government prone is it to play the role of Ther traced through the whole of Great Britain's in Peking that it had better consider sites, so the less educated the audience, doings in the Far East during the past carefully the nature of any concessions the more disposed are they to applaud thirty years. She has herself been obliged displays of passion and prejudice which on several occasions to apply armed coer- since England would have to assert her make no demand upon their reasoning cion to China, but her strength has in- right to equivalent privileges. No other powers or their knowledge. Still, it is variably been exercised in the interests of course was open to Great Britain unless surprising that Englishmen should coun-free commerce. She has never attempted she had chosen to arrogate the position of tenance writings so painful to every to gain for herself any tradal concession sense of patriotism and so hurtful to by which all nationalities should not be their country's interests. When a situa- entitled to profit equally. On the other and other States. She might have adopted tion arises menacing to Great Britain's hand, she has never given any evidence the latter plan, indeed, but it must have welfare and demanding all the resources of an intention to preserve China's ter-linvolved war, and war in which the world of her skill and courage, one imagines ritory merely for the sake of Chinese imthat the proper and natural part for every perial interests. Such being England's Russia does not want to fight and would lover of his native land would be to sup- general position, her practical method of go far to avoid that terrible alternative. port her officials and diplomatics

stead of abusing them; to explain treaty with China by which the latter is her difficulties instead of augmenting pledged not to grant to any foreign nation HE public is always prepared to be them by misrepresentation; to uphold her I told, when any political crisis arises in prestige instead of weakening it by sneers

> Criticisms by foreign journals belong to tions, the Japan Times arrives at this

> Such being the course of events so far transpirand interests were not directly attacked, and all the extentations movements of her warships in Chinese waters, have not been so much wis à-wis her apparent rival, as to be prepared for the carv-ing up of the now decaying Empire. Yet only less than three weeks ago we were told that the Times in a leading article said "never since the Crimean War have the British people been less disposed to brook tamely the infringement of their just rights in any quarter. They are convinced though we alone will have to act if the slatus quo and the peace of the Far East are to be maintained and preserved.

passing between Her Majesty's Ministry on a false interpretation of Great Britain's and the Governments of other Powers, position. England has not at any time absurdity. What England did was neither without the slightest insight into the di- undertaken the responsibility of preservplomatic history of current events, with- ing the integrity of the Chinese empire. out any sources of information more pro- There is no reason why she should saddle found than scrappy telegrams often con-herself with such a gigantic task. She is the enjoyment of treaty privileges in cocted by sensational purveyors of news, not the repository of any romantic man. Manchuria and that she did not propose to with a circle of readers sufficiently interfere with the freedom of the world's obtained by Germany in Shantung, and

concessions or privileges from whose enjoyment British subjects are excluded. The responsibility of adhering to the treaty devolves primarily upon China. England is not called upon to bolster up the Chinese empire simply because it has become a party to a commercial bargain. Her role is limited to insisting that China's ability to implement the bargain shall not Powers. It was, therefore, perfectly consistent on England's part to offer no opposition to Germany's lease of Kiaoopen to the world's trade. She had not because the island, under Japanese rule, would be a free mart for all nations. What, then, should have been her attitude toward Russia's Manchurian proposals, and what has actually been her attitude? Was she to say to Russia:-"If you attempt to procure from China any concessions in the nature of open ports, naval stations, or railway building, you must be prepared for my armed resistance. It is true that I did not interfere between Japan and China under similar circumstances; it is true that I did not interfere between Germany and China. But when there is a question of Russia and China, I intend to to the sword rather than what I have already permitted to Japan such an attitude shows its unreason and unreasonable not absurd. She called the attention of the St. Petersburg Government to the fact that she was already in suffer their disturbance. The St. Petersburg Government replied that a proposal, not accompanied by any menace-the At the same made by it to Russia or any other Power, China's guardian, and to make an invidious and insulting distinction between Russia would have given judgment against ber, maintaining it is very simple. She has a But she could not tainely suffer herself to UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

considers that one of two courses must be

be discriminated against merely because her expansion constitutes a shadowy menace to Great Britain's supremacy. A very cursory inspection reveals the immense difficulties of the situation, and shows that England could not have acted differently with any show of reason or prudence. She will have to take steps for equalizing the situation, and since China is thus placed between the devil and the deep sea, there will doubtless be plenty of sneerers to say, as the Japan Times says, that England has joined the game of grab instead of asserting her objections to it at the point of the sword. We would ask these critics whether they consider that China ought to be guaranteed against all the consequences of her stagnation and self-entailed impotence. Do they think that England should have forbidden the opening of Talien at Russia's instance, whereas she had actually expressed a desire to have it opened at her own; and that she should have fought to prevent the laying of railways by Russia in Liaotung and Manchuria because China was not ready, and might not have been ready for another cycle, to lay them herself? The real origin of all these complications is China's unhappy condition. She is like the withered tree of the fable. The nations have been digging about her roots and applying fertilizers for the past fifty years, and they have now reached the more drastic stage of lopping off her branches. It may come to cutting down the trunk also, but that is still a distant contingency. England has no mission to keep the mossy old tree standing. On the contrary, England has always been the leader of the campaign against its sterility. From a political point of view, Russia's presence in Manchuria and Liaotung greatly disturbs the balance of power in the Far East. But that can be redressed. From a commercial point of viewand it is in connexion with commerce only that England has asserted her rightsan open port at Talien and railways in Shingking mean development and progress. England can not reasonably oppose such consummations. It would be within her competence to protest against the grant of railway-building privileges to any one nation exclusively, but she did not protest against Germany's obtaining that privilege at Kiaochou, and she has made no secret of her intention to ask for it on her own account in Yunnan if circumstances be favourable. All these things combine to break down the barriers of China's exclusiveness, and to drag her into the path of progress. China is not helpless. Her fate is still in her own hands. But if she is obstinately bent on not helping herself, England has no commission from Providence to help her.

JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION.

HERE are evidences that public opinion in Japan is becoming considerably excited about the Far-Eastern situation, and that the country's attitude of apparent quiescence will soon be changed. The Progressists and their political allies are making themselves particularly active. They have held a meeting at which Major-General (retired) Baron OZAWA, of the House of Peers, Mr. TOMITA (ex-Governor of Tokyo), Messrs. Suzuki Shigeto, KONO HIRONAKA, TAGUCHI UKICHI, KO-MURA TOMOTSUNE, HATOYAMA KAZUO, and other well known politicians were present, and have decided to agitate vigorously in favour of their policy. information, unusual secrecy being observed, but there can not be much doubt that the retention of Wei-hai-wei is advocated as essential to the maintenance of Japan's influence in the councils of the nations. It is understood that a deputation waited upon Marquis ITO on the evening of the 4th instant, and advocated the adoption of a strong foreign policy, but of course the Premier's reply is not symptoms of umbrage in connexion with Great Britain's doings. The Tokyo Shimbus, for example, from which, as an organ of the Liberal Party we should not have expected such utterances, accuses England of utilizing the talk of an Anglo-Japanese alliance for the consummation of her own treacherous purposes, and calls upon eth people of the country to rise up and go to the assistance of their distressed neighbour. The same journal's language about Russia is still more emphatic. It speaks in the bitterest terms of her action in driving the Japanese from territory which they had purchased with their blood -driving them out on the plea that their presence there would endanger the peace of the East, and then deliberately disturbing that peace by stepping into the same territory herself. Such doings, says the Tokyo Shimbun, can not be discussed from the point of view of any code of morals and must be condemned by the world as outrageous. The Mainichi Shimbun (Progressist organ) attacks the Cabinet vehemently. It says that Marquis ITO'S policy of retreat is steadily destroying all the prestige gained by Japan in the war with China. She was entitled to protest when Germany took Kiao-chou; still more when Russia obtained Talien and Port Arthur. But the Government remained silent on Mainichí. If the Cabinet now adopt a resolute policy, the nation may still be papa-

adopted: either Germany and Russia must be induced to surrender the acquisitions they have made, or Japan must seek to obtain some advantages which shall equalize the situation for her. But it must be confessed that the tone of the Mainichi's utterances deprive them of much of their value as a sober expression of opinion. They are disfigured by almost morbid hostility to Marquis ITO, whom the writer charges with sacrificing the interests of the country to his own personal ends, and with entertaining fashionable folk at dancing parties, however, acute the crisis in the Far East. The Hochi Shimbun is more dispassionate. It admits that England's hand has been forced and that she could What that policy is we have no definite scarcely have acted differently, but it avers that the situation has become almost desperate for China, and that Japan can no longer stand an idle spectator, like one watching a fire on the opposite bank of a river. There appears to be = general impression that, at a meeting held on the 2nd instant, the Cabinet resolved to refrain from any interference and to evacuate Wei-hai-wei quietly on receipt of the remaining portion of the Indemnity. published. There are naturally some It is to that impression that the present outburst of excitement seems to be chiefly due. Politicians and publicists were not without strong convictions, as the J*iji Shimpo* intimated in a recent issue, but they refrained from any open demonstration, being persuaded that the Government had a plan for steering the country to some harbour of success or compensation. The Yomiuri Shimbun advocates a conspicuously resolute policy, but addresses its advice to the Chinese Government. It thinks that if Wei-hai-wei goes to England, the Gulf of Petchili will be completely dominated by foreign Powers, and China will have to remove the capital from Peking, a step which would probably involve the downfall of the present dynasty. The only course, then, for the ancient empire, once so powerful and respected, still so immense, populous, and potential, is to refuse to accede to England's demand, on the plea that if Weihai-wei passes into the latter's hands. China will be entirely without a naval basis in the north. At the same time the Peking Ministry should address itself to Russia, pointing out that her demands in connexion with the Liaotung Peninsula are responsible for this crisis; that China. having acceded to Russian and German proposals, can not reject England's, yet is unable to grant them without sacrificboth occasions. The impending fate of ing her own naval capacities, and that Wei-hai-wei has at length shown the true Russia's restoration of Talien and Port nature of the situation, continues the Arthur becomes, under the circumstances, unavoidable. Germany should be approached in the same sense. Great cified, but if "drifting" is still to be the Britain will fight, rather than be left out in order of the day, public-spirited men will the cold, and Russia will not venture to have to take measures for rousing the fight an obviously losing battle. So the Ministry from its lethargy. The Mainicht status you will be restored. The Yomuri

is one of the leading journals. Its advice, draw, and that a declaration of competition however unpractical, deserves to be quoted. on her part at this eleventh hour would grams received, and, having once formed

that desire be translated into action a instalment; she has allowed the time for the payment to approach within some vernment must be that England is already in the field as an applicant, and that, unless she withdraws, no other Power's ese politician to whom these practical facts will fail to make themselves intelligible. If Japan, at this eleventh hour, becomes a competitor for Wei-hai-wei, she will be placing herself in direct and fruitless antagonism to Great Britain. She will be assuming a wantonly unfriendly attitude towards England-unfriendly because without the possession of Weihai-wei England can not secure her tradal route to the Peiho and the littoral of the Gulf of Petchili; wanton, because it is out of the question to suppose that England, having priority of claim, will withdraw her demand for a place of such that city has officially informed the Chivital importance to her, in deference to the subsequent application of a State to which the place is of comparatively no importance. Great Britain can not consent to be eliminated from the waters of North is not absolutely trustworthy, but we China. She must have Wei-hai-wei. No deem it very credible. No other course other port will serve her purpose. Had seems to be open to England. There has Japan anticipated the British Government been a generally entertained idea that she in approaching Peking with a proposal for a lease of Wei-hai-wei, she would never have found a competitor in England, and it can not be denied that some But Japan, giving no sign of any such grounds for such a belief existed at the purpose, has allowed herself to be auti- outset. But this is precisely another ex- tion might have assumed a very different cipated. It must be plain to her that the ample of what we have often commented complexion, but with conjectures of that

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Our reader will gather from the above have most mischievous and injurious a theory, clings to it in the face of all that a current of Japanese public opinion effects. Doubtless many Japanese find subsequent information. The originally is setting, more or less' strongly, in the themselves stirred to a strong sentiment telegraphed news about Russia's attitude direction of retaining Wei-hai-wei. If of sympathy with their venerable neighbour at this crisis of the latter's destiny. serious complication will be created. So That is a worthy sentiment. But they far as Japan is concerned, she can scarcely would do well to consider, at the same expect that the Chinese Government time, whether the Chinese Empire can would grant her a lease of Wei-hai-wei in hope to retain any semblance of integrity the face of a previous application from without the help of some great Western England. Still less can she expect that Power. Japan, indeed, might step into England would acquiesce in such an the breach, and we grant that she would arrangement. We are not saying any- be a strong champion. But she is not by British subjects or impair the privileges thing about Japan's general right to make ready for such a task and has no imher voice heard in the affairs of the Far mediate intention of essaying it. What East. We recognise that right in the most European Power, then, can be credited unequivocal manner and are prepared to with any genuine intention of preserving appland its assertion. Our present re- China's integrity? Can France be trusted? that England was bound to oppose marks are confined to the case of Wei-hai- | Can Germany? Can Russia? There is | Russia, and that the Liaotung Peninsula wei in particular. Japan's sole title to only one Power to play that part, and it is that place is based on the Indemnity, England. England has indicated the sole and lapses absolutely so soon as the policy capable of saving China, and has last instalment of the Indemnity is paid, lent her aid to obtain the endorsement of She has allowed China to raise money for that policy by Russia and Germany. The the avowed purpose of paying off the last one hope for China is to follow Japan's progressive example and to throw her dominious open to the commerce of the thirty days, and she has allowed the Bri- world. That is what England is insisting that passed between London and St. tish Government to lodge an application upon uniformly. Her presence at Weifor the reversion of the port, without con- hai-wei would be, not a menace to China, to Great Britain's inquiries, M. MURAveying any intimation whatever of a but a protection. She goes there to desire on her own part to retain it. If secure the Gulf of Petchili against closure she gives expression to such a desire now, by a State hostile to China. Then whatthe inevitable answer of the Chinese Go- ever regard Japan has for her neighbour should sway her to support England's establishment at Wei-hai-wei rather than to oppose it. There are other directions proposal can possibly be entertained. in which Japan can seek means of re-There can not, we imagine, be any Japan- dressing the balance of power on her own account, and it should be possible for her to utilize her opportunities with such adroitness as to secure strong aid in urging her claims. Fortunately for herself her affairs are now under the control of statesmen who are not likely to sacrifice the substance for the sake of clutching at the

### ENGLAND AND WEI-HAI-WEI.

HE 'fifi Shimpo's Peking correspondent telegraphs, over date of the 31st ultimo, that the British Representative in nese Government that when Japan, on receipt of the remainder of the Indemnity, evacuates Wei-hai-wei, Great Britain wishes to lease the port. The intelligence intended to strenuously oppose the acquisition of Talien and Port Arthur by Russia,

public models its beliefs on the first telewas that she had demanded certain concessions from China, threatening, in the event of a refusal, to resort to the ultuna ratio, and allowing only five days for China to make reply. Now inasmuch as responsible British Ministers had previously declared, in effect, that England would not suffer any acts of aggression against China such as might restrict the commerce carried on enjoyed by them under treaty, it seemed that, in preferring the above demands, Russia was throwing her gauntlet in England's face. Hence people concluded and Manchuria could not pass into the Russian "sphere of influence" without an appeal to the sword. But the fact is, as we explained very fully in a leading article published on the 14th ultimo, that the probability of England's armed resistance to Russia's demands became exceedingly small after the communications Petersburg at that time. In response VIEFF, it will be remembered, informed HER MAJESTY'S Representative in St. Petersburg that Russia was negotiating for the lease of Port Arthur and Talien for a certain number of years, as well as for a railway across Manchuria, but that she had not demanded Sovereign rights or threatened to send troops, and that, if the ports were leased, they should be opened to foreign trade. That reply from Russia virtually put at end to Great Britain's opposition, for, as we pointed out on the 4th ultimo, the St. Petersburg Government was thus acting strictly within its rights. Russia, in short, was simply following the example set by England in the past, and it was out of the question that the latter Power should claim for itself liberty of procedure which it denied to the former. After M. MURAVIEFF'S representations, then, England had to choose between leaving Russia a free hand and opposing her in an arbitrary and unreasonable manner. Naturally she chose the former course, but, at the same time, she frankly and explicitly warned the Peking Ministry that if it made to Russia any concessions calculated to disturb the balance of power in the Far East, Great Britain would be compelled to ask for some corresponding concessions to restore the balance. Thus China's eyes were fully opened as to what lay before her if she acceded to the St. Petersburg proposals. Had she mustered sufficient courage to resist them, the situa-British Government can not now with on in these columns, namely, that the kind we need not soncern ourselves at

present. She vielded, and it now devolves on HER MAJESTY'S Government to see that Great Britain's position is not seriously impaired. The first step to that end seems to have been a strong naval demonstration in the Gulf of Petchili. Strange to say, the object of the demonstration appears to be greatly misunderstood. It is regarded by some as a menace to China; by others, as a kind of empty parade of force after the occasion to employ it usefully is past. It is, of course, neither the one thing nor the other. It is an emphatic declaration that Great Britain intends to maintain her right of access to the Gulf of Petchili, and that any Power or Powers essaying to oppose the steps which she intends to take for the purpose of securing that right, will have to discuss the question with her in the lists. What, then, are those steps? Apparently the acquisition of Wei-hai-wei as a naval station is one of them. Weibai-wei is incomparably the finest harbour in the north of China. Port Arthur affords space for only nine vessels' anchorage, at present; Wei-hai-wei can accommodate a large fleet. With Wei-hai-wei in her possession, England could not be shut out of the Gulf of Petchili. That is what she has to provide against. The situation has been forced for her, so to speak. It will seem strange, of course, that a proposal for the lease of Wei-hei-wei should be submitted before Japan has evacuated the place, but difficulties of that nature are always susceptible of adjustment. We repeat the belief expressed in these columns some days ago, namely, that the crisis in the Far East is over, and that, so far as the questions recently agitating the public mind are concerned, an era of tranquillity may be looked for.

### FOREIGN PATENTS IN JAPAN.

T is often remarked that by the time a question has been bandied about by the local journals, any confusion originally experienced in solving it becomes worse confounded. The complaint is just. "Superficies" was a case in point, As a legal novelty it perplexed the average Britisher. Still, after full and clear explanation had been given in these columns there could have been no difficulty in understanding it, had not a controversy been started by some of our contemporaries, and out of the consequent war of words bewilderment and uncertainty emerged. The problem of foreign patents is another example. Long ago, and more than once, we presented to our readers a simple statement of the facts, and we patents solely for the purpose of her own venture to say that our articles could not subjects. It is necessarily and properly ordinarily intelligent person. Yet now patent for an article which, having already in almost as much obscurity as ever restriction renders the law useless for the Emigration to Hawaii and America, owing to The main question is, who did Japanes purposes of foreign inventors unless they Obiginal chinginal chingin

legislators, in 1888, enact a law which put their invention into use originally in failed to extend protection to foreign Japan. If they come to Japan and seek a patents? The answer is, because, so long patent for an article which has already as Consular Jurisdiction existed-in other been in use in their own country, they are words, so long as the Treaties remained barred by the terms of the Law. Gerunrevised-a Japanese law extending many nevertheless insisted that whatever protection to foreign patents could not measure of protection the Law afforded have been operative. This statement has already been made, but the Kobe Chronicle out waiting for the abolition of Consular calls it "absolute nonsense." Well, in Jurisdiction, and the result is an imperfect truth the "extraterritorial system" is a arrangement which seems to be causing strange thing and its anomalies may well discontent rather than conferring facilities. puzzle our contemporary, or any one else Mr. Silver Hall, writing in the Japan for the matter of that. However, this is Times, pokes fun at the Law and says how the case stands:-Suppose that a law that it deserves to be patented for its of the desired kind had been enacted-a novelty. But Mr. HALL will now perceive law granting to foreign patents registered that his own misconception is the cause in Japan protection within Japanese domi- of his surprise. As a matter of fact, a nions, Japanese patents registered abroad Japanese subject seeking to obtain a being similarly entitled to protection in patent in Germany at present finds himthe country where they are registered. self in precisely the same position as a Suppose, further, that a Japanese subject, German subject taking out a patent in whom we shall call "J," registers a patent Japan. The condition of "previous use" in Great Britain. Now "J's" patent is pro- is fatal in each country alike. We comtected against violation by British subjects mend this consideration to the Kobe in the United Kingdom, but how is it pro- Chronicle which, commenting on the fact tected against violation by British subjects that such a law as that of Japan was exin Japan? It is not protected at all against tended to foreigners at Germany's inthe latter danger, for the simple reason stance, draws the inference "either that that HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Con-the Japanese Government was ignorant sular Courts in Japan do not recognise of the fact that the Patent Law would not Japanese laws and have no competence secure reasonable protection for foreign whatever with regard to patents regis- patents, or that, presuming the Governtered in Great Britain. If "J," finding that his patent had been violated trick was played upon Germany." The by an Englishman in Yokohama, for example, applies to the Kanagawa Consular Court to restrain and punish the any how! But what will our Kobe conviolation, the Court is compelled to answer: -" We can not accept this application. We take no cognisance of Japanese law which protects the patent in Japan, and registration in England protects it within the limits of HER MAJESTY'S realm only." Singular as that may sound, it is the plain the nature of her laws when she concluded Consular Courts, but of all, or nearly all, the other Consular Courts, those of the United States excepted. In short, while Japan might have extended the protection of her laws to foreign patents registered in Tokyo, she could not have obtained reciprocal protection for her own patents registered abroad so long as the Treaties remained unrevised. It can not justly be claimed, we think, that she should have inaugurated a one-sided system of that nature. Her only course was to wait for the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. When that becomes an accomplished fact she will join the International Union for the Protection of Patents, &c. In the meanwhile, she has enacted a law of have left any doubt in the mind of an worded so as to prevent the granting of a the matter has come again upon the tapis, been in use in a foreign country, is not a and, so far as we can judge, it is enveloped Japanese invention. But of course that

should be extended to her subjects withment knew the character of the Law, a unfortunate Japanese Government seems destined to come badly out of the business, temporary say when it learns that a Japanese seeking to obtain a patent in Germany under existing arrangements labours under precisely the same disability as a German seeking to obtain a patent in Japan? Was Germany also ignorant of fact. And it is true not only of British her agreement with Japan, or did the German Government play a trick upon the Japanese? But we need not dwell upon points of that kind. The German Government and all other Governments had had the full text of the Japanese Law in their hands for eight years. They ought not to have been ignorant or easily "tricked." It should be remarked, however, that the concession stipulated for by Germany is not by any means barren. The above difficulty does not apply to trade marks, and many of these have been registered in Japan since the German Treaty was ratified. Pending the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, however, it can not reasonably be expected that the Japanese should modify their law to suit the convenience of nations which do not guarantee reciprocal privileges to Japanese subjects.

> The recent abnormal rise in the price of rice and other commodities has brought about serious embairassment among the poorer classes.

### JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

 $\Gamma$ ROM the epitomized contents of leading vernacular journals produced elsewhere in our columns, readers will learn that Japanese public opinion is now divided along the lines of party politics. With one exception, the journals from which we quote are all either Opposition organs or closely allied with the Opposition. The exception is the Chuo Shimbun, which represents the National Unionists, and the Chuo, it will be observed, refrains from any direct discussion of the situation, confining itself to some adroit comments which, while they plainly indicate the trend of its sympathies, are not refused to submit tamely to the second calculated to provoke discussion. It is significant that journals like the Jiji Shimpe and the Nichi Nichi remain silent. They evidently entertain views contrary to those of the Progressist organs, but though its results may prove compenhave no disposition to interfere hastily in salory, did not include direct opposition the controversy. In short, the situation to Russia's projects in Manchuria, may be summed up by saying that the politicians of the Opposition-that is to if it were desirable, to reverse the say, the Progressists-advocate a strong situation. Japan is confronted by accomforeign policy and are organizing an attack upon the Cabinet in connexion with its attitude; whereas the politicians of the other camp-namely, the Liberals and the National Unionists- in common, it may think of inducing England to turn round be assumed, with officials and the bulk of and assist in driving Russia from Manthe independent public, are in favour of churia. A step which Her Majesty's refraining from direct interference in the Chinese question. The point ultimately at issue is, of course, Wei-hai-wei. does not appear that any section of public at Japan's instance. The leaders of the opinion is hostile to the occupation of the place by England qua England. What the leaders of the Opposition think is that Japan should retain the port for herself unless Russia can be induced to abandon the acquisitions she has made in Manchuria. Hence the course they re-proached, as it was approached by Gercommend is that Japan must protest vehemently against Russia's retention of Liaotong, and that, if her protest prove unsuccessful, she must insist on continuing to occupy Wei-hai-wei. The Government and its political supporters, on the contrary, are disposed to acquiesce in the situation as it is now developing in China, and to seek compensatory too late to entertain any proposition from advantages for Japan in another directanother Power now." Thus far the outagitation just set on foot by the Progressists will produce any tangible results so far as the country's foreign policy is concerned. Whether active self-assertion do they recommend when China refuses, on Japan's part would have been wise and useful had it been exercised when Russia lease of Wei-hai-wei to Japan? Do they first formulated her proposals in Peking, is a difficult question. Considering the matter carefully, the conclusion suggests already secured title? If that is their itself that any protest, to be really effect plan, they ought to tell the country so in That was the opening act of the drama of seems futile and inept, for if it succeeds, apparent gratitude it must assuredly land the country in an also impressed him.

Germany's confidence from the first, but impasse. We do not make these sugges
3. He gratical for the latter of the

alienation of a port which had been already placed temporarily at her service, wards. Still, it was in connection with of such a nature as to peremptorily pre- be the crowning misfortune. clude its rightful occupation by one of first and flouted afterwards, and if she had process, she would not have been without the sympathy of the world. But her statesmen judged it advisable to adopt, on that occasion, a programme which, and it is now altogether too late, even plished facts. Russia has entered into possession of Port Arthur and Talien; England has obtained China's promise to lease Wei-hai-wei. It is quite hopeless to Ministers did not consider necessary a month ago in the interest of Great Britain, they certainly will not take now merely Opposition must be perfectly sensible of all these things. Hence their policy resolves itself into the retention of Weihai-wei. That is the sum and substance of it. How do they propose to proceed? If the Chinese Government is to be apmany, Russia, England, and France in succession-in other words, if Japan is to observe in her dealings with China the conventionalities which even the haughtiest and most aggressive among Occidental Powers have observed-Peking can give only one reply: - "Wei-hai-wei has already been leased to England. It is We do not imagine that the look is absolutely certain. What, then, would be Japan's next step? leaders of the Opposition must have thought out their programme. What as she must inevitably refuse, to give a advise continued occupation in defiance of China's refusal and of Great Britain's

she certainly was taken into it at a very tions in any hostile spirit. Our own beearly period, and her tacit acquiescence in lief is that Japan has not risen fully to the level of her opportunities, and, quite apart from that, we heartily sympathise meant that she intended to utilize the with her indignation at the farce played episode as a convenient precedent for a against her in Liaotung. Considering the similar demand on her own account after- circumstances of her exit from Manchuria, every fair-minded person must appreciate Liaotung that Japan had a really valid her desire to retain at least Wei-hai-wei title to interfere. The pretexts employed as a trophy of her victories. But to make by the three Powers to contrive her re-the attempt now would be merely to court trocession of the peninsula in 1895 were failure and to offend England. That would

them subsequently. Japan was deceived THE HON. J. N. HARRIS, THE HARRIS SCIENCE SCHOOL, AND THE RECENT ACTION OF THE DOSHISHA TRUSTEES.

(CONMUNICATED.)

The Doshisha School, conceived in the Christian and patriotic heart of Joseph Neesima, was born in Rutland, Vermont, U.S.A., at the annual meeting of the American Board in 1874. The child was welcomed by the acclaumtions of the hundreds of earnest Christians gathered there, and beginning with a gift of \$1,000 from the Governor of Vermont, nearly five thousand dollars were raised on the spot as a hirthday present. The christening came a year later in the city of Kyoto, where Neesima and Kakuma Yamamoto, uniting their bearts in a common purpose, named the child "Doshisha"-Same-Purpose. This Yamamoto, the blind and lame connsellor of the Kyoto government, although not yet in the full light of Christianity, had, as he once told the present writer, come to teel profoundly two things, (1) "The hearts of our people must be changed," and (2) "Christianity alone can reach and renovate the very spring of the human heart." The name Doshisha not only expressed the union of purpose between these two men who christened the young child but also signified the same union between its native and foreign friends.

On the 29th of November of the same year this young child (with two teachers and eight undents) took its first step in the journey of life, and from that day on it received the friendly aid of many persons both in the United States and in Japan, and soon attained thereby

both strength and vigor.

But of all those who befriended it no one not even Mr. Necaima's noble benefactor, Mr. Hardy-did so much for it at the Hon. J. N. Harris of New London, Conn. Wno was Mr. Harris and why did he give more than \$100,000 to build up this school in a land which he never visited? Mr. Harris was a man of wealth whose fortune was not inherited but was almost entirely a result of his own indus-ity, sagacity, and honourable dealing. He therefore knew the value of his wealth. he was a Christian man who in his career made God one of his partners; attributed his success to God's blessing, and set spart his profits to the building up of God's Kingdom of love among his fellow men.

Why did he choose the Doshisha as the ob-ject of his gifts, as the means of advancing God's Kingdom?

1. One reason was that he was a great friend of education. His own education was limited and he sought to give to others the education of which he felt the loss. For this reason he gave to schools: \$50,000 to Mr. Moody's school for Girls in Northfield, Mass, and gifts to other schools the amount of which I do not know,

2. He was specially interested in Japan and the Japanese. He was greatly impressed by tive, must have been lodged before Ger-plain terms. If it is not their plan, then the rapid progress made since the Restoration, the rapid progress made since the Restoration. many obtained her lease of Kiao-chou. the agitation they are now organizing students whom he met in America impressed him favourably, and, as he has told me, the apparent gratitude of the Japanese for his sid

3. He gining the Doshisha partly because of

his personal interest in missionaries. One of the Doshisha professors came from New London, the city in which Mr. Harris lived, and it was mainly if not entirely through the influence of his letters that Mr. Harris began giving to the Doshisha. Mr. Harris also gladly welcomed to his home missionaries returned from Japan, and one was his guest and had just told him much about Japan and the Doshisha on the night when he decided to give \$10,000 to the school. Writing to a Japanese professor who had criticised the missionaries he said:—"All that I have done for Japan was through the kindly advice of the missionaries in that country. I consulted with many of them, and all without exception advised me to do what I did."

4. More than all else Mr. Harris gave this money in the Doshisha because he was a Christian. In a letter which he wrote to me in 1894 he says:—"All my money is and has been for many years dedicated to the advancement of God's Kingdom on the earth, through our Lord Jesus Christ and that for the benefit of the race. Whosoever receives money from me for the purpose of education, does so with the distinct understanding that it belongs to Christ and is given that the world may know Him."

In accordance with this when he gave \$100.000 to the Doshisha, the opening words of his letter of gift were "In the hope of promoting the cause of Christ in Japan and of providing opportunities for instruction in science under the best Christian influences, I devote one hundred thousand, etc." And the next sent-ence declared:—"This School of Science is to constitute a part of a Christian University." Again in his second letter of gift he says: "This school is to be maintained as an Evangelical Christian School of Science."

5. The unchangeable character of the constitution of the Doshisha appealed strongly to him. In Dr. Neesima's appeal to American friends for aid in establishing a Christian University, he declared it to be the hope of the Doshisha to send out not only scholars but young men of strong and noble character by which they can use their learning for the good of their fellow men," and declared the conviction that this could be done only by the living and powerful principles of Christianity, and therefore we adopt these principles as the unchangeable foundation of our educational work." This appeal greatly moved Mr. Harris and probably did more than anything else to lead him to give the \$100,000 to the Doshisha.

And this thought of permanence evidently continued to hold an important place in his mind. In a letter to the Deputation from the American Board as it was about to start for Japan he wrote as follows:—"I would also take this opportunity to convey to the Japanese breihren (the Trustees) my great pleasure over the Constitution of the Doshisha, with its five fundamental and unchangeable articles, which makes Christianity the foundation of the moral aducation promoted by the action, and which exacts from every trustee the promiss to labor for the Doshisha in accordance with these fundamental principles. Whatever departure there may be from the evangelical faith in which the Doshisha was founded, whatever of perplexity and doubt may come over the Christians of Japan in these days of theological transition and consequent skepticiem, I, with all others in my land who have contributed in anywise to the upbuilding of this University, earnestly pray the president and trustees to hold the Science School, with all other departments, to these unchangeable principles which have been their glory hitherto, and which alone can make this collection of schools the greatest blessing to the empire of Japan."

Such a man was Mr. Harris and such were his desires and hopes and purpose in giving \$100,000 to the Doshisha.

Have the Doshisha Trustees respected his hardly conceivable, says this organ, that men purpose and are they trying to carry out his who have given the most solemn promises that wishes? Truth compels the reply that they they will be faithful to the principles on which have been utterly indifferent to the wishes of his benevolent heart, and have violated the promises that they will be faithful to the principles on which have renounced the society was based should have renounced those principles in such a shameless manner. The Kirisuto-kyo Shimbun calls for energetic succumb to foreign influence, when they have UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

He gave "in the hope of promoting the cause of Christ in Japan." He intended that the Science School should be "an Evangelical Christian School of Science," "a part of a Christian University."

Under the guidance of the Trustees the Science School to-day is no help to the cause of Christ, the Doshisha is not a Christian University, and there are no evangelical Christian teachers in the achool. Even President Yokoi says that they have taken down the Christian sign, Kirisulo Kyo no Kamban.

Again, Mr. Harris intended his school to teach Science to the graduates of the Doshisha college department, or two others of equal scholarship. He also wrote: "The Doshisha is not to absorb the Science School, That school was founded for a special purpose definited in the letter of gift. No part of it (the fund) can be diverted from the uses for which it was established."

The Trustees are not using the fund exclusively to teach science, they are not using it for graduates or even for students of the collegiste department, they have decided to use it in part at least for the general benefit of the Ordinary Middle School and the young boys who

are its students.

Finally Mr. Harris urged the Trustees that whatever departure from the Christian Faith might happen in Japan, they would never allow the five articles of its constitution to be changed, as these articles had been the glory of the past and on them depended the hope of its usefulness in the future.

The recent action of the trustees has shown that these wishes of Mr. Harris have not a feather's weight in their estimation. The five "fundamental and unchangeable articles" are no longer either fundamental or unchangeable. They are not the fundation of the Harris School of Science, they have been changed already and they may be changed further or entirely abolished any day.

I have been told that one of the oldest of the

I have been told that one of the oldest of the trustees of the Doshisha, one who was not present at the meeting in Tokyo when this decision was made, has sent in his resignation, one principal reason being that the Trustees have used the Harris Fund in an illegal and immoral way. I cannot wonder at his action. My wonder is that all do not resign.

M. L. GORDON. Kyoto, March 25th, 1898.

### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS,

The recent action of the Döshisha, commented on in these columns by the Rev. J. D. mented on in these columns by the Rev. J. D. Davis in an article entitled The Recent Coup de grace of the Dörhisha, is carnestly discussed in several Christian organs. We think there is little doubt that it will be condemned in 1010 by the unjority of leading members of the Christian Church. This measure is regarded as the result of the influence of Mr. Yokoi Their who the result of the influence of Mr. Tokio, who has constantly argued in favour of confining the teaching of Christianity to a Divinity School attached to the Döshishs and of releasing all other institutions connected with the Society from any obligation as to Christianity. Among those present at the meeting of Frustees held on February 23rd, when the important decision referred to by Mr. Davis was arrived at, were Messrs Yebina Danjo, Tanuashima Kakichi, Kanamoti Taurin, Tokutomi I-ichiro, Morita Kumato, Miyoshi Taizo, and Yokoi Tokio. The Kirisulo-Ayo Shimbun strongly protests against the course followed by the Trustees, which it declares involves the most glaring dishonesty vis à vis the American Board of Foreign Missions and which renders entirely void the one reason for the existence of schools of the Doshisha type. It is hardly conceivable, says this organ, that men who have given the most solemn promises that they will be faithful to the principles on which the Society was based should have renounced

action on the part of all interested in the progress of Christianity.

An opposition meeting was held at the Young Meu's Christian Association Hall, Kanda, Tökyö, on March 6th; the chief promoters of which were Mesers. Kosski Hiromichi, Kishimoto Nobuta, Ukita Kazutami, and Dr. Motora Yūjitō. A resolution was unanimously passed to the effect that the action of the Trustees was lawless  $(fah\bar{o})$ , and that in adopting such a course they had exceeded their powers as trustees. The course recommended was for the Churches to pass a vote of want of confidence in these Trustees and bring about their resignation,

The Hōchi Shimbus condemns the Mombushō for requiring a change in the principles of the Dōshisha and President Yokoi for responding to such an unreasonable demand. It is quite plain even to the most ordinary people, says the Hōchi, that persons who join a Society subject themselves to its Rules of Association, and that their becoming members of the Directorate does not in any way entitle them to alter the constitution of the Society or modify any of its fundamental principles. When the present Trustees took office, they did so on that understanding; hence they are undoubtedly disloyal to their oaths. The Gokpō (Methodist) says that the immorality and arbitroriness of the proceeding are acknowledged on all sides.

It will be remembered by some of our readers that some time ago the Fukuin Shimpo pointed out that from very early days there ments of discord in the ranks of the Doshisha, that there was an undesirable combination of the Christian and the non-Christian, of men interested solely in secular education and of men who wished to use education as the means of attaining what to them appeared to be a higher end than that aimed at by secular educationalists. Commenting on the culmination which this discord has reached, the Fukuin Shimpo savs the, recent action of the Doshisha, the removal of the golden notice board on which was moval of the golden notice board on which was transcribed the proof of their adherence to Christianity, at the suggestion of the Mombusho, is nothing but what was to be expected from a body of men whose central principle has for a very long time not been Christianity pure and simple. Nothing that is done by the pure and simple. Nothing that is done by the men into whose hands the management of the Dothisha has been committed causes us any surprise. That they have acted ultra vires is patent to everybody. Their method of procedure can only be compared to that of a man who should throw down a house that did not belong to him, remove all its foundations, and erect de novo a structure of his own on the stolen site. In place of the stone and iron used in the original building, they have made use of material that will soon crumble to pieces.

The Trustees will no doubt have a good deal to say in reply in the grave charges brought against them. As there has not been time for their answer to appear, we must postpone a fuller notice of the affair to the next summary.

Commenting on the nervousness shown by certain Buddhists at the near approach of mixed residence, the Rikugo Zaschi says the Buddhist anticipation of coming evil is no less weak than ignorant. Are their converts so frail that they need to be shielded from all passing currents and influences? Are the pricate afraid to allow their followers to hear strange doctrines lest they might be converted? Buddhist fears are founded on ignorance. The Buddhists say that under the new treaties numbers of Christian foreigners will settle in the interior, and that the result of this will be bad. But in it not more likely that non-Christian foreigners will find their way to the provinces and corrupt the morals of our people? One thing is certain, that though the increase of Christian foreigners in the interior may be bad for Buddhism, it will be very good for Japan. But is not the assumption that the propagation of Christianity needs the impetus given by the presence of Christian foreigners in the interior in order to prove effective altogether derogatory? Is it not insulting to the intelli-gence of our people to insinuate that they will

failed to respond to the appeals that have been made to them by their own countrymen? If belief is to be worth anything, there must precede it independence of spirit, self-reliance, selfrespect, and a love of freedom of choice and action. In the Buddhist forecast of what is going to happen none of these qualities are recognised as actually existing among our people. If Christianity is accepted in the future more than in the past, it will be accepted voluntarily and not under the pressure of any such overwhelming circumstances us those contemplated by certain Buddhist writers.

Among Shinto organs the Kyorin and the Yui-itsu, so often noticed in these columns, pursue quite opposite courses. The first of these is a conservative organ and a strong advocate of pressing for Government patronage and support. It still persists in urging the necessity of Shiutô being elevated to a position in the state distinct from all other creeds. It maintains that its connection with the worship of national ancestors and the Divine origin of the Imperial line entitles it to be ranked higher than imported creeds like Buddhism and Christianity. This view is not adopted by the Yui-itsu, Mr. Shibata's organ. 'The leading principle emphasized by this enlightened writer is the necessity of more practical morality among Shintoists. The Shinto sect to which he belongs is called the 實行數派 子ikkōkyō ha (The Practical Religion Party) and the Yui-iisu discusses subjects bearing on everyday life and practice. Mr. Shibata is a man of wide sympathy and takes a keen interest in the labours of members of other sects.

In the last Summary we epitomised from the Fukuin Shimpo the first part of a review of the history of religion in Japan during the past thirty years. We now give an abstract of the concluding articles on the subject. The writer, whose nom de plume is Chikuhō, has divided the thirty years into various periods according to characteristic tendencies. The first period he designates "An era of progress and reform;" the second "An era of Reaction." We now come to the third, which is called an era of "Moral instruction preparatory to the adoption of Occidentalism." In the years 1881 and 1882 there was a strong conservative feeling all over the country. The Rikugo Zasshi dates from that period; and it was started to act as a defender of the Christian faith against the attacks of learned men. preparation for subsequent changes which had been going on steadily for many years were of two kinds; one educational and the other literary. The Male and Female Schools started by the missionaries throughout the country did much to pave the way for sweeping reforms. Among the learned classes the circulation of classically written treatises on Christianity brought over from China, like the 天道劉源, Tendö-sögen, the 性理路論. Seiri-ryakuron, and the Fasukyō Tai-i (大意) exercised great influence. Among Christian journals there were the Tokyo Shimpo, which was started in 1877 and discontinued two years later, and the Köbe Shichi-ichi Zappo, the pioneer among Christian periodicals. The cause of Christianity was greatly helped by the Christian professors connected with the Kaisei Gakkö; Messrs. Griffis, Parsons, Verbeck, Veeder, and others; by the starting of the Meiji Gaka-in by the Itchi Kyöksi and the Doshisha by the Kumiai Church. The zeal of Christians was stimulated by the opposition it met with. Chiefly through the instrumentality of Mr. Fukuzawa, the lecture meetings known an Yennetsu-kai became all the rage, and numerous were the speakers who openly opposed Christianity on the platform, Conspi-cuous among these were Professor Morse and the Bible were organised. Mr. Shibusawa Yei-Mr. Yalabe Ryōkichi. Magazines with antiChristian articles in them were constantly appearing, among which the Tōyō Gakugei Zasshi is specially worthy of mention. The opponents of Christianity used every available weapon against it, even emphasising the absurd notion that Father Nicolai was a political agent who intended

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Mr. Minister of Communications)
was to be seen studying the Four Gospels. Not long after, the former President of the Supreme Court, Mr. Miyoshi Taizō, joined the Christian Court, Mr. Miyoshi Taizō, joined the Christian Church, and he and Mr. Wadagaki Kenzō were the means of pushing forward evangelistic work for the Empiror and Veneration

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT Mr. Yalabe Ryökichi. Magazines with anti-

to betray Japan into the hands of Russia. The Buddhists put forth their whole strength against the new faith, and in 1883 the Lecture Hall known as the Meiji Kaido was erected, which acted as a centre of anti-Christian influence and sentiment. Professor Toyama and Dr. Inouye Tetsujitō joined the chorus of the opposition.

In the meantime Christians went ahead apace, In 1880 there was held in Tokyo a conference of representatives from all churches. During the next year the Young Meu's Christian As-sociation was started. About the time of the opening of the Diet the treatises of Beutham. Mill, and Spencer were earnestly read, and their anti-Christian arguments eagerly seized and utilised here. The part played by the Rikugo Zasshi in publishing from month to month learned articles in defence of the Christian citadel ought never to be forgotten. The chief writers for this journal at that time were Messra. Ibuka, Kosaki, Uemura, Takahashi, and Ukita. In later days Messrs. Onishi, Yokoi, and others become constant contributors. The defence of Christianity carried on by the Rieugo Zasshi was based on the writings of Christian scholars in Europe and America. The writers all took keen interest in Christian philosophy and adopted the views of some of the most advanced of Christian thinkers in the West. The influence of the magazine on the minds of educated Japanese cannot be over-estimated. In 1883 the Second All Japan Christian Conference was held in Tankiji, Tökyö. One of the results of this huge meeting was the raising of a fund for the establishment of a Christian publishing company. By this mesns the Keiscisla was started and a weekly Christian journal, the Tökyö Masshū Shimpö, now named Kirtsutokyö Shimoun, was called into existence.

Among the thirty years under review the last

ten or twelve are the most remarkable on account. of the rapid pace at which the Occidentalising process has been going on. The impetus given to Christianity by the introduction of foreign literature and by the universal desire to effect Treaty Revision was doubtless considerable. This is beginning to be felt. Christianity was favoured in many quarters as a means to an end, and not for its own sake. That end being realised, pro-Christian zeal has declined in resure consecutive to the consecutive to the consecutive terms of the consecutive terms. declined in many cases. Christianity was not viewed messential to the reform of Japan, but as the religion of the nations whose feelings towards Japan it was necessary to change. Christianity for a long time was in many minds only regarded as a means of effecting political or social reform, and no attempt was made to examine its claims to acceptance as the one guide of life. To give a few instances of this attitude of mind, Mr. Fakuzawa contended that a change of belief would be involved in mixed residence, and even Mr. Toyama, who had been so loud in his opposition to Christianity, in his Kirtsutokyo to Shakar Kairyo no Kwankei turns around and advocates its introduction for the sake of the secondary benefits, such as music, &c., that it confers. How rapid was the progress of the Europeanisation that commenced some 12 or 13 years ago! Mr. Mori Arinori went so far as to propose that the English language be substituted for Japanese. The Romajikai and the Kana-no-kai both aimed at the abolition, except for special purposes, of Chinese characters. The equality of the sexes was openly proclaimed. Foreign dress was said to be the correct thing, and even a foreign Fancy Ball was given by no less a personage than the present Premier. Christianity undoubtedly reaped many benefits from this pro-European wave of sentiment. It was held up to admiration by the Minister of Foreign Affairs (Count Inouye). Ministers of State consulted ministers of the Gospel as to its teaching, and even in the houses of leading business men like ichi promised support to evangelists; Mr. No-

in various quarters. Count Itagaki after his visit to Europe declared that the success of Constitutional Government in Europe was largely owing to the Christian morality of the people so governed. Leading members of two great political parties received Christian bap-tism, namely Messrs. Kataoka Kenkichi and Nakajima Nobuyuki of the Jiyu-to and Mr. Shimada Saburo and others of the Kaishinto, Messra, Verbeck, Knox, Thompson, Uemura, and others undertook an evangelistic tour in Shikoku, which yielded great results. number of baptisms as given in the Kirisutokyō Shimbun were 4,332 in 1889, 4,730 in 1888, 3.096 in 1889, and 1,940 in 1890. In 1889, Mr. Niijima and other Christians drew up a memorial to the Government asking that Christianity be publicly recognised as one of the creeds of the country. This step was condemned by certain Christians on account of the opposition that it evoked. Though it did not ucceed, the Constitution shortly after granted

the desired liberty of conscience.
With Christianity thus in favour in all quarters, it is not to be wondered at that various attempts were made to utilise her influence for political purposes. It was some time in 1888 when the Minister of Foreign Affairs proposed to confer with representatives from all the Chris-tian churches of Japan. The Conference was not held, however. The late Count Goto in founding his well-known party the 大同團結, Daido-dunketsu, hoped to gain the support of a large number of Christians, whose discontent with the indifference with which they had been treated by the Government he aimed at utilising to serve political ends Failing to obtain Christian support, the members of this party subsequently won over certain Buddhists, assumed the name of Sonkō-hōbutau (章皇孝佛) Daido-danketsu.\*

The return of Mr. Tani Kanjo from a visit to Europe, strongly prejudiced against the course which events were taking in Japan, was the signal for the commencement of a reaction. The draft or a revised treaty prepared by Count Inouye was declared to have conceded far too much to foreigners. The tide had turned, much to foreigners. The tide had turned, and anti-foreign agitators were to be heard throughout the country. What is known as the Kokusui Shugi (Principle of Nationalism) was emphasised by the press and the platform. Christianity felt the change keenly, and is feeling it still. Mr. Chikuhô's history does not extend hereand the ware 1802. He promises to tend beyond the year 1893. He promises to review the events of the last six years on a future occasion.

The Fifth of the course of lectures on "Foreign Literature" delivered by Mr. Uchimura Kanzo at the Kanda Seinenkai Hall deals with the literary aspects of the Bible. After observing that Mr. Gladstone's statement that there were 20,000 volumes on his shelves which he had read is one which few persons could make, and, after urging the need of a judicious selection of books, Mr. Uchimura says that as far as he himself is concerned, there is no one book that he can name which affords him so much pleasure to read m the Bible. Regarded from a strictly literary point of view and read critically, defects will no doubt be found in it, but, taken as a volume whose object it is to explain the relation between God and man, there is nothing equal to it. And even as a literary treasury it has furnished m writers of auccessive generations some of the choicest gems. The English translation made in the reign of James I., though as a translation it is doubtless incorrect in many places, as a piece of literary work has never been surpassed. The language is terse and lacid, frequently rising to the sublime. The English Bible affects the mind of the intelligent reader as no other book can.

verts throughout Inpan according to investigations made last November. Musashi stands first among the provinces as regards the number of Christiaus; the number given being 10,317. Next comes Settsu, with 2,982, followed by Hokkaido with 2,032, Rikuzen with 1,183, and Kötsuke with 1,070. If the number of converts be compared with the population, Setten leads with 32 Christians to every 10,000 persons, followed by Musashi with 30, Bizen with 18, Yamashiro with 17, and Suruga and Rikuzen with 15. The following table shows the number of converts belonging to Protestant sects, the Presbyterians excepted, from whom no returns had been received when the table was compiled:

Kumiai-Kyökai Methodists 4,727 Nihon Methodists 2,293 Baptists (泛動数金) 1,725 Fukuin-Kyōkai
Kirisuto-Kyōkai Southern Methodists ...... Salvation Army Bifn (美智) Kyōkai Universalists Friends (友會) 115 Unitarians Fakyū-Fukuin-Kyōkai 普及福書 歌會 .......... 62

The total reacted is 38,710, or 9 persons in every 10,000 of the population. The following are the provinces which the respective hodies make their centres :- The Kumini Kyōkai; Setteu, Kõisuke, Musashi, Iyo, and Yamashiro. The Nihon-Kirisuto-Kyökai: Musashi, Tosa, Setten, and Rikuzen. The Seikökai : Musashi, Setten, and Hokkaidō. The Methodists : Musashi, Hokkaido, Hizen, and Mutsu, Nihon Methodists: Musashi, Suruga, and Kai, The Baptists: Musashi, Setton, Rikuzen, and Nagato.

The Kiricutokyo Shimbun says that though these statistics may be defective in some respects, on the whole they give a fair idea of the progress made.

Mr. Fukuzawa, writing on the effects of Confuciation in China and Japan, says:—China's present troubles are largely owing to her bigoted adherence to the teaching of her sages, the easence of whose doctrine is submission to the powers that be irrespective of the right of such powers to claim homage. The history of China goes to prove that the men who have succeeded have done so in spite of Confucianism and by the adoption of the very courses which it condemns. And yet, in the face of this and of China's steady decline, there are people here in Japan who do nothing but preach loyalty to superiors and filial piety. These virtues are all very well in their place, but in this advanced age, to suppose that a country can maintain its prestige in the world by its inhabitants simply bowing to the wills of their superiors is utterly absurd. Our position at this moment depends chiefly, not on the Confucianism we borrowed from China, but on the ideas that we received from Europe and America. There is no such lever to lift Eastern nations out of the slonghs into which they have fallen Western learning, and the Japanese who, failing to see this, preach Confucianism afresh at the end of the nineteenth century, as was done some 8 or 9 years ago, are retarding the progress of the nation. Confucian ideas must be eradicated from our minds, and we must become Occidentalised to the very core.

Mr. Izawa Shûji has contributed to the Taiyo an interesting and sensible article on the status and control of Christian Sects in Japan and of the action that should be taken by the Government vis à vis Christian schools, The number of Christian converts of itself demands that there should be some public recognition. The Reman Cathor of the Summary.]

We do not credit this statement as far as the far below the mark. The statistics in other particulars differ from those given above.—[Writer Digitized by

lic converts are put down at 52,177, the Pro- agitating for the privilege it has now obtained testants at 38,361, and the Greek Church at for years, but hitherto the religious restrictions 23,153, making an aggregate of 113,691. Mr. 122wa next discusses the leading characteristics of the different bodies. The following is the gist of his remarks:—The Protestants are divided nto 34 sects. Of these the Nihon Kirisutokyō-Kai stands first as regards the number of adherents, their adherents being over 10,000. Next comes the Kumiai Kyōkai with over 5,000 and the Seiko-Kat (Episcopalian). Each sect has numerous schools connected with it, and each has a special form of government. of the Roman Catholics may be said to be an absolute monarchy, that of the Greek Church to be a limited monarchy, while the Protestants all favour representative government in one form or other. The experience gained in the art of government by the leading members of the various sects is considerable, and should be regarded as conducive to the highest interests of the State. The following are statistics hear-The Roman Catholics have 4 elementary schools, with 2,982 scholars; 3 girl's schools, with 180 pupils; 29 industrial schools, with 622 students; and 2 higher schools, with 206 students. The Protestants have 105 elemen-tary schools, with 6,831 scholars; 15 more ad-vanced boys' schools (Middle Schools), with 1.520 pupils; 47 girls' schools, with 2.527 pupils, and 837 Sunday schools with 30,627 pupils. The Greek Church has 2 elementary schools, with 69 pupils; r advanced boys' school, with 53 students, r girls' school, with 77 students. The Catholics have r school of divinity with 42 students, the Protestants 17 with 223 suidents each and the Greek Church 1, with 11 students. There are in all 777 ordained foreign missionaries, 680 Protestants, 96 Roman Catholics, and I Greek Church missionary.\*
In September, 1885, an envoy from the Papal

Court was granted an audience with our Em-peror. On that occasion a letter from the Pope was read to His Majesty, in which the hope was expressed that now that Japan had entered the comity of civilised sations the relations between her and the Papal Court would be of an intimate kind. In November, 1888, an answer to this letter was sent to Rome by the Emperor, Marquis Saionji, then on his way to Berlin, being the bearer. This communication promised that Roman Catholic converts should be in every way protected, and that, as far as the law of the las freedom of belief would be granted. land allowed.

It is thus plain that Christians in this country have a right to claim equal privileges with Shintoists and Buddhists, and whatever the law sanctions in the case of one sect it ought to do in reference to others.

Since writing the account of the Doshisha affair, magazines of more recent date have reached us. We summarise briefly the opinions they express. Great surprise has been felt that Marquis Saionji, whose proclivities are all pro-toreign, should have objected to allow the schools attached to the Doshisha liberty in the matter of religion, while granting them the pri-vilege which as educational esablishments they might justly claim. The Minister professes to be a man of liberal sentiments, but there is no liberality in the policy adopted in reference to the Doshisha. It is said that the action taken by the Doshisha is nothing but a subterfuge; that the trustees will carry on the schools in the same way as they have been hitherto conducted ; that a change of name is after all a trivial matter. What has been done, say some, is to bring the schools in outward form into agreement with other establishments controlled by the Department for the sake of the exemption from military service to be obtained thereby. The change has only been one of form. It is stated that the Döshisha has been

contained in their Articles of Association have rendered their efforts fruitless. The view of some is that the action of the trustees is to be regarded in the light of a mere formal subjec-tion to the existing rules of the Department, and is of a piece with the procuring of passports by foreigners when their real purpose in travelling is quite different from any of the grounds on which a permit may be granted as stated by the

Obituary notices of the Rev. Dr. Verbeck have been published in various magazines, in which his work as a preacher, as a school-ieacher, and a translator is highly praised. As the facts given are well known to most of our readers, we do not think it necessary to re-state them here. Dr. Verbeck's influence on the Government in the early days of the Meiji era in said to have been considerable. His quiet, unassuming manner, his extensive knowledge of Japanese, and his scholarly acquaintance with the latest developments of Western thought the latest developments of Western thought rendered him an invaluable adviser to many a statesman who was groping his way to a new world. As to his translations, that of the Psalms is said to be the best. The task was extremely difficult, but is alleged to have been performed with great skill. Without earthly citizenship, it is said, that Dr. Verbeck proved the content of the provents of the pro his Heavenly citizenship beyond all manner of doubt.

Dr. Inouye Yenryo has just published a useful little work called 破地協論 Ha ibutsuron (The Destruction of Materialism). Dr. Inouye has discussed the views of leading materialistic writers like Dr. Kato and Mr. Fukuzawa. The style of the book is semi-colloquial. The Chinese characters are supplied with kana, and the language used is such as can be easily understood by persons of very ordinary education.
The work is for sale at the Tetsugaku-shoin m 30 sen per copy.

There is a project on foot for amalgamating the Rikugo Zasshi and the Unitarian organ, the Shukyo, As regards advanced thought and Christian philosophy these two magazines have no equals in Japan. If they succeed in uniting their forces, the sympathisers with liberal and advanced Christianity will have cause for rejoicing. It is said that in the event of the union, Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta will be the editor of the new magazine.

Two articles on religion appear in the Shakqi Zasshi—one entitled "The Future of Buddhism"; and the other "The Future of Christianity." We can only find space for a short digest of the views expressed. During the past few years Buddhism has shown distinct signs of conforming herself to the spirit, and of supplying the wants, of the times. This programme is forced on her by the approach of mixed residence. There are, however, certain things which are essential to her future auccess. (1) There is need of increased consolidation. She would do better with fewer temples and fewer priests. A small number of strong fortresses is better than a large number of poorly equipped and poorly manned outposts. She needs to adopt a process of selection. (2) Her young pricate, though well versed in modern learning, the masters of good literary styles and smart in debate, lack religious fervour and do not realise their responsibilities m teachers of men, (3) The sects must unite and must together organise practical works of benevolence and take steps to enlighten the ignorant. What is wanted in Buddhism is real life and apirit and deep religious feeling. Buddhism is old and decrepit, and unless some new blood can be put into her she will go the way of all the earth. It is the soul that needs revivifying. All this outward polishing up of her exterior parts, this patching of holes in her garments, will not hide from men the fact that her life is slowly cbbing away,

Theightelefion Christianity expresses great

dissatisfaction with the general state of things in the Christian world. The main contention of the writer is that religion consists everywhere in the observance of forms without corresponding life. There is, in the opinion of the writer, an unmistakable hollowness about the majority of Christian services that are held. The preaching is formal. The praying is formal. The confession of belief is formal. The preachers occupy their time in explaining elaborate doctrines in which few but theologians are at all interested and about which Japanese care nothing, or they denounce things in general and utter a series of lamentations on the wickedness of the age and of society as a whole. The audience has no sympathy with this kind of thing. Their experience of life is by no means so gloomy as the preachers represent. There are pastors who mourn that so little interest is taken in prayer meetings. To say nothing of the fact that Protestants are not a worshipping people, that the Church is regarded by them as a mere lecturing hall rather than a temple where they approach God, the idea that a number of people who are perfect strangers to each other can in reality unite in prayer as do the members of some families, is chimerical. The success or failure of Christianity is often said to be indicated by the size of the audiences in Christian Churches. This is a most unreliable mode of calculation. The forms of the Church are learnt by heart and repeated like so many short lessons in the case of a very large number of pro-The writer concludes by recommending the adoption by Japanese Christians of the time-honoured relationship between parishioners and the temple to which they belong, and that between the Buddhist priest and his flock. In the methods of teaching Christianity and of instructing believers adopted by Christian minia ters, the Shakai Zasski contends, there is much that ill accords with Japanese feelings and tastes, and there is no reason whatever why such methods should not be abandoned.

### YAPANENE FACTS AND COMMENTS

Referring to the excess of imports-17 million yen-during January and February, the Kokumin remarks that the phenomenon still continues, the figures for the first half of March already reaching 5 million yes. An outflow of specie abroad in the inevitable result. The average amount of specie reserve at the end of February, compared with the figures at the end of March, was as follows :-

Gold coins. Silver coins. Totals, Average. Yen. Yen. 75.777.121 1,680,030 84.066,024 1,721.867 len. 77,457,151 85,787 891 8,330,740 February ... Decrease ... 8,286,903 41,837

According to the Shogyo the Government has at last sanctioned the Hoksyetan Railway Company's issue of bonds. The nominal amount is 1,800,000 yen, payable in two periods. The first period comprises ten days from the rat to the 10th May, when 900,000 yen will be issued; the second is between the 1st and the 10th August, for an equal amount. Each bond is of 500 pen face value, issued at a rate of at less! 97 ven per 100 ven. Interest is to be paid half-yearly at the rate of ten per cent, per annum. Redemption of the principal is to be effected within ten years, commencing in January of the 33rd year of *Meifi*, by lottery. The security depusit for application is five yen for every 100 ves face value.

At the graduation examinations held on the 28th ultimo in the Normal School at Katsumata, Niigata, the Governor is reported by the Zokyo Asaki to have remarked, in the course of his speech, that although there should be no objection to instructors embracing a religious faith as private individuals, it would be unpardonable if they attempted to guide others in the light of their own prejudices. After censuring the teachers and atudents in vehement terms. the Governor exclaimed: "I do not hesitate to say that the brains of the instructors and their

ciples did not exist side by side with tutors equally unprincipled." This created a sensation, and m soon as the ceremony was over the principal of the school, teachers, and officers presented to the Governor a statement suggesting the advisability of their resigning.

The Tokyo Asashi states that the Governor of Kanagawa, acting upon instructions from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, line recently prohibited a proposed tour in America for the investigation of agricultual matters. The Colonial Board of America has instituted a rigorous examination of Japanese immigrants. passengers conveyed by the steamer China, which left Yokohama on the 24th February, and by the *Peking* and the *Doric*, which sailed on the 5th and the 25th March respectively, fifty-seven were refused permission to been carried on since October last under the land on the plea that their arrival was in violation of the Emigration Regulations. A strong protest was made, but in vain.

The difficulty of preventing the secret import of pium in Formosa, according to the Mainichi, seems resily insurmountable. Junks from Foodhow and Amoy generally serve as means of smuggling and the drug is landed in stormy weather and on dark nights. Each passenger carries with him 50 or 100 cattles, and the amount so conveyed is said to exceed 30 per cent. of the total import each year. That is, however, the simplest form of smuggling. More complicated artifices are resorted to by artistic knaves. Opium is sometimes packed like cotton, salt, liquor, or paper, or is mixed with the contents of other packages. Sometimes it is concealed in the bottom of a ship with painted boards spread over it, and upon these boards other cargo is placed. At other times a hole is made in a mast to stow the drug, or a strong chest of sheet lead filled with opium is chained to the bottom of a ship. The policemen are constant in their vigilance and yet the smugglers manage to evade them; the question needs thorough examination.

In the beginning of the 22nd year of Meiji (1889) Government paper above one yen denomination was put into circulation, the Nippon states to the amount of over 27 million ren, in spite of the legal limit, a little over 20 million The limit of issue was subsequently extended from 20 millions to 85 millions, while steps were taken for the gradual redemption of paper until the figures were reduced to 5,400 000 yen for Government and 4,600,000 yen for bank notes. The issuing power of the Bank of Japan has increased, the Government having deposited 22 million yen without interest to The decrease of notes affords a corresponding profit to the Bank. The untaxed notes of the Nippon Ginko in the 22nd year of Meifr aggregated 20 million yen only, but the amount has now swelled to 58 millions. The Bank, it is said, is enabled in reap a considerable profit from the present appreciation of interest.

Sales of tea since the opening of the season have smounted, according to the Nichi Nichi, to 21,819,350 catties, the average price being per picul. The figures for 26.76 yen the previous year aggregated 20,147,100 cattles, the average quotation being 20,98 year. Such a marked progress is almost beyond precedent. In the corresponding period of last year the stock in the market did not exceed 104,100 catties, 21,800 catties less than this year. The tea season opens in ordinary years on the 24th or 25th April, from which day arrivals from the various producing districts become constant. This year, however, the tes crop is yet in a state of immaturity; and it will be two or three weeks before plucking commences, the severity of the winter having brought about the delay. The work of plucking is not likely to be commenced before the beginning of May. Should the leaf escape in

facture, but does not seem to have equally influenced sale prices. Many tea plantations having been converted into rice or vegetable fields, a reduction in the crop for this year is inevitable, and quotations will continue to rise.

The Mitaul family have under consideration the construction of large warehouses and a pier in Kobe on the site where the Onohama Shipbuilding Yard fermerly stood. The project has made rapid progress. Of an area of 12,000 Isube 10,000 have been appropriated for the construction of a row of godowns, together with a pier of 900 hen in length, by the side of which four steamers of 6,000 tons each can lie at anchor. Between the pier and the warehouses are to be laid rails for the transport of goods. The naceseary investigations for the project have supervision of an experienced engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the geological ex-amination alone being uncompleted. A large supply of iron will be secured from America when work commences in the beginning of May. There are two or three warehonsing companies in Kobe, but the recent development of trade has led to the necessity of increasing these institutions. The Mitsui's project, rethese institutions. The Mitsui's project, remarks the Nichi Nichi, has met with universal approbation.

The marine products of Hokkaido do not, according to the Tokyo Shimbun, fall short of 15 million yes annually in value, the number of fishermen employed being 150,000. The herring fishery alone is reported to require over 100,000 men. It is the season just now, and thousands of fishermen from the interior are proceeding to the North every day. Aomori occupies the most prominent position in respect of their supply, while Iwate, Akita, Yamagata, and Niigata are scarcely less conspicuous. The wages paid to the fishermen from these prefectures vary from 20 to 60 yes for the season, the average being 33 yen. The period of their service is from two to four mouths. The steady appreciation of labour during the past lew years, however, has led to the increase of their wages by 40 per cent. Under these circumstances it is estimated that one-third of the marine produce has to be appropriated for payment of wages. The fishing industry, the Tokyo Shimbun adds, will cease to be an largely profitable as is was before unless improvements are introduced into the system now in operation.

On the night of the 31st ultime Count Incuye, Minister of Finance, says the Hochi, de-livered an address at the Miteri Club on the subject of financial reform. He said: capital requires still my fullest consideration. It must be determined whether foreign capital should be appropriated for such unproductive enterprises as military ments or for productive enterprises in industry and commerce. If unproductive under-takings alone are aimed at, it is doubtful whether foreigners can be induced to invest. Retrenchment is the best expedient I can propose at this conjuncture; and with this in view I have reduced the budget proposals by about forty million ven. The taxes hitherto were so onerous that they could hardly be borne. Increased taxation, in the circumstances, is sure to end in failure, and I could not adopt it with out great regret. In short, the question of finance is still under investigation; but I may be prepared with its solution by the time of the Diet's ordinary session in December." The Hochi adds that all seemed to be dissatisfied with the Minister's explanation.

The Rokumin publishes statistics of the number of Buddhist temples in the capital. It represents the gross total to be 1,287. Classified according to Urban Divisious, Asakusa stands first with 307; Shiba next with 196, while 151 are allowed to Shitaya. The number hen gradually decreases. Koishikawa is resay that the brains of the instructors and their pupils are completely corrupted; it would be a wonder if students of such degraded printing of May. Should the leaf escape in presented as having 95; Ushigome, 62; Honjo, jury from frost, it promises to be excellent in quality. The appreciation of commodities has 4; Kejimschi, 3. Kanda district contains none. Digitized by Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT presented as liaving 95; Ushigome, 62; Honjo,

sects, our contemporary remarks that the Jodo sect occupies the most conspicuous position, having 377 temples. Next comes the Shinshu with 252 temples, followed by the Nichiren sect with 204 places of worship. To the Zen sect belong 159 temples, and to the Tendai 127. The Shingon, which has adopted the doctrines of the famous Kobo Daishi, is possessed of 83 chapels, while the new sect, Riusai, founded in opposition to the Soto, has 73 institutions. Two other minor sects, the Obaku and Fishu. own 10 and 3 temples respectively.

The export of tobacco during the 30th year amounted, according to the Shogyo, to 351,740 yen in value, showing an increase of 97,357 yen over the previous year. Below is a comparative table showing the classification as well m the amount of tobacco exported during the past five years :---

Classification.	1893.	1894.	1995.
*	Yen.	Yan.	Yen.
Cigarettes	25,854	56.877	115,760
Cigars	75.768	279 675	216,613
Others	9 274	37.722	47,370
Total	104,896	348,274	379 743
	$\overline{}$		
Increase or decrease	_	+243,378	+31,467
Classification.	189б.		1897.
	Yan.		Yen.
Cigarettes			231,611
Cigars			
Cigarettes	81,937 151,588		231,611
Cigars	81,937 151,588	**********	231,611 58,622
Cigars	81,937 151,588 20,858	**********	231,611 58,622 21,507
Cigars	81,937 151,588 20,858 254,383	***********	231,611 58,622 21,507 311,740

A serious dimunition is noticeable in the item of cigars for last year, while there is a corresponding increase in the case of cigarettes.

A well-known broker of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, named Kanijo, has since antumn made a corner in Hokkaido Coal Mining shates. People were surprised at his bold attempt, and various rumours sprang up through ignorance of the real wire-puller be-hind. On the 31st ultimo, the number of shares Kanijo had arranged to buy reached 16,000. At 4 p.m. a party of dealers on the sellers' side brought the shares to the Exchange, intimating that 2,000 shares only were deficient. The broker representing the buyers was immediately called and directed by the Exchange officers to take delivery of the same, but he refused m do so on the plea of the shares being still deficient. By # p.m. the sellers succeeded in collecting the remaining amount, and presented it at the office. The buyers were again pressed to take delivery, but showed no signs of complying. Pressure was brought upon them till late at night, but in vain. There was no alternative for the Exchange but to regard them as contract-breakers and punish them as such. Their failure, indeed, affects the stability of the Exchange, the loss involved in the transaction being extremely A meeting of the Directors, Inspectors, and other principal officials of the Exchange was called to discuss the method of dealing with the insolvent brokers, while a conference was likewise held by the brokers to determine what course to take. The brokers who are to be charged with breach of faith according to the Exchange Regulations are seven in all. The Exchange, unable III carry on its business, put up a notice of suspension on the plea that its account books had to be adjusted. precedent can be found for the present incident, which not only entails serious losses upon the Exchange, but also affects the whole economic community. A compromise between buyers and sellers is suggested as one means of settling the matter.

The Osaka Mainichi, the Kobe Chronick says, reports that the cruiser Takao had hee starboard how damaged by collision with a sailing vessel on the 1st inst., about 4 p.m., off Chinana-point, Inno Island, Insland Sea (off Bingo). The cruiser put in at Matsuhama, where temporary repairs were effected, and she left there on Sunday morning. Digitized by GOOSIC

### CHINESE NOTES.

With regard to the anti-foreign disturbance in Changking, of which very brief intelligence was recently received, the N.-C. Daily News publishes the following :---

We are in receipt of a special telegram from on correspondent at Coungking supplementing the facts published a short time ago with regard to the recent anti-foreign demonstration there, whereby a student was strangled and property belonging to the Methodist Mission at Kiangpeli destroyed. It states that the Tues or country militia are now there in large force and refuse to allow the execution of the death-watrant of the murderers of the student. The Consuls have demanded of the Taotal that he disperse the murderers, arrest the leaders of the gentry who institute the tue to W. The 500 for connecting the rate and The 500 for connecting destroyed. cited the riot, pay Tis. 500 for property destroyed, and allow the Mission to re-occupy the premises in question and also to protect them there,

The foreign residents of Chungking presented an address of congrututation to Mr. Archibald I. Little on the occasion of his arrival at that place in the first steamer that ever navigated the Upper Yangtaze.

These notes from Waku are interesting :---

The new German engineer, who was specially engaged at home for steel call making at the Nanengaged at home tor strett all making at the Nam-yang Ironworks, has arrived. He thros out to be an Englishman, trained in the Sheffield steel works, but who has been employed in Germany for some years, and was the best man they could find for the work. Rather a peculiar fact!

THE NEW MINT AT NGANKING.

Mr. Gervase Cook has been twice to inspect he new mint which is being elected at Nganking, The machinery is made by the firm of Hein Knappe, of Magdeburg. They have sent out Knappe, of Magdeburg. They have sent out no foreign engineer to superintend its election, all the work being done by native artificers. There is one single engine, to which steam is supplied by a Cornish boiler, 4ft. Gin. in diameter, and 20it long. There is also a small electric lighting plant, and coining machinery for dollars and cents. The boiler came out in the shape of plates, and is being put together by native workmen without any foreign supervision at all. These devices enabled the German tender to be below the English offers. This mint is about the same size as the old one in Wuchang, but outling like as large as those in Canton on Nausking. Mr. Cook says that these last two are the best appointed mints he has visited in China. All best appointed mints he has visited in China hen machinery was supplied by the Birmingham Mint Co., England.

### THE TONGLIU COLLINGIES

Mr. Cook has also been visiting the Tonglin baring works, in company with H.E. Sheng, Mr. Wang, Director of the Hanauching coalmines, and Mr. Lo, the Chinese engineer. This boring has Mr. Lo, the Chinese engineer. This boths has been going on for the last six months, and has only reached a depth of 226 feet. The works are under the direction of Messis. Feining and Phillipp, and when operations were commenced the officials were told by the former that coal would be reached at a depth of about 150 feet from the suctace: he cannot now say at what depth it will be found, if at all. Mr. Phillippis of animous that it will not be found. Mr. Cook depth it will be found, it stall. Mr. Phillipp is of opinion that it will not be found. Mr. Cook believes that coal will be met with and that two seams exist at a depth of about 300 or 400 feet, and that moraseams may be found deeper. He went down the trial shaft and found a seam two feet thick, at an angle of 50 to 90 degrees, but from the strata be thinks this seam will prove thinks and better dense down will prove thicker and better deeper down, and will be work able. The cause of the delay in the boring is that the machine in use in only able to run at 74 revolutious per minute. Mr. Cook advised them to
change it for one at the Tayê works, which would
enable the boring to proceed at the rate of from five to ten feet per day instead of only from six to twelve inches.

12th March.

### LOSS OF A STEAMER AND SEVERAL LIVES.

The steamer Frashi Maru, belonging to Mr. Suzuki Sawayo of Hakodate, struck a submerged rock early on the 26th ult, while on her way to Otaru, and is said to be breaking up. Fourteen of the passengers are reported to have been safely landed, while the remainder, whose number is not stated, are reported to have been the disease has appeared, thought it does not

### THE DRAGON FLAG AT PORT ARTHUR.

A very apposite story is told in the columns of the Hachi Shimbum. When Port Arthur was handed back to the Chinese in May 1895, Vice-Admiral Tauboi commanded the Japanese squadron on the station, and he with Captain Miura were present at the ceremony of re-hoisting the Chinese colours. It was a comparatively calm day, and the dragon flag barely floated out when it was run up. To the surprise of every one, however, no somer did the dragon unfold than the halyards snapped and the flag came down. Vice-Admiral Tsuboi examined the halyards but could not discover the cause of the break. He predicted that the incident might be regarded an an omen of the fate that awaited China's possession of the port.

### THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

It may interest our readers in know that the Fleet which the British Government have just ordered to assemble in the North China Sen comprises 3 First Class Battleships, 3 Armoured First Class Cruisers, 2 First Class Cruisers. 3 Second Class Cruisers, 1 Third Class Cruiser, 4 First Class Gungoats, 3 Second Class Gun-boats, 1 Third Class Gunboat, 3 Sloops, 4 boats, I laird Class Gauden, 3 Stoops, 4 Torpedo boat destroyers (Handy type), 6 First Class Torpedo boats and 3 Second Class Tor-pedo boats, which, with the Despatch boat Alacrity, will be off the neighbourhood of Port Arthur on or about the 6th inst. The aggregate tonnage of the above is over 94,000 tons, the number of guns carried by them being 228irrespective of torpedo tubes in each vessel and torpedo boats,

Description.	Топивде	Horse power	Guns,	Knots Sgeed.
Victorious zut claus Buttleibip	T4,000	22,000	z6	113
	.,10,500	13,001	24	24 5
t enturion #	10,500	13,000	14	10 5
	14,000	#5,0CD	54	11.5
Grafion		\$3,000	2 8	50,0
Immortalite Armoured Cruise		8,500	89	18.0
Narcissus It to to	5,6oc	8,500	12	18.3
	5,600	8,900	10	38, E
lphigeniaend class Cruiser	3.730	9,000		29.8
Pigae		9.000	Ě	19-B
Rainbow		9,000	- 8	20.8
Archergrd class		1.50	- 6	2 Ó. 5
Peacock		1,900	- 6	11.3
Pigmy		1,900	- 6	11.4
Rattler		1,200	- 6	13,6
Redpole	and the second	2,800	- 6	13,0
AfgerineStoup		1,400	6	13.0
Dephoe a		2,000	- i	REC
Phoenix		F_400	- 6	11.0
Handy Torpedo boat destruyer .	200	4,000	- 6	30,0
Hart	260	4,000	- 6	30.0
Hama	260	5,400		31,0
Whiting	- 980	9,000	- 6	31 0
Alacrity Despatch Vessel		1,000	4	17
Pirebrand and class Gunboat	455	300	- 2	21
Was Ifa		550	- 1	19
		850	- 1	12
			_	- 2
Six First class and Three Second cla-	as Lorge	do Boat		

The above list does not include the first class cruisers Edgar (at Hongkong) and Gibraltar (en route), the second-class cruiser Bonaventure (on her way out to relieve the Rainbow), the gunboat Plover (at Singapore), the atmoured coast-defence turret ship Wivern (at Hongkong), and one or two small gunboats (such as the Esk).—Kobe Herald.

### CHOLERA.

Some apprehensions are entertained on the ambject of cholera in Tokyo and Yokohama. There have been aix cases of unquestionable Asiatic cholers in the latter place, though only one of them has proved fatal. In Tokyo there have been nine cases and one death, but medi-cal experts have not yet given a decisive opinion as to the character of the disease in the capital. The Home Department is adopting vigorous measures of prevention, the appearance of the disease at this time of year being, of course, somewhat ominous.

The cases of choleraic seizure, eight in number, of which we spoke in our issue of the 5th instant as having occurred in Tokyo, have happily been found to be sporadic. In Yokohama, however, as already stated, the Asiatic form of

yes show any signs of spreading.

### " FRIENDS."

We give litteratim, as an example of the excellent education in English afforded by the Joshi Gakuin, the essay on "Friends" by Misa Tesu Moteki :--

" The man that bath no music in himself, Nor is not moved with concord of sweet: Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils.

Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils.

And indeed there is something in music that every one admires. To the highly cultured and to the barbarian alike it conveys a pleasure that mu not be put into words. Wherein does its mysterious attraction he? Is it not rather Shakespeare's "caucord of sweet sounds," blending into harmony notes that could not charm us of themselves? Harmony is beloved of our Creator, for music itself is but m chord in what the Ancients called the music of the spheres and what we think of as the reign of universal law. The Grand Maker of all has constructed this universe on a grand scale of harmony in which there is no discord: not so much as the stopping of the sun on the eastern or wes-tern horizon. One star keeps time with another tern horizon. One sta

"All nature is but art, unknown to thee,
All chance direction which thou canst not see, All discord harmony, not understood, All partial evil universal good."

And there are spiritual harmonies no less than material. The word "friend" suggests not one, but more than one, and it too includes the idea of harmony. We meet one person after another who is indifferent to us, but when we find one who shares our tastes and sympathies, who enters into our most sagred input and sorrows whose bears most sagred input and sorrows whose bears beats as one with ours, we have found a friend. A friend is a fountain of pure love and strong sympathy, one who understands us and calls out latent gifts in us that we ourselves have not suspected. Some persons make no distinction between friends and acquaintances, calling both friends, ranking both slike. But they thereby degrade one of the noblest of words and show that they have not tested one of life's richest experiences. The companionship of one real friend is more satisfying than association with a host of acquaintances :-

> "The soul selects her own Them shuts the door:
> On her divine majority
> Obtrude no more. I've known her from an ample nation

Chaose one;
Then close the valves of her attention
Like stone."

Friendships are formed in various ways. Very commonly they arise gradually between people who have known each other a long time, as the result of mutual admiration and confidence. Some result of mutual agonization and such together by a strange attracting power, knowing each other in-stantly as friends and cherishing ever after a close and unwavering regard. Such friendships are per-haps most perfect, as the unsought and spontageous is often hightest with ideal bloom. Emerson says "my friends have come to me unsought. The great God gave them to me." Yet succe a friend's influence is one of the strongest that enters into human life it behoves as a best we may to be wise in the choice of friends. Many hopes have been weekled. haps to be wise in the choice of rivelius. Arany hopes have been wiecked, many ambitions destroyed, by the blighting effect of a corrupting friendship. On the other hand how many have been led to higher aspirations and timer lives by ciation with a faithful soul mate.

association with a faithful soul mate.

What so calls out the highest that is in us as the desire to be worthy of the friendship of one whom we love and admire? and what sacrifice will we not make in order to render some mete return to those who give freely to us of their test. Since friendship is so precious a possession it ought to be guarded with vigitant care. There is an insibe guarded with vigitant case. There is an insi-dious danger which sometimes menaces it; especially it would seem among young people. Intimacy often tacks politeness and thus the bloom of friendship is tarmished. If we set a right value on friendship courtesy naturally springs up from the fountain of our reverential beaus, not by obli gation at all.

Politeness in mutual intercourse is as the perfume to the flower, as delicate, as evanescent, as priceless. The greatest disappointment which can

God is the best, for it is founded on a rock. man friendships are precious but there is a higher height. "Henceforth I call you not servants, but I call you friends." This great promise and blessed word is to every one who is in the same family with Christ. Since we have known the divine friendship by the love of God our love must be like His, and in every human friendship we be like His, aull in every human friendship we ought to have in mind that great word, " Love one another as I have loved you.

### THE INSURRECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A correspondent of the China Mail, writing from Singapore on the 14th instant, says, with regard to the fresh outbreak of hostilities in the Philippines:—The passengers by the Isla de Luzon, the Spanish mail steamer, which passed through here yesterday, are one and all of opinion that the state of the country forebodes very grave consequences. The Friars are again raising their heads, and asserting themselves more than ever, persecuting the natives who have returned to their homes under the amnesty, trumping up false charges of an irrelevant nature against those whom they anspect of being antagonistic to them, and openly defying the Government. General Prime de Rivers is so disgusted with the Government not carrying out his recommendations for reforms that he has insisted upon being relieved. Moret, the Colonial Minister, is evidently in earnest about reforms, and from the paper now to hand from Spain, is bent on secularizing the Monastic Orders; but he is meeting with great opposition, probably by pressure from the Queen Regent, which Sagasta has not the moral courage to insist upon removing.

The Correo Espanol, the principal Carlist organ, and consequently the advocate of the Friers, in trying to persuade its readers that the secularization of these Orders in the Philippines would bring about the emancipation of the Islands and their total loss to Spain.

El Pais, on the other hand, warmly applauds the reforms, remarking if they are much longer delayed there will assuredly be a reproduction of the civil war in the Archipelago of Magellan, This moment appears to have arrived ! Spanish officers tell me that the rebels have so far only delivered up old and worthless rifles and guns. All the Mausers captured from the Spaniards are still in their hands.

The same correspondent, writing from Manila on the 16th, said :- The telegraph wires connecting Manila with Bolingo via San Fernando are now out, and the working of the railway has been rendered impossible owing to the rebels having torn up the tails and damaged the per-I am told, but do not know if it manent way. is correct, that miles of telegraph wire have been carried off by the rebela to make lantaccas (small cannon made of boiler tubes and bound with wire). It is generally believed that the rebellion will spread, and that it is assuming fresh vigour in the Provinces.

### FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

About half-past twelve this morning fire was tound to have broken out in a godown on No. 183 Settlement, occupied by Messrs J. R. Very shortly after the alarm was Simon & Co. given, Superintendent Morgin, of the Yokohama Fire Brigade, with a party of men and a hose-reel and stand-pipe, proceeded to the scene, and, working from a hydrant, succeeded in limiting the fire to the one building and extinguishing it is less than an hour. The fire started on the ground floor of the godown, which was used for froning and preparing linen goods. Some linen and empty boxes on the priceless. The greatest disappointment which can goods. Some linen and empty boxes on the come to us is a booken friendship. Some high thinkers tell us that there can be no such thing, part of upper floor burned, and some bales yet surely there have been broken hearts because friends have failed those who trusted them, failed in the hour of need. Friendship, like all lofty edifices, must be reared upon a solid foundation. Alere liking is not enough, nor sympathy in transient tastes. There must be a foundation of principle. But the friendship which is sealed by the lave of sodown.

### THE DIET.

The Diet is to meet on the 14th May and sit for twenty one days. It will be a short session, but as there is no Budget to be discussed, the Houses can probably get through the limited quantity of business that will come up for consideration. We have no details as yet about the exact nature of that business, but it may be presumed that the revised drafts of the remaining portions of the Civil Code will be the principal Bill. Unless the Codes are passed in time to go into operation by July, the operation of the Revised Treaties will have to be postponed, a very improbable contingency.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The third cruiser, lately built for the Chinese Government, was successfully launched from the Vulcan Dockyard at Stettin on 12th Febru-Mr. Lu Hai-hwan, the Chinese Minister, performed the ceremony of naming the vessel Hai-Shen.

A Notification has been issued by the Department of Communications with reference to the time for which tickets on the State Railways will be valid henceforth. The table stands thus:—Tickets for distances of over fifty miles and less than a hundred, 2 days. Tickets for distances of 100 miles and over, a day additional for every hundred miles or fractions of a hundred.

The scheme of Mr. John Milne for scattering earth-tremor observatories over the globe is being carried out, says a home paper. Recording apparatus is to be established at Toronto, Harvard, Philadelphia, Victoria, B.C., iwo stations in New Zealand, Batavia, Madras, Calcutta, Bombay, Mauritius, Cape Colony, Argentina, San Fernando, Kew, and probably other places.

The will of the late Mrs. Frances E. Willard has been offered for probate. Most of the estate is left to Miss Anna Gordon, but Miss Willard's home in Evanston is left to Miss Gordon and Mary Bannister Willard during their lives and will revert eventually to the benefit of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union. The estate is estimated at \$17,000, of which \$16,000 is in real property.

The Hon. I. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary of Hongkong, left on the 19th ult. for England, on leave. The following appointfor England, on leave. The following appointments, consequent on Mr. Lockhart's departure, are notified in the Gasette:—Hon. T. Sercombe Smith to be Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. A. M. Thomson to be Acting Colonial Treasurer and Acting Collector of Stamp Revenue in addition to his duties III Postmaster-General, and Mr. A; W. Brewin to be Acting Registrar-General in addition to his duties an Inspector of Schools.

About noon on the 25th ult., two women, one the daughter, Sayo, 23 years of age, of Mr. Kamiyama Yasugoro, of Kohira village, Tokyo-fu, and the other, Inc, 61 years old, the wife of Mr. Kamiyama Tomoyemon of the same village, went out on some errand and failed to return home. The villagers, alarmed, made a soarch for them, in company with the police, and on the morning of the 30th ult, the bodies of the two women were found in the forest of Hugi-yama, in the same district, the girl terribly ent about the body, while the elder woman appeared to have been strangled to death. No trace has yet been found of the perpetrator, or perpetrators, of the fool crime.

The appeal in the case of Tsuda Yaheyi and twenty-two other Japanese immigrants who arrived at San Francisco by the steamship City of Peking on February 22nd, bas been dismissed and they are to be deported in accordance with law. The ground is that, according to their own statements, they had not sufficient means of support and were liable to become a public charge. Thus they were within the re-Original from

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strictive clauses of the Immigration Act. There in, states a San Francisco paper, no doubt that the men are farm labourers, though they pro-fessed to be " students of agriculture," and declared they did not want work. It is probable, also, that they came on a contract for work. Other cases of a similar kind are pending.

The proceedings of the Japan Women's Temperance Union were continued on Monday at the Union Church, Yokohama, the morning being occupied by devotions and a business Beasion; while a meeting was held in the after-noon at which addresses were given by Mrs. Ushiodo on "The Rescue Home"; Miss Flor-ence Denton on "The Foreign W.C.T.U.," Mr. Tomeoka on "Reforming Forces of Christignity;" Mr. Harn on "Prison Reform;" and Judge Miyoshi on "Education for Criminals." Music was given by the Yokoliama Choir, a Mesdames Topping and Garst, and Misses Allen and Spencer, Misses McNair, Miller, Coates, and Fisher. In the evening Miss Clara Parrish gave an ad ress on "Our Leaders" illustrated by stereoscopic views; and Mr. McNair and the Hon Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of Law, also spoke. The speech of the latter was guarded, though appreciative to a certain extent—in contrast to the address of Judge Miyoshi, who spoke in warm terms of praise of the manner in which women were held in respect in Christian countries.

Details are to hand of the alarming accident to Lord Brassey, the Governor of Victoria, in Sydney harbour. He was climbing the temporary stairway from a steam launch to his yacht with Jessop, his boatswain, when a heavy wave thre the staircase away from the yacht, and Lord Brassey and the boatswain were thrown into the sea. Both disappeared in the water between the vessels, smid indescribable excitement. By good fortune the boats parted long enough to allow Jessop to make his reappearance first and the Governor some auxious seconds later. Jessop was promptly harled into the launch, but the rescu- of the Governor was a matter of difficulty. The coxswain of the launch reached for his coat collar, but missed him. Lord Brassey, however, swam back, and the coxswain caught him under the arm, and with assistance quickly got him into the launch, but not a moment too soon, for Lord Brassey was scarcely on deck when the vessels came together with a crash.

According to the American papers Sir Julian Pauncefoje, the British ambassador, has informed the Canadian Ministry that he has arranged a convention with the United States whereby the Alaskan boundary dispute has been settled. Undertheterms of the convention the British Government has conceded the claim of the United States that ten marine leagues should be measured from the shore of the mainland and should proceed along the shore of the inlet, which are thus recognized as arms of the ocean. The contention of the British and of the Cana dian Governments was that the ten-league limit should begin on the ocean side of the island and that the delimiting line should be run across the inlets and not follow their shores. These inlets are numerous and extend into the mainland a great distance, and the decision, there-fore, is of much importance to the United States. The United States has agreed to the British retaining the boundary on the summit of the Chilkoot Pass and the White Pass, because in the Russian agreement of 1825 the line of demarkation was fixed as one running along the tops of the mountains.

The names of the passengers from the Far East who transhipped at Colombo to the P. & Japan. O. steamer China, which went sahore at Perim, O. steamer Cana, which went and the Array are given as follow:—From Japan—Mr. V. Osborne, Captain N. P. Pollock, Mr. H. W. Commons, Mrs. H. Collbran, Miss Colbran, and Mrs. More. From Shanghai—Mrs. Wade

Mr. G. Rowe, Commander E. F. Domville, Mr. and Mrs. Gompertz, Sergt. Foord and family, Inspector Hennessy and family, Serget. Hail and family, Inspector Mann and family, Inspector Butlin and wife, and Mr. Call.

The machinery of the new mint which is being crected at Nganking is made by the firm of Hein Knappe, of Magdeburg. They have sent out no foreign engineer to superimend its sent out no foreign engineer to superment its erection, all the work being done by native artificers. There is one single engine, to which steam is supplied by a Cornish boiler, 4ft. 6in district, and 20ft, long. There is also a small electric lighting plant, and coining machinery for dollars and cents. The boiler came out in the shape of plates, and is being put together by natives without foreign supervi sion. The mint is about the same size as the old one in Wuchang, but nothing like as large as those in Canton or Nanking. These last two are the best appointed mints in China. All their machinery was supplied by the Birmingbam Mint Co.

The Hongkong Telegraph speaks plainly about the sanitation of the Colony. One port after another, it remarks, is declaring quaran-tine against Hongkong, and the trade of the colony suffers in proportion. This quarantine boycott is the pensity for insanitation. Hongkong has the finest system of drainage in the East—on paper. Here is a difference between what ought to be and what is. What is, is a putrid atmosphere pervading the Queen's Road level every evening. It is "no worse than other eastern towns," it is "wonderfully clean, all things considered," but small-box and plague are tile enough to cause all other ports unanimously to declare quarantine. The colony m so near to China that epidemics cannot be avoided without an immense amount of careful thought and hard work-perhaps not even then. The town is still for from clean, even if the drains were perfect.

### GERMAN TRADE EXPANSION.

British trade in the Baltic, as elsewhere, appears to be suffering from German competi-According to a Consular report from Stockholm, British exports to Sweden are not increasing, or even holding their own, as they should, against German competition. The increase of the German trade is due to the energy and push of the German commercial traveller, who over runs the country in all directions, and gives long credits. The principals do not reside in Sweden, but operate from Germany, Berlin being only 24 hours from Stockh lin, and. therefore none of the profits of the trade are spent in the country. It cannot be said that the Swedes are particularly enamoured of system, which has absorbed, so much of their The British Consul at Gothenburg suggests in his report that printed patterns and illustrations should be used more sparingly in circulars, &c., as he has known Continental competition avail itself of this source for obtaining new and improved ideas at the expense of the British inventor or constructor. Circulars should be printed in the language of the country. and with the weights and values current in the country where the goods are intended for eale, and not in the English equivalents alone, as it is far too complicated a matter to make the necessary calculations to arrive at the conclusion of which is best value, British or foreign goods. It ends by people generally taking the goods about which they most easily understand the price, general terms as to credit, &c. Such advice has often been applied to merchants resident in

The tendency in Sweden now is, instead of exporting the raw material, to manufacture it, and export the products. To have spoken of Sweden a lew years ago as a competitor with England in skilled labour, would have been ac Gardner, 2 children and nurse, and Mr. C.
Smith. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. W.
A. C. Platt, infant and amali; Mr. J. Rundle,

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are famous throughout the world; but the couditions of life and wages of the workinen who turn out such good work are not generally known. The average hours of labour are 60 a week (i.e., 6 days of 10 hours), and the wages vary from 25 to 40 ore (3\frac{1}{2}\)d. to 5d.) an hour, or, in some exceptional cases, 50 ore (6\frac{1}{2}\)d.). Owing to the depressed state of the United States labour market, the Swedish workman now seems to think he can do as well at home, if one may judge by the numbers who return home, and by the emigration records.

As regards Sweden, Great Britain, Germany, and Denmark have between them about 70 per cent, of the foreign trade of the country, and although Great Britain does the largest trade of any nation, it must be noted that Great Britain imports from Sweden £8,000,000 worth of goods, and sends her out only £5,500,000 worth. Germany, however, imports £6,500,000 worth from Sweden, but sends bei ont £6,500,000 worth. If from the British exports be deducted the value of the raw material exported (vix.: coal, metal, cotton, wool, skins, &c.) there remains but £2,653,000 the value of manufactured goods exported, whereas Germany exported \$3,430,000 worth of manufactured goods. Again taking the joint trade of Norway and Sweden, Great Biliain experts £8,635,900 worth of goods of all descriptions, but imports £11.133.300 of their produce. Balance against Great Britain of £2.197,400 worth. Germany, on the other hand, exports £10,081,800 worth of goods to these two countries, but takes only £3 425,600 worth. Balance in favour of Germany of £6,656,200 worth. The returns of British trade are therefore not an brilliant m they at first seem to be, when it is considered that, roughly speaking, half of the goods imported from Great Britain to Sweden were brought over in Swedish or Norwegian vessels, and of the exports from Sweden, likewise about half were carried by the same means. In regard to German imports and exports, about two-thirds of the former and halt of the latter were carried by Swedish vessels. Her Majesty's Consul at Copenhagen in his report to the Foreign Office of May last, states "that Hamburg bas, without doubt, taken away the colonial trade to the Baltic which Englandoriginally had."

### AMERICAN JOURNALISTIC ITEMS OF FAR EASTERN INTEREST.

"The distinguished Chinese Minister at Washington," says the Chicago Record, "has been discussing American customs as compared with those of his own entpire, and he is brave enough to blat in his own gentle way that possibly even an Occidental people may learn some-thing from those of the Orient. When somebody called attention to the barbarous Chinese custom of binding the feet of women, he admitted its folly freely and fully, but mildly remarked that the women of China, if they did have deformed feet, did not injure their constitutions by compressing themselves into sheaths of steel and whalebone. This is an old and much-discussed point, and Mr. Wu's comments have been anticipated by most of the Occidental physicians. But he did not stop with this criticism. He has noted with shocked surprise that the American woman's hat is often not only tricked out elaborately with feathers but bears the stuff-ed corpses of birds. This custom among a civilized and humane people be cannot understand, and he modestly suggests that his own country-women would regard with exceeding sorrow any practice which wrought the destruc-tion of the "sougsters and the loveliest birds" simply to cater in the desires of human vanity.

Minister Wu's kindly criticism is respectfully referred to the milliners and their clients. The next time. Mr. Wa tackles this subject it is to be hoped he will enlarge upon the lack of artistic taste shown in the custom of wearing the dead budies of birds perched in hopelessly unnatural poses upon the hats of women. Let

article than a hat which looks like a specimen of taxidermy.

Professor J. N. Wigmore recently lectured on "The Law of Boycotts and Strikes" at the Lake View High School in Chicago. "He talked of the laws governing strikes and boycotts under four aspects. He considered the civil wrong of the boycott; the criminal aspect of both strikes and boycotts as found in federal and Illinois law; injunction as a method of prevention of boycetts and commitment for contempt as a means of enforcing an injunction. The Debs and Northern Pacific cases came up in the course of the lecture, as did many other cases of recent date."

An American exchange says :--- ' Dr. Van der Heyden of Yokohama has just built an antiseptic dwelling house supposed to be microbe-The walls of this building are plates of glass set in metal fastenings and made air-tight. Near the roof there is a small opening for the outflow of air from the living rooms, so arranged that no air can enter that way. Air from outside can get in only through a tube, whose opening is at some distance from the house. The air that enters is filtered first through cotton batting and then is sterilized by passing through glycerine,"

Here is an item from a Chicago paper:—
"Arrangements have just been completed by which the baggage of Asiatic passengers landing m Pacific coast points en toute for Europe may be sealed and sent in bond to the Atlantic or gulf port of embarkation, so that it is now necessary to have but one inspection by customhouse officers. Heretofore two inspections were necessary-one at the port of entry and the other at the port of departure. The change was made to give the American roads a better footing for competition with the Canadian Pacific. It entails a great deal of additional responsibility and work on the railroads, we each road must examine the seals on receiving the baggage, and each baggage car becomes in effect a bunded warehouse."

### TAPANESE NILK INSPECTION REGULATIONS.

We give the following translation of Ordinance No. 3 of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce:-

It is hereby notisfied that by-laws for the en forcement of Regulations promulgated by Law No. 48 in the 30th year of Meiji with regard to the encouragement of the direct export of silk have been established as follows:

March 30 of the 31st year of Meiji.

(Signed) BARON ITO MIYOJI, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce,

By-laws for the enforcement of Regulations with regard to the encouragement of the direct export of raw silk.

Att. I.—Any person desiring to receive the bounty specially provided for the encouragement of the direct export of raw silk, shall present at the Silk Inspection. Office an application prepared in

accordance with Firm No. 1.
If the applicant does not reside in a district in which a Silk Inspection Office exists, he may demand inspection through an agent whom he may appoint in a district where such office is established.

Ait, II .- The inspection of silk shall be conducted according to the following processes :

(t).—Exclusive weight. The whole weight of a bale of silk is first ascertained, and what remains

bate of sith is first ascertained, and what remains after subtracting tare and accessories is to be recognised as the exclusive weight of silk.

(2).—Limite. This is to be determined by inspection with the taken eye.

(3).—Re-recling.—Five pieces of silk in a bale will be set upon a recling apparatus, and submitted to the process of recling two hours with a velocity of forty turns an hour according to the degree of fineness.

(4).—Degree of fineness. Five pirces are selected from a bale, and from each of them lour lines, each 500 metes long, are taken and weighted separately to grammes. The weight so obtained

ascertained, the average will be taken to deter-

mine the number in the bale.

Att. III.—Any silk which has undergone inspection as prescribed above is not eligible for

examination.
Art, IV.—The Silk Inspecting Office shall deliver to the applicants a certificate of inspection with a duplicate for each base of silk which has

with a duplicate for each base of silk which has passed examination.

Art. V.—The Silk Inspecting Office shall, with regard to the silk mentioned in the preceding article, cause the applicants to pack each hale of silk in the presence of the members of the Office, enclosing therewith a copy of the certificate of examination. The package shall then be inscribed with the name of the inspecting office, the number for examination, and the classification as to the qualification of silk, and it shall be duly sealed. The cost of packing, however, must be borne by the applicants.

borne by the applicants.

Art. VI.—Any silk which has undergone the process indicated in Article V. shall lose its qualification if the seat formally affixed to it is

destroyed prior to its direct export.

Art. VII.—Any person destrous of undertaking the direct export of silk for which a certificate of examination has been obtained, shall endorse the same with his name and address, and affixing a seat thereto, forward together with the bill of lading to the Imperial Custom House of the

district from which the silk is to be expected.

Act. VIII.—The Imperial Custom House shall, after examining the goods with reference to the certificate of inspection daily endoused as prescribsertificate of inspection duly endoused as prescrib-ed in the preceding article, mention therein the date in which all the specific forms of procedure were completed, and, affixing its seal thereon, deliver it to the applicants, provided the goods in question which are to be shipped at once shall

question which are to be shipped at once shall amount to over 500 catties.

Act. IX.—Any person derivous of obtaining the bomity shall present to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce an application prepared in contentity with form No. 3, and also certificate of examination together with another certificate for presentation in the foreign port of discharge,

Act. X.—The date of the foregoing application shall be within 180 days immediately following

shall be within 180 days immediately following the direct export of silk.

Art. XI — If any direct exporter desires to en-

Art. At —I any meet exporter desires to she trust another person with the sale of his goods, he must select as the agent a person registered as a Japanese subject, or a commercial company composed of members or shareholders of Japanese nationaldy

Art. XII.—With respect to these Regula-tions Acticles IV (Note excepted), VII., VIII., XIII., XIV., and XII of the Bylaws for the en-forcement of the Silk Inspection Law promulgated by Ordinance No. 3 of the Department of Agricul-ture and Commerce in the 29th year of Mesii shall be applied.

### ENGLISH CYCLING NOTES.

Landon, February 18th.

Mamitius is the latest place to be visited with
the bicycle craze. Cycling is taking a firm hold
in the island, not only gentlemen but ladies indulging in the exercise.

A writer points out the folly of having the spukes of a bicycle nickel plated, and refers to the trouble that already exists in keeping the ordinary plated parts of the bicycle from rusting. In the opinion of many cyclists there is already too much bright work about a bicycle, though the present plated parts do admirtedly give a bicycle a very smalt appearance. When wet or damp weather comes we know how difficult it is to keep these bright parts from rusting, and unless they be liberally coated with vaseline they are pretty sure to tust. One suggestion is that only the handlebar and brake workshould be plated. The other parts being near the ground and consequently more liable to catch the mind, should be enamelled black, or in a colour harmonising with that used on the other parts of the machine.

Apparently in New York the qualification of a good rider is to have a long list of century rides to his credit. Edward S. Edwards, of the Century Wheelmen of New York, certainly intends mounting to the top of the tree, for during 1898 he intends riding a ceutury every day. So far he has not failed to cover his hundred miles any day,

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CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE GOVERNMENT AND THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL!"

Sira,—The great question of the late Dashisha from its very beginning appeared to the writer in a two-fold aspect, viz. in its relation to the Trustees first; then to the Japanese Government as representing the politico-moral conscience of the nation in similar transactions. As stated in the previous letter, I have looked upon the whole affair from a high moral ground, rather than from purely technical legality. Indeed it would be the vertext nonsense to make the contention that a Government is not bound to take any notice of the judiciomoral nature of its citizens' actions, especially of those actions which have such far-reaching and avenual relations as the present one. Sir,-The great question of the late Dushisha extensive relations as the present one.

That the action of the Doshisha Trustees was That the action of the Doshisha Trustees was illegal morally, and judged by an universal tilbutial of justice, also forensically, I think is the unanimous verdict of every fair-minded and impartial and fair-minded spectator. But concerning the duty of the Government in regard to the matter the Editor remarks.—"It is very difficult to see live the Government of the control of the to see how the Government can notice the question directly or indirectly."

For the sake of illuminating the point allow me to give the following illustration: Suppose a rob-ber comes with his ill-gotten spoils and offers them to me to purchase; and I by that personal moral law which regulates every individual action—leaving the judicial lawaside for the present—bound to take notice, both "directly and indirectly" of the question of the origin and means through which he has procured his commodities or not? I think there is only one answer to the question and a question of the origin and means through which he has produced his commodities or not? I think there is only one answer to the question and no more. The Doshisha question has very close resemblance to this. The analogy, I think, is not a forced one, although it is a little expanded. Here is a body of American Christians putting their absolute trust in the integrity and human honesty of their Japanese fellow-Christians to organize and carry on a Christian Institution in their native land; but as soon as the Institution is organized and continued the Language turn round and within and equipped, the Japanese turn round and vinlate their most solemn and sacred coverant notwithstanding the vehement profests of the donors. Now I call this an act of piracy and highway robbery; the only difference being in the one physical force is used, while in the other the "force" of deception and blackmailing. The Government on her part instead of discouraging the act of dishonesty and deception on the part of her citizens, has all along abetted and encouraged it by promising to recognize the Chu-Gakko department if the Chu-istian clause was struck out of the Couristian. the Constitution.

Of course the Government has absolute right to decline recognizing any educational Christian institution, but civilized humanity will hold her morally responsible if directly or indirectly she stimulated her citizens to violate their most sacred engagements.

In conclusion I must say, that this entire unfortunate transaction strongly reminds me of a missionary story of the South-Sea Islands. The story is that more a polygamous chief went to a mission-ary and requested to be baptized and initiated inta the Christian Church. The missionary knowing the chief well, replied that he would be very glad to administer the sacred rite; but as the chief had two administer the sacred life; but as the chief had two wives he could not perform it for the present. The chief left the missionary in a very pensive mood. After the lapse of two or three weeks he cappeared with shining countenance and asked to be baptized at once as all the hinderances had been stability counters. totally removed.

"But what became of your second wife," asked the missionary in a subdued and polite tune, "Drd you send her to her father?"

"O no!" answered the chief triumphantly, we simply killed and ate her up!"

Whether the Trustees did kill the Doshisha and Government did countenance and participate in this moral cannihalism or not, are two questions for the civilized world and the Japan Mail in decide,

PHILO. JAPAN.

(We have already said that we appreciate the point of view taken by this correspondent and by some others also with repart to the Government, but we have shown that, speaking speakfeally, it would have been quite beyond the Government's declared function to assume the role of judge in such a matter. Has any complaint been addressed to the Government by the foreign donors? It not, what ground for official interference exists? Hearway is not correspondent would think quietly about the practical side of the question, he wild, we think, appreciate the impossibility of any arbitrary interference on the Government's part such as he recome Ortgina / Wom

### THE FRENCH REVISED TREATY.

### (CONCLUDED FROM TESTERDAY.)

Article 18 .- Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent que dans tontes les matiéres relatives au connerce, à la mavigation, et à l'exercice de l'industrie, tout privilège, faveur ou immunité quelconque que l'une d'elles a déjà accordés on accorderait à l'avenir au Gouvernement ou aux ressortissants de tout autre pays, seront étendus immédiatement et sans condition au Gonveuuement et anx ressortissants de l'autre Partie, leur ment et any ressortissants de l'autre Partie, leur intention étant que, pour ce qui concerne le comerce, la navigation et l'industrie, les Japonais en France et les Français an Japon jouissent, sons tous les rapports, du traitement de la nation la

plus favorisée. Article 19.—Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes pourra nommer des Cousuls généralis, Cousuls, Vice-Cousuls III Agents consulaires dans tous les ports, villes il places de l'autre Partie. Ces Agents et les Consuls suppléants, Chanceliers et Secrétaires attachés à leur poste exerceront, en toute liberté, leurs fonctions et attributions et joniron, à charge de réciprocité, de tous les privilèges, exemptions et immunites, ainsi que des pouvoirs temptions et immunites, ainsi que des pouvoirs ni sont ou seront accordés aux officiers consulaires de la nation la plus favorisée.

Ils n'entrecont en fonctions et ne jouiront des dioits, privilèges et immunites consulaires qu'aprés en avoir obtenu l'autorisation du Gouvernament

En ce qui concerne le lieu de leur residence, les deux Gouvernements ne s'opposeront respectivement aucune restriction qui ne soit commune dans

leur pays à toutes les nations.
Article 20 - Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront, dans les États et Possessions de l'autre Partie, de la même protection que les nationaux pour tout ce qui con-cerne les brevets d'invention, les marques de fabrique ou de commerce, ainsi que les dessins ou modèles industriels et de fahrique de toute estèce, en remplissant les formalités prescrites par la loi.

Article 21.-Le Gouvernement de la République Française donne, en ce qui le concerne, son adi é

sion à l'Arrangement survant;

Les divers quartiers é rangers qui existent au Japon seront incorporés aux communes respectives du Japon et lecont dès lors partie du système

municipal du Japon.

Les Autorités japonaises compétentes assumeront en conséquence toutes les obligations et lous les devoirs municipaux qui résultent de ce nouvel État de choses ■ les fonds et biens municipaux qui puntralent appartenir à ces quartiers seron, de plein droit, transfé & auxdites Antorités japo-

naises. Larsque les changements ci-dessus indiqué aurant été effectué . les baux à perpérur é en vertu desquels les é rangers possèdent actuellement des proprié é dans les quartiers seront confirmés et les proprié és de cette nature ne donneront lieu à aucuns impôts, taxes, charges, contributions ou conditions quelconques antres que ceux expressé-ment stipulés dans les baux en question. Il est entendu toutefois qu'aux Antorités consulaires dont il y est fait mention secont substituées les Autori-

tés japonaises. Les terrains que le Gouvernement japonais aurait comédés exempts de rentes, vu l'usage public auquel ils éraient affectés, resteront, sons la éserve des droits de la souveraineré tereitoriale affranchis d'une manière permanente de tous im-pôts, taxes et charges; et ils ne secont point détournés de l'usage auquel ils étaient primitivement

destinés

destinés.

Article 22 — Les dispositions du présent traité sont applicables à l'Algérie. Il est entendu qu'elles deviendraient en outre applicables aux colonies françaises pour lesquelles le Gouvernement Français en réclamerait le bé-éfice. Le Représentant de la République Française à Tokyo aurait à ces effect le notifier au Gouvernment [a-ponais dans un délai de deux aus, à dater du jour

ponais dans de la company de l'echange des ratifications du présent traité, Article 23.—A dater de la mise en vigueur du présent traité, seront abrogés le Traité du 9 nccobre, 1838, la Convention du 23 juin 1866, et en général tous les arrangements conclusente les Hautes Parties Contractantes existant antérieurement à cette date. En conséquence, la juridiction française au Japon et les priviléges, exemptions on immunités dont les Français jouissaient en matière juriodictionnelle seront supprimés de plein droit et sans qu'il soit besoin de notification, du droit et sans qu'il soit besoin de notification, du jour de la mise en vigneur du présent trailé; et les Français secont dès lors sommis à la judiction des tribuoaux japonais.

Article 24—Le présent Trailé ne produira ses effets que trois ans au moios après la signature.

ll entrera en vigneur une aunée après que le Gouvernement de S.M. l'Empareur du Japonieur. que le

Gouvernement Française son intention de le voir mis à execution Cette notification pourra être faite à un momen quelconque après l'expiration des deux années

qui suiviont la date de sa signature. Le présent Traité restera obligatoire pendant une période de douze aus, á partir du jour où il

aura été mis à exécution.

Chacune des Hantes Parties Contractantes aura le droit, a un moment quelconque après que ouze années se seront écoulées depuis l'entrée en vigueur du présent Trairé, de notifier à l'autre partie son intention d'y mettre fin et à l'expiration du dou-z'ème mois qui suivra cette notification, le Traité cessera et expirera entjèrement.
Tomefois l'article 7 du Traité pourra être dé-

nonce à toute époque par le Gouvernement Français et, dans ce cas, cet article cessera d'être en vigneur un an après sa dénonciation.

Article 25.-Le présent Traité sera ratifié et le ratifications en seront échangées à Tokyo aussitô: que faire se pourra.

En foi de quoi, les plénipotentiaires des deux pays ont signé le présent Traité et y ont apposé leurs sceux.

Fait à Paris, en double exemplaire, le 4 août 1896.

[L.S.] Signé: Soné Arasuki [L.S.] Signé: G. Hanotaux. SONÉ ARASUKÉ. Раотосова.

Le Gouvernement de S. M. l'empereur du Japon et le Gouvernement de la République Française estiment qu'il est utile aux inté éts des deux pays de régler certains questions spéciales qui les intéressent multuellement et qui ne sont îpas préves an au Traité de commerce et de navigation signé cejourd'hui, leurs Pléniqutentiaires respectifs sont convenus des stipulations suivantes :

I.-It est convenu entre les Hantes Parties Con tractantes que, six mois après l'échange des ratifications du l'eaité de commerce et de navigation signé cejourd'hui, le tarif d'importation ci-annexé signé cejourd'hui, le tarti d'importation ct-annexé sera, sous té-erve des stipulations de l'article 19 du Traité de 9 octobre 1858, aussi longtemps que ledit Traité restera en vigueur, puis subséquemment des article 7 et 18 du Traité en date de ce jour, applicable aux produits du sol, des industries ou manufactures des Érais et Possessions de la Réquibleme Française à leur jungentation au on manufactures des grais et Possessions de la République Française à leur importation au Japon. Mais rien de ce qui est contenu dans le Traité, dans ce Protocole on dans le Tarif annexé ne pourra être tenu comme limitant on déterminant le droit du Gouvernement Japonais et du Gouvernement François de restreinde ou de prohiber l'importation des drogues, médeclues, aliments on brenvages dalsifiés, d'im-primés, peintures, livies, cartes, filhographies on printés, peintures, livies, cartes, fillographies ou gravures indécents on obscènes, ou d'autre objets pouvant offici quelque danger pour la sécurité on la morale publiques, d'articles fabriqués en violation des lois qui, au Japon et en France, réglementent les brevets d'invention, les marques de fabrique ou la propriéé littéraire. Ce droit réciproque s'étendra également aux prohibitions sanitaires ou autres provenant de la récessité de protéger la santé des personnes, ainsi que la conservation du bétail et des plantes utiles à l'acciontement. l'agriculture.

Les dioits ad valorem établis par ledit Tarif secont, autant que cela sera reconna possible, conen droits spécifiques par une Convention supplémentaire qui sera conclue entre les deux Gouvernements dans le délai de six mois à compter de la ratification du Traité en date de ce jour. Pour l'évaluation desdits droits spécifiques, il est convenu qu'un prendre pour base la moyenne des prix établic par les relevés des Donanes japonaises des six premiers mois de l'année 1894, en y ajout-ant les frais d'assurance et de transport du lien d'achet, de production on de fabrication jusqu'au port d'arrivée ainsi que les frais de commission, s'il en existe. Dans le cas où la convention supp'émentaire ne serait pas entrée en vigneur au moment où le tarif nouveau commencerait à être appliqué, ce seront les droits ad valorems qui, dans l'intervalle, seront perçus. Ces droits seront calculés sur le prix réel des marchandises au lien d'achat, de production on de fabrication, augmenté, des frais de transport et d'assurance dudit lien jusqu'au port de de chargement, ainsi que des frais de commission, s'il en existe.

An cas où Particle 7 du Traité cesserait d'être en vigueur par suite de la dénonciation qui en serait faite par le Gouvernement Français, le tarif ci-amexé ou le tarif spécifique qui lu sera ath-

situé cessera également d'être appliqué.

En ce qui concerne les articles non énumérés dans ledit Terif, le Tarifgé-érat du Japon s'appliquera, dès qu'il sera en viguent, sons réserve des stipulations de l'article 19 du Trailé du 9 octobre 1858 on des articles 7 et 18 du Trailé conclusional d'uni

effet, le Tarif d'importation actuellement es vignoer an Japon cessera d'être applique en ce qui concerne les objets et marchandises importés au Japon par des citoyens français.

In ce qui concerne tontes les antres stipulations des Traités et Conventions actuellement existants, elles seront maintennes sans conditions jusqu'à l'épuque ou le Traité de commerce et de naviga-tion en date de ce jour sera mis en vigueur,

11.—Le Gouvernment Japonais consent, en at-tendant l'ouverture complète du pays aux citoy-ens français, de tendre le sysième existant des passeports de façon à permettre aux Français, su-la production d'un certificat [avourable émanant de la Légation de France à Toliyo ou de l'un quelconque des Cousulats de France dans les posts enverts, d'obtenir sur leur demande, du Ministère Impèrial des Affaires Buangères à Tokyo on des autonités principales de la Piéfecture dans laquitte de la company de la préfecture dans laquitte de la préfecture dans laquitte de la préfecture dans laquitte de la préfecture dans laquitte de la préfecture dans laquitte de la préfecture dans laquitte de la préfecture dans la qui la préfecture de la préfe elle est situé un port ouveit, des passeports valua-ble pour toute l'étendue du paye et pour toute période n'exté lant pas douze mois.

ll est bien entendu que, sous cette r serve, les Lois et Règlements existants et régissant les citoyens français qui voyagent dans l'Empire du Japon sont maintenus.

III.-Le Gouvernment Japonais s'engage, avant la cessation de la juridiction consulaire française au Japon, à adhérer aux Conventions internationales concernant la protection de la propriété industrielle et de la propriété list raire.

IV.-Les Piénipotentiaires soussignés sont convenus que le présent Protocole sera soumis aux denx Hautes Parties Contractantes en même temps que le Traité de commerce et de navigation signé en ce jour et que, quand ledit Trailé sera ratifié, les arrangements contenus dans ce Protecole seront également considérés comme approuvés sans quil soit nécessaire d'une ratification formelle subséquente.

Il est convenu que ce Protocole prendra fin et cessera d'être obligatoire en même temps que le Traité auquel il est annexé.

En foi de quoi, jes Plénipotentiaires des deux Pays ont signé le présent. Protocole et y ont ap-posé leurs sceaux.

Fait à Paris, en double exemplaire, le 4 août tRon.

(L.S.) Signé: Soné Arasuké. (L.S.) Signé: G. Hanotaux.

DÉCLARATION. Le soussigné, Envoyé extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, a l'honneur de déclater, dûmeut autorité à cet effet par un mandat spécial de Son Gouvernes cet.effet par un mandat spécial de Son Gouverne-ment, que le Gouvernement Impérial Japonais s'engage à ne pas faire la notification prèvne par l'article 24 du Traité signé aujourd'hui tant que les Codes de l'Empire qui ont déjà été promulgués, nais dont l'application a été ajournée, n'auront pas été mis effectivement en vigueur.

Signé:

SONÉ ARASUKÉ.

### WINTON HOUSE SCHOOL.

The breaking up exercises previous to the Easter indidays, and presentation of prizes to the hops of Wiston House School, took place in the School-room, No. 59-a Bluff, on Wednesday afternoon. In spite of the inclement weather there was a very fair attendance of relatives of the scholars and friends of the school, ladies largely predominating.

Mr. Jas. TRoup, H.B.M. Consul-General, took the chair and opened the proceedings with a few remarks. He said he had been asked by Mr. Schurt to be present on this occasion, but he had at first feared he would be unable to do so, on account of presente of official business. He was glad, however, to find he was able to attend. He had not prepared any was able to attend. He had not prepared any speech, and he thought it most probable that the boys did not want one. He might, however, telf them of a saying which had been inculcated to him by his schoolmaster in his boy-hood, "Whatever you do, understand all you learn as you go along." Don't learn like a parrot, the first thing was to understand thoroughly what they than they taken. as you go along." Don't learn like a parrot, the first thing was to understand thoroughly what they tearnt. He was sine their teachers did all they could to carry out this line in their instruction, but a great deal depended upon the boys themselves. He was glad to see them tooking so well and hoped that they would enjoy this building. their holidays.

dans ledit Terif, le Tarifgé éral du Japon s'appliquera, dès qu'il sera en viguent, sons réserve des stipulations de l'article 19 du Traité du 9 octobre 1858 ou des articles 7 et 18 du Traité conclu cripurd'hui.

Pater du jour où le nouveau Ta.if aura son UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

O. Bramball.

R. Box. 

14.—"Schwabenstreiche" (in German)...F. Herb. 15.—"Captain Miles Standish"......W. Graham, Mr. Schurr, the Principal, said he had no report to read on this occasion, but was much gratified at seeing Mr. Troup present at the breaking up of the school, the more so as he feared it would be the last time Mr. Troup would be able to preside. He had feared for some time they would not have been able to have the meeting, owing to the prevalence of colds and measles among the boys—his own two boys were laid up at Kamakura with Mrs. Schurr, who regretted being mable to be present, but she was, he thought rightly, a mother first and schoolmistress second. Last year they had had the services of Mr. Low in the school, but he did not think they would have another master—they found ladies better than masters. Mrs. Salabelle was still with them, he was glad to say, and Miss Wilkin had helped them till Miss Rae came. He thought the tone of the school was as good if not better than ever. There was no bullying of the younger boys by the elder; in fact the latter helped the former in their games. A great many boys had left the port during the past quarter, two of whom they expected back. He might mention for the information of parents that the holidays were until the 20th histant—a fortalish hence. holidays were until the 20th instant-a fortnight hence.

Mr. Troup then presented the prizes as follows Mr. Troup then presented the prizes as follows: FORM PRIZES.—Class I. A. Deutici major. Class I. B. Thomson. Class II. Ribeito (a Postuguese boy, imperfectly acquainted with English). Class III. Dubois. Class IV. Clark minor. MATHEMATICS.—Class I. A. Deutici major. Class I. B. Watson. Class II. Gomman major. FRENCH (Mrs. Salabetle's prizes).—Class III. Schurr (made 193 manks to 99 made by the next). Class IV. Clark minor. Examination.—Class IA. Graham minor. Class IB. Watson. Class II. Colton. German (and Scripture combined).—Herb Term's Work.—Class III. Schurt. Class I A. Graham minimums and Loomis. Class I B. Smith.

DRAWING PRIZES .- Dentici (Term) and Herb (Examination).
RECITATION PRIZE. - Graham and Box.
MR. TROUP'S PRIZE. - Graham minor (Class I.)

Mr. Jas. Walter made a few remarks to the boys and proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair-man, which was carried with accamation, and the proceedings terminated with three hearty cheers by the boys for Mr. and Mrs. Schurr, the teachers, and the ladies.

## THE SUICIDE IN YOKOHAMA

There were some signs of meningitis, possibly induced by alcoholism, on the surface of the brain, and this might have had something to do with the state of the deceased's mind at the time immediately preceding death. Otherwise the body was healthy. healthy.

healthy.

Mr. Henry Collins identified the body as that of his second son. Witness was going to tiffin at 206 Bluff when, at the top of the staircase, he was told that his son had shot himself at the Cemetery. When he arrived there he lound the body lying by the grave of deceased's mother, and witness accompanied it to the mortuary. Deceased came up from Robe on Monday or Tuesday, and was going back in a day or two. The previous evening he was in high spirits, and said he was going back in a couple of days. He was very talkative and jolly on Wednesday night, as he usually was. Witness had once or twice asked him how his business was going on. He used to say business was not so good as it used to be, but it would soon be all tight again. He had never spoken of being was held to gain. He had never spoken of being in any serious financial straits. He was always healthy and strong; at times he drank rather more than his allowance, and witness had spoken to him on the matter. He was 28 years of age.

Charles Voicent Schmidt, of 206 Bluff, said deceased came up from Kobe on Monday. He believed he came partly on a holiday visit, and partly on business. On Tuesday he did not do any work; but walked about during the day. On Wednesday evening he was with witness till about 8.30, when witness left the house. He did not stop the same of the came of th 8.30, when witness left the tionse. The bid not notice anything peculiar in his manner; he was quite lively and in good spirits. A few minutes before 9 on Thursday moraing deceased came in and said he had been for a bicycle ride. Witness left the house at five minutes past nine, and did not see him again alive. Deceased had several times spoken to witness with regard to his business affairs. He said he was in a little difficulty, but that he would tide it over in a short time, and start afresh. He had lost some money in his transactions, but that did not seem to trouble him much. Witness had known deceased since he was a boy. He had seen him on several occasions under the influence of liquor; but he was not addicted to habitual excess. When witness saw the body it was lying on the back by the side of a grave. Witness left the house at five minutes past nine back by the side of a grave.

Maria Francisca Schmidt, sister of the last wit-Maria Francisca Schmidt, sister of the last witness, said deceased arrived at Vokohama on Monday evening. He was at home all day on Tuesday and seemed in his usual spirits. On Wednesday he was away on business, and in the evening he appeared very jolly. He went to bed at the usual ham, and witness saw him the next morning just before nine o'clock, when be returned from his bicycle cide. Afterwards he work his wife down to the Stitchmant bases of the returned from the bicycle cide. Afterwards he sent his wife down to the Settlement to see after his letters, as he was feeling very fired. He then asked for a piece of paper and pen, saying he would write to his brother in Shanghai. He would write to his brother in Shanghai. He actually wrote two letters, one of which he left with witness for the post, and the other he put in his pocket. He then dressed to go out. Witness tried to stop him, but as he wouldn't stop she and her two little nieces went with him. He told witness he was going to buy some flowers, but when they got as far as the corner he said he had changed his mind, and he would go to see a friend instead. He told witness she was to return home alone, but she said she should see a biend instead. He told witness she was to return home alone, but she said she should not do so, as his wife would be very vexed. He then said she had better go an slowly to the graveyard, and be himself got into a jin wikisha and went on. When witness arrived at the graveyard he was not there, but she was him come in shortly afterwards. Witness asked him if he had seen his friend. He replied that he had not hear to see a friend but had been to have a THE SUICIDE IN POROHAMA CEMETERY.

INQUEST AND VERDICT.

The inquest on the body of Mr. R. J. Collins, who was found shot through the head in the Yokohama Genetal Cemetey on Thursday, was held on Friday morning at H.B. M.'s Consultate before the form of the more and his staff. The troops under Mr. R. G. E. Forster, pro-Consul, sitting as Coroner; and a Juny consisting of Messirs, Altan Owsion, Charles Ellis, and Vivian Rothwell Bowden.

Dr. Murroe stated that he had examined the body and found a large wound of entrance on the temple about 1½ inches above and about an inchin front of the right ear. There was a good deal of efficient of biot in the trissum tought the was formed and the was quite dead. By this time the morban and biot the region of the swould. There was a nother wound on the opposite side of the head also in the region of the skull he found the was quited eaded. By this time the morban and about an inchin front of the right ear. There was a good deal of efficient of blood into the trissum tought the was destined to report the news to Miss. Gollins. The swould the was quited eaded. By this time the hoody and found a large wound of the morban and a crowd of Japanese acrived, and of efficient of blood into the discusse to the swould the was quite dead. By this time the hoody and found a large wound of the proposite side of the head also in the region of the was quite dead. By this time the hoody and found a large wound of the proposite side of the head also in the region of the skull he found the was quited eaded. By this time the region of the was quited eaded. By this time the hoody and found a large wound of the proposite side of the head also in the region of the skull he found the was quited eaded. By this time the hoody and found a large wound of the trist of the region of the wound. There was another wound on the opposite side of the head also in the region of the skull he found the trists of the lead of the head of the head also in the region of the skull he found the trists of the lead of th

he returned he looked a little excited and very

red in the face.

By the Jury: The reason he gave for wishing to go to the Cemetery was that he wanted to pay the momban's wife for flowers for his mother's

Nagi, the gate keeper at the Cemetery, said about it o'clock on Thursday two children came to him to say that a foreigner had shot himself. Witness reported the matter to the police. Deceased occasionally came to the cemetery to see his mother's grave.

Garrier Kircher, constable when at H.R.M.'s

his mother's grave.
George Kircher, constable under at H.B.M.'s
Consulate, said that he went to the graveyard to
superintend the removal of the body. He recognised it as that of Frederick Collins. On the
centre of decessed's mother's grave witness found
a hat with the note produced in it.
The Coroner read the note as follows:
Vakoluma March 22, 1808

Yokohama, March 31, 1898.
To the Coroner. I kill myself on my business effairs.

Yours respectfully,

FRED. J. COLLINS.
Witness, continuing, said that by deceased's ight side he found the revolver with one barrel

discharged.

A Juror asked II the children who were present at the time of the occurrence could give evidence. In answer to a question from the Coroner Mr. Collins, senior, stated that the children were aged about five and three respectively. He had spoken to them about it, and one of them stated that she

to them about it, and one or them stated that she saw deceased place some flowers on the grave, caise his hands as if in prayer, and five.

The Jury's verdict was: "We find the deceased came by his death from the effects of a revolver builet fired by his own hand at Yokohama Cemetery on March 31st, while in a temporary state of unsound mind."

The Coroner: I thoroughly concur in the verdict.

### RUSSIAN GARRISON ON THE PACIFIC LITTORAL.

A writer in the China Gasetts, discussing the subject of Russia's garrison on the Pacific littorat, subject of Rissia's garrison on the Pacific mions, remarks:—Vladivostock is, of comme, more or less well-known as being an important military station, as well as the head-quartersof the Russian Pacific Squadron; but it is not, as many suppose, the beginning and end of Russia's armed strength located in the neighbourhood. If the Pacific binned. litteral.

This part of the Czac's Asiatic Empire is known as the Pri-Amer military district, and includes the provinces of Primorsk, Trans-Baikal, South Ussuris, and the island of Saghalien. It is bounded on the morth by the Arctic Ocean, on the west by the southern and eastern lines of the Likutsk province, on the south by the Russo Crinese fronter, and on the east by the Northern Pacific Ocean. Now, although Vladivaluck is its most important part, and has been stock is its most innortant port, and has been strongly enough fortified to bring it up to the classification of a third-class Russian fortiess, the town itself is not the head-quarters of the military town thell is not the head-quarters of the military district. The latter is located at Khabarovsk, the former capital of the province, a small town situated 456 feet above the level of the sea at the confluence of the Amur and Ussni rivers. By the former of these waterways Khabarovsk is placed in direct communication with the port of Nikolaovsk, 410 miles away, which, in turn, is 32 miles from the month of the Amur in the Pacific. During the summer months a regular service of steamers plies up and down the river between these two points, and continues up the U surito Khabarovsk.

the Line, a comparatively new force, consists of ten frontier battalions, each battalion being composed of 18 officers and 1,000 cank and file. Their uniform is of the usual shade of dark-green with red facings and light blue shoulder straps, while the head-dress is a large black sheepshin cap. These troops, like the others we are about to enumerate, are still armed with the old Berdan single-loader.

The Cossack Infantry includes only two and a The Cossack Infantry includes only two and a half battations, the whole battations each numbering 28 officers and 800 men, the half-battation 12 officers and 483 rank and file. The uniform wome by this force is dark green, with yellow piping and shoulder-straps, while the headdeess is a black sheepskin busby, 10 inches high, with a yellow top. The Ussurian, or Pacific Littoral, Cavairy is a kind of gendarmerie forming two squadrous of five officers and 150 men apiece, though there are only 131 horses to each squadron. The two regiments of Regular Cossack Cavairy are constituted as follows: first regiment, 6 squadrons, total strength, 41 officers, 081 privates; second regiment, 4 follows: hist regiment, 6 squardrons, total strength, 4 efficers, 981 privates; second regiment, 4 aquadrons, total strength, 34 officers 620 privates. Each Cossack Cavalry regiment carries a regimental guidon, and there are burgee-shaped squadron guidons as well of the following colours: Let squadron, scarlet; 2nd squadron, blue; 3rd squadron white; 4th squadron, darkgreen; 5th squadron, yellow; 6th squadron, cinnamon brown. The East Siberian Field Artillery-Brigade is composed of six four-gun batter. green; 5th squadron, yellow; 5th squadron, cinnamon brown. The East Siberian Rield Artillery-Brigade is composed of six four-gun batteries, armed with the 3 42-in-lingth steel field gun of the French de Bauge pattern, which since 1892 has laken the place of the discarded steel Kinpp. To each of the second and third field batteries in attached half a mountain battery. The detailed strength of the artillery buts will be found in the table given below. There are in addition two Cossack Horse Artillery butsteries of four guns arch, each battery consisting of six officers, 272 each, each battery consisting of six officers, 233 combatants, and 120 horses. The uniform of the artillery arm is a dark-green tunic, grey-blue breeches, and scarlet girdles and shoulder-straps.

The strength of the fortress artillery detach The strength of the fottess artillery detachments in Bastern Siberian is difficult to ascertain. Provision is made for three companies, two of 340 officers and men each stationed at Vladivostock, one of 104 at Nikolasusk. It is extremely probable, lowever, that with the completion of the new forts at Vladivostock this force has been largely augmented. The East Siberian Sapper Company consists of six officers, 238 men, including the heliographists and field telegraph detachment; but the Cossack Cavalry regiments. it ment; but the Cossack Cavalry regiments, it should in added, are also supplied with material for constructing field telegraphs and telegraphones. Therefore, without taking into consideration the departmental, medical, and transports corps, the Russian garrison on the Pacific litteral, before the recent reinforcements were made, were as

Into as			
Lefantry.	Officers.		Men,
Rast Siberian Riffe			
Brigadeto	Battalions	310	0.000
Cossack Infantry of			-
the Line10	10	180	10,000
East Siberian Co-	•		
ssack Light In-			
fantry,2	-1	68	2,083
Cavalry.			
Ussurian 6	Squadrons	10	300
Consack Cavalry10	D .	75	1,601
Artillery.			
Rast Siberian Field			
Brigade 2	Batteries (4)	39	1,297
Mountain Artillery t	11	8	234
Horse Artillecy 2	D	1.5	266
Fortiers Artiflery 3	Companies	_	784
S грриги,	_		
East Siberian 1	Company	6	283

Total ...... 608 26,403 Not a very formidable force, perhaps, when we take into consideration that it is scattered over a very wide area, unprovided either with railways or good roads. The strength of its reserve, that of good loads. The arrength of a lease year is, time-expired men who have settled in this part of the Carr's dominions, is problematical. It is said, however, that 8,000 infantry, 2,000 cavalry, and some 400 artillery old soldiers would be forth coming in case of emergency. The figures above given have been more than trebled of late by constant arrivels from Odessa.

According to the very latest information which has reached us, two West Siberian Line Batta-

military district has been reinforced by the expansion of the existing half mountain batteries into complete batteries on war strength. Of technical troops, a special Fortress Sapper Company, in-cluding a torpedo detachment, has been formed for Vladivostock.

### ENGLAND'S WAR PREPARATIONS.

" PRACE WITH HONOUR, OR WAR WITH VICTORY.

London, March 10.
The First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Goschen, in presenting the naval estimates to the House of Commons to-day, pointed out that, with the outlay in naval works, the expenditure amounted to the colossal sum of £25,550,000 (\$127,750,000), which, he explained, was even considered inad-equate in some quarters. Continuing, Mr. Gos-chen explaned that the navy was in a transitional state, to which many of the admitted deficiencies were due. Moreover, he added, the Government was introducing a series of improvements. The Jubiles display had been great, but the navy had not reached the ideal standard. He dilated upon the quiet and unostentations increase of the British fleet in Chinese waters by four vessels from other foreign stations as being an instance of the naval preparations and assured the House that in the distribution of cruisers, for instance, the Admiralty had considered carefulinstance, the Admiralty had considered carefully the protection of every trade and every
food-supply conte, and he trusted that "if times
darkened," the Admiralty would have the
confidence of the House and the Admiralty
would be found doing its duty. He denied that
the navy was undermanned, declaring that every
vessel which took part in the Jubilee review was
as fully manned as it would be in war time.

Mr. Goschen deplaced the recent industrial strug
gles, and appealed for an increase of pay for the
British seamen of the merchant marine, savine that

British seamen of the merchant marine, saying that British seamen of the merchant marine, saying that if, from false economy or impossible conditions on either side, British sailors and ships were ousted by foreigners, then "God belp us." He concluded: "If peace shall again reign in our centres of industry, and if the nation that calls herself mixtuess of the sea reassets herself by an inmisties of the sea reassets herself by an increase of merchant seamen, then the nation may look forward in confidence that if there be peace it will be peace with honor; but if war, which God forbid, it must be war crowned with victory." (Prolonged cheers.)

Mr. William Allen (Radical) advocated greater efforts, and moved an amendment that greater accordings be made for manning the fleet.

provisions be made for manning the fleet.

Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford (Con-

servative), seconding the amendment, urged a larger reserve of men and suggested that Great Britain should buy all the vessels now building in England for other conotries.

The House rejected Mr. Allen's amendment. Many members urged an increase in the Naval

Sir Charles Dilke (Radical) said : "Every one must feel that the circumstances are such that we might find ourselves in war with an European Power, and that there is some risk that two other European Powers might be disposed to seize the opportunity to make demands we would seize the opportunity to make demands we would be indisposed to comply with. Nevertheless, the present estimates are the estimates of procrastination and delay. The condition of our navy, compared with those of other nations, is worse than it was two years ago."

Mr. Goschen, in a general defence of the estimater, said he thought it would be better in a time of crisis to complete and organize available estate and arounces than to decote their oversies.

to building vessels that would not be ready for three years. If there had been two or three first-class battle-ships for sale in England, he would probably have asked for money to purchase them, but there was none such for sale.

The discussion was then dropped,

### OUR INDIAN FRONTIER.

### ARE WE SAFE FROM RUSSIA?

Landon, March 7th. The House of Lords was unusually crowded to-day when Lord Roberts, commander of the forces in Ireland, made his expected speech in favour of a forward policy on the Indian frontier, putting forward the Russian perit and declaring According to the very rates has reached us, two West Siberian Line Battahas reached us, two West Siberian Line Battalions have been ususferred to Bustern Siberia and
putting forward the Russian peril and operation.
The previously existing 8th East
Siberian Frontier Battalion, augmented by 16
companies from European Russia, has been converted into the Vladivostock Fortress Infantry
Regiment, which now consists of 5 battions, each
of 4 companies.

The attillery in that is Appearance of India was only a matter of time.

UNIV that the policy of non-interference with the frontier that the policy of non-interference with the fronties tibes had been a complete failure. The speaker advocated the advance of British rule across the mountains, and traced the advance of Russia, anying that if she once crossed the Hindoo Koosh

The Earl of Onslow, Under Secretary for India, replied, pointing out the enormous cost of Lord Roberts' policy, which, he said, would impede the internal progress of India. He thought the dread Russian spectre hardly justified it. The ultimate destiny of the tribes was civilization, but the moment was inopportune to hasten it.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, said the Government's policy was to keep the main pass open and to establish control over the tribes with a minimum interference in their domestic affairs.

After further discussion, the House of Lords adioumed.

### THE BOMBAY PLAGUE RIOTS.

Bombay, March 9th, Serious plague riots have occurred in the native quarter, and the outbreak is regarded as the most alarming that has occurred in India in many

The trouble arose through a plague party in-quiring into the cause of the sickness of a Mohammedan woman. An enermous crowd of Mohammedan woman. An enermous crowd of caste men gathered and stoned and mobbed the party, which retired for an escort of armed police and then returned and demanded the sucrender of the patient, which was refused. A Parsee magistrate, who exhorted the populace not to resist the police, was himself struck, whereupon he ordered the police to charge. They did so, and four Mohammedans were killed and several were wounded. wounded.

The disturbance spread with alarming rapidity. The Mohammedans, who were joined by the Hindoos, assaulted every European or Eurasian they met, and a hysterical mob attacked European dwellings in the suburb of Bycaulla. The residents barricaded themselves in their houses and food blank carticides from their houses and fired blank cartridges from their windows, which drove the cioters off Two members of

members of the Shropshire regiment I wo members of the Shropshire regiment were killed walking unarmed. The mob battered in their skulls. Many European officers and many policement were severely handled and seriously injured. In several instances Europeans who were traversing the native section of the town alone were beaten or stabbed.

The such attacked the lamestice Hospital

The snob attacked the Jamestjee Hospital and hadly wounded Mr. Gillespie, the house surgeon, but was repulsed by rifle volleys, and several of the rioters were killed.

The total deaths resulting from the riots are two soldiers of the Shropshire Regiment killed, a numicinal inspector, who accidentable shot himself.

a municipal inspector, who accidentally shot him-self, four European and four native policemen, with seventeen civilians in jured; nine ricters killed and twenty-two injured. One hundred and nine

arrests were made.

### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE " JAPAN TIMES")

BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY. SEPARATIST MOTION BY SIR CHARLES DILKE: OFFICIAL REFUSAL. London, April 1.

Sir Charles Dilke has given notice of motion in the House of Commons that the direction of foreign affairs during the past year had shown that it was desirable to separate the offices of Premier and Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Balfour declined to give a day for the discussion of the question, but would give a day for a direct vote of censure, if Sir William Harcourt was desirous of moving to that

effect.

### RETURN OF SIR FRANK SWETTENHAM.

Sir Frank Swettenham, Resident General of the Malay Federated States, has left London on his return to his official post in Malaya.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.
AMERICAN DEMAND STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION.

Spain is earnestly considering President McKinley's demands.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. REPORTED AGREEMENT. CONTINUED UNEASINESS IN AMERICA.

London, April 2. Qrigina fra tofficially announced from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

withdrawn.

Madrid that an agreement has been es-tablished between Spain and America, covering the questions of the Maine and the Reconcentrados and also as a means to securing durable peace in Cuba.

The American papers are sceptical as to the agreement, and state that the Spanish reply is evasive and inconclusive, and that war is inevitable unless it is amended.

### RUSSIA AT PORT ARTHUR AND TALIENWAN.

STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS In the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs stated in reply to questions that M. Muravieff, Russian Foreign Minister, on the 16th March assured Britain that Port Arthur and Talienwan would be open for

### BRITAIN'S REVENUE. BIG INCREASE.

The revenue for the year shows a net increase of £2,664,119.

THE FAR EASTERN SITUATION. BRITISH DEMANDS BEING BACKED BY THE FLEET.

London, April 4. Sir Claude Macdonald, British Minister at Pekin, is holding an important con-ference with the T'sungli-Yamen, and demanding concessions to redress the balance of power upset by the concessions to Russia. The British fleet is gradually converging on to the Gulf of Pechili.

### ZOLA'S SENTENCE QUASHED.

The sentence on Emile Zola has been

THE P. AND O. STEAMER " CHINA."

The prospects of floating the steamer China are improved.

DEATH OF "THE CLAIMANT." Arthur Orton, the Tichborne Claimant, is dead.

### UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. CRITICAL SITUATION.

### EUROPEAN PRESSURE ON SPAIN. THE POPE INTERVENES.

The Spanish-American situation has assumed most critical stage. President McKinley is to send a message to Congress on Tuesday. Some of the European Powers are strongly urging Spain to grant an armistice in Cuba with the view of permanent peace. The Pope is also interpermanent peace. The Pope is also interpermanent peace in England is about to put acquiesced in England is about to put into effect a naval demonstration. The the bishops in the United States.

### UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. BOTH SIDES APPREHENSIVE.

INCESSANT PREPARATIONS.

SPAIN'S ARMY READY FOR MOBILISATION.

London, April 5. Both Spanish and American statesmen express the gravest fears about the situation. Work in the two armies and navies is continuing day and night. Spanish army is ready for mobilisation at

### TWENTY THOUSAND RUSSIANS FOR THE FAR EAST.

### PASSAGE OF THE DARDANELLES.

The Russian Ambassador at Constantirecruits for the Far East would shortly Government, France would necessarily occupy some other ports in order to predespatch of messages in the Japanese language
Volunteer Fleet.

At the Viadivostock Telegraph Offices the despatch of messages in the Japanese language is said to have been prohibited. Digitized by Google

WEI-HAI-WEI LEASED TO ENG-LAND.

CHINA BELIEVES JAPAN APPROVES. THREE PORTS OPENED TO TRADE.

China has conceded the British demand for the lease of Wei-hai-wei on its evacuation by the Japanese. It is believed that Japan regards the idea favourably. The Chinese Government has aunounced the opening to foreign trade of the three ports of Fuuing, Yochan ann Chinwang.

### (Received by the Fiji.)

ENGLAND AND THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE FAR BAST.

### HER DEMANDS ON CHINA.

Peking, March 3t.

Sir Claude Macdonald, British Minister, has formally intimated to China that in foreign trade like other Chinese ports, and the event of the evacuation of Weihaiwei that the assurance had not since been by Japan on the receipt of the remaining instalments of the War Indemnity, England is desirous of obtaining the lease of that place.

### THE TSUNGLI-YAMEN IN COUNCIL.

Peking, April 1. In regard to the English demand for Weihaiwei, the Ministers of the Tsungliyamen held a council to-day in the presence of the Emperor.

ENTRY OF BRITISH WAR VESSELS INTO PORT ARTHUR.

### A VIGOROUS DECLARATION.

Pekin, April 1.

England has caused her warships to enter Port Arthur, and at the same time has informed the Chinese Government that if China declines to lease Wei-hai-wei to England, the latter will occupy Port Arthur, without regard to the question whether or not the place has already been leased to Russia.

### BRITISH NAVAL MOVEMENT.

England will assemble her fleet at Chefoo on the 5th inst. The Squadron will probably consist of 29 warships.

### THE LEASE OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

The proposed term for the lease of Wei-hai-wei 18 25 years.

### ENGLAND AND WEI-HAI-WEI.

Peking, April 4.

The British demand for the lease of Wei-hai-wei after the Japanese garrison shall have evacuated has been acquiesced in by China. The agreement will be signed shortly.

### BRITISH NAVAL DEMONSTRATION.

into effect a naval demonstration. fleet has been massed in Chefoo, all the ships being in fighting trim.

### CHINA STEALS A MARCH ON DEPREDAT-ING POWERS.

The Chinese Government has informed its Treaty Powers that Sanwoatas(?) situated in the vicinity of Shannaikwan, Pechili; Shantao in Fuchien; and Yaochow in Hunan will be opened for foreign commerce.

### THE SLICING GAME. FRENCH DECLARATION.

Peking, April 2 The French Minister Resident at Peking has formally announced that in the The Russian Ambassador at Constanti- event of the British claim for the lease of nople has informed the Sultan that 20,000 Wei-hai-wei being accepted by the Chinese MORE DEMANDS BY GERMANY.

Pekin, April 5.

Germany has demanded of the Chinese Government an enlargement of the limits of the leased land at Kiaochow.

### (PRUM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

### BRITISH NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Nagasaki, April 2. It is now reported that over 20 British war-ships are assembled at Chefoo. Rumour has

it that 13 British war-vessels have been ordered to the Far East from home.

### JAPANESE KILLED IN KOREA.

Soul, April 2.

It is rumoured that a Japanese was murdered at Saishu by a mob and that two others were made prisoners.

Soul, April 3.

A report has reached here that several Japanese fishermen were killed near Mokpho.

### STEAMER LOST.

Ujima, April 2. The steamer Hote Maru foundered off Takehara this morning.

## THE MURDER OF JAPANESE IN KOREA.

Söul, April 2.

A report having reached here that a Japanese was killed and four others were made prisoners hy a moh at Shaishu island, the Japanese war-ship Maya has left Chemulpo for the scene of the disturbance.

### DESTITUTION AT MATSUYE.

Matsuye, April 4.

Owing to the great rise in the price of rice the poor people here are almost starving. The capitalists and the Matsuye Bank have taken steps to extend the necessary help to them.

### THE RAILWAY EMPLOYES' STRIKE.

Tsushima, Owari, April 3.

Last night a severe fight took place among the railway workmen and two of them were badly wounded. Twenty of the culprits were taken into custody and locked up in the Tsushima Police Station.

### MORE RUSSIAN TROOPS.

Nagasaki, April 4. The Russian Volunteer fleet steamer Petersburg, conveying 1.551 soldiers, arrived to-day from Oddessa en route to Vladivostock.

### GREAT BRITAIN TO HAVE WEI HAI-WEI.

Peking, April 4. Arrangements have been made between China and Great Britain for the lease of Weihai-wei to England.-

Though the concession of Wei-hui-wei has been granted by China the British squadron, numbering 29 in all, will assemble at Chefoo tomorrow prepared for any emergency.

### MASSACRE IN FORMOSA

Taipeli, April 4. On the 31st uit. 15 Formoran Chinese were

killed at Shintenkai by aborigines. Two cases of plague have been reported here.

### RAILWAY EXTENSION.

Osaka, April 4.

The new section between Fukushima and Tempozan on the Nishinari Railway was for-mally opened to-day. Another section between Fukushima and Umeda is to be opened shortly.

### THE JAPANESE SQUADRON.

Yokosuka, April B.

The standing squadron now assembling here in to leave at the end of this month for the West,

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER TO KOREA.

Soul, April 5, Mr. Matunine, the new Russian Minister 10 Korea, arrived in the capital last evening.

### TELEGRAMS FROM VLADIVOSTOCK.

Nagasaki, April 6.

#### FISHERMEN DROWNED.

Tokushima, April 8
Thirty-seven fishermen in this Prefecture who were out in a severe gale on the 21st ult. have not since been seen or heard of, and they are believed to have been drowned.

#### SENTENCE ON A DYNAMITARD.

Tomezawa, April 8.

The dynamite murderer Asso Kichibei has been sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment,

RUSSIAN TROOPS FOR PORT ARTHUR

Nagasaki, April 8.

The Russian Volunteer steamer Salataff will leave Vladivostock for Port Arthur on the 10th with 1,000 soldiers.

#### THE FRACAS ON THE "PATHAN."

Kobe, April 7.

The case instituted in the British Consular Court against several members of the crew of the steamer Pathan was concluded to-day, when all the prisoners were discharged.

#### GERMANS FOR KIAO-CHOU.

Negasaki, April 8.

It is reported that over 200 Gertnan emigrants have arrived at Kiso-chon.

#### THE SOLAR ECLIPSE IN INDIA.

The St. Yames's Budget gives the following interesting account of the solar eclipse as it was observed in India :-

The party, consisting of Sir Norman Lockyer, K.C.B., F.R.S., Mr. Fowler, F.R.A.S., Dr. W. J. S. Lockyer, M.A., and the Macquess of Graham embarked on board H.M.S. Melponens at Colombia for Viziadioog. During the passage Sir Norman called for volunteers to assist in the furtheoming operations, with the result that all the officers and about 120 men put themselves at his disposal for various services. Lectures were given by the aid of the magic-lantern, the ship's com-pany evincing a keen interest in the subject.

The Melpomene arrived at her destination on January 7, and auctioned off the old fort of Vizia-droog. A suitable site was soon selected in the fort for the erection of the numerous justimments, and, all hands setting to with a will, everything was ready for rehearsal by the 13th, and from that was ready for rehearsal by the 13th, and from that day drills were carried out assiduously. The various instruments were enclosed in small huts constructed of matting, wond, and other material; these buts were given humorous natures, such as "Crystal Palace," "Central Hotel," "Empire Palace," &c., by the bluejackets. The legends, "H.M.S. Malpomene, 1898," and "Eclipse, 1898," were also painted in large letters on the walls of the loft in proximity to the eclipse camp. On account of the abundance of snakes at Viziadnog, every one fanding was obliged to wear gaiters. gailers.

gaiters.

The eventful day, the 22nd, was an extremely fine one. From daylight not a cloud appeared in the sky, and this state of things continued right up to and alter the end of the phenomena. At 11.15 a.m. the echpse began, the landscape, however, not altering appreciably till about five minutes after, when it began to darken gradually; and within five minutes of totality it appeared as on a very bright mountight night, and continued so up to the instant of the commencement of totality. Then, indeed, the scene was glurious. The moon appeared a black disc over the solar body, and in places flower suppeared to shoot out, and the brightness of the corona was most dazzand the brightness of the corona was most dazz-ling. Polar riffs appeared at an angle of about 23 degrees with the perpendicular, and flaming rad proluberances projected from the moon in various places. Four great streamers on either side ex-tended millions of miles from the sun's position. The heavens darkened to a very deep blue, and stars should out in many places. By the horizon and over the land the sky assumed light-pink and yellow tiots, and neutral in the north-westward. The sea changed from a bright greenish-blue to a rich dark-blue, except in some calm patches and close to the stays of these in calm patches and close to the shore, where it was a very light shade of blue. The land, with the exception of some distant hills which were of a

exception of some distant times which were or a neutral tint, assumed a dense black aspect.

The effect on the seaguils was indeworthy. These birds, which had been sitting quietly on the water, one at the commencement of totality, and flew off towards the southward, without uttering any sounds, returning, however, in a few seconds while totality was still on, and again settling on the water. There they equalited till Digitized by Google

about forty-five minutes after the end of torality, when they became very lively and commenced their fishing operations. Some livestock on board their fishing operations. Some livestock on board the Melpomene, consisting of a puppy, a monkey, a goar, and some portiry, did not take any apparent notice of the phenomenon. At the and of totality, darkness appeared to be suddenly semoved from the earth, and the landscape gradually assumed its proper column. It was interesting to watch the proceedings of the natives. It appears that they hold different ideas on the causes of columns, some imagining that evil spirits causes of eclipses, some imagining that evil spirits called "Raxas" wrestle with the sun and moon; others that a demon or diagon swallows the sun. To prevent these catastrophes, they fast for many hours before the phenomenon takes place, and during totality it was observed that many of them bathed in the sea and howled for about three minutes to frighten away the evil spirits, and thus save the sun from its fate. One important addition to the instruments brought out from England by Sir Norman Lockyer was Lord Graham's cinematograph, an instrument which has never before been used on similar occasions, and with which the owner obtained very interesting results, Lientenant Blackett, who volunteered to observe the stars, saw a heavenly body appear between Venus and Mais, which has not before been reposted.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	So. Apr. sc
Hongkong	C, & O. Co.	Gaelic e	Ser. Apr. so
America	P. M. Co.	China	M. Apr. ss
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta a	M. Apr. 12
Rurope	N D, Lloyd	Holienzollein a	M. Apr. 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Apr 24
Honghong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M Apr. 18
America	O. & O. Co.		To. Apr. 19
Honghong		Indus	W. Apr. so

s Left Shanghai on the 4th Inst.

a Left Hongkong on the 4th inst-

4 Left San Francisco on the and just

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer,	Date,
Hongkong	C.P.R.Co.	km. of India	M. Apr. 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Apr. ze
America	O. & O. t.o.	Gaelic	Tu, Apt, an
Burope, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Salazie	W. Apr. 23
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satsoma Mare	W. Apr. 13
Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Apr. 15
Canada, &c.,	C. P. R. Co.	Em, of China	". Apr. 25
Hongleong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Lu. Apr. 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	W. Apr. 20
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. Apr. so

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,771, W. Towell, 2nd April,-Liverpool vin ports, Kobe, Ist April, General.-Butterfield & Swire.

inten Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433. K. Naka-juna, 2nd April,—Kobe, 1st April, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, A. Dixon, 3rd

April,—Tacoma, Wash, via Victoria B.C., 13th

Mar, Mails & General,—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Baron Douglas, British steamer, 1,606, Goudey,
3rd April,—Rangoon, 10th Mar., Rice.—Samuel & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001 K. Yamanouchi, 3rd April,—Yokkaichi, 2nd April, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

logo Marii, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walter, 4th April, - Kobe, and April, General. - Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

lkai Mars, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 4th April,—Kobe, 3rd April, General.—Nippon Yu-sen Kaisha.

Otarul Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Tibhalls, 5th April—Otarn via ports, 30th March, Gene-ral. -Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

rai. - (Vippon Yusen Raisia. Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712. M. Yagi, Sili April, — Yokkaichi, 3rd April, General. — Nippon Yinsen Kaisha. Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827. N. Umeano, 5th April, — Otaru, 2nd April General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha. \*\*\*Raya Maru, Japanese steamer, 825 Tapril, rd.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875. Ternick, 5th April,-Moji, 3rd April, General - Mitsu Bishi Co.

Saint Mary, British stenner, 1,939, R. Perrie, 6th April,—Autwerp via Suez Canal, 22nd Peb, General.—Sale & Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069 N. Tale, 6th April,-Otalu, 3td April, General,-Nippon -Nippon

6th April,—Otatu, 3rd April, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Houndow, British steamer, 1,799. Le Templier,

6th April,—Pensacula via Suez Canad and Kobe,

4th April, Cotron and Pig Iron.—Dodwell,

Carlill & Co.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, Paul, 6th April,—

Matseitles via pouts, Kobe, 5th April, Mails and

General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, James

Jones, 7th April.—Sydney and Melbourne via

pouts, Kobe, 6th April. Mails and General.—

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Andalazia, German steamer, 3,400. Schröter, 8th

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Andalasia, German steamer, 3,499, Schrötter, 8th
April,—Hamburg via ports, Kobe, 7th April,
General.—C. Illies & Co.
Asagas Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M.
Hamada, 8th April,—Otace via ports, 3rd Apr.,
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,800, H. Barnes,
8th April,—Yokosuka, 8th April, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

#### DEPARTURES.

City of Rio de Fansiro, American Mramer, 2.246.

Wm. Ward, 2nd April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Ca. Famaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, P. H. Going, 2nd April,—Seattle, Washington, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, A. Dixon, 4th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co. Finess Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,422 K. Naka-

—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 4th April,—Otaru via ports, Gefferal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001 K.
Yamanouchi, 4th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Rohilla, Illinish steamer, 2,216, L. Ill. Lockyer, 5th
April,—Hongkong via Kohe and Nagasaki,

Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Pathan, Brinish steamer, 1,763, Day, 5th April,—

Kohe, General.—Dodwell Carlill Ill Co.

Mikk Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, S. Kawa
mira, 5th April,—Bombay via ports, General.—

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Vechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Vagi,

Oth April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippoh Yusen Kaistia,

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walter,

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walter, 6th April, -- Kobe, Mails and General. -- Nippon Yuser Kaista.

John R. Kelley, American ship, 2,255, O. E. Chapman, 6th April, New York via Kobe, General.—Sumon Evers & Co.

Benvorlich, British stemen, 2,164, Thomson, 7th April,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co. Amara, British stamer, 1,569, P. H. Rolfe, 7th April,—Meji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Alton, British steamer, 2,169, Nicholsen, 7th Tacoma, Washington, Ballage.-Dodwell Carlill

Tacoms, vvaningson, a. & Co. & Co. & Co. Wuhu, British steamer, 1,250, Benson, 7th April, — Moji, Ballast. — Jaidine, Matheson & Co. Ikat Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 7th April, — Otara via potts, General. — Nippos Yusen Kaisha.

x tosch Kanna. Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Ume-zono, 7th April, - Kobr, General. - Nippon Yu-sen Kaisha.

Wally, German steamer, 3,038, S. Belirens, 7th April,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, 8th April, General.—Simon Evers & Co. Glaucus, British steamer, 3,350, J. Barwise, 8th April—London via ports, General.—Butterfield &r Saira

& Swire.

Payo Mars. Japanese steamer, 875. Ternick, 8th April.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsa Bishi Co. Saya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.069, N. Tate, 8th April.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen

Kaisha. Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.507, Tubbells, 8th April,—Kobe, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Tacoma, from Tacoma via Victoria:—Mr. Breadstreet, in cabin; 3 in steer-age. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. Beals and child, and Mrs. Macbeth, in cabin. For Hong-kong:—Miss Landis, Miss Prentice, and Miss Miller, in mabin; 18 steerage. For Kobe:—2 steerage.

Per Brench steamer Salasie, from Marseilles via Per treeten steamte Sataste, troin meatsenigs was ports;—Mr. and Mine. Mertens, Mr. Deboulet, Mr. Bindey, Mr. G. Gerald, Mr. and Mine. Kay, Mine. Clement Smith, Mr. Mendith, Mr. Frasdileji Mil. 1600 Mrs. Calbot, Mr. Nakayama.

Mr. and Mme. James, Mine. Comte. Mr. and Mme. Rienaker, Miss Lee, Miss Walkinson, Mr. Paul Palas, Mme. Smith, infant and amab. Mr. Smith, Mr. and Mme. Membert, Mr. Golife, Mr. Bertel, Mme. Lyons, Mr. Griffith, and Mr. Watanaba in cabin nahe, in cabin.

#### DEPARTED.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Elsie Adsir, Mr. James Archer, Surgeon Major J. I. G. Burke, Mr. J. R. Crosser, Mr. and Mrs. O. Fock, Mr. M. Fleischer, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Fruch and two children, Mrs. J. F. Gowey, Miss Gulick, Mr. W. Harris, Mr. H. Kobbe, Mrss Knoke, Mr. S. C. Looghurst, Mr. W. G. Logan, Mr. Ch. Mouchet, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Neitz and four children, Mrs. M. M. Orr, Miss Orr, Rev. J. H. Pettee, Mrs. J. L. Patton and two children, Mrs. M. Reenolds, Mrs. F. Ridgway, Mr. Theo. Staubbi, Mr. S. Sacko, Rev. and Mrs. S. S. White and two children, Rev. and Mrs. F. A. Waples and two children, and Dr. and Mrs. St. D. G. Walters, in cabin.

Per British steamer Robilla for Hongkong via

Walters, in cabin.

Per British steamer Rohilla for Hongkong via potts:—Mr. Charles Freeman, Mr. J. W. Shepherd, Mrs. F. W. Hammond, Mr. Noor Malomed Hassan and servant, Mr. J. Clement Fisher, Mr. Edward A. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Bevis and danghter, Mr. F. R. Daniel and native servant, Mrs. W. T. Mitchell, Mr. W. G. Bayne, Miss Pakenham, Mr. N. A. Walter, Mr. F. Coghill Jackson, Mr. Herns Heim, Mr. Seijino Iwata, Mr. Ketzo Sano, Mr. Lo Pon Kook, Mrs. Ah Sam, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Collier, infant and 2 amahs, and Mr. George Russell, in cabin; 8 Chinese, and 2 children, in steerage.

#### BEFECTED.

Per German steamer Prins Heinrich by Hohen zollern, from Hongkung :- Architeacon and Mes. Harris, Architeacon and Mrs. Warren, and Mrs. James Dodds, in cabin.

#### REPORT.

The British steamer Tacoma, Capt. A. Dixon, reports:—Left Victoria, 13th March crossed 180. Meridian on the 21st March, experienced rough weather and head winds through out the voyage and reached Yokohama on the 3rd April.

#### CARGOES.

The following were the Silk Shippers per P. M. steamer Gity of Rio de Faneiro, which sailed for San Francisco on the 2nd April;—

Bayler & Co. mountainment and an arrangement	221
Steber & Co	
The Krite Shokwat	
The Doshinsta	28
The Mitsui Bussau Kwaisha	10
Total ,	358
The following were the Silk Shippers per	
K. stenmer Yamaguchi Maru, which sail	ed for
Seattle, Wash, on the 2nd April :-	

Per British steamer Rohilla, for Hongkong via ports:-Raw Silk for Europe, to bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 32 bales.

#### STEAMERS.

	O Z CITATIO	22101		//10101
NAMK.	FROM	REFORTE		
Adria	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Mar. 18	
<b>A</b> fridi	London	Passed Canal.	Mar. 15	
Antenor	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Mar, t	
Bellona	Hamborg	Passed Canal	Mar. 22	
Benlawers	London	Passed Canal	Mar. 29	
Bengloe	London	Left H'kong	Ap1. 3	
Candia	London	Passed Canal	Mar. I	
Canton	Landon	Passed Canal	Mar. 18	
Craigearn	New York	Left	Feb. 16	
Energia	New York	Leaves Kobe	Apr. 9	
Fallodon Hal	1 New York	Left	Mai, 1	i
Plintshire	London	Passed Canal	Mar. 29	
Formosa	London	Passed Canal	Mar. 4	
Glenathey	London	Passed Canal	Mac. 15	-6
Glenogle	London	Passed Canal	Mar. 20	-37
Glentunet	London	Passed Canal	Mai. 4	
Hakata Mari	i S'hampton	Left	Ma1. 31	
Indus	Marseilles	Left S'pore	Apr. 3	It
Isis	Antwerp	Passed Canal	Mar. 15	16
Kanagawa M	laru S'hampt	on At Kobe	Mar. 30	
Kawachi Mar	n S'hampton	Left S'pare	Apr. I	
Kintuck	Liverpool	Left-S'pore	Ma1. 29	
Kirkdale	Antweep	At S'pore	Feb. 25	
I.atoua	Antwerp	At Kabe	Apr. 4	
Macdoff	Landon	Passed Canal	Mar. 4	
Manita	Londen	L-ft N'saki	Apr. 6	7
Merionetlishi	ie Landon	Passed Cayar	Mat. 18	
	Diai	tized by	$\tau$ ()(	1016
				0

I	6.8 3.4.	- Landon	Leaves	Kabe	Anr.	0
1	Monmouthship					
۱	Nyanza	Phila.	Left			
۱	Oalong	Liverpool	Left H'			
۱	Queen Margar	et New York	Passed			
ı	Öneen Olga	New York	Passed			
Į		Batoum				
١	Pyrrhus	Liverpool	Passed	Canal		
ı	Riigby	London	Passed			
Į	Sarpedon	Liverpool	Passed			
l	Siam	Landon	Passed			
į	St. Andrews	New York -	Passed	Canal	Mar.	1
	St. Minian	New York	Passed	Canal		
	Sanuki Maru	Shampton	Passed			
	Telamon	Liverpool	Passed			
	Teucer	Liverpool	At S'p			
į	Thekla	Hamburg		Canal		
	Ulysses	Liverpool		Canal		
	Undaunted	New York	Leavin	RE .	Feb.	. 28
	Wennington I	Hall London	Passed	l Canal	Mar.	. 15
	Yarra	Marseilles	Passed	l Canal	Mai	. 17
	_					

#### UNDER SAIL.

Alexander Gibson	New York	]aly 27	Y'hama;
Aldebaran	Middlesbio	Drc. 6	-¥'lsama∣
Baring Bros.	New York	Dec. 12	Y'hama
Саевалея	Phila.	lan. 6	N'saki
Caradoc	Phila.	Mar. 4	Kebe
Cettie Monarch	M'bra.	Frb. 5	Јаран
Englehorn	New York	Feb. 1	Hiego
Gartmore	Middleshio'	Dec. 10	Y'hama
Gleomack	Antwerp	]ян, б	Y'hama
Inteopolis	Phila.	]=n.4	Kebe
Margnerite Elise	Antwerp	Nov. 11	Y'hama
May Flint	New York	Nov. 27	Kolie
Manuel Llaguno	New York	Jan. 13	Y'hama
Pactolus	New York	Feb. 11	Y'hama
Rockhuist	Beautort S.	C. Jan. 2	Y'ltama
Sir Robert Fernie	New York	Nov. 22	Y'hama'
Win, H. Macy	New York	Nov. 12	Y'lsama
Wordshrante	Antwerp	Dec. 3	Y'hama
Wor. H. Starbuck	New York	Dec. 30	Y'hama

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

Very little business has been transacted during Very little business has been transacted during the past week in any lines of cottons or woollens, while years are also a drug in the market. The spinners are in want of raw cotton for carrying on their work, as owing to a number of steamers filling up with rice for Japan a large quantity of cotton cargo is lying at Bombay awaiting ship ment. A considerable shipment of American cotton arrived by the steamer Bounslow from Pensacola via the Snez Canal.

#### COTTOD PIRCE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings-St W. 384 yds. 39 inches Grey Shirtings-olb, 384 yds. 43 inches	2.80 to 3.35
F. Cloth-7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.80 to 2 00
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 41 inches.	3.95 to 2.90
Prints-Assorted, 24 yands, 30 mches	2 00 11 3 75
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Black,	PRH TARD.
3# inches	o 18∦ t⊪ u.a5
WOOLLENS.	ean conta
Clannels	\$0.30 10 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 32 inches lust	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yanda, 32 inches	
Madino	- a 30 to 0,32}
Halian Claffi, 30 yards, 32 inches Compton	0 25 10 0.274
Monagairpe da Lama—Conpe, 24 yanda	
11 inches	0.15 to a 22
Chaths—Pilots, 51 & 50 inches	0.35 to a 50
Cloths—Presidents, 5   pp 35 inches	0.00 to a 75

Cloths-Union, 54 ie 56 inches a.50 in 6.85	
Blankete-Scartet and Graun, 3 to 58;	
ри стаск.	
Valvata Black, 35 yards, sainghas 7 25 in 9.90	
Victoria Lawen, 12 yards, 42-3 inches. o 75 to 1.00	
TuckeyReds-2.0 to 2.4th, 24/25 yards,	
30 inches	
Furkey Reds-2.8 to 3th, 24/25 yands.	
30 inches 1 75 to 2.10	
The base Dadome S to all, 44/15 variet.	
32 inches 2.40 to 2.70	
Turkay Rada-4.8 to 5h, 24/25 yacds,	
32 inches 3 on to 3.50	
COLIDII YARDS, FREEGO.	
tine 16 24, Singles 438-50-10 30-50	
Sing. \$8:32, Singles 41.00 to 43 on	
Nos. 38,42, Singles 44.00 to 45.00	
Nos. 31, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00	
Nos. 42, Doubles 51.75 to 54.50	
Nos, a 60, Plain	
Nos. 2-80. Plain 10000000 75.00 to 77.00	
Nos. 2.100. Plain	
Nos. 2 50, Gassed 72 00 to 79,00	
Nos, a'teo, Gazsed 112.00 to 124.00	
RAW COTTON. PRE FIGHT	
American Middling\$10.10 to 20.80	
Indian Hroach 20.50 to 21 00	
Chinese	

#### MICHALS

The market continues dull in the extreme and stocks continue to accumulate. A considerable shipment of American pig iron arrived per steamer Hounslow from Pensacola at the beginning of the week. Quotations generally are nominal.

			F 8 8 4	11,216.
Round and square (	inch. and	upward.3.	95 th	4.20
dron Plates, assorts	ed	4 .	40 to	4.50
Sheet Icon	*********	5 .	10 10	5.20
Galvasized from sh	eels	. <i></i>	an to	10.00
- Wies Huile, nenurte	: d		50 10	6.10
<ul> <li>Fin Plates, per box</li> </ul>				
Fig Ican, Da. q .				
Hoop from () to 14	inch)		00 to	3.25

#### KICROSENE.

Very little business doing, prices remaining unchanged.

American	\$2 00 to 1.07
Ressing	
Langkat	- 1.85

#### SUGAR.

A small business has been transacted in Brown principally China and Formosa soils, the market having been cleaned out of Manila. Prices re-main from. White refined is doll, at former quota-

	Calcan	
Brown	Manits	4.75 to 5.50
	Daitong	3.85 to 3 90
	Canton	5.50 10 7.00
	Java and Penang	
White	Refined	7.35 FH 9.06

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

There has been next to no demand during the past week, the critical state of affairs between the past week, the critical state of armies between the United States and Spain having seriously affected the market. Indeed it is asserted that indees have been received in Yokohama from some American houses, to cease buying until further instructions are received. Sales amount only to 257 boxes, and stocks are estimated at 8 950 boxes. Stocks are estimated at 8 950 boxes. Stocks are estimated at 8 950 boxes. Stocks and stocks are estimated at 8 950 boxes. Stocks and 36 boxes been to bales per Robitla for Europe and 358 bales per City of Rio de Janeiro, and 30 bales per Yamaguchi Maru for America.



#### GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS, &c.

#### GEO. COURTICE'S CONCENTRATED EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century,

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(Late 234, STRAND).
PRICES: 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s., 10s. 6d., £1 is. per BOTTLE. This EXTRACT IN INVALUABLE to LADIES, as it restorge play Chroun close to the Skin.

## | QUOTATIONS | Filatures | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pite to get | Pit

#### WASTE SILK.

No business is reported in Waste silk and stocks are estimated at 6,160 boxes. The only shipment has been 32 bales per Rohilla fur Europe, Quotations nominal.

Nonhi-Filnture, Best	11 15 to 120
Nochi-Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-Oshu, Best	140 to 315
Yoshi-Oshu, Good	100 to 103
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-Shinshu, Best	70 to 25
Noshi-Shinshu, Guad	65 to 674
Yoshi-Busha, Best	115 to 120
Noshi-Budio, Good	100 to 110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to as
Noshi-Jushu, Good	do to de
Noshi-Joshu, Fair	55 to 574
Kibino-Pilature, Bent	95 to 100
Kibuso-Filature, Seconds	84 to 00
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to 10
Kibiso-Bushs, Fair	20 to 224
***************************************	no to sud

#### TEA.

With the exception of one parcel of about 900 catties no sales have taken place during the week, nor have there been any shipments. Stock is estimated at 87,000 lbs. Sales from the commencement of season to date amount to 21,833,850

QUOTATIONS,	•
Choicest	Naminal.
Choice	No Bi
Finest	1848
Fine sales are an area of the sales are an area of the sales are are a sales a	(Z Z Z
Good Medium	
Good Common	23 to 24
Common	21 to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver again & higher from London and steeling from China has advanced & causing rates on China to rule easier, but otherwise no change. Stenling -- Hank T.T.

- Bills on demand2	0,310
— . 4 months' sight2	0 10 7
— Private 4 months sight	
- 6 months' sight a	01110
On Paris—Bank aight	54 tos
On Lyons - Priests 4 months sight ,	2.5Q
On America - Bank Bills on demand.	4b#tog
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight</li> </ul>	50
On Germany-Rank sight	.05 1106
- Private 4 months sight	3.10
On Hongkeng-Bank sight	6
- Private rodaya'sigh	7 <del>1</del>
On Shanghar-Back sight	791
- Private to daya' night	18
On India-Bank sight	151
- Private 30 days' sight	
Bar Silver (Landon)	26



#### WATERING

Non-freezing & Ordinary Hydranis and Street Washers. Garden Waterling Boxes and Apparatus. Gun-Metal, Copper, and Cast-iron Cocks and Valves,

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1897.

September

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

## The Japan Weekly Itlail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 16.]

REGISTERED AT THE C.F.C.

YOKOHAMA, APRIL 16TH, 1898.

量量を表すに治療 Vol. XXIX.

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#### The Tapan Weekly Mail.

" FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CURRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be takes of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WRKKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the FRITCE.

payable to same; and the addressed to the EDITOR.

VOROHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH, 1898.

BIRTH.

the 25th inst., at No. 20, Bluff, the wife of L. J. HEALING, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 12th April, at Christ Church, Yoko-hama, by the Rev. E. Champneys I wine, MADE-tuing, daughter of John Tudar Richards, of Gardner, Maine, United States of America, to H. V. Hanson of Yukohama.

DEATHS.

At his residence in Tokyo at 2 a.m. on the 11th instant, EDUARDO CHIOSSONS, aged 65.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 23rd March, Charles Saw, Captain of the S.S. Energia; aged 38 years.

On the 2nd March, at 6, Cathcart-hill, Innctionroad, London, after many years of suffering, DAVID MUIRHEAD, late of Shanghai, aged 69 years.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE term of the lease of Kwang-chow to France by China is twenty-five years.

ENGLAND has obtained permission to prolong the Burmese Railways to Yunuan.

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by the Armstrong Company, made a most suc coasful trial trip on the 6th instant.

PRINCE Henry of Prussia left Hongkoug on the Gefion for Shanghai on the 13th inst.

Two men were run over and killed on the Tokyo-Yekohama railway on the 13th inst.

THE first number of the Yokohama Shimban, a new organ of the Liberal Party, is to appear on

ENGLAND will spend two million sterling in the construction of an arsenal and dockyard at Wei-hai-wei.

A FRENCH post-master is to be appointed for China, after the postal affairs shall have been separated from the Customs.

H.M. THE EMPEROR presented a sum of 5,000 yen towards the cost of the celabrations of the 10th instant in Tokyo.

The Oten-Baba railway line is to be opened on the 15th May, to run in connection with the Taiko Steamship Co.'s vessels.

A REPORT from Canton states that the authorities there have issued a notification strictly prohibiting the export of rice.

THE Educational Department has called Council of the Principals of the High Schools in the country to sit in Tokyo from the 20th inst.

Ir is stated that on the exchange of the treaty between Japan and Siam, which will shortly take place, a Siamese Legation will be opened in Tokyo.

THE steamer Mogal, which left Yokohama on Tuesday for America, look 935 emi-grants for Hawaii. Other 200 labourers also left Yokohama the same day for Hawaii by the Gaelic.

Tur Deutsche Dampfschiffs Rhederei Hamburg, or Kingsin Line, have sold their fleet and interests in the Far East to the Hamburg-America Company, which has just started running steamers to this part of the world.

On the 8th instant the holler of a locomotive on the Fukuoka-Koga section of the Kinshin Railway exploded, killing three and injuring several persons, also damaging some station buildings.

VISCOUNT Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, will give a series of entertainments at his official residence at Kojimachi, Tokyo, on the 13th 14th, and 18th inst. at 7.30 p.m.

THE Dai-Nihon Teikoku Suinan Kyusai-kai (Japan Marine Rescue Association) of which H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa is President, rescued during last year 51 vessels, mostly fishing boats, and saved 234 lives.

FROM the 31st March to the 7th instant there FROM the 31st March to the 7/11 instant there were 3 new cases and 3 deaths from plague in Taipeh, 24 cases and 16 deaths in Tongchow prefecture, 16 cases and 12 deaths in Kagi prefecture, and one death in Tainan prefecture.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha have ordered from England three steamers of 20 knots speed, to be called the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Aomori Maru, which are to be finished by about September next. The vessels are intended to run between Aomori and Hakodate.

THE Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate have both reported in

to use the forces of the United States to secure Cuban independence.

THE treaty concluded between Russia and China concerning Talienwan and Port Arthur expressly provides for the partial opening of the former for foreign trade, while only ships flying Russian or Chinese flags will be permitted to enter the latter port.

THE Isunch of the steamer Hitachi Mars (6,000 tons displacement) of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha took place at the Mitsubishi Shipbuilding Yard, Nagasaki, on the 16th inat. This is the first vessel of so large a size as 6,000 tons built in Japan.

AT a fire on the night of the 7th inst, in the Yoshiwara, Tokyo, 11 houses were totally and 7 partially destroyed. Owing, it is said, in the height of the buildings and the narrowness of the street where the fire occurred, no fewer than 15 firemen were more or less seriously injured.

THE Yokohama City Office is about to offer for subscription Water Works Bonds to the amount of 400,000 yen at a minimum ratio of 95 yen per 100 yes face value. The list will be open from the 15th inst. to the 14th May. The Bonds will be issued in denominations of yes 1000, 100, and 50, and will bear interest II 6 per cent.

On the 10th instant a grand fête was held in Tokyo in celebration of the 30th anniversary of its adoption as the capital of the country. The Emperor and Empress were present and received congratulatory addresses and there were namecongratuatory audresses and more were numerous picturesque processious and a variety of dances and other entertainments in Uyene Park and many of the principal thoroughfares. The festival generally proved a great success.

THE Import market in Yokohama 🖥 lifeless in the extreme, with little prospect of any im-mediate recovery. No transactions whatever have been reported during the week in cotton piece goods, yarns or woollens. Some cargoes of raw cotton have arrived at the southern port of raw collon nave arrived at the southern port from Bombay, for the cotton spinners, but nothing is doing locally. Of metals the same may be said an of cottons. Goods ordered months ago remain on the hands of importers, the buyers being unable in take delivery. Little business has been transfered in Karoana but halders are not discount for the same of delivery. Little business has been trans-acted in Kerosene, but holders are not disposed to lower their prices in view of the possible cessasion of supplies from America in the probable event of war. There is a large quantity of cheap Sumatra oil on the market. A fairly good business has been done in augar, both brown and white refined, at a slight increase in price. Arrivals of brown from Formoza have been large and the market is now well supplied. Heavy shipments of Salgon, Tongking and Rangoon rice continue to arrive, and it is anticipated that there will be a considerable fall in prices both of foreign and native grown grain, as soon as the first crop of Japan rice is put on the market. In Exports nothing has been done. No sales of silk have been effected even at considerably reduced prices and there is scarcely any tea of acceptable quality left on hand, sample of the new crop has arrived in Yokohama during the week. It was at first expected that the season this year would be later than usual but the change in the weather during the week has brought the plants forward and it is now anticipated that the cropping will begin about the usual time. Prices are expected to rule considerably higher than the average owing to the A REPORT has been received from London that favour of immediately requesting Spain to with the new Japanese cruiser Takasago Kan, built draw from Cubs, and instructing the President Very further base been done in secondary exports.

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

In the course of the week we have spitomized the utterances of the week we have spitomized the utterances of various journals with regard to Japan's foreign policy. We now add later utterances, showing at the last a change of tone which can not fail to strike our readers.

The Nicht Nicht Shimbun refrains from engaging in, any discussion with the politicians who are now agitating for the adoption of a "strong foreign policy." It applauds their patriotic intentions, approves of their activity, and invites them to explain what they mean. At their meeting in the Kairaku-yen they adopted two resolutions: the first, that Japan must enter a protest against the actions of Germany and Russia in Shantung and Liaotung; the second, that, should her protest prove unsuccessful, she must take special steps with regard to Wei-hai-wei. But they failed altogether to set forth the grounds of the protest or to give any distinct idea of the procedure to be ultimately adopted with regard to Wei-hai-wei. Is it their purpose that Japan should stand forth as the champion of international law, and insist on the reversal of the steps already taken by Germany and Russia as evil precedents irreconcilable with any rules of inter-state morality? Or is it their purpose to recognise that what is done can not be undone, and that the only recource for Japan is to retain possession of Wei-hai-wei? Secrecy is often necessary in diplomacy. The officials charged with the conduct of a country's foreign affairs are frequently obliged to observe strict reticence. But the case is very different with party politicians. Their views derive force mainly as politicians. Their views derive force mainly as expressions of public opinion, and it is therefore necessary that they should formulate their ideas clearly so as to enable the nation to pronounce judgment on them. What is to be the fashion, then, of this protest advocated by the Progressist leaders? On what grounds is it to be based? And what is to be the nature of the procedure adopted in the case of Wei-hai wei? Japan's sole right to occupy the place is derived from the Shimonoseki Treaty, and lapses when the terms of that Treaty are fulfilled. Hence, when the whole of the Indemnity is paid off. her title to hold Wei-hai-wei disappears, and if she wants the place, she must obtain it by some new process. What is that process to be? The Progressiat leaders must see that until they distinetly formulate their programme, they can not expect to secure the cooperation of intelligent persons.

The Tokyo Shimbun (Liberal organ) takes the line that this agitation is entirely an affair of party politics and that the Progressists are or party pointes and that the Progressias are sacrificing the interests of the country on the altar of personal ambition. The men who figure as leaders of the movement and clamour for a strong foreign policy, are the same men that supported the last Cabinet when it tunnely allowed the Yamagata Lobanoff Convention to he trainpled under toot and suffered Japanese rights to be ignored even by Hawaii. sincerity is more than questionable. They carry party politics into the domain of foreign They affairs, and are willing to make the Empire's difficulties a means of climbing into office. It is true that Japan was treated most treacherously in the matter of Lisolung. She was turned out of it under the presence that her presence there of it under the presence that her presence there would endanger the peace of the East, the real reason being that the Power chiefly instrutental in turning her out wanted the territory for itself. That humiliation will never be forgotten by her people. Yet, even had they gauged the depths of the injustice practised accepted them. gainst them, they were powerless to resist. The country had a hundred and twenty thousand men beyond the sea. Its ships were scattered here and there guarding distant lines of commu-nications. Its armaments were more or less To have defied Russia, Germany, and France would have been to change victory beyond the movements in Formosa derive Chinese support, seas into peril at home. The situation is not The Hochi does not attempt to explain what

there is no material accession of strength. The armaments' expansion programme has not been carried far enough towards completion to add appreciably to the nation's fighting capacities. Apart from the fact that two line-of-battle ships have been added to the navy, things are much an they were three years ago. It would be merely idle bravado to take the field against a great foreign Power at present. The politicians who met in the Kairsku-yen a few days ago, and adopted magniloquent resolutions, knew that they were formulating an impossible programme.

The Hochi Shimbun seems in have made a distinct volte-face. It wrote recently in a strain that amounted to a distinct declaration of the necessity of fighting Russia. It now says that the time has passed when even a protest can be usefully lodged by Japan, and that, were she to raise her voice now, she would be like a mother talking to a dead child. Besides, what would be the result of a protest? There is not the remotest chance that Russia and Germany could be induced to give up the acquisitions they have made in China. They would fight to the death rather than do that. The politicians now agitating against the Government accuse the Cabinet of dilatoriness, but their own action is conspicuously belated. It is futile to talk of advancing protests against accomplished facts. The only courses now before the country are either to retain Wei-hai-wei or to give it up. That is the sole question. In order to retain it there must be some pretext. With the payment of the last yes of the Indemnity Japan's title to occupy the port dis-appears. Robbery with violence (kiridorigoto) has become the rule of international intercourse now-a-days. If Japan thinks of adapting her conduct to that rule she had better consider whether it is a rule that makes for the stability of a State. Her arbitrary retention of Wei-hai-wei after the conditions binding her to restore it had been fulfilled, would mean her accession to the ranks of the national burglars. other hand, it is not to be denied that the condition of affairs in the Far East has undergone an alarming change. Russia may be said to have come into possession of Manchuria; England, of the Yangiszs valley and all central China as well as a part of Shantung; France, of Southern China, and Germany of Kiao-chou. If, under these circumstances, Japan thinks it necessary to prefer some demands in the honest interests of her trade or for the sake of the maintenance of the peace of the Orient, let Let prefer them by all means.

The same journal in a later article writes very strongly in favour of Japan's seeking to redress the situation in her own interests redress the siluation in her own interests by obtaining from China some port as a set-off for the alienation of the Liaotung Peninsula. The places indicated as suitable are Ying-kow (Newchwang); Pitsu-wo (on the east of the Liaotung Peninsula, some 70 miles north of Talien); Taku shan (on the northero listoral of the Yellow Sea, a few miles westward of the month of the Yalu River); Wei-hat-wei; Foo-haw, and Amoy. Apparently our contemporachow, and Amoy. Apparently our contemporary would prefer one of the three places first mentioned, since they all figured prominently in the Manchurian campaign of 1894-5. It was from Taku-shan that Lieut.-General Viscount Katsura struck inland on his march to Haicheng. Pisu-wo may be regarded as the landing place of Marshal Oyama's army prior to the assault of Port Arthur. The capture of Yingassault of Port Arthur. The capture of Ying-kow virtually ended the Manchurian campaign. The Hochi thinks that, whatever may be the commercial advantages of Talien in the future, the place is at present inferior, as a mart of trade, to either Ying-kow, Pitsu-wo, or Takushan. With regard to Amoy and Fonchow, the idea is that their possession by Japan is neces-

and Ying-kow, are already opened to foreign But it does explain very fully the terms in which Japan's application to China should be couched. In fact, it gives a draft of the right kind of despatch, and we are bound to say that the language of the document belongs to an exalted rank of diplomatic speciousness. There is a long array of words, but the gist of the whole thesis is that Japan, commiscrating China's weakness, and appreciating the danger of disruption that threatens her, advises her to hand over some important points to be guarded by her neighbour, so that the two Powers may act in concert to stem the cantward set of the tide of Occidental aggression.

. . The Nippon has two articles on foreign policy. The first recapitulates the reasons that should have induced Japan to oppose the leasing of Port Arthur and Talien to Russia; the second is devoted to showing that, although England has sought and obtained Wei-hai-wei as a naval station, her policy towards China, unlike the policy of Russia and Germany, is not a policy of territorial aggression but a policy of pages and commencial aggression but a policy of peace and commercial expansion. She has made it quite plain that the preservation of China's integrity is her desire, and if, in view of the impossibility of preventing the realization of a part of Russia's ambitious designs in the Lisotung Peninsula, she has been obliged to lease Wei-hai-wei as a measure of self-protection, her real attitude towards China is not altered. Japan and England have a common policy in the East, and it is quite easy to see that the British Government tried to induce Japan to join in putting some back-bone into China vis-d-vis Russia. But the Ito Cabinet was not to be roused to action. Of course the Nippon's general conclusion in that things have been bungled, that the country has lost its opportunity, and that Japan has been guilty of suicidal self-effacoment.

The Chuo Shimbun also has three long articles on foreign affairs. They are devoted mainly to showing the difference between England's policy and the policy of Russia, Germany, and France. England employs her armaments to protect her trade; Russia, France and Germany employ theirs to extend their trade. The general tone of the Chuo's writing is highly enlogistic of England, but the conclusion arrived at is that might is right now a days, and that diplomacy not backed by force is fullle. From those propositions our contemporary goes on to prove that Japan is not in a position to raise valid objections to the doings of the great Western Powers. She protested with justice against her treatment by Hawaii,—a petty little State—nearly # year ago, and she carried her protest to America; but there has been no result : all talk of the Hawaiian affair has ceased to be heard. She would fare similarly now if she attempted to interfere with arrangements which are dictated by interests too large to be neglected or treated lightly. The Chuo thinks, in short, that people who counsel a self-assertive policy on Japan's part at this juncture take no adequate account of the forces at work in shaping present events.

The Kohumin Shimbun infers from Mr. Balfour's statement of England's Far-Eastern policy that some kind of understanding has arrived at between her and Germ iny, and expresses keen reg et that its often uttered hope of an Anglo-Japanese entente has not been realized. At first sight it may seem that England's proceduce with regard to Wei-hai-wei is more or less hostile to Japan, since the latter is still in occupation of the place. But no such idea can survive close scrutiny. Neither Power desires Wei-hai-wei for the sake of the place itself or as a territorial acquisition. Both have sary to the preservation of good order in For- a common object—the preservation of the mosa, since it is from these places that seditions balance of power, and therefore of peace, in the movements in Formosa derive Chinese support. Far East. If Japan insisted on keeping Weiwould have been to change victory beyond the seas into peril at home. The situation is not greatly altered now. The would be procedure would be likely to procure for Japan the war are healed, it is true, but, as yet, the lease of ports, which, like Amoy, Foothow,

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Japan has valid reasons for evacuating it, the latter's obvious course is to seek some other suitable place. That is the gist of the Kokumin's writing.

The Mainichi Shimbun has a sensational article complaining that the blood shed Manchuria mid Shantung was spilled in vain, and that the spirits of the patriots who died for their country in the war with China must be vexed at the futile results of their bravery and devotion. There is a great deal of severe general criticism of the Cabinet, but even the Mainichi has arrived at the conclusion that it is too late for Japan to attempt to interfere with accomplished facts, and that her statesmen should direct their efforts to obtaining for the country some foothold on the Asiatic continent which shall restore the balance ot power.

#### THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY.

The general meeting of the Japan Railway Company was held on the 6th instant at the Young men's Christian Association Hall at Kanda, Tokyo, when 330 shareholders, toge-ther with 660 agents representing 5.540 shares, were present. The Company has been divided into two parties-Conservatives and Reformers, the former headed by Mr. Shibusawa and the latter by Baron Asano; and a keen debate took place. Mr. Shibasawa was in the chair, and, in behalf of the principal officials, spoke apologetically of errors in the management of the Company's affairs.

Mr. Shibahara moved that, though the resig-nation of the principal officers was based on the failure to obtain Government sanction to the reformed bye-laws of the Company, this ought not to be a plea for so sweeping a step. He enquired if there was any private reason for the proposed resignation.

Mr. Shibnsawa replied that the sense of res-ponsibility alone impelled him and his colleagues to resign.

Viscount Soga then touched upon the un-natisfactory condition of the Company, urging the absolute necessity of reform.

After much discussion the election of officials was undertaken, the results obtained being as follow:—Directors—Mr. Mori Jinsuke, Marquis Asano Chokun, Messrs. Yamamoto Chokusei, Shibusawa Yeiichi, Futatsubashi Gencho, Kume Ryosaku, Marquis Saionji Kobo, Messis. Atachi Taro, Shirasugi Seiai, Kakuda Rinbei, Kikuchi Choshiro, and Fukagawa Ryozo. Mesais. Walanabe Fukusaburo, Hisano Shoichi, and Hayashi Kentoku were chosen as auditors.

According to the investigations of the Nippon the holders of over 10,000 shares of the Comthe holders of over 10,000 shares of the Company are as follow: —Marquis Asano, 212,423; Mr. Iwasaki Kiuya, 39,817; Mr. Iwamurs Michitoshi, 22,492; Marquis Mayeds, 17,978; Marquis Tokugawa, 15,424; the Mitsui Bank, 14,591; Marquis Shimazu, 13,947; Marquis Tokugawa Girei, 10,626; Marquis Nabeshima, 10,230. The greatest difficulty is experienced in selecting a President and Vice-President well qualified for the respective posts. Mr. Mori was nominated as President until August.

The agitation for reform seems to have been headed by Marquis Saionji, but another moving spirit, says the Nippos, is Mr. Adachi, of the 15th National Bank.

#### DEPARTURE OF COUNT AND COUNTESS DE PIMODAN.

Count de Pimodan, Military Attaché of the French Legation, and Countess de Pimodan, left Tokyo by the 4.10 p.m. train from Shim-bashi on the 12th instant. A large concourse of friends assembled at the station to say farewell, among them being nearly the whole of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, several Japanese Admirals and Generals, the Vice Minister of the War Department, the Grand Master of Admirais and Generally, the Grand Master of the War Department, the Grand Master of Ceremonies, and a number of the foreign residence in the Roman Catholic Cathedral, ing imports. In regard to these no step taken by took place in the Roman Catholic Cathedral, ing imports. ents of Tokyo.

#### JAPANESE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Commenting upon the growing inequality of the exports and imports, the Mainichi says that the approach of the period for enforcing the new Import Tariff tends to increase the tradal disadvantage against this country. Below are the figures for the past three months :-

GOODS. Excess of imports ...... 32.359.708 Export of bullion ...... 29,00x,385 Import.... Excess of export ....... 26,388,873

These figures refer to Yokohama and Kobe alone, In no previous year did the excess of imports reach such an enormous amount as 15,310,000 yes within a single month. Yet that was the case in March, the total excess for three months being no less than 32,360,000 ven. The direct consequence of this inequality was the exodus of gold to the amount of 26,400,000 yen ap proximately. The Mainichi adds that over 50 millions must be expected to flow out of the country by the end of the year.

#### DISASTROUS COLLISION OF STEAMERS.

ONE VESSEL SUNK AND ANOTHER BEACHED. Telegrams have been received from Moji and Kobe reporting that on Sunday last a collision occurred at Moji between the N.Y.K. steamer Toyothima Maru and the Taiko Maru, by which the former was sunk almost immediately and the latter received such considerable damand the latter received such considerable damage that she had to be beached to save her from foundering. Two boys belonging to the crew of the Toyoshima Maru were drowned, but the rest of the crew and two hundred passengers on the Taiko Maru were saved, mainly by the boats of the gaubout Othima Kan, which was at anchor in the port. Mr. Garry, the diver of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, was despatched from Yokohama on Monday to see what can be done to raise the Toyoshima Maru.

A vernacular paper, translated by the Kobe Herald, gives the following particulars of the disaster to the steamers Toyoshima Maru and Taiko Maru: On Sunday evening at about 9 when the NY.K. Chemulpo liner Toyoshima Maru was about to enter Moji, the Tuiko S,S. Co,'s steamer No. 1 Taiko Maru struck her on her starboard side. The Taiko Maru was beached to prevent her from sinking. The Toyobeached to prevent her from sinking. The Topsshima received an ugly rent in the side, into
which water resued so freely that she went
down within 25 minutes of the accident.
Fortunately, H. I. J. M. S. Oshima Kan was
in port. The accident was observed by the
officer of the watch. The warship fired
three guns, as a warning to those able to
render assistance. Notwithstanding the fact
that the diseaser occurred at night time, no that the disaster occurred at night time, no lives were lost. The Toyoshima is a steamer of 1,109 tons gross and 687 tons register. had about 490 packages of goods from Osaka, representing a value of about 9,000 yen, heaides 29 packages from Kobe, valued at 2,666.50 yes. All the mail matter was saved. The place where she sunk is about 5 fathoms deep, so that the top of her funnel in about 7 feet above the water. The Taiko Maru is a steamer of the water. 12 tons gross and 311 tons register, and was built in 1891.

#### MARKIAGE OF M. DE GRUBISSICH AND MADEMOISELLE DE POURTALES.

The marriage of M, de Grubissich, Secretary of the Anstro-Hungarian Legation, and Made-

Tsukiji, on the 12th instant at 10 a.m., in the presence of a brilliant assembly, including all the Foreign Chefs de Mission and the staffs of the Foreign Chels de Mission and the stats of the Legations in Tokyo, several of Her Majesty the Empress' Ladies in Weiting, Baron Samo-miya. Graud Master of Ceremonies, and Baroness Samomiya, Viscount Kagawa, Chief Chamberlain to the Empress, Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Aoki and many other distinguished personages. the ceremony the happy couple set out for Miyanoshita, whence it is their intention to proceed to Kyoto before returning to Tokyo.

#### YAPANESE FINANCE.

The Kyoto Chamber of Commerce recently presented a memorial to the Government with regard to the continued increase of interest by the Bank of Japan. Following it the gist of the document:

The Bank of Japan raised its interest by one rin in February this year, and another rin in March, so that it has now made an increase seven times

so that it has now made an increase seven times since the 28th year of Meiji, and it is moreover rumoused that the Bank again contemplates increasing its rate by two rin.

The Bank, by decreasing the rates by two rin July, 1895, helped to stimulate the mania for post belium undertakings, and to cause an expansion of the economic market. Its subsequent steps to raise rates have had the natural effect of tightening the money market and embatrassing the industrial community. What are the grounds for these lines of action?

The Bank of Lavan, in December last, resolved

The Bank of Japan, in December last, resolved upon raising its interest by way of giving warning to the economic community, but failed to obtain the assent of the Minister of Forance then in power. Of late, however, the financial world has begun to show a critical aspect with regard to the outflow of gold, which increases day by day, with a corresponding decrease in the speciereserve. If things are left to themselves, the foundation of the convertible system must inevitably be endangered. To relieve the country from misfacture of this nature, the Bank of Japan has resorted to the policy of augmenting its interest, hoping thus to prevent the growing excess of imports, and to check the mania for speculative undertakings. The example has been or will be followed by the various other banks throughout the empire, the result being a tighten-ing of the money market and the atter decline of industrial enterprises. But it is doubtful whee-ther the Nippon Gioko will be able to attain its

of industrial enterprises. But it is definite when they the Nippon Ginko will be able to attain its ends by these measures.

The foreign trade of the country for last year and the year before last shows that the excess of of imports over exports has been over 50 million yen, and the gold coming in from abroad was practically limited to payments on account of the Indemnity and the sale of War Bonds. No receipts from these sources are to be expected for this year, and the Government is under the necessity of disbursing allarge amount of specie in connexion with the expansion of armaments and the construction of railways.

Nor does the evil end here. The appreciation of commodities steadily encourages imposts to an enormous amount, the figures for January and February showing an excess of 16 million yen in value. An ourflow of gold and silver in excess of incomings will continue to be the feature, and not only is the relaxation of the money market not to be hoped for, in the present state of affairs, but the

only is the relaxation of the money market not to be hoped for, in the present state of affairs, but the very foundation of the gold system must be considered precarious.

No wonder that the Bank of Japan should have

been induced to adopt the resolute course it has taken. It is to be doubted, however, whether the Bank will be able to attein its ends without producing serious consequences for domestic enter-

The post-bellum appreciation of commodities and the consequent increase of imports are, however, but the natural course of things. Although the excess of imports is a phenomenon not at all layon able to the foreign commerce of this conne tavourable to the foreign commerce of this country, it can not be avaided. A glance at the trade returns shows at once that the imports comprise articles absolutely indispensable to the Japanese, consisting, as they do, of machinery, materials for industries, &c. The imports for last year totalled 219 million yen in value, of which ten percent, viz., 21,500,000 yea, was for the import of tice, and 20 million yen for sugar. Articles of luxury constitute but a small portion of the imports, the rest being included in the category of necessaries. In regard to these no step taken by the Bank of Inpage can have any effect in restrain-

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#### ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

After M. Muravieff's statement, addressed to the British Government in the middle of March, to the effect that Russia did not seek to interfere in any way with the sovereign rights of China, but simply wished to obtain an ice-free port as the terminus for her Trans-Asian Railway, assumed originally which port should be open to the trade of the circumstances. all countries—after that explicit statement it was virtually impossible for Great Britain to show hostility to Russia's programme, so far as its commercial features were concerned. England has no right whatever to forcibly check Russia's tradal expansion, or to oppose any legitimate have sought to obtain any footing on the measures adopted by Russia in the interests of commerce. England herself has the moment that Russia obtained Port
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the moment that Russia obtained Port neverbeen backward in urging-sometimes Arthur, a place not offering any tradal very peremptorily urging—upon China facilities, a naval station pure and simple, the opening of this port or that, and the England's hand was forced. She, too, had granting of tradal facilities here or there. All that Her Majesty's Ministers could fairly say to Russia was, we do not object to any steps taken by you to promote the development of trade in the Far East, but they must not be steps involving any interference with the privileges that British subjects enjoy under treaty in the Chinese realm." Russia, on her side, was careful that her procedure should not furnish any legitimate grounds of grievance to England, and, since each Power preserved mercasonable attitude towards the other, serious trouble was out of the question.

The fact appears to be that the British nation was thrown into a state of considerable excitement at first owing to the receipt of exaggerated, if not totally false, rumours. Telegrams sent from Peking represented Russia as having preferred demands of a sweeping nature in a most peremptory manner. It seemed to Englishmen the St. Petersburg Government had suddenly formulated a huge scheme of territorial aggression against China, treating the latter much as a victor treats a vanquished State, and deliberately trespassing on the rights possessed by British subjects in the regions affected. Such action on Russia's part, coming as the immediate sequel of the declarations elicited by the Kiao-chou incident from Her Majesty's Government, could be interpreted only in the light of a direct slap in the face to England, and, since it was impossible to imagine Russia standing out alone to challenge England in the Far East, the natural inference seemed to be that an anti-British combination had been formed by two or more of the Great European Powers. Asituation of that kind could not fail to cause much excitement in England, and it was in those moments of misapprehension that the war fury blazed out, and high language was held against Russia. Careful readers of the telegrams will remember, however, that Her Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainsters speaking from their will are the Mainster will be the Mainster will Majesty's Ministers, speaking from their places in Parliament, denied any knowledge of the extraordinary proceedings attributed to Russia, and, when official inquiries were addressed to St Petersburg, the answer came from M. Muravieft that

to prevent Russia from getting any foothold in Manchuria, and to that erroneous notion we now owe the assertions that there has been some backing down on Great Britain's part. There has been no backing down. It would have been ridiculous for the British nation to maintain a position assumed originally under a false idea of

Mr. Ballour, in his declaration of policy, renders it plain that had Russia limited herself to leasing Talien, making an open port of it, and carrying her Trans-Asian railway thither, Great Britain would not have sought to obtain any footing on the facilities, a naval station pure and simple, to seek a naval station in China's northern waters, and Wei-hai-wei alone remained.

#### RUSSIA IN KOREA.

There have been a great many conjectures about the reason of Russia's withdrawal from Korea, one of them being that, in order to avert Japanese opposition to her Liaotung programme, Russia determined to placate the Tokyo Government by an apparently self-effacing policy in Korea. The Mainichs Shimbun laughs that notion to scorn, and assigns the fol-lowing as the true explanation:—" When Russia first stretched out her hand over the Korean peninsula, she imagined that Japan would devise all kinds of pretexts for opposing the growth of her influence. If, on the other hand, Japan raised objections, it would be difficult for Russia to achieve her programme of expansion to the south. The facts, however, belied Russian anticipations. Japan remained absolutely passive. The result was that she ceased to have any existence in the eyes of the St. Petersburg Government, and Russia concluded that she might comply with the wishes of the Koreans and abstain from all further interference. As for her influence, however, it has not been either impaired or increased by the step. sides, she has gained possession of Port Arthur and Talien, which command the Korean peninsula. She holds Korea in the hollow of her hand. Its existence depends upon her will. To superficial observers she may seem to have abandoned Korea, but if we look a little deeper, it appears that all her plans with regard to the peninsula have matured. Nothing could be sillier than to imagine that any mutually advantageous exchange has been

We have reproduced the Mainichi's explanation almost verbatim. Our readers will probably find it somewhat unintelligible. We found it so at first, mature reflection we conclude that our contemporary's meaning is this :-- Russia, recognising the necessity of making her influence paramount in the Korean penin-

England had openly pledged herself by measures designed to push Japan out of the arena. Accordingly, Russia decided to efface herself for the moment, especially since she knew that her new position at Port Arthur and Talien would enable her to re-assert her influence over the Korean peninsula at any moment. Such seems to be the Mainichi's theory. It is a fantastic theory, in our opinion, but it derives some interest from its source.

#### ENGLAND AND WEI-HAI-WEI.

Mr. Balfour's statement of Great Britain's policy, tallies at every point with the views advanced in these columns; views which could scarcely fail to present themselves to every thinking person. Great Britain can not afford to see a Power like Russia in undisputed command of the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili, and therefore of the chief tradal routes from southern to northern China. Some writers affect to be unable to understand why England should give special expression to her resolve to secure free access to the Gulf. So long as she is dominant at sea, they say, she can always be sure of making a path for herself anywhere. That is quite true so far as war-ships are concerned. But the question is of commercial routes. British fleets may be strong enough to go where they please, but if a foreign Power is seated at a point overlooking the track of merchant vessels, and can send out its men-of-war at any moment to interrupt their passage, a British squadron must be always within equally easy reach of the scene in order to guard against inconvenient contingencies. The key-note of Great Britain's policy is that she is deter-mined to secure the free navigation of the Gulf of Petchili by her merchantmen, and since Russia has insisted on placing herself at one side of the entrance to the Gulf, England has no choice but to place herself at the other.

#### ENGLAND AND CHINA.

It will be observed that in his statement of British policy, Mr. Balfour gives a very clear indication of the attitude of Her Majesty's Government towards China. He is represented as saying that "he hoped China would maintain not only nominal but real suzerainty over her do-minions," and that, Port Arthur being a purely naval port, its occupation by Russia "would have an undue influence on the counsels of the Peking Govern-ment." All this indicates as plainly as possible that although England, in order to insure freedom of commercial navigation in the seas of northern China, finds it necessary to obtain a naval station at the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili, her presence there is a protection rather than menace to the Chinese empire. She desires to assist the Middle Kingdom to preserve the substance, not the mere shadow, of its sovereignty, and she intithe answer came from M. Muravieff that his Government had not taken, and did not intend to take, any of the arbitrary and defiant steps attributed to it by Peking telegrams. Thereafter the excitement doubtless cooled at once in England. But the fact remained that there had been excitement, and that hot words had been spoken. In truth, as we observed some time ago, an impression remained that mates to the Government in Peking that



#### COUNT OKUMA ON THE SITUATION. lated into the present by the reporter.

The Yomiuri Shimbun attributes the following statement to Count Okuma with reference to England's application for Wei-hai-wei:--"Of course it is to be presumed that our country has lodged a protest. She can not possibly remain silent. To say nothing would be to throw away her right to a voice with regard Liaotung. If the retrocession could not to the Eastern Question. There is no be avoided, the three Powers ought to reason why she should fail to assert that have been informed that, while restoring important right. I presume that she has the peninsula at their instance, Japan that nothing has been said on the subject ject of another State's aggression. Her by either the vernacular press or the foreign press, I feel a little doubtful. The second was her silence when Germany silence of the nation, too, seems strange, seized Kiao-chou. The third, her silence at the pennisula at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at least of post in the pennisula at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at their instance, japan required that it should never be the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at the obtained at t A strong foreign policy needs a strong when Russia obtained a lease of Port people at the back of it. When the Arthur and Talien. It is too late to do anynation should be vehement in its endea- thing now about England. The grounds for vours to urge officialdom forward, this lodging a protest have disappeared. The popular quiescence is singular. As to time has passed. But there is still room what should be done in the event of our for the exercise of diplomacy. England is protest being disregarded, that is a secondary question. Whether recourse should, hostility to Japan. Besides, she would or should not, be had to practical measures would depend upon the conditions of the time, the strength of the country, and its interests. After due consideration of all to guard Woi-hai-wei, she would be opthose points, a decision should be taken. There is such a thing, too, as postponing further measures. It is not true that foreign politics can not be conducted without constantly warlike resolution. If diplomacy to find a way for Japan to rewar were the idea from the outset, diplo- cover some of her lost ground. Indeed, macy would be useless. going to war, what should be said ought easy. But I doubt whether those in office to be said; what should be maintained ought to be maintained. A protest is a protest, it is a means of asserting our rights. Assert your rights and the subsequent steps of procedure follow in due course. They depend, however, on the policy of the time, and on circumstances and expediencies concerning which nothing can be clearly predicated. There are folks in the world who make no effort on their own account, but trust that heaven tain desires to acquire. The Yomiuri will help them. That won't do. To sit Shimbun is the chief exponent of that twiddling one's thumbs and idly placing one's trust in another country is to forfeit that such a conjuncture should have arisen. one's opportunities. What lies within the range of a man's capacity, he must do. Above all, when there is question of as-serting one's rights and doing what is proper, why should there be any hesita-tion. The Cabinet will incur a heavy responsibility to the people if it keeps silence at this stage of the Far-Eastern Question. Undoubtedly our country ought to hold Wei-hai-wei. Russia having obtained a lease of Port Arthur, we ought similarly to obtain a lease of Wei-hai-wei. That is absolutely necessary, not only for the purpose of preserving the balance of power, but also for China's sake. The paying off of the Indemnity is not for the purpose of getting our forces out of Wei-hai wei. It is because a gain of 30 million yen (sic) of interest is made thereby, The leasing of the place may be regarded as an independent problem. At

The above appeared three days ago in endeavour to effect an understanding by the Yomiuri. It has the ring of Count which the interference of other Powers in Okuma's style, but the opinion expressed suspect that the Count spoke in the past the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili is tense, and that his utterances were transportant definanced by Russia and England.

That suspicion is confirmed by the following, which we translate from the Yorosu Choko of the 6th instant :- Yesterday, a member of our staff waited upon Count Okuma, and his Excellency spoke thus about foreign policy :-" The origin of the mistakes in Japan's foreign policy was at the time of the retrocession of not a country that entertains feelings of much rather have Japan in possession of Wei-hai-wei than Russia. would con sider that, if she could get Japan posing anobstacle to her own partition. Such being the state of affairs with regard to Russia, England, and China, it should not be difficult by a skilful exercise of Even without it should not only libe not difficult but even

One of the opinions expressed by Tokyo journals is that Great Britain's very power-ful waval demonstration in the Gulf of Petchili-or off Chefoo-is directed chiefly against Japan, since the latter is in pos-session of Wei-hai-wei, which Great Briview, and expresses considerable regret At the same time, our contemporary recognises that England's hand is more or less forced on account of the necessity of Kudo Kokan, Komuchi Tomotsune, and preserving the balance of power, and that Wei hai wei in British possession would deputies do not appear to have advanced be a more re-assuring result from Japan's point of view than its possession by a certain other Power. Further, there is some reason to hope that the arrangement may prelude an alliance between England and Japan. It is true that in the Far-Eastern field of commerce Great Britain and Japan are likely to be rivals, but for military and naval reasons England has cause to look with greater concern on Japan's future course in this part of the world than she has to regard the proceedings of Russia or Germany. With Russia at Port Arthur, England at Wei-hai-wei, and Germany at Liao-chou, China's gullet regarded as an independent problem. At is in the grasp of her enemies, and the all events, this is a time for stout, resolute adopt? The Yomiuri thinks that Korea alone remains, and that Japan should which the interference of other Powers in Korean waters will be averted. It will be at the close—that Japan should retain for China, as the Jiji Shampo justly obpossession of Wei-hai-wei—does not sound serves, to consider the expediency of
like the utterance of an eminently practical statesman as Count Okuma is. We
city will cease to be cliff of Petabili in

#### MR. MCLEAVY BROWN AND MR. ALEXCINFF.

Mr. Alexcieff, when giving up the direction of Korean finance, published a state-ment of the results achieved during his tenure of office. 'It was a proceeding of questionable taste and still more question able utility, for he had been only four months installed as financial adviser and his methods-assuming that he introduced some novelties-could scarcely have produced any tangible results in so brief a period. To the general public, there-Her fore, it seemed that, in stating a case The for himself through the columns of a newspaper, he was merely reaping where Mr. McLeavy Brown had sown for two years previously. That impression is now strongly confirmed by an answer which Mr. Alexcieff's letter has evoked from Mr. McLeavy Brown. The latter proves that the former's statement of accounts is very misleading. To describe in detail how Mr. Brown makes out his charge would weary our readers. It is sufficient to say that whereas Mr. Alexcieff gives China, too, \$594,698 as the balance in the Treasury when he assumed control, Mr. Brown shows that the real figure was over a million dollars; and whereas Mr. Alexcieff shows an increment of the balance after his coming into office, he fails to note that the customs collections (\$285,080) for the two months prior to his appointment were not entered in the books until a month afterwards. Finally, Mr. Alexcieff takes credit by implication for the growth of the balance during his exercise of control, but Mr. Brown explains that such growth is a normal feature of the winter months. Mr. Brown's letter does not coutribute to Mr. Alexcieff's reputation for fairness and accuracy.

#### THE PROGRESSINTS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

A brief paragraph in the Nichi Nichi Shimbun describes the result of the interview between the Prime Minister and a deputation of Progressists, consisting of Messrs. Oishi Masami, Kono Hironaka, Taguchi Ukichi, on the 7th instant. any policy of their own for the Govern-ment's acceptance. They confined themselves to recapitulating the salient events of the past few months-the seizure of Kiao-chou by Germany; acquisition of Port Arthur and Talien by Russia, and the promise of Wei-hai-wei to Englandand, in view of these important occurrences, asked for some information as to the course contemplated by the Government. Marquis Ito, in reply, entered into such particulars as admitted of open exposition, but said that it would be injurious to the interests of the nation to make any public statement of the policy which the Cabinet was in the act of pursuing. He expressed his conviction, however, that the empire's prestige and its interests would be fully preserved by the Cabinet's method of procedure. With Cabinet's method of procedure. that assurance the deputies had to be content. There will doubtless be an interesting debate on this subject when the Diet meets.

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#### THE STRONG FOREIGN POLICY AGITATION.

The leaders of the Opposition have not abandoned their agitation in the field of foreign affairs. Their deputation to the Prime Minister failed to elicit any information satisfactory from their point of view. Marquis Ito declined to enter into the details of the policy adopted by the Government. His reticence is obviously to be interpreted in the sense that some negotiations or pourparlers are now going on, or that the situation is not yet sufficiently settled to admit of public discus-sion. Under such circumstances the hands of party politicians ought to be tied by consciousness of their obligation not to hamper the Cabinet by independent suggestion. But it would seem that the leaders of the Opposition deem the crisis too vital to warrant any semblance of indifference. They have held another meeting, and appointed a committee of twenty well known members of the Houses of the Diet. The first function of the Committee is to discuss and report upon the resolutions adopted at the original meetingnamely, that a strong protest must be formulated against the actions of Russia and Germany in Liaotung and Shantung respectively, and that, in the event of the protest proving unfruitful, a resolute attitude must be adopted with regard to the evacuation of Wei-hai-wei. Pending the Committee's report no definite platform will be adopted by the agitators, but it would appear, from statements contained in their newspaper organs, that while they are generally agreed as to the menace that German, Russian, and French proceedings constitute to the peace of the Far East, they are undecided as to which of three lines of policy ought to be adopted. Briefly stated, the three views are these (t) When Japan took possession of the Liaotung Peninsula, Russia, France, and Germany obliged her to restore it, declaring that her retention of it would endanger the peace of the Far East. But almost before the echoes of their declaration had ceased to be audible, Russia and Germany took possession of important territories in Northern China, thereby acting in a manner directly contrary to their previous contention. Their action is undoubtedly inimical to the peace of the East, and the Japanese Government must endeavour to induce them to abandon the acquisitions they have made. (2) The cession of Kiao-chou to Germany hy China, and of Port Arthur and Talien to Russia, imperils the peace of the East. In order, therefore, to redress the balance of power, Japan must ask for continued oc-cupation of Wei-hai-wei, or for the lease of some other suitable port. (3) The records of the past show that the Ito Cabinet is quite incompetent to deal with foreign affairs of such gravity as those now presenting themselves. The Ministry must therefore be pulled down and and Japan would prefer to see England replaced by one representing public there. Hence, in asking for the reversion

common stand-point will be the last proposition, we imagine. Of course, there would be a delightful sense of poetic justice in turning the weapons of the Three Powers against their own breasts, and pushing them out of their newly hesitation, it must be admitted. A likely acquired territories just as they pushed tale in sooth. The Mainicht has a vivid im-Japan out of Shingking three years ago. agination and a poor notion of its readers' But that satisfaction is denice to lapan itelligence.

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She would only invite a humiliating rebuff did she approach the Governments in Berlin and St. Petersburg with such a pro-test in her hand. The second programme, namely, to obtain from China the lease of some port in lieu of Wei-hai-wei, so as to preserve the balance of power for Japan, s certainly feasible; but there are evidently other and perhaps better ways of accomplishing the same end, and it remains to be seen whether the Ito Cabinet will not take, or is not now taking, one of those ways. The fact is, however, that the advocates of this "strong foreign policy " being members of the Opposition only, it is difficult to avoid the conviction that party feeling rather than national interest is the real motive, and that the overthrow of the Ito Cabinet will prove the only aim to which all sections can subscribe.

#### THE REGRETTABLE INCIDENT.

The regrettable incident in the chapter of Far-Eastern history now nearly closed is that Great Britain's original idea about the opening of Talien to trade was not carried into effect. It will always seem that she suffered a rebuff at that point. She did not advance any independent proposal on the subject, but merely included the opening of the place among the conditions which she would require if she complied with China's application for a Stateguaranteed loan. Hence, when China withdrew her application for financial aid, the concessions that she would have had to pay for it natually passed out of the field of discussion. Still the diplomatic victory certainly seems to have rested with Russia in that case. Russia succeeded in preventing China from pursuing her programme of a British national loan, and then immediately obtained for herself one of the chief concessions that England wanted for making the loan. It is true that Talien has been opened to trade. But it is also true that Port Arthur has become a Russian naval station, which would not have been the case had Talien been opened under English auspices. The Chinese Government must feel pretty had now about the whole thing.

#### WHOLE CLOTH.

The Mainichi Shimbun, which now leads the attack upon the Government's foreign policy, publishes a remarkable story. says that England originally urged the Japanese Cabinet to retain possession of Wei-hai-wei. The Cabinet, however, replied that, not only was Japan without any desire to keep the place, but she would be glad if England occupied it, for there was a strong probability that when the Japanese troops were with drawn, Germany would try to get possession, of the port, the British Government did not show any want of consideration for If the agitators can agree at all, their Japan. On the other hand, it was impossible for the Ito Cabinet to offer any subsequent remonstrance to England's procedure, or seek to keep the place for Japan. That is the story told by the Mainicht Shimbun, with some show of

#### THE "KUMIAI" CHURCHES AND THE DOSHINHA.

The annual meeting of the Kumiai Churches of Japan is now in session. One of the resolutions passed in the first session was to the effect that the recent session was to the effect that the recent action of the Trustees of the Doshisha is "immoral." Supplementing the numerous and strong expressions of condemnation formulated by the newspaper and magazine organs of religious bodies of all denominations throughout the country, this resolution ought to convince the Trustees of the necessity of either acknowledging their error and evoking their action, or coming forward with same explanation of their conduct. Among the names of the Trustees are those of several men who, pre-viously to this lamentable occurrence, possessed a large measure of public confidence and respect. It is difficult, if not impossible, to imagine that such persons would have adopted a course for which they did not discover full justification. What is that justification? The Japanese show singular calmness in the presence of injurious reports. As a rule they believe and trust the adage "rumour lives only seventy-five days." Apparently the Trustees of the Doshisha are acting upon that principle. They are mistaken. This act principle. They are mistaken. This act of theirs will never be forgotten. It will be handed down in the pages of history as a permanent disgrace to Japan unless they can offer some convincing explana-

Our readers will learn, from the Rev. Dr. Gordon's letter which we print elsewhere, that the representatives of the Kumiai churches have taken very decisive action with regard to the Doshisha incident. We referred to this matter cursorily in a previous issue, but Dr. Gordon gives the full particulars. It is to be hoped that the Kumiai churches will push the matter unflinchingly. It is to be hoped, also, that the Trustees will be prevailed upon to publish some explanation of their conduct. They must have some explanation. It is inconceivable that they should have adopted such a course without an excuse that satisfied their own consciences. The affair, as it stands, is inexplicable.

#### THE DEMONSTRATION.

It appears to us that there has been much ado about nothing. People have been talking about a big naval demonstration on Great Britain's part, and either ridiculing it or applauding it, but, after all, do we know that there has been a de-monstration? We know that a large part of Her Majesty's ships on this station were to assemble at Chefoo by the 5th instant, and we know that eight vessels were there on the 3rd, but we do not know that they "demonstrated" or made any extraordinary movements whatever. Their assembly in the immediate neighbourhood of the scene where the events of the epoch were occurring seems a natural precaution. That was the pro-per place for them. But, so far as we can see at present, the "great demonstration in the Gulf of Petchili" never went farther than the columns of The Times and a Reuter's telegram. It will be as well to suspend comments on the event until we kเดิพีร์ฟฟิลโท๊ฮิคโซ occurred.

#### FOREIGN PATENTS IN JAPAN.

Mr. W. Silver Hall, who addresses us on the subject of foreign patents in Japan, has devoted so much thought and trouble to the question that we are unwilling to leave his communication unanswered, though his failure to grasp the cardinal points of the discussion causes us much surprise and some despair. The kernel of the matter is extraterritorial jurisdiction, yet Mr. Hall now writes as though no such thing as extraterritorial jurisdiction need be considered at all, and grows quite caustic over the situation that results from the severity of his logic as he imagines, but in reality from his continued indifference to the central factor of the complication. We confess to having grown somewhat weary of the subject, our readers are probably in the same plight. However, since Mr. Hall's want of comprehension can not be singular, we shall endeavour to re-state the case in the easiest possible terms, and, by way of text, will take Mr. Hall's own words (using his italics) :-

First, as regards your Japan friend J., who re-gisters a patent in Great Britain. As you rightly say, that patent is protected against violation by say, that patent is protected against violation by British subjects (and for that matter by his own fellow-countrymen or persons of any other nationality) in the United Kingdom, but it is not protected from similar violation in Fapan. But who meanth ever expected that it would be so protected in Japan? Not the O.I.P. (ordinarily intelligent person) I should hope.

I take the converse case: Dues the solitary foreigner-an American, I believe-who has suc-In eigner—an American, I believe—who has succeeded in obtaining a Japanese patent, imagine for a nument that the patent will protect him in America against infringement of his invention either by Japanese or his own countrymen, unless the takes the proper steps to protect himself by a second—United States—patent? O. if a Canadian takes out a patent in Bolivia, or vice verse, does that patent protect him in his own country? These why should I consider myself aggrieved because Her Britannic Majesty's Courts in Japan "have no competence whatever in regard to patents registered in Great Britain," because they are compelled to answer "We take no cognisance of Japanese law which protects the patent (pre-

All the above is a mélange of very singular misapprehension and confusion of ideas. The first proposition to be noted is that reciprocity of protection must be guaranteed by the two parties to the contract. A Japanese patent registered in Great Britain must be secured against violation by British subjects within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom. Is that condition satisfied? British subjects residing in Japan are within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom, but there is no machinery to restrain them from violating Japanese patents registered in Great Britain. The British Courts in Japan have no competence to enforce the patent laws of England. If a British subject living in London-let us say violated a Japanese patent registered in England, he could be punished by the English law courts. But if the same British subject repaired to Yokohama, he might violate the same patent with impunity. Such is the result of extra-territorial jurisdiction with regard to Japanese inventions patented in Eng- and most essential. land. Consider, now, the other case, that

the Japanese Authorities alone. They ought to be able to guarantee it against violation by any person in the empire of Japan, whatever his nationality. Can they do so? They can not, for all British subjects-we confine ourselves to one nationality for the sake of explicitness-all British subjects residing in Japan are exempted from Japanese jurisdiction. The Japanese law courts, therefore, have no they too are incompetent for such a purpose. Hence the result of the extrapatent registered alike in Japan and in violation by British subjects. The Japanese Authorities can protect a British patent registered in Japan against violation by Japanese subjects, but the British Authorities, owing to their interpretation of extraterritorial jurisdiction, have no machinery for protecting Japanese patents whether registered in Japan, or in England, or in both, against violation by British sub-jects. We see no way of stating the facts more lucidly. If Mr. Silver Hall does not now apprehend them, the fault is not ours. If he does apprehend them he will perceive how amazingly irrelevant is his talk about a Canadian taking out . patent in Bolivia, where the extraterritorial problem has no existence. He will per-ceive, too, that his "closer examination" of our previous article has convinced him that we did not say precisely what we did say, and do now repeat, namely, that "if a Japanese subject holding a Japanese patent finds that a Britisher is infringing his patent (not in England, but) in Japan, and sues him in a British Consular Court his application will be dismissed." Silver Hall confesses that when he first read our article he received the impression that we had charged the British Consular Courts with incompetence of that kind. but closer examination convinced him of his error, and led nun to would in-"ordinarily intelligent person" would in-writing. The "ordinarily terpret our writing. The "ordinarily intelligent person" probably received the same first impression as Mr. Silver Hall received, and retained it, in which case he was perfectly right. As to this state of affairs "not having been brought about by the Japanese concession to grant patents to foreigners" and being, there-fore, beside the point, as our correspondent affirms, we would ask Mr. Hall, what is the point. Is it not that the patent law of Japan, in its present form, can not be administered so as to afford protection to foreign patents, and that Japanese legislators are consequently blamed for fraiming an unpractical and illiberal enactment? And is not the reply of the Japanese that their law was never intended to protect foreign patents, not because they are unwilling to protect them, but because the existence of extraterritorial jurisdiction constitutes a barrier to the reciprocal protection of Japanese patents by foreign Powers? If Mr. Silver Hall grasps these facts he will see that the part of our original statement which to him appears beside the mark, is in truth most relevant

of the Japanese realm would devolve on difference between the practice of the United States Consular Courts and that of other Consular Courts in Japan, it is because he took no note in past years of one of the burning questions of the time, a question discussed ad nauseam in the columns of the local foreign press. If he finds the Japanese law of patents quite unsuited for extension to foreign inventors, that is because it was not originally designed to be so extended. If he thinks competence to compel a treaty-port that the mere fact of prior registration in Englishman's observance of Japanese a foreign country should not be held to conpatent laws, and the British Consular stitute, "previous use" in the sense of the patent laws, and the British Consular stitute "previous use" in the sense of the Courts, if appealed to, would reply that Japanese law, he raises a question of interpretation already settled by legal experts. We have ourselves said that we consider territorial system is that a Japanese the present state of affairs most unsatisfactory. Our object in writing about Great Britain, is not guaranteed against it has been, not to endorse it, but to explain its origin, and to point out that it is altogether temporary since the operation of the Revised Treaties will at once bring a remedy. It is doubtless owing to the latter consideration and to their full understanding of the case that the Chambers of Commerce do not move, though Mr. Hall wonders at their inactivity.

#### THE SUGAMO PRISON.

A few days ago some residents of Yokohama paid a visit to Sugamo prison and inspected the cells and all the arrangements. With reference to this event, it is stated, we observe, by a Yokohama journal that the visit was in consequence of an invitation addressed by the Japanese Authorities to the Committee of the Yoko-hama Chamber of Commerce. That is a hama Chamber of Commerce. mistake. The Japanese Authorities did not take any action whatever in the matter. The visit was entirely of a private nature. It is always possible for foreigners, whether residents or tourists, to obtain access to Japanese jails and law courts, and they can count on meeting with courtesy and attention. Considering the questions now on the tapis, the gentlemen who visited Sugamo and informed themselves of the actual conditions existing at a Japanese his error, and led him to wonder how the prison seem to have taken a very wise step, and we venture to suggest that others might follow their example. The visitors were Mr. R. D. Robison, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, and Mr. E. Flint Kilby. Doubtless they will embody the results of their observation in a report for presentation to the Chamber.

#### A BIG STEAMSHIP DEAL,

We learn that the Deutsche Dampfachiffs Rhederei zu Hamburg, generally known as the Kingsin Line, whose ve sels have been tunning from Hamburg and ports to China a d Japan for several years, have sold their fleet and interests in the Far East to the Hamburg-America Company, which has just started running steamers in this part of the world. Particulars of the working of the new joint line have not yet been received, but so far as cargo carrying goes there can be no doubt that the Hamburg-America line will benceforth be in a very strong position,

#### WEI HAI WEI AND PORT ARTHUR.

Neither Port Arthor nor Wei-hai-wei in to be opened to trade: that is quite evident. Indeed there are no special reasons for opening them. To the Germans, however, it will be tand. Consider, now, the other case, that of a Japanese patent registered in Japan.

We really must be excused for declining. Under ordinary circumstances the duty of to follow our correspondent's arguments protecting such a patent within the limits are further. If he does not know the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### FAPANESE TOPICS.

It would appear that much inconvenience has been caused in Korea by the action of the Government in forbidding the use of Japanese silver yen-stamped coins-for tax-paying purposes. fact is that no other coins are available. Of course it was concluded, at the time when the prohibition was issued, that the Russian financial adviser of the Korean Government had recommended the step as part of the anti-Japanese policy attri-buted to his country in Korea. The inference may have been unjustifiablevery probably was. Nevertheless, now that the Russian shadow has been removed, there is a movement on foot for restoring the yen to its former rank as medium of exchange. The Soul branch of the First National Bank has telegraph-The Soul branch ed to the head office in that sense.

Has the Japanese nation's perception of foreign politics really become so much more acute during the Meiji era as some folks claim that it has? Such is the question to which a certain diplomat, speaking through the columns of the Fiji Shimpo, returns a negative answer. It is undoubtedly true that the number of persons disposed to meddle in the country's foreign affairs has increased. But it were an optimistic view to conclude that the public grasp of such matters is much more intelligent than it was a dozen years ago. There is altogether too much of the romantic in the minds of the Japanese. They do not recognise that the safety of the State is the very foundation of sound foreign policy, but are disposed to imagine that the country should undertake the task of succouring the weak and opposing the strong. Some would be content with more activity, whatever its objects, and are ready to insist that unless the Government is making itself heard all round, the national prestige suffers. The average Occidental's idea of foreign policy is very different. He does not deny that there may be occasions when to help another is the best method of helping oneself, but he does deny that a State should ever allow its own welfare to be subservient to impulses until all the objectionable facts are acof romantic altruism.

The present leader of the Liberals in the Diet is Mr. Hayashi Yazo. Much interest attaches, therefore, to a statement said to have been made by him with reference to the relations between his Party and the Cabinet. Speaking briefly, he does not lead the public to infer that any coalition has been established. There was some talk of such an arrangement at the time of the organization of the Cahinet, but, as m general election then inpended, nothing definite could be settled. Nor has anything been yet settled, though pourparlers are evidently taking place. Mr. Hayashi thinks that if the Ministry joins hands with the Liberals, the latter ought to receive at least as much official consideration as they had when a coalition exist-ed in 1885 6. In other words Count Itagaki ought to have the portfolio of Home Affairs. The Count is too ill at present to be put forward for the post, but his claim is none the less valid. Mr. Havashi further thinks that some discussion must be held with reference to the advisability of extending the construction. It definite views, but one can gather from who think that he is going to Soul partly appears; that the reduction was entirely his language that there is a disposition to be suggestion of Count Inouve, and connected with railway construction. cussion must be held with reference to the advisability of extending the opera-

of too restrictive a programme in economical affairs, and to advocate the introduction of foreign capital.

The Liberals seem to be taking a moderate and sensible attitude towards foreign affairs. They have been approached by the agitators who desire to contrive the adop-tion of a "strong foreign policy," but their reply has been that the circumstances are month, would have passed without any too grave to permit hasty treatment, and special collision between the Government that, as a general principle, they object and the Opposition, the only important to making foreign politics a plank in the questions brought up for discussion being platform of a political party unless the some supplementary Budgets and the interests of the country clearly demand remaining portions of the Civil Code. But such a course. A well-known Liberal—the Mainichi Shimbun predicts that the Mr. Suzuki Jubi-asks what are to be the practical stages of the Progressists' topics of paramount importance will be scheme of protest. To whom is the protest to be addressed? Not surely to China. That would be a little ridiculous. Is it to be addressed, then to Germany, France, and Russia? To all three simullatter, what is to be the order of proce-cial measures of Count Inodure? If the former, what will Japan do that they are to be attacked. in the very probable event of her protest's being cavalierly rejected? There is nothing in sight except failure and humiliation should such a line be adopted. Japan is not strong enough to place herself athwart the path of the great European Powers. She would merely be thrust ignominiously aside. She had thrust ignominiously aside. She had better make up her mind definitely in the first place whether she wishes to join hands with England or with Russia. That decision must have a vital bearing on her procedure at this juncture.

The "strong-policy" agitators have now abandoned the idea of attempting to retain Wei-hai-wei. They are persuaded that from a strategical as well as a financial point of view, Japan had better not attempt to keep the place. Thus their programme narrows itself to protesting against the action of Russia and Germany in encroaching upon Chinese territory.
The Nichi Nichi Shimbun, under such circumstances, naturally finds a very weak Never was there a spot in their armour. more belated protest, it says. Japan waits complished and then raises her voice against them. What seems particularly quaint in the eyes of the Nichi Nichi is that friends and supporters of the former Cabinet have allied themselves with this agitation. The seizure of Kiao-chon by Germany took place while the Matsukata Ministry was in Power, yet the Govern-ment maintained strict silence, and its political allies did not think of censuring ts reticence. Now, however, they blame the present Cabinet for not taking a step which, were it to be taken at all, should have been taken by the former Cabinet.

The Japanese continue to be much perplexed about the motives of Russia's action in suddenly abandoning the posiaction in studenty against the such pains to acquire in Korea. But there is an idea growing up that Japan will obtain in the Korean field some compensation for her effacement in Liaotung and Shantung.
Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the
First National Bank, is to visit Korea in a
few days. His journey is undertaken
ostensibly for the purpose of determining

among the Liberals to query the wisdom that his trip may prove the prelude of a new financial departure by Japan in the peninsula. It is a very vague kind of surmise, but we refer to it as illustrating the conviction that in turning her back upon China Japan is likely to assume a new attitude towards Korea.

It was supposed that the extraordinary session of the Diet, to be opened next the Mainichi Shimbun predicts that the facts will greatly belie that forecast, Two Throne impeaching the Cabinet's foreign policy. We are not told anything about taneously or to each separately? If the the nature of the objections to the financial measures of Count Inouye, but only

> Count Itagaki, although he is said to be too ill to think of undertaking official duties, is reported to have delivered an address at a meeting of the standing committee of the Liberal Party on the 11th instant. He took foreign politics as a subject and told his audience that the cardinal point to be observed in shaping a country's foreign policy was the national strength. In his opinion Japan has not grown stronger since the war, and that to set herself in opposition to Russia and Germany at the present juncture would be madness. For that view the Liberal leader can scarcely claim any novelty, but it is curious to note that he proceeded to combat the wisdom of an Anglo-Japanese alliance for the very same reasons that have recently swayed foreign conserva-tives, namely, differences of race, of religion, and of sentiment. He appeared to think that Japan could conclude such an alliance if she wished to do so, but he expressed doubts as to whether it would work satisfactorily, and he inclined to the opinion that more would be expected from Japan than accorded to her.

> It is thought that many of the contracts now made for the importation of foreign rice are purely speculative. They are classed, in short, with the operations in shares that took place last year. Most of the contracts provide that payment shall be made within two months from the time of the arrival of the rice, and the great object is to sell the contracts at a profit before the time for implementing them comes. The Nippon publishes some views said to be those of an expert in such matters. His opinion is that there will be something like a débacle in the rice market about June next, when great quantities of the imported cereal will have to be disposed of, and the price of foreign rice will fall appreciably, dragging down with it the price of Japanese rice also. On the other hand, the prospects of the barley crop are said to be inferior, andshould that prove to be the case, a further appreciation of rice may be looked for.

> The appropriation asked for by the Communications Department this year was fifteen million ven, but the Finance Mini-

The general work in that branch of public enterprise will not be interfered with, but the extension of the Toboku line will not be carried beyond Yonezawa, and on the Kiushu road nothing will be done, as work has not been commenced there, and the whole sum destined for the purpose, namely, 400,000 yes, has been disallowed. It must be confessed that the necessity of retrenchment in the field of productive public enterprise is unfortunate for Japan.

The results of the Tobacco Monopoly are very interesting to observe. It has frequently been pointed out in these columns that the system adopted by the Government does not seem calculated to attain the ends in view, and that far larger profits might be realized by a much simple and safer plan. However, the monopoly as originally organized is now in full working order, and we learn from vernacular newspapers that the results anticipated during the fiscal year just commenced-the 31st year-are these :-

7,320,000

Total Expenditures ...... 1,487,500

Net Proceeds of Monopoly ... 5,832,500 The income obtained from the Tobacco Tax in force in the fiscal year 1896-7 was 2,950,327 yen, so that the financial advantage of the monopoly system is 2,882,173 yen—a poor result compared with the possibilities in sight by other

The steady appreciation of prices and the consequent difficulty of making ends meet are beginning to be visible in the field of education. It is alleged that many students who have come from the provinces to attend schools and colleges in Tokyo find themselves obliged to abandon the hope of graduating, and are returning home daily. The diminution of provincial home daily. The diminution of provincial students in the capital owing to this cause is estimated at from twenty to thirty per cent. of the whole number, and it is alleged that the usual spring examinations for admission to the Tokyo schools show a reduction of nearly one half in the number of youths presenting themselves. It has been calculated that the cost of education at the Imperial University is from 10½ to 14½ yes per month—including, of course, board and lodging, books, and petty expenses, but excluding clothes;—that a lad can attend one of the Ordinary Middle School at an expense of from 9 to 13 yen, and that the outlay of a student at a common school is from to 10 yen. These figures are small enough, but it is plain that they represent a painful effort on the part of the middle classes.

A very shocking accident occurred on the 8th instant on the Kiushu Railway. The train which left Kotake on the Chikuho main line at 8.25 a.m. reached Kotai on the branch line safely, and was about to start for the coal mine when the engine blew up with a violent detonation,

latter's body was blown to a distance of seven or eight yards and was so terribly scalded that the flesh came off when an attempt was made to raise the unfortunate man. The engine-driver's plight was no better. He fell in the doorway of the station, and is reported to have risen to his feet and shouted towards the locomotive "You have killed me too, man-eating No. 23, have you?" The Nichi Nichi Shimbun says that this engine No. 23, had already caused the death of several people, and that the name of "maneater" had been given to it, but whether its destructive power were exercised in running over the victims or in scalding them to death our contemporary does not explain. The stoker, though quite unconscious of surrounding objects, exclaimed repeatedly before he died that there had been plenty of water in the boiler. A pointsman and five men at a crossing were also injured, the pointsman fatally, it is feared. There is talk, naturally, foul play—a charge of dynamite among the coal, and so on-but probably the simplest explanation is the true one, a boiler explosion.

If journalistic opinion has influence with the Japanese public the doings of the strong-foreign-policy" agitators have not much chance of gaining popularity. The fatally weak point in their position is perceived and attacked. If Japan has any valid grounds for protesting against the procedure of Russia and Germany in the Far East, she should have presented her protest five months ago when Germany seized Kiao-chou. That was the very fons et origo mali. Russia laid her hand upon Liaotung because Germany had grasped Kiao-chou, and England's occupation of Wei-hai-hei was an inevitable sequétur. It would be supremely ridiculous for Japan to spring up now, like a person suddenly awakened out of sleep, and raise her voice against events which she should have objected to at the outset if she intended to object at all. Her silence when the Kiao-chou incident came upon the tapis disqualified her for making protests at a later date.

The Mainichi Shunbun has become ominously mysterious about this question. It says that the course of events may be divided into three periods. Germany has the honour of appropriating the whole of the first period. Her seizure of Kiaochou is put in a class by itself and constitutes era No 1. Russia's acquisition of the Liaotung Peninsula and England's lease of Wei-hai-wei fill up the second period. In the first period, the Japanese Government and the Japanese people alike remained quiescent. In the second period, the Government still sat with folded arms, but the people rose and clamoured for action, denouncing the statesmen in power as "brainless and impotent." That is all explicit enough. But now comes the mystery. When is the third period to commence, asks our contemporary. At the time for withdrawing the Japanese garrison from Wei-hai-wei, or subsequently to that event? What the fragments flying to great distances the third period means we are not told, but cotton-spinning companies has been dark hints are thrown out that before it draws to a close the very existence of Japan may be threatened. There is something to brought on the tapis. It was started that the chimney of the locomotive may be threatened. There is something fair way to be realized when the circumstances that had suggested it underwent to be recognized.

driver and stoker were both killed. The too vague to invite reflection. But they are appealing very successfully to public curiosity. Everybody wants to know not what they are going to do, but what they really think. They have managed to en-velop their view in such clouds of mystery that no one can decipher it.

We were recently treated by the Yorosu Choho to an alleged interview with Marquis Ito, in which that statesman was represented as making some remarkable statements. Subsequent inquiry showed that Marquis Ito had not been interviewed at all, and had never made any statements of the kind attributed to him. The Yorosu Choho's versions of the views expressed by Japanese publicists must therefore be taken with extreme caution. They possess indeed the piquant feature of a lottery; they may be true and they may be false, and the reader has the privilege of balancing the probabilities. Consequently, it is not with the idea of endorsing or confirming the Yorosu's latest effort in this line that we allude to it, but merely to afford our readers an opportunity of guessing. The interviewed person is Viscount Aoki, and the topic, as will readily be conjectured, is foreign policy. The ex-Minister to Germany declined to make any particular statement, being precluded from doing so by his official connexions. But he did not mind asserting the general truth that in order to have a working policy, every country must possess a definite object. England, for example, makes commercial expansion her object; Russia aims at territorial aggrandisement, and Germany and France have their own specific purposes. Thus, whenever any one of those States finds itself required to deal with an incident, its Ministers can choose the right line at once, since they know the destination to be reached. But Japan has no basis of policy and therefore no superstructure. Having expended a sigh over this lamentable state of affairs, the Viscount was asked to give his own definition of what ought to be Japan's national policy, but he remained silent and sighing—a condition which naturally gives the Yorosu an opportunity of observing that a diplomat without a policy is not lit to be sent to China in charge of Japanese. The Yorozu Choho is at least ingenious. We have been disposed to think, lately, that scurrility was its sole accomplishment, but the inventive faculty seems to be there also.

It is, perhaps, worth noting that the utterances falsely attributed to Marquis Ito by the Yorozu Choho were reproduced by Yokohama local journals, but no contradiction of them has ever found its way into the columns of the latter. If it was worth while to tell the public what the Prime Minister was supposed to have said, it ought also to have been worth while to explain that he did not say what had been attributed to him. As a mere question of journalistic interest that view of the case might have suggested itself. We say nothing of accuracy: such a consideration is a little old-fashioned.

The project of a union of Japanese before falling. No casualties to life or limb were caused in the village, but it need scarcely be said that the engine-opinion, because the grounds of appeal are yearns abroad and at home, and such a Original from

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decline of prices that the profits of the can only listen to what opinions they mills (ell away lamentably. A sudden have to offer. There is no objection to such as flower vases, censers in the tells of a combination of the companion of the tells of a combination of the companion of the tells of a combination of the companion of the tells of a combination of the companion of th the talk of a combination ceased to be heard. But the improvement did not hold. Prospects have again become gloomy, and several of the leading millowners, headed by the Mitsui, are reopening the question of a cooperative league. If the purpose of such a league were to prevent competition among Japanese manufacturers in domestic and foreign markets, its organization would be intelligible. Possibly that idea enters into the programme. But the main motive, as we gather from vernacular journals, is to obtain a subsidy from the Government. Such devices ought to be out of fashion by this time. Seldom indeed can it be justifiable to employ public money for the purpose of promoting private enterprise. In this case the contemplated effect of the bounty is to enable cotton-spinners to place their yarns in the Chinese market at prices lower than those demanded for Indian or Shanghai yarns. In other words, the lapanese people are put to their hands in Their pockets for the benefit ultimately of Chinese consumers. If a sufficient demand does not already exist in China for brought him to death's door. He rallied, this particular staple, it would be vain to attempt to create an artificial demand by the method proposed.

#### POLICY.

The Yorodau Choho prints what professes to be a verbatim report of certain remarks made by Marquis Ito on the 5th instant, after his Excellency's return from Oiso, to a statesman not now in the Government :-- " Truly the so-called 'strongforeign-policy advocates' are a great trouble. They appear to have no idea about anything except a country's draw. ing back. What is to be done with men who get up an empty agitation without any intelligent reference to the nation's real strength or its status vis-à-vis other nations? It is impossible to be more mistaken than they are when they imagine that diplomacy does not demand any resolution to fight if necessary and that the mere lodging of protest ends everything. What can be accomplished now-a-days in foreign politics without real strength? All the countries that have laid hands upon China were enabled to do so because they are veritably powerful. If a protest is made and disregarded, what are you to do? Unless you have considered your ultimate course you merely become an object of ridicule. England with all her strength and all her array of ships enters Port Arther, which is Russia's, and makes a demonstration, but Russia does not budge. She knows perfectly well that England has not the resolution to fight with her. Thus England's destock. Again, supposing that Japan obtained Wei-hai-wei, how could she keep it? Such a poor, unproductive place could never be retained. There is a much better never de retained. There is a much better plan. Keep your eyes open and you will see it. The so-called 'strong-foreign-policy' men are coming to-morrow to give me some advice, I hear. They may come, but it is not to be supposed that the secrets of diplomacy can be disclosed to them, especially in the case of a pro-ling. The masterpieces of men like gramme that it under negotiation. One Digitized by Google

Some of the statements attributed in the above to Marquis Ito are so obviously unlikely to have emanated from the Prime Minister, and are, at the same time, calculated to produce such a bad impres-sion, that we have thought it advisable to make direct application to his Excellency for contradiction or confirmation, and we are authorized to say that the whole account is a fabrication. Marquis Ito has not addressed any language of the kind to any one. The precis given by the Yorodau Choho may be dismissed as pure invention.

#### DEATH OF MR. E. CHIOSSONE.

It is with great regret that we announce 2 am, on the 11th inst. Mr. Chiossone's health had been somewhat broken for several years owing to attacks of asthma, but no cause for special anxiety presented itself until last autumn, when an ancemic condition and great weakness of the heart however, and, though his state continued precarious, there was nothing to presage the sudden end that overtook him. He was in his sixty-fifth year, and had lived a life of unceasing industry. Originally Pro-MARQUIS ITO ON JAPAN'S FOREIGN tessor of Engraving in the Royal Academy of Artsin Genoa, he subsequently proceeded to Germany, and, having been engaged at Frankfort in the manufacture of the first Japanese bank-notes, he finally came to this country in 1875 as Engraver to the Imperial Printing Bureau. There and in his private studio he accomplished much admirable work, and earned a high reputation for artistic and technical ability, his gentle and loyal disposition winning for him, at the same time, the hearty friendship of all with whom he came in contact. He was a Knight of St. Maurice and Lazarus, a Kt. of the Italian Crown, a Kt. of the Saxon Falcon, and he received from the Emperor of Japan the Third Class of the Sacred Treasure and the Fourth Class of the Rising Sun. Mr. Chiossone loved art and art objects passionately. During his residence of 27 years in Japan he acquired many beautiful specimens which now form a unique collection.

The will of the late Mr. Chiossone contains a clause bequeathing all his valuable collections of Japanese works of art to the museum of his native city, Genoa, Mr. Chiossone was an ardent lover of art products. Very soon after his arrival in Japan he began to collect bronzes. Naturally his training as an engraver equipped him specially for appreciating fine effects in moulded and chiselled metals, but of course his inexperience as a buyer of Japanese chefs monstration is converted into a laughing d'œuvre betrayed him at first into many mistakes, so that his very large collection of bronzes includes several pieces of inferior quality. On the other hand, it includes numerous specimens which

applies to the general run of productions, such as flower vases, censers, images and so on. Of course the very opposite is true of Japanese work in irou, and of the incomparably beautiful pictures on metal that are to be found in sword furniture. These also M. Chiossone acquired industriously, and he has left a rare and valuable collection put together when such things were still procurable in profusion. He also loved brocades and other woven stuffs, and he filled album after album with examples of the products of ancient and mediceval rooms. But perhaps his most interesting collection is that consisting of coloured prints. He set about buying these delightful efforts of Japanese artistic skill long before French collectors had discovered them -that is to say, when twenty or thirty sen was the market price of a the death of Mr. Edward Chiossone, which picture now saleable for twice as many took place at his residence in Tokyo at yen. Altogether Genoa will have m new attraction for tourists when Mr. Chiossone's collections are placed in its museum.

> The remains of Mr. Chiossone were interred on the 14th instant in the Aoyama cemetery, the funeral service being held in the Roman Catholic cathedral at Tsukiji. A very large concourse of people assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to one who had been loved by all that came in contact with him. Among those present were the Representatives of France, Italy, and Holland; Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Field-Marshal Marquis Oyama; Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household Department; Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Cermonies; Marquis Tokugawa; Mr. Watanabe Keki; and a great number of prominent Japanese and foreign residents of the capital. Innumerable wreaths and stands of flowers were sent, and a company of troops marched before the hearse to the cemetery.

#### THE OPERATION OF THE SILK BOUNTY LAW.

We have made inquiries with respect to the operation of the Law for encouraging the Direct Export of Silk, and we learn that, during the first eight days of the Law's enforcement-April 1st to April 8th- the total amount of raw silk offered for conditioning under the provisions of the Law was 135 bales of 100 catties each, and that only 13 bales were held to be qualified for bounty. Nothing can be predicted, of course, as to the quantity of silk that will hereafter be presented for examination, but it is considered probable that the experience of the first eight days will be typical. Moreover, in view of the fact that all the silk presented at the outset had been carefully selected beforehand by the applicants in anticipation of the Law's going into force on the 1st instant, it would seem fair to infer that the quantity qualifying for bounty hereafter will be very limited. We may add that among the 135 bales spoken of above, the 13 bales passed by the examiners were all placed in the third grade, none being judged fit for classification in the second

#### THE TORYO FETE.

to offer a hopeless prospect, cleared up completely before dawn, and the sun of Easter Sunday rose in a clear blue sky with almost summer heat. Tokyo, of course, turned out in gala costume to celebrate its own salvation, for it is certain that the event commemorated on the 10th instant was the turning point in the city's career. Neither from a geo-graphical point of view not yet from a commercial is Tokyo the natural capital of Japan. It owed its status in feudal times to political considerations, and had the Meiji Government decided in 1868 to make the administrative centre at Osaka or Kyoto, the metropolis of the Shogunate must have gradually lost its importance, and would probably have sunk by this time to the position of a very second-rate Thus the celebration on the 10th instant had a much sounder rasson d'étre than such affairs can usually claim, and, although many critics averred that instead of wasting their substance on idle show, the inhabitants would be better advised did they devote their enterprise and their resources to making the city worthy of its position as the capital of the empire, such sage reflections did not seem to interfere in any degree with the satisfaction of the great mass of the citizens. They threw, themselves into the fête with all the heartiness conceivable, and as holidaymaking is certainly one of the strong points of the Japanese, Tokyo wore an exceedingly joyous aspect throughout the hours of daylight on the toth instant. The celebration had its centre in the wide space between the first and second moats that surround the Palace park, immediately outside Niju Bridge. This large area, measuring about a hundred and fifty acres, is traversed in various directions by wide roads winding among esplanades, and, the fences that usually surround the latter having been removed for the occasion, accommodation was obtained for thousands of people without the slightest crowding. In Japan the Sovereign is the pivot of everything. In answer, therefore, to a petition from the citizens, the Emperor and Empress consented to open the fête by receiving addresses, and a special edifice was erected for their Majesties' accommodation on the esplanade lying immediately under the Castle's eastern One advantage of this choice of location was that a limit could dresses; a somewhat awkward arrangebe imposed on the size of the audience by ruling that only ticket-holders should be admitted within the second moat. " Ticketholders" signified all that had subscribed two yen or upwards to the expenses of the fête. No record of their number has yet been published, but arrival, there must have been from twenty to menced thirty thousand within the enclosure. At each of the three bridges over the second moat an arch of greenery had been erected, and on the esplanades stood large marquees. The broad white surfaces of the latter and the lines of gay bunting that festooned their roofs formed a brilliant spectacle in the bright sunshine. Incomparably the prettiest among the various edifices was that for the reception of the Imperial visitors. It had the steep slightly re-entrant roof-slopes and tiptilted ridge of Shinto architecture; the pillars, wall-plates, tie-beams, and ridge- 12. Horobiki.

softly with the milk white shingling of These various processions and dances the thatch; the hall was hung all round With genuine April capriciousness the with blinds of fine green bamboo, edged weather, which on Saturday night seemed and banded with rich brocade and corded and tasselled with purple silk; and the lacquered thrones for the Emperor and Empress were flanked with screens of undecorated gold-foil, making a heart of glowing mellowness in the otherwise severely simple interior. On the south side of the Imperial pavilion a spacious wing afforded accommodation for the guests of distinction, Japanese and foreign. In the case of foreigners the issue exceptions the members of the Corps Diplomatique and the Attachés of the Legations were alone present. The number of Japanese in the pavilion adjunct the Ministers of State except the Minister twenty minutes before eleven, a signal gun announced that their Majesties had left the Palace, and immediately a large concourse of students, male and female, who had been marshalled along the road outside Niju Bridge, sang the national anthem. As soon as the four carriages carrying their Majesties and the nobles and ladies in waiting had crossed the bridge, the City Band took up the strains of the Kimi ga yo, and the guests, descending from the pavilion-adjunct, stood beside the avenue along which the carriages passed. The Emperor and Empress rode in separate carriages, and entered the pavilion independently, but it was observed that, in returning, his Majesty's carriage waited until the Empress had entered hers so that the two vehicles could drive away together. the road in front of the pavilion, at a distance of some fifteen paces, the members of the Municipal Committee were drawn ceive; namely, an address from the Municount and Mr. Shihusawa mounted the steps of the pavilion and placed themselves before the dias in order to read the adment, since, after the reading, they had to turn their backs on the Sovereign when descending to their original posts. Their Majesties returned to the Palace after a very brief delay, the same ceremonies being observed as at the time of their The entertainments then commenced. They consisted of the following, according to the programme-which was printed in Japanese and English :-

1. Procession of a Daineyo

2. Procession of the Fachin (Court Ladies).

3. Dance; "The Conquest of the Demon's Island" (old lable).

4. Dance; "The Tonguest Spaceow" (old fable).

5. Facility Court Court Spaceow" (old fable).

fable).

5. Festival-Car—Battle-Ship and Cannon.

6. Festival-Car—Connes and Tortnise.

7. Pencessian of Tengu (Hobgobius).

8. Festival-Car—Pence Yamatedaks.

9. Festival-Car—Hamaguri issning from the Temple of the Sen.god.

10. Flower-Car with Shimadai.

11. Naga-Ula Dauce.

pole were of solid greenery, contrasting 13. Dakyu (Game of Polo). Digitized by Google

were not only picturesque and beautiful, but also derived much interest from the fact that they constituted a faithful reproduction of spectacles common in pre-Meifi days, though now seldom seen. Indeed, the general effect was admirable. The constant glow of rich, charmingly harmonized colours and the rythmic solemnity of the processions' advance in the foreground; the rapid movements of the gaily caparisoned polo-players in the middle distance; the broad expanse of restful white canvas relieved by the wavof special invitations appears to have been ing of many-hued flags in the back-very limited, for with three or four ground; the glitter of day-fireworks overhead, and the brilliant sunshine bathing the whole combined to produce a delightful picture. Shortly before one o'clock luncheon on a sumptuous scale was served was also small, and did not include any of to the pavilion guests in adjoining tents, and the general body of ticket-holders of Home Affairs, Viscount Yoshikawa. At betook themselves to restaurants in their respective quarters of the city, where arrangements had been made to supply them with refreshments. while the processions wended their way through the streets of the city to Uyeno Park, where tens of thousands of people had assembled to keep holiday among the cherry trees now bursting into bloom. Many spectacles had been organized independently of the Municipality's programme. Two troops of geisha, dressed in the piquant costume of the Tekomai, and a band of gennin, numbering about 150, were among the notable attractions. They represented the frivolous side of the city's daily life, and, on the other hand, several business firms took shrewd advantage of the occasion to advertise themselves. Thus the great tobacconist, Salsuma-ya, sent a troop of about a hundred demons, male and female, tricked out with bird-like masks, long elfin locks and taloned hands and feet up in line, headed by Viscount Okabe, of mountain imps (tengu); the Miyako Governor of Tokyo, and Mr. Shibusawa Shimbun propitiated the deities of pro-Eiichi, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce. On these two gentlemen drawers admirably disguised as herons; devolved the duty of reading the addresses and the tailors of the metropolis sought which his Majesty had consented to re- to popularize foreign costume by dressing a regiment two or three hundred strong cipality, an address from the City Assem- in brilliant red tunics. It is, perhaps, bly, and an address from the Tokyo superfluous to say that the utmost good Chamber of Commerce, the two first of humour prevailed everywhere, for that is which were read by Viscount Okabe, and invariably the case with Japanese crowds, the third by Mr. Shibusawa. The Visbut we must in all justice pay a compliment to the admirable arrangements made by the Municipal Council, who discharged the duties connected with organizing the fête. Everything had been carefully thought out and skilfully provided for, so fête. that nothing like a hitch or contretemps occurred from first to last.

#### AN INFERENCE.

There have been many expressions of doubt as to whether the National Unionists might be counted supporters of the Government, or whether they ought to be classed with the Opposition, The question appears to be settled by the pre-sent strong-foreign policy agitation. Not a single member of the National Unionists is to be lound in the ranks of the agitators. Another question also is now answered; namely, whether the Cabinet's allies are the Liberals or the Progressists. It was supposed that the point could not be definitely decided before the meeting of the Diet. But the Progressiats are now emphatically in opposition and the Liberals are supporting the Government. Nothing was needed but the application of a test, and foreign

affairs have supplied it.
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#### AMERICA AND SPAIN.

TE have said little in these columns about the war now most unhappily impending between the United States and Spain, because it really seemed that comment was useless, and that the only natural attitude for every thoughtful person must be one of earnest hope that such a calamity might be averted. A war in which America is engaged differs scarcely at all to the vast majority of Englishmen from a war in which their own country takes a part, and there can not be the threatened the United States, her kinsmen of Great Britain would rally to her There may be bickerings between the two nations in time of peace, but they are one could not endure to stand idle and indif- in a state of open rebellion. ferent. No severe trial is in store for the United States now, however. Some writers but, without the slightest desire to disparage the Spaniard, we venture to think we do conclude with absolute certainty is to indulge, she need only set her teeth a little and her difficulties would speedily disappear. On the other hand, no one can choose but admire the indomitable pluck and splendid grit of the Spaniards. Had they grown weary of the Cuban problem long ago and left the island to On-lookers see plainly enough that the So far as the latter question is concerned, Cuban insurgents in the eastern interior further explanations are probably useless. far as Spain's competence to reduce them matter have doubtless convinced themis concerned. It was calculated in 1876 Spanish trops sent to crush the rebellion of that era had aggregated 145,000 men, and the total despatched during the present outbreak can not fall far short of the same great number. Evidently the task of restoring, or at any rate of preserving, order is beyond Spain's strength, yet she continues the effort with unabating resolu- determine the duration of the lease. They tion. There is no exaggeration in saying may fix it at to years, or too years, or 1,000 that never since the "Black Eagle" con- years without infringing any provision of spiracy of 1829 has the island enjoyed law. That point, we say, is absolutely real tranquillity, neither can it be denied that the trouble had its origin in the monstration fifteen months hence. natives' deprivation of political, civil, and

public stations, and their severe taxation -causes of which Spain is justly condemned to suffer the consequences, confused problem to some minds, and can Meanwhile, the patience of the United not be left to elucidate itself, for it is a States has held out for half a century, matter which immediately and intimately Since President POLK proposed the purchase of Cuba for a million dollars in 1848, American sympathy has been uniformly with the Cubans, and there are innumerable reasons why the great continental republic should strenuously object to a condition of perpetual unrest and bloodshed on an island within six or seven hours' journey from its shores. Interleast doubt that if anything like a calamity ference is virtually forced upon America. The pity of the thing is that, if the insurgents could only be induced to lay down side with all the force they can command, their arms, Spain would probably consent to grant them independence. She intimated her willingness in that sense in heart as in blood, and at any moment twenty-nine years ago, but then, as now, of storm and stress for America England she declined to treat with subjects Her fine old Castilian pride forbids her to abate one jot of the punctilio have occupied themselves drawing up that a Sovereign State regards as its right, comparative tables of the ships that the two and now, in the sequel of a campaign that belligerents could send into the arena. has almost exhausted her strength, she Such a study may not be uninteresting, prefers to defy a fresh and colossal foe rather than forego anything of what she considers due to her dignity. Such a that the personnel of the fleets is the factor mood is very admirable, and we dare say of paramount importance. However, that that it receives as much appreciation in may be mere pride of race and is not, at any the United States as anywhere. None rate, a welcome topic of discussion. What the less peace must be restored in Cuba, and, since Spain can not restore it, there that, although some small hurt might be in- is no recourse but to ask her to stand flicted on America at the outset by way of aside. Every one regrets that fate should penalty for the condition of unprepared-have decreed these hard things for a ness in which it is her nonchalant custom country so stout in adversity, but of two evils the lesser has to be chosen.

#### THE NEW TARIFF.

HERE seems to be as much difficulty in understanding the arrangements with reference to the operation of the new its fate, they would simply have been Tariff as there is in comprehending the Japanese Treaty are:-"It is agreed by acting as nearly all other nations would question of land leases and superficies the contracting parties that one month have acted under the circumstances, after the Revised Treaties go into force, after the exchange of the Ratifications of of the island are practically invincible, so Those that have any real interest in the selves long ago that what has been set that; during the preceding eight years, the forth in these columns on the subject is absolutely correct, and that, after the abolition of the system of settlements, foreigners will be able to obtain land signed this day, be applicable to the under agreements securing length of tenure unlimited by law. In other words, it will be within the sole competence of the land-owner and the would-be tenant to certain, and can now await practical de-

religious liberty, their exclusion from all to be even less liable to misapprehension,

and though it has been explained with equal clearness and insistence, is still a concerns the import merchant. If the trader believes that a certain interval of so many months, counting from a date to be hereafter officially announced, will necessarily be allowed before enforcing the rates of the new Tariff, he may be betrayed into postponing measures of great importance to his business interests. We are therefore induced to refer to the following paragraph which appears in a recent issue of the Kobe Chronicle:

The Anglo-Japanese Treaty stipulates notice of the intention to bring the new Tariffs into force shall be given after the exchange of satisfications, and all the other Treaties contain clauses to a similar effect, but, while the Treaty with Creat British attended for our mouth may clauses to a similar effect, but, while the Treaty with Great Britain stipulates for one month, most of the others stipulate that six months' notice shall and under the most-favoured-nation be given. clause British merchants share in the benefits of this more equitable arrangement. But until the taufications of the new Treaty with Austria-Hungary are exchanged, it is clear that notice for the operation of the new Tariffs cannot properly be given. We understand that as soon as the intimation was conveyed to the Foreign Representatives that the Tariffs would be put into specation in November next, objection nuce raised on those grounds, and it is believed that the notice has been withdrawn. It is impossible not to sympathise to some extent with Japanese Government in the position in which it is placed, and it is only natural that every effort should be made to bring the Tariffs into operation at the earliest possible date in the hope that the additional revenue derived therefrom will be available in the current financial year. But at the same it would be impossible for the Foreign Representatives to allow any informality in matter where such important interests are at stake, and they had no alternative to the course taken of declining to receive notice. There does not seem much likelihood that the new Tariffs will come into operation earlier than January next, if then.

The above paragraph contains several errors, the most important of which could have been avoided by referring to the text of the Revised Treaties. Neither the Anglo-Japanese nor any other Treaty contains a stipulation that notice shall be given of the intention to bring the new Tariff into force. The words of the Anglothe Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, the Import Tariff bereunto annexed shall, subject to the provisions of Art. XXIII. of the Treaty of 1858, at present aubsisting between the Contracting Parties, as long as the said Treaty remains in force, and thereafter subject to the provisions of Arts. V. and XV. of the Treaty articles therein enumerated." There is here no question of notice. It is absolutely and definitively provided that the new Conventional Tariff may go into force one month after the date of the exchange of ratifications. The sole reservation is that there shall be no violation of the mostfavoured-nation clause: in other words, goods imported from Great Britain shall not have to pay higher duties than goods But the Tariff question, though it ought imported from any other country. All the other Revised Treaties are drafted in Original from

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accordance with a similar principle-that is to say, the date when the Conventional Tariff may be applied is absolutely fixed without any stipulation whatever as to notice of intention. Some of the Treaties, however, extend the one month of the British Treaty to six months, and, of course, under the most-favoured-nation clause, the benefit of the extended period is enjoyed by importers of British goods also. The French Treaty is the latest of these documents. Ratifications were exchanged in Tokyo on March 19th, and the annexed Conventional Tariff may consequently go into operation from September 19th, without further notice of any kind. But there remains one Treaty in the case of which all the processes are not yet ended. It is the Austro-Hungarian. According to that Treaty, the operation of the Conventional Tariff must be separated by an interval of one month from the exchange of ratifications. The Treaty has been concluded, has received the ratification of the Emperor of Japan, and has been forwarded in ratified form to Vienna, where the ratifications will be exchanged. One month subsequently to the latter event the new Tariff may be Treaty Revision would not be consistent put into operation without further notice of any kind. Of course until the ratifications of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty are from the date of the exchange, the new rates of other countries that are entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment. But there is no question whatever of further notice. Any one imagining that so long as the Japanese Government does not speak, he has a certain interval of six months before him wherein to provide for the changes that the New Tariff will introduce, may find himself most inconveniently mistaken.

of their exchange.
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them, our readers need scarcely be warned of the incorrectness of the Kobe Chromicle's statements that "as soon as the intimation was conveyed to the Foreign Representatives that the Tariffs would be put into operation in November next, objection was at once raised, &c.," and "the notice is believed to have been withdrawn." No such notice was given, uo such objection was raised, and no such withdrawal took place. It may be taken for granted, we presume, that the Japanese Government would gladly consult the convenience of foreign importers by giving formal notice and thus enabling merchants to make all desirable arrangements. But unfortunately the situation does not appear to warrant anything of the kind. The fault rests with Austria-Hungary. Had not that country's procedure been exceptionally slow, no uncertainty as to the date of the Tariff's enforcement need have existed. It is curious that a State whose tradal interests are comparatively so small should be the means of causing such confusion and inconvenience. But the history of did not its last chapter include some incident of that nature. We may add, in conclusion, that in speaking of the improexchanged, and until a month has elapsed bability of any notice being given, we are guided solely by the facts as they present cannot be levied upon the import trade themselves. As to the intentions of the Japanese Government we have no informatiou.

#### THE DEADLY PARALLEL.

Kobe Chronicle, Mar. 10th. (Referring to an article published by the Japan Times over the signature of "Yamato Chuyo") We direct the attention of

the New Tariff will introduce, may find himself most inconveniently mistaken. The position is this, stated in the briefest and clearest terms:—

(1) The Revised Treaties do not stipulate for any previous notice as to the operation of the new Tariff, but definitely and absolutely fix a date on which it may be put into force.

(2) The Tariff may not be put into operation must the goods of all countries can be subjected to its rates—owing to the existence of the most favoured-nation clause;—in other words, until all the Treaties have been revised, their ratifications exchanged and must the periods fixed by them have elapsed.

(3) The ratifications of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty have not yet been exchanged, but the catifications that the exchange of its ratifications, the annexed Tariff becomes enforceable.

(4) The periods of grace fixed by all the other Treaties have already expired, except the period fixed by the French Treaty, and that terminate and may therefore justly be inferred that the simistry makes instituted to make no distinction in the treatment of foreigners who may be inferred that the simistry and has instituted to make no distinction in the treatment of foreigners who may therefore justly be inferred that the simistry has determined to make no distinction in the treatment of foreigners who may therefore justly be inferred that the simistry has determined to make no distinction in the treatment of foreigners who may therefore justly be inferred that the simistry and has instituted to make no distinction in the treatment of foreigners who may therefore justly be inferred that the simistry and has instituted to make no distinction in the treatment of foreigners who may therefore justly be inferred that its concerned, foreigners and the position of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty, in order that our contemporation of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty in order that our contemporation of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty are exchanged in the reading and mentions of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty are contemporated to the pr

Kobe Chronicle, April 4th. The Spans Mail knows perfectly well that there have been no articles, long or short, in the Kobe Chronicle with the object or "proving" that the objections of the editor of the Spans Times ("Vamato Chuyo") to discrimination treatment were expresin treatment were expressions of official opinion.

With the above explanations before IN REGARD TO SOME ASPERSIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF REV. J. H. NEESIMA, LL. D.

BY J. D. DAVIS.

The recent reiterated quotation by "Observer," in his article in the Weekly Japan Mail, of April 2, namely, that, Mr. Neijima "played at running with the hare and hunting with the hounds in turn, etc." leads me to say that I was associated with Dr. Neesima in the closest possible way from the inception of the Doshisha school until bis death, fifteen years later. At the request of many friends I took up the task of preparing a sketch of Dr. Neesima's life, and in so doing it was my privilege and duty look over a great mass of his private correspondence and papers, and I want to say most emphatically that if there ever was a man who did nor "play at running with the hare and hunting with the hounds in turn" then Dr. Necsima was such an one. No statement could be made, in my humble opinion, which would be more untrue to his character.

Much could be written, but I will only briefly allude to a few facts. In the winter of 1871-2. the second Japanese embassy, consisting of Messrs. Iwakura, Okubo, Kido, Ito, Tera-shima and Tanaka, crossed the Pacific and reached Washington, Mr. Neesima had at this time been in America about seven years. He had left his country by stealth when it was death so to do. The kmbussy, hearing of him, wished to secure him to go with them in their loar of foreign countries. They asked him come to Washington and he did so, and in company with twelve Japanese students who were being supported in the United States by the Japanese Government, Mr. Neerima met the Embassy in one of the parlours of the Arlington House. The twelve students prostrated themselves before the Embassy, but Mr. Neeshima stood erectby himself, until Mr. Tanaka stepped forward and took him by the hand in the western style. Mr. Tanaka then gave him an order to go with him as interpreter, etc. Mr. Neesima replied that if he ordered him to go he must refuse it, but if he was requested to do so, he would gladly do any favour for him.

Mr. Neesima spent nearly a year with the Embassy and visited most of the countries of Europe with them. The Embassy travelled on the Sabbath, but Mr. Neesima always stopped off alone Saturday night and came on after them Monday morning. He always let his Christianity and his principles be known to these men, and they respected him for it. It was in this way that Mr. Neesima gained the confidence of these men who were later at the head of the Japanese Government, and that coufidence lasted till the day of his death. It was because of this course on Mr. Neesima's part, never " playing at running with the hare, and hunting with the hounds, in turu," that Mr. Tanaka, the Minister of Education, gave Dr. Neesima permission to start his Christian school in Kyoto in 1875, and sustained him in that school during six years of apposition on the part of the governor and officials of Kyoto Fu, an opposition which was raised and continued on account of the pronounced Christian character of the school. Dr. Neesima always let his Christianity be known. His first wor on his return to his native land, was to preach the Gospel in his old family province of Joshu, and he preached it so earnestly sud to such crowds that the governor of the province was alarmed and went to Tokyo to inquire what was to be done. This was in Dec., 1874, soon after the edicts against Christianity had been removed, and it was probably the first time that the Gospel has been preached in that public manner in the interior. The men at the head of the Government in Tokyo told the governor of Joshu, " If it is Neesima, it is all right; let him alone;" and the governor returned satisfied.

The appeals which Dr. Nessima put forward to the general public of Japan for money for the Original in University speak for themselves. Ex-

tracts were given from them in the communication from the writer which was published in the Japan Mail a few weeks since. The Christian foundation of the school was not covered up in them; it was emphasised. The writer was present at the first public meeting held for the purpose of awakening an interest in the university among the Japanese. It was held in a large hall in Kyoto, in the spring of 1884. About fifty of the officials and leading business men of the city were present, and there were almost no Christians among them. President Neesima, Professor Ichihara, and the writer each addressed the meeting. At this meeting Christianity was emphasised in the necessary foundation of all true education. The same was emphasized in the first printed appeal put forth for theuniversity in May, 1884. This appeal was made to the sapanese public, and was most emphatic in its assertion that the old Chinese morality could not answer as a foundation for education, and that he must take Christianity as the basis of morality.

In the second appeal for the university which was put forth in 1888, and which was published in twenty of the leading newspapers of Japan on the 10th of November of that year, Dr. Neesima asserts, in the most clear and unequi-vocal manner, that Christianity is the only sure foundation of true and permanent civilization, of true education, that the raising up of young men of "strong and noble character by which they can use their learning for the good of their fellow men, can be accomplished only by Christian principles "—the living and powerful principles of Christianity, and therefore, he says, "we adopt these principles as the form says, "we adopt these principles as the founda-tion of our educational work, and devote our energies to their realization."

These words, put forth for the general public of Japan in an appeal for funds to found a Caristian University, before religious freedom was guaranteed in the Constitution, which was given about two years later, do not sound like the words of m man who "played at running with the hare and hunting with the hounds, in turn." The body of Dr. Neesima's father rests in a Buddhist cemetery in a beautiful grove at the foot of the mountain east of Kyoto, but when permission was asked for Dr. Neesima's body to be buried beside that of his father, in was refused because he was the "very head-centre of Christianity in Japan," to use the words of the head priest who gave the refusal. Such are a few of the facts in regard to this man, the founder of the Doshisha, whose character is now being aspersed by men who do not know the facts. Would that the men on whom Dr. Neesima's mantle fell had been with him long enough and under his influence powerfully enough so that they could have had the same unswerving loyalty to principle, and devotion to "the living and powerful principles of Christianity" which the lamented founder of the Doshisha school possessed, and which he always boldly declared!

#### JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The Tokyo Asahi publishes the investigations of an eminent statistician in the capital, who represents that the births of males are larger in number than those of females, and that the first born child is generally comparatively weak in physical constitution and deficient in intellect, The cause is ascribed to the immaturity of the parents. The writer concludes that in cases where the husband is much older than the wife male children are generally born.

The object of the new Formosan Association is to investigate various matters relating to Formosa with a view to improving its administration. The methods of the Association are said to be as follow :- Ascertaining the true condition of Formora and undertaking the despatch of inspectors for the purpose; extending the greatest possible facilities for communiand the support of students from Formosa,

The Nitron laments the relaxation of moral ity, especially as regards writings and pic-Criminal offences, it says, are strictly punished by law, but transgressions in regard to public morality, which do not properly come within the pale of indictable offences, are utterly ignored. The sale of immoral pictures has een prohibited, but, strange to say, they have found their way into novels, into newspapers, into magazines. They are not so flagrant as the productions that have been prohibited, but their effect on youths is undoubtedly pernicious. Not only in pictures is this tendency noticeable; magazines and novels offend in a similar manner under the guise of literature. Many of the existing romances caunot be read in a pure home. Prostitution is not a legitimate occupation, and houses of ill fame are separated from the ordinary streets by the civil law. But look at photographers' shops! The portraits of loose women occupy the most conspicuous position, and are often placed side by side with littled nobility. All these shame-less proceedings ought, the Nippon asserts, to be immediately prohibited by the Home De-

The Korean Cabinet, asserts the Chuo, is busily engaged in considering steps for the improvement of the situation. Each Minister has presented a separate memorial to the Emperor, and some of them are curiosities. Chhin Sang considers the number of Privy Councillors should be limited to fifty, to be chosen from the various classes of officials and to be required to give counsel on urgent affairs of state. Chong urges the necessity of enforcing greater vigilance against thieves and of amoliorating the abuse of secret inspectors who are now a terror to the people at large. Min Chhong Muk expresses himself in favour of the redemption of foreign loans at the earliest possible period, while Li, pointing out the difficulty of acquiring accomplished soldiers, suggests the advisability of establishing a military school where good officers may be trained. To put a check upon local Governors embezzling the taxes is, in the eyes of So Prong chik, a matter of absolute necessity. Vam Chong Chol refers only to the necessity of preserving strict discipine among the Government officials, especially those charged with the inspection and superintendence of mines. It is said that some of the Ministers have proposed that the appoint ment of officers should herewiter be limited to the descendants of noble families. If that he so the reform of Korean administration, the Chuo adds, can hardly be expected from the existing ministry.

The export of coal continues to be brisk, asserts the Shogyo. The amount exported from Moji and Bakan last month reached the following large figures : —

Destination,	Moji.	Bakan,	Total.
	Tons.	Tous.	Tons.
Hangkong	44,100	10.325	54.425
China	11,710	22,150	33,860
French-ladia	400		400
British India	15,600		15 600
Казея	52	_	
For ships' use	6,020	1.998	52 8,018

Total...... 77,882 34,473 112,355 Thus the aggregate total was no less than 12,355 tous. Compared with the figures for January an increase of 16,561 tons is noticeable, while comparison with February shows an augmentation of 30,861 tons. The fact is ascribed to an extensive demand for coal in Hongkong and Shanghai.

The Hochi reports that a general meeting to organise a Japanese Painters' Association was held on the 2nd instant at the Nihonbashi Club. Tokyo, under the auspices of many eminent artists. The project was first under contemplation last autuma, and a final resolution

to time; and taking measures for the control Japanese painting and encouraging the development and extension of Japanese art. The existing Fine Arts Association, asserts the Hochi, is disposed to attach too much importance to the ancient style of moving the arm and using the brush, whereas the course adopted by the Fine Arts School tends to introduce the defects of foreign art without its good points. The association just established aims at preserving the best features of Japanese paintings, and abolishing at the same time the peculiarities noticeable in foreign productions. It is said that more that 500 members have already been secured, including many of the Kyoto school, Baron Suyematsu is the President, and Mr. Hayashi Chinzei Vice-President, Another party of artists who held their first meeting m he Kairakuyen in the beginning of this year is reported to have resolved upon publishing a pictorial magazine, Messra. Matsuoka, Asai, and Oyama being among the promoters of the

> According to the investigations completed by the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and published in the Osaka Asahi, mulberry farms throughout the Empire have increased yearly in proportion to the development of sericulture. In the 30th year of Aleiji an increase of 9,659 cho, or 3.3 per cent., is noticeable over the pre-vious year. On the other hand, tea farms have suffered a diminution of 591 cho, or one per cent. In order to show the growing prosperity of sericulture it may be stated that the number of houses engaged in the rearing of silk worms during last year totalled 1,360,000, the cocoons raised being over 2,120,000 koku. figures show an increase of 4.3 per cent. in rearing houses and 16 per cent. in cocoons ... compared with the previous year. During the 39th year of Meiji the whole country suffered from the changeable weather. In Nagano, Gumma, Fukushime, and other leading silk districts, the mulberry trees sustained injury from frost, and a considerable depression in the silk industry followed. The reverse was the case in the 30th year, and most satisfactory results were obtained.

> No scheme seems as yet to have been formuslated for the improvement of the Fine Arts School. The most important step taken by the Education Department was an earnest entreaty to professors to withdraw their resignations. The effort, however, proved unsuccessful, and a resolution was made in appoint new professors. Meanwhile, the school has to be closed; and atudents have to waste their time. The procrastination of the Education Department, remarks the Nippon, is intolerable. Dilatoriness is the chronic disease of the Department. Besides the improvement of the Fine Arts School the reform of the museum is necessary. The latter problem will sooner or later be brought upon the tapis. One would suppose from the Nippon's remarks that the re-organization of an art school was a work of a few days.

The agitators in the Takano affair have, according to the Yorodsu, resolved on further action. On the 6th instant they held a private conference at Mr. Takano's residence, with a view to organizing a society to be designated the Kempo Yogo Kisei Domeikwai. Mr. Takano has already exhaused his resources, and has found it necessary to quit his specious mansion at Younga for a cottage near Yodobashi. Here he is engaged every day, with a plough in his hand and a straw hat on his bead, cultivating a few acres of land attached to his house. The produce of this farm is the only support for himelt and his family. A representative of the Porosu paid a special visit to him a few days ago, when he made the following remarks :- "I have not the least idea of struggling for the mere post of Chief Justice in Formosa, It is because the matter has a close relation to the Constitution that I protest. The independence of the judiciary in not yet established even in Japan proper. What are the judges doing? in Japan proper. What are the judges doing? They are no more than the tools of clau statesand delivering lectures on Formosa from time with the object of preserving the peculiarities of long as I have a possible set of the organisation of the Association was made at the end of last year. It is formed simply and delivering lectures on Formosa from time with the object of preserving the peculiarities of long as I have a spirit within me, so long as I

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have a mouth to speak with, I shall never cease to clamour about my removal. I intend to communicate openly with the Cabinet about my dismissal, and if my protest is not duly attended to I shall appeal to the nation at large."

Investigations completed by the Agricultural and Commercial Department show that the amount of rice produced last year was 33,001,015 koku, being a decrease of 16 per cent, as compared with ordinary years, and of I per cent, as compared with the 29th year, which was regarded to a certain extent as a year of failure. Further comparison with the 22nd year, which was characterized by a short crop, but in which the yield seached 33,007,566 koku, indicates a diminution of 6,551 koku.

The Kiciku Firen publishes statistics show ing the number of foreigners now in the employ of the Educational Department. Thus:—Law College, 4; Medical College, 2; Engineering College, 2; Literature College, 4; College of Science, 1: Agricultural College, 2; High Northine mal School, 2; High Commercial School, 5; Foreign Language School attached to the High Commercial School, 6; 1st High School, 5; 2nd, 2; 3rd, 1; 4th 1; 5th, 2; Yamaguchi High School, 1. Classified according to nationality, the following are the figures :-Germans, 13; English, 13; French, 4; American, 3; Belgians, 1; Italians, 1; Chinese, 2; Russians, Koreans and Swiss, 1 each.

The deficiency of grain can easily be supplied by means of imports, but the steady rise in its price is a source of anxiety as to the future of the poor people. Labourers and coolies of all descriptions may have been relieved of their embarrassment to a considerable extent by the enhancement of their wages, but in the case of necessitous farmers there is scarcely any means of aupport till the next harvest. Riots were of support till the next harvest. numerous in Iida and Yechigo in the fall of last year, and yet the price of rice was not so high as at present. The atmost precaution is high as at present. Indispensable on the part of the local authorities in dealing with these poorer classes. 1.8co strong is already beginning to agitate in the Shimane prefecture, and a report is to hand to the effect that on the evening of the 28th ult. a branch of the 3rd National Bank was surfounded by rioters who demanded that the monopoly of rice by that branch should at once be suspended. Being informed that the branch had never attempted a monopoly of the grain, they exclaimed that they would murder all the dealers concerned in the enterprise. The police interfered, and with great difficulty dispersed the mob, but unquiet still prevails.

As the climate was unusually mild last year. excellent results were obtained in sericulture, the number of rearing houses reaching 1,365675, These figures show an increase of 56,322 houses over the previous year, while the output of cocoons exceeded 2.124,238 koku, an increase of 292,860 koku, or 16 per cent. Following is a comparative table for the past five years :-

		Summer & Autumn		
Meil	i.	Spring Cocoons,		Total.
		In Irst.	koks.	hoku.
1016	year	1,657,139	467,096	2,124,23
20th	YEAL	1.,1,384,411	446.967	1,831.378
28th	year	1,697,893	560,370	2,258,173
27th	year	1,257.835	540,006	1.797,842
26th	VERI	1,225 018	461,876	1,686,89
	-			A 1 "

The ratio between spring cocoons, and those for summer and autumn works out as follows :-

			r and Autum
	Spring	Coccons.	Сосоота,
1807		78	22
1886	*********	76	24
1805	144-01-4-01-400 **	75	35
1801		70 82	30
		82	28

The reduction in summer and saturan cocoons is unmistakably apparent.

Referring to the situation of England, a diplowat writes in the Hochi :- Even if Russia should provoke war against England with the assistance of France and Germany, England could still command sufficient strength to oppose the allies with fair prospects of success. Cast Digitized by

England are extremely unsatisfactory. France, for instance, possesses such a station in Siam only, while in the case of England coaling stations are established in Gibraltar, Malia, and Cyprus, all the places of vantage in the Mediterranean being occupied by her alone. Nor does her advantage end here. Just after passing the Suez Canal she has Aden and then Colombo, Singapore and Hougkong. naval machinery is perfect and well arranged. From the mouth of the Thames to the inlet of the Yangtzekiang all places of vital importance are secured by England, It was sixty years ago that England first put forth her energies towards securing influence in the East, and now seven tenths of the vessels in the Orient are flying British flags. The control of Chinese Customs duties, Post, and Telegraphs has virtually fallen into her hands. To prevent Russian aggression she now demands from Chins the privilege of occupying Wei hai hai. In short, England gains most by the least exertion; other Powers who make the greatest commotion achieve the least. Though not so powerful as England Japan is attong enough to deserve the name of an influential Power in the Orient, but she fails not only to secure new advantages, but also to maintain the interest she has already acquired. Why does the Government remain ivert at the present conjuncture? Why B the nation still silent? Now is the time both for the government and the people.

While the question of the withdrawal of one yen paper notes occupies the public mind, it may be interesting, says the Nippon, to note the amount and classification of paper currency in circulation at the end of last year. Below are the figures :-

Deno		Bank	Convertible	
astic	n, paper.	p*per+	notes,	Fotnie,
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Ven.
100	11,900	_	450,502	452,400
50	4 400		-	4.400
20		11,602	-	11,560
10	302,145	22,815	9,410,490	9.735.450
5	162,260	62,900	9,606,315	9.831.475
1	155,354	39 344	_	194,698
L	905,836	79 815	30,269.906	31.255.557
	2 2 1 2 2 2	256 222		
	1 541,895	216,534	49,737,211	51,495,640
New	paper.			
100		_	14,855,900	14,855.900
10	364,355	_	60,069,740	60,434,095
5	480,510	3,077.250	63,755.040	67,212,800
1	3.354,026	1,730 944	37,811,166	42,896,137

4,098,891 4,808,194 176,491,846 185,398,932 Of the above amount 10,665,514 yen in Government and bank paper are to be gradually exchanged for convertible notes, and with-drawn from the market. In addition to this a sum of 68,081,073 yen in old and new one yen paper is likewise to be withdrawn.

The Forest publishes the criticism of Count Awa on the recent celebration of the 30th anniversary of the transfer of the capital to Tokyo: "What," said the Count, "the Forosu declined to be the promoter of the fête? That must be To say the truth, I can't understand what is the real object in making so much fuss, on the present occasion. I did not approve the scheme from the outset. In no country, I suppose, can a precedent be found for the hubbub that is now going on in the capital. We are only ridiculed by Englishmen. I have talked over the matter with Governor Okabe, but he, being only a quiet peer, was overpowered by the importunate exhortations of the promoters Nevertheless, if the Emperor had been induced to honour the occasion with his presence at Uyeno, I would have cushed into the Palace to persuade him to desist. The commotion about the Chinese question is now at its height, while the abnormal appreciation of rice has reduced the poor people to the last extremity. These hungry wretches are unable even to provide Nankin rice for their meals. Howis it possible to be joyous about the festivity? Yet the authorities appear not to be opposed to the project.

They are, many are inclined to lelieve, only atthe abnormal appreciation of rice has reduced

in the true crux of the situation. The oriental tempting to suppress popular feeling with re-coaling stations of European Powers other than gard to the Government's diplomacy. A word from my lips might at once secure a contribution of 500 or even 1,000 yes from my relatives, but the latter refused to subscribe any amount on account of my disapproval of the program-I was, however, so annoyed that I determined to subscribe fwo yen! The festivity in its true spirit should consist in sending a deputation of the citizens of Tokyo to the Emperor with congratulatory messages for the anniversary. Is the fête to be the celebration of the downfall of clannism?

> The Ryoto Chamber of Commerce has, in conformity with the decision of its general meeting, recently presented a memorial to the Government with regard to the development of practical enterprises as well as State railways. In the first place it is assetted in the most emphatic terms that the existence of various small companies which are engaged in the fur-therance of their own interests in different parts of the empire is over a source of abuse, leading to the reduction of velocity, accumulation of cargo, and irregularity of truffic. Secondly, it is noted that since State railways are managed under instructions from the Government, not only are they free from the abuses above remarked, but will be attended, both socially and financially, with considerable advantages. Thirdly, it is remarked that if, when mixed residence comes into operation, foreigners are to be prevented from buying railway shares, preparatory steps to that end must now he taken. Fourthly, the instability of the foundations of Japanese railways is proved from a financial point of view. Fifthly, comments are made in the effect that the operation of the revised treaties being close . hand, nothing can be more commendable in the interests of the country than a scheme for raising railway loans abroad, so as to enable the Government to be the sole proprietor of the railways throughout the country. The payments on railway shares now amount in over 100 million yen, and the Government may find it necessary to provide an enormous amount of funds for the purchase of railways. But the funds so spent virtually flow into the domestic market, in which case the rates of interest should be lowered and enterprises of all descriptions developed. Belgium has already set the example.

#### RUSSIA AND NORTHERN CHINA.

The following is the dislogue that occurred in the House of Commons with reference to the agitation caused in England by the originally received and errongons news of Russia's doing in Northern China :-

Sir E. Ashmead-Bartfett asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether Her Majesty's Government would communicate to the House the text of the written pledge given by the Tsar's Government as to free or open ports in Northern China.

Mr. Curzon: The pledge given by the Russian Government was shown in writing to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State, who took note of it. It was to the following effect:—Count Muraviell expressed great surprise at the agitation which appeared to prevail in England, both in the Press and official circles, on the subject of recent events in China, where English and Russian interests cannot be seriously antagonistic. Count Muravieff observed that various English statesmen of position had ed that various English statesmen of position had recognised it as perfectly natural that Russia should wish to have an outlet for her commence on the coasts of the North Pacific. Any such part would be open to the ships of all the Great Powers, like other ports on the Chinese maintand. It would be open to the commerce of all the world, and England, whose trade interests were so important in those regions, would share in the advantage.

Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett: I wish to ask my

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The yacht Haldee, purchased by Mr. O. Voigt from Mr. Baggallay, arrived here from Kobe on Wednesday morning, after a voyage of nine days, during which she experienced some rather beavy weather.

It was generally understood in Shanghai on the 4th inst. that the political horizon was clearing, and that Consols, Hongkong Bank shares, and the new loan had all improved II home.

Messrs, Carlowitz & Co. the Shanghai agents of the Hamburg America line, have received a telegram, to the effect that the second steamer to the Far East, the Adria, which was reported ashore on an island near Perim, can safely proceed on her voyage.

The Mitsui Bank put into force the following rates of interest from the 16th instant:-7 per cent. on fixed deposits for 12 months, 63 per cent, for 6 months, t sen 5 rin per day on current accounts, and 15 sen per day for temporary deposits of small sums.

The contract for the electric tramway between Machiapu, the terminus of the Tientain railway, and the Yungting Gate at Peking, has been given, the N.-C. Daily News says, to a German firm, and will be carried out with German material by Messrs, Siemens and Halake -of Berlin.

We are informed by Commodore Dewey, commanding the U.S. Naval Force on the Asiatic station, that by authority of the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy, the following values are announced for the quarter ending June 30th, 1898:-Imperial Japanese Yen, \$0.498; Mexican Dollar, \$0.444.

We are informed that Chevalier de Waepenaert, Belgian Consul at this port, is shortly going on leave to Europe, and that during his absence the Austro-Hungarian Consul, Mr. de Flesch, will be in charge of the Belgian Consulate. The archives of the Belgian Consulate have consequently been removed to the Austro-Hungarian Consulate, 76-B Bluff.

A Shanghai contemporary states that it was learnt in Nagasaki, when the Ernest Simons came through, that H.M.S. Narcissus was there, waiting to be docked in consequence of injuries sustained by her rudder, when telegraphic orders came for her to leave immediately, and she sailed within an hour with a jury

The U. S. cruiser Baltimore, 4,600 tons, 14 guns, arrived here on Monday morning from San Francisco via Honolulu, and after coaling will proceed on her voyage to join the squadron at Hongkong. We hear join the squadron at Hongkong. We hear that the Baltimore is fairly filled up with shells and other ammunition for the other vessels of the U. S. squadron.

From the Hongkong Daily Press of April 6th :- During the twenty-four hours ended at moon yesterday there were sixteen cases of plague reported and ten deaths. It is reported from Kowloon City that during the past fortnight three hundred cases of plague have been imported there from Hongkong.

Tay Chin Tee is a curiosity-a guileless Chinaman. He took a rikisha on his way from Johore to Singapore, putting some \$200 worth of jewellery in the vehicle. On reaching his destination he got out and went into his house to get money to pay the coolie, but on returning he found both rikisha and jewellery gone! Naturally,

Sir Charles Mitchell, Governor of the Straits Settlements, and Lady Mitchell, are among the Settlements, and Lain through the Empress of China.
Sir Charles Matchell is going home on twelve months' leave of absence. From Yokohama months' leave of absence. From Yokohama they proceed to Honolulu, where they will join the steamer from Australia to Vancouver, and go home by the Canadian route.

His Majesty the Emperor despatched a Chamberlain to the late Mr. Chioseone's Digitized by

with a message of condolence and a gift of yen not. Under the circumstances the steamer was 500 for funeral expense. On Wednesday 3,000 unable to go ahead or drop her anchor, and yen were presented by the late Mr. Chiossone's nearly went ashore on the French bund. trustee to the Chief of the Kojimachi District Tokyo, to be distributed, according to the will of the deceased artist, amongst the poor of that

We are asked to correct the statement made by a vernacular newspaper and translated into these columns on the 7th inst., to the effect these columns on the 7th inst., to the effect that Major-General Yanjoul, I.R.A., Military Attaché to the Russian Legation, is about to leave Japan and will probably be appointed Governor of the districts newly lessed to Russia in the Liaotung Peninsula. The story is a baseless invention.

We learn with satisfaction from the 7iji Shimpo that the rumour of Marquis Saionji's resignation owing to ill health is not trustworthy. His Excellency's condition has greatly improved, and he intends to take a trip to Hakone from the 20th instant. It is probably owing to the latter fact that stories of the Minister's resignation were circulated.

Arrangements are in progress for a young folks' evening at the next meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Suciety on Monday the 18th instant. There is to be a grand display of marionettes with appropriate music, and the rising generation of the capital will contribute various items of amusement. It seems a capital idea to set aside one evening for such a purpose, and we have no doubt that the innovation will prove very successful.

It is stated that Marquis Saionji, Minister of State for Education, makes disquietingly slow progress towards recovery, and that, having been urged by his physicians to abstain from all duties and submit to a course of treatment, his Excellency placed his resignation in the hands of the Minister President on the 9th instant. Marquis Saionji's retirement will be a great loss not only to the Cabinet but to the cause of education, and it is to be sincerely hoped that his health will soon be restored.

The Kingsin Line of Hamburg has contracted for the building of a new large passenger and cargo boat, with the Fleusburg shipbuilding The new boat, which is to be delivered in the fall of the current year, is to be 415 by 46.7 by 31.9, English measure. She will be able to carry a cargo from 6,000 to 7,000 tons. Her average speed is contracted to be 12 knots an hour.

A fire occurred in Shanghai on the night of the and instant by which the Customs Bank in the Szechuau Road was completely destroyed, A curious and regrettable circumstance has to he reported in connection with the fire, says the N. C. Daily News. The Hongkew division of the brigade dashed up to the scene of the conflagration with their hose and reel, and immediately they arrived the pony was taken out of the truck, as usual. He walked a few yards and fell down dead, having done his duty.

On the 12th instant a little before midnight, a woman passed through the gale at the third crossing between the Sannomiya and Kobe stations and deliberately walked along the track News says the woman was cut to pieces, and the remains were scattered over a distance of 130 yards. Nothing is yet known of the identity of the deceased, and there is nothing in the dress or appearance of the body to suggest a motive for self-destruction,

The N.-C. Daily News of the 4th instant reports :- As the M.M. steamer Melbourne was leaving the Company's buoy yesterday morning, at about 10 u'clock, for Woosung, she ian into a foreign houseboat sailing up-river at a point just opposite the Yangking-pang Creek All the passengers on board the houseboat consisting of a number of Chinese ladies and gentlemen and their families and servants bound for a picnic at the Lunghua Pagoda,

The first-class Russian line of battleship Georgi Pobedinostseff left Sebastopol on the 18th inst. Her destination, says a home paper, is supposed to be the Far East, as it is reported that the necessary permission has been granted by the Sultan for the passage through the Dardanelles. Naturally, the above is only a test vessel sent through the Bosphorus, and if no protests come from the other Great Powers more will immediately follow. Some aver that the uncertain relations between Russia and England have caused this move, but the supporters of this theory are decidedly in the minority.

The Hongkong Daily Press says :- The Holt Line steamer Polyphemus arrived at Colombo on the rolls of March from Penang in a seriously disabled condition, which will necessitate her remaining there probably for a month, till the repairs are made good. Her after tunnel the repairs are made good. Her after tunnel shaft and bearing block broke on her voyage there from Penang; but the ship's engineers effected temporary repairs, and the vessel was able to go on at reduced speed, and reached Colombo five days behind time. The local agents wired to the owners at home for instructions. The Polyphemus has a lot of cargo, chiefly for Amsterdam.

A Hongkong exchange says that the French have been taking precautions for the defence of Along Bay, in the Gulf of Tonkin. During his recent visit to Hongay, M. Doumer, the Governor-General, held consultations with Admiral de la Bédollière, the colonel commanding the artillery, and other high officers. Batteries will be established at certain points, and the torpedo boats will be mobilised and other dispositions made for defensive operations. merely tentative measures. Steps will be taken subsequently to provide permanent defeasive works.

The New York Tribune, discussing the posaibilities of war, says :—The adequate protection of the port of New York is of vital importance in case of any danger of war. The great interests, commercial and industrial, centring in this metropolis demand defence of the most ample nature. But the policy which has been pursued has failed, in the minds of most army and navy officers, to provide for any emergency such as strained relations between this government and any foreign power may give rise to. The situation may be summed up by saying that the defences now existing are regarded as wholly inadequate in case of the invasion of this port by modern ironclads. The vessels could lie out of range of the existing batteries and could shell this city with their high-power gnus, or they could run past the forts and reach points of comparative safety within close range of the entire city.

The Hon. H.E. Wodehouse, C.M.G., left Hongkoug on April 6th by the C.P. steamer Empress of China, having retired from the public service. Mr. Wodehouse came out as a cadet in 1867 and has seen service in acting or substantive appointments in most of the Government departments. Since 1881 be has been Police Magistrate and Coroner. He was, says the Daily Press, a capable eigeniser and his services were requisitioned as Hon. Secretary to the Hongkong Commission in connection with the Indian and Colonial Exhihition, for which he received the distinction of C.M.G. Mr. Wodehouse is the inventor of the fire dispatch box used by the Fire Brigade, which has been found useful in extinguishing incipient fires.

We (China Mail) hear by the steamer Esmeralds of what may be called a serious reverse to the leaders of the Philippine Rebellion, which is stated to have taken place in Manila on Friday, the 25th March. Some bundred and fifty of the rebels were holding a meeting, so we are informed, in a house in Manifa, and many of those present worse badges of the insurgent movement. News got to the authorities, ched a hung on to the steamer's chains, but it is not that, upon a refusal to surrender, with the result shouse was whether any persons were drowned or the social dentification is were killed, some UNIVERSITY OF HIMOIC AT

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

forty were wounded, and the remainder were taken prisoners. The prisoners, we are informed, did not long remain in confinement. They were released—by death. It may be that the modern mode of settling rebellions by a pay ment (or a so-called payment) of money has made the Philippines careless or reckless. Otherwise it seems inconceivable why the rebels should meet in the centre of the lion's den, to discuss the future government of the Philip We hear that a few of the so-called rebels who were said to have been bought off returned to the Philippines, and that several of them have paid the penalty.

In reply to a question put by Lord Charles Beresford III the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons on the 25th Feb , Mr. Curzon is reported to have said:-The following are the arrangements which have been agreed in by the Chinese Government on the representations of Her Majesty's Minister at Peking: (1) The internal waterways of China will be opened to British and other steamers in the course of June next, so that wherever use of native boats is now permitted by treaty, foreigners shall be equally allowed to employ steamers or steam launches, whether owned by them or by Chinese. (2) In view of the great importance attached by Great Britain to the retention of the Yangtsze region in the Chinese possession, the Chinese Government have formally intimated to the British Government that there can be no question of territory in the valley or region of the Yangtsze being morigaged, leased, or ceded m any Power. The post of Inspector General of Maritime Cus toms shall in the future, as in the past, be held by a British subject, so long as British trade with China at the ports continues to exceed that of any other Power. (4) A port will be opened in Hu-nan within two years. It is not a mere verbal arrangement; it is an explicit and a definite arrangement, but whether it has been embodied in a treaty I do not know, as it has only just

reached us by telegram. In the event of a naval struggle between Great Britain and Russia in the Far East, the question as to who held Port Arthur would have, writes a naval expert in the Globe, a most important bearing on the conduct of the war. It would be in any case imperative for us, at the commencement of hostilities, to acquire a naval station for ourselves in the North. Hongkong would be too far removed from the chief scene of action for any other use than as a sepairing base for those of our ships which were actionally damaged, and which were yet able to steam 1,500 miles. What we should want would be a base for torpedo operations and a safe and handy rendezvous for the fleet. If Japan was acting in concert with us, Wei-haiwei and Nagasaki would be all that we should require in this respect. But it alone we should be forced to make strengous efforts to seize a harbour which would satisfy our requirements for docking, and be strong enough to afford a proper shelter to our fleet. There is not an officer who has served of late on the China Station who does not appreciate the urgent necessity for such a port. Chusan has been suggested as a likely place, but it has many natural disadvantages, and is devoid of dockyard or docks, or indeed, resources of any kind. What is wanted in a good harbour on the main-land as near the entrance to the Gulf of Pechi-li as possible-situated, in fact, on the narrow isthmus of Liao-tung itself. The very best, though one which has never been publicly proposed as yet, is undoubtedly that of Victoria Bay, an indentation in the large Bay of Talienwan. Victoria Bay affords a splendid anchorage in 51 to 31 fathoms, with a bottom of tenacious mud. In 1860, the chief portion of the British fleet and transports anchored in two lines along its south shore; the remainder on its eastern. The auchorage is shelted from all winds except those from E. N. E. to E.S.E., and on the south side it is sheltered even from and on the south side it is sheltered even from gales from this quarter. By acquiring Victoria Bay, and making it a properly fortified naval station, we should place an effectual check on Russian pretensions in the Far East.

Commission will be Sou or God—It they are ask. It is the officials of the Japanese Patents Buteau discriminate invidiously against foreigners. I have never made any such statement, and I obstantiantly is a Cosmopolite in religion as a general thing. The question should propound itself to the be addied with it, first because I believe it thing.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### " POLICY" CHRISTIANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,-The Doshisha controversy has assumed proportions most inappropriate to the merits of the matter. That the donors of funds who were led to believe that they were aiding in the establishment of a School the special object of which was to be, a large degree, the tenching of the dogmas of the Christian religion, have a grievance is easy to understand. They may with reason claim that they have been deceived; but to hold the Japanese government as aiders and abettors in the sequel of the deception, to one who is without bias in the premises, appears alisard. The government had no interest in the institution, it being a private venture of the founders. All the years that it was supported by the contributions of Christians the government paid no heed to its existance—Chris tian teachers and Christian scholars might teach and be taught all the Missionary Society might demand, without question or hindrance from efficialdom. So it was well. The government in its wisdom inangurated a Public School system under which all schools established by the State were to be supervised by the State and subject to such regulations as might from time to time be promulgated by the Department of Education. One wise provision of the law under which the Public School system was established was that no religious instruction should be allowed to be given in any school recognized as a Public School, The United States of America, the cradle of the Public School system, has that provise as one of the fundamental laws of the educational system. Religious training is to be obtained in Theological Schools established at private cost. The better sense of the people has resolutely stayed the hands of the Christian Church from any control of the Public Schools; the Bible is excluded from them. The Churches, Sunday Schools, Christian associations—places where religious dogma is Implitueing considered sufficient for all the needs of Christian training. Japan is heading in the Same path, ignoring afficeligious on behalf of the State, leaving all man to follow their come way unpublicated. enving all man to follow their own way unmolested in matters of faiths; emphatically declating that all religions are equal before the law. It happens that in schools of a certain grade the immunity from conscription until the age of 28 is vouchsafed to the students thereof. Nothing wrong in that, the immunity is granted in hebalf of higher education. When a student enters a school of that grade he gives evidence of good faith that he will earn, the fruits of the immunity granted him. Discrimination cannot be charged when the government ignores all polyate institutions of learn-Discrimination cannot be charged when the government ignores all private institutions of learning, no matter how high the stendard of the curiculum, by witholding this immunity from the students enroled therein. The School law is made to govern State Schools. A private gentleman might elect to occupy a full staff of minimat professors to devote their time to the education of his only son. If that son was conscripted at the age of 10 would a wrong be done him under the law?

19 would a wrong be done thin those the law. Without a desire for mastering Theological sub-terfuge, religious instruction can be circumvented that the actual tenning for all the terings, resignous instruction can be cheanweated at other places than the school; enough for all the spiritual wants of the youth—a high standard of morality can be attained without the fetish of any religion. To come back to the "Dashisha." To judge from the acts of the Christian gentlemen judge from the acts of the Christian gentlemen, connected with the institution, the level of motal sense attained by them is not as high as it might have been, in fact it is difficult to discover how much lower it could have been. The fewer students graduating from the "Doshisha" under the motal influence of such men, the better for the future of Japan. It is hardly to be expected that the pupil shall be in advance of the preceptor. Taking things as they appear, the patrons of the "Doshisha" should congratulate themselves that they are well rid of a fraud. Perhaps, the State can improve it I. In the future it will not profess

can improve it! In the luture it will not profess to be what it is not.

There are Christians and Christians—Christians, zealous in good works, with a fad; policy Christians with a purpose; Occidental Christians and Oriental Christians; Christians who have a care for their hunour as men; "Doshisha" Christians, who profess that they are of the elect but who by their acts discover to the world that they are without hunour or common honessy. without bosour or common honesty they are Obliging Christians who will testify to God's good-ness and what He has wrought in their soulssetting forth the buly juy they experience in their communion with the Son of God—if they are ask-

minds of all those who are so deeply exercised over the "Doshisha" affair. Of what use would it be to perpetuate the supply of the sort of Christian that would graduate from the institution, the moral sense of the trustees of the School, who the moral sense of the trustees of the School, who all these long years have, until the late fished, been considered as shining examples of Christianity in Japan—is considered of as high a standard as Christianity demands? Probably there are more policy Christians in Japan—as well as in the world at large, than any other class of the great multitude who claim to be on intimate terms with their God. Do not be too severe on the "Doshisha" contingent. Foreign capital will produce any number of the same sort.

Yours, &c., Yokohama, April 9th, 1898.

FOREIGN PATENTS IN JAPAN,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL." Str.—As you remark in your leading article of the 5th inst., the simple statements relating to this subject which you have more than once presented could not (or perhaps aught not to) have left any doubt in the mind of an Ordinarily Intelligent Person.

But as for vacious, and possibly opposite, reasons, we cannot all of us write O. I. P. after

our names, some of m may be excused for desiring yet a little further light upon the subject. First, as regards your Japanese friend J., who registers a patent in Great Britain. As your rightly say, that patent is protected against violation by British subjects (and for that matter by his again fellow countrymen or persons of any by his own fellow countrymen or persons of any other nationality) in the United Kingdom, but it is not protected from similar violation in Japan But who on earth ever expected that it would be so protected in Japan? Not the O. I. P., I

one to protected in Japan t too the S. I. . . . I should happe.

The take the converse case: Does the solitary foreigner—an abusican, I brileve,—who has succeeded in abtaining a Japanese patent, imagine for a moment that that patent will protect him in America against intergement of his invention either by Japanese or his own countrymen, unless he takes the proper steps to protect himself by a second—United States—patent? Or if a Canadian takes out a patent in Bolivia, or vice verst, does that patent protect him in his own country? Then why should J. consider himself aggrieved because Her Britannic Majesty's Courts in Japan "have no competence whatever in regard to patents registered in great Britain," and because they are compelled to answer: "We take no cognizance of Japanese law which protects the patent" (presumably that registered in England, as you mention one only, and use the definite article) "in Japane"? Of course they can "take on cognizance," because no such Japanese law exists for protecting British patents, either in Japan or elsewhere, and whether held by in America against inhingement of either in Japan or elsewhere, and whether held by Japanese or foreigners.

Next, may I ask in what respect the practice of the Consular Courts of the United States differs from that of other consular courts upon this point. And do citizens of the United States obtain any

reciprocal advantages upon that account?

I confess that when I first read the paragraph which I have just criticized, I took its meaning to be as follows:

If J. holding a Japanese patent, finds that B, a Britisher, is infringing his patent (not in England, but in Japan), and sues him in a British Consular Court, his application will be dismissed, on the ground "We have no enguizance, &c."

On closer examination, I find that you have not said anything of the sore; but I wonder how the O.I.P., for whose benefit it was presumably writ-

O.L.P., for whose hencit it was presumably written, understood it?

Even supposing that the latter in a correct statement of the actual fact, whether you intended to make it, or not, what theo? It is not a new state of things brought about by the Japanese concession to grant patents to foreigners, but merely a continuation of the status quo ante, entirely unaffected by that concession.

Again. Robitsins a Languege matent, and

Again, B obtains a Japanese patent, and I infringes it. I sues him in a Japanese Court, and Consular jurisdiction has nothing whatever to do with it. It seems to me that Conwhatever to do with it. It seems to me that Con-sular jurisdiction may very well he left ont of the question altogether. For this reasons I retrain from importing into the discussion the Protocol signed in Landon on 20th October last.

I must now revert to a point in your former arrive of 29th March, in you accuse me of stating

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would only obscure the real point at issue. I have, however, strongly protested, and still protest, against the extraordinary legal fiction which supposes that the granting of a patent somewhere on the other side of the globe a single day before the filing of a Japanese application by the person who has obtained the patent abroad, or by his legal representative, is tantamount to previous use in Fapan. I have also pointed out that this fiction, while it does not affect the bond fide Japanese inventor, who naturally applies first for his patent at home before he tries to obtain one abroad (knowing that he has plenty of time allowed for doing my presses hardly upon the foreign applicant, who must lock up his invention in his own desk until he is morally cectain that his Japanese application has been filed, and must meanwhile um the tisk of anticipation at home. would only obscure the real point at issue. I

meanwhile run the risk of anticipation at home. I wish further to remark that in the Japanese regulations, which, as you have rightly pointed out, were originally intended solely for the purpose of affording protection to Japanese applicants without any reference to foreigness, the terms "in public use," and "not novel" could only refer to "public use" and "not novel" could nay refer to "public use" and "not novely" in Japan: and I still strongly believe that, in every case in which a patent has been refused to a Japanese applicant on the ground of want of novelty, it will be found that the invention was, or might have been, know to scores of other persons

novelly, it will be found that the invention was, or might have been, know to scores of other persons residing in Japan at the time of the application. Of course I cannot prove this point, but until at least one instance to the contrary has been cited, with dates, I must be allowed to hold to my belief. I have been reprimanded for flippancy, if not for contempt of court, both by yourself and by the editor of the Fapan Times, for the expressions which I used in pointing out that the above-named Japanese fiction was absolutely unique and without precedent; but neither you nor he have impured that statement by quoting a single instance pugued that statement by quoting a single instance to the contrary except that of Germany; and I

am surprised that you fail, or seline, to recognize the signal difference between the two cases.

"The foreign official publication of a specification will not be fatal to the application for a German will not be a German will not be appli man patent until after three months from the dote man patent intil after three months from the dele-of isane, if the German patent is applied for hy-the person who has applied for the patent abroad, or by his legal representative, and if the foreign State (or each of them in which the official publi-State (or each of them in which the official priori-cation shall have taken place) be one in which, according to a publication in the Imperial Gasette, reciprocity is guaranteed."

In the first place, Japan declines to comply with the simple condition of guaranteeing reciprocity,

and has only herself to thank for the disability which she could at once remove, if she chose; and in the second place, foreign official publication of a specification even in countries which, conditionally or unconditionally, grants a term of grace is absolutely fatal to the application for a Japanese patent.

I am inclined to suspect that the failure of the I am inclined to suspect that the failure of the German agreement in this particular respect is due to the fact that it was negotiated by diplomatists who knew little and cared less about patent practice, and who probably thought that one set of patent regulations was as good as another; but even supposing that a German translation of the Japanese Regulations then existed, and that it was submitted to a patent expect to report upon, he might very easily have been misled by the was summered to a patent expert to report upon, be might very easily have been misled by the somewhat vague wording of Atticles II, and X, of those Regulations, and might have failed to suspect that they had been, might be, or could be,

Commerce take up this matter, instead of leaving it to be threshed out in the newspapers? It is one peculiarly within their cognizance.

Apologizing for the length to which this letter

has unavoidably run,

I remain, Yours, &c.,

W. SILVER HALL.

Tokyo, 11 April, 1898.

#### THE DOSHISHA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir, -- Your editorial on the "Doshisha Quesin" in your issue of Maich 26th is on the whole tion" in your issue of March 26th is on the whole so satisfactory that I wish to express my thanks for the same. There is, however, one sentence in it concerning a matter of fact which seems to me a mistake; it is to state the exact case that I ask for a few lines. Referring to the special committee sent to Japan by the American Board in 1895 you state that the "Committee required the Trustees of the College to publicly endorse a certain declaration of faith. The Trustees refused. They said that in their opinion the consequence of the proposed step would be to confound edigious propagadism with secular education, etc." This

seems to be the popular impression as to the nature of the interview held by the committee with the Trustees of the Doshisha; I have come account to more than once in conversation. Yet it is quite it more than once in conversation. Yet it is quite incorrect. I think it will be found that the following is the correct statement of what took place at that time.

On account of the public utterances of one or more of the instructors in the employ of the Dushisha attacking the fundamentals of Christian belief and morality, such as the existence and personality of God, the nature of Christ, and the immortality of the soul, and the destructive influence of such anti-Christian teaching on the young men in the school, the question was forced on the Mission and on the Board as to what the Trustees understood by the term "Christian." The Constitution of the Doshisha reads that "Christianity is the foundation of the moral education promoted by this company." The American Board's Committee simply asked the Trustees to state what they understood "Christianity" to mean. They did not present to the Trustees a definite confession of On account of the public utterances of not present to the Trustees a definite confession of faith or creed which they asked the Trustees to sign, as the sentence in your editorial seems to imply, but they rather sought by conversation to learn what they meant, in order to find out whether the Board could consistently continue in co-operation with them. As I have said above, this inquiry

tion with them. As I have said above, this inquiry was forced by the utterances and actions of members of the Doshisha faculty, which utterances and actions by no stretch of the term could be called "Christian;" at least, so it seemed not only to our Mission and Board, but to others also.

The following quantation from the "Report of the Deputation to Japan" (p. 15) though cather long, will make the above statements clear. It should be noticed also that the source of the difficulty felt by the Toustees, so far at least as appeared in their conversations, was not that difficulty felt by the 10 steeps, so lar at cast as appeared in their conversations, was not that the proposed step would "confound religious propagandism with secular education," but simply that "they must not ally themselves with any party" (sect or denomination).

"Wo, the deputation, asked if they would affirm as among the beliefs for which the Doshisha stood in least the propagation of Conf. The divinity of

as among the beliefs for which the Doshiha stood in Japan, the personality of God, the divinity of Christ, and the future life. They declared they could not. While as individuals they could affirm their acceptance of these beliefs, as trustees they could not affirm them, since differences existed among Christians on these points, and they must not ally themselves with any party. they must not ally themselves with any party. When asked if they would accept the creed of the Rumiai Churches in definition of the sense in which they used the word Christians, they declined, saying that they would thus identify themselves with a single denomination. When necineo, saying that they would thus identify themselves with a single denomination. When urged at two long conferences to make some statement, however brief, in language of their own, of what they meant by "Christianity," since the word did not in their minds involve the above-named beliefs, they declined. They said it was immecessary; that, having declared their purpose to maintain a Christian institution, they should be fursted to do so; that to affirm the above-named beliefs would narrow the basis of the Unishould be rusted to do so; that to a min the above-camed beliefs would carrow the basis of the Uni-versity, would cause the resignation of professors whose services they did not wish to lose, would repel students who were encouraged now to enti-tive school by its spirit of free inquiry." After further statements and explanations, "the reply was that the whole subject had been a matter of was that the whole subject had been a matter of thought with them; that theological opinion in Japan was in a formative state, and beliefs were musettled; that for that reason and for the reason that it would be disastrons for them to act now under the appearance of compulsion, they could make no statement whetever, except that they should maintain a Christian University. They said that they had done the best possible under the circumstances; that, though there were some professors who were not Christians, efforts would be made, as changes occurred, to secure such

A careful reading of the entire statement of the Deputation does not reveal a single statement of the Trustees to the effect that the definition of what "Christianity" means would tend to "conwhat "Christianity means wond tentro bear-found religious propagandism with secular education." That question was not prominent at that time. What they desired was absolute freedom of religious thought untrammelled by definitions and pledges, and total separation from all forms of sectarianism.

professors only as would be in barmony with the Christian spirit of the institution."

Thanking you for your generous allowance of space, I am, very respectfully yours,

SIDNEY L. GULICK,

Matsuyama, Iyo.

Our explanation was taken from the published statement of Mr. Kosaki, President of the Doshisha.—Eb. J. M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—I am very since that you and your readers will be interested to know that the Kumi-of Chinches (which have grown up in connection with the work of the American Board's Mission) which have just gathered in representative Council in

Tukyo, have voted:
1. That the act of the Dashisha Trustees expunging a part of the unchangeable foundation of the School was a lawless or unrighteons act,

(fuhō no shoi).
2. That we admonish the trustees to revive these expunged articles.

expunged articles.

3. That a committee of seven he appointed to follow up the matter in case the Dushisha refuse to give heed to this action.

This vote was greeted with applause from delegates and spectations, and these Churches have now in the most emphatic way possible put themselves on record as disapproving this action.

I remain sincerely yours, M. L. GORDON. April-13, 1898.

#### N.Y.K. STEAMER'S TRIAL TRIP.

The Tamba Maru, one of the latest boats of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European service, passed her trials on Wednesday and qualified for the Government subsidy. The Tamba is a fine steamer with the loty double bridge, the single funnel, and the high poop of the class of the Kanagawa Maru. Built to accommodate a large cargo, her segistered tomage is 3517; her length between aprights 445 feet; her beam 49 ft. 2 in.; her depth 33 it. 6 in. Her poop measures 76 feet in length, her bridge deck 110 feet, and lorecastle 55 feet. The bridge is 42 feet above the water line when the stemmer is fully loaded.

As a passenger boat the Tamba Maru, like the

As a passenger bont the Tamba Maru, like the other European boats of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, is extremely comfortable. The accommudation is not of course so large as on some of the more purely passenger boats, but every effort is made to study the well-heing of passengers, and it must be a fastidious man or woman who could not make himself or heavy for the six must be a fastidious man or woman who could not make himself or herself extremely cosy on the six or seven weeks' voyage to Burope. The subins are exceptionally large and fitted with every modera convenience. The subous is well lighted and air y, tastefully decounted, and comfortably uplinistered, while a splendid system of ventilation lessens smuch of the discomfort experienced in the Red Sea and some tropical ports. There is a large promounde deck, a cosy smoke room, a social half, good batts, and in short all the features of a first-class liner. And, moreover, a chief steward and a chief who understand their business. chef who understand their business.

the who understand their business. The Tamba has already made one journey from Europe, but owing to the engineers' strike there were sume defects to her machinery which have had to be semedied at Yakosuka. Now, there were some defects in her machinery which have had to be remedied at Yakosuka. Now, however, she is quite in the best working order, and, nearly painted in black and red, she looks as amart a ship as any entering Yokosukama port. The Tamba was built by Napier, Shaaks, and Bell, of Glasgow, and engined by Dousmuir and Co., a Clyde firm. She is under the command of Captain H. Barnes, an able and experienced navigator, who has seen much experience on the service of first class companies like the Castle Line; and her engine department is superintended by Mr. Crawford, long in the N. Y. K's eastern service. Her crew is of course Japanese, but the officers, with the exception of Mr. Mamura, the lounth, are all English. Mr. Christiansen is first officer; Mr. H. H. Coe second; and Mr. W. McKenzie third. The trials took place under most favourable circumstances. Wednesday was a lovely dey, and, though in the early morning these was just enough breeze to make the water spatche in the sunshine, towards none even this died away, and Tokyo Bay was as smooth as a mill pond. In these circumstances the Tamba Maria was enabled to do extremely good work. Macogured by the Captain, under the supervision of Tei Shinsho

these circumstances the Tamba Maru was enabled to do extremely good work. Mangeuved by the Captain, under the supervision of Tei Shinsho (Communication Department) officials, Captain Iwato, and Mr. Paxton, Assistant Superindent of the NY.K., she made a trip across the Bay to the North West, turned and resturned, and was generally put through her paces in the approved style. The result was that she easily satisfied the Government requirement as to speed—14 knots per hour. Her average record was 14-31; her minimum speed 13.017, and her maximum 14.673. The revolutions of her screw averaged 8: to 83 per minute. Among the visitors on board were The revolutions of the sciew averaged 8; to 83 per minute. Among the visitors on board were Mr. K. Minskami, of the Customs Office; Mr. K. Orani (Chairman), Mr. T. Higuchi, Mr. T. Hanzai, Mr. I. Sudzumoto, Mr. T. Okada (Secretary), and other members of the Yukohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Conil

Original from



(agent principal de la Compagnie des Message ies Maritimes) Mr. Hutcheson, and Mr. A. Woolley (of the foleign Chamber of Commerce Woolley (of the foleign Chamber of Commerce and Harbour Improvement Committee); Mr. S. Iwanaga, Mr. A. Macmillan, and Mr. E. Pallister (Head Office Nippon Yusen Kaisha); Mr. T. Hayashi and Mr. I. Wada (Yokohama branch office); Captain Mackenzie (Kanagawa Maru), Captain Couk (Bingo Maru), Mr. Taylor (chief engineer of the Bingo Maru), Captain Curnow,

A profuse hospitality was extended to the visitors, who were entertained to a tiffic which spake eloquently of the resources of the chef's galley. At the conclusion of the meal Mr. Havassi addressed the company in Japanese, the effect of his remarks being as follows :-

GENTLEMAN, --- We deem it a great honour to to have your presence at the trial trip of the Company's eighth new steamer, Tamba Maru, to-day, which leaves for Europe on April 16th, being the which leaves for Europe on April 16th, being the 25th voyage since the inauguration of the Company's European service. The Company's new ships have been gradually arriving from abroad, and some of them, after passing the examinations necessary for the provisions of the law, have already made one or two trips. I avail myself of this opportunity of the presence of the Committees of the Japanese and Foreign Chambers and Commerce and company of the Press to of Commerce and representatives of the Press to make a few remarks. The development of Japanran foreign trade since the war has been remarkeve foreign trade since the war has treen remarkable, and the arrivals and departmes of vessels in Yokahama have been greatly increased in consequence. In 1896, no Company opened the services to Europe, America and Australia, and from next month, as has been our intention for some next month, as has been our intention for some time past, we shall non steamers to Europe every fortnight. As a result, the aggregate tomage of the Company's steamers entering and running from Yukohama on the above line will reach 450,000 tons per annum. This ing and running from Yokutama on the above line will reach 450,000 tons per annum. This goes to show the ever-increasing prosperity of Yokohama. Although congratulations may be expressed on that point, there is a pressing necessity for the improvement of the banhour, which, I believe, will be an important feature towards aiding the future prosperity of Yokohama. The incressant coming and going of vessels calls for these improvements, and the attention of all concerned is being directed towards such an object. Our Chamber of Commerce has already appointed a Committee to formulate a scheme for the improvement of the Yokohama harbour. I hear that the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, too, has recently appointed a Committee for a similar purpose. Furthermore, it has been proposed to make a joint effort on the part of the two Chambers so that the desired improvements shall be carried into effect. Without doubt, the two Chambers are, as it were, the two wheels of a cart. Especially do I esteem the proposal for a joint action of the two Chambers in the manner of the harbour invigorements in the proposal for a joint action of the two Chambers in the matter of the harbour improvements in question. I am pleased to say that I am appointed to form one of the Committee of the Yokobama Japanese Chamber of Commerce. Needless to say, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is always prepared to give all possible support for the public interests of Yokohama, and more so since the improvements to question bear an important relation to the business of our Company. Tregret I am not qualified to ably fulfit the part of a Committeeman, but I to ably fulfit the part of a Committeeman, but I mean to do all in my power to promote the interests of Yokoliama. Lastly, I beg to state that I am pleased to avail myself of this opportunity of wishing the Chambers of Commerce all prosperity. Mr. Orans added a few words on behalf of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce. He said the

japanese Chamber of Commerce, the said the apanese Chamber longed and expected to cooperate with the Foreign Chamber in all matters affecting the improvement of the harbour. That the harbour wanted some improvement and regu-lation could not be denied. They had at present the Kanagawa Maru waiting outside the harhous unable to enter because there was no toom for her. The improvement of Yokohama harbour was a very important matter both for the part and the He wished success to the N.Y.K. and company. He wi

Mr. A. WOOLLRY said he regretted very much that the foreign Chamber of Commerce was not better represented, but, speaking on behalf of the Harbour Improvement Committee, he could only say that he should do his atmost to formulate some proposal which would be submitted to the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, and he hoped the two bodies would wouk together in a way that would benefit both Japanese and foreigners slike. He thought be voiced the feelings of foreigners slike. He thought be voiced the feelings of foreigners when he said they were most glad at the progress when he said they were most glad at the progress of the company. He wished not only that ship and its Captain every success, but also every success to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha itself.

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The did not believe that the German Emperor saved England from its policy of Emperor saved England from its policy of Serious Torkey, as he undoubtedly did in the feelings of the company. He wished not only that ship and its Captain every success, but also every success to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha itself.

Digitized by GOSTE say that he should do his atmost to formulate some

Mr. Conil added a few words in French, in which he wished both the ship and the Company success, and added that the foreign companies applanded the enterprise and energy of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

At the conclusion of the trials Captain Barnes was heartily congratulated on his success.

#### RUSSIA IN THE EAR EAST.

To the House of Commons on the 1st March, Sir E. Ashmead Bartlett rose to call attention to the advance of the Russian Power in North-Eastern Asia, and to move: "that it is of vital importance for British commerce and influence that the independence of Chinese territory should be main tained."

He said that the great importance of our mercial relations with China and the cemarkable interest shown by the outlie in this country in the recent crisis in the Far Est were a sufficient justification for the motion. The essential principle of British interests in Northern China and in the Northern Pacific was, in his opinion, the maintenance of the integrity and independence of Chinese territory. The pledge as to free commerce and open ports which had been given by Rossia to this country, in exceedingly ambiguous terms, would be of no value whatever, even if observed in the letter, were Russia allowed to oversion and control any large portion of Chinese recitory. The most remarkable fact of the last twenty years ne mast remarkable rate of the last twenty years had been the extraordinary advance of the Russian power, especially in North-Rastem Asia. The end which Russia had in view in her movement during the past fifty years was to obtain control of the rich and populous districts of Northern China and to establish herself as a great naval Power in the Northern Pacific. He should like to hear from the Gavernment whether there had been any Russian military occupation of Manchinia or other portions of Chinese territory. The population of Manchuria was fine and soldier like, and if these this territory was occupied and controlled by Russia this territory was occupied and controlled by Russia it would be used directly as a feeding ground for the Russian Army. Once given control of this enormous fighting force, then Russia's pledges, as well as China's pledges, with regard to Central China would be absolutely valueless, because Russia would have the control of a military power which would enable her to over-sun practically the whole of Chinase territory. The territorial independence of China was, therefore, of the unmost importance. The key to the military and commercial position was the Trans-Siberian Railway. The moment that tailway was completed Russia The moment that tailway was completed Russia would be mistress of the position by land, and no policy that this country or Japan could then adopt would be an effective check. He should like to know whether the Cassini Treaty was in lorce, and whether China had given Russia permission to take a short cut through Chinese territory with the railway. All the present difficulties of this country were due to the change difficulties of this country were due to the change which took place in 1893 in the foreign policy of this country. Since that time this country had been steadily poshed down hill in every part of the world. The Government of 1893 began the course of alienating all our ancient and natural allies, and locking us into a position of isolation. The establishment of the Japanese at Port Arthur would have been a bulwark against the Russian advance southward, and for us the rise of the Japanese power in the flast might be of providential benefit; for we could not maintain on position in the Northern Pacific without its help. position in the Northern Pacific without its help. But the short-sighted and positianimous policy of the late Government had deliberately abandoned Japan to France and Russia. He believed that the late Government had deliberately abandoned Japan to France and Russia. He believed that the late Prime Minister was in favour of action, but was overraled by his colleagues. Now the present Government was confinited with a present Government was community similar crisis, and if they cared they could at present control the whole Chinese question with the assistance of Japan. As to the German occupation of Kiao-chine, he regarded it as a similar stroke of policy. The object of the occupation of \$130-cline, he regarded it as a brilliant stroke of policy. The object of the move, besides benefiting Germa commerce, was to expose Russian aims in North-East Asia and arouse British interest. It was obvious that the Graman Emperor had been as successful in his lineign policy during the last ten years as the British Government had been misuccessful, but he did not helieve that the German Emperor's policy was hostile to this country. The German Emperor saved England from its policy of mad entitionatalism.

flicting interests between this country and Russia and France in Africa and China to be convinced that an alliance with those countries was injurious and illusive. He thought the House should have from the Government a clear statement as to the pledges given by Russia in regard to keeping open any ports in China which might come under her courted. He also thought there was considerable ambiguity about the undertaking given by Germany in regard to Kiao-chow, which ought to be cleared up by the Government. He ventured, in conclusion, to asset that the maintenance of the territorial integrity of China was absolutely neces-sary for British commerce and British influence; and he would add as a corollary to that that the territorial integrity of China could only be secured by an alliance with Japan and an understanding with Germany.
Mr. T. G. Bawles seconded the motion.

thought there was every justification for bringing it forward. The position in regard to China wore a less satisfactory aspect now then at the opening of Parliament, and it was doing a service to the Government to give it the opportunity of making further statement outlie question. He hoped the sult proceeding, and that therefore the Foreign Office must should itself in mystery and silence. The view of the Foreign Office probably was that China was a vulgar place connected with trade, a long way off, and having no allequate amusements for the voting gentlemen sent atmad by the Folong way off, and having no aurequate aumements for the voting gentlemen, sent abund by the Foreign Office as Attachés.—(Laughter.) But from the point of view of British hade there was not, perhaps, in the whole world a country so important as China. He did not except India from that statement; and in regard to Africa, the people in that country did not wear clothes, and where people did not wear clothes they needed very little that England could sell them,—(Langhter.) In that Engrand could see toem.—(Languer,) to Chioa the consumers were already made; and, seeing that the markets were being closed to us one by one in all parts of the world, the only hope for a great expansion of British trade in the future lay in that country.—(Hear, hear.) The exput and import trade of Chioa was, according to the £35,000,000 were conducted by Great Britain Shoulds trade was not one troth of what could, should, and would be carried on with China if only her independence was maintained and ade-quate pressure was exercised upon the Comese authorities to remove the fiscal and administrative barriers which alone impeded the circulation of commerce throughout the length and breadth of commence thoughout the length and the author the land. The interest of India, ton, was concerned, while the future of Australia was not indirectly concerned also in the fature of China. Taking advantage of the Japanese war Russia and France came to ward in China's exirremity as her friends, and Russia especially intervened as her friend. Russia had so hypnotised China that she was now absolutely injunction of the tract of the Court of Peking, In October, 1895, the Government was absolutely and fully aware of the danger of the Rossian action and diny aware of the danger of the Rossian action upon China. Whether they now so agreed, and whether so agreeing they were prepared to take steps to guard China from the dangers indicated, they would learn in the course of that debate. Coming to the more active phase of the policy of Parising of Course, the course of the policy of Russia and Germany, the former sent men-war to Port Arthur, but, so far as was known, not with, the intention of permanent occupation; but the conduct of Germany was flat phacy, seizing Kian-chow with the slenderest excuse ever put forward by any nation for such an act, and, in his belief, the action was taken in concert with Russia in opposition to British and Chinese interests. Meanwhile Figure was preparing to act, and the attitude of the three Pawers did undoubtedly excite strong freeling in this country, when suddenly a telegram announces that England had agreed to make a loan to clear off the Japanese indemnity. The importance of this lay in the expectation that conditions (avourable to England would attach to the loan and that England would abtain conside mble influence in the councils of the Court of side able influence in the councils of the Coint of Peking for the expansion of Chinese commerce. Among the conditions were the opening of treaty ports at Talien-wan and Naming, and the first-mentioned was a challenge or declaration to Russia. that her aspirations and desires for annexing the province were to be resisted, and similarly the opening of Nanting on the West River was a detection to Kiance. The challenge to Russia was taken up at once, and Lord Salisbury gave up the demand for Tactier-wan, declaring that it was a decrease of an interaction of regards taken which Emperor saved England from its policy of mad demand for Latter-wan, decising that it was a sentimentalism, and pricile isolation. By place of no importance as regards trade, which saving Torkey, as he undoubtedly did in 1896, the Griman Emperor saved India of England, because if Torkey, with its splendid fighting material, had falten under the control of Russia we ishund never have been able to hold India. It was Naming had disappeared from the English propriet in the control of the con-

be the opening of the Yangtsze river, and the telegram of Jan. 17 was received with the greatest possible satisfaction by the people of England, increased when the Chancellor of the Exchequed declared in a speech in the country that Her Majesty's Grvernment were determined to keep open trade with China even at the sisk of war. The right hon, gentleman was followed by the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who said we meant to have compensating advantages equiva-Under Secretary for Poreign canana, meant to have compensating advantages equiva-lent to those given in China to other people, and even the Attorney-General used musually bel-licose language for a man of law. The English people naturally expected that the result after all these bold utterances would be that the satisfac-tory arrangements concluded would be maintained, but great was the disappointment when on the meeting of Parliament it was explained that such meeting of Palliament it was explained that such was not exactly the situation of affairs; the ports were given up, and as to other conditions only a general assurance of concessions was given. The conditions withdrawn were said not to be essential, but if all that was essential had been accepted by China how was it the loan had fallen through? A right how, triend near him suggested the premature telegram in The Times. The loan felt through because Russian out her retar that the The Itmes. The loan fell through because Russia put her veto on it. Was it not clear that the disclosure in The Times came from Russian sources. It was to the advantage of Russia to prevent the loan, and the publication of the teleprevent the loan, and the publication of the telegram prevented it. It was suggested that we had concessions from Russia and Germany, and that Prussia had given written assurances, but they had seen in the case of the Berlin Treary that such assurances were not worth much. Germany, too, had given similar assurances which he did not think were of greater value. The position at this moment was that Russia was absolutely predominant in Chinese counsels. No fewer than three military attachés were spread over the country with power to train Chinese citizens for service in the troops. She had the most absolute domination over Chinese matters, and unless something were done soon to train Chinese citizens for service in the troops. She had the most absolute domination over Chinese matters, and unders something were done soon it would be absolutely impossible to resist the execution of anything that Russia wished to see accomplished thoughout the length and breacht of China. This showed what we had host. We might have held that position, or we might have regained what we had postly lost, had we been able to carry through the loan; but the loan as it was about to be carried through now would give England, as a State, no influence whatever in the connects of China. It Russia and Garmany proceeded with the annexation of the ports indicated they would adopt their own exclusive system of trade, and the result would be they would have little, if any at all, and the trade would heave little, if any at all, and the trade would begin to flow into China through its accustomed channel. But there was the land belind the ports, and if the same process was to be applied to the Hinterland it would be far more galling, more oppressive, and more destructive to trade than even the Chinese system of levying interior duties which had so strangled trade. In the last result England was, and always must be, when it come to force, the strongest Power on the Chinese coast. We could reindonce our Chinese feet hom the Pacific, the Indian, and the Australian squadrous hefure either German or Russian ships could get Pacific, the Indian, and the Australian squadrons before either German or Russian ships could get half way to China. This country had in selfish aims with regard to China, and all it asked for itself it was prepared to share with the whole world.—(Hear, hear.) All that Bogland desired was the maintenance of China as an independent Power, and her protection against those aggressive countries which would amex her only in order to close her.—(Hear, hear.)

Sir W. Harcoutt:—I have been asking myself for the last two hours what is the object of the speeches to which we have listened and how far they and the resolution before the House will constitute the speeches to be seed to the thouse will constitute the seed of the seed of the House will constitute the seed of the seed of the House will constitute the seed of the House will constitute the seed of the House will constitute the seed of the House will constitute the seed of the seed

they and the resolution before the House will can terbate to the solution of a question which every budy admits is one of supreme importance to the interests of this country.—(Cheers.) The mover and seconder of this motion strangely enough contradict one another at almost every point. There are two great potentates in Europe who will have ene two great potentates in Entope who will have occasion to rejoice to-morrow.—(Laughter.) The Emperor of Germany is patronised by the member for Sheffield. The member for Sheffield has long suffered from a disorder which was very common in this country—that Russophobia from which he has never recovered, although I am bound

ber for Sheffield? He says Russia is making a movement in the East of Asia. So she is. She is making a great railway through her own terri-tory, and that is a thing which is necessarily hos-

tile to England, Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett :- I said where Russia was attacking English interests was in trying to

was attacking English interests was in trying to obtain controls of northern China.

Sir W. Haccourt:—Yes, but what evidence is there of that except that she is making a railway through Siberia? What would have been said if Russia or any other Power had taken such a view of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The First Lord of the Treasiny said not long ago, and said quite truly, that it was the most natural thing in the world that Russia should desire an irecfice port in the that Russia should desire an ice-free port in the Pacific. Why is Russia to be regarded as the enemy of Great Britain because she desires an ice free port on the Pacific?

Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett :- Through Chinese

Sir W. Harcourt:—If China chooses upon terms fair to other countries to give Russia access to an ice-free port, why should she not?—(Chiers.) Then he says all the misery we endure is because we have no allies in Europe. endine is because we have no allies in Europe. Then there is another great crime which, according to the land member, the late government committed. They did not join Japan. To do what? To make war on China. The course which the late Government took was, in my opinion, a perfectly wise course. They did not desire to be the enemies either of Japan or of China. And when steps were taken to coerce Japan the late Government declined to be a party to that action. At this moment, and ever since China. And when steps were taken to coerce Japan the late Government declined to be a party to that action. At this moment, and ever since that time, Japan has tooked upon Great Briain as her friend. If you want a closer alliance with Japan its perfectly open to the Government to enter into such an alliance. We left it perfectly free. We declined to make ourselves partisans in that contest between Japan and China. The member for Sheffield says that Germany is not hostile to Brigand.—(Hear, hear.) I hope and delieve that to be the case, but the hor, member charges the late Government with having caused hostility between Germany and England. In my opinion, Lord Salishury was perfectly right when he said that the great hope of a settlement, whether in the Near East or in the Far East, is in a good understanding between England and Russia. I believe that to be a wise and sound policy, and Lord Salishury has seen that the attempt to deal with Eastern questions in a spirit of Jealousy and hatred and hostility towards. Russia is a policy which has been ried for half a century, and has failed, and that it is only by acting in a friendly spirit with Great Powers like Russia. France, and Germany, whether in the Near East or in the Far East, that you can really advance the true interests of this country. The extraordinacy thing in these alliances as they present themselves to the lion, member is that he has extraordinary thing in these alliances as they pre-sent themselves to the hon, member is that he has sent themselves to the hon, member is that he has hut one test of the alliance which England ought to seek, and that is that it should be founded upon a lave of Turkey.—(Hear, hear.) Germany has come to the tescae of the Moslem populations throughout the world. That is the ground no which he gave his patronage to the Emperor of Germany. We do not accept that test at all. What I complain of is that for weeks all the newspapers, and many gentleman in speeches, were calling upon the English Government to do something to avert the mischief that was going to befall British trade in consequence of the action of Rossia and Germany in China. As soon as Parliament met we were told by the Prime Minister that all this had arisen from the confrom al Russia and Germany in Coma as Parliament met we were told by the Prime as Parliament met we were told by the Prime Minister that all this had arisen from the confusion of ideas, that there was no foundation for such apprehension at all. Lord Salisbury said: "I am bound at the same time to say, lest it should be supposed that we have been maintaining a desperate diplomatic battle in layour of the Treaty of Tientsin, that nobody has every yet suggested the slightest intention of infringing any of the rights we enjoy under that treaty." What are those rights? They are all contained, I think, in the last words of the Treaty of Tientsin; that England shall enjoy in China every advantage that any other country has. If that be so, if the statement of the Prime Minister is true, so, if the statement of the Prime Minister is true, as I am since it is, that nobody had ever suggested the slightest intention of infringing any of the rights which he has oever recovered, although I am bound to say it has worn itself out a great deal in the public opinion of this country.—(Cheers.) No one has spoken more strongly, more responsibly, in that sense than the present Prime Munister. Two why England should regard Russia as its enemy. I venture to say such speeches as we have listened to an edoing and will do infinite mischief to this country throughout the world. What is the sort of attack that is made upon Russia by the ment.

have received spontaneously from the Russian Government a written assurance that any port which they might obtain leave to employ for the outlet of their commerce would be a free post, free to the commerce of this country. Now, a free port is much better than a treaty port. So, having port is much better than a treaty port. So, having ascertained that Ta-lien-wan was to be a free port it interested us very little indeed to know whether it was to be a treaty port or not." If that be the fact why in the world is the public mind to be disturbed upon the subject P. I put a question this afternoon to the right hon, gentleman. I asked him to present to Parliament documentary evidence which would satisfy the country. (They have here) which would satisfy the country.—(Hear, lear.) We have had vague statements, but sorely matters of such supreme importance as these must have been have had vague statements, but surely matters of such supreme importance as these must have been reduced to writing. If we see these assurances in black and white we can judge what is intended. As regards Port Arthur, the hon, member for King's Lyan quoted certain eloquent passeges from a publication ascribed to the Under-Secretary of State. He spoke of them as the language of the Foreign Office. I do not think that is exactly correct. He says that Russia has done nothing in respect to Port Arthur which she is not perfectly entitled to do under treaty rights. Then why are we to have any alarm on the subject of Russia and Port Arthur? The hon, member for Sheffield wishes us to make war upon Russia helore the Siberian Railway is finished, a railway through her own territory. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs went on to say—"Russia has sent ships of war to Port Arthur, and if blame is to be attached to her for doing so her Majesty's Government must be included in the accusation, for a fortnight ago we did exactly the same thing. That is a right we enjoy in common with other Power under the Treaty of Tientsin, and in the exercise of that right our Admiral from time to time orders ships to visit that port. He did that two ar three weeks ago, and, if the occasion arises, will do so again." If that is so, what is the meaning of all this alarm, of all these panic fears, as to the position of Russia this matter? The First Lord of the Treasury If that is so, what is the meaning of all this alarm, of all these panic feats, as to the position of Russia in this matter? The First Lord of the Treasury has very truly said, on more than one occasion, that the advantage of other countries is not necessarily one loss.—(Hear, heat.) Personally I have followed with admiration the progress Russia has made in the development of her commerce and manufactures at home. That is the case with Germany also. As we have the world for our customers it is a great advantage to us that the world Occursing also. As we have the world for our customers it is a great advantage to us that the world should be prosperint, that other contries should have the purchasing power. But there are some things in these negotiations which have account to the contribution of some things in these negotiations which have surprised me. I never understood why, it Ta-lieu-som is of so little value, it was ever asked for.—(Cheers.) That is a matter which requires explanation. Then there is the curious condition that China has agreed not to part with the valley of the Yangtsze-kiang. It is quite evident that if any nation approached us and asked us not to part with the valley of the Thames the condition is one we should readily agree to.—(A laugh.) But it is not my object to criticise to criticise the Government or to weaken their hands. On the contrary, I desire to strengthen their hands against their own supporters and against this motion, but what I do ask of the Government is that they will make to the House a bank statement of the school position of things. If you want to remove the mischief of such speeches as those we have listened to; if you want III remove the remove the mischief of such speeches as those we have listened to; if you want in remove the evil of this perpetual, I will not say nagging at, but demociation of other countries when there is no foundation for it at all, you ought to teasure us in respect to Russia as the Prime Minister did as regards Germany. Lord Salisbury said te-"Similar assurances have been made to us by the German Government with respect to the territory they have recently occupped; indeed, the German Government went further and were more flattering to us, for their Amhassador informed methey had come to the conclusion that our manner of dealing with such things, at all events in the colonies, is better than their, and that in this instance, at any rate, such things, at all events in the colonies, is better than theirs, and that in this instance, at any rate, they intended to imitate our methods." We want to see a record of that assurance. It ought to be presented to Parliament at the earliest possible time, so that we may be sure there is no real foundation for alarm in this matter, and that we may go on in concert with other nations in development the total and the children in the state and the same property of the state and the same property of the same p

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sion of the Chinese question. Our proceedings and negotiations at Peking and elsewhere are still incomplete, and it is, therefore, difficult for me either to present a connected narrative of events to the House or to give them what the right hon, gentleman has asked for-namely, a statement of the policy of the Government. a sound rule, not marely of the Foreign Office, but of common sense also, that considerable reserve or common sense also, that considerable reserve should be maintained in public and Parliamentary utterances as to what is happening; and I am sure I shall not be held open to blame if in some respects I mm not able to depart from that reserve. At the same time, I quite recognise the legitimacy of the request of the right hon, gentleman, and I shall endeavour, as far as I possibly m make a clear statement of what the views and actions of the Government have been. I accept the contention which has underlain the whole of the speeches to which we have listened—namely, that this country enjoys a preponderant interest in China.—(Hear, hear.) That, indeed, is one of the commonplaces of modern politics and hisneedless either to demonstrate or for y which it is needless either to demonstrate or to endouse. We were the first people to inflock the door of China to foreign trade. We were the first Power to survey her coasts. We were the first to drive away pirates from her seas. We, indeed, to drive away pirates from her seas. We, indeed, were the first people to stud the whole line of her coasts with posts open not only to ourselves, but to the commerce of the whole world. We were the first people to send steamers up her waterways, to build callways for her, to exploit her mines, to carry into the interior of the country over thousands of miles the advantages of European thousands of miles the advantages of European commerce and European comforts. Let it not be forgotten, too, that we were the first Power to give to China the nucleus of a pure Administration at the same time that we added a great annual revenue to her Treasury by instituting an Imperial Customs service in that country. (Cheers.) It may touly be said that, in so far as China at the present moment is not in the East an anachronism, but has within it a vital living China at the present moment is not in the Bastan anachronism, but has within it a vital, living force, it is in the main due to the action and initiative of this country.—(Cheers.) All these circumstances explain the preponderant interest and priority of claim which we feel in that country. But here may I utter a word of caution? These circumstances do not seem to me to constitute for the preponderant interest. stitute for us an exclusive interest. They do not justify us in regarding with jealousy or suspicion the attitude of other competitors, perhaps just as competent now and as well equipped as uniselves, who may have arrived on the scene somewhat later. (Hear, hear.) We may, perhaps, regard with pardonable compunction the en-croachment of these rivals on the sphere of activity which, until recently, was almost entirely our own. But in so far as that was legitimate and pacific engreachment we have no cause of complaint. I submit that we should, on the contrary, endeavour to gird our litins to meet the new condition of affairs, and to retain in an age of competition what we won in an age of monopoly. With regard to the speech of my hon, friend the member for Sheffield, I of my hon, friend the member for Sheffield, I doubt whether it would be in the power of this or any Government, whatever its intentions might be, to act up to the high level of the patriotism and comage of my hon, friend.—(Laughler.) At the same time, the Government have no difficulty in accepting the motion. We agree with him that the integrity and independence of China are matters of intense solicitude to the Government, as they must be to any British Government, and as they must be to any Diffish Coveriment, and that they may be considered the cardinal bases of our policy in regard to China. Passages have been quoted from writings of my own, and I was amprised to find an hon, member of so much with and originality as the bon, member (Mr. Bowles) devoting so much of his speech—and, in my opinion, the least dull portion of his speech opinion, the least dull portion of his speech—
(laighter and cheers)—to extracts from writings for which I should not have thought that, a proof, he entertained much respect.—(Renewed laughter.) I am not one of those who have any great belief in the inherent stability of the Chinese Government. Pressed as China is from every side, and incapacitated from successful resistance, as she always hitherto has been, by defects in her Government and institutions, I can well foresee she is confronted in the future by even greater dangers than she has had to meet in the past. But our policy is and must be to prevent her disruption so far as we can, and to secure for her that fresh lease of life to which her immense and magnificent resources. to which her immense and magnificent resources entitle her. - (Cheers.) We are, therefore, opposed entitle her.—(Cheers.) We are, mereure, appused to the atienation of any Chinese territory or the ancelifice of any part of Chinese independence.—(Hear, hear.) That is a policy from which the Government have abstained, and which they have no desire to initially any conceive a circumstance.

stances arising in the future, circumstances gravely affecting, and, perhaps, seriously imperiling our interests in China, which might tempt us, and even compel us to depart from that attitude of reserve. But the seizure of Chinese territory, the reserve. But the seizure of Chinese territory, the alienation of Chinese territory, the usurpation of Chinese sovereignty, is not primarily any part of British policy; and it is not likely that that which we repudiate for ourselves we should regard will a welcome eye if attempted by others.—(Hear, hear.) I will give a short and succinct history of recent events dating from the Chino-Japanese war. The whole face of the East was changed by the result of that was. It exercised a most profound and disturbing effect upon the balance of power and upon the situation and destinies of all the Powers who either are situated or have interests around the China seas. I am not going to be tempted to embark on a discussion of the questions raised as to whether the late Government were or were not wise in taking up an attitude of abstention at the close of that war. I am so abstention at the close of that war. I am so auxious to eliminate anything in the nature of even party dissent that I prefer to put aside that question ultogether.—(Hear, hear.) But I think there can be no doubt about the fact that he steps taken at that time by the Governments of Russia, Germany, and France in the interests of China have had an immense effect in that part of the have had an immense reflect in that part of the world in increasing the interests and pretensions of those Powers and in establishing a fien on the gratitude of China,—(Cheers.) It was from the result of that war that recent events have arisen. A further instalment of the war indemnity was due to Japan at an early day, and it was the endeavour of China to raise the money that brought about negotiations of which so much has been heard. With regard to the subject of the loan I think there has been some misapprehension. We were asked to make a loan. We did not in the first place, offer to do it of our own accord. The asked to make a loan, we un not in the first place, offer to do it of our own accord. The initiative was taken by the Chinese Government; but when the request came from China to the Government the Government decided, not merely that we were better qualified than others to lend the money, but that in the interests of commercial the money, but that in the interests of commercial expansion and sound finance the assistance was such as could very properly be given. The Government offered a loan on what I think it will not be denied were most generous terms, and they asked in return for certain advantages which were not of a selfish or exclusive nature. On the connamed in return for certain advantages which were not of a selfish or exclusive nature. On the contrary, the advantages which they asked for were specially chosen so as not to offend the susceptibilities or clash with the interests of any foreign Powers; but they were of a character to benefit the of all countries as well as our own. — (Hear, hear.) Well, Sir, these efforts on our part did not prevent suspicion from being aroused or prevent agencies from being set in opposition which proved inimical to the granting of the loan in its original form. The Chinese Government withdrew their original request, and I should imagine that no one, no even my hon, friend the member for Sheffield our money down the throat of China at the point, as it were, of the camend.—(Hear, hear.) Of course, the negotiations and the conditions attached to them lapsed, or at any rate passed into another groove. Nevertheless we received from the Chinese Government an assurance that isto another groove. Nevertheless we received from the Chinese Government an assurance that the loan, which they had ceased to ask from us should not be invited from any other Govern ment, and negotiations, which I have heard this afternoon have been brought to a successful issue, have been proceeding in the interval for the through the agency of certain influential banks. through the agency of certain influential banks.— (Cheers.) The Chinese Government, further influenced by the considerations placed before them by the British Minister in discussions at Peking, intimated their desire to make certain concessions which would be beneficial not merely to British trade and toffgence, but equally so to all foreign trade and influence.—(Cheers.) I was a little surprised that the hon, member for King's Lynn made no allusion whatever to the concessions which have been published in this country and read out in this House, and which, I venture to think, are a very material factor in our considerathink, are a very material factor in our considera-tion of the whole question.—(Hear, hear.) It is not necessary for me to repeat at length what I have already stated, but I will briefly recapitulate the advantages which have been secured. In the first place, the opening of internal invigation on all rivers in China to British steamers from the middle of the ensuing summer, which means that we shall be able to take British merchandise in British ships, not merely to the ports recognised by treaty, but to every riverside town and station in the whole of the interior of China.—(Cheers.) Secondly, there is the provision upon which I think

tion put a cather forced interpretation-an interpretation certainly which the Government do not endorse-as to the non-alienation of territory in the Valley is that part of China the commercial development of which has been peculiary the work of the merchants and financiers of this country. It is the main and natural outlet of British commerce in China, and, moreover, it is worth re-membering, that the Hinterland of the Yangtsze Valley is contiguous with the upper regions of our own territory in Burmah, and it is the ambition of many in this country that at some future date, if not at the present time, there shall be railway connection between the two. The third provision was the assurance that the position of Inspectorwas the assurance that the position of inspector-General shall continue to be held by an English-man—perhaps I should say a Briton—(Cheers)— so long as British trade is in the accendant in China.—(Hear, bear.) This, I think, may be re-garded as a tribute not merely to the predominance of British trade, but to the character and services of that eminent man Sir Robert Hart-(Cheers) of that enumers than Sir Robert Hart—(Cheers)—and when I montion that, according to the statis-tics of the Imperial Customs in Clina, Great Britain carries 82 per cent, of the total trade of China that passes under a foreign flag and pays 76 per cent, of the dues and duties collected on that trade, it must be obvious to the House that if we ever forfeit that predominance it will be entirely owing to our own fault.—(Cheers.) The fourth assurance was the opening of a port in Minean in two years' time. It may be asked, why should there be delay in this? The reason is simple. The delay is due to fanaticism and the notoriously turbulent character of the population simole. of that province, into which Europeans can hardly be said to have yet penetrated, but which I believe is regarded as a vast field of potential wealth in the future. These briefly summarized are the four concessions made by the Chinese Government. I venture to say that they are considerable and valuable concessions,—(Cheers.) They have They been secured without any financial risk of obligabeen secured without any financial risk or obliga-tion on the part of this country, and I think we are entitled to regard them both as a tribute to the friendliness of the Chinese Government and to the ability of the British Minister at Peking.—(Cheers.) When Sir Claude Mac-donald was appointed there were some of my hon friends on this side of the House who doubted that appointment, and he was somewhat severely attacked in this House. I think those of my hon-friends who took that line will now admit that a more vigorous and capable representative we have rarely had at Peking, and the application of his independence and resolute personality to the time-honouted mechanism of Chinese diplomacy has already been attended with most beneficial results, —(Cheers.) I pass now to the other events which have them becoming in Chine. was the action of Germany, who, in reparation for an outrage inflicted on some of her missionaries, acquired a long lease of the port of Kino-chou, and declared her intention of making that a free port, I may add to that assurance that the German Germany have given reparated assurances to Kontantine the contant of the c vernment have given repeated assurances to Her Majesty's Government that they have no desire to disturb the integrity or shake the peace of China. or in any way to conflict with the interests and susceptibilities of Great Britain,—(Hear, hear.)

Sir W. Harcourt:—Will the correspondence

which shows these facts be presented to Parlia-

ment?

Mr. Curzon: —That is a question which I answered on behalf of the Secretary of State this afternoon. He does hope to lay correspondence at a later date, and of course he will endeavour to include that to which the right has gentlemen include that to which the right hon, gentleman

W. Harcourt:-I can quite understand that if there are further regotiations going on which are the subject of this particular matter there might be some difficulty in publishing the correspondence. But I gathered that what is before Parliament is concluded, and thefore we could have these capers. For instance, if satisfactory assurances have been given by Russia and

factory assurances have been given by Russia and Germany on this point, why seould we not have the papers? (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Curzon:—Of course, I cannot speak for the Secretary of State, but I will represent to him what the right hon, gentleman has said, and I have no doubt that when the papers are taid, and they will be as soon as possible, communications on the matter will be included. The next point is the action and attitude of Russia, and on this point what happened was as follows. A discussion having arises on the desire of A discussion having arises on the desire of Russia to possess an ice-free outlet for her commerce in the Far East—a desire with the Secondly, there is the provision upon which I think registimate to the East—a desire with the Secondly, there is the provision upon which I think registimate to the sympathy has been frequently in this country—an assurance was UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

voluntarity given by Russia that any such pur would be open and subject to the same conditions as regards ships and commerce as those which prevailed in other open ports on the Chinese prevailed in other open ports on the Chinese coast. A slight controversy has arisen as to the exact nature of these assurances. The misapprebension, if any, arose as to the doubt which the Russian Ambassador, in representing the views of his Government, had in the first place spoken of an open port or a free post. The Russian Government have not precluded themselves from Government have not precluded themselves from declaring in the future that the port shall be a free port, but their present assurance is that such a purt shall in any case be an open port. The difference is simple. A free port is one like Hongkong, at which no tariff whatever is imposed on commerce. An open port is a treaty port like all other ports ou the Chinese coast, in which the tariff are assimilated and in which no light the tariffs are assimilated, and in which no higher due can be exacted from British or foreign comdue can be exacted from Bettish or loveign com-merce than can be exacted from commerce from anywhere else coming to the treaty ports. This is the triple series of events that have taken place in China. The principles which have underlaid the policy of the Government in each of these cames have been the same, and they are the principles which have been more than once stated by my right hon, briend the leader of the House outside these walls. The flist is that to which I have alluded, the maintenance of the integrity and independence of China; the second is the preservation of our treaty eights, and here again there seems to me much dispute as to what these treaty rights are. There are three articles in the Treaty of Tientsin of 1858 which must be borne in mind. of Tientsin of 1858 which must be borne in mud. The first is Article 24, by which it is agreed that British subjects shall be required to pay on all merchandise the duties imposed, but in no case shall they be called upon to pay other or higher duties than are required from other foreign nations. Article 52 provides that British ships of war, coming for no hostile purpose, shall be at liberty to visit all ports within the dominions of the Emperor of China, and shall receive every facility for obtaining provisions and water. The third for obtaining provisions and water. The third is Article 54, which confers what is most commonly The third is known as the most favouced-nation rights. Those three articles are the main charter of our com-mercial position in China, and we cannot consent, and I do not think any British Government would consent, either to their abandonment or infraction.
Sir W. Harcout: - Have they been threat-

Sir W. Harcount:—Have mey been threaened?

Mr. Curzon:—I think that I have answered
that question. The fact that they may not have
been threatened or infringed already does not
dispense the Government from exercising vigilance as to what may bappen in the future.
Those articles give the Government the right
to oppose all exclusive privileges or special
tariffs that may be conceded. They establish,
in fact, equality of treatment and opportunity
as the principal bases of our relations, I may even
say the principal bases of international law with
reference to China. The third principle of our
policy is that of free commerce. Our belief is
that the integrity of China, which we were asked
by this motion to safe-guard, is most likely to be
secured by throwing open China to the interests
and intercourse of the whole world, and not, so
o speak, by closing her into separate halled or to speak, by closing her min separate wateright compartments, each bearing a separate label of appellation of its own. The more Powers, the more civilised Powers, you interest in China, the more likely you are to be able to sustain her integrity and welfare.—(Hear, hear.) The concessions which were originally asked for and those which have been granted to the Government have been animated by this spirit and they will be in-interpreted in that sense. I hope in the remarks It have made that I have said nothing at all divergent from the spirit in which I was invited to approach the question by the leader of the Opposition. I should like to add that Her Majesty's Government frankly acknowledge the generous and loyal support which they have received on this question from tight hon, and line, members opposite-(Cheers)-both on the piatform and in both Houses of Parliament, since the Session began. That confidence and that support, of course, place a grave responsibility on the shoulders of the Government, but it also, I think, may give us some confidence in thirding that in pursuing the policy which I have endeavoured to sketch in outline the Government are not acting merely as the nominees of a Padiamentary majn-nty, but as the trustees of the entire nation,—

The motion was agreed to .- L. & C. Express.

#### FREIGHTS AND FOREIGN COM-PETITION IN THE IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

The following interesting correspondence has appeared in the N.-C. Daily News :-

Messrs, Collins & Co., of London and Tientsin, have sent us the following copy of some correspondence between representative shipowners and ironmasters in England with reference to the com-petition created in freight by conference steamers of to the detriment British trade;-

> 17, Water Street, Liverpool, 10th January, 1898.

Messis. The Pearson and Knowles Coal and fron Co., Ld.,

Warrington,
Dear Sus, - We enclose a copy of manifest of a
cargo landed at Bombay by one of the steamers
from Hamburg, Antwerp, etc. This is one of
many in our possession, which we shall be pleased show if desired.

Our object in now addressing you is m bring this matter more particularly before you, and to see if something cannot be done for our mutual benefit in the way of preventing these large orders going to the Continent, and securing them for shipment hence. We may mention that one of our local shippers last week informed us that they had 1,000 tons steel just going from Antwerp, in three steamers only. We have recently reduced our rate of freight to try to induce business, and would rate of freight to try to motice business, and wond point out that it is now less than charged by the Continental lines. We are therefore hopeful of your being able to help matters in the direction indicated, otherwise we fear this "from and steel" business will be drawn to the Continent altogether. Yours truly,

(Signed) Handerson Brothers. 15th January, 1801.

Messes. Henderson Brothers,
Water Street, Liverpool.
Dear Sirs,—We have to thank you for your favour of 10th instant. The figures that you are good enough to put before us tell a tale with which we are unfortunately only too familiar, but we are glad to note that you, at any late, among British shipowners, begin to realise the gravity of the position, which we have all to face, in regard to this foreign competition—it has all but extinguished our Eastern trade in fron and steel, and substitutour Eastern trade in iron and steel, and substituted German and Belgian productions for what was, only a very few years ago, exclusively of British manufacture. We look upon it that we have, mainly if not entirely, to thank the policy of the steamship conferences for this result. To trace the origin from which all our toubles have spring we must go back some years, to the time when the export iron trade of Antwerp, Rotterdam, and Hamburg was in its intancy—and the great shipping lines imagined that they had found a new customer whose trade would constitute an addition to what they already would constitute an addition to what they already carried from British ports. In vain we and others carried from British ports. In value we and others protested, in season and out of season, that every ton of into shipped from abroad meant one ton less shipped from home. Our protests were ignosed, and we were told that if one line did not do the trade, another would; and that the future and the British maker most look after themselves. Preferential rates were offered all round for the new freights from foreign ports, while similar advantages were persistently refused to old customers in this country whose trade was considered to be safe and in no danger of leaving its usual be safe and in no danger of leaving its usual channels. The opening this made was promptly seized upon by a certain section of British merchants, who, in their eagerness to underself home competitors, by any means and at all hazards, took no thought that foreign traders would inevitably follow foreign goods, to the ultimate disconsitue of the British maker, merchant, and shipowner alike. It is true that for a time our own well-known brands maintained their position, but by duct of the perseverance of our antagonists and the exercisence unined from

little better, and even home trade is imperilled by a continuance of similar tactics, which enable American and other tariff-protected producers, by American and other tariff-protected producers, by apecially low freights, to dump their surplus stocks in this country at any price they will felch. What is the remedy for this state of things we cannot yet decide, though we have revolutionised our methods of working and reduced our profits to a minus quantity in attempting to solve the problem, but the first step in the right direction is undoubtedly for the shipowners to reveree this recent policy in our favour, and give to home manufacturers and British ports a preference in freight such as they at one time accorded, and still in many cases accord, to everything that was treight Sign as they at one time accorded, and still in many cases accord, to everything that was foreign. We are not yet quite played out, but the breathing space which we have before us is in our opinion of short duration, and males we have some systematic assistance from all who are in-terested in the prosperity of British trade, the end will appear ha in sight. will soon be in sight.

Perhaps you will be good enough to place our views before the members of your conference for consideration, and, if evidence is required to substantiate their correctness, we would commend to your persual Mr. Chamberlain's Blue Book on this very subject, which shows how far-reaching have been the effects of the policy of which we

Yours truly, FOR THE PEARSON AND KNOWLES COAL AND IRON Co., LD.

(Signed) JEO. J. BLECKLY, Director.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS." Sin,-With much attention did I read the correspondence about the decline of the British hard-

respondence about the decline of the Bitish hardware trade in this morning's issues of your paper.

Being somewhat interested in the matter, and, till a few years ago, well at the height of all the export business in Antwerp, it is with a certain astonishment that I read your correspondent's notices about special freight rates and other favours accorded to cargoes of hardware from that port.

I am sorry to see that—although one of your correspondents beats about the busin—none of them care to go deep enough into the question.

At first, by what means has the Continental hardware trade made itself known in the East, and how is it taking gradually the place of the

and how is it taking guadually the place of the Biltish? First and above all by spending money, plenty of money, to introduce its produce to the bisyer and in convincing the latter that it is pos-sible to manufacture with reasonable profits, the same quality, if not better, of any kind of hard-ware, at much lower rates than do the B-itish, proving their words by the facts that having the inw material ready at hand and in many instances cheaper than the British, and heing able to work it just as well and at much less expense than the latter, the Continental manufacturer can sell his produce cheaper than his insular competitor.

produce cheaper than his missian competers.

On spending thus a larger percentage to bring his goods to the man and on being satisfied with a smaller profit, is it a wonder that he progresses?

Who has in late years made the most progress in the hardware trade of all Southeastern Europe? Is it not the Belgian? The same can be said of

all the Far East,

If that famous freight question was of any importance in the matter do any of your readers think that the British manufacturer should wait a day to export his goods via Antwerp or another Continental port where these favouring rates exist, considering the very low freights between the British ports and the Continent?

AN ANTWERP DUTCHMAN. 23rd March.

#### LIQUID FUEL FOR STEAMERS.

Here is an interesting item from a home Baper:-

paper:—
A new oil steamer was launched from Messre, Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co.'s Walker shippard on 22nd inst., to the order of Messre. M. Samuel and Co. on behalf of the Neverlandsche Indische Industrie en Handels Maatschappij She is arranged for carrying petroleum in bulk on Swan's continuous expansion trunk principle. The expansion trunk which extends almost the whole length of the vessel, forms a connection between the three superstructheir position, but the platform of Parliament, since the Sestional Confidence and that support, grave responsibility on the perment, but it also, I think, on the remainder of the pressent o pumps, connections &c., which are required for the combustion of oil are being supplied. As the printips, connections &c., which are required to the combustion of oil are being supplied. As the new vessel left the ways she was named Halistis by Mrs. Samuel, the wife of Alderman Marcus Samuel, the head of the firm of M. Samuel and

by Mrs. Samuel, the wile of Alderman Marcus Samuel, the head of the firm of M. Samuel and Co. After the launch the guests adjourned to the launcheon room. Among those present were:—Alderman and Mrs. Samuel, Colonel H. F. Swan, Captain Tomioks, and Mr. Mera.

Colonel Swan proposed the toast of success to the Halistis, coupled with the name of Mrs. Samuel. Alderman Samuel, in reply, said he wentured to say that this ship was going to inaugurate an entire revolution in the means of propulsion of vessels. They had been very fortunate in discovering in Bonneo what they believed, without exception, were the richest oiffelds in the world. The company of which he was chairman was prepared immediately to erect storage, and in a very few months they would be able to contact for supplying vessels from Yokohama to Suez. That brought the question of oil steamers within practical politics. So long as these supplies of oil could not be obtained it was almost useless to build steamers to burn oil, but the content the matter was taken no he such a comuseless to build steamers to burn oil, but the moment the matter was taken up by such a commoment the inatter was taken by since a con-pany as he was connected with; having a capital of £1,800,000, it was a guarantee to the com-mercial would that they saw their way to what he believed would be the greatest revolution in the method of propulsion they had seen during this generation.

#### PRINCE HENRY IN HONGKONG.

In Honkong a ball was given in honour of the visit of Prince Henry of Prussia to the colony. At supper the following speeches were delivered:—

were delivered:—

Sit John Carrington, the Chief Justice, proposed the toast of the evening. He said—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour to invite you to drink the toast of the health of our distinguished guest, His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Prussia. (Applause.) When His Royal Highness came amongst us he came with a three-fold title to our cespect. In the first place he is the son of the angust lady who was formedly our Princess Royal. (Applause.) In the next place he is the grandson of our beloved sovereign, Her Majesty the Queen Empress—(applause)—and lastly, he if a Prince of the reigning house of the great and hiendly German nation, by whose illustrious sovereign he has been entrusted with an important command in the German Navy. (Hear, hear, and applause.) But during his short stay amongst us, His Royal Highness has shown that he has other claims to our esteem and regard,—claims which are founded on his own personal media. Highness has shown that he has other claims to our esteem and regard,—claims which are founded on his own personal merits. (Applause.) For it is the simple truth to say that His Royal Highness, by his frank and chivalious bearing, by his courtesy and considerate manner, by his love of maily games and sports, and by other qualities characteristic of a true sailor Prince, has during his sojourn amongst on won the hearts of all with whom he has been brought into contact in this Colony. (Applause.) I call upon you, therefore, to drink, has been mought into contact in this Colony, (Applause) I call upon you, therefore, to drink, with the greatest cordiality, and with the fullest honours, the toast which I now propose to you, "The Health of His Royal Highness Prince Hearty of Prusia."

The total was drunk with great enthusiasm, fallowed by a spontaneous version of "He's a july good fellow."

Prince Henry of Prussia, in repty, said—Your

Prince Henry of Prussia, in reply, said—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, you may believe me it I say that I am deeply grateful for the words Sir John Carrington has just expressed, and which I, personally, hardly deserve. At the same time, allow me to thank the civil community of Hougkong for this perfectly splendid reception which you have offered me to-night. I also thank all of you have offered me to-night. I also thank all of you for the hospitality shown to myself at d to the officers of His Imperial Majesty's Navy during our stay in Hougkong. (Applause.) Hospitality is a quality which is known amongst all the Europeans in the East, but allow me to say it is nothing uncommon in a British colony and amongst loyal subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Majesty the Queen. (Hear, hear, and appliance)
I, therefore, may be allowed to propose the toast
of the Colony of Hongkong. (Hear, hear and applause.) It is a deing, I request my fellow officers to join with me in three hearty cheers for the welfers of this Colony. Hip, hip, hurralt! (Loud

applause.)
Major-General Black suid-Your Royal High-

the gracious words which you have just intered. There is nothing that can advance the true interests of Germany which can injure the interests of the United Kingdom. (Hear, hear and applause.) The Germans and the English are tranches of the same stock; our languages spring from a common root, and I see no reason under Heaven why we should not be friends. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.) Therefore, on behalf of this community—which attempt living under the British flag still has amongst its inmates many men of your country—on hehalf of that community. I thank your Royal Highness and the officers of your squadron for the gracious way the officers of your squadron for the gracious way in which you have drunk to the health and prosperity of this Colony. (Loud applause.)

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE " JAPAN TIMES") UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. THE VATICAN'S INTERCESSION.

PEACEFUL SOLUTION STILL POSSIBLE. London, April 6.

There is ceaseless diplomatic activity in Rome and Washington, President Mc-Kinley has postponed his message to Congress till Thursday. Meanwhile peace is not despaired of.

#### REPORTED SETTLEMENT. QUEEN-REGENT INTERVENES.

London, April 7. President McKinley has suddenly post-poned his message to Congress until Monday. Advices from Madrid state that a settlement has been arrived at through the earnest intervention of the Queen

Regent, and the able representations of Sir Julian Pauncefote and other Ambassadors. SPAIN VIELDS TO OUTSIDE PRESSURE.

> ARMISTICE GRANTED. MILITARY PARTY INDIGNANT. AMERICAN POLICY UNCHANGED.

London, April 11.

Yielding to the representations of the Pope and the Powers, Spain has consented to grant an armistice to Cuba. The military party regards the decision as tantamount to a disgrace. Advices from Washington state that the granting of an armistice will not change the policy of President McKinley, whose message goes to Congress to-day. The American Conto Congress to-day. sul has left Havana.

THE PRESIDENTAL MESSAGE, " WAR MUST FINISH."

"USE FORCE IF NECESSARY."

London, April 12.

President McKinley's message to Congress expatiates on the barbarities of the warfare in Cuba, and the serious effects of perpetual revolution in America. declares the war must finish, and asks Congress to authorize the use of force if it deems such necessary to secure that end. He therefore deprecates the recognition of Cuban independence until a stable government is established. President McKinley adds that since his message was written he has been informed that Spain proclaimed an armistice, and urges Congress to carefully consider this. The message was referred in both Houses to Committees.

THE LEASE OF WEI-HAI-WEI. OFFICIAL STATEMENTS IN PARLIAMENT. BRITISH AND GERMAN INTERESTS IDENTICAL.

BNGLAND'S OFFERS DECLINED.

TRAINING OF CHINESE NAVAL OFFICERS.

the gracious words which you have just intered. liament. The First Lord of the Treasury said by acquiring Wei-hai-wei, which there was no intention to turn into a commercial port, Britain had prevented the Gulf of Petchili from falling under the undisputed control of any Power. hoped China would maintain not only nominal, but real suzerainty over her dominions. The British and German interests were identical, and he hoped both Powers would work together. Britain had no reason to complain of Russian commercial policy. It had unfortunately been thought necessary to acquire Port Arthur, which being a purely naval port, the occupation of it would have an undue influence on the Pekin Council. Britain had protested, offering, if Russia abstained from occupying Port Arthur, that Britain would take no part of the Gulf of Petchili. The offer was not accepted. Britain had therefore arranged for the occupation of Wei-hai-wei.

> In the House of Lords, the Duke of Devonshire added, that there was no reason to suppose the cession of Wei-hai-wei would excite any opposition on the part of Japan. China, in granting the lease, had asked for facilities for Chinese warships, and that Chinese naval officers might be trained under British auspices.

#### CHINA'S GREEDY SUITORS. FRENCH DEMANDS AGREED TO.

The Times publishes a telegram stating that China has agreed to the French demands for a railway to Yunnan, the lease of a coaling station at Kwangchwan, the non-alienation of the Provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan, and the ap-pointment of a Frenchman as director of the Imperial Posts.

HOPES OF PEACE ABANDONED. SPANISH CABINET FRONTS THE REGENT. PREPARATIONS FOR PRIVATEERING.

[Later.]

All hopes of peace have been aban-med. The Spanish Cabinet met at doned. midnight and refused to endorse the Queen-Regent's promise to Minister Woodford to issue a decree granting an armistice. The Cabinet informed the American Minister that Spain must adhere to her resolve to wait until the insurgents asked for an armistice. Spanish patriotism is thoroughly aroused. Numbers of Spanish shipowners are applying for letters of marque, and privateering will be an important factor of the war.

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

DERVISHES BADLY BEATEN.

London, April 9.

The Sirdar, Sir Herbert Kitchener, with the whole of his force attacked the Emir Mahmud's zereba, and rushed the trenches most gallantly. The Dervishes trenches most gallantly. The Dervishes withstood the attack well, but lost heavily, Mahmud being taken prisoner. The British losses included two officers killed and fourteen wounded. The losses of and fourteen wounded. men are not stated.

LEADING EMIRS KILLED: OSMAN DIGNA ESCAPES.

London, April 11.

The British brigade lost ten privates killed and ninety wounded, the Egyptian troops 51 killed and fourteen native officers, and 319 wounded. Osman Digna Major-General Black sand—Your Royal rights of the community which I have the thonour, however feebly, of representing—to thank your Royal Highness for Digitized by OSS Chinese policy, in Particles of the Government's Chinese policy, in Particle Dervish losses are estimated at 3,000.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

**URBANA-CHAMPAIGN** 

#### THE SOUDAN VICTORY. GERMAN EMPEROR WIRES HIS CON-GRATULATIONS.

The Emperor William has telegraphed his congratulations to Lord Salisbury, on the British victory over the Dervishes.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN. EXPECTED ACTION OF THE AMERICAN SENATE.

ARMISTICE REFUSED BY CUBANS.

London, April 13. It is believed in Washington that the Senate's Foreign Committee's report is in favour of declaring the independence of Cuba, demanding the Spanish forces to quit the island, and instructing the President to employ all the forces of the country to execute these resolutions. The insurgents refuse to accept an armistice.

#### THE COMMITTEE'S REPORTS.

SPAIN TO GIVE UP CUBA. USE OF FORCE AUTHORIZED.

London, April 14.

Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate have both reported in favour of immediately requesting Spain to withdraw from Cuba, and instructing the President to use the forces of the United States, to secure Cuban indepen-

(Received by the 子前)

THE NEW RUSSIAN MINISTER.

Söul, April 7. Mr. N. Matunine, the newly arrived Russian Minister, will proceed to Kyonyun palace, to-morrow, in order to present his credentials.

CHINA FINALLY ACCEPTS THE FRENCH DEMANDS.

Pekin, April 7. The French demands, addressed under date of March 13, have been accepted by the Chinese Government. But while China has promised to France that the former would not concede the three provinces of Yunnan, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi to other powers, a similar declaration has been simultaneously made to England.

The postal service is to be placed as before under the control of the Customs, but it has been agreed upon that a Frenchman should be elected superintendent of Posts.

#### THE INDEMNITY.

Peking, April 8.

The Chinese Government has officially reported to the Japanese Legation that the arrears of the indemnity to Japan will be fully paid on May 6th next.

LIMIT OF THE WEI-HAI-WEI LEASE.

Peking, April 8.

The limit of the land leased by England at Wei-hai-wei is the same as that now occupied by the Japanese troops.

WOOSUNG OPEN FOR FOREIGN TRADE,

China has announced to the treaty Powers that Woosung, off Shanghai, will be opened for foreign trade.

RUSSIA INDIGNANT AT THE WEI-HAI-WEI AFFAIR.

power to 400 miles in the valley of the is for 25 years and is subject to alteration Yangtsi-kiang is a direct challenge to on future negotiation between the parties Russia.

BRITISH SQUADRON AT CHEFOO.

Shanghai, April 9, 12.30. Twenty-four British men of war are at Cheloo, getting ready for any emergency.

AMERICA AND SPAIN.

PURCHASE OF STEAMERS.

Hongkong, April 11. The American Government has purchased two steamers, the Zephir and the Nan-han (?), as transports.

#### OFFICIAL CHANGES.

Söul, April 12.

Ye Chhai-yon, Privy Councillor, has been appointed Mayor of Soul. Ye In-wo, Vice-Minister of Justice, has resigned.

#### KIM CHAI-PHUNG.

Söul, April 12.

Kim Chai-phung, who gave offence to the Sovereign by his attempt to arrest criminals within the precincts of the Court, has been set at liberty.

#### DISTRESS AMONG THE POOR.

Söul, April 12.

Owing to the rise in the price of rice, some of the poor are in a terrible state of distress. The question of administering relief is now occupying the attention of the Government. Rice is quoted at 26 sen per Korean sho.

THE DEPARTURE OF MESSRS, DE SPEYER AND ALEXCIEFF.

Söul, April 12. Mr. de Speyer, who has been trans-ferred to the Russian Legation at Pekin, and Mr. Alexcieff, late financial adviser to the Korean Government, left here for Shaughai to-day Mr. Alexcieft is, it is stated, to proceed to Japan from Shanghai.

#### OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Söul, April 12. Ye Inwo, who has resigned the post of Vice-Minister of Justice, will be appointed Vice-Minister of Finance. He will be succeeded in his former post by Min Yungkil.

RAILWAY CONCESSION TO ENGLAND. Peking, April 13.

England has obtained permission to prolong the Burmah Railway to Yunnan. ENGLAND AND WEI-HAI-WEI DEFENCE.

On account of constructing an arsenal and a dockyard at Wei-hai-wei, England will disburse a sum of two million pounds sterling.

LEASE OF KWANGCHOW BY FRANCE. The term of the lease of Kwangchow is

for 25 years.

FRANCE AND THE CHINESE POSTS.

A French post-master is to be appointed [ after the postal affairs shall have been separated from the Customs. The date of appointment is therefore still unfixed. The previous intelligence that the Postal affairs should be subordinated as before to the Customs, even after the appointment of a French-post master, was therefore

PARTIAL OPENING OF TALIENWAN: RE-STRICTIVE USE OF PORT ARTHUR.

The treaty concluded between Russia and China concerning Tallenwan and Port Arthur expressly provides that the Shanghai, April 5.

Russia is indignant with England for her securing Wei-hai-wei, and considers that Eugland's extension of her limits of to enter the latter port. The term of lease. Digitized by Google

DEPARTURE OF PRINCE HENRY. Hongkong, April 13.
Prince Henry of Prussia has left here

for Shanghai on board the Gefion.

#### (PROMINE "CHINA MAIL," THE LIKIN QUESTION.

Shanghai, March 30, H.E. the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung is stated to have resigned his position in consequence of the diversion of the Likin from the Native Customs.

The Chinese are stopping shipments of cargo to Tientain and Chefoo

A BUNDER. A strange report in in circulation, to the effect that Russian ships are leaving Port Arthur, the inference being that Russia intends to yield to British and Japanese coescion. The explanation is, the futility of the Russians offering any effective resistance inside of Port Arthur, with its forts dismantled.

#### (" LE COURSIES D'BAIRHONG.") RENEWED ANTI-SEMITIC RIOTS.

Paris, March 23th. Last night, anti-Semitic disturbances occurred at Algiers.

A FRENCH MAIL-BOAT WRECKED.

Paris, March 25.

The mail steamer Ville de Rome, going from Marseilles to Algiers, is ashore on the Minorcan. Her passengers and baggage were saved.

SIGNOR CRISPI CENSURED.

The Italian Chamber has censured Signor Crispi for the Bank of Naples affair which occurred whilst he was Minister,

#### (FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

#### TORPEDO BOAT RAISED.

Kuie, April 13.

No. 26 Torpedo-boat, which sank in collision with the war-ship Hipri was raised on the 14th

#### NEW JAPANESE CRUISER.

Newcastle, England, April 12. The new cruiser Takasage, Captain Uchida, will leave here for London on the 5th May en route to Japan.

RAILWAY CO. DISSOLVED.

Kyoto, April 13.
It has been elecided to dissolve the Kyoki Railway Company.

TROOPS FOR VIADIVOSTOCK

Nagasaki, April 14.
The R. V. F. steamer Zarotov strived here to-day with 700 troops for Vladivostock,

RAILWAY DELAYS.

Nagano, April 14.
Owing to an imperfection in the Abt section of the Shingetan line there is great delay and irregularity in the running of trains, with the result that there is a vast accumulation of goods awaiting transport.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS INDE

ı	4 13 15	DEAL	וחם כדיוועו	5
ı	From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
ı	Congleong	P. M. Co.	City of Feking 1	M. Apr. il
1	AMIGRICA AND	U. & U. Ga.	Helgie a	Tit. Apr. 19
į	Hengkong	M. M. Co.	Indux g	W. Apr. se
I	Hongkone	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	Tu. Apr. 26
	Hongkong		D ric	F. Apr. s8
I	Semerica	P. M. Co.	Peru #	Su. May s
١	Catada, &c	C. F. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Su. May 1
ı	Purope	N. D. Lloyd	Hobenhollern	W. May =

- t Left Shanghai on the rath inst.
- Left San Francisco on the and inst 3 Left Shanghai on the rath last.
- 4 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer,	Date.
anada, Ste		Sm. of China	Pr. Apr. 15
Hongkong	P. & O, Co	Ro-etta	In. Apr. 29
Hangkong ,		Belgic	W. Apr. se
shanghai	N Y. E.	Kobe Maru	W. Apr. se
America	P. M. to.	t liy of Peking	W. Apr. so
Burape, via: S'hal.	M. H. Co.	Indus	W. Apr., 17
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Apr. 30
Hougkong	P. M. Co.	Perm	Mr. May s
Hongkong Origi	incert, fictionen	Km of Issue	M. Mary

VIRNNA GAME.

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHRAN EDITOR.

The Vokobama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings 3, Uchi-Saiwaischo Itchome (next to the Tokyo

_	
SOLUTION OF	PROBLEM No. 363.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1-0 to R 4 2-8 to Kt 5 mate	2-K to B 6
z-B to Kt 5 mate	
n . o	I—R lakes R
2-B to Q 2 mate	D . W . C 1
2-B takes B mate	ı−B to Kı 6 ¢l
2-D takes D male	1—B ta B 7
2-B to Q 3 mate	1-B (d B /
* D to 2 3 marc	1-B to Q 8
2-B to K 2 mate	. 210 % 0
	t-R to Kt 4

z-Q to K sq male Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Skak, W.K., D.D. and Miss S.

PROBLEM No. 366.

By HERR J. W. TE KOLSTE, Unecht, Holland, (First prize in Weekblad Tourney).



White to play and mate in two moves.

GAMB No. 377. A BRILLIANT ODDS GAME.
(Remove White's OKt.)

(Millione Allines Street)				
MUZIO GAMBIT.				
White-M. Janowski.	Hlack-Amateur.			
WHITE, BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.			
1 P K4 P K4	10 B QB3 Q QB4 cb			
# P KB4 PxP	II K R sq Casiles			
3 K: KB3 P KK14	12 QR K sq P Q4			
A B OBA P KK15	13 Q KR5 P KB3			
5 Castles PxKt	14 RxKt QxR 15 BxQPth K Kt2			
6 QxP Q KB3	15 BxQPth K Kt2			
7 F K5 QxP	16 R K sq Q OB4			
8 P Q <sub>3</sub> H KR <sub>3</sub>	17 R K5!! Q KB7			
n B O2 Kt K2				

White mates in four moves, commencing with R to Kt 5 cb !!

#### GAMB No. 378.

In a recent match between Lancashire and Yorkshire the following was one of the games

rather prettity won for Laucashire :				
White C. Loebel [Manchester.]		BlackP. P. Wildman (Leeds.)		
WHITE,	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	
1 P K4 2 KKt B3 3 B B4 4 P QKt4 5 P B3 6 P Q4 7 Castles	P K4 OKt B3 B B4 BrK:P B B4 PxP P Q3	8 PxP 9 Kt B3 10 B KKt5 11 B R4 12 P K5 13 KtxP 14 Q R5 ch	B Kt3 Kt R4 P KB3 Kt K2 QPxP B KB4 P Kt3	
White mates in two moves:				

#### GAMB No. 379. CHESS IN SYDNEY.

CHRSS IN SYDNEY.

The following characteristic specimen of the champion's play occurred in the match School of Arts C.C. v Country team. Mr. James, of Kempsey, the whom we are indebted for the game, writes:—"I enclose some of game between Mr. J. L. Jacobsen and myself. It is interesting partly on account of the artistic ending, and also because it serves to show how Mr. Jacobsen punishes a slip." We receive many games from winners, but it is a novelty to get one hom a player who takes a pleasme in recording his own defeat provided the game has produced good chess. provided the game has produced good chess.

ı		4 4 80 64 68 18	CF 76 26 EG F			
	White-Mr. J.	L Jacobsen.	Black-Mr. S	F. James.		
	WHITE.	BL .CK.	WHITE	BLACK		
	rPK4		16 B R5!	RxR(c)		
	2 K+ QB3	KI QB3	t7 RxR	Q8 B4		
	3 P B4	PQ4	18 Q B3	Kt K2		
	4 Px KP	K-xP	19 B B7 ch	K R +q		
	5 Kt B3		20 Q R5	P R3		
	6 B K2	Ki QB3		RKB q(e)		
	7 Castles		22 B K6!	Q Q sq		
ł	8 P Q3	KixKt	23 Kt B7 ch			
ļ	9 PxKi		24 BxR 25 B R4	Q Q2		
		PxP	25 B R4	B K3		
i	II B Ki3	B Q3	26 ■ K8(f) 27 R B6!	$QQ \cdot q$		
ł	12 Q Q2	BR3	27 R B6!	B Kitsg		
	13 Ki Ki5	Q Q2 Kt K2	28 RxP ch	PxR		
	14 B B3		29 QxP ch			
	15 Q K2	Ki Kis				

White mates in two moves.

#### HOTES.

(a) Or preferably 5-B to Q Kt 5
(b) A slip, because neither B nor Kt can safely retake the P.
(c) White's command of the K B file soon thus the scale in his favour.
(d) To stop 21-B to K Kt 5.
(e) A slip of which White very clevely avails binnell.

(f) The champion's conduct of the finish is in his usual finished style .- Sydney Mail.

Yokohama Chess Club.—A number of matches and tourneys have yet to be finished before the close of the season, which will be at the end of this month. The principal event is the Chamthis month. The principal event is the Championship Tourney, the third round of which has just commerced. In the Secretary's Handicap a considerable number of games has been played, but except Mr. Pollak, who has succeeded in securing three witts, none of the competitors have been successful so far. The handicap match, Pollak v. Friedlander, in which the latter conceded the adds of the course tourist tourists. the odds of two games, terminated in favour of Mr. Reiedlander by six wises to four. Other challenge matches in course of progress are Sachs v. Stornebrink and Weilbach v. Poligk.

The Boglish champion.- Incidents that occurred during a recent exhibition of simultaneous blind-fold play lead the Birmingham Weeely Mercury to express the fear that, in the case of Mr. Black burne, "the light of other days has failed." He wished to make an impossible move on one of six boards, and on another he lost his Queen and retracted the move instead of abandoning the game. tracted the move instead of abandoning the game. The Mercury regards this as an unfortunate occurrence. A great master should have abstained from setting such an example. There will be no sport left in cliess if, on observing the consequences of a move, a player is to be at thirry to take it back. A move once made — if legal—should stand. Nor as regards Mr. Blackburne himself, need he lear loss of reputation through loss of blindfold games. "His fame was established thirty years ago, and now that he has grown older an occasional stip will only make his friends support him more warmly than ever."

Mawkin: "What's become of Gambit? I have Alawkin: "What's become of Gambit? I have not seen him for some time." Skarein: "Oh, he's in the hospital. A case of neivous prostration. He over-exercised, you know. He is a great chess player, and sometimes when he gets thoroughly aroused he has been known to make three moves in ball a day. No man, you know, could bear up under such killing work as that."

It is close on seventy years since George Walker said that the strongest defence is counter attack. "A man lifts his hand to give you a blow; you knock him down before he can strike. That is counter-attack."

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Matsushima Kan, (28) Japanese Coast Defence Vessel, Capt. K. Yendo, 4,278, 9th April,-Yokosuka.

Monmeuthskire, British steamer, 1,872. W. A. Evans, 10th April,—London via ports, Kobe, 9th April, General,—Samuel Samuel & Co. Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, W. H. Wright, 10th April,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 10th April, Mails and General,—Dudwelt Carlill & Co.

Honolulu, 30th March, Mails and Grueral.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Baltimore, U. S. cruiser, 4,600, 14 guns, 11th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P., Marshall, 12th April,—Vancouver, B.C., 28th March, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Match, Mais and General, —C. P. R. Co. Hohensollern, Genman steamen, 2,376. H. Biecker, 12th April, —Hongkong, 6th April, Mails and General. —H. Abrens & Co., Nacht, Kalgau, British steamer, 1,158. Beneth, 12th April, —Anping, Sugar and Ruce.—Butterfield & Switze.

& Swire.

Manila, British steamer, 2.71x, R. L. Haddock,
13th April,—London via ports, K.-br., 11th
April, Mails and General,—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2.139, E. B. Bishop, 13th
April,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, and Kohe,
12th April, Mols and General,—P. & O. S.N.

Co.
Independent, German steamer, 871, Holtz, 14th April,—Sumatia, Oil.—M. Raine & Co.
Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, W. Ward, 14th April,—Portand, Oregon, Mails and General,—Dudwell, Calill & Co.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henye
Pybins 14th April,—Hongkong via ports, Robe,
13th April, Mails and General,—Canadian
Pacific Railway Co.
Emergia, British steamer, 2,064, Beard, 14th April,
Emergia, British steamer, 2,064, Beard, 14th April

Pacific Railway Co.

Reergia, British steamer, 2,064, Beard, 14th Apr,
—New York via Suez Canal and Kobe, 13th
April, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tordenskjold, Norwegian steamer, 738, L. Danielsen, 15 h April,—Hangkong, Rice and General.
—Dotwell, Carlill & Co.

Oolong, British steamer, 2 308, Evans, 16th April,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 14th April, General.—W. M. Stachan & Co.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,688, A. Gow, 16th
April,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 14th April,
Mails and General:—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Win, Pichie, 16th
April,—Saigon, 5th April, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Latona, British steamer, 1,934, A. G. Packer, 16th

Latona, British steamer, 1 934, A. G. Packer, 16th Autwerp via pure, Kobe, 14th Aptil, General, Samuel Sumuel & Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 12th April.—Hongkeng via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1.827, W. H. Wright, 13th April.—Portland, O eyon via Hundulu, Mails and General.—D dwell Carlil & Co.

Page Certe British steamer, 1.226. Carlie extl.

Mails and General.—Dowell Carlill & Co.
Rose Castle. British stramer, 1,776. Coglin, 12th
April,—Kohe, General.—Sale & Co.
Guelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 12th
April,—San Francism via Honolulu, Mails and
General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003. O. P.
Maishall, 12th April,—Hongkong via ports,
Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Salanie, French steamer, 2,089, Paul, 13th April,—
Markeilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.
M. S.S. Co.
Menelaus, British steamer, 2,771, W. Towell, 14th
April,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield
& Swire.

& Swire.

Baron Douglas, British steamer, 1,606, Gundey, 14th April, Maji, Ballast, Samuel Samuel &

Hounglow, British steamer, 1,799, Le Templier, 15th April, Moji, Ballast. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 15th April,—Hongkong via Kobe and Naga-saki, Mails and General,—H. Alvens & Co., Nachl.

Nachl. Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pythas, 15th April, -Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. -C. P. R. Co. Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, W. Ward, 15th April, -Hongkong via ports, General. -Dodwell, Carllil & Co.

well, Carlii & Co.

Baltimore, [14] United States Coniser, 4,600,
Capt. N.M. Dver, 15th April,—Hongkong.

Monmouthshire, Biltish steamer, 1,872, W. A.
Evans, 16th April,—Saigon via Kushinoshin,
Billist.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Byans, 10th April,—London via ports, Kobe, 9th April, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, W. H. Weight, 10th April,—Hongkong via ports, Kohe, 10th E. Bellow, Aliss M. D. Beardsley, Miss A. Baddapril, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carllil & Staw, Miss Jessie Bsoles, Mr. C. Burr, Mr. Co.

Garlic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 10th April,—Hongkong via ports, Kohe, 9th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,690, W. B. Seabury, 10th April,—San Francisco, 231d March, and A. M. Griswald, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. J.

Hoshima, Mr. and Mrs. D. Jarves, Mr. A. E. Kaiser, Capt. B. P. Lambertan, U.S.N., Mr. C. P. Low, Mr. G. W. Meade, Mr. Geo. T. Myers, Dr. and Mrs. A. Maicus, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Murphy, Mr. K. Miniashi, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Murphy, Mr. K. Miniashi, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Murphy, Mr. K. Miniashi, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Morsh, Mr. Sam'l L. Otr, Mr. R. M. Parmalee, Mr. P. H. Powers, Mrs. H. B. Price, Miss R. R. Parnell, Mrs. Runyan and daughter, Miss C. Ross, Mrs. S. Shaip, Mrs. B. Stanhope, Rev. W. C. Swearer, Mrs. II. R. Sanford and daughter, Mr. & Mis. R. H. Sonthgate, Mr. R. T. Tangye, Mr. P. Takedzawa, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Thresher, Mr. & Miss. R. H. Sonthgate, Mr. R. T. Tangye, Mr. P. Takedzawa, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Thresher, Mr. C. W. Wheeler and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Winterbotham, and Mr. J. D. Wight, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mrs. F. H. Olmstead and 2 children, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. C. Ceruti, Miss M. L. Wolverton, and Lieut. Col. W. D. Wolverton, U.S.A., in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Dongless and son, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Gailey, Mrs. P. Kasten and family, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Lewis, 2 children and maid, and Mr. W. S. Word, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. A. V. Brayton, Mrs. L. A. Beach, Mrs. I'. S. Freeman, Mr. C. J. Hutchings, wife and daughter, Miss E. Halstead, Miss Irwin, Mrs. N. E. Irwin, Mr. S. B. McNear, Mrs. S. B. McNear, and Mr. H. Sutherland, in cabin.

Per British steamer Gaelic, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. L. Flood and servant, Miss C. Flood, Mr. F. W. Biechyenden, Rev. J. L. Atkinson, Mr. C. R. Burton, Mr. R. Schmid, Mr. W. S. Collahan, Count Origoni, Mr. F. N. Olmstead, Mr. W. S. Feitz, Mr. J. H. White, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. J. J. Dunne, Mr. A. Clark, Mr. Le Froy, Mr. R. H. Marks, Mr. A. Clark, Mr. Le Froy, Mr. R. H. Marks, Mr. A. Clark, Mr. Le Froy, Mr. R. H. Marks, Mr. A. Clark, Mr. Le Froy, Mr. R. H. Marks, Mr. A. Clark, Mr. E. Abenheim, Mr. R. E. Burchurd, Mr. F. Benson, Mr. H. Schubert, Mr. A. P. Greit, Baroness Chaikonsky and daughter, Mr. O. Geltet, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Chutt and coild, Mr.

Huckeel, in cabin.

Per British steamet Empress of India, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. G. Ackerman, Mr. Braggiotti and valet, Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Challant, Mr. E. H. Clark, Mr. F. G. Cuctis, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clark, Mr. R. E. Dilenderfer, Mr. Grosgeau, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Mr. and Mrs. Hardty, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Higinbotham, Miss Higinbotham, Miss Alice Higinbotham, Mr. W. P. Johnson, Mr. Kosugi, Capt. J. H. Laurie, Mr. A. G. Partett, Rev. J. H. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. McRay, General J. Stahel, Mrs. Smale, Mr. D. Thomas, and Mr. Komoda, in cabin.

Per Germau steamer Hohensollern, from Hous-

Platt, Miss, D. D'Hara, Mrs. MacRain and maid, Mrs. Wade, Mr. H. E. Wadeliouse, Mr. L. Richardson, Mrs. Richardson, child and nurse, Mrs. White and 3 children, Mr. G. G. Graham, Mr. C. E. Auton, Rev. and Mrs. Sweet and son, Mr. and Mrs. Walshe, Miss Wells, Mr. Cohn, Mr. and Mrs. Cope, Mr. F. Fielitz, Miss Howard, Miss Huhold; Mr. A. L. Robinson, and Mr. A. Hervey, in cabin; 11, in second class; 457 in steerage.

steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Hawaiian steamer China, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain B. P. Lamberton, Mrs. V. Porter, Mr. R. M. Griffin, Mr. A. H. Heath, Mr. L. Mottet, Mr. R. M. Smith, Mr. W. H. Devine, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. C. Mannel, Mr. F. Sale, Mr. J. Kienle, and Mr. J. L. Stickney, in cabin, Per British steamer Gaetic, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mr. F. Benson, Mr. E. Biedermann, Mrs. C. L. Bishop, Mr. M. Boschwitz, Miss. M. E. Brokaw, Mr. E. Buchard, Mr. T. B. Davis, Mr. J. Dickinson, Capt. and Mrs. Chas. Dodge and child, Mr. F. Enrismann, Mr. J. R. Elliott, Miss L. M. Gesber, M.D., Mr. O. Gillett, Mr. A. F. Greig, Mr. Thomas Greig, Mr. J. Hardy, Mr. J. M. Hayes, Mr. J. W. Henton, Col. and Mrs. F. W. Hemming, Mr. Richard Hoeckert, Mr. and Mrs. Hong Sing and two children, Mr. D. A. Hooyer, Mr. T. Horikiri, Mr. J. Ishizuka, Mr. H. U. Jeffries, Miss Judge, Mr. H. Kelsnil, Mr. and Mrs. C. Kadann, Mt. N. Kasai, Mrs. R. J. Kirby, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh S. Landor, Mr. and Mrs. R. Rienacker, Col. H. A. Sawyer, Mr. H. Schubett, Mr. A. C. Shah, Miss Short, Baroness Tchalkovsky and daughter, Mr. Kenzo Tabata, Mr. Teikichi Tanaka, Capt. A. Warnack, IR. N., Mrs. A. Warnack and two children, Mr. H. T. Wocks, Mr. J. Willcock, and Mr. W. Yates, in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of India, for Hong-

Per British steamer Empress of India, for Hong-kong and ports:—Mr. A. P. MacEven, Mrs. MacEwen and child, Capt. H. H. Gissing, Mr. George Haulot, Mr. J. B. Rentiers, Mr. August Yunker, General Stabl, Mr. H. C. Pigott, Mr. H. Colbian, Mr. and Mrs. Newbert, Mr. Engert, Mr. H. H. Eitel, Mr. Bince Webster, Baron Iwaskir, Mr. R. Kondo, Mr. N. Terajima, Mr. Y. Sekiya, Mr. A. 18bii, Mr. E. Karcher, Mr. Gittens, Miss Gittens, Miss Lee, Miss Walkinshaw, Mr. E. W. Tilden, Mrs. Tilden, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Hattori, and Mr. A. Cabeldo, in cabin.

in cabin.

Pet French steamer Salzaie, for Marseilles and ports:—Le Chev. de Waepenaert, Le Comte de Pimodan, Mme. la Comtesse de Pimodan, Mr. Anbart, Mr. Leydet, Mr. Bal, Mr. C. J. Keep, Mr. M. W. I-aacs, Mr. P. Colomb, Mr. and Mme. Jules Boitelle, Mr. M. de la Richands, Mr. Smith, Comte Haus de Kaenigsmark, Mr. Denys Larieu, Mr. J. Guggentlehn, Mr. Sam Besusteir, Mr. J. Bernard, Mine. M. J. B. Woorahock Hegt, Mr. Lyons, Mr. A. Lyons and infant, Mr. T. Ryoomal, and Mr. T. Trakurdas, in cabin; 70, in steerage.

and Mr. Komoda, in cabin.

Per German steamer Hohmsoltern, from Hongkong;—Mr. J. Hernby, 2 ladies, Dr. G. Specka, Dr. Dahlke, Mr. H. Tettum, in cabin, Besusteir, Mr. J. Behrend, Mr. T. A. Scholten, Mr. and Mrs. Lanke, Mr. James, Dodd, Mr. H. Tettum, in cabin; Miss Pu. Fuller, Miss L. Luke, Mr. G. Motone, Mr. A. Lobolten, Mr. and Mrs. Lanke, Mr. James, Dodd, Mr. H. Tettum, in cabin; Miss Pu. Fuller, Mrs. Luke, Mr. G. Motone, Mr. Al. Lobolt, Mr. A. Lobolten, Mr. and Mrs. Kaine, Mr. A. Scholten, Mr. and Mrs. Kithoka, Miss Fijin, and Mr. H. H. Bolling, in steerage.

Per British steamer Rosetta, from Hangkong and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Richers, Mrs. Fuller, Mr. R. M. Sterling, Mr. St. John, Mr. Conan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Tang, Mr. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Mrs. Ruwang Man Ming, Mrs. St. John, Mr. Colan Koon Mrs. Green, Mr. Vue Ching Cheong, Master Ahaman Miss Smith.

Per British steamer Empress of Japan, from Hongkong and ports.—Mr. Rud Miss, A. Michie, Master and Miss Carefurt, Mr. L. Blint, Mr. T. Rudon, Mr. Rus, Mr. B. McCanters, Mr. Won, Dolerty, Mr. Fiellis, Mr. C. M. Fox, Mr. Master and Mrs. Carefurt, Mr. L. Haugh, Mr. L. Chang, Mr. J. G. Heap, Mrs. A. Havey, Mr. J. G. Heap, Mrs. A. Havey, Mr. J. G. 
#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

No business whatever has been reported in cotton piece goods, yarns or woollens. Quotations

#### COTTOR PIECE GOODS

City to date I describe contract		
	CAN FI	14;6.
they Shirtings-8  b, 18  yds, 19 inches	\$2.55 to	8.05
Grey Bhittings-oh, 384 yds. 43 inches	4.80 to	
l'. Cloth-7h, 24 yarda, 32 inches	1.8u to	
Indigo Shirtings-ra yands, 44 inches.	1.05 to	
Prints-Assorted, #4 yards, 30 inches.	2 00 to	
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Mack,	Pan y	
	0.18	
31 inches	U. IOE V	0.33
WOOLLENS.	VER TA	RO.
	\$0.30 tu	0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yasds, 3s inches hurt	0.35 to	0.44
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 37 inches		
Madium	o go tu	0.111
Italiau Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	- 4	
Социон	0.25 lo	0.274
Mountaline de Laine-Crape, aj yards,		
5: inches	0.15 tu	22
Cloths-Pilate, 5; @ 36 inches	0.15 to	
Charles Breef of the same of inches		
Clotha-Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	a.Go ta	
Clutha-Union, 54 of 56 inches	0.50 to	0.03
Bisulials-Scattetand Green, 3 to 5th,		
per B	nite fo	
At the Allert control to and of the	TER PI	
Velveta-Black, 35 gards, az inches	7.75 te	
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches.	0.75 to	1.00
Turkey Reds-2.0 to 2.4 h, 24/25 yards,		
30 inches	4.50 to	1.70
Turkey Reds 2.8 to 3Th, 24/23 yards,		
30 inches	1 75 10	8,10
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 40, 24/25 yards,		
32 inches	2.40 10	2.70
Fuckey Reds-4.8 to 5B, 24/25 yards,	-	
32 inches	3 on to	1.50
COTTON YARDS.	7 RR 179	
		39.50
Nos. 38'42, Singles		45 00
- Number of Assessment of the Comment	45.00	
Nos. 33, Doubles 46		46.00
Nos. (2, Doubles	75 to	21-20

### American Middling \$10,10 to 20.50 felicates Middling \$20,10 to 20.50 felicates \$20,50 to 21.00 Chinese 21 to 21.50

#### METALS.

The market is quite lifeless and it is extremely difficult to get delivery taken of old orders. No fresh offers are made, even with the prospect of considerable concessions, and quotations remain

	i# 1	DOME.
Roused and sequence & inch. and upward. 3.95	10	4.20
Iron Plates, assorted 4.20	ln.	4.50
Sheet Iron	to	5.20
Galvanized from sheets	Lo	10.00
Wire Nails, assurted 9 50	10	6.10
Tin Plates, per bug 5 on	16	6.00
Fig Iron, Day, 1	to	2.10
Hoop from (  to +  inch)5-00	to	5.25

#### KIEROSKUE.

Very little business doing. Importers are not disposed to lower their prices, but even if they made some reduction it does not appear that native buyers are willing or able to make any large purchases.

American	12 00 to 2.07
Russian	1.95 to 2.05
Languat	1 Rs

Arrivals of Brown comprise I 943 piculs Manila, 8,700 piculs Cuina and 60,000 piculs Formosa. Sales during the past three weeks amount to 14,000 piculs of China and Manila and 34,800 piculs Formosa. Prices have risen 5 cents per picul for Manila and Formosa and from 10 to 30 cents for China. A fair business has been done in White refined at a rise in price of about 10 cents per picul on quotations.

	Maria.	PER PIGUE,
14 LO ALP	Taken memmentana manana	\$4.10 to 1.20
Brown	Manifa	4.75 to 5.50
Brawn	Daitong	3.85 to 1.00
Henry of	Canton	3.70 to 4.65
White	lava and Penang	0.50 to 7.00
OU Live	W. G J	0.50 to 7.00
** 11 . 1 6	Refined	7.35 to 9.00

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SILK.

Demand continues slack in the extreme and is not expected to improve, for America at least, in view of the now almost certain outbreak of war between the United States and Spain. Stock amounts to 6,050 piculs. Prices have fallen about 20 yen per picul below quotations, which may be considered nominal. Shipments have been 225 bales per Empress of China and 219 bales per Gaelie, for America.

Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



QUOTATIONS.
Filntures-Batra g'14, 10/12 den Nominal
Filaturan Extra 13/15, 14/15 den
Filgturas-No. 1, 10/13 denters 020 to 010
Filatures-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 dan 880 to 800
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers 900 to 910
Filatures-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den 850 to 860
Filstures -No. 2, 10/15 deniers 850 to 860
Filetures-No. 2, 14/18 deniers 820 to 830
Re-resta 10. 4, 13/15, 11/16 den 890 to 900
Re-reals-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den
beliefermiter 1º i fire deductions
Kakedas-No. 14
Kakedas—No. 34
[L BEC C D B B B B L D C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C

WASTE SH.K.

The market is licless and no business has been reported during the week. Quotations are purely nominal. The Hohensollern took 212 bales of former sales, for Europe.

uq			

And twi rous.			
Nonhi-Filature, Bent	115	ţq	130
Noshi-Filature, Good	105	£0	110
Noshi-Oshu, Bast	110		
Noshi-Oshu, Good	001		
Noshi-Oshu, Medium			95
Noshi-Shinshu, Best			75
Noshi-Shinghy, Good			514
Noshi-Bushy, Best	115		
Noshi-Bushu, Good	100		
Noshi-Bushu, Medinar			100
Noshi-loshu, Good			55
Noshi-loshu, Fair			578
Kihino-Filature, Best			100
Kibiso-Filnture, Seconds			90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good			100
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20	ţo	224
TEA.			

Next to nothing has been done during the week and stock only amounts to 77,800 lbs. Shipments consist of 661 packages per Empress of China and 156 packages per Gastic, for America. The first sample of new season's tea, consisting of 2 lbs., arrived in Yokohama on Thursday. It is expected that prices for the first crop will be 20 to 30 per cent, higher than last season.

QUOTATIONS.	Nominal.
Choicest	
Choice	(15 E 4
Finest	Nomi.
Fine	\$27 to 28
	23 to 24
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	
Common	19 to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained steady with silver quoted

Flower from Pondon-	
Sterling Bank T.T	2/0}
	3/018
unanthe eight	2 O17
	2 Of
- 6 months' sight	2/O#
On Paris-Bank sight	a.54
On Lyons - Private 4 months sight .	2.59
On America Bank Bills on demand.	495
- Private 4 months' sight	501
On Germany-Bank sight	2.06
- Private a months' sight	2.11
On Hongkong-Bank sight	dis.
- Private todaya'sight,	o⊤ <sub>o</sub> cius.
On Shanghai-Bank night	80
Private 10 days' sight	RI
On India-Bank sight	151
Private 30 days' sight	150
Bar Silver (London)	2518



o-freezing & Ordinary Hydrants and Street Washers. Garden Watering Boxes and Apparatus. Gue-Metal, Copper, and Cast-Iron Cocks and Valves.

#### E. GUESNIER, E.C.P.,

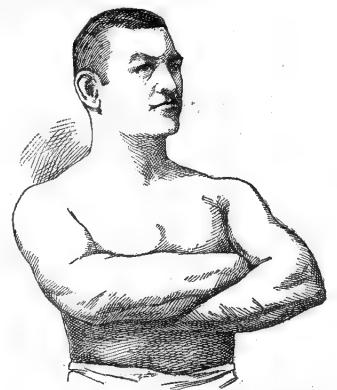
Engineer and Oook Mafr., Successor III ACHILLE CADET)

27, Rue des Taillanders,
PARIS.
Hydropathic and Massage Apparates supplied to the Vishy Co.
Vapour Baths (Berthe system).

Apply to Boyes & Co., agents fo M. OPPENHEIMER E Co., PARIS.

December 5, 1896.





Manly purity and beauty are inseparably associated with Cuticura, the world's greatest blood purifier and skin beautifier.

Bold throughout the world. British depot. F. Meweren's Sown, I. King Edward-st., London. Forren Druo and Chest. Conv., Sole Props., Botton, U. S. A. " Row to Furify the Blood and Beautify the Skin," post free.

#### A. SAVY & CO., ENGINEERS.

162, Rue de Charenton, Paris.

THE OLD G. HERMANN DEBATISTE WORKS. ESTABLISHED 1830.

The Oldest and Largest Makers in the World of Chocolate, Cocoa, and Confectionery Plants.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 17.]

YOKOHAMA. APRIL 23RD, 1898. 月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 電影者使調用三十 Vol. XXIX.

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It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Chaques be made payable to name; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

VOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD, 1898.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

On the 9th inst. the Russo-Korean Bank in Soul closed its office and stopped business.

H.E. Lt KATEI, Korean Minister of Japan, had audience of the Emperor III the Palace on the

BAION Ito, Minister for the Agricultural and Commercial Department, has submitted his resignation.

On the 18th inst , at the Kinki-kwan restaurant, some of the anti-Government politiciaus delivered speeches on various subjects of the day.

A young man named Matauno Takeshi, a medical student, committed snicide by taking nittle acid in a brothel in Tokyo on the 15th

. On the 17th, at 1 pm, the Kwanto Liberals held a conference at the Konaka resignment Riogoku, Tokyo, and afterwards took dinner together.

THE Communications Department has received Digitized by

intelligence that all private telegrams for Manila are temporarily prohibited by request of the Spanish Government.

A BILL has been introduced into the U.S. Senate creating a national war force by calling upon all able-bodied men between 18 and 45 for three years' service.

THE N.Y.K.'s steamer Soya Maru, 1,725 tons register, ran on a submerged rock on the coast of Benien Island on the 17th inst., while making for the port. It is said that she is seriously

On the 16th H.E. the Minister for Italy entertained at the Legation all the Japanese Cabinet Ministers, some of the higher officials of the Imperial Household, and about 20 Italian gentlemen.

More than 150 fishermen from Wakayama, Tokyo, Shiga, Hiroshima, Kanagawa, Saitama, and Fakuoka, left by the Empress of China for Vancouver to engage in salmon fishing in British Columbia.

Six toy makers of Tokyo were arrested on the rith instant, for making and selling imitation gold coins, which were bought by women and children under the belief that they were genuine, and tendered for change.

A TELEGRAM from Chefoo reports that the two Japanese who were arrested by the Russian anthorities at Port Arthur as spies were released on the 16th inst. and arrived at Newchwang the same day.

WITH regard to the monetary system in Formoss, it was for some time a question in the Cabinet whether to use the silver standard or gold. The Committee decided that the silver standard is most suitable for the island.

A. CONFERENCE of the Principals of the Higher Schools will be held on the 19th inst, at the Department of Education. Mr. Kikuchi, Vice-Minister of Education, will give an explanation of the proposed administration of the Schools.

THE first of a series of five bicycle races by the Reliance Wheelmen of Yokohama took hence on Sunday last, on the Chiba road over a course of about 5 miles. Mr. Kay Smith finished first, Mr. McChesney second, and Mr. Dewette third,

THE Railway between Nauso and Tsuhata has been finished, and will be opened for traffic after official examination. Another branch, between Kanazawa and Tauhata, is also finished. It is said that both lines will probably be opened on the 1st June.

A POLICE impector and a constable belonging to the Hokkaido police, and a female passenger by the Icshimo Maru were sufficiented by charcoal fumes in their cabin on the 9th instant. The inspector and woman died, while the constable was resuscitated.

AT about 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening fire broke out in Hongo, Kamakura, and, several hundred houses were destroyed. It is rumoured that there was some loss of life and several persons were injured, but no official report has yet been received.

On the 17th inst., at 4 p.m., the Yekobama Commercial School gave an entertainment at the Nissel-ro restaurant, Count Okuma and his adopted son, Mr. Hayashi, Director of the Exhibition Bureau, Messra Harn and Otani, and

establishment of an Inspecting Office. It is said that as a result of the conference an office will be established in the compound of the Yokohama Railway Station, and that the Alli-, ance Tea Inspection Office in Kobe will be used for the same purpose.

AT noon on Wednesday fire broke out in a green grocer's shop in Sakamoto-cho, Shitaya, Tokyo. A strong wind was blowing at the time and the flames spread rapidly, with the result that over four hundred houses, forming several atreets, were destroyed. One man met his death and one was severely injured in the fire.

On the 18th Marquis Ito held a meeting at his official residence, which was attended by Count Inouye, Minister of Finance; Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of Home Affairs; Viscount Katsura, Minister of War; Mr. Sone, Minister of Justice, and some other officials. It is believed that the claims of the Liberal party and the resignation of Baron Ito, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, were the questions discussed.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has signed the resolutions of Congress. The Spanish Minister has demanded his passports. An ultimatum has been delivered at Madrid, compliance being required by Saturday, the American Minister meanwhile remaining in Madrid. The Spanish Cortes have been opened. The speech from the Throne upholds Spain's rights over Cubs. It is officially announced that America will not report to privateering.

THE Spanish Minister has left Washington. The American Ultimatum has reached Madrid, and Spain immediately broke off diplomatic relations, and the American Minister left Madrid. Hostilities have commenced. Mr. Balfour has notified the belligerent parties of England's adhesion to the principles of the Treaty of Paris, and that Britain cannot lay down the principle that coal constitutes contraband of war. It, he said, may frequently be so, but not necessarily.

THE Import market in Yokohama during the past week has shown no signs of improvement. In yarns, cotton piece goods, woollens, and metals there is general stagnation. Not only is no new business to speak of being done, but there appears to be the same reluctance or in-ability on the part of buyers noted last week to take delivery of goods ordered long ago. Stocks are consequently accumulating and godown and insurance charges running up, with no signs of any probable improve-ment in the near future. With regard to kerosene, the possible failure of supply from America, in consequence of war with Spain, has naturally had the effect of hardening rates, and holders will probably demand a considerable rise in prices within the next few months. There has been a fair business transacted in sugar, and Manila brands may be expected to rise in price, which will also affect other rise in price, which will also affect other classes of brown. Further large imports of foreign rice have been made without any immediate fall in prices. The Export market is still very dull. With the war outlook it is scarcely to be expected that any large transactions in silk for America will take place for the present at least and during place for the present at least, and during the past week the sales have been limited to about 500 boxes. Nothing has been done in tea with the exception of the despatch of a few cattles of samples of the new crop. It is rumoused as we close this report that the United States Government has imposed an import duty of THE Central Tea Guild was recently in con- expenses, but this requires confirmation. Ex-

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The discussions of the Tokyo journals about recent events in the Far East have been become a little wearisome, but our readers have doubtless observed that the opponents of the Govern ment have hitherto had the arena almost entirely to themselves, silence being preserved by newspapers to whose columns we are accustomed to look for expositions of political opinious. The Nichi Nichi Shimbun now abandons this attitude of reticence and publishes a scathing article against the agitators. It sets out by expressing appreciation of the patriotism that induced them to hold a meeting, appoint a committee and send a deputation to the Premier, but it demonstrates in the clearest manner that, their so-called "strong foreign policy" is a veritable myth, for not only is it without any element of strength, but also it is conspicuous for weakness and inconsequence. A strong foreign policy is one that announces an intention and shows a determination to enforce it by arms if necessary. Such, for example, was by St. St. fano. She sent her ships through the Dardanelies, and made it perfectly plain that unless ber demands were complied with, war would follow. The result is matter of history. But the agitators in Japan to-day have no intention of that kind. They do not say that, if Russia and Germany decline to respect Japan's protest, she must be prepared to send her fleet against Kiso-chou, Port Arthur and Vladivostock. What they say is that unless the Japanese protest is obeyed, the evacuation of Wei-hai-wei must be reconsidered. Was ever anything lamer or more inconsequential? Germany and Russia are to be censured for encroaching upon the integrity of the Chinese empire, and, if they disregard the censure, Japan is to follow their example. Very heartily Russia and Germany would laugh were such propositions submitted to them. They have no special objection to Japan's occupying Wei-bai wei. They would rather have her there than England, probably. At any rate, to suppose that they would abandon the fruits of their aggressions in order to save Japan the moral pain of becoming an aggressor like them, is quite 'arcical. The agilators talk of putting back-hone into the Cabinet, but in truth their so-called "strong foreign policy" is to the last degree feeble and invertebrate,

The Hochi Shimbun continues its charmingly altruistic campaign in favour of the acquisition of a Chinese port by Japan. It laughs at the Progressia's' contention that a protest should be lodged against the acts of Germany and Russia, and says that such a course would be as sensible as building a strong room after the treasure to be left there had been stolen. But it is not too like to obtain a footing for Japan on the Asistic Continent. Of course, nothing could be more immoral than to follow the example of Russia. France, and Germany, which have acquired ports in China for the purely selfish purposes of their own aggrandisement. Japan must not do anything of that kind. If she obtain a portion of Chinese territory, her object must be simply to guard it for China's sake. All the world should understand the difference between her motive and the motives of Occidental aggressors. The Hochi advances this programme with entire confidence and satisfaction. It seems to be quite sincere, and therein lies the chatm of its counsels.

"Do not lose heart" is the injunction of the Fifi Shimpo to the people of China. It is true that recent events must have proved infinitely painful to Chinese patriots—a port stolen one day, a province the next. But Japan also has had her heavy trials, and has passed safely through them. She too has had her towns bombarded by fleets and great sums ex-

days she lay at the mercy of foreign Powers. Even the revolution of 1867 supplied them with an opportunity to interfere in her domestic affairs, and while England and others supported the new Government, taking care to reap large reward for doing so, France and Russia sided with the Shogun. Looking back now at the perits through which Japan passed safely, the Chinese, on their side, ought not to demand the perits of as week and the chinese. spair. The Japan of 35 years ago was as the China of to-day. The China of a few years hence may be as the Japan of to-day. It is true that two or three harbours and some miles of territory have been lost. But compared with the bulk of the Middle Kingdom, such things count for nothing more than does "one tail-hair to nine oxen." China has not been vitally hurt. Her immense frame is still intact. She is not a poor, resourceless country like Korea. She has a vast expanse of territory; an immense population; enormous wealth. All that is needed is a little effort. She could soon put herself in a condition not merely to dely foreign aggression but even to recover the losses she has incurred. It must be confessed that if the Fiji Shimpo believes in its own oft-repeated predictions of China's dismemberment, the optimistic advice of the above article is some-

The Zekyo Shimbun (Liberal organ) has an article which derives much interest from its exposition of a positive policy for Japan. A portion of the article is devoted to demonstrating the absurdity of Japan's attempting, at this late hour, to interfere with the acquisitions made by Germany and Russia in China. Our contemporary laughs at the fruitlessness of any such effort, and then proceeds to insist that Japan has no business on the continent of Asia as an aggressor competing with France, Germany, Russia, and England; that Wel-hai-wel would be useless to her, and immensely costly, since to retain it she would have to give up the 120 million was still due by China, and would also have to devote large sums to its maintenance; and that if she in called upon at all to interfere in these matters of territorial aggression, she should have interfered at the time of the seizure of Kino-chouthat is to say, when the administration was in the hands of the former Cabinet whose supporters are now so vehicinently denouncing the Government for not interfering. All that is more or less hackneyed. But the Tokyo Shimbun then declares that Japan's true policy. so far as China is concerned, should be to lead her into the path of progress. By this means alone can the integrity of the ancient empire be preserved, and the task devolves fully on Japan as the Eastern pinneer of Western pro gress, and as having berself passed through many of the perils that menace China. Further, if Japan is to acquire any place for the sake of restoring the balance of power in the Far East, the place should be Fusan in Korea, Ever since the days of the Taiko-the close of the sixteenth century-Fasau has been regarded as a Japanese colony. There are whole streets there built and inhabited by Japanese, and in many respects the town is scarcely distinguishable from one in Japan. Moreuver, it lies just opposite Tsushima, and will certainly be connected before long with Soul by railway. Everything distinguishes it as the most suitable acquisition this country could make on the Asiatic Continent.

Two articles in the Chus Shimbun are devoted to proving that Japan's relations with China should be chiefly of a commercial character. Apart from the acquisition of Formosa and the Pescadores, the principal end attained by the Shimonoseki Treaty was the opening of new ports in China. Nearly three years have passed since then, yet the newly opened places

not be achieved without difficulty. In those mity to China and of the products that she has, well as the manufactures she might have, to sell to her neighbour, Japan's tradal relations with the great nation might easily be as large as England's are, whereas in truth they are insignificant. The blame for such a state of effairs rests partly on the Government, but chiefly on the business men and non-official classes, and if the politicians who now give themselves so much concern about the balance of power and such things, would make an earnest effort to rouse a spirit of commercial enterprise, they might escape the reproach of sacrificing national interests to party

> The Mainichi Shimbun also devotes much space to the Far Eastern question. It reviews the course of events and insists that Japan must assert herself by obtaining a port in China to serve as a naval basis. The name of the pertia purposely concealed, but indications are afforded which suffice to show that either Amoy or Foochow is in our contemporary's mind. We need not weary our readers by reproducing the Mainichi's lengthy statement of facts already familiar to everybody. Our contemporary makes one striking comment, however. It says that Japan exposed China's weakness by the defeats she inflicted on her, and exposed her own weakness by surrendering the Liantung peninsula at the first nod of three European Powers, without uttering a protest or exacting a condition. If Japan, in the hour of victory, could be so easily awed, it was plain to the Occident that there remained in the Orient nothing worthy to be feared. The latal error of that time seems likely to be repeated with even more serious consequences on the present

#### TAPANESE TEA.

Japanese teas manufactured for export to America were lately found, according to the Kokumin, to be spurious and adulterated, some of them being entirely unfit for use. Last year the United States Government issued regulations prohibiting the import of spurious lest, and steps were taken in Japan to reform the processes of manufacture. As, however, no prohibitory measures were adopted by the Canadian Government, tex growers took no pains to improve the teas exported to that colony. Consequently Japanese tea in America is fast sinking into an insignificant position, while the Indian leaf = steadily gaining in popularity. In view of this the Central Ten Guild has taken steps to induce tea-growers to improve their product, and inspecting offices are to be established in Yokohama and Kobe with a view to prevent the export of spurious munnfactures. Foreign ten merchante in the open ports appear to have adopted a similar policy, their energies being devoted to the expect of ten above the medium quality. They have in fact resolved to enforce their policy in the rejection of bad leaf with greater vigour and stringency than last year. Owing to the use of a greater amount of fertilizers and more pains in cultivation the aprouts this season are, in spite of the changeableness of the weather, much better than in previous years. But, wages having considerably rises, there is cause for apprehension that spurious manufacture is likely to be resorted to in some quarters. The utmost precaution is necessary on this point.

#### THE TARIFF.

We observe that the Japan Gasette, like the Kobe Chronicle, has been misled about the new Tariff. It says that it "knows from good authority that the Government hoped to bring the Tariff into force from the 1st of November next, and notified the various diplomats accordingly," but that, the Austro-Hungarian Trenty two Occidentals were cut down, or hecause a few shots were fired at a passing foreign ship, lished Chinese marts like Shanghai and Tients on the could by Russia and its preservation to Jepan could Digitized by I appear of the point of view of her proxi
UNIVERSITY OF HEIMOIC AT

#### MEETING OF STRONG-FOREIGN-POLICY POLITICIANS.

The advocates of a strong foreign policy continue their agitation. They held a meeting on the afternoon of the 18th inst. in the Kinki-kan, when several well-known members of the Progressist party delivered speeches—as Mr. Oishi Masami, Mr. Haseba Junko, Mr. Koizuka Ryo, Mr. Shimada Saburo, and so on. More or less accurate reports of the speeches are printed by vernacular newspapers, but we shall not reproduce them. It will be quite sufficient for our readers if we give an idea of the general spirit of the addresses. With the exception of Mr. Koizuka Ryu all the speakers appeared to think that Russia is chiefly to blame for the present complications. Her acquisition of Liaotung and Germany's action in Shantung had created a situation for Japan which might be compared to that of a house separated by a thin partition from the scene of an armed burglary. England, China, and Japan were the Powers with paramount interests in this region of the globe, and they, too, might be said to have a common policy. Russia, Germany, and France had merely found an opportunity in the results of the war of 1894-5. The war might be said to have broken down the gates of the Far East, and given ingress to States which would otherwise have remained outside. It thus became Japan's duty to stretch out a helping hand to China. A similar obligation devolved upon England in her own interests. Talien in Russia's hands meant a severe blow to the commercial status of Great Britain and Japan in the Far East. The Government seemed to be asleep at this crisis. Its theory was that diplomacy could effect nothing without the aid of armed strength. History showed how completely fallacious was such an idea. Everything would go by default unless some complainant stepped forward. It was for Japan to assume the duty of complainant. Japan had been chiefly flouted. She had been driven from territory belonging to her as the fruits of victory by Powers which claimed that her presence there would menace the integrity of the Chinese empire, and now those same Powers had appropriated the same territory themselves. Now was the time to adopt some remedial measure. A few days more would see the withdrawal of Japan's forces from Wei-hai-wei, and then it would be too late to act.

Such was the gist of the speeches. We can not discover that a single new argument was adduced or a single novel theory advanced. Mr. Koizuka thought that England's policy had been mistaken, but his demonstration of the charge was not clear or effective. No resolutions were adopted, and it does not appear that the meeting is likely to have any marked

It has invariably been observed that when men who have seemed intemperate wholesome effect is often produced when

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as to the wisest course to be adopted by as to the wisest course to be adopted by their country, or as to the best means of giving effect to the views they enter-tained. There were also evidences of disagreement, or, at least, of divergent opinions, among them. But when they came to reduce their ideas to writing, a common basis of conviction was found, and a document of considerable interest resulted, moderate in tone and states-manlike in sentiment. For the purposes of our readers it is not necessary to translate the mainfesto verbatim. A very few words will suffice to convey a clear impression of its contents. It lays down one broad principle, namely, that Japan's foreign policy should be guided by the object of preserving the independence and integrity of the Chinese and Korean empires. The best way to preserve the peace of the East is to lead China and Korea into the path of progress, so as to insure for them the friendship of Occidental nations, and consequent immunity from Occidental aggression. If Japan fought with China, it was because the latter's procedure threatened the independence of Korea. That immediate purpose attained, Japan did not hesitate to retrocede the Liaotung Peninsula in deference to the representations of Russia, Germany, and France. But Russia and Germany themselves have now obtained possession of the very territories from which they declared it necessary that Japan should be ousted three years ago. The manifesto uses some very strong language against these two Powers, and roundly condemns the Government of Japan for not opposing their action on the same grounds that they employed in 1895 to oppose Japan's. It then goes on to insist that China's elimination from the map of Asia as an independent State is imminent; that Japan can not view such a contingency without grave alarm; that she must adopt vigorous steps to avert it; and that her military unreadiness is no reason for inaction, because military unreadiness is a purely relative term, and by the time that she shall have attained what she now regards as a standard of preparation, she will be as far behind the then warlike strength of the Great European Powers as she is to-day.

Such is the gist of the argument. It may be summed up in a dozen words, namely, that Japan must stand forward as the champion of China and Korea against Western aggression. No explicit state-ment is made as to the steps that she ought to take, but it is plain that the compilers of the manifesto intend her to act in opposition to Russia and Germany. There is indeed a disavowal of hostile sentiment towards any Power, but the general drift of the argument can not be mistaken, nor can the strong terms in which the procedure of Russia and Germany is denounced be misunderstood. The outcry formerly raised against Japan's evacuation of Wei-hai-wei does not find any echo in this document. Weiinto office, they are immediately sobered invite an entente with England, though wholesome effect is often produced. hai-wei is not mentioned at all. On the Assuming that the manifesto represents words have to be reduced to writing. An the views of the Progressists, we are confillustration is afforded in the manifesto fronted by the interesting and important THE JIJI'S COUNSEL.

The Jiji Shimpo evidently regards the recent episode between the Cabinet and the Liberals as an event of much importance in the political world. It considers that the prospect of an alliance has been destroyed, for the moment at all events, and justly remarks that the Government can not turn to the Progressists without making very much larger concessions than those which it has just refused to the Liberals, while the Liberals, on their side, are placed in an awkward position since they can not well resume their old combination with the Progressists, and even if they could do so for the purpose of overthrowing the Cabinet, they would not find themselves more satisfactorily circumstanced than they are now. Altogether our contemporary considers it a national misfortune that these complications should occur at the time when so many problems of great importance present themselves in the domains of domestic and foreign politics alike. It is impossible for Ministers to act with strength and decision if they are entirely without allies among party politicians, and, were that fact considered from a patriotic point of view, both sides should be willing to make wise concessions.

The same journal publishes what purports to be an official view of this difficulty between the Cabinet and the Liberals. When Marquis Ito was entrusted by the Emperor with the duty of forming a Ministry, he endeavoured to obtain the coopetion of the Liberals and Progessists, but finding it impossible to compass that object, he finally gave up the idea, and invited Count Inouve to take a portfolio on the understanding that the Cabinet should be independent of political parties. Subsequently the Liberals intimated their intention of unconditionally supporting the Cabinet. went to the constituencies on that platform and it was well understood that the members returned by the country in the Liberal interests were not opponents of the Government. Recently, however, the leaders of the Party reversed their attitude and approached the Cabinet with | proposition which they declared to be crucial o any union between themselves and the Ministry. Marquis Ito naturally replied that all the portfolios were now occupied; that he had never given a pledge of any kind to the Liberals, and that it was out of the question to suddenly change the personnel of the Cabinet in deference to the wishes of a political party. If the Liberals were prepared to form a Cabinet of their own and to carry on the administration, the present Ministry would make no difficulty about handing over the reins of office to them. But they were not prepared to do anything of the kind, yet they maintained that their views ought to be carried out by the Cabinet in power. That was most unreasonable. Evidently to yield to such demands would open the door to an unending abuse. Granting one thing to-day, the Ministry might be required to grant another to-morrow, and so on ad infinitum. It would certainly be unfortunate if a collision occurred again between the Cabinet and the Diet, but the Ministers of the Crown must not issued by the advocates of a strong fact that a large section of the leaders of the Ministers of the Crown must not foreign policy for Japan. The speeches delivered by these publicists suggested that they were not by any means agreed aggression.

fact that a large section of the leaders of the Ministers of the Crown must not allow themselves to be turned from their duty hy fear of such contingencies. They would go their way independently. would go their way independently. Original from

#### THE LIBERALS AND THE CABINET.

There can be very little doubt that the Liberals are disposed to press for some official recognition of their cooperation with the Cabinet. The representatives of the Party who reside in the capital and are fully conversant with the course of events, would probably be content to leave things as they are, for the present at all events. As to that, however, we can speak from conjecture only. But the financial question has assumed a somewhat troublesome complexion. The present Cabinet had to choose between increased taxation and a programme of retrenchment. If selected the latter, temporarily at all events, and an impression has consequently been produced that the post-bellum scheme of expansion elaborated by the former Ito Cabinet and endorsed by the Liberal Party in 1895, must now be cut down by an Ito Cabinet and the reduction approved by the Liberals. That is not altogether the case, as our readers are aware. A considerable part of the retrenchment in the armaments expansion programme is due, not to deliberate choice on Japan's side, but to delays in executing work and to corresponding deferment of payments owing to the Engineers' strike in England. These details, however, can not be readily comprehended by the Liberal Party at large, and, even if full comprehension could be secured, there would still be a considerable residue of retrenchment attributable, not to fortuitous causes, but to the Cabinet's changed policy. It would seem that these reflections have produced a feeling of uneasiness, perhaps of umbrage, and that the only feasible way of restoring confidence in the ranks of the Liberals is to admit Count to appreciate. The statesmen and Japanese politicion the Liberals is to admit Count to appreciate. The statesmen, while leaders of the Party are said to have waited on Marquis Ito on the 15th port of political parties in the Diet they instant for the purpose of setting forth the difficulty. They explained that Count Itagaki himself had no special desire to enter the Cabinet, being, for his own part, quite content to remain out of office and do what he could to promote the interests of the country as a private individual. On the other hand, the sentiment of the Liberals in the provinces had declared itself very distinctly in favour of the Count's admission to the Ministry, and the leaders of the Party saw no other means of securing its allegiance to the Cabinet. Marquis Ito is said to have expressed his appreciation of the case as presented to him, but what step, if any, he will take remains uncertain. There is at present no vacancy in the Cabinet, nor is it easy to appoint a Minister under such circumstances without seeming to violate the Imperial prerogative. We should be disposed to doubt the correctness of these details, but they appear in the columns of the Nichi Nichi Shimbun, and ought, therefore, to be credible.

It has already been related in these columns that a deputation of Liberal politicians recently waited on Marquis Ito, and urged the advisability of giving a portfolio to Count Itagaki. Rumour now supplements that version by adding that not of principles but of posts. They will, the admission of Mr. Hoshi Toru to the therefore, judge each official measure on Cabinet constituted a second proposal its own merits, supporting or condemning submitted by the Deputation. The best-informed persons deny, however, that Mr. Hoshi's inclusion in the Ministry has been terminated. At the moment they are not asked for. They allege that the desire of likely to come into collision with the Go-

the Liberals is limited to Count Itagaki's a very reasonable line of argument. It is that, however thorough may be the confidence of the Party as a whole in Marquis Ito's statesmanship, there exists a feeling among the rank and file that if they support the Cabinet without having any direct voice in its Councils, they can not hope to escape the imputation of being blind followers of officialdom. For the sake of their own fair fame, therefore, they think their revered and beloved leader, Count Itagaki, should have a seat in the Cabinet, as was the case when their Party last gave its support to those in power. Marquis Ito's reply is said to have been that he fully recognised the justice of their attitude, and that no objection existed, either on his part or on the part of his colleagues, to receiving Count Itagaki into the Ministry. His Excellency added, however, that pending the meeting of the Diet next month, he was not in a position to make a definite promise, nor could be now undertake to declare what course he should pursue after the prorogation of the Houses. At that point the conference seems to have terminated, and although no rupture has actually taken place between the Cabinet and the Liberals, their relations appear to be somewhat strained. We apprehend that it is another case of compromise, The Liberals need only wait a little. Of course, to onlookers familiar with the working of party Cabinets in England, and convinced by the experience of their own country that the Government's Parliamentary supporters ought to be duly represented in its ranks, the manceuvring and finesse that mark the doings of can not conduct the administration smoothly and salisfactorily, are nevertheless reluctant to openly endorse a doctrine which more or less impairs the Imperial prerogative. Thus there results a period of hesitation which seems more sentimental than practical. But the inevitable outcome of Parliamentary institutions can not be deferred very much longer.

#### FUTURE ATTITUDE OF THE LIBERALS.

The question of the hour at present in Japan is the future attitude of the Liberal Party towards the Cabinet. If it be an attitude of opposition, the Ito Ministry will have the record of being the first Cabinet absolutely without any party to support it in the Diet. Our readers will therefore be interested to hear what the Chuo Shimbun has to say on the subject, for, as the organ of the National Unionists, who are the Liberals' allies, that journal should be in a position to speak authoritatively. The Chuo's prediction is that the Liberals will not go into general op-position. They can not do so, indeed, without losing caste as serious politicians, for their difference with the Cabinet is one therefore, judge each official measure on

vernment at more than two points. entry, and they attribute to the Liberals first is the financial programme of the a very reasonable line of argument. It Cabinet. They consider that the reduction made in the appropriations on account of naval expansion are unwisely large, and that the policy of general retrenchment pursued by the Minister of Finance will not conduce to the interests of the country. Especially the procedure of the Bank of Japan in raising its discount rate is condemned by them as prejudicial to industrial development. The second point is the manner in which the elections were officially controlled. The Cabinet declared its determination to enforce the laws with the utmost rigour, so as to prevent all abuses, but it failed to put its promise into full operation. Should the Liberals decide to organise a campaign against the Ministry, they will choose these two weapons. In the field of foreign policy they will be careful not to embarrass the Cabinet.

> The Tokyo Shimbun, which is the Liberal organ, takes practically the same line as the Chuo. Indeed the two journals write in terms so nearly identical that it is impossible to doubt their common inspiration. The Liberal organ, however, says nothing about official management during the elections. The only subject indicated by it as likely to cause a collision between the Party and the Cabinet is that of finance. Like the Chuo, it is careful to disavow any intention of undue interference in the field of foreign politics. It may be taken for granted, therefore, that the Liberals, though they have severed their connection with the Government, are not disposed to assume any attitude of strong hostility.

#### THE CHINESE LOAN.

It is generally supposed that whatever portion of the Chinese loan wasnot successfully floated in London and Berlin has been taken by the contracting banks. But the Jiji Shimpo alleges that the course of events has not been so simple. When it was found that subscribers to the loan were likely to be less numerous than had been originally anticipated, an applica-tion was made to the Japanese Government, to ascertain whether it would be willing to participate in the transaction, the probable share of the loan allotted to Japan being estimated not to exceed four millious sterling. A favorable answer was given, contingent, of course, upon the result of the attempts to place the loan in Europe. Subsequently prospects seemed to grow brighter in the money markets of London and Berlin, and it was supposed that if the Treasury in Tokyo had to become a subscriber, its subscription need not exceed four or five hundred thousand pounds sterling. Recents events, however, have again clouded the financial horizon, and the indications at present are that Japan may have to take over from four to six millions sterling—that is to say, from forty to sixty million yen; or, roughly speaking, one-third to one-half of the whole sum (118 million yen) due to her. The rate in her case will be 88, whereas it is go for the general public. Such is the Fiji Shimpo's account. It sounds very credible.



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#### TAPANESE NOTES.

While politicians are busily discussing the subject of Wei hai wei, the Nichi Nichi Shimbun has had the shrewdness to approach a military man, Colonel Nagaoka, and ascertain his opinion about the place. The Colonel has just return-ed from Wei-hai-wei, and is therefore competent to speak about it from a commercial as well as a military point of view. He confirms the accounts published from time to time as to the futility of attempting any tradal development in that part of Shantung. The district is barren. It produces no crops. A few vegetables can be grown, but not even fire-wood is obtainable in the neighbourhood. So far as the harbour and the defensive facilities are concerned, the place is excellent, but any Power contemplating its permanent tenure must be prepared to devote a division of troops and a squadron of fifty or sixty thousand tons to the purpose. That would mean an expenditure of some ten million yen annually. If Japan is prepared to incur such an outlay, well and good. But Colonel Nagaoka is very far from being optimistic. He talks of a petty provincial retail-dealer going to a great metropolis and setting up a wholesale establishment there to compete with big merchants of old standing and large capital; and he talks, also, of presenting to a beggar man a magnificent waitscoat and pair of breeches which the man could not use without procuring a coat to match. Indeed, the whole drift of this officer's remarks is in the direction of patience and temporary self-effacement. He evidently thinks that Japan must be careful not to " bite off more than she can swallow."

Some of the vernacular papers have begun to direct their batteries against the army and Navy, accusing the officers of having fallen into luxurious habits, and developed a desire for ease rather than a wish for war. The most extravagant of these critics is the Hochi Shimbun, which actually professes to believe that Cabinet Ministers have uttered insulting remarks about the unpreparedness of the two services and about the reluctance of their personnel to fight-remarks which have failed to elicit any indignant rejoinder from the officers, so craven is their spirit. It is scarcely credible that a sober journalist should attribute to Cabinet Ministers such atterances. Another newspaper, the Kohumin, concludes that because some 24 million yen have been reduced in the expenditure on account of the naval expansion programme this year, the inference may be drawn that Japanese naval experts could not rise to the level of the occasion, and that their failure to elaborate plans and estimates is the cause of the reduction. The real cause, of course, is the Engineers' strike in England. It would seem, however, that there is something like a deliberate attempt on the part of certain vernacular journals to rouse an impatient spirit in the two services. Colonel Nagaoka's remarks, as quoted by the Nichi Nichi, will afford fresh fuel for their fires.

The particulars of the loss of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer Toshima Maru are published by the vernacular press. She left Kobe on the afternoon of the 9th instant, bound for Korea, and at 9 "strong-foreign-policy" deputation, the livered a lecture, in the course of which p.m. on the same day entered [keda Bay owing to stress of weather. Resuming the situation, and have set them-Sunday should be no holiday at the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

her voyage after a brief interval, she rounded Hayatomo point, and, with the tide in her favour, steamed into the bay of Kiushu-Moji, steering between the man-of-war Oshima and a foreign steamer which was lying at anchor. Just then the Taiko Joint Stock Company's steamer Dayichi Taiko Maru, bound from Nagasaki to Moji, appeared coming from the opposite direction and taking the same course between the man-of-war and the foreign vessel. Whether there was not room for the steamers to pass each other, or whether their steering was defective, a collision occurred, and although the Toshima's engines were going full speed astern at the time, a large hole was made on her port side, and she was driven right on to the bows of the Oshima, receiving still greater damage on the starboard. The officer commanding the Oshima appreciated at once that the Toshima's case was desperate. He fired three guns to summon assistance, and, lowering his boats, went to the rescue of the sinking ship. Two minutes after the collision, the fore part of the Toshima was completely under water, but happily the stern remained affoat long enough for the Oshima's boat to remove the crew of 54 and 2 passengers. Taiko Maru was carrying more than 200 passengers. Her captain, therefore, drove her at full speed shorewards and managed to beach her in the vicinity of Moji.

The incidents connected with the building of the *Hitachi Maru* in the Mitsubishi Deck at Nagasaki have naturally caused some curiosity. A ship of such dimensions (6,000 tons) was never previously constructed in Japan. It will be understood of course that she was not built throughout in this country: the plates were imported from Europe and the work done in Nagasaki was limited to putting them together. The resident foreign expert to whom was entrusted the duty of inspecting the vessel and passing her for classification at Lloyd's, found great fault with the manner in which the rivets had been driven and condemned a great number -- 113,000 is the figure mentioned by vernacular journals. Even after these rivets had been re-driven, Mr. Robertson saw reason to be dissatisfied, and declined to pass the ship unless other changes were effected. The Dockyard people declined to accede to this second injunction, and application was made to Lloyds to send out a special surveyor, The latter, on his arrival, inspected the work and pronounced it satisfactory, but it is alleged that the Mitsubishi Company will lose 170,000 yen over the transaction. The Yomiuri Shimbun gives publicity to a suspicion that Mr. Robertson had been got at" by persons interested in making trouble between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha-on whose account the Hitachi Mara was built-and the Mitsubishi Dockyard. Such a suspicion seems extravagant. It is to be presumed that Mr. Robertson discharged his duties of inspection conscientiously. The incident is very strange, however, and we are not in a position to offer any explanation.

If the writings of some vernacular journals were trustworthy, the Cabinet's condition at present would have to be regarded as one of utter perplexity. The Yomiuri, for example, informs its readers that since Marquis Ito's interview with the

selves to examine various problems, all of which our contemporary catalogues with much semblance of accuracy, leaving its readers to infer, as even the least intelligent must infer, that had not the "strong-foreign-policy" men moved in this matter, the Government would have slumbered on, without the smallest perception of the grave issues presenting themselves for division. It can not be denied that there is a great deal of naive subtlety about the methods of some of the vernacular journals. If Marquis Ito and his colleagues were only now beginning to reflect about the wisdom of protesting against the aggressions of European Powers in China, or on the feasibility of making them restore their acquisitions, or the desirability of Japan's having a foot-hold on the Asiatic Con-tinent, and so on, the Cabinet's Rip-Van-Winkle methods might justly be criticised.

The Tokyo Asaki is informed that the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs has submitted to the Cabinet a memorandum urging the necessity of adopting a forward policy in foreign affairs. The document, says our contemporary, was couched in very strong language but failed to obtain the endorsement of Marquis Ito. This happened on the 23rd of March, and the attitude of the Premier created much discontent at the Foreign Office. Within the past few days, Baron Nishi submitted another memorandum in a similar sense, and the Cabinet held a meeting on the 13th, instant for the purpose of considering it. We believe that the Asahis informants have been drawing pretty freely on their imagination.

There is a strong movement in China, according to the Chuo Shimbun, to bring about the adoption of the Japanese syllabary-Kobo Daishi's forty-eight symbolsin lieu of the ideographs now in use. The reasons influencing the advocates of such a change need not be recapitulated. To the vast majority of the Chinese people literature is a sealed book owing to the immense difficulty of mastering the characters employed for writing. One imagines that if a change of any kind were contemplated, the reformers would be in favour of immediately adopting the Roman alphabet, which is incomparably more serviceable, scientific, and civilized than any syllabary. But that idea is curtly dismissed as impossible. The Viceroy Chan Chi-tung is said to be the chief advocate of the innovation, but it has distinguished endorsers in Canton also. The Chuo alleges that a school for giving instruction in the syllabary and also in the Japanese method of constructing sentences, has been already established at Hankow, and that similar institutions will quickly be organized at Suchow, Tientsin, Peking, Fucheng, and Shanghai. Except in the case of the Tientsin school, Japanese instructors are to be employed. had not previously heard of this interesting movement.

There appears to be some trouble at the Upper Middle School in Kanazawa (Kashu). The old question of moral education (chi sku) and physical education (tai-iku) has come upon the tapis. the vernacular press reports is that the principal of the School, Mr. Hojo Jikei, recently assembled the students and de-

school in future. This announcement naturally caused some discontent among publicists? She never puts her hand to the lads, and matters reached a climax anything nuless her own advantage is when they could not obtain permission to absent themselves from the classes on the 17th instant, for which day a boat race had been planned. Several of the instructors, sympathising with the lads, have resigned, and the business of the school is at a standstill.

Hitherto the annual allowance made by the Government to students studying abroad has averaged 1,500 yen. sum does not include travelling expenses, but is supposed to cover the cost of liv-ing, tuition fees, and so on. It has been found, however, that ends can not be made to meet with such a scanly grant, and in response to various representations the Educational Authorities have decided to raise the allowance to 1,800 yen.

It is alleged that the recent alienations of Chinese territory have aroused some opposition among the people of the Middle Kingdom. The Chuo Shimbun allegeson what authority we do not know-that a memorial has been presented to the Throne urging that Russia should be required to withdraw from Lizotung and Germany from Shantung, and that, in the event of their refusal, war should be declared. At the same time, the other European Powers should be appealed to, and asked to combine for the purpose of declaring Liaotung neutral territory. is, perhaps, not too late for the Chinese people to awake from their lethargy, but it certainly is too late to undo what has been done in Liaotung and Shantung.

The period that follows the accession of an Ito Cabinet to power is always marked by quietude. A general feeling of confidence seems to be established, and, instead of suspecting that everything is wrong, people appear to persuade themselves that everything must be right, When the present Cabinet assumed office, the burning question of the moment was brought up for deliberation. The first finance. A deficit of over twenty million relates to the advisability of establishing yen in the Budget for 1898-9 had to be faced, and there was no apparent method of solving the difficulty. That problem has now ceased to trouble men's minds, and the politicians of the Opposition are busying themselves temporarily with retiring allowances. The third, to the foreign affairs. There is also a section of the nation that finds cause for complaint in the reticence of the Cabinet. Ministers can not be induced to make any declarations of policy, and weapons to attack them are consequently wanting. It is a quaint contention. If the concrete acts of an administration afford no material for censure, its abstract principles of procedure ought not to be of paramount However, importance, one imagines. that critics should hunger for something to criticise is natural enough. Marquis Ito has, therefore, been much importuned to declare his programme at home and abroad, but he remains resolutely silent. He is determined—according to the Tokyo Asahi-not to open his lips until the Diet assembles. People that want to hear his views must wait until then. If the experience of the past be taken as a guide, it really matters very little when and where the Prime Minister speaks. If he keeps silence, he is blamed for reticence; if he speaks, he is charged with disingenuousness.

England is evidently regarded as a few the part of the murderer and saicide,
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markly clever country by some Japanese clearly discernible, and, instead of toiling herself to attain an object, she prefers to shift the work to other shoulders and stand ready to appropriate the fruits. From the point of view of national prosperity and aggrandisement, that is about as good a character as any nation need desire, though, on the whole, it does not appeal to high instincts. In obedience such motives, England would have been very glad to see Japan remain to see their leader, Count Itagaki, investat Wei-hai-wei, incurring all the ex-pense of garrisoning and fortifying the place, and posting herself in the arena face to face with Russia. But the Ito Cabinet was too shrewd to step into a position so dangerous. England has been obliged to occupy the place berself. There can be no doubt that, in order to hold her own abroad, Japan must make common cause with whatever defer the matter until after the general Power has the same interests and the same policy as herself. England is such a Power. But if Japan approached such a rower. But it japan approached the party have, it is true, advanced the pains of the alliance would fall to the demands of an extensive character—the the pains of the alliance would fall to the former's share, its profits to the latter's. The wisest policy for this empire is to their partizans—but with such demands wait until the occasion arises when its services will be of such value to Great They would be content to see Count Is-Britain that she will take the initiative in gaki in the Cabinet. Unfortunately the asking for them. Then, and only then, can Japan hope for a partnership on equal terms. All this has been well understood and acted on by the Ito Cabinet. People that call the Cabinet a "do-nothing Ministry" speak ignorantly. The Cabinet has been working all the time with far-seeing appreciation of the country's best inter-That is what an anonymous diplomat tells the Tokyo Asahi.

The principals of the Higher Schools are to assemble from the 20th instant in Tokyo to discuss educational affairs. It is understood that four projects will be brought up for deliberation. The first affiliated technical schools in the provinces, that is to say, schools of dendro-logy, industry and commerce, and medicine. The second has reference to the salaries of instructors and to their erection of new school buildings or the extension of the old. The fourth, to the connexion between the Higher Schools and the University. It is pretty plain that a more liberal financial policy will have to be adopted in educational matters.

## MURDER AND SUICIDE IN TORYO

On the 17th inst. at about 1 p.m. a man. dressed like a coolie, of about 24 years of age paid a visit to the house of a merchant named Wago, No. 15. Kobikicho, Ichome, Tokyo. All the immates of the residence were absent at the time except a maid-servant, a young woman of about 30 years of age. What happened immediately afterwards does not appear, but the maid-acreant was shortly seen rushing from the house, with fatal wounds from which she soon afterwards expired. The neighbours soon afterwards expired. The neighbours soon gathered on the scene and the police were notified. In the confusion which ensued the murderer of the young woman turned his weapon, a knife or sword, against himself and expired shortly afterwards. The particulars of

#### BARON ITO'S EXPLANATION.

There is no longer any doubt that Baron Ito, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, has resigned his portfolio in consequence of the rupture between the Liberals and the Cabinet. The Chuo Shimbun (National Unionist organ) publishes a statement from the lips of the Baron himself. It conveys an impression somewhat different from that hitherto gathered by the public. The Baron says that the Liberals desired from the outset ed with the office of Minister of State for Home Affairs. It was pointed out to them, however, that to go to the polls with their chief a member of the Ministry would be an anomalous procedure, not reconcilable with the spirit of Japanese politics as they exist at present. In deference to that suggestion, the justice of which they recognised, they consented to elections. It is therefore natural that they should approach the subject again at the present stage. The Kwanto section granting of three or four portfólios to Cabinet has not seen its way to give effect to that proposal, and a split has ensued between the Ministry and the Party. What may be the ultimate fate of the relations between the two, Baron Ito does not undertake to predict. As he himself, however, has been the connecting link, he sees no alternative except to resign his portfolio. He does so with much regret, for he has inaugurated many reforms over the progress of which he would gladly have watched. But such con-Though siderations must be disregarded. leaving the Cabinet, however, he does not become its opponent. Even if the Liberals assume an attitude of hostility to the Government, he will deem it his duty to stand between the two, and endeavour to soften their relations, for, in truth, there is no difference of policy. That duty he can perform more satisfactorily as a private individual than as an official, which reflection influences his present course considerably. In the interest of his official functions he will remain at his post until his successor is appointed. Indeed he had hoped that the fact of his resignation might remain secret, until all the necessary arrangements were completed. That has proved impossible, how-

It will be observed that Baron Ito's statement, if correctly reported by the Chuo, suggests that the Liberals have some warrant for thinking that the Cabinet had indirectly pledged itself to admit Count Itagaki so soon as the general elections were over. Hints that such was the case have been published from time to time by vernacular journals, the general forecast being that Count Incuye would leave the ministry when the time arrived for the entry of the Liberal leader. Count Inouye has often appeared in a self-effacing role. He has certainly showed himself one of the most generous, perhaps even Quixotically generous, of Japanese the tragedy are not yet known, but, according to statesmen. The public had, therefore, the Asahi, the crime originated through jealousy some grounds for their anticipation. But on the part of the murderer and saicide.

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pected to act the part of a mere locum tenens. At any rate, Marquis Ito is under-stood to deny very emphatically that any kind of promise had been given as to the admission of Count Itagaki into the Cabinet, and to assume the very reasonable position that, unless a vacancy exists, it is out of the question to talk of taking a new member into the Ministry. There can be no doubt that Marquis Ito speaks with perfect accuracy. Had a pledge of any kind been given to the Liberals, arrangements for carrying it out would certainly have been made by the simula care? have been made by the simple expedient of appointing one of the Ministers to the temporary tenure of a portfolio.

#### ENGLAND AND CHINA.

It was suggested some time ago by a local contemporary that Great Britain and the other European Powers should map out China as they had mapped out Africa, and agree among themselves as to the method of the Middle Kingdom's partition. Such a programme is quite contrary to the canons of British statesmanship and the instincts of the English people. In Africa there was no question of encroaching upon the territories of an independent empire with which friendly relations existed and had long existed. Several European nations had formed settlements or established trading stations on a continent, vast regions of which were virtually uninhabited, and other regions were peopled by barbarous or semi-barbarous tribes. severest of international moralists could scarcely have contended that any sovereign rights were disturbed or any independent titles violated by the spread of European civilization and the development of European commerce in such regions. The object of prime importance was to provide that the process of civilization should not involve quarrels between the civilizing Powers. With regard to China the case is wholly different. She is one of the great empires of the world, and her relations with Occidental States are regulated by treaties of amity and commerce. It is a monstrous notion that those States should enter into an iniquitous convenant in times of peace for the partition of her territories, and no British Cabinet could be a party to the carrying out of such a project. Daily News suggests that a conference of the Powers interested in the affairs of China should be held for the purpose of "arriving at a general understanding upon certain broad principles of action," and the local journal to which we have referred above appears to think that the London journal's suggestion tallies with But everything depends on the its own. object of the conference. If England went into such a conference, her aim would be not the partition of the Chinese empire but its preservation. Therein lies the whole difference. There was nothing contrary to British sentiment in the Berlin Conference, at which a general understanding was elaborated with regard to Turkey, but the same English sentiment revolted at the proposal of the Emperor Nicholas in 1853 for the disposal of the possessions of moribund Turkey, and would revolt still more emphatically tofor the partition of China. Apparently that partition is destined to come sooner or later, but it will never be hastened by British collusion igitized by

#### THE BUDGET.

On the 6th instant we published a statement of the reductions effected by the present Minister of Finance in the Budget compiled by the Matsukata Cabinet lows :for the current fiscal year (1889-9). nacular newspapers now furnish additional figures which convey a clear idea of the outlines of the financial scheme. We combine the whole for the sake of explicit-

Grand Total of Matsukata Cabinet's

Budget ......233,723,703 Grand Total of Ito Cabinet's Budget ....187,681,425

l'otal Reduction	46,042,283
PARTICULARS OF REDUCTION	S.
Riparian Improvement Funds, de-	
creased	1,700,000
Monopoly of leaf tobacco	3,000,000
Military Armament Expansion	5,186,206
Naval Expansion	24.066,678
Organization of Iron Foundry	500,000
Telephone Expansion and Railway	
Improvement	2,000,000
Aid to Formosan Admistration lands	2,500,000
Miscellaneous,	6,989,399

Total...... 46,042,283 With regard to the Revenue the following approximate figures are given :

Public Undertakings Loan....... 10,030,000 It will be observed that the Revenue (173% million yen) falls short of the Expenditure (1871 millions) by 132 millions. It is supposed, however, that the estimates of taxation returns will probably prove too low, and that consequently, the actual deficit will not exceed 12 millions. No information is furnished as to the source from which this deficit is to be met, but the probability is that a draft will be made upon the Indemnity. We believe, for our own part, that the item (323 millions) of Revenue put down under the heading " Public Undertakings Loan" is a merely formal entry. It would be exceedingly clumsy finance to make an addition to the national five-per-cent, debt while millions of yen obtained from the Indemnity were lying idle in the Treasury. But until the portion of the Indemnity still due comes actually in hand, the Minister of Finance can not show it as an available asset, and he has consequently been obliged to have nominal recourse to the Public Undertakings Loan. Our readers probably remember that the post-bellum programme was necessarily framed in accordance with the supposition that the instalment method of paying the Indemnity would be pursued by the Chinese Government. In that case the sum accruing next May (the 8th) would have been only 25 milyen, and even those twenty-five lion millions could not be included in a Budget commencing to be operative from April 1st-38 days before the receipt of the instalment. Hence the appropriation of to millions from the Indemnity, shown in the above schedule of Revenue, may be taken as representing the portion of the Indemnity now actually remaining from past payments, and therefore pro-perly available for this year's Budget. But there is no doubt that 60 or 70 million yen in cash will be paid over by China day against any international arrangement next month—we speak on the hypothesis that Japan will have to assume 50 or 60 millions of the loan recently negotiated by the Peking Government—and, as a Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

upon that fund instead of issuing a further instalment of the Public Undertakings Loan. We arrive, therefore, at the conclusion that the Revenue for the current year will ultimately be made up as fol-

Ordinary Revenue from Taxation, etc. 131.000,000 Appropriation from the Eudemnity ... 56,681,425

Total ...... 187,681,425 It would be interesting to know how the Ordinary Revenue has swelled to 131 million yen. The figure that we should have expected is 128 millions, namely :-

	Mil	lion yen	3
	Land Tax	381	
	Income Tax	2	
	Various Minor Taxes		
	Saké Tax	30	
	Tobacco Tax	8	
	Registration Tax	5	
	Trades Tax	5	
1	Customs Duties	oł-	
	Receipts from State Industries	214	
	Miscellaneous	31	

Total ...... 128 It is possible that the Finance Minister expects to see the new Tariff in operation from October 1st, in which case collections under it for half a year will be available, amounting, perhaps, to 3 million yen, more than the sum obtained under the present tariff. That is a conjecture, how-

#### RUSSIA, JAPAN. AND KOREA.

Last year, when the proceedings of Russia in Korea seemed in plain opposition to the spirit of the Yamagata-Lobanow Convention, Count Okuma approached the St. Petersburg Government with the object of arriving at some understanding. Mr. de Speyer was then acting as Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo, and the Russian Government intimated that as he did not possess plenipotentiary authority to deal with the subject, its discussion had better be deferred until the arrival of the new Russian Representative, Baron Rosen, in Tokyo. Pending the Baron's arrival, however, Russia continued to pursue the policy which Japan regarded with disquietude, and before the proected negotiations could be opened, Russian military and financial experts had been engaged for service in Korea. Just as that stage, also, Count Okuma retired from the Foreign Office, and was succeeded by Baron Nishi, who was obliged, of course, to adopt the donothing policy that marked the closing days of the Matsukata Cabinet. When the Ito Ministry was organized in January, the question was speedily reopened, and several conferences took place between the Japanese Plenipotentiary and the Russian Representative. It is understood that these conferences have now virtually resulted in an arrangement. Matters were facilitated, from the Japanese point of view, by the withdrawal of Russia's military and financial experts from Korea during the progress of the conferences, though not as a result of the latter. The terms of the new arrangement are not yet published, but it is understand that Japan's interest in Korea will be duly protected. We take this account from the Jifi Shimpo.

## A JAPANESE VERSION.

It was not to be expected that the striking events which have recently occurred in the Far East would be suffered to pass without some exposés, more or less clever, of the back-stairs by which the chief actors chimbed to achievement. The Chuo Shimbun enters into this part of the story with much minuteness, and our readers will doubtless be interested by its narrative, for whatever measure of truth the tale possesses, it represents, at any rate, the ideas current among a section of the Japanese. Up to the outbreak of the war with Japan, we are told, England was China's friend, and the statesmen in Peking imagined that they could rely on British assistance in case of national emergency. But after the fall of Port Arthur, it was plainly seen that England had turned away her face from the Middle Kingdom. Li Hung-chang then finally decided that Russia was China's last hope, and that if Japan was ever to be crushed, it must be by Russian aid. He accordingly opened negotiations with St. Petersburg and concluded a secret treaty stipulating that, in return for Russia's protection, she should receive Talien and Port Arthur, as well as permission to carry her Trans-Asian Railway through Manchuria. The parties to this conven-tion were Li and Lobanoff. The Emperor of China did not directly endorse it, but was prepared to implement it if Russia really extended aid to oppose Japan. The conclusion of the Shimonoseki Treaty, however, opened China's eyes to the nature of the aid she might expect, and the Emperor, enraged at the course things had taken, deprived Li of all his honours. By and by, the question of sending an ambassador to the Coronation of the Czar came upon the tapis, and the Emperor of China allowed himself to be persuaded that Li was the proper person to go. Li, on arriving in St. Petersburg, placed himself in communication with Mr. de Witte, the Minister of State for Finance, his object being to disarm suspicion by keeping away from Prince Lobanoff, the Minister of State for Foreign affairs. He concluded with de Witte an agreement cor-responding substantially with what is known as the "Cassini Convention." When this document reached Peking, the officials of the Tsung-li Yamen were astounded at its contents, and the Emperor, equally dissentient, refused to approve it. The arrangement would have fallen through finally had not Count Cassini taken the matter in hand. He adroitly represented to the Peking statesmen that Japan had formed an alliance with England for the purpose of recovering the Liaotung Peninsula and otherwise taking revenge for the humiliation put upon her in connection with the retrocession of her Manchurian acquisitions, and for what she regarded as China's duplicity in making a pretence of ceding territory for whose recovery secret arrangements had already been concluded. Count Cassini, by astute management and by a liberal use of money—a million and a half of taels is the amount he is said to have disbursed to oil the wheels of his diplomatic machine—succeeded in gaining the ear of the Empress herself. Through her influence, and despite the opposition of the Emperor, Li's secret convention was at length endorsed, and became known as the "Çasşini Con-Çasşini Con-

had been limited to overcoming Peking prejudices. The agreement virtually secured Talien and Port Arthur to Russia, but did not warrant her in entering into possession unless war became imminent in the Far East. She rested quite content with that arrangement until the seizure of Kiao-chou by Germany, whereupon the St. Petersburg Government, considering that the belligerent contingency contemplated in the Convention had arisen, asked openly for the Liaotung Peninsula. Great Britain was quieted by assurances that Talien and Port Arthur would be opened to trade, but it now turns out that Port Arthur is not to be opened at all, the war-ships of Russia and China alone being permitted to enter there; and that Talien is to be partially opened only. Under such circumstances, it was impossible, of course, for Great Britain to remain quiescent. The acquisition of Wei-hai-wei was forced upon her.

The above story hangs together pretty well if we overlook one most important feature; namely, that Russia did not ask for a lease of Port Arthur and Talien until long after the little war-cloud created by the Kiao-chou incident had disappeared. If the immediate prospect of a rupture of the peace was to be Russia's excuse for entering into occupation of Liaotung, no such justification was in sight at the time she selected for taking the step. It is further to be noted, that the supposed Li-de Witte convention gave no quid pro quo whatever to China. It is said to have been concluded long after the war with Japan, that is to say, long after the occasion for purchasing Russia's good-will had passed, yet we are told that Li Hung-chang set himself to negotiate the convention on absolutely one-sided lines, ignoring his country's interests altogether. Li is not that kind of statesman. The whole course of events in the Far East has been so easy to understand that these far-fetched interpretations by means of secret treaties and inconceivable covenants appear a little superfluous.

#### MEDIATION.

There is a chance, of course, that the rupture between the Cabinet and the Liberals will not prove permanent. Neither side has anything to gain by it. The Liberals do not command a majority in the Lower House, and though, by combining with the Progressists, they might render the conduct of administrative affairs very difficult, or even bring about the downfall of the Ministry, neither result would promote their own interests. On the other hand, if they persist in maintaining their resolve to sever relations with the Cabinet, it is not unlikely that the Party will break up, for it contains many members whose relations with the Ito Cabinet are of such a nature that they could scarcely induce themselves to stand aside from it. The Liberal organ (Tokyo Shimbun) frankly admits that with regard to all legislative measures and questions of local administration, the Liberals entirely approve the Ito Ministry's views, and that the only difference of opinion between them and officialdom has reference to party cabinets, a principle which the statesmen in power do not consider practically applicable in Japan as yet. That conviction is not limited to the statesmen in office. Every thoughtful observer must see that the preparations

Liberals themselves see it plainly enough. When they speak of a difference with Marquis Ito on that topic, they refer, not to any doubt in the mind of the Marquis about the goal to which Parliamentary institutions finally lead, but to his denial that a political party which is not competent to take over the reins of the administration has a right to claim portfolios for its leaders. The circumstances under which Japan received a constitution, and the conditions among which party politicians were educated, are entirely novel, and we can not be surprised that many episodes should seem anomalous from an Oc-cidental point of view. But the greatest anomaly of all would be a political party which, while agreeing with all the legisla-tive views of the Ministry, joined the Opposition in the legislature merely because a portfolio was not obtainable by the Party's leader. Such a position is too impossible to have any permanency. We expect that some means of mediating between the Cabinet and the Liberals will be found.

## THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PROGRESSISTS.

On the whole it must be confessed that

there is not very much backbone in the attack now organized by the Progressists on the Government's foreign policy. Re-peated experiences have furnished a measure of the ability possessed by these politicians to stir up an agitation when they are so minded. Their ranks include many men of eloquence, zeal, and uncompromising resolution, and they have at their command several ably edited news-paper organs. When they want to throw the public into a ferment they can do so: there is not the slightest doubt about that. Are they then exercising intentional moderation on the present occasion? appears to us that they are, and we are disposed to see a reason in the fact that the field of foreign policy justly seems to them a dangerous arena for political agitation. The Tokyo Shimbun, however, which is the chief Liberal organ, takes a different view of the matter. It maintains that the moderation of the Progressists is due to strategical considerations. They are uncertain whether it may not ultimately be their lot to join hands with the Cabinet, and they are cousequently careful not to create at this juncture a gulf too wide to be afterwards bridged over. In support of that theory our contemporary recalls the fact that the Progressists originally signified their willingness to support the Cabinet provided two or three portfolios were given to their leaders, thus plainly acknowledging that no difference of principles sepa-rated them from the men now in power. Should it happen, therefore, that a coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberals is not effected, the Progressists expect to become the pro-Government Party, and they are keeping a path open to that goal. It is for that reason that none of the politicians directly associated with Count Okuma is seen among the leaders of the present agitation. Such is the Tokyo Shimbun's view. How much of it is based upon facts, how much attributable to a desire to discredit the Progressists by representing them in the light of mere opportunists, we do not attempt to say.

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#### A FINANCIAL PROJECT.

Japan's great need at present being capital to start the various industries inviting enterprise, or to maintain those already started, any project for obtaining capital attracts much attention. It has been understood for some time that Mr. Sone, Minister of State for Justice, had elaborated a scheme in that sense, but the details of his plan were not known. The Jiji Shimpo has now obtained information on the subject. Mr. Sone's idea is that the Bank of Japan should be made the central banking institution of the Far East, the focus of all capital employed in these regions of the globe. Even Chinese capital might be drawn to the bank, and it goes without saying that to offer an attraction to the capitalists of England, France, Germany, America and so forth is considered of paramount importance. The details of the scheme suggest the nature of the ideas underlying it. At present the capital of the Bank of Japan is only 30 million yen, a figure altogether too insignificant for the purpose in view. The first step, then, would be to increase the capital to 250 million yen, in a hundred and twenty-five thousand shares of 200 yen each, the subscriptions payable in gold and the shares purchasable by people of all nationalities. A dividend of to per cent, would be guaranteed by the Government, and whenever the profits exceeded that sum, ten per cent. of the excess would be carried to the reserve, fifty per cent. should go to the Government, and forty per cent. would be distributed among the shareholders. In consideration of the official responsibilities incurred, the Government would, of course, exercise careful supervision of all the Bank's affairs. The director and officers would be Japanese, but a foreign advisory board would be appointed with very full powers and functions, its personnel consisting of two Englishmen, two Germans, and one Chinese. The foreign shareholders would, of course, have the same competence as the Japanese with regard to voting and so on, and would further be entitled to apply for the convocation of an extraordinary general meeting, provided that the applicants were sufficiently numer-The period of the Bank's charter would be fifty years, and its central office would be in Tokyo, with branches in Singapore and all other centres of Eastern trade, as well as in the great metropoli of the Occident. The projector believes that such an institution would attract large quantities of foreign capital. would also avert a danger. The latter point presents one obscure feature, namely, a forecast that when the Revised Treaties go into operation and mixed residence is permitted, the volume of the currency will be diminished and the prices of commodities will depreciate. Whether Mr. Sone suggests a direct connexion between the two events-the opening of the country and the economical phenome-non-or whether he intends to indicate a mere coincidence, we can not clearly discover. At all events his idea is that when the fields of trade and industry in all parts of the empire are thrown open to foreigners, there will be a period of great financial depression in Japan, during which the manufacturing enterprises Handbook of the Japanese Language.' already inaugurated will find themselves There is already an official translation o in difficulties more or less serious, and this Code in French, published in 1892-

capitalists appear upon the scene, they are not unlikely to monopolise all the cream of the country's industrial opportunities. Mr. Sone is not at all hostile to foreign participation in Japanese industrial enterprise. On the contrary, he welcomes such an outlook from a general point of view. But he thinks that if the instrusion of foreign capitalists takes place at a moment when the financial strength of the country is prostrated, an undue share of advantage may be secured by the foreigner. That contingency will be obviated if a great central bank is entrusted with the function of distributing the funds flowing into its coffers. Speaking broadly, Mr. Sone's programme seems to have two objects: first, to attract foreign capital; secondly, to attract it in such a manner that it shall not be directly invested in industrial enterprises, but shall find its way to them through the hands of an in-termediary actuated by the desire of keeping Japan for the Japanese. It is a very interesting scheme, and were it cleverly worked and intelligibly placed before the public of Europe and America, no great difficulties seem to lie in the path to success.

#### THE RESTRICTIVE POLICY.

The financial policy of the present Cabinet is certainly not expansive. It aims at cooling the fever of speculation by lessening the outflow of money in con-necion with public works, and by raising the rate of interest so as to render capital difficult of access. It is, in fact, a capital difficult of access. It is, in fact, a restrictive policy. Count Okuma has been making some interesting remarks on the purpose of the Bank of Japan in the purpose of the Bank of Japan in the purpose of the Bank of Japan in increasing its charge for loans. He has pointed out that, since the Bank is not the depository of any foreign money, the rate of interest fixed by it can not have any effect upon the stores of precious metal in the country, as similar action on the part of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the Bank of England ceractive and the country of the cou the purpose of the Bank of Japan in increasing its charge for loans. He has tainly has. But it may be taken for granted that the directors of the Bank fully understand that point, and that, in raising the rate of interest, their chief object is to render it difficult for projective, complainant, or tors of speculative enterprises to obtain accommodation. The perplexing point is, how far should such a policy be pursued. how far should such a policy be pursued. At what point does evidence pre-sent itself that the spirit of speculation has been cooled and that sound enterprises only are on the tapis? The Osaka Asahi discusses that question and arrives at the conclusion that the time has now come for the Bank of Japan to adopt a more liberal line, since its restrictive programme has already produced embarrassing effects on the cotton-spinning industry, which certainly must be counted among the sound enterprises of the era.

#### THE JAPANESE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh an English version of the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure, translated from the original Japanese text by the author of "Kelly and Walsh's There is already an official translation of

ous Japanese. If, at such a season, foreign the French translation had the advantage of being revised by M. de Boissonade himself, the simplest plan for anyone proposing to make an English version would be to take the French as a basis. We are disposed to think that the translator of the book now before us did refer to the French version, but certainly he did not follow it faithfully, and the consequence is that his version lacks greatly in precision. To illustrate this we take a few articles at random, italicising the portions in the French that are omitted in the English or that differ in meaning or explicitness :-

REGLISH VERSION.

FRENCH OFFICIAL VERSION.

stance soit rendu sur

cette action publique.

Att. 2. Private action L'action privée ten-having tor da object com- dant à la réparation des pensation for damages dominages causées par or the restitution of stor l'infraction, on à la relen objects belongs to stitution desobjets volés the injured party in con- ou détournés, appartient formity with the Civil a ceux qui out souffert de l'infraction, conformé-ment au Code Civile.

Art. 3. Public action L'action publique is not subordinated to n'est pas subordinés à the complaint of the in- la plante de la partie jured party nor stayed lésée, ni éteinte par la Art. 3. Public action by his renunciation of renonciation à la plainte claim or action unless in ou à l'action privée si ce cases specially deter- n'est dans les

cases specially delermined data les cas determined by law.

Att. 4. Private action privée, à tion, icrespective of the quelque somme qu'elle amount of money in velved, may, in conjunct être portée accessoiretion with public action, ment à l'action publique, be taken at any time jusqui'à ce que le juge-natif the judgment of the ment de seconde in second Court. stance soit rendu sur

Act, 15. In the calcus Dans le calcul des lation of periods of time délais fixés par le sué in this law the bour is sent Code, on compte

Att. 13. In case of his Dans le cas de acquittat or his obtain hors de poursuite ing a verdict of not d'acquittement, &c. guilty, the accused may claim compensation for damages against the in-FLOSS BEFOR.

(second paragraph, whether the decouvert, Pagent de accused is ar is not dispolice on le gendarms covered, a protocol of diessers acte de la persearch shall be drawn quisition, &c. up and shall be signed and sealed together with

Art. 78, (second Dans le cas de l'alinéa clause) In the case men-précédent, soit que tioned in the preceding l'inculté ait été on non

It will be seen that the advantage is largely with the French in point of explicitness and accuracy. Indeed, in some instances, the English version is distinctly defective. We believe, however, that the official French version is out of print, and if that be the case Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's new publication will be very useful.

The writer of an article in a Canadian paper, tho warns his countrymen against England's apacity in the matter of tips, tells the following anecdote :- "As our ship was about leaving Liverpool landing stage, one of our passengers, holding a handful of change, shouted out, there is any man, woman, or child here that I many undertakings of great promise will the Code itself was promulgated on the have not tipped since I have been in England, vainly invite exploitation by the impecuni- 7th of October, 1890—and inasmuch as I am prepared to do it now!"

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#### BASE BALL IN TORYO.

It is certainly a quaint and unanticipated experience to read an account of a base-ball match in a Japanese newspaper. How completely non-plussed any student of the language would have been twenty years ago had he been required to write such a description? Now-a-days, however, the words seem to present themselves quite easily. The times have changed. Base-ball has become a favorite pastime in Japan, and a vocabulary to meet the needs of the game has naturally been elaborated. Thus far, the lads of the First Higher School in Tokyo are the champions. A great effort has just been made, however, to lower their flag. The students of the Second Higher School came all the way from Sendai to engage them, and a gallant struggle re-sulted. We find the match reported in the columns of the Yorozu Choho, and as it is the first time that we have seen a detailed account of m base-ball game in the Japanese language, we shall translate it literally :- "From 2 p.m. the day before yesterday (13th instant), a match (shiai) of base-ball was played between the First and Second High Schools on the recreation-ground of the former, Mr. Minaguchi Taken acting and Takeo acting as Miyaguchi umpire (shimbansha). The students of the First School wore white; those of the second, red. From the first contest (sen, i.e. innings) to the eighth the Reds scored 6 points, and the Whites II. This practically decided the matter, but in the last contest the Reds made a desperate struggle to recover their lost ground, and gained 2 points. They were still 3 short of the Whites, however, and when the match ended at 4.20 p.m. the ing the reasons of their rupture with the tible. Whites were victors by 3 points. The Ito Cabinet. They take, at the outset, tv in o criticism of the play (gijutsu-jo no hyo) is the broad ground that whereas the Ito that, just as lad been anticipated, the stuthat, just as had been anticipated, the students of the First School proved themselves superior in fielding (fusegi ho), and the students of the Second School carried off the palm for striking (uchikata). Running has always been a speciality at the First School. The speed shown by the lads in making bases (suberikomi) has surprised foreigners. The students of the Second School, it need scarcely be said, were not up to the same standard, but they were by no means to be despised. During the match the left field (sayoku) of the Second School won great applause by holding a fly-ball (hikiu) after three failures (sankas made tori-gataki). Mr. Shimada of the First School distinguished himself equally, and Mr. Fujii made a beautiful bit of play by catching without any trouble (ku mo naku) a direct ball (chokusetsu-kiu) that came like a bullet. Messrs. Tamura, of the First School, and Baba of the Second, goes on to say that although the Miniboth did good work, and Mr. Kasawara, the Second School's first base, (ichs-rui) and Mr. Ota, the second base, filled their places well. In short, it says much for the skill of the Second School students that they were able to meet the picked men of the First School which enjoys a national reputation for base-ball, and not suffer m on the other, the Cabinet's general policy signal defeat at their hands." We find of financial retrenchment, affecting, as it some difficulty in believing that the above does, the development of means of comappears in a Japanese newspaper, and that munication, and consequently retarding the taste for sports such as base-ball has already become so keen that a team of with satisfaction. The manifesto is to fall back on. The country's financiers students travel 215 miles to play a match. cleverly compiled, for while not committA contest of jujutsu was also arranged ing the Party to anything that can beanxiety, says the vernacular press. between the two Schools, and came off come a weapon in the hands of its on the 15th instant in the presence of enemies, it furnishes material for an in-some three thousand spectators. Seven-telligent and forcible assault upon the Digitized by Google

the lists, and after a keen contest lasting two hours, the honours were declared

#### MARQUIS ITO ON THE SITUATION.

It is not likely that Marquis Ito will commit himself to any explicit views about the situation that has been created in the field of domestic politics. His position is very clear. He made no promise, nor entered into any kind of engagement, to admit Count Itagaki to the Cabinet, and if such a step has now become essential to the preservation of an entente with the Liberals, there is nothing for it but to let the entente go by the board. A member of the Yomiuri's staff has waited on the Premier and sought to elicit his views, pointing out that, in the situation which has now arisen, the Cabinet will have to sustain the attack of the whole Progressist Party and m section of the Liberals in the field of foreign policy, and the attack of the whole of the Liberal Party together with a section of the Progressists in the field of finance. Marquis Ito replied, in effect, that, while fully appreciating the facts, the Cabinet could not abandon its attitude of independence. better qualified to discharge them.

#### THE MANIFESTO OF THE LIBERALS.

The representatives of the Liberal Party in Tokyo have issued a manifesto explainsolemnly promised to base itself on the support of a political party, its procedure exhibits a constant tendency to diverge from that declaration. It may be presumed that the reference here is to Marquis Ito's refusal to find a portfolio for Count Itagaki, but nothing definite is said upon that subject. Indeed, no indication is afforded as to the lines along which the Cabinet has begun to diverge from its "solemn promise," but it is of course natural that the compilers of the manifesto should avoid inconvenient explicitness. They say that in matters of legislation they are entirely at one with the Ministry, and into the margin of such a statement we can read no comment except that their objections hinge upon a question of organization. The manifesto does not limit itself, however to vague generalities. Ιt stry has introduced order into the finances, there is reason to doubt whether any stability has been attained; and that, while, on the one hand, the reductions temporarily effected in the expenditure on account of the armament tion of prices and thus encouraging in-expansion programme inspire uneasiness, ports. That disturbing factor will be as

teen students from each School entered Cabinet. Finance is the rock in the route of Japanese statesmen at present. Whichever way they steer, they can not avoid trouble. If they recognise and boldly act upon the principle that Japan, having made her debut among the nations, can no longer maintain herself on the income which sufficed during her days of semiseclusion, they at once come into collision with the opponents of increased taxation. If they adopt the economical plan and purch and pare until the petty income now contributed by the nation covers its outlays, they expose themselves to the charge of checking the development of the country's resources. It must be confessed, however, that the Liberals are consistent. They voted the post-bellum programme, and they can scarcely be expected to endorse any besitation in carrying it out. If their consistency carries them to the extent of taking the only wise course-namely, altering the taxes on land and sake so as to raise the revenue to a respectable figure—they will be the saviours of the situation.

#### THE EXODUS OF SPECIE.

During the first three months of the current year, the excess of imports over It would discharge its duty to the best of its ability, prepared alike for success or failure, and ready at all times to hand over its responsibities if others were found against Japan for 1897 will aggregate 70 over 1897 will be a corresponding to the failure over 1897 will be a corresponding to the corresponding to the corresponding to the corresponding to the corresponding to the c or 80 million yen. Should a corresponding exodus of specie take place-and, as a matter of course, such a result must be anticipated-practically the whole of the gold reserve in the Bank of Japan will have disappeared by December next, and the paper currency will become inconver-The matter is causing some anxiety in official circles, it is said. So far as this year is concerned, the difficulty can be tided over by bringing 70 million yen of the Indemnity from London. But the Indemnity is a finite quantity. It has already discharged a great many functions and figured in numerous transactions, and the end of its potentiality is now in sight. Should it happen, as present appearances suggest, that Japan must take over 50 or 60 million of the Chinese loan, the sum actually receivable by her in London, on the 6th of May, will not exceed 60 or 70 million yen, and if the whole of that amount has to brought to Tokyo to replenish the reserves of the Nippon Ginko, what help will be available next year? There is, of course, a possibility that the balance of trade may be redressed, to some extent, when a lull occurs in the speculative tendency to import goods in anticipation of the new Tariff. But Japan is travelling in a vicious circle just now so far as her foreign trade is concerned. The large sums distributed among the consuming classes in connexion with the prosecution of public works-armaments expansion, railways, and so on-have the inevitable effect of producing an appreciaactive as ever during the current year, and there is consequently no solid ground for hoping that next year will witness any

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#### BARON ITO.

The Tokyo Shimbun writes in strongly eulogistic terms about Baron Ito. describes how, since the war with China, the Baron has invariably acted as the friend of the Liberals. He is not actually a member of the Party, but to his intervention are chiefly due the relations that have existed between the Liberals and the Ito Cabinet, and he has such a keen appreciation of what is due to the Party and of his own responsibilities towards it that he does not hesitate to sever his connexion with the statesmen by whose side he has served for so many years, and to resign the first portfolio he has held, rather than show any semblance of indifference to the value of an undertaking between the Cabinet and the politicians outside the Government. In fact Baron Ito understands that from the day when constitutional institutions are established in a country, it ceases to be possible for the Ministers of the Crown to discharge satisfactorily their functions of advising and assisting the Sovereign unless they have the support of a political party. sake of carrying that great principle into practice Baron Ito has adopted a course which only a man of profound insight and inflexible resolution could persuade himself to take. His great official experience and his remarkable ability are well known. Like all men of distinguished parts he has been the butt of slander and criticism. The very vehemence of his enemies is a testimony to his worth. The Liberals testimony to his worth. The Liberals appreciate his high-minded views and will not forget what they owe him.

#### PRESERVING CHINA'S INDE-PENDENCE.

The difficulty confronting anyone that wishes to keep China on her feet is the unfortunate mania she has for offering opportunities to her enemies. Kiao-chou does not appear to have produced any sensible effect. It may have warned the Central Government that anti-missionary outrages are likely to prove costly affairs, but it has not served as a useful object lesson to the provincial communities. The recent riot at Kiangpeh illustrates the fact. Kiangpeh is a town on the Yangtsze opposite to Chungking. It has always been a turbulent place, not to be visited by foreigners having a high respect for their personal safety. It was in Kiangpeh that Dr. McCartney established m dispensary, sending two Chinese con-verts to look after it, and it was there that the mob attacked the dispensary at once, killing one of the youths and nearly killing the other, who made an almost miracu-Dr. McCartney himself had lous escape. intended to be at the dispensary on the night of the mob's incursion. His failure to go thither was a mere accident-on accident which doubtless saved his life. It appears that the leaders of the murdering mob are well known, and could be arrested at once if the Taotai dared to stretch out his hand. But the Taotai who lives in Chungking, of course—pleads that he has not a sufficiency of military force to control the people of two cities on opposite banks of the big river, and citizens of Kiangpeh have accordingly been "demonstrating" uproariously and triumphantly ever since they did the young convert to death and drove Christianity out of their town. The mission their connexion with the school permanantum in the school permanantum in the school permanantum in the school permanantum in the school permanantum in the school permanantum in the school permanantum in the sak of training the ge did not prove the subject to done. It is impossible to doubt, in the face of such presented to the Branch committee and of this month. The commit Branch will, immediately on the row of members, so that a report may the Head Office before the 30th Ju A proposal for the appointment ble agents in Kobe for the aill when they support him at the sacri-

concerned being the American Episcopalian, the duty of exacting repara-tion devolves upon the United States Consul Smithers. He is said to be receiving vigorous support from Mr. Denby in Peking, and he has preferred three demands: the execution of the actual murderers of the young man, Tang; the punishment of the gentry implicated, names being specified, and an indemnity of 5,000 taels. It is a pity that the indemnity was not made larger, since one half is to be paid to the relatives of the murdered man. All accounts received up to the present indicate that Kiangpeh is in an utterly lawless condition, and that to comply with the first two of the above demands will be very difficult for the Chinese authorities. What is to be done with such a country? How is it to be protected against itself? Many Japanese talk of stepping into the breach to defend the citadel of Chinese independence against Western aggression. How can the thing be accomplished if the Chinese persist in overtaxing the patience of the West?

#### THE ART SCHOOL.

It has been briefly stated in these columns that the Director of the Art School in Tokyo has resigned, and that as nearly all the professors and teachers in the School have followed his example, work it the institution has come to a stand-still. We have not hitherto attempted, however, to offer any explanation of the causes responsible for such an untoward state of affairs. Our silence has been due, not to neglect in seeking to probe the facts, but to the difficulty of discovering where the truth lies. The friends of the ex-Director, Mr. Okakura, claim that he has been the victim of a contemptible personal attack, planned and carried out by a Tokyo architect of whose character they speak in terms of unmitigated condemnation. Information obtained in other quarters, however, does not confirm that adverse judgment and we are consequently perplexed what to be-lieve. At one stage of the complication, a question of the principles to be followed in art instruction is said to have come upon the tapis. Baron Kuki, Director of the Imperial Art Museum, desired that foreign art should be taught in combination with Japanese, and Mr. Okakura insisted that they should be kept entirely separate. That point, however, does not appear to have become crucial. The main source of trouble was an assault upon Mr. Okakura's moral character, and the gradual development of a situation which, in the opinion of the Minister of State for Education, demanded Mr. Okakura's resignation. Of the 33 professors and instructors in the School 19 are entirely with Mr. Okakura. They so bitterly resent the treatment he has received that they have published an open letter, representing him as the victim of a miserable slander, and declaring their resolve to sever their connexion with the school perma-manently unless justice is done. It is

fice of their own official positions. Incidents of this kind remind us that we live in a country where life includes an element of romance conspicuous elsewhere by its absence.

#### THE DEMONSTRATION.

After all the talk, there was no demonstration of the British squadron in the Gulf of Petchili. The project never got beyond the columns of The Times. would have been a very explicable move, but unfortunately for the loyal Englishmen who found in it an opportunity to sneer at their country, it didn't come off. A fleet assembled at Chefoo to be ready for any emergency, and that was all that happened. On the 8th instant the ships happened. On the 8th instant the snips lying off Chefoo were:—H.M.S. Centurion, Flagship of Vice-Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour, K.C.B.; Grafton, Rear-Admiral FitzGerald, Victorious, Barfleur, Powerful, Edgar, Narcissus, Undaunted, Rainbow, Paque, Iphigenia, Archer, Algerine, Danhus Padhala Rattler Havi Phænix, Daphne, Redpole, Rattler, Hart, Handy, Fame and Alacrity. Twenty-one vessels are probably the strongest squad-ron ever assembled by any one Power in these Far Eastern waters.

#### NEW SILK UNION FOR TAPAN.

At a conference recently held by silk dealers in Kobe, a motion for the organisation of a company to be designated the Kobe Silk Trude Union was introduced by Mr. Homma Naoshi. The following rales were suggested :-

Art. I.—The Silk Trade Union is established in Kobe with a view to promote this special branch

in Kobe with a view to promote this special branch of commerce.

Art. II.—The company thus organised shall be designated the Kobe Silk Trade Union.

Art. III.—All silk dealers and others who approve of the objects may be members.

Art. IV.—The head office of the Union shall be located in Kobe, branches being established in the various cities and prefectures concerned. The following officials shall be appointed for the management of affairs of the Union:—In the Head Office, Directors, Experts, and Councillors; in Branches, a Standing Committee and a number of Councillors. of Councillors.

Act. V.—The Directors of the Head Office shall be elected at a general meeting of the Union: Experts and Councillors shall be appointed under the recommendation of the Directors.

Act. VI.—A standing general Committee shall be chosen at a meeting of the branches.

Act. VII.—The necessary expenses for the Head Office shall be borne by the city of Kohe, and those for Branches by the cities or prefectures converted. concerne

concerned.

Act. VIII.—The following are the objects of the Union:—(1) Securing uniformity in the manufacture and packing of silk as as to enhance the reputation of goods exported from Kobe. (2) Encouraging the direct export of silk. (3) Lowering the rates of interests on exchange bills. (4) Contailing fees for sellers. (5) Establishing water-houses for the use of numbers of the Union in common. (6) Organising a Raw Silk Samples Hall. (7) Promoting facilities for the speedy transport of silk both by land and sea, and lowering the rates of freight. (8) Simplifying the procedure for insmance and reducing the premium. (9) Securing communications with foreign dealers of good standing almost, in order to extend the silk market. (10) Investigating the commercial conditions almost.

Provisional Directors were elected and charge-

Provisional Directors were elected and charged with the task of framing the general regulations of the Union, that the same might be presented to the Branch committees before the end of this month. The committee for each Branch will, immediately on the receipt of the new regulations, take steps for the enlistment of members, so that a report may be made to the Head Office before the 30th June.

A proposal for the appointment of responsi-ble agents in Kobe for the silk dealers in

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THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

T is difficult to see now how war between the United States and Spain can be avoided. The Spanish Government made a great concession when it agreed to grant an armistice to the Cuban insurgents. That is precisely what all previous Cabinets in Madrid were unwilling to do, their natural contention being that a self-respecting Power could not agree to treat with rebels carrying arms. The Cubans, however, have declined the offer of an armistice. They are shrewd enough to see that their opportunity has come, and that by holding out a little longer they must gain everything. At the same time, the American Congressional Committees have advised that Spain be immediately requested to withdraw her troops, and that the forces of the United States be used to secure Cuban independence. There is thus no honourable retreat left for Spain. A situation is created from which she must retire fighting if she cares to preserve her self-respect. It may be taken for granted, we think, that she will fight. The Spaniard, if fate requires him to choose between death and disgrace, has never wavered in his choice. The question of the moment, then, is not whether there will be war, but what form the fighting will take. It seems to us that the Congressional Committees-assuming the adoption of their suggestions by the President-have settled that point. The United States is pledged to drive the Spanish troops from Cuba. That may be a troublesome task. England undertook to capture Havana in 1762, and Lord Albemarle, with a fleet of more than 200 vessels of all classes and an army of fourteen thousand men, did not effect his object until after 69 days' fighting. The Spanish forces defending the place numbered at that time twenty-seven thousand men. There must be double as many thousands available for its defence at present. In order, therefore, to expel the Spaniards, an expedition of thirty or forty thousand strong must be despatched by the United States, and, before despatching it, the command of the sea must be secured. On the other hand, since it is of vital importance to the Spaniards to maintain maritime communications with the island, they, too, will strain every effort to make themselves paramount at sea. It follows, therefore, that the first battles fought will be naval. If Spain can gain a temporary advantage over the American squadrons, she will be able to pour reinforcements and supplies into Cuba. If the advantage is with America, her next step will be to despatch a powerful expedition against Manila, unless-which is likely enough-Spain, defeated at sea, agrees to withdraw her forces and to recognise the independence of the Cubans. There is,

defensive. She may avoid naval engagements, leave Cuba to its fate for the moment, and reserve herself for another attack on the island after the American forces are withdrawn. If that be the plan adopted by her, it will be necessary for the Americans either to retain permanent possession of the island -which they certainly have no desire of doing-or to remain there until a native administration has been organized strong enough to defend the place--which would probably be a task of years. The latter might be the wiser strategy on Spain's part, but we doubt whether she could afford to adopt it. The Government's credit would not outlive such a Fabian policy, and disaster would come in the form of an insurrection at home instead of a defeat abroad. Besides, unless the Spanish fleet be withdrawn entirely from the arena, it must have access to Cuba. It can not remain at sea without coal. From every point of view, therefore, the strong probability is that the issue will be decided by the naval forces of the two countries.

An interesting question is the movements of the United States Squadron on this station. Apparently the vessels must either fill their bunkers at once, before war is declared, and make their way home, or go into harbour in some part of the Far East and remain there inactive until peace is restored. They will not be able to procure coal anywhere. The situation seems to call for world step: the leasing of Chusan, for example, for a term of two or three years. England would gladly endorse such a proceeding, and China could not refuse an application from Washington.

BAIL AND GAMBLING IN TAPAN.

UESTIONS have often been addressed to us on the subject of bail in Japan Many people seem to labour under the impression that the system of bail does, not exist, or that, if it exists, it has no practical value, owing to the inexperience or the illiberality of the judges. Perhaps the simplest way to deal with the matter is to quote the law on the subject. In the 9th Section of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the following articles occur:—

Art. 150.—During the course of the proceedings, the juge d'instruction, after having heard the arguments of the procurator, and on the demand of the accused who has been placed under warrant of detention, may order that he be provisionally set at liberty, under written engagement to present himself whenever required to do so and on condition of furnishing bail.

\* If the accused person is incapable, his liberation

If the accused person is incapable, his liberation may be demanded by his legal representative.

Art. 151. - The amount of the bail shall be fixed by the juge d'instruction, who will state it in the order granting provisional release.

Art, 152.—The bail shall consist of the deposit of a sum in money or its equivalent by the accused or by his legal representative.

independence of the Cubans. There is, amount of the sum, such sugagement to pay the amount of the sum, such sugagement to be subscribed by a third party having his domicile within the sum. She may stand altogether on the cognised solvency.

These provisions are sufficiently explicit. They show clearly that although, as a matter of course, no accused person has a right to obtain his release on bail, the examining judge possesses discretionary power to grant the privilege. We may add that the privilege is largely taken advantage of, and that the number of accused persons released on bail bears considerable and constantly increasing ratio to the number kept in prison. So far as the law is concerned, and—we think it may be added-so far as its administration is concerned, there is not more difficulty in getting out of "durance vile" on bail in Japan than there is in any European country.

But another question arises-at what stage of the proceedings may an accused person hope to obtain his liberty? It will be observed that in Art. 151, quoted above, the accused must have been placed under warrant of detention before he becomes eligible for bail. There are three methods of bringing an accused person before a legal tribunal in Japan; the first is by means of a summons, the second by means of a warrant of arrest, and the third by arrest without a warrant, the last method being permissible in the case of flagrant oftences only. A person summoned must be examined by the judge immediately on his presenting himself, or at latest during the same day (Art. 69). He is then either set at liberty or placed under warrant of detention; and in the latter event he may at once apply for bail. Thus the case of a man who appears in obedience to a summons is quite clear. He can not lawfully be detained over night without being examined and having an opportunity to apply for bail. But the case of a person arrested under warrant or without a warraut is somewhat different. The law says that he must be examined within forty-eight hours of the time of his arrest (Art. 73), and that the judge must then either detain him under a new warrant or release him. From this it would seem that a person arrested by the police may be . kept in confinement for forty-eight hours before having an opportunity to ask for bail. That is the extreme contemplated by the Code. Detention without examination and without m chance of getting out on bail may last for forty-eight hours, but must not last longer. There is here a possibility of hardship. But to guard against anything of the kind, the system pursued in Japan is to have a judge or a public procurator living always in a building attached to the Court. Not always the same judge and the same procurator, of course. The judicial officials take the duty in turn. Hence the attendance of a judge or public procurator to examine an accused person can be secured at any moment of the day or night, and there is no reason why a person eligible for bail should be kept under arrest an Original from

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN hour longer in Japan than he would be in the most advanced country of Europe.

There is another case to be noticed, namely, that set forth in the following article :-

Art. 150.—The juge d'instruction may, at the suggestion of the procurator, set an accused person at liberty under the guard of his relatives or connexious, or of his friends, even although there has been no application for release.

Such release under guard must be subject to an engagement to produce the accused whenever required to do so, the engagement to be signed by his relatives, or connexions, or filends.

It is unnecessary to comment on this pro--vision. It extends the discretion of the judicial official so that, on his own initiative, he can release a prisoner on whose tive, he can release a prisoner on whose Asama Chisen, has published over his own account bail has not been applied for or is signature a series of articles in which he treats not procurable.

An idea seems to exist among some of our fellow-residents that after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction foreigners playing a game of cards in a tea-house in a provincial town, for example, will be kana in addition to the 47 hiragana and kataliable to be arrested by the police and kept in prison for a considerable time, inasmuch as they will not be within reach of any one qualified to get them released on bail. Such an apprehension is pro- ed that 3,000 ideographs were all that it is necesbably quite chimerical. The Japanese police make no obtrusive scrutiny into the pastimes of private individuals. Their efforts to suppress gambling are confined to cases where professionals are concerned, or where the abuse has become a public scandal, or where it is carried on by the lower orders in the open air. We have never heard of such a thing as an entry by the police into an ordinary dwelling for the purpose of apprehending private individuals engaged in playing cards or otherwise gambling, and we have never met a Japanese who had heard of such a thing. If the people of the country enjoy immunity from incidents of that kind, what reason is there to expect that foreigners will be subject to them? The gambling law, as set forth in the Criminal Code, is this :-

Art, 260.—Any person holding games of chance for purposes of individual gain, or organizing an association of gamblers, shall be punished with penal servitude for a period of from 3 months to 1 year, together with a fine of from 10 year to 100

Art. 261. - Any person taken in the act of playing Act. 201.—Any person taken in the actor playing a game of chance, or any person withingly providing premises for gambling, shall be punished with penal servitude for a period of from 1 month to Ill months, together with a fine of from 5 year to 50 year. Games of chance in which the stakes are articles of food or deink are excepted from the operation of this law. The implements used in games of chance and the stakes present shall be confiscated.

It is, in fact, necessary that money must be actually staked and the police must have evidence that it is staked, in order that the law may be put in operation against the players. We can conceive a case where, a club having become notorious for gambling among its members, the police might be induced to take an ex-treme step. But that is an exception, on the whole the private individual in letters preference to all other symbols seem to police might be induced to take an ex-Japan has as much liberty in these matters as he enjoys in a European country.

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#### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF FAPAN-ESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

It is hard to account for the indifference shown by the educated in Japan to the inconventences of their native longue as now written. That it would be quite possible to invent or adopt say 50 signs that would answer all the ordinary purposes of the ideographs now in use can not be denied by any intelligent person. When we mention the fact that for writing the name of Mr. Fukuzawa's school, the Keiogijiku, no less than 53 strokes of the pen are required, it will be seen what manual labour attends the use of the Chinese characters, to say nothing of the numerous other drawbacks to their employment. This is not the place to discuss the subject from our own point of view. The Editor of the Nicht Nichi Shimban, Mr. at considerable length the whole question of the reform of orthography and modes of com-posing in Japan. We give as briefly as possible the gist of Mr. Asaina's essay, following the headings of the writer.

I. THE INCONVENIENCE ATTACHED TO THE USE OF CURRENT SIGNS.—To begin with the kana signs, there is the y (n); the sound-prolonging mark | ; 7 for holo; + for lohl; to for lome, and > for shile. There are three variations of the hiragana. Coming to Chinese characters, though Mr. Yano Fumio once assertsary to know, in the opinion of the present writer 10,000 would be nearer the mark, that is if the thorough understanding of learned subjects is the object to be attained. Then in the case of these ideographs at any rate 3 distinct forms of each character have to be remembered. There are the Kaishor the Grosho and the Soihe, the full square ideographs, the contracted form of the same, and the cursive characters. Of the latter there are endless contractions and variations. The result of all this is that whereas a child in Germany can learn to write its thoughts in 8 months and even in Russia, where the signs used are more difficult, in one year, in Japan even at the end of three years the power of expressing the simplest ideas on paper is extremely limited. But the inconvenience of the present system is not confined to childhood. It follows us through life at ever step of the journey. This we feel most keenly when coming into competition with Occidentals. Many of their devices for lessening labour we cannot use and never shall be able to use without altering our method of writing. The type writer, now so universally employed in the West, is useless The same may be said of the composing machine, which so minimizes the labour of printing. It is absurd to say as some do that the preservation of the language as handed down m us together with traditional methods of writing it shows patriotism. If in our race with other countries we find ourselves handicapped by our clamsy set of symbols, love of country should prompt us to change them without delay.

II. IS A CHANGE OF SYMBOLS POSSIBLE? What has been done in other countries may be In both Roumania and Servia done in this. the reform which we are advocating here was accomplished in about 40 years.

III. WHAT SIGNS SHOULD BE ADDITED?—Since there is in our opinion no importance to be attached to symbols apart from their phonetic value, and since the advantages of using the symbols which are best known among the foremost nations are very numerous, we are in favour of adopting the Roman letters. It is admitted on all hands that 💶 phonetic signs for the Japanese language the Chinese ideo-graphs now in use are quite unsuitable. There is no reason why Japan should not revive her beautiful Yamato kotoba and employ it when

IV. FAVOURABLE OPPORTURITIES FOR EFFECT-THE PROPOSED CHANGE .- Already Iwo anch opportunities have been allowed III pass without any permanent reform being accom-plished. One of these was in the 6th and 7th year of Melji when the pro-foreign wave of sentiment was very strong and sweeping changes were all the fashion, Elementary Schools going as far as in use literal translations of Wilson's Readers instead of the Chinese Clas-sics hitherto read. The other was when the Romaji-Kai was established and caused such a stir. The real reason of the collapse iii the Romaji-Kai was the failure of the chief promoters of the movement of realise that, in order to make Japanese thoroughly intelligible when written in Roman characters, it is necessary to use homonyma as little as possible. The writers for the Komajt kai Zasshi composed as if writing for an ordinary newspaper. Hence on account of the unintelligibility of the langauge used the whole enterprise was wrecked. The near approach of mixed residence affords another favourable season for effecting a change.

V. THE MEANS TO BE ADOPTED TO COMPASS THE DESIRED REFORM .- In our opinion all that is necessary is that the Government should summon together the best scholars we have and entrust the elaboration of a scheme of reform to them. For writing Japanese the whole of the 26 letters of the Roman Alphabet would not be needed, but they would be required for the spelling of foreign names, which would pass unaliered into the language. The Commissioners should ne composed of the following elements. There should be men who are well versed in phonetics, and who possess an exhaustive acquaintance with the language of ancient Japan, to whom should be entrusted the work of fixing on the permanent sounds to be given to words or syllables. (2) There should be men who are qualified to compile new text-books and Readers, to be printed in Roman characters. (3) There should be competent philologists set to work to write grammars and A date should be fixed compile lexicons. alter which all Government notices and all official letters should be written in the new characters and after which throughout all the schools of the land Chinese should be banished except for special ambjects.

VI. THE PRISENT WRITTEN LANGUAGE chief thing to be said about this is that it is unsuited for use without the written ideograph, Documents read out are only partially understood, the number of homenyms that they contain often leaving the listener in doubt as to the meaning. What is known as the Chinese style, very much affected by officials, has no merits to make it worth preserving.

VII. WHAT SHOULD BE THE STANDARD OF STYLE ADOPTED ?-We recommend such books as Shungui's Iroha Bunko, Ikku's Hisa Kurige and Mr. Fukuzawa's works as models of what is desirable. A listener is able to understand such books when read without examining a single character. The principle to be borne in mind in that the sound of words, and not their ideographic representation, must convey the meaning. In the reform we are advocating is it too much to expect that the Emperor himself should take the lead? If the Bareau to which is entrusted the preparation of Imperial Edicts and similar documents (the 文事秘書局, Bunjihinshokyoku) were to be instructed to no longer compose in the stilted and unintelligible style hitherto employed, but to use everyday speech, the effect would be most salutary throughout the country. Three great novelists, Ozaki Kōtō, Kōta Rohan, and Yamada Bimyō hare shown us what is capable of being effected in the way of uniting the written and spoken language. Unfortunately the scientific and learned world has not followed anit. The newspapers, too, are much to blame, with the single exception among the leading dailies of the Jiji Shimpo. Even this organ has of late been swept into the Chinese current. The

are those who in reply to what we have said will advocate the adoption of French or English instead of Japanese. This is a step that no independent country could be induced to take and a measure that even conquered countries have refused to adopt. In vain did the French my to force their language on the English after the Norman conquest. Others will affirm that to write Imperial Rescripts in everyday language would rob them of their diguity. So argued Europeans hundreds of years ago when no language but Latin was deemed classical; but such men as Chaucer, Spencer, and Shakespeare in England and Goethe and Schiller in Germany taught their countrymen that there were no heights of dignity and grace that could not be reached by their native tongues. Some will object to the scheme we have proposed on the score of expense, but a careful estimate tends to show that from all points of view the present system is the most expensive. It is all a question of labour com-pared with results. The conclusion we have reached, then, stated in a few words, is that the Roman letters should be adopted to the ex-clusion of the signs now in use, and the written and spoken languages should be made thoroughly identical.

In the Kokumin-no-10mo appears an article entitled "Questions connected with Formosa" by Mr. Torii Ryūzō, whose investigations in the island were noticed by us some months ago. Mr. Torii discusses at some length the curious practice known as "head hunting," which is still in vogue among the raw savages (Seiban) that inhabit certain patts of Formosa. He thinks that the police and the military are not equal to the task of suppressing such a practice, and that the Government should rather rely on education and religion to bring about its gradual discontinuance. To the Formosans the beheading of their enemies wherever they may find them appears to be an eminently virtuous deed, and their ideas on this subject, like those concerning the vendetta in Japan, it may take generations to eradicate.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, in the Waseda Bungaku, to be broken, heart promises are made to be gives what he conceives to be the reason of kept. the popularity of light literature in Iapan. is to be attributed, says this writer, to a want of a certain kind of manlineas in the Japanese people. The fuse that is made over the endurance of triffing hardships that would have no reality to more hardy races of men, all of which are reflected ad nauseam in our modern fiction, are reflected at nanstant to the three show that our men are growing effectinate. The taste for light herature which has increased so rapidly in the the last lew years is no good sign. Why not leave this class of writing to women, while we men undertake works that demand more moral muscle for their pro-duction? The taste for the kind of literature that now crowds our bookshops no doub has a physical origin. We Japanese are weak in body. We shun the wind and the rain with which the Westerner takes delight We make much more of the in battling. little trifling inconveniences of life than do those who by strength of constitution are able Woat a to-do we make to defy the elements. What a to-do we make over even the falling of a tew pine-tree leaves! A foreigner to whom was shown the cover of a lacquered susuribako on which one or two falling pine leaves and a few maple leaves were painted once observed that remarkable boldness was shown by such a design. This is a good illustration of the fact that the wise man often credits the fool with more intelligence than he possesses. Such designs do no more than represent the diminutiveness of our ideas. Coming to the subject matter of our novels, our renai is entirely different from the "love" of loreign fiction. Rendi is love of the obscene type, and hence the prominence that it occupies

garded as degrading. While in Europe, says reigners on Japan." The opinious stated in the Mr. Ozaki, I met casually at restaurants and such places not a few actors and was struck by their apperiority.

The Waseda Bungaku gives the following list of writers on current literature in the undermenoi writers on current menture in the underment-tioned publications. The Tatyō: Mr. Taka-yama Renjinō. The Bungei Club: Mr. Omachi Keigetsu. The Shin-Shōsetsu: Mr. Ishibashi Ningetsu. The Teikoku-bungaku: Messrs. Fujii Shinkichi, Takesue Teishiō, and others. Fajil Shinkichi, Takesue Teishilo, and others. The Mesamathi gusa: Mesats. Mori Ogwai and Miki Chikuji. The Haniel Zasshi: Mr. Azeyagi Kaishiü (?) The Sekai no-Nihon: Mr. Ogata Ryūsui. The Kokumin-no-tome: Mr. Tsunoda Kökö The Nippon: Mr. Iwoki Hoku-un. The Shōnen-bunshū: Mr. Takeshima Ui. The Yorozu-Chöhō: Messis. Taoka Reiun and Haia Hoitsuda, &c. The Yomiuri: Mr. Togawa Shūkotsu.

The Yorozu Choho a short time ago offered a literary prize of 100 yen to be competed for on the following conditions. The composition to be written in the Kana-majiri style and to consist of not less than 80 words and not more than 100, the sentences to take the form of In a supplement to its issue of March 20th eleven of the compositions are given, in order of supposed ment. The first prize was in order of supposed ment. awarded to a Mr. Matsubara Nishiki, of Toyn-shima, Miura, Kanagawa, whose composition consists of nine short sentences. A few of these we quote and translate:

Ichi wo kikite; jū wo shiru wa yasuku; ji wo shirite ichi wo okenau wa katashi

To hear only a tenth part and infer the whole is easy; but after knowing the whole to practise the tenth part is difficult. The moral being that practical virtue is rarer than intelligence.

Okonai wa yo to utsure; Rokoro wa toki to kamaru koto nakare.

Change your practice to suit the times, but your heart, never

Kuchi ni yaku turu wa morohu; Kokoro ni chikau wa katashi.

Though lip-promises are (sometimes) made

Gimu to hwansureba kurushil; Kenri to satoreba tanoshii.

Regarded as a duty it is painful; regarded as

a personal right (or a privilege) it is pleassant.

Kako (住者) wo kurawasaru wa gū nari;
awaremubeshi. Kami (住珠) no lame ni
kurau wa kyō nari; waraubeshi. Yeisei no tame ni kurau wa ken nari sho subeshi.

He that is averse to partaking of savoury dishes is foolish and to be pitied. He that pampers his appetite has lost his wits and become an object of ridicule. He that eats in order to preserve his health is a wise man and worthy of all praise.

The Teitoku Bungaku publishes a very favourable and appreciative review of Baroness d'Anethan's recently published novel, calling attention to the particulars in which the literary taste of the Baroness differs from that of her talented brother. Whereas Rider Haggard delights in the transcendental and the improbable, his sister's mind, says the Teikoku Bungoku, is attracted to the scenes of ordinary everyday life, and portrays with remarkable vividness many of its striking incidents. The Teikoku Bungaku notes the fact that this is the second instance in recent times in which the wife of a minister accredited to Japan has come from a talented family and has possessed great literary power. The other lady alluded to is Mrs. Fraser.

No. 25 of the Sekai-no-Nihon contains an editorial autitled "The views of Certain Fo-

article are said to be those of an eminent fo-reigner whose initials are given as "R.S." 1 is evident that the editor of the Schai-no-Nihon attaches considerable importance to the views of "R.S." or he would not have gone out of his way to translate the letter in which they were stated, a letter that does not seem to have been written with a view to publication. This article in the Sehai-no Nihon turnishes one among many proofs that the most enlightened Japanese welcome criticism even of a very trenchant character. Here is the gist of what "R.S." has to say on Japan and the Japanese, which the editor of the Schaino Nihon declares to be good physic for national conceit :- Hearmg of the great progress that Japan had made, I came to see with my own eyes exactly to what t amounted. I contess that I went away disappointed. The country is only half-civilised, but the Japanese show an extraordinary amount of satisfaction with their present attainments. No one in passing through Tokyo would guess that it had been the Shogun's capital for nearly 300 years, nor that it is now the chief Metropolis of a nation which prides itself on the superiority of its act. I visited the booses of the nobility and found that they are on the whole very poor places. Although many of these houses have foreign rooms attached to them, their owners do not attempt to live in foreign style. Though externally the nobility appear occidentalised, their real lite is still that of the pre-Meiji era. Though Japan pro-fesses to be so earnest about Western civilisation her people sit, sleep, eat, and dress like theiriorefathers . . . Japan has a Constitution parties and she has political parties, but these are governed by the old traditions. All the political parties place respect for the Emperor above everything else and are habitually accus-ing each other of disloyalty, disrespect, or un-faithfulness to the Crown. Instead of discussing the actual nature of government, they are for ever dwelling on its moral aspects. They for ever dwelling on its moral aspects. do not ask, is a policy good in itself and good for the country? but, is it loyal to the Emperor? What is the use of expecting the inauguration of party Cabinets among a people who can only think in this one groove? The difference in political parties is not one of principle, but simply of interest. Despite all that has been said about liberty, there is no political party in Japan whose object it is to limit the prerogatives of the Crown. Notwithstanding all the theoretical explanations of the meaning of political liberty given by the Fiyu-to, speaking generally, Japanese politicians fail to see in what political liberty consists. . . . To me the Japan-ese appear to be a people without a philosophy of their own. It is a Question whether a great nation can be made out of an essentially unphilosophical people. The inture of the nation depends entirely on its freeing itself from the Oriental trammels which have hampered it so long. If public opinion demands and secures the greatest freedom of investigation and of consequent action, Japan will figure prominently in future history; otherwise she will sink back into the obscurity and insignificance that for centuries characterised the inhabitants of a few islands situated on the very outskirts of the world.

The Jiji Shimpo has collected some interesting statistics bearing on the development of the inventive faculties among highly educated Japanese. According to these the number of patents that have been granted for special inventions since 1885 is 60. Arranged according to subjects the inventions of graduates of the Imperial University are as follow:-Navai Architecture, 6. Civil[Engineering, 2. Mechanics, 9. Chemistry, 11. Electricity, 3. Mining, 3. Metallurgy, 1. Industrial Schools have produced 11 inventors, Handiwork Schools 4, to the minds of readers. Our stage-acting needs to be reformed and to be made a source of enlightenment and instruction after the fashion of the foreign stage. There is no reason why actors should be ostracised and their occupation.

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We have inserted "sometimes," as moroka and the Industrial Society (Kōgakkai). 10. Of the above there are 10 persons who have been the authors of more than two inventions of the lenned class be alluding to the thoughtlessness with which promises are made, and then the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the lenned class be alluding to the thoughtlessness with which promises are made, and then the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the lenned class be alluding to the thoughtlessness with which promises are made, and then the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the lenned class be alluding to the thoughtlessness with which promises are made, and then the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the lenned class be compared with the total number of patented inventions in Japan, we find that they do not rise above there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of more than two inventions of the shove there are 10 persons who lave been the authors of the shove there are 10 persons who lave the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show the show high class education that has been imparted, says the Fiji.

A Society has been formed by certain University professors called the 言語學會, Gengogakkai, whose object is the discussion of certain linguistic questions. There in a talk of reviving the Rômaji-Kai in some quarters. Quite a new interest in the Japanese language especially has been awakened during the past few months, according to several magazines, of which the formation of this Society is one of the results. Professors Florenz and Ueda Mannen are among the chief promoters of the movement. The meetings of the society are to be held once a month at the University, at which free discus-sion will take place and papers by members will be read. A record of the Transactions of the Society will be issued quarterly. Members will be divided into Ordinary Members and Special Members. The subscription per month of the latter will be 50 sen and those of the former 15 sen. Teachers in Government former 15 sen. Teachers in Government Schools are eligible for membership without formal introduction.

Professor Revon has just published a work called Sensö Tetsugaku (The Philosophy of War) which, according to the preface contributed by Dr. Tomii, deals in a thorough and original manner with the two great theories concerning war that divide public opinion in Europe. The treatise in for sale at the Dobunkwan, No. 2, Shinkoku cho, Kanda, Tökyö, at 25 sen per copy. It was written in French originally and subsequently translated into Japanese.

The Zaiyō announces that a new magazine is to be published to be called the Shinobu-gusa which is designed to be longer lived than the Shirayuri, whose estate it has inherited. Its object will be to introduce the reading public in Japan to the beauties of French literature, whether by translations only or actual extracts is not stated. The Taiyo remarks that, com-pared with English and German books, the number of French works that are well known in Japan are very few—a fact to be deplored, as in many particulars French writers have never agsed.

Mr. Maebashi's Kögi's translation of Mill's "Representative Government," a work covering Representative Government," a work covering: 500 pages, has had a large sale and has reached its third edition. The latest edition, which it is said has been thoroughly revised, sells at 70 sen per copy; the Kaishindo, Omote-Jimbocho, Kauda, Tokyo being the publishers. Scott's "Laty of the Lake" has been rendered Scatts "Lary of the Lake has been rendered into Yamato-Kotoba by Mr. Shiwo Masao. The work covers 400 pages and bears the title of M上の美人 Kofo no Biiin. It is said to be extremely well done and to have been adopted as a class book in certain schools. The translation sells at 60 sen per copy, the Kaishindo being the publishers.

The Fifth Edition of the Kigo Hiteri Annai, a reproduction of Captain F. Brinkley's work bearing this title, now covering 1,000 pages and selling at 2 yen per copy, has been issued.

The Taiyo publishes the views of Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, the well-known art-critic, who li the President of the Bijutsu Kai and Chairman of the Committee of judges appointed by the Bijutsu Kyokai, on modern and ancient art in Japan, of which the following is an epitome. What is known as ancient art in Japan was only an imitation of Korean, Chuiese, or Indian models. Japan has yet to make a name for herself as an originator of style, and in my opinion we have now reached a most favourable time for the accomplishment of this purpose. It is supposed by some that in days gone by our artists originated the styles with which their names are associated, but I confess that I have for a long time had my doubts as to this, and I have in the course of my investigations come ncross evidence that shows that much was borrowed from Occidental actiests without acknow which need emphasising and developing, ledgment. For instance the sketches of Maru-yama Okyo originated with Dutch oil paintings.

A certain wealthy citizen of Kroto supplied work is of some interest as the latest develop-

Okyo with money while he was studying foreign painting under a Dutchman in Nagasaki. Okyo in this manner obtained the knowledge which enabled him to sketch scenes for the show-boxes and thus those movable pictures done on boards known as Kae-ita, which attract so much attention at festivals, came into use. And even the famous Hokusai studied anatomy under a Dutch doctor and thus attained those ideas of proportion in the human frame which imparted to the Katsushika-ye much of their value representations of real life. The way in which it is the fashion to speak of foreign art as something quite distinct from our native styles shows an ignorance of history. We have borrowed in the past and we had best go on studying everything foreign that is accessible. Thus alone can our artists obtain the knowledge necessary for enabling them to originate a school of their own. I am aware that there is much that is eccentric in the extreme in our modern painting, and as I think of this I am reminded of the queer figure that was cut by Europe as a special envoy, clad in a red shirt and a coat of the shooting jacket type full of pockets and broad in the back. Things have advanced since then, and our representatives now dress in the height of fashion. So will it be with our art. The caricatures of to-day will give place to the finished master-pieces of to-morrow. The Bijutsu Kyōkai has hitherto failed to recognise the facts to which I have been calling attention. The society must change its tactics if it is to succeed. The pictures which it praises have in many cases no kind of merit. What are the human beings portrayed by the old school artists like? Certainly not like any specimens of humanity known to us. They may be intended to represent hermits or Buddhist divinities whom nobody has ever seen. So is it with the scenes represent Chinese scenery, but who has ever seen objects grouped together as they group them? If they can portray nature, why don't them? If they can portray nature, why does they try their hand at Fuji-yams or some of the many familiar sights and scenes close at hand? They draw objects that nobody has ever seen or can see, and call this high class art. There are few people that will be deceived by this device. If any of those travesties of nature to which the eye of the Japanese art critic in Japan is so familiar be sent to the Paris Exnibition, they will afford no small amusement to foreign critics. Pictures of the Chinese school should be rejected. No prizes should be swarded for this style of painting. On the whole, though, there is improvement and no reason for despondency.

The well-known foreign-style artist Kuroda Kiyoteru belongs to a Society of lovers of art called the Hakubakai. The Society held two called the Hakubakai. The Society held two exhibitions last year. To this Society a Belgian artist has sent pictures which appeared in the last exhibition. Mr. Kuruda expresses himself to an interviewer from the office of the Taiyō as strongly in favour of the exhibition of the works of foreign arises at Japanese Exhibitions. Mr. Kuroda, who it will be remembered caused no small stir by exhibiting a picture of a naked woman, defends himself against the attacks on this exhibit based on moral considerations and says that the objectors are prudes, but not attists. He afterwards has something to say on the need of design and execution being correspondingly developed in the artist, and points out that grand ideas with no power to represent them on canvas are only too common among men aspiring to fame in the world of art.

Mr. Kimura Takataio, one of the leaders of the Nippon Shugi movement, has published a book called the Nippon-Shugi Kokkyoron, in which it is maintained that the Japanese have characteristics which constitute national strength

ment of Neo-Shintoism. It is for sale at the Kaihatsusha, No 6 Nishtki chō, Kanda, Tōkyō, m 45 seu per copy.

The annual report of the Tei-koku-zusho-

kan states that in December last the number of Chinese and Japanese volumes in the Library was 131,265 and the number of foreign books 33,106. There was an increase of 6.515 in the former, and of 1.128 in the latter class of books. The library was opened during 332 days last year and the persons who consulted works on general subjects were 79,324 and on special subjects 10,662, a total increase over last year of 15,952 persons.

The following table is instructive as showing the proportion of interest attached to the various subjects of study among the Japanese :---

Subjects.	Inpanese and Chinese Books.		Total,	Proportion to other subjects.
I. Religion II. Philosophy and		53 t	11,504	3.1
Education III. General Lite rature and	25,823	2,111	27,934	5.1
IV. History, Bio graphy, Geo		11,424	112,121	30.3
Travels V. Law, Government, Socio logy, Econo	. 122,726	5,115	127,841	23.1
my and Sta tistics VI. Mathematics, Science and	72,541	4,010	76,558	13.0
Medicine VII. Industry, Eugineering, Multary Sci	. 100,8 <b>69</b>	4,120	105.079	19'0
ence, Act & Agriculture,				
VIII, Miscellaneous	48.574 34.671	3-339 4,411	51,913 39,082	
Total	516,881	35.157	552,052	100,
Average per	1,556.8	105.9	1,662.7	

The Waseda Bungaku has a very carefully written article on the "Future of the Japanese Stage" which we have only space to notice briefly. The writer, whom we take to be Mr. Tsubouchi, discusses the subject under 6 head-Tsubouch, discusses the snoject under onesarings, (r) Written dramas, (2) Actors, (3) The Proprietors of theatres, (4) Stage Managers, (5) Threatre audiences, (6) Critics of stageacting. The difficulties connected with reform are represented a very formidable. Briefly empty. merated they are as follow: (1) Discordancy merated they are as follow: (1) Discordancy between the old stage and the new ideas it is sought to carry out. (2) The pride of writers of plays; which results in their objecting to having their dramas acted before low-class audiences. (3) The inability of old actors to comprehend the real purport and character of the reforms advocated by the progressionists. (4) The separation of the stage from literature in Japan and the entire lack of intercourse, to say nothing of mutual understanding, between the man connected with the former and those the man connected with the former and those attached to the latter. (5) The absence of the class known in Europe as stage-managers and a consequent want of conformity and regularity in the management of the stage, resulting in each actor doing pretty much as he pleases. (6) Old plays are all more or less founded on the No, but the new plays lack the No element and hence are not popular with a large class of theatre-goers. (7) The proprietors of theatres only think of profit and care not a straw about reform nor about high class histrionic art. (8) Modern writers of verse are not able to produce poetry suitable for the stage. The lines which have gained popularity on the stage have been of an objective type, modern verses are essentially subjective. Hence from a literary point of view reform seems very hopeless. Nor

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permanent effects on men's thoughts they never go. As a class the actors with which we are acquainted to day are of 2 kinds. There are the old and the bigoted who have been greatly puffed up by the rank to which they have attained in public estimation within the past few years, and whose state of mind is the opposite to docile. Then there are the apprentices who aim at making a living by the profession, whose education is poor, whose experience is nil, who in many cases are living lives of profligacy, and who are without any notion of what true art consists in. The essayist concludes by recommending a more thorough discussion of the present evils connected with stage-acting with a view to the elaboration of a system of reform that shall secure the sympathy and support of the leading men of the day. He is in favour of sweeping off the boards all old plays and traditional methods of acting them, and of inaugurating an entirely new era. Of the various bodies that aim at stage reform, the Waseda Bungaku essayist says "Their ideas about what is required to meet the situation do not correspond with those that considerable study of the subject has led me to adopt.

#### THE STATE OF THE MONEY MARKET.

A financial correspondent writes: Last year various events, sudden in their occurrence and far-reaching in their effects, disturbed the financial world of Japan. The excessive expansion of commercial and industrial undertakings and the rapid development of joint-stock companies; the fears entertained by the public for some time concerning the working of the new monetary system; the sharp fluctuations of the rate of exchange upon China; the failure of the rice crop and the unfavourable state of foreign trade in general; the frequent raising of the discount rate by the Bank of Japan and the consequent depreciation of bonds and stocks-these and other circumstances worked together to produce a general disturbance and stringency in the money-market. Japanese banks, ever sensitive to the initiative of the central bank, could not depend upon the Bank of Japan alone when it raised the rate on loans and advances by 3 or 4 rin daily, and had to seek sources of supply elsewhere. The inevitable consequence of this was that a keen competition took place among them to attract money by raising their deposit-rates. Mitsul Bank, which did nothing in this direction for more than six months after the stringency was first felt, now offers a very high rate of interest for money deposited with it. The fact that this veteran bank, which has al-ways been very cautious in all its operations and has never resorted to measures inconsistent with sound banking, has at last followed the example of other banks, suggests some-thing unusual in the state of trade. It is doubtful what measures other banks, with comparatively little credit and small sums on hand, may be driven to take by this step on the part of their formidable competitor. Probably they will be obliged to raise their deposit-rates still further; no alternative seems to be left. There is, however, cause for apprehension that this will place them in a very awkward position; and as matters stand at present, disaster may The Mitsui Bank overtake some of them. allows interest on deposits at the following

On Fixed Deposit for 12 months, 7 per cent. Qu Fixed Deposit for 6 mouths, 6 2 per cent.

per annum.

Oo Current account at 1½ sen per 100 yen (5:48 per cent, per annum) on Daily Balances.

On Petty current account or temporary deposits

of small sums at 14 sen per 100 yen (6 57 per cent, per annum) on Daily Balances.

Forty-eight catties of new season tea arrived at Kobe on the 18th instant from Kochi. It is stated that the quality is better than the first dency.

#### COUNT ORUMA ON JAPANESE FINANCE.

With regard to the embarrassment of the financial community Count Okuma is reported by the Hochi to have expressed his views as

The events which are now disturbing the economic world are ascribed to the adoption of a negative policy on the part of the authorities, or are interpreted as a prelude to a panic. To may the truth, the economy of this country for one or two years to come cannot perfectly recover from the effects of post-bellum speculation, though it is half-way towards recovery.

The Nippon Ginko's Weekly Return of its transactions shows a decrease of its convertible notes to the extent of over 40 million yen during the past three months, a sum of 14 or 15 million yen on the average being withdrawn from circulation. The currency during the three months has therefore decreased b per cent., and the scarcity of money has already led to the embarrassment of the econowith the reduction of the notes in circulation, the rate of interest has been raised; and the security value of bonds has been lowered. It was taken for granted that the decrease of currency referred to would tend in increase the purchasing power of money and bring about the depreciation of commodities. S range to say, however, the opposite has been the case. Intricacy is a characteristic of economics, and things do not always come out according to theory. That is why the policy of the currency-reduction proved ineffec-tual in producing the result expected. The sconomic community of Japan is yet in a state of immaturity, and the effect that may be produced by raising interest or any other measure undertaken by the Central Bank for the adjustment of financial machinery is extremely limited. The Central Bank of Japan extremely limited. The Central Bank of Japan is, in this respect, far interior to the Bank of England. Whenever the latter institution resolves to accumulate reserves by raising the rate of interest, it is always sure of success. The accumulation of the world's wealth in the Bank of England is accomplished without serious difficulty, owing to the perfect credit secured by the Bank. This capacity on Japan's part, however, is comparatively insignificant.

An enhancement of interest by the Bank of Japan has influence no further than the limits of the Japanese realin, and fails to draw money even from China and Korea. The Bank of Japan's policy in increasing interest produces sudden and direct changes, but those changes are exclusively in the domestic market. This limitation does not lie with the Nippon Ginko alone, the Government itself being still outside the pale of universal confidence. per cent. gold bonds sold abroad have fallen to 86 or 87 yen in value. It was supposed that lapanese bonds would have been accepted by foreigners enthusiastically, and would in the course of time become a channel for introducing foreign espital. The expectation, however, proved futile. Bonds mill remain unsalable in the country and are likely to fall to an embarrassing extent. Bonds are the standard of credit enjoyed by the Government by which they are issued, and that standard each nation strives to maintain. Japan, however, is utterly indifferent to it, and allows her bonds to depreciate. This fact makes foreigners hesitate to invest; they underrate the financial capacity of the country. If such are the sentiments of foreigners towards Government securities it is not to be wondered that the Bank of Japan should fail to attain its ends by an increased rate of interest.

The authorities appear to have been astonialied at the steady appreciation of commodities in spite of the adoption of their programme. There are two prominent points which must be noticed in this respect. The first is that prices at the end of last year showed a downward ten-Digitized by Google

having begun to rise again with greater speed measures being adopted for the reduction of the volume of currency. The present appreciation is too serious to be regarded as a mere reaction. The phenomena of finance are complicated that they do not admit of hasty judgment; but it may be confidently asserted that the main cause for the general appreciation was the rise in the price of rice. Rice constitutes the staple food of the natives. Had the appreciation of the grain been the immediate consequence of the expansion of currency, the reduction of the latter would, in turn, have been the chief factor in bringing about a depreciation. On the other hand, if the appreciation was attributable to other circumstances, the decrease of the currency would produce no effect on the fluctuaas well as the improvement in the mode of living have doubtless led to an increasing demand for rice, while the failure of the crop during last year and the year before last brought about a deficiency in supply. These two facts place the cause of appreciation beyond the question of currency.

Owing to the great increase in the demand for rice, the price of imported grain rose to a semarkable extent, but as rice is a commodity absolutely indispensable to the Japanese, its interest and the reduction of currency. in fact, is subject to its own fluctuations independently of other influences. The amount to be imported shortly by a single merchant is reported to aggregate 30,000 tons, and other orders will bring the total to 70,000 tons. The import of this enormous amount is to be con-summated between this and next month, and the cost, amounting to five million yes, must be paid abroad. In June new wheat may be brought into the country to supply the deficiency of rice, but it can hardly be expected that this will have any serious effect upon the market; and until the next rice crop is ready for use foreign rice must continue to be imported. Such being the case, the market can not easily to be restored to its normal condition.

Rice, being an indispensable staple, has been, as above stated, the chief factor in enhancing the value of other commodities. The general appreciation therefore must be regarded an having little or no relation to media of exchange in the market. Another point to be considered as having contributed to the excess of imports and the reduction of exports is the sudden rise in the price of coal. The appearance of war-vessels in he East from the various European States has had the effect of increasing the demand for coal, and the only coal producing country in the Orient is Japan. Even here the output is limited, and in face of a huge demand quotations have steadily risen, and serious embarrass-ment is now experienced by railway com-panies, steamers, electric and gas works, and other enterprises in which coal is the motive power. Some of the factories and steamship companies have indeed had to suspend business on this account. Domestic manufactures have therefore sustained no small increase in expenditure and prices of manufactured goods have risen accordingly. All there phenomena appear to have combined to reduce the amount of exports. Moreover, the collision in the East between England and Russia, and the complication in West Africa between England and France and the crisis between America and Spain have disturbed Europe and America and lessaned the demand for Japanese manufactures, the purchasing power of the continental nations being curtailed. This has had its due effect. Apart from these considerations, however, it is an indisputable fact that commodities are extravagantly high, and the economic community of Japan may be justified in showing a certain degree of anxiety with regard to the dimunition of currency. But, unsatisfactory are in the economic condition at present, it has the possibility of great improvement in the future. Count Okuma places great reliance on the industrial development of the country.

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#### YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A VISIT TO SUGANO PRISON.

Yokohama, 6th April, 1808.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE YOROHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In my memo of the 1st instant, I informed you that several of your Committee had been invited to go up to Tokyo to inspect some of the principal Prisons there, and I think a short

report of what we saw may be of interest.

Our party consisted of Mr. W. F. Mitchell,
Mr. E. Flint Kilhy, and myself, We left by the 8.5 train on Monday morning, the 4th inst., and drove over to the Sugamo Prison.

There we were met by Mr. Ogawa, of the Prisons Bureau, who introduced us to the Governor of the Prison, and to both of these gentlemen our thanks are due for their great courtesy and for the kind way in which they afforded us the opportunity of looking into every detail of the working of the jail.

The Sugamo Prison is the one in which it is proposed that Foreigners undergoing sentence will be confined, when the new Treaties come It is situated on a high plateau in into force. a northerly direction from Shimbashi, from which it is about six miles distant, and we noticed that the soil on which the jail is built seemed good and naturally well drained, whilst the air is

evidently pure and healthy.

The Prison stands in its own grounds, which are extensive (Tsubos 62,118, or 52 Acres). The entrance is by a fine iron gate, with watchman's lodges on either side, and from thence a drive of 100 to 150 yards leads to the first series of buildings, which are occupied by the Governor and other officials, rooms for the warders, &c. Following the passage through these rooms, our party was conducted by the Governor, Vice-Governor, and Mr. Ogawa to the main buildings, 10 in number, in the form of two wheels. Each building comprises form of two wheels. Each building comprises 28 cells, fourteen on each side, separated by a broad passage, lighted from above by skylights. Each cell is 4.94 trube; evidently the arrangement is that each cell has 8 mais clear and as each is intended to hold 8 prisoners, each man has one mat, 6 by 3 feet; that is simple, an one person per mat is considered a luxurious allowance in Japanese inns for the lower orders, The huildings are solidly built of brick, and looked like long two storied godowns. The cells are raised from the level of the ground 4 in 5 feet, are 12 to 14 feet high, and have a loft-space above, left for patrol and for the installation of the electric light, with which each cell is lighted. They have wooden floors covered with stout mats, (not tatamis), the walls are of brick, plastered over in a light grey color. In one corner of each cell was a sink with tap for fresh water for washing; in the other the "W.C." arrangements, sunk into the floor about 2 feet, and with a fixed wooden screen surrounding it, quite sufficient for decen-These are kept constantly cleared from the outside by gangs of prisoners told off for the purpose, and were inoffensive. The cells themselves are lighted and ventilated by a goodsized window in the outside wall, opening and shutting on the Transom system, and at will, by s cord within reach of the inmates, also by a ventilator close to the ground opening on to the passage. These give almost too much air in the cells in the winter time, and to svoid the draught thus caused, each ventilator had a wooden box, which could be placed in the aperture by the prisoners so as to let the air in from the passage, but conducting it straight up the walls of the cell. It will be seen, therefore, that they are well lighted and well ventilated, the only objection being that they are not heated, and for that Mr. Ogawa told un that they have already made a plan for heating all the cells by hot-water pipes. As in all Japanese houses, there is no furniture in any of the cells, but we were told by the officials that furniture would be supplied in the case of cemark could pass, and some talk must go on Foreigners being lodged there. Each prisoner between men teaching and learning a trade, was well clothed with wadded coat and "con- in fact, we noticed that the men seemed in-

tinuations" of a sort of pink color and of cotton material. On the floor were piled up the "futous," one for each inmate, and these were amply large and thick and I was rather astonished to find them so clean. The doors are semi-circular in form so as to fit the thickness of the walls, and are of iron. They have two glass peep-holes above and an iron trap door below for passing in lood and drinking water. The locks worked on springs and seemed very solid. The greatest number occupying one cell was 5 persons, but there was room for more than that number. Some cells had I to 4 occupants only.

When we arrived only a few were occupied, the prisoners being mostly under sentence of "hard labor" and out in the grounds or in the working sheds. This "hard labor" seemed of the mildest kind; some were making bricks in a brick-yard, the others were mostly in solid, well-lighted sheds, learning or practising trades—carving bambon, silver smiths' work, making cloisonne vases, boxes, etc., paper making, weaving cloth for the prison use, cleaning rice and barley, also for the prison use; others were in the car-penters and blacksmiths' sheds, but the chief occupation seemed to be straw braid plaiting, in which work some of them seemed very clever. All the work is realised and paid for, 60 per cent, being kept towards defraying the working expenses of the Prison, 40 per cent. being reserved for the prisoners against the day when their sentences finish, and they are at liberty to go away. As a lot, the prisoners were well clothed, and well nourished, and there was no sign of ill-treatment; not one of them had a cringing, frightened air, which would certainly have been the case had they been ill-used. a lot, they were certainly very healthy. I only noticed one man who had the remains of "itch" on the hands, and he was evidently under treatment and nearly cured. But this did not seem astonishing, for the bathbouse, which we next visited, was excellent, very spacious, very clean, and with abundance of hot water. I understood the Governor to say that the prisoners could have a hot bath every day, but the average was three times a week. At the end of this room I noticed one bath that was for medicinal purposes, the water being impregnated with sulphur.

The kitchen was next visited; it was very large and scrupulously clean. The prisoners' food was being got ready,--rice and barley (40 per cent. and 60 per cent.) boiled together and then pressed into moulds like a square cake. There were various sizes, graded according to the work on which prisoners were employed, with small sizes for those prisoners undergoing punishment; they appeared sufficient, though the smaller ones would appear to be only suffi-cient to sustain life, and would certainly only be justified as a temporary punishment diet. Fish was given twice a week, and to each portion of rice there was a small quantity of reliab that is generally caten in Japan. There were also large tubs of a boiled seaweed. There could no question that the ordinary quantity and quality of this diet would be sufficient for an ordinary Japanese man, but I doubt if it would be sufficiently nourishing for a man who has been brought up on a meat diet; and Mr. Ogawa told us that it was intended to alter the diet

in the case of Foreign prisoners. Discipline seemed to be strict, and though there seemed to be comparatively few warders not more than one to twenty or thirty prisoners -they were armed with swords and the prisoners seemed to be well in hand, At our entrance they were all seated on mats. The warder of each gang shouted a word of command, then another, and then another, were all seated on and the men rose up, lifted their heads, and then bowed them. The warder saluted, the salute was returned, and a fresh order was shouted, when the prisoners sat down again and at once attended to their work. Silence is compulsory, but evidently an occasional whispered

terested in their work, and certainly the very fact of meeting together in large numbers, and the working in company must have been some relief to the deadly monotony of prison life, and for my part I should certainly prefer this form of "hard labour," to being left to silence and solitude in one's own cell, which seemed to be the fate of those who were in prison without "hard labour." However, these men could have work given them if they asked for it, and we saw one or two working in their own cells.

The general health seemed to be good, but

the officials told us that at the end of the third year many of the prisoners suffered a sort of relapse; for them and for all other cases of sickness there was a hospital, which seemed clean and well managed by a staff of 5 doctors; we noticed a chemist's shop, with a large supply of the usual chemicals, and there was a room that I understood was an operating room. The patients were all looked up in aick wards, well lighted with good large windows, which were shaded by cotton curtains. They were lying down with one futon between them and the mats, and another to cover them, and the usual Japanese pillow for their necks; very few of them looked seriously ill, they were mostly suffering from colds or other ordinary indispositions. In one room, where the light was shut out by a heavy curtain of blue material, two men were being treated for eye diseases.

There was a separate building used as an infectious disease hospital; we did not go in, for

it was not occupied.

Returning to the main buildings, we were shown a large semi-circular room, fitted up as a Chapel; it was large and well lighted. In another room close by we saw four or five Buddhist Priests who, we were informed, were on the permanent staff of the prison and who held regular services at stated occasions and are permitted access to the cells. The prisoners were also visited by Christian Ministers from The prisoners time to time, to whom, it was stated, free access was given. Above this room was a similar sized one used as a School for young prisoners.

There is accommodation for 2,240 prisoners (males only) in this Prison, and there were 1,957 at the time of our visit. The area of the ten cell buildings in 2,074 41 tsubo, or 207.441 tsubo per building. The whole is enclosed by very high brick walls and there was ample space for gardens, which were laid out but did not seem to be much cultivated. Trees had been planted, but us the prison has only been built three years they had not grown much.

Due regard is paid to classification of prisoners, both as to age, gravity of offences, first

offenders, or habitual criminals.

In one of the hospital wards we noticed a man who was not in prison garb and were told that he was a man whose sentence had expired, but he was detained until his friends could be communicated with; so that at any rate he would have somewhere to go when he left the prison. This, the officials told us, was invariably attended to.

The Punishment Cells-about six or eight in number, are situated apart; we were told that they were not much used (indeed four of them in the old Japanese style were never used) and of two on the European system only one was occupied by a man who was given to fighting. They were cells not more than eight feet aquare, ventilated by a narrow window at the top, which, while giving air, would leave the interior almost dark, whilst the inmate was kept in perfect solitude; his food was passed in by a trap door and he could only be communicated with by means of a speaking tube. This would be very severe punishment and in the summer time with the sun shining full on the cell (for it seemed to have no pro-tection) it would be terrible. We were told that the maximum punishment in these cells was five days, and that the more general form of punishment was by reducing the diet.

Per contra good conduct badges are given to the prisoners according to their behaviour, and many of them had one, two, or three badges of blue cloth sewn on to their sleeves.

Relatives of prisoners are allowed to call at Original from

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fixed times and converse in the presence of a Warder at a place set apart for that purpose.

On the whole we could not but come in the conclusion that the general arrangements were excellent, the buildings well designed, and the management very good; and it is probable that this prison would compare favourably with any similar establishment in Europe or America.

Our inspection had taken up so much time that when it was proposed to adjourn to visit the House of Detention at Kajibashi found we had to postpone that visit. Mr. Ogawa told us that the arrangements there were similar to those we had just visited, but the prison was older and therefore not so presentable; but un the invitation was extended to any time at our convenience, we fully intend to avail of it; for whilst we think from what we have seen that the Convict Prisons at the Capital under the Government management leave little to be desired, it seems to us of equal or still more importance to know the state of the Houses of Detention, where Foreigners (and sometimes innocent people) will of necessity be confined pending their trial. We were assured that these establishments also were gradually coming entirely under Government control and that the same care would be given to them in order, as had been given the prison we had just visited.

It must be understood that this report is simply on Sugamo Prison, which is the most modern prison in Japan and cannot be taken an typical of the general prison accommodation, least of all of those prisons under provincial anspices, which leave very much to be desired in accommodation and general arrangements,

R. D. Robison, Chairman. W. T. MITCHELL. E. FLINT KILBY.

At a Committee meeting held on Friday, the 15th inst., the Secretary reported that he had been informed by the Director of Posts and Telegraphs that Mails for Europe per Canadian Pacific steamers via Vancouver are now forwarded via New York.

At a meeting of representatives of this and the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, held lately, the new picul weight of 132.77lbs, against the old of 133.33lbs, had been fully discussed, and it was now decided to ask the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce for their opinion as to the desirability of its being adopted or whether efforts should be made to have the old weight retained.

To examine into the position of Foreigners in Japan under the new Treaties it was decided to form an International Committee consisting of one member of each nationality represented in the Chamber, with power to add to their number.

### RELIANCE WHEELMEN'S RACE.

The first of the series of three handicap races arranged by the Reliance Wheelmen of Yoko-hama, came off successfully on Sunday morning over a course of about four miles and eight-tenths on the Chiba road. The start was at the village of Komatsuna, about seven miles from Shimbashi. In spite of the heavy rain of Saturday, the road was in comparatively fair condition, though rather heavy going. Six competitors ataited, viz., Messrs. Bain (acratch) Onderdonk (10 secs.), Dewette (25 secs.) Kay Smith (1m. 50 secs.), Balcke (2m. 15 secs.), and McChesney (2m. 30 secs.) After a good race Smith came in first in 15 minutes 2 secs., McChesney second, and Dewette third. The latter rider made the best actual time, 14m. 10 sec., and for this secures 5 points in addition to 4 points for third place. After the race the Reliance men, accompanied hy a number of their comrades of the Tokyo Reliance Club, rode to the Hotel Metropole, where they tiffined together. Several Yokohama residents interested in cycling went out to witness the finish. It is proposed to hold the next race on the track at the Cricket Ground,

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#### THE PREMIER AND THE LIRERALS.

On the 14th instant, says the veracions Yoosu, a deputation of the Kwanto Liberals, consisting of Messis. Yamada Taizo and Kogure Budayu, waited upon the Prime Minister to express their views on to eign policy and internal at-ministration. "We have come," said the Liberals in introducing themselves, "as representing many members of the Lower House returned from Kwanto, to give you a piece of advice on current political topics. To accept or reject it is, of course, within your own discretion, but the results in case of rejection are not lightly to be considered." After this terrific exordinm they stated that the inauguration of Count Itagaki alone to the post of a Minister would not suffice as a token of the Cabinet's cooperation with the Liberal party. Mr. Hoshi and another must be installed in office; the party was absolutely opposed to the sole appointment of Count Itagski. Then alteration must be introduced into the laws of election and the City and Prefectural Institution, so as to effect a radical reform in internal administration. Finances must be adjusted, but the delay in the naval armaments expansion programme was unjustifiable. And, lastly, the Cabinet's foreign policy must be ascertained in order to determine the course to be hereafter pursued by the Liberal party. This was the effect of the deputation's representations, hints being given that should Marquis Ito fail to listen to them he must expect to see his Cabinet beset with immense difficulties. The conversation lasted for two hours.

The Prime Minister is reported to have affected great indifference. He said: "It is needless to entertain so great an anxiety in the matter. I am determined to do what I have considered fit to do. If I lose credit with the nation on that account and receive opposition from the Diet, I don't mind. I have only to transfer my post to a man well qualified for it." Having thus "sat on " the visitors, the Prime Minister continued his remarks,
"The appointment of Ministers," said he, "is the prerogative of the Emperor, about which I have no power to say anything in public. I have to med the Cabinet with special instructions from the Emperor, and can in no way dismiss the Ministers now in office for the purpose of replacing them by fresh appointments. At the time when the present Cabinet was first becoming a member, but promised me to support the new Ministry as a private politician. His entry into the Cabinet therefore would be a breach of faith on his part. Still worse would it be to install Mr. Hoshi on the present occasion.
As regards the revision of the Flection Law I entirely agree with you, and shall give attention to reforms of the City and Prefectural systems of administration. I am very much troubled about diplomatic questions, and by no means allow myself to be negligent about them.

Yet I must confess that the unscrupulous proceedings recently indulged in by the Kairakuyen party are not only prejudicial to the interests of the country, but also utterly inconsistent with the principles of honest reform. It is impossible for me to disclose administrative or diplomatic secrets to persons other than those directly con-

In making the above reply, the Yorosu picturesquely adds, the Prime Minister, with an air of extreme complacency, struck at the table and kicked the floor with his feet. The story seems to us (Fapan Mail) very apocryphal.

#### THE TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

Monday evening at the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society was a marked success. We believe that the idea of an entertainment for children only, with the children themselves as the principal performers, originated with Mrs. Page, and was carried out by her with the very which would give Yokohamaites an opportunity able assistance of Miss Schereschevsky and the barely escaping with his life. The disposit of viewing the race from start to finish.

Misses Page. The half was literally crowded was within a stone's throw of the yamen.

Original from

with children, all in the highest spirits and presenting an indescribably pretty sight. The United States Minister presided, and at the conclusion of the programme—which we append refreshments were served with, a profusion of cakes for the little ones. The feature of the evening was the three-set comedy of " Cinderells," performed by marionettes under the management of Miss Schereschevsky and the Misses Page, the former lady undertaking the greater part of the dialogue, which was capitally con-ceived and very cleverly varied. The marionettes were not only dressed in character but also looked their paus. Their costumes and modelling alike were the work of the young ladies who nig anke were the work to the spring ladies who exhibited them. Scarcely less appliance fell to the share of the "Ebony Minstrels," who sang and acted with great spirit. We need hardly add that Miss Von Fallova pianoforte solo did not belong to the list of children's performances -it was a gem in execution and feeling. Mis. Page played all the pianoforte accompaniments in her usual admirable syle :-

ı	1111 11	Ct manner minimizerate alien
į	ı.	Plansforte DuetThe Misses Summers.
l	2.	The Ebony MinsteelsQuartette.
Ì	3-	Violin Solo
	4	Becitation
١	5.	Planeforte Duct The Misses Bailagh.
ı	6	Cinderella & contenty in timee acis,
ı	7.	Violin Sala
		Pranoforte Soio Miss von Fallot,
	9	Charas Teo Young Ladies,
	10.	Violio Duet Masters T. White & F. Smith,
	.11	The Ethniy MinstrelsQuartette.

#### CHINESE NOTES.

Famine and its invariable companion fever are producing a terrible record in North Kiang-It is stated that forty per cent, of the su, people are obliged to eke out existence by brg-ging or by selling all their possessions, and that ten per cent, are dying of starvation. The sale of children is, as usual, one of the means employed to get food. Apparently that part of China in in a most lawless condition. The people are compelled to keep loaded guns always ready for the purpose of beating off

The Christian Mission in Yangchou barely escaped destruction on the 8th of April. During March large numbers of beggars—some ten thousand, it is said—encamped outside the time when the present Cabinet was first east gate of the city, and acores of them were organised, Count Hagaki had no intention of frozen to death owing to an exceptionally cold snap. Some of the bodies were preyed upon by dogs, and it seems that the mudat-ed head of a child was picked up by a miscreant and laid near the enclosure of the Mission compound. The following morning word was quickly circulated that the Mission-aries had been at their old murderous tricks, and hundreds of people assembled clamouring for vengeance. Happily order was restored by the Chinese officials.

> The residents of Shanghai intended to entertain Prince Henry of Prussia at luncheon in Chang Su-ho's garden on the 15th instant.

> M. Dautremer, formerly a well known French official in Tokyo and now Consul for his country at Hankow, has decided to bring before a legal tribunal the old question of the right of awnership of part of the concession. He is to sue the British subjects who claim to be the owners in Her Majesty's Consular Court, the sum in question being 200,000 taels.

> Our readers probably remember that brief reference was recently made in these columns to an anti-Christian riot in Kiangpeh, near Changking. The details are now to hand. Dr. McCartney, of the American Episcopal Mission, having rented a house to serve as a medical dispensary in Kiangpeh, sent two young Chinese medical students to live there. During the first night of their residence, the place was attacked by a mob, and one of the new comers was brutally murdered, the other The dispensary

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

An Imperial Ordinance has been promulgated authorizing the raising of the rate interest on money deposited in post office savings banks to 4.8 per cent, per annum. There is a provision appended that in the case of deposits made previously to December 3181. 1890 and exceeding 1,000 yes, the rate shall be 3.6 per cent.

We learn from an exchange that Rear-Admiral A. L. Douglas arrived at Bombay on the 19th March, and relieved Admiral Drammond in the command of the East India Station. Admiral Douglas was Vice-President of the Ordnance Committee at the time he received his appointment. He served outside the Naval Service of his country, when in 1873 4, he held the position of Director of the Imperial Japanese Naval College, for two years.

The rivalry between Antwerp and Rotterdam as the port of call for the North German Lloyd steamers has ended in favour of Antwerp; and a jubilant telegram from that city says:-

This result is due to the foresight of the Autwerp Chamber of Commerce, which invited over a bundred German bungomasters and leading com-mercial Germans to visit Autwerp last autumn. The way to conciliate a German burgomaster seems to be much the same as that of coaxing the British husband..." Feed the brate,"

It is stated by vernacular newspapers that the reform of the prison system and of the police organization is occupying the attention of the Government. Our contemporaries suggest that the motive of the reform is preparation for the epoch of mixed residence, from which we infer that apecial arrangements rather than general reforms are on the tapis. The rumour is that the Authorities contemplate employing three German exports, two to assist in the police department, and one to advise about the prisons,

The Board of Trade returns for February were not encouraging. The exports showed a decline of £223,000, or a little over 1 per cent. and the imports a decline of £1,374,290, or nearly 4 per cent. There was a falling off in the import of wool to the value of £680,000. Coincident with this decrease in the value of imported raw material there was a falling off in that of the exports of textile fabrics. The iron and machinery trades had not recovered from the injury inflicted by the protracted engineering strike.

On Sunday afternoon, eaysthe Kobe Chronicle, a man having the appearance of a sportsman, about 35 years of age, was found dead in the thicket of a hill beyond Minatogawa with a gun wound in the throat. He wore a foreign suit of black and had in his pockets a silver watch, 20 odd yen in cash, and two silk handkerchiefs, He was wearing a cartridge belt round his waist, one cartridge being missing. A piece of a cotton handkerchief was tied to the lock of the gue, the other end being tied to the large toe of the man's right foot, and these appearances indicated that the man had beyond doubt killed himself.

The Government, it is stated, find some difficulty in putting into circulation silver subsidiary coins to the extent anticipated when the system of gold monometallism was adopted. The twenty-sen and ten-sen pieces are in large demand, but the fifty-sen piece is not a favorite. It is supposed that the reason of the people's refuctance to take the fifty-zen coin is that they find the one-yes note much more convenient and rumour alleges that the Government intend to withdraw the one-yen notes from circulation as soon as possible. We doubt the truth of the statement, for, after all, the people's convenience deserves to be consulted as well as that of the Treasury.

It is now many years since we received a Digitized by GOOSIE

have been in India and China. The London Mandard recently said:-" At the Albambra, Carl Heitz attracts the most attention. He may be reckoned as the most skilful prestidigitateur of the day. His tricks are marked by a near-ness and dexierity which nonplus the most careful observer, and he is unsurpassed as a manipulator of cards." Mr. Hertz starts his Kobe season on Saturday, and will then come on to Yokohama.

The Moji Shimpo prints a sensational story of a Japanese stoker belonging to a British steamer, which has just arrived there from Calcutta, having been slain in an affray with Russian sailors at Batoum on January 8th fast. The deceased left the ship without leave with foreign members of the crew; the partly was attacked on the return journey carrying whisky for their comrades on board. The two foreigness reached the ship safely and reported the matter to the Captain. He hastened off with a party of seamen to the rescue, but found only the dead body of the unfortunate stoker. The Captain has given all the information III his command to the Police.—Hiogo News.

Dr. H. B. Guppy has spent three weeks in the crater of Mokauweoweo, Hawaii. He lived in a tent under conditions not unlike those believed to exist on the moon, viz , absolute sterility of the ground, rarified atmosphere, intensely dry air, no clouds, by day at least, and intense cold at night. During the first day the atmosphere was highly electric. Dr. Guppy could trace luminous figures on his closk, which crackled under his fingers. He suffered from headache, palpitation, lassitude, and loss of appetite. For amusements he had magnificent lunar haloes and light shocks of earthquake. At the very bottom of the crater he was wrapped in fog, produced by the vapours rising from all parts of the ground. Many insects were found on the top of the mountain, blown there by wirds, no doubt, but as a rule they were dead or dying.

The Swiss have decided by an immense majority on the purchase of the railways by State. Fares are to be reduced all over the lines, and the rates of transport for cattle and produce are also to be lowered, an inducement which went a long way with farmers and manufacturers. The advocates of State purchase also argued that it was of vital importance that the shares of the railway companies should not be held by foreigners, especially Germans, who put their own nominees into the hest posts without regard to the claims of the The purchase of the railways by the State will, however, demand an enormous sum of money to pay off the sharsholders. If the passenger fares and luggage rates are to be appreciably reduced, it is doubtful whether the returns will suffice to pay all the expenses of management and at the same time to provide for the interest of the debt.

The Osaka Asahi states that Mr. de Lucy-Fossatieu, the French Consul at Kobe, accompanied by a military attachi of the Portuguese Legation, inspected the Tennoji Mental Diseases Hospital and the Horikawa Prison, Osaka, last week, being conducted by Mr. Mayeda, an official in the Osaka City Office. At the hospital the French Cousal made close inquiries of the President as to the number of patients, the manner of treatment, the cause of disease, and the cost of maintenance, &c. At the prison, the Consul thoroughly inspected the various cells, hospitals, workshops, and the scaffold, and then obtained information from the Governor as to the clothing and food of the prisoners, the method of payment for labour, and the procedure at executions. All this, of course, says the Kobe Chronicle, 'in view of the impending operation of the new Treatica."

The case of Colour-sergeant Walker, who was kept a prisoner by the Afridis for six weeks, is now attracting attention by reason of the

seem, was ordered to lose his pay for the weeks he was absent from his regiment, the Royal Scots Fasiliers In taking this line, the military authorities acted in strict accordance with Article 954 of the Royal Warrant. But the Article also provides that, after inquiry, the Secretary of State may restore the whole or any portion of the arrears of pay. In the circumstances, the Court Martial has acted almost us meanly as Mark Twain's firm, who stopped a man's wages for the half an hour he was away from work owing to a dynamite explosion which blew him sky high.

Either Borneo prisons must be most comfortable hotels, or the inhabitants of that island must be easily satisfied. Three men who were brought before the Visiting Magistrate in an up-country station, and charged with arson. calmly avowed that they had committed the crime on purpose to get sent back m prison, which they say is the most comfortable place they have yet lived in.

Chinese have a genius for thieving: example of this talent is given by the Shanghai Mercury. A British gunboat lying at Hankow had, in broad daylight, her chain unshackled and her anchor stolen; and the same anchor was offered for sale at Her Majesty's Consulate at that port. The Consul communicated with the gunboat concerning the anchor before they were even aware of having lost it.

The depredations of the Tatao had (Great Sword Society) are giving trouble on the south-ern borders of Shantung. The other day these ern borders of Shanting. The other day these rebellions sectaries inurdered the Hunanese Taotai Han and over-ran a large tract of country which extends right up to the borders of Childi. So seriously is the movement viewed by the paralysed Peking Government that it bas ordered Tan Fu shiu, the Commander-in-Chief of Cuihli, Shensi and Shansi, to come eastward to quell the Great Swordsmen,

Encouraged by his recent successful travels, the Duke of the Abruzzi has determined to direct his course to the Far North. summer he in due in Spitzbergen, and the following year he and his followers will make for Franz Josef Land, Provided the conditions of the ice be favourable, the Duke will make a dash for the Pole by means of sledges and dogs. Should, however, the attempt be unsuccessful, the expedition will confine its operations to Franz Josef Land, which will be explored.

Who wants to buy a small and compact archipelago? A Madeira journal aunounces that the Selvage Islands are for sale. The group consists of six-three large and three smalland they are situated to the north of the Canaries. Historically and politically they belong to Madeira, where the actual proprietor lives. The islands offer numerous facilities for sport—the sport of killing the puffin-and it is said that 20 000 of these sea birds are shot every year. The puffin is sought for its flesh quite as much as for its plumage.

Peace and tranquillity have not yet been restored in Haiphong, says the China Matl. Feating of another and more serious rising amongst the natives, the French authorities have adopted measures to secure the satety of the city. They are prepared for attack should the natives become belligerent. Sentries guard all the bridges and approaches to the city, and at night-time no one is allowed to move about unchallenged. One of the Haiphong papers likens the present state of affairs to those of 1884, when Haiphong was defended by block-houses and the inhabitants lived in dread of nightly assaults from pirates.

Professor Orazio Marucchi has just discovered a wonderful "graffito" picture in the Palace of Tiberius, on the Palatine IIill, in Rome. The subject of the picture is the "Crucifixion," and wisit from a conjuring celebrity, so the forthcoming appearance in Yokohama of Mr. Carl
Hertz, from the Alhambra Theatre, London,
should prove as acceptable here seri-appears to requitted of this charge, bu', strange as it may with respect to the picture, and the details connected with th

When the "graffito" was first discovered the central cross could hardly be discerned, but by out much stronger, as has the figure of Christ pletely covering the passes. Work is actively with the word "Cristus" above it. The inspection is in Latin, and when translated reads: "Christ, having been beaten with rods, was channel. Access to the Bay of Along may now careful treatment of the walls it has been brought hanged upon the cross according to the secret

According to the China Mail, the Philippine rebellion has spread to the island of Cebu, the centre of the hemp and sugar trade. It is stated that all the foreigners, other than Spaniards, are safe, and that the natives will not seek to molest them, but the exact fate of the Spaniards is still unknown. The Governor and most of the Spanish officials are reported to have been massacred but it is ported to have been massacred, but it is hoped that some have been taken prisoner. and that they are being held as hostages. The whole of the island is in the hands of the rebels. It is feared that Panay and other southern islands will also revolt. In the Tayabas Province of Luzon, the Spanish Governor has been severely wounded and his adjutant killed. In the Ilocos Province, a Captain of the Civil Guard and a priest have both been mortally wounded. In Pangasinan, rioting is frequent.

Mr. MacAleese recently brought in a Bill to enable persons of Irish birth or extraction to adopt the prefixes "O" and "Mac" before their sur-names. This is how the Globe deals with the matter :-

Sing a song of Irishmen
Drafted in a Bill;
Some are "Macs"; the rest are "O'a";
But all are Irish still! When the Bill was ready, The House began to lough; Wasn't it a cruel shame To spoil the scheme with chaff? O'D-II-n, as a petriot, Rather liked the notion; MacR-dm-ud, not to be unidone, Seconded the motion. I lfor dido't seem to mind The Bill one little bit; But Scotia's Mac monopolists Uprose and vetoed it!

Mr. Edison, with the assistance of Professor Bell and others, has succeeded in so improving the phonograph that it is likely to come into general use. Not only is the phonograph to be considerably reduced in price, but it will be thoroughly adapted for ordinary business. For instance, a man can speak all his corres-pondence into the machine at will, and his clerk can take it off on to a typewriter at leisure, the instrument being stopped or its speed con-trolled at the will of the operator to whom it is dictating its message. Another improvement is the arrangement which allows it to deliver its message in a tone so loud that it can be heard y a large number of people at the same time. Mr. Edison has also invented a supplementary machine, a marvel of ingenuity, by means of which the recording wax cylinders of the phonograph can be reproduced from the original in endless numbers. Perhaps the most interest-ing point in the facure of the instrument is the status which will be given it as a legal doonment or as evidence.

The Bay of Along, with its thousands of rocks, between which lies a labyrinth of channels and natural harbours, is, says the Avenir du Tonkin, one of the most singular places in the world. Apart from its southern sun, it completely resembles the Norwegian fjords. It was long an assured refuge for pirates, who could easily conceal themselves in its caves or jungle. In case of war it would certainly be one of the objectives of a hostile fleet, which one of the objectives of a mostice teet, which also for the neveropment of the rainway system might possibly attempt to force the passes. It in the interior of China, and it is to be left to its was important therefore to place this weak point judgment to decide whether certain towns and in a complete state of defence. During his recent stay in Tonkin the Governor-General munication or not. The company has also the visited Hougay and the Bay in company with right of working coal mines and other mines. Admiral de la Bedoillère, the Colonel commanding the Artillery, and other superior manding the Artillery, and other superior Digitized by COSIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

officers. It was decided that, besides the mobile defence by sea-going torpedo boats already organised, batteries should be constructed combe considered absolutely impracticable by any

During the 24 hours up to noon, 5th April, 19 new cases and 13 deaths from plague were reported in Hougkong, making the total since tat January (95 days) 286 cases and 243 deaths. From noon on the 6th till the 7th there were 14 new cases and 13 deaths.

A Washington telegram of March 7th says: A Washington telegram of March 7th says:—
The Katahdin, Uncle Sam's unique war vessel,
will go into commission this week with Commander George F. F. Wilde me her director.
She is the most formidable war boat in the
world. She is regarded by sailors me a monstroity in the way of naval architecture. She
is almost totally under water. Her entire fabis almost totally under water. Her entire fabric, except her strong conning tower and her turtle-block, is hidden. Her bow is prolonged into a mighty ram, which makes up the principle on which she is built. This ram, with the ex-ception of a few rapid-fire guns, is all the weapon with which she is armed, but with it the Kalahdin could do terrible destruction to any buttle-ship, no matter how heavy or well armoured. The Katahdin's back could laugh moured. The Katahdin's back could laugh at shots from any war-ship she cared to attack. Her terrible ram aimed at the weakest part of an enemy's hull should sink any vessel on the sea. Her small guns would take care of torpedo boats, the only sort of an enemy the Katahdin need fear. This odd and mon-strous boat was built in 1893 at Bath. Her extreme length is 254 feet, her normal displacement 2.155 tons, her beam 43.5 feet, her mean draught 15 feet, her horse-power 5.068, and her speed 16 knots.

The Novee Vremya publishes the statutes of the "company for the construction of the Eastern Railway of China," In addition to the Russian Government, the Russo-Chinese Bank is also charged with the construction and development of the railway from Cheu-Lun-Tjansk, on the Western frontier, and close to the Russian Trans-Baikal territory, as far as a certain point on the Eastern frontier in the Province of Girinsk, near to the Amur district. This line is to be connected with the lines which Russia is building on the Chinese frontier from Trans-Baikal to the Southern Usuri line. As the new line will have by agreement with China a Russian line of rails five feet across, it will thus be brought into immediate connection with the Siberian Railway, and form one great chain with the Tacheljabinsk and Vladivostock line, while it will thus also avoid the immense windings of the Amoor River. This undertaking for building the East China Railway must be carried out within six years by the company of shareholders. who must all be either Russian or Chinese subjects. The share capital of five millions of roubles will be paid in cash to the company by the Russian Imperial Treasury, and the shares are to remain at an agreed price for the Treasury. The financial stipulations are of such a nature that the carrying out of the undertaking in in the hands of the Russian Ministry of Finance. The president is to be chosen by the Chinese Government, and will have a diplomatic mission as representative of that Government. After 36 years have elapsed China will take possession of the railway on making certain payments, and after 80 years it will become the absolute property of the Celestial Empite. Moreover, there are stipulations that the company shall provide also for the development of the railway system in the interior of China, and it is to be left to its

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Information from Shanghai published in the Osaka Asahi announces that no demand exists at present in North China for Japanese yarns. The market in general is quiescent; the exchange rate rising to 84 taels on the 7th instant. The stock of yarus on the 8th is reported to have smounted to about 3,000 bales. Chinese and Indian productions are on a downward tendency, the stock of the latter aggregating 22,000 bales. Bombay yains are present quoted at rates varying from 65.50 to 80.25 taels for 203, and from 64 50 to 76.50 taels for 160. The sales of the former amounted to 450 bales and of the latter to 135 bales during the past week. Cotton Spinning factores in Shanghai have recently, suspended night work on account of insufficiency in the supply of raw cotton. Further depreciation appears inevitable.

With regard to the Far Eastern situation a politician who migns himself "Tohissi" speaks through the columns of the Nippon as follows: -"Unless energetic steps be taken Japan wilt fall into the danger of losing permanently her title to a voice in the Continental question. Her name, her prestige, will cease to be a factor in the Far East. The spirit with which the Government rose to succour Korea a few years ago is now entirely extinct. Pressure injudiciously brought to bear upon China in regard to the Indemnity, and the evacuation of Wei-hal-wei was that considerably haste-The Cabinet seems to have aimed at ned. avoiding foreign relations altogether in matters of Oriental policy, in order to protect the coun-try from all complications. There is no remedy for the past error, but we should avoid bungling for the future. The existing Cabinet can do nothing except with the aid of an oniside Power. This, however, it can derive by concluding an alliance with England. An oppor-tunity is available for making up in Korea losses which were sustained in China. The plea of the insufficiency of national resources can not be considered. If the Government is really willing to enter upon an assertion of Japan's rights, it can count upon the support of forty million loyal, brave, and intelligent souls. If, on the other hand, the Government takes a course of reticence or retirement, it must expect soon to be surrounded by forty millions vehemently condemning it for its impotency. It ought to be remembered that the first principle in maintaining the national prestige is a definite foreign policy. Without this a host of regiments and squadrons will be of no avail. The authorities therefore should clearly see the necessity of formulating a policy to act upon, national resources and armaments being of secondary importance." How delightfully naive some of these expounders of politics are!

A certain nobleman is represented by the Tokyo Asahi as having made the following remarks with regard to the recent meeting of the Liberals at the Kairaku-yen. If the protest were to be rejected by Russia, Germany and France what would be the next step? It is easy to make a protest, but difficult to follow it up. If Japan really desires to oppose the actions of the three Powers in China, she must first be resolved to have recourse if necessary to war. But do her resources allow her to take auch a step? Is she sure of the efficiency of her army and navy for such an enterprise? The result of the protest in regard to Hawaii in the spring of lest year is still fresh in the memory of the public. Are the friends of the policy of protest bold enough to urge that Japan should at once proceed to Vladivostock with loaded guns in the event of her objections being disregarded? The protest seems to be a plea for attacking the present Cabinet, and under it is concealed a desire to promote party in-

cocoons from China, the amount of import increasing considerably of late. The figures for the 29th year of Meifi amounted to several bundred thousand yen, while a still larger amount was noticeable in subsequent years. If the quality of Chinese cocoous is really so excellent as silk manufacturers think, it may be very desirable to import them. But it must be noticed that silk worms are more or less influenced by skill in raising as well as by topographical conditions. Success in one particular district is not necessarily a guarrantee of success in another; and whether the Chinese worm is suited to the climate and physical features of Japan is a problem which can be decided only by careful experiments. Steps were taken by the Department of Agricul ture and Commerce last year to despatch an expert to China with instructions to inspect sericultural enterprises and collect different types of cocoons and silk worms, These specimens are reported to have included no fewer than twenty different species. They are to be subjected to careful inspection in Kyoto, Nagano, and other prefectures.

The Chuo publishes a comparative table showing the amount of silk exported from Yokohama to Europe and America during the past three years. Thus:--

hyar tintee heats.	T 11 ft 2 :		
Firms. A	America.	Europe.	Totals.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
No. I	. 1,315	651	1,266
No. 2	, 825	1,403	2,232
No. 3B	- 59	1.470	1,570
No. 3L	. —	350	953
No. 10	. 21	_	21
No. 22	704	Married .	703
No. 71	. 10	13	23
No. 89	375		375
No. 19 (middle)		129	187
No. 904	. 5,191	2,415	8.277
No. 901		2,874	5.277
No. 95	, 632	2,399	2.732
No. 164	· —	904	904
No. 168	5,025	55	5,090
No. 177	. —	120	120
No. 179		390	390
No. 198		1.352	3.147
No. 200			100
No. 206		1,073	1,073
No. 209		590	2,451
No. 216			246
No. 221		115	789
Silk Trading Co		492	5.833
Mitsui Bussau		_	1,821
Doshija Kwaisha	. τ.787	10	1,797
True I		-06	
Total	.31,070	18,126	49,796

The output of tea for this year will show considerable decrease, and the marked appreciation of commodities and of rice in particular will inevitably lead to the increase of expenses of manufacture. A rise in the price of the leaf is, under these circumstances, certain. Last year the new leaf was quoted at 40 year, but the quotation for this year will probably not fall below 46 yen, the estimated average being 32 yen as against . 26 yen of last year. If the price falls below this rate, tea growers will be unable to cover their expenditure, and will have to abandon business entirely. As Yokohama dealers have to manufacture the tea at their own expense, and as a steady enhancement in wages and freight has to be met, the price abroad will probably be 40 or 50 per cent, higher than last year. Whether America will accept ten at these rates is a question that remains to be proved. Serious anxiety is entertained as to the likelihood of Japanese teas being superseded in America by the Ceylon leaf.

Under the heading "The conclusion of the Chinese question," the Yiji says: Germany is unusually quiescent of late, and it seems that she is inclined to cultivate intimacy with England. Mr. Balfour, speaking in Parliament on English policy towards China, said :- "Both England and Germany have common interests. and I hope the two countries will work in harmony." Russia and Germany have now entirely ceased opposition to England's lease of Wei-hai-wei, while England in turn has withheld all objection to Russia's retention of Port As you tell me that the difference in patent law Original from the UNIVERSITY OF ILLIN

Arthur and Talien and of Germany's seizure of Kain-chow. Frauce, too, having skilfully avoid ed protests from her two formidable rivals, has secured the occupation of Kwang-chow. The dismemberment of China has thus been brought to an end for the time being. But Japan ought not to be content with the remainder of the Indemnity; she should consider it absolutely necessary to make some arrangements in China or Korea for the preservation of the balance of

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE NEW TARIFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL," Sin,-I was pleased to see your article this morning as to the new Tariff. Personally I am morning as to the new latin. rersonany I am inclined to hope the Japanese Government will not give notice of their intention to coforce the New Duties until after the Austro-Hungarian Treaty has been ratified and that then they will take advantage of their rights and enforce the new scale of Duties at the carliest possible date. The present state of affajis has its advantages, as it prevents, or at least checks, the speculative im-port that would take place if a six months' notice of a new Tariff were given, as the doubt that now exists prevents speculative import to a great degree which would be very disastrous with the heavy stocks of most goods afready here. The Tariff question has undoubtedly unsettled business for some time past, and the sooner something de-finite is known the better it would be for trade in general, particularly if that notice will not allow time for speculative import from the producing centres.

Yours faithfully, A.B.C. Yokohama, April 15th.

#### THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In my recent communication respecting the Harris Science School I wrote as follows:— "Under the guidance of the trustees the Science School is no help to the cause of Christ, the Do-shisha is not a Christian University, and there are no evangelical Christians in the school."

So far as the Harris Science School, which was the subject of my letter, is concerned that sentence is exactly true; but if applied to all the departments of the school it would be unjust to Prof. C. M. Cadey, the one foreign teacher in the school (who was not in my mind when I wrote) and perhaps to one or more Japanese teachers. As I am auxious not to do injustice to any one permit me to say that if my words be applied to all parts of the school the above exceptions should be made. I may add here that at the recent Graduating

Exercises in the school no Christian hymn, prayer, reading of scripture, or allusion to Christianty was heard from beginning to end. This silence at the hebest of the Mombusho indicates the present position of Christranity in the school.

I am, very truly yours, M. L. GORDON. Kyote, April 16th, 1898.

#### FOREIGN PATENTS IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sin,-I have to thank you for the liberal space which you allotted to my former letter, and also for the great pains which you took in replying to it. It is with great reluctance that I again trespass apan your kindness.

Liegret that the substitution of "why should I consider myself aggrieved" for "why should I consider bimself" (as I wrote it) should have made what you call the mélange worse confounded. But let that pass.

ed. But let that pass.

Extrater ituriality (magnificent word!) has in point of fact very little to do with foreign or Japanese patents, as you must acknowledge, if you take a single example. I invents a new sewing machine, and patents it in Japan and Britain. B gets a quantity made in Germany or some other neutral cournry without J's licence, and dumps down a shipload in Yokohama. He may perhaps sell one or two to the foreign failors within the settlement, and to that extent defraud J of his lawful profits; but if he sells a single one to a Japanese, the machine is conficulted, and the purchase liable to punishment under the Japanese law. It is true that the law cannot touch the vendlaw. It is true that the law cannot touch the vend-or, but the protection of the patentee is perfectly by the average city and town Board of Health, effectual.

practice between the United States and the consalar courts of other nations was discussed ad nauseam years ago, I will try to obtain information about it elsewhere; but I really should be glad to know if an American subject obtains any reciprocal advantages. Reciprocity seems to be "a thing we often hear about, but very seldom see."

Since I failed, even after careful study, w comprehend a certain paragraph in the sense in which you intended it to be taken (which was perhaps not entirely my fault) I may perhaps have misunderstood another one, in your leader of 29th March. Is it really true that;

"The subjects or citizens of any State belonging to the International Union (&c.) are enti-iled to enjoy in all the other States with respect to patents or trade marks whatever advantages they enjoy in their own State under its own laws. Thus patents and trade marks duly registered in Great Britain, for example, will become entitled to protection in Japan—(of course after Japan joins the Union)?"

It is reported that when the Ordinarily Intelli-gent Person learnt for the first time that a patent gent reason tearner for the first time that a patent registered in one country was equally valid in a dizen others, " be chortled in his joy," and mar-velled that his intelligence had never led him to discover the fact before. He is now inquiring which of the dozen or so countries is prepared to which of the dozen or so countries is prepared to grant the said comprehensive patent at the cheapest rate. I regret extremely to be obliged to add that certain deprayed individuals of the other class (or classes)—"said no word to indicate a doubt, but put their thumb unto their nore, and spread their fingers out."

The gesture is vulgar, but expressive. Yours,

#### W. SILVER HALL.

(As to the international Union, we did not of course mean to say that registration in any one country confers sate to pri-vileges in all the rest, but only that the subjects of each Sate are entitled to enjoy, in all the other States (as regards patents, whatever advantages their respective laws grant to heir own subjects. This is beside the original questions, how-ever. Mr. Hall now see that his views about consular juris-diction were mistaken.—Es. J. M.)

#### "TENKEN ZUML"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,-Now that the Boards of Health (Eisel Kyoku) of the various towns and cities are making their annual rounds of the houses to see if the dust under the bottom of the tatams has been brushed off, perhaps a lew words as to their efficiency or non-efficiency may be profitable.

I was passing along a street the other day where two physicians live-one of them a graduate of the Imperial University, and saw the work going on of cleaning out the open sewers on each side of the street. The vilest, blackest stuff imaginable was being piled up in heaps, and alterwards carts came along pretending to take it up. But no effort was made to take up more than the bulky part, leaving the ground covered at each heap with black ships that must dry in the say and be swent black shine that must dry in the sun and be swept up by the residents along the street. Thus more fever germs are scattered about than if the ditch had been let alone.

A few days ago a member of the Board of Health came to my house to see if my tatami had been dusted mader the bottom. He litted up one or two and then handed use a slip of page on which was printed the three characters, 點檢攤 (Tenken-zumi), certifying that every spot or dot (Tenken-zumi), certifying that every apot or dot had been examined and approved hygienically. I have his certificate pasted up on my from door; did it at his request. As he bowed himself out of the door I asked him if pasting that piece of paper over my door would keep out all contagious diseases during the year. He looked at me to see if I were joking and then laughingly said he would not guarantee that. would not guarantee that.

would not guarantee coat.

Then I sat down and began to think how utterly silly and worthless such an inspection is. He seems to have no thought of anything except the accumulated dust under the mats. He pays no attention to the vile cesspool in my neighbour's yard that over-flows and comes muning by my front gale, and to my neighbour's both water that is turned loose and forms a stench within two feet of my back door. There are more typhoid germs in these open ditches and stagoant water than in a whole decade of collected dust on the buttom of the fafami.

Prison reform is a good thing, but most of us hope to keep out of prisons, and to my mind it is more important to foreigners to against against the

WILL PATTILLO.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### MIXED RESIDENCE AND TAXATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,-Lately in passing through Sendai I heard that one of the missionaries there had taken the trouble to call on the Mayor of the City to inquire about what a missionary would have to pay in taxation, when the treaties go into effect. Upon a careful estimate it was concluded that is Sendai the taxes for the average Missionary family would be about sixty gen per year. The missionary fraternity there are considerably excited on the subject and others will be likewise

excited on the subject and others will be likewise affected when they hear of it.

When the subject of taxation was a little further off, it was "politics," and those devoting their lime to religion could not waste time on the subject.

Now that their pockets are being touched directly, they commence to wake up. What in to be done? I hear that Buddhist priests are exempt from taxation; will the Christian ministry

teceive the same treatment?
Or will the societies make appropriations to pay the tax, giving us an example of what the Protectionists" at home tell us is the case: "The tariff is not a tax, and the foreigners pay it?" Or will the missionaries pay their share of taxes like

Certainly from now forward all foreigners will be much interested in the tax system of the country, and the line of action they may take will have to be determined upon.

They cannot own land, that is fixed by treaties.

They must pay income taxes, even though that income comes from abroad, as it were.

I can only hope that they, with all other foreigners, and Japanese as well, will see that the only place that taxes can be located without hunt-ing labour and capital, is on land rent.

ing labour and capital, is on same rems.

If the community laxes the land rest properly, it will necessarily lower the rest of land to the

Taxing land makes it cheap; hence it will be to the interest of all tenants to have land taxed till it falls to zero in speculative price.

This has the additional advantage of being

When this subject has been brought to the attention of missionaries they have seen the justice of the system and have become Single Taxers.

They have a good field in which to

reform. When the community generally learns that the law of wages and that of rent taxation are inseparably connected, they will work for a system

separating confected, they will work for a system of land tax that will give the highest wages.

Patrick Edward Wade, the great philosopher of Scotland, has shown clearly that there are only two things that can be taxed, labor and land. A two timings and can be eased, labor and land. A lax on labor is a curse, man is lazy enough not to overwork, without discouraging him with taxes for working. Taxing bare land up to its rental value, and exempting all improvements, encourages labor by forcing land into use and by giving labor and capital their full exemings.

We cannot deny Henry George's premises without denying that God has given men equal actual rights to the ower of themselves and capital area.

without denying that God has given men equal natural rights, to the use of themselves, and that the value of land is given by the presence of the Community. If we accept his premises, we must his conclusions, that by means of taxation, the miversal right to land can be preserved to the advantage of Labor, Capital, and the Community. Here then is the subtion of the question; till we accept and apply it, we will have trouble. We must take the right or the wrong side of this question; which will in be?

It for one, am for the Smele Tax.

I, for one, am for the Single Tax.

CHAS. E. GARST. Akita, April 14th, 1898.

#### THE JAPANESE AND AMERICAN SCHOOL SYSTEMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—One of your correspondents, endeavouring to exponerate the Bureau of Education from blame for discriminating against religion in dealing with the problem of education, made certain statements which are notice, in regard to the school systems of America and Japan, which may therefore mislead the public, although I acquit him of any intention to mislead.

tention to mislead.

He says the school system of Japan is founded on that of America, and, as in America, religion is wisely excluded by the State. Now a try this is meant that the Japanese system is a copy of the American it is untrue in several particulars.

T. In the first place, in America the Educational Systems, as they may be called any Sulface.

there are certain strong resemblances common to them all. They are wholly independent of each other,

2. All the American common school All the American common school systems agree in this, that the schools are open to all child-ten of school age without money and without price, and in some localities the school books for economy's sake are also furnished. This is quite different from the Japanese system, which charges fees insignificant in themselves but sufficient to exclude the children of the poorer classes who most need state aid in getting an education.

most need state aid in getting an education.

3. In some States, attendance at school is made compulsory for a certain number of weeks yearly on all children between certain ages. But provision is made that if a child is attending a private or parochial school where it is receiving a due amount of secular instruction, such attendance shall be deemed a fulfilment of the law.

There is no desire on the part of the State to discriminate against private or religious schools.

discriminate against private or religious schools, providing they fulfil the secular requirements; the State indeed welcomes the co-operation of private persons and religious societies in promoting education and virtue and often assists financially, This does not seem to be the case in Japan.
4. In some of the States the reading of the

Bible daily without note or comment is (or was all my latest information) required by law, and when

on required is in some States at least permitted,
5. Some States by judicial decisions have for-bidden the reading of the Bible and religious instruction in the public schools on the ground that religious instruction is not within the province of the State but rather of the Church and the home (a very sound position it appears to me), and in view of the practical difficulty that arises in a population of mixed religious opinions, of doing justice by them all as should be done in an institusupported by the taxation of all, But the whole moral instruction sests upon a commonly understood Christian basis, and the literature of the schools also does so,

6. But as religion would not be allowed to be directly taught in the public schools of most of the States, so in no American State would the tea-ching of irreligion and the despisal of religious

ching of ireligion and the despisal of religious sanctions and considerations by a public school teacher be tolerated. If I am correctly imformed, such is not the case in Japan.

7. If the object of the Japanese Government is to secure the education of its people on the American plan, it should freely provide for the education of all the children of Japan, and if their secular instruction comes up to the required standard, it should welcome aid from all mistingtions without regard to the religious guestions a long as without regard to the religious question so long as popils are not taught to be immust. It certainly

populs are not taught to be minuted. At certainty should not discriminate against religious schools. It is claumed that the policy of the Japanese Government is to recognize no religion, and to such a policy, impartially administered, I do not here object, but I would ask for information if the prinsciples of Shimio are not laught in the Government Schools, and if Shimio is not regarded as a religion by a large and influential section of the population, and if it is not under Government parpopulation, and it it is not under traveroment par-rounge as the established religion of the State? I have supposed this to be so. But if the above be true, what becomes of your correspondent's praise of the Japanese school system as closely following

of the Japanese school-system as closely following the American system in ignoring religion?

It is not the ignoring of religion that I now object to (though this might forcish matter for consideration), but the discrimination against religion as in the case of the Döshisha, The truly impactial way would seem to be for egal all schools according to their secolar merits and least all personnels. treat all persons applying for public employment according to their character and acquirements, without regard to the institutions from which they may have come; a position which I am glad to see The Mail is justly advocating.

Yours truly. EDGAR LEAVITT. April 19th, 1898.

#### THE JAPANESE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sin, I feel rather astonished at your criticism of the English version of the above, and more than astonished at your remark-"inasmuch as Prench translation had the advantage of being tevised by M. de Boissonade himself, the simplest plan for anyone proposing to make an English version would be to take the French as a basis."

Chizai-Hö (promulgated July, 1880) but not of

Chizai-Hō (promulgated July, 1880) but not of the Keiji-Soshō-Hō of 1890.
I cordially agree that the French versions of the Articles quoted by you are more explicit and ac-curate, if you are considering the text from a purely technical point of view, but it must not be forgotten that certain passages of the Japanese original itself are neither "explicit" nor "acand that some are even capable of being

translated in more than one sense.

If the examples you have furnished are fairly illustrative of the French translation, I respectmastrative of the French translation, I respect-fully venture to express the opinion that it is far too "explicit and accurate," as words occur which are not to be found in the original. M. de Boissonade's work is, no doubt, most therought and admisable in every respect as a piece of "explicit and accurate" French legal composition, but it evidently does not agree verbatims with the Japanese text which, especially in some places, appears to be the merestiskeleton of some-thing the writer ought to have stated in so many distinct words and not left to the vivid imagina-tion of readers to supply.

In short, I submit that M. de Boissonade's

French translation reads as the compilers of the Code withed the Law to read, while the English code wanta the Law to read, while the English version reproduces the meaning they actually succeed in conveying in the Japanese original, and, like the Japanese, it has been left without any of those touches which might be deemed necessary to add vertismithtude to an otherwise bald and uninteresting narrative.

Yours respectfully,
THE TRANSLATOR. Yokohama United Club, 20th April, 1808.

#### THE SALVATION ARMY.

The Salvation Army in Japan, a correspondent writer, has been just eninferced by the arrival of five Australian officers, three men and two women. They arrived at Yokohama on the Yamashiro Maru and arrived at Yokohama on the Yamashiro Maru and after an informal welcome at this port were taken to Tokyo, where a very successful meeting was field in the Y.M.C.A. hall at Kanda, lent to the Army for the occasion. One of the most interesting features of the meeting was the "transformation" of the officers. After the singing of an English song in their Western clothes they retired to antercome and shoutly afterwards reappeared in full Japanese costume, singing an Army song in the veroacular. The effect was much appreciated by the large audience,

veronentar. The effect was under the large audience,
The three male officers have received appointments in Tokyo. The two women officers will
the chief and residents of the times made officers may be received approxi-ments in Tukyo. The two women officers will take up the visitation of the ships and residents of Yokobama on behalf of the Army funds, Ensign Miss Hatcher, who has for some time carried on the work, having been appointed to the oversight of the Army work in the Okayama District,

#### THE STABBING AFFRAY IN BLOOD TOWN.

On Tuesday, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, before his Honour Judge Wilkinson and a Jury, David Logan was indicted for feloniously wounding John Jacobson with intent to do him bodily harm; and on a second count for unlawfully wounding.

Mr. Litchfield appeared to prosecute.

One of the Jiners summoned, Mr. William Gordon, was not present, and was fined \$50. The Jury was eventually sworn in as follows: Messass. F. H. Bull, C. H. Fearon, W. H. Gomez, W. K. Trenze, and H. Ivison.

Mr. Litchfield, in opening the case for the Crown, outlined the circumstances, and, commenting on the condition in which it was alleged prisoner was at the time of the struggle, said drink was a xxuse for crime, but it might be a factor in determining whather the analysis. determining whether the wound was inflicted with intent to do bodily harm. If they considered prisoner concealed the knife on his person with intent to wound Jacobson they would find him guilty on the first count; if not, and they were still satisfied that the assault had been committed, they

satisfied that the assault had been commuted, they would convict on the second count.

Thomas Hali Trippler, surgeon, said that on March 17th a wounded men was brought to his office. His name was John Jacobson. Witness examined him and found an incised wound over the left side of the foretread, from which the man had been the didner treatment that was also a wound on been bleeding freely; there was also a wound on the cheek, another on the scalp, another at the back of the neck, and another in the cavity of the abdomen. The wounds about the head and face were not dangerous; but that in the abdo-men was a very dangerous are meant that the Japanese system is a copy of the American it is untrue in several particulars.

T. In the first place, in Americanthe Educational Systems, as they may be called, are State systems and another to tailed from the French as a basis."

My garnest endeayour was to reproduce the back of the neck, and another in the cavity of Systems, as they may be called, are State systems only. There is no uniform National system as some here in Japan seem to suppose though

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Link of the Check, another on the scalp, another on the scalp, another in the cavity of the adomen. The wounds about the head and some here in Japan seem to suppose though

Link of the Check, another on the scalp, another on the scalp, another in the cavity of the adomen. The wounds about the head and some here in Japan seem to suppose though

Link of the Check, another on the scalp, another on the scalp, another in the cavity of the adomen. The wounds about the head and seem to suppose the same and a wound on the check, another on the scalp, another on the scalp, another in the cavity of the adomen. The wounds about the head and seem to suppose the same and a wound on the check, another on the scalp, and the check, another on the scalp, another on the scalp, another on the scalp, and the check, another on the scalp, another on the

abdomen and piercing to the extent of an inch and a half. It did not, however, injure any vital partion, though it must have been very near it. The wound might have been daused by such an instrument as the knife produced. He had measured the blade of the knife and the width of the cuts in Jacobson's clothing, and found they corresponded. Jacobson was under treatment at the hospital for nearly a fortnight.

By prisoner—Jacobson left the hospital before witness expected, as he wished to go to Hakodate. He was convalencent when he left.

Robert Jones, publican, landloid of the Sea-

He was convalencent when he left.

Robert Jones, publican, landlord of the Seaman's Club, said on March 17th, between six and eight p.m., he heard a disturbance outside his house. On going out he saw prisoner and Jacobson struggling together. He first saw Jacobson knock prisoner down. Prisoner got up again-but as he was "awful drunk" he was soon knocked down again. Jacobson was then going away when prisoner again called to him to fight, and held a knife up in his hand. Jacobson came back and closed on him, and as he closed a Japanese policemen jumped on prisoner's back.
Prisoner then brought down his hand with the knife in it. There was a policemen present all the time, but the crowd prevented his interfering; they merely wonted to see the "sport."

By prisoner Williams had can Jacobson since

By prisoner—Witness had seen Jacobson since the eight of the fight. He said he was anxious to get aboard his ship. Witness had not prosecuted in the case on the advice of anyhody.

William Williams, attendant at the Royal Naval Hospital, said he was with the last witness on March 17th, playing billiards. He saw the knife in prisoner's hand, and cried "Look out, he has a in prison He and last witness afterwards went in-

John Neary, deposed that he was talking with Jottl Neary, deposed that he was taking with Jacobson and a man named Pariett, when prisoner passed by Jacobson went away, and witness afterwards head a noise, and saw prisoner, who was very drunk, making a disturbance with a man named Pratt. Witness and Parcett interfered, named Pratt. Witness and Patrett interfered, but "could get no sense out of prisoner," as he was very drunk. They went away is little, but heard another distribute, and, going back, saw prisoner and Jacobson on the ground together. He could not say exactly what took place, but at the end of it he saw Jacobson wounded and bleeding. Witness did not see a kuife used. John Charles Parrett gave similar evidence. Neil Gordon Munto, surgeon and physician, said he examined Jacobson after his admission to the Hospital. He had three wounds, one on the forchead, one on the right temple, and another on the abdomen. The abdominal wound was deep, and of a decidedly serious nature. Five

another on the abdomen. The abdominal wound was deep, and of a decidedly serious nature. Five layers of clothes were penetrated by the knife before it reached the abdomen. The first night was a very anxious one, but no bad symptoms supervened, and the ercovery was unintercupted.

By prisoner: The only remark Jacobson made to witness concerning the affair while in hospital was that he did not wish to prosecute.

The evidence of several Japanese police witnesses was given through the interpretation of Mr. Chalmers.

Chalmers.

Mr. R. G. E. Forster, Acting Consul-General, deposed that he had communicated with the Swedish Consul as to the production of John Jacobson, and had received a reply. The Judge, however, decided that this could not

be put in.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Prisoner called Samuel Pratt, an American citizen keeping a boarding home at No. 97; but the witness gave negative answers to all his questions, and appeared to know nothing of the matter.

Avert Kerkchoff, a Hollander, usually known

as Anderson, was also called, but his evidence was not material,

Prisoner made a short statement to the effect that Jacobson was the original aggressor, and drew attention to the fact that he had already been sentenced to one month's imprisonment for drunkenness and six weeks for assault. He was unable to engage a solicitor through lack of means, and was thus handicaped in his defence.

means, and was thus handicaped in his defence.

The Judge, in summing up, remarked that the evidence was all one way; there was no doubt an assault was committed, and there was absolutely no evidence in any way to justify it. As counsel for the prosecution had very properly pointed out, however, they must consider prisoner's intoxicated condition at the time with reference to the question of intent. If they decided that he had no intention to wound facobout or that he was incarable of forming as intention. son or that he was incapable of forming an inten-tion at the time they would convict him on the

The Judge said he thoroughly concurred in the verdict. The Jury had taken a very merciful view of the case. Prisoner had cause to thank God that he was not being tried for his life; he had had a narrow escape, for the wound might easily have been falal, He (the Judge), taking into consideration the finding of the Jury, should sentence prisoner to eight months' hard labour, the sentence to commence from that day and to run concurrently with any sentences prisoner might be serving at present.

#### THE ARMAMENT RACE.

A summary of the British Navy Estimates for 1898-9 hows that the net total of the Estimates amounts in £23,778,000, an increase of £1,440,000 compared with the original and supplementary estimates of the current financial year. The increased number of officers, men, and boys proposed necessitates a further increase in nearly every vote connected with the personnel. The aggregate of those votes exceeds by £446,300 the provision made for the same services in 1897 98. The Works Vote does not differ materially from that of the last year. The Shipbuilding Vote shows an increase of £1,571,000 over the original estimates of 1897-98. But of this a sum of about £1,400,000 represents provision for expenditure, which, but for the prolonged labour difficulties, would have been met last year.

The total number of officers, seamen, boys, cosat-guard, and Royal Marines voted for the year 1897-98 was 100,050, an increase on the previous year of 6,300. The additional numbers entered were distributed, as always, over the whole year, each mouth showing an increase on its predecessor. On February 1st the figure stood at es of the current financial year. The increased

year, each motili showing an increase on its pre-decessor. On February 1st the figure stood at 98.652. It may be regarded as certain that the aggregate voted will be practically obtained by April 1st. The Estimates for the year 1898 99 include provision for a further increase of 6,340 officers, men, and boys. The sea-going training-ship Calliope has been commissioned as an additional tender to the Northampton for the direct entry of lads. One thousand and seventy-nine entry of lads. One thousand and seventy-nine lads were entered through these training-ships during the twelve months ended March 31st, 1897, and 808 more in the nine months ended Christmas, 1897. Steps have been taken to increase the mas, 1807. Steps have been taken to increase the scale of rations laid down for the lads trained in the sea-going training-ships. Experience has shown that the naval ration might with advantage be called in the case of lads taken at an age of rapid growth, and placed suddenly in an un-accustomed occupation, involving much physical exertion and exposure to weather. With the view of retaining as many settificers as possible after they have completed time for pension, an Order they have completed time for pension, an Order in Council has been obtained extending to engineroom and other arti-on mitigs the privilege of 6d, a day "extension pay," allowed in other cases to men who remain in the Service after completing

time for pension,
The total number of Royal Marine recruits The total number of Royal Marine recruits raised during the year was 2,665. The class of secrait taken was failly up to the average as to physical conditions, age, and statute, notwithstanding life additional numbers necessary to be raised. An increased scale of ration has been granted to the recruit while under training. An increase, both of bread and meat, has been made to their delicallongues.

to their daily allowance.

The Royal Naval Reserve of Officers is so popular, and the great Mercantile Marine companie-do so much to encourage their efficers to join it that at the present moment, when there is not a vacancy on the lists, there are at the Admiralty 154 applications for entry from eligible candidates. It is as yet premature to judge of the probable result of the changes announced last year with the view of putting a larger number of men through a six months' training in the Riest. The age was reduced from 19 to 18 years, as it was felt that the younger men would adapt themselves more easily to the different life on board a man-of-war; and for the same reason it was decided that young men should be allowed to emback direct for six months' training as soon as they had completed 28 days' drill, instead of first serving for two years in the Reserve, provided they were well reported upon. At the completion of their drill, and having passed the required examination, they might be relief. the required examination, they might be rated "qualified" seamen at the age of 20. The number for which it is considered that accommodation can advantageously be found on board ships at one time in 600. At the present time 543 are embarked.

eminared.
Work has been so seriously affected by the labour difficulties, that it is even now impossible to say how far the anticipated expenditure on this head will fall short, but it is estimated that it

contracts spreading over several years, the post-postenent of work for six or seven months throws for word the instalments to later dates, and the general effect is to delay the dates of completion general effect is to delay the dates of completion of many important ships by a period practically equivalent to the duration of the dispute. The Hustrious and Hannibal have been delayed considerably, but it is anticipated that they will be practically completed at the close of the financial year. The six battleships of the Canopus class have suffered most severely—the Ocean and Goliath more especially, and the launch of the latter has been delayed some months.

In the coming financial year it is proposed to commence:—

commence ;-

3 Battleships. 4 Armoured cruisers.

to Third class cruisers, 6 Sloops.

4 Twin-screw gunboats.
41 Torpedo Boat Destroyers.

I Royal yaclit.

A new and more powerful 6-inch quick firing gan than the present one has, after exhaustive trials, been adopted, and its manufacture for future ships is proceeding. For the first time since the introduction of quick firing gues it has been foured possible to produce a gun which, while able to fire with safety and rapidly, does not require the expensive and heavy brass cartridge case which has hitherto been thought indispensable. The adoption of this plan will cause a great saving in the cost and weight of ammunition, and of the space required to stow it. space required to stow it.

The various increases and decreases may be thus

summarised:-£225800 Non-Effective Services..... ... 38,200 £1,666,220 £225,800

> Net increase ........ £1,440,400

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS,

(BROM THE " JAPAN TIMBE") UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITTEE'S REPORT PASSED BY BIG MAJORITY.

MORE MEDIATION BY THE POWERS.

AMERICAN LINERS TO BE TURNED INTO CRUISERS.

DON CARLOS TO THE RESCUE.

London, April 14.

The Washington House of Representatives has passed the Committee's report by 322 against 19 votes. Voting in the Senate takes place to-morrow. War is now scarcely avoidable. It is reported that the Powers contemplate again mediating, this time on more definite lines. The United States Navy Department has decided to purchase the American liners St. Louis and St. Paul as auxiliary cruisers.

Don Carlos has issued a manifesto, in which he declares that if the Government will not take up America's glove, he will come to Spain himself.

NATIONAL SUBSCRIPTION TO INCREASE SPAIN'S FLEET.

SPANISH MINISTER AT WASHINGTON RECALLED.

CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS SANCTIONED BY PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

London, April 16.

The Spanish Government has opened a national subscription to increase the Fleet. to say how far the anticipated expenditure on this one million pesetas. The Spanish Caunt of unlawfully wounding only.

The Juny retired, and after five minutes' absence fred will fall short, but it is estimated that it returned with a verdict of "Guilty" on the count of unlawfully wounding by

Lipha Caunt of about £2,270,000, of which sum the caunt of unlawfully wounding by

Lipha Caunt of the anticipated expenditure on this one million pesetas. In a Spanish Caunt of the representative and the immediate recall of the case of the representative at Washington. Pre-UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT LIPHA CHAMPAIGN The Queen-Regent heads the list with

sident McKinley has sanctioned the resolutions of Congress.

SENATE RECOGNIZES THE CUBAN REPUBLIC.

ALL SOVEREIGNTY DISCLAIMED. MOBILISATION OF STATE TROOPS. ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN SPAIN.

London, April 18.
The Senate has adopted by 67 votes to 21 the Committee's resolution, with amendments recognizing a Republic in Cuba. The amendments further disclaim all intention of exercising sovereignty in Cuba, except in so far as to ensure pacification, and assert the determination thereafter to leave the Government to the inhabitants. A deadlock between the two Houses of Congress is probable. America has chartered four American Atlantic Liners. Eight regiments have been ordered up from New Orleans, seven from Mobile, and seven from Tamos. Spanish Cabinet has decided to convert the Spanish Transatlantic Company's steamers into warships. Anti-American demonstrations are being held throughout

THE TWO HOUSES AGREED. NO RECOGNITION CLAUSE. A THREE DAYS' GRACE TO SPAIN. PROPOSED NATIONAL WAR FORCE.

London, April 20. The Conference between the committees of the two Houses has agreed to the Senate's resolution omitting the clause recognizing the Cuban Republic. President McKinley will not sign the resolution before to-morrow to await the completion of the ultimatum wherein he favours giving Spain three days to comply, and also with the view of securing the completion of the arrangements for striking a decisive blow. A bill has been introduced into the Senate creating a national war force by calling upon all able-bodied men between 18 and 45 for three years' service.

RESOLUTIONS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT.

SPANISH MINISTER LEAVES. ULTIMATUM DELIVERED. SPAIN BROUGHT TO BAY. UPHOLDS HER RIGHTS OVER CUBA. PRIVATEERING TO BE NO PART OF THE WAR.

London, April 21.
President McKinley has signed the resolutions of Congress. The Spanish Minister has demanded his passports. An ultimatum has been delivered at Madrid, compliance being required by Saturday, the American Minister meanwhile remaining in Madrid. The Spanish Cortes have been opened. The speech from the Throne upholds Spain's rights over Cuba. It is officially announced that America will not resort to privateering.

THE FRENCH LEASE OF KWANG-CHANWAN.

London, April 19. The report of the lease of Kwangchanwan to France is confirmed.

#### CONGRESS IN CONFLICT ON THE SPANISH RESOLUTIONS.

The Washington House of Representatives has amended the Senate's resolutions, eliminating the clause referring to the recognition of the Cuban Republic. Senate refused to accept the amendment, whereupon the House requested a conference, to which the select agree

(SPECIAL TO THE " JAPAN MAIL.") P. AND O. STEAMER QUARANTINED.

Nagasaki, April 21st, 1898. The P. and O. mail steamer Rohilla arrived this morning with one Chinese fireman suffering from plague. He was landed and sent to the isolation hospital; the vessel will be disin-fected to-morrow, and will be detained in quarantine one week. Mails disinfected and forwarded to-day.

#### (FROM JAPANERS PAPERS.)

#### FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

Twatutia (Formosa), April 15. Mr. Sakurai, Governor of Teckcham prefecture, has been ordered to proceed to Tokyo, it is believed on business concerning the organization of his office.

#### GREAT FIRE AT TOYAMA.

Toyama, April 15. To-day at 5 p.m., fire broke out in Johata street, Higashi-tonami-gori, and burned down several hundred houses.

#### COUNT ITAGAKI ON THE STUMP.

Moriote, April 16th.

Count Itagaki and his followers arrived here last night; they will attend a meeting at the Tobaku tai kwai today, and deliver political speaches at the Jujisawaze theatre.

SAPPORO HARBOUR IMPROVEMENT.

Sapporo, April 16,

A meeting to investigate matters in connection with the harbour construction at Sapporo has been called and a committee appointed.

#### FIRE AT KANAZAWA.

Kanazawa, April 16. Yesterday at 3 p.m. fire broke out in Enami street and burned down a post office and 90 houses.

#### THE OSAKA LIBERALS.

Osaka, April 16.

The members of the Osaka branch of the Liberal party will hold a meeting on the 24th inst. at the Osaka Hotel to discuss important questions of the day. At the same time they will appoint representatives to attend the Tokyo general meeting which will be held shortly,

PRINCE HENRY AT SHANGHAL

Shanghai, April 16.

Prince Henry strived here to-day by the cruiser Gefion.

FIRE AT RAGOSHIMA.

Kagoshima, April 16. Last night at 9 o'clock fire broke out at Seisan-machi and destroyed a number of houses.

THE KOREAN CABINET.

Soul, April 19. To-day Bin-yei-ki was appointed Minister for the Army.

BANKERS' CONFERENCE.

Osaka, Ap

Osaka, April 19.

A conference of the Western Bankers was held on the 17th inst, at the Osaka Hotel, There were 224 representatives of 182 banks present. Mr. Matsumoto took the chair and those present discussed some important questions and afterwards dined together.

## CASUALTY TO A N. V K. STEAMER.

Hakodate, April 16.
The N.Y.K.'s steamer Soya Maru, 1.725 tons register, yesterday ran on a submerged rock on the coast of Benten island, while making for this port. It is said that she is seriously damaged and that twenty thousand piculs of rice in her holds is water damaged. The cause of the accident is reported to have been a heavy fog, during which her position was mistaken.

### EARTHQUAKE.

Gifa, April 19. At 7.30 this morning a sharp carridonke shock accurred here.

#### **CHOLERA**

Gifu, April 19. Several cases of cholera have appeared here. KIWA RAILWAY.

Osaka, April 19. American Company of the railway between wingon many of the railway between wingon many of the life of the backets

Wakayama and Iwade, 8 miles, has been finished, and on the 17th inst. Mr. Nishi, an engineer of the Railway Bureau, examined the line, which will be opened from the 25th inst.

BRITISH NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Nagasaki, April 19. The British fleet, which has been anchored at Chefoo, has divided into two squadrons, one of which has proceeded to a certain place of the north, and the other for the South. It is said that they will return to Chefoo again on the 14th May and then the united fleet will proceed to Wei-hai-wei.

#### PREPARING FOR ACTION.

Hougkong, April 20. The vessels of the U.S. squadron here have been re-painted a sea-grey, semi-invisible colour. KOREAN CABINET.

Soul, April 19.

Mr. Tei-raku-yo, Miniater of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries, has sent in his resignation, which has been accepted.

A JUDGE CHARGED WITH CORRUP-

Niigata, April 20. Mr. Takahashi, a Judge of the Preliminary Court, was arrested last night on a charge of

having accepted a bribe, and has been sent up for trial.

#### RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Tsu, Ise, April 20.
On the 19th inst. at 6 p.m., a train on the Sangu Railway was derailed near Suji-muko station and one of the second-class cars was overturned. Eleven passengers were injured, but fortunately no one was killed.

#### FIRE AT A TELEPHONE OFFICE. Fukuoka, April 19.

This morning fire broke out in the carpenters' workshop at the Telephone office, but was extinguished before the main buildings were destroyed.

#### FIRE AT AWOMORI.

Awomori, April 20.
This morning at 3 o'clock fire broke out in the village of Kabu-mura, in Shimo kita-gori, and destroyed 48 houses, including the Post Office.

#### THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

Fukui, April ar.

Lust night Mesars Shiga, Takata, Kudo, and some others held a conference with the leading local Progressionists. This morning they left here for their respective destinations, THE "RURIK,"

Nagasaki, April 21. This morning at 9 o'clock the Russian cruiser Rurik left here for Jinsen, Korea.

JAPANESE NAVAL MOVEMENTS. Yokosuka, April 21.

The war vessel /waki left here yesterday for Tateyama, in Awa province, en route for Hok-kaido. The Musashi will also leave here for Hokkaido on the 28th instant.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

4 - 4 - 7.0	A 4 4 2 0 E 0		
Fram	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. le O Co.	Robilla z	Tu. Apr. só
Hengkong	O, & O, Co.	D ric o	P. Apr. 48
America	P. M. Co.	Pein 3	Su. May I
Синада, бес	C. F. R. Co	Em. of Japan	Su. May t
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	-	W. May 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of 1 din	Th. May 5
Pongkong	P. M. Co.	China	■ May 9
Кигире	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzolfern	W. May Pr
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sh. May so

- 4 Onerantined at Neereakl on the east inst.
- s Left Honekong on the 19th inst-3 Left San Francisco on the 18th inst.

	THE	NEXT M	AH, LBAVE	is .
	For	Line	Steamer,	Unte,
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	Canada, 🗞 🛠 🚓 👸	ad frauto.	Em. of India	P. May
	ATED CTTV	P. M	China	W. May x
1	MEDCITY 7	JT "11"   V	IGNIC AT	- 44

#### CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Causa Entron. The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

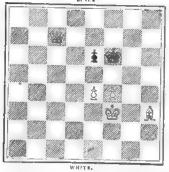
Ciab).		
SOLUTION OF P.	повьям No. 364.	
1-B to Kt 2	BLACK.	
	1—K takes Kt	
2-Q to B 4 ch	2-K to B 4	
3—Q lo Q Kt 4 mate	·	
	il 2K to Q 6	
3-B to B sq mate	~	
	1-Kt to B 5	
2-Q to B 5 ch	2-K takes Kt	
3-Q to Q 5 mate		
2 5 5 3	. 17	
- O - 1 - II-	t-Kt to Q4	
2-Q takes Kt	2—Any	
3—B to B sq mate		
	t-P to Kt 6	
2-Q tn B 3 ch	2-K takes Kt	4
3-Q to Q B 3 mate	2-IF INKES IN	
2 2 10 6 0 2 111118		[B 5
	ı—P takes P	
2-Kt takes P (B 6)	2—Any	
3-Q to B sq mate	-	
	I-P to R 4	
2-Kt to Kt 5	2-Any	
3-Q to B sq mate	2—A-119	
3—\$ to p ad mate		
	1-Kt to B 7	
2-Ki lakes Ki	2—Auy	
3-Q to ■ sq mate	,	
	t-Ki to Ki 6	
2-Ki to K 6		
- At 10 K ()	2-K to B 5	- 1

3-Kt to B 4 mate Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Shak, D.D. and Marco.

if 2-Kt to Q 5

3-Q to B sq male

#### PROBLEM No. 367. By J. CRUM. Br 100



White to play and mate in three moves.

THE UNITED STATES CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH. GAME No. 380.
When the last mail left the score stood thus:

Pillsbury, 3; Showalter, 1; draws, 2.

ST GAMB.  1 Defense,  WHITE. BLACK Black—Showalter, 32 R K43 K R3 33 P R4 P K45 34 R PxP PxP 35 PxP(g) BK14 36 K4 B R R8
WHITE. BLACK Black—Showalter, Showalter, St. 13 K R3 33 P R4 P K15 34 R PxP PxP PxP PxP(g) B—K14 35 PxP(g) B—K14 36 ICC B3 R R8
Black—Showalter,  32 R K13 K R3  33 P R4 P K15  34 R PxP PxP  35 PxP(g) B—K14  36 Kt B3 R R8
32 R K13 K R3 33 P R4 P K15 34 R P*P P*P 35 P*P(R) B-K14 36 Kt B3 R R8
33 P R4 P Ki5 34 R PxP PxP 35 PxP(R) B→Ki4 36 Kt B3 R R8
34 R PxP PxP 35 PxP(x) B-K14 36 Kt B3 R R8
35 PxP(g) B-K14 36 Kt B3 R R8
36 Kt B3 R R8
37 KixB RxKi
38 R K R3 R K B8
39 K K3(h) R K8 ch
40 K B3 R K5
41 P B3 R Ki sq
42 P Kt5 R KB sq
43 P K 6 R(K5)xPch
44 K K2 III QKt+q
45 K Q3 R K1 2
46 R R2 P K14
47 PxP KxP
LOBOR - DD.
48 RQKI sq PR5
49 R KK12 ch K B4
50 R K •q(i)RxP
51 R K 8 R K86 ch
52 K Q4 R B3
53 R KB8 ch M K15
54 R KKt sqch R K 6
55 R K 8 ch K B6
56 K Q3 K B7 ch
57 R(Risg)xR PxR
58 R B8 ch K K18
59 R B6 P K17
6. K K2 RxP
61 RxP K R7(k)
62 Resigns,
itized by ( TO()

#### Notes by Emil Kemeny in the Ledger Philadelphia,

(a) Had Black played B takes P, or Kt takes B P, then P to Q Kt 4 and eventually P to Q Kt 5 would have tollowed, somewhat compromising the Queen's wing. The textmove prevents this.

BP, then P to Q Kt 4 and eventually P to Q Kt 5 would have toflowed, somewhat compromising the Queen's wing. The textmove prevents this.

(b) He might have delayed this move and played Kt to R 4 or Kt to Q Kt 5 first, so as to avoid the doubling of the Q B P. However, White will obtain a King's side attack.

(c) A powerful move, which threatens Kt takes R P, followed by R takes P ch and R takes B, with a winning game. Black is obliged to weaken his King's side by moving P to K Kt 3.

(d) More promising was P to Q B 4, followed by Kt to K 4 should Black capture the Pawn. White then threatens R takes P ch, as well as K to B 6 ch m Kt to Q 6 and Kt takes Kt P.

(e) Inferior play, which endangers the game, White should have moved Kt to Q 4. Black then had no other reply but R to B sq. for if R to B 2, White continues P to B 5, followed eventually by P to K 6.

(i) P to B 5 could not be played now, for 6, P taxt P would be the reply; if then P to K K Black plays B take P.

(g) Which evables Black to continue B to Ki 4, obtaining the superior game. White should have played R taxt P or R to Q 4, both resulting

4. obtaining the superior game. White should have played R taxt P or R to Q 4, both resulting in an even game.

(h) Better perhaps was R (Kt 3) to K B 3, giving up the Q Kt P, Black then would have the preferable position, yet he had hardly any winning chances.

(i) The text move in connection with R to Kt 8 gives Whire a chance to bring both Rooks in action, which, however, does not prove satisfactory, as Black's correct continuation shows.

(k) After this move White surrenders. He cannot stop the K Kt P.

#### GAME No 381. SECOND GAME.

## RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE, BLACK, Showalter, Pillsburg, I P K4 P K4 2 K KB3 K; QB3 3 B K; 5 K; B3 4 Castles Krap 6 B K; 6; A B K 2 7 B x B(b) Q x B 8 P x P(c) K x B 9 P Q R 4 P Q 3 to P x K; Krap 11 K; Q4(d) Castles 12 K; QB3(e) P QB3 13 P x P x p 14 R K x q(f) Q B2	WHITE. BLACK.  Showalter. Pilisburg.  18 Rx Ki P Q 3  20 Q R5 P K 83  21 K KB-q O B3(k)  22 R(R4)B4 H Q 2  23 Kt K13 Q K 6-q  24 K 85 B B q  25 P B3 R K2  26 P R4(*) KR Ksq  27 R(B-q)B2R K6  28 K R2 R(K-q)K4  29 K K13 Q Q3(k)  30 K K 6-q K K8ch  31 R B-q B R R3
13 PxP PxP	29 Kt Kt3 Q Q3(k) 30 K Kteq R K8ch 31 R B-q B R3 32 RxR RxRch 33 Resigns.

#### FOTES.

(a) The usual condition is: 6-B takes Kt. Q P takes B; 7-P takes P, Rt-B 4;8-Q takes Q ch, K takes Q, leading to a pretty even game. The move selected was played by Pullsbury against Lasker in the sixth round of the St. Petersburg

tom ney,
(b) Pillshury's continuation in his game (b) Pillsbury's continuation in his game with Lasker was: 7-B takes K; B takes B; 8-P takes P, Q P takes B; 9-Kt takes B, Q takes Kt; to-P takes Kt; P takes P; II-R to K sq cli, B to K 3; 12-Q takes P, R to Q ·q; Q to R 3, and the game terminated in a draw. The text-play would prove satisfactory if followed up by B takes Kt and P takes P.

(c) The salest play for White was (8) B takes B, followed by P takes P, leading to an even game.

(d) Better perhaps was Kt takes Kt. White

B, followed by P lakes P, leading to an even game.

(d) Better perhaps was Kt takes Kt. White, however, could not regain his Pawn.

(e) White might have played P to Kt 6, followed eventually by Kt to Kt 5, which would have given him some chances of escape.

(f) White could not play P to B 4 followed by Kt takes P on account of Kt to Kt 5 and Q to K 6 ch winning the exchange.

(g) Which prevents White from P to B 1. This practically ends the attack.

(i) White, it seems, pays but hitle attention to

(f) White could not play Plo B 4 followed by Kt takes Pon account of Kt to Kt 5 and Q to K6 ch whoning the exchange.

(g) Which prevents White from P to B 1. This practically ends the attack.

(i) White, it seems, pays but little attention to Black's doubling of Rooks on the King's file. He should have played Q to R 4.

(k) The whoning move.

The International Cable Match.

Great Britain wins the match.

The third match between the United States and Great Britain was played on March 18th and 19th, the American team playing in the Academy of Music, Booklyn, the Britishers making their five in the Hotel Cecil, London. The match and Chamber of Lindon Cham

was finished on Saturday evening. The Bitish team won by the odd game, this hence their second victory, the score being the same as last year. A gallant uphili fight was made by the Americaus, but the advantage gained by their opnoments was too great to be overcome, and when, at 6 30 o'club, to the evening, the Britishers offered to draw the two infinished games, the Americaus accepted. As the former then had a lead of one game, this gave the match to them. Pillsbury and Baird were the last to finish, as both had been striving hard to win drawn games. The result of the match was:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	UNITED STATES. Pillsbury Showaltes Barry Hymes Hodges Delmar Baind Young Robinson Galbreath	0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	GREAT BRITAIN. Blackbinere. Burn Caro. Alkins. Bellingham. Mills Leock. Jackson Jacobs Trenchaed	0 0 1 1
	Total	41	Total	_

## LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Aküsushima Kan (19), Japanese cruiser, 3,150, Capt. Y. Inonye, 16th April,—Yukusuka. Riofun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, A. B. Muses, 16th April,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaidla, Vashima Kan (38), Japanese Battleship, 12,517, Capt. S. Arima, 17th April,—Yokosuka, 17th April,—

April.

Hashidate Kan (30), Januarese Coast Defence Vessel, 4,278, Capt. S. Urin, 17th April,—Yokosuka, 17th April.

Naniwa Kan (14), Japanese cruiser, 3,709, Capt.

Indus, French steamer, Vaquier, 19th April,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe 18th April, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3 128, J. T. Smith, 19th April,—Hongkong via ports, 9th April, Math and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Takachiho Kan (14), Japanese cruiser, 3,709, Capt. R. Panaku, 19th April,—Yokosuka, 19th April,—Yokosuka, 19th April.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, Frantton, 19th April,—Hangkong, 11th April, Rice,—Butter-

April - Hang field & Swice.

April,—Hangkong, 11th April, Rice,—Butterfield & Swire.

Saiyen Kan (11), Japanese cruiser, 2,560, Capt.
M. Togo, 19th April,—Yokosuka.

Thekla, German steamer, 2,363, Madson, 19th
April,—Hamburg via ports, Hongkong 12th
April,—Simon Evers & Co.

Fuji Kan (38), Japanese Battleship, 12,649, Capt.
S. Sukano, 20th April,—Yokosuka.

Wuotan, German steamer, 1,201, Jacobsen, 20th
April,—Hongkong, Rice.—Chinese.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Truebridge,
20th April,—Vectoria, B.C. and Tacoma,
Wash., 2nd April, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlil & Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 20th
April,—San Francisco, 2nd April, and Honolulu, 9 h April, Mails and General.—O. & O.
S.S. Co.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, M. H. T. Jackson.

Antenor, British steamer, 3.327, M. H. T. Jackson, 20th April.—Liverpool via ports, Robe 19 h. April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

April, General.—Butterneld & Swite.

Bengloe, Brit'sh steamer, 1.933. A. W. S. Thomson, 21st April, —London was port, Kobe 19th April, General.—Cornes & Co.

Lok Sang, British steamer, 979, W. G. G. Leask, 21st April, —Hongkong, 14th April, Rice.—Jatadine, Matheson & Co.

Teleste Austrian steamer, 2250. Milis, 225d April

Trieste, Austrian steamer, 2,350, Mitis, 23rd Apr.,
Trieste via ports. Hangkung, 18th April,
Ganeral,—Browne & Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, B. B. Bishop, 19th April,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. E. O. S.N. Co. Aktisushima Kap. (19), Japanese cruiser 3,150, Capt. Y. Inonye, 19th April,—Shithidzu. Garnet Hill, British ship, 2,186, R. Robinson, 20th April,—Kobe, Pig Iron.—Captain.

Manita, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 20th April,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Andalusia, German steamer, 3,499, Schrötter, 20th April,—London, Hamburg and Antwerp via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 20th April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Chy of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 20th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co. Fuli Kan (38), Japanese Battleship, 12,649, Capt. S. Shikano, 21st April,—Kure
Vashima Kan (38), Japanese Battleship 12,517, Capt, S. Arima, 31st April,—Kure.

Matsushima Kan, (28) Japanese Coast Defence Vessel, 4,278, Capt. K. Yendo, 21st April,—Kure
Hashidate Kan (30), Japanese Coast Defence

Hashidate Kan (30), Japanese Coast Defence Vessel, 4.278, Capt. S. Utin, 21st April,—Kine. Naniwa Kan (14), Japanese cruiser, 3,709, Capt. ——, 21st April,—Kine.

— 21st April,—Kore.

Takachiho Kan (14), Japanese cruiser, 3,709,
Capt. R. Funaki, 21st April,—Kure.

Salyen Kan (11), Japanese miniser, 2,560, Capt.
M. Togo, 21st April,—Shinagawa.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 22nd
April—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General,
—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Tinebridge,
22nd April,—Hongkong via vorts, Mails and
General,—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oolong, British steamer, 2,308, Evans, 22nd April,
—Rangoon via Singapore, Ballast—W. M.
Strachan & Co.

Energia, British steamer, 2,064, Beard, 23rd Apr.,
—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.
—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per American steamer City of Peking, from Hongkong and ports:—Mr. L. L. Laughlin, Mr. W. A. Morling, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cowen, Miss Humphreys, Capt. W. H. Crawford, Mr. J. Takaba, Mr. and Mrs. Von Ortzen, Mr. Henry Landing, Mrs. Layton, Mr. G. Melatosh, Mr. and Mrs. Von Gottberg, Mr. A. J. Buckley, Miss Leighton, Lient, and Mrs. Paine, Miss E. Allen, and Mr. A. R. Morris in cabin, For San Francisco:—Mrs. G. Melatosh, Miss Melatosh, Mrs. J. A. Hayes, Master L. Hayes, A. G. Center, G. L. Prior, Master A. Hayes, Master E. Hayes, Mrs. J. L. Von Schoicht, Mrs. J. L. Von Schoicht, and Miss Von Schoicht in cabin. in cabin.

Per Fiench steamer Indus, from Marseilles via potts:—Mr. Ostman Edwards, Mr. R. Q. C. Tilliuskam, Pere Vesser, Sisters Cotton and 8 others, Pere Poullier, Mr. and Mrs. Flandin and walet, Mr. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Pessis, Mr. Stiven, Mr. Lein and dangater, Mr. Bander, Mr. H. O. Menller, Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Logmand, Mrs. Lugmand, Mr. Covere, Mr. Lettsay, Mr. Fourenier, Mr. Deveson, Mr. and Mrs. Ludoiph, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Henry Horwitz, Mr. Banner, Mr. Mr. C. A. de Fairongalland, Mr. Kuz and hoy, Mrs. Tarbrother, Mr. Brokelbank, Mr. Larrieu, Mr. Avahina, and Sun Beck Chan, in cabin. Per Bitish steamer Vistoria, from Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.:—Mrs. Lucy Bull, Mr. H. G. Metz, Mr. E. T. Smith, Mr. W. B. Sæwell, Mr. J. S. Burnett, and Dr. G. W. Matthews, in cabin one Japanese in steerage, For Stranghair—Mrs. Passons and infact, Mrs. Emis, Mr. J. N. Hatch, Mr. J. H. Hiscock, Mr. Chas. Schlee, Mr. W. F. Hall, and Mr. A. C. Christensen, in cabin. For Hongkong:—24 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer Belgic, from San Francisco: Mr. C. Davis Mr. R. Parker Mrs. Mr. R. C. Pares Mr. Mr. R. Parker Mrs. Parker Mrs. C. Pares Mrs. R. Parker Mrs. Pares Mrs. Mr. C. Pares Mrs. R. Parker Mrs. Pares Mrs. Mrs. C. Pares Mrs. Pares Mrs. Pares Mrs. Mrs. Pares Mrs. Per French steamer Indus, from Marseilles via

Hongkong:—24 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer Belgic, from San Francisco:
—Mr. A. C. B. yer, Mr. Mark Biggallay, Mr. S.
T. Nishimma, Mr. Russell Bleeker, Mr. J. Patter
Bon, Mr. Win. A. Wilson, Mrs. May B. Waltions, Mr. C. Tsinutani, Mr. O is A. Poole, Mr.
K. S. Walbank, Mr. A. McLeay, Mr. I. Bostwick, Mr. A. Thomas, Mr. E. R. Smith, and
Mr. O. H. P. Nuyes, in cabin. For Kabe:—Mr.
J. N. Boye, Mr. F. H. Loring, Mrs. F. H.
Loring, Mr. and Mrs. M. I. F. da Cunha and S
children, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. E.
Quackenfush, Mr. C. Bendersen, Mr. R. S. Freeman, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr. Alex Campbell, Mr.
J. Samson, and Mrs. J. Samson, in cabin. Fur
Hougking:—Mr. M. Lanadrid, Mr. A. Lamadeid, Mrs. J. M. Hewitt, Mr. W. A. Yunig, Mrs.
Digitized by

W. A. Young, and Mr. George A. Young, in cabin. For Nagasaki, from Honolulu:-Mrs. Clark, Miss Officer, and Mr. Stewart Clark, in

Per Japanese steamer Nagato Maru, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. H. H. Eliel, Mr. T. Yoshida, Mr. E. S. Patton, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. J. S. Clark, and Mrs. Olthonye, in cabin, Mr. S. Yasui, Mr. T. Matsumura, and Mr. and Mrs. Artias, in second class; 17 Japanese, I Chinese and Furonese, in testage. nese, and I European, in steerage.

Per British steamer Rosetta, for Hongkong and ports:—M. K. Tarapur wala, Mr. F. K. Tarapur wala, Mr. J. J. Duon, Mrs. R. M. Smith, child & amah, Mrs. Huchtson, child, infant, and European nurse, Mr. J. B. Gomez, Mr. F. H. Olmsted, Mr. Kwong Man Tai, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. F. J. Collins, Mr. F. Coilins, and Mr. and Mrs. Chan Kon Tung and infant, in cabin; 2 Chinese, in steerage. steerage.

Kon Ting and infant, in cabin; 2 Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer City of Peking, Ioi San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mis. A. Baruch, Mr. G. von Beigen, Mr. Edward A. Brown, Mr. I. McD. Carrington, Mr. A. G. Center, Col. M. Churchill, Mis. Coburn, Mr. and Mis. C. G. Gozine, Mr. C. E. Cushing, Mr. A. Dittmar, Mr. A. Fabbri, Rev. J. M. Foster, Mis. I. N. Hays, Master L. Haye, Master E. Hayes, Master E. Hayes, Master A. Hayes, Miss G. Hayes, Lient. S. Hirabe, Lient. H. Hirao, Mis. E. Huschberg, Mr. and Mis. H. S. Holcomb, Lient. K. Inouchi, Mi. McIntosh and child, Mr. F. Kallemberg, Lient. R. Kamao, Captain N. Kashiwabara, Mr. K. Kushashi, Mr. T. J. Nakigawa, Miss C. Noack, Lient. M. Okunomiya, Conat and Countess Ponitski, Miss M. C. Pratt, Mr. G. L. Print, Captain K. Sakurai, Mr. T. R. von Schoeller, D. and Mrs. Schoick, Col. and Mrs. Temple, Lient. M. Tsuchiya, and Lient. J. Ushida.

Pet British steamer Belgic, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Smith, Mt. J. M. Sorzans, Jr., Mt. C. Latindade, Mt. Geo. Coutts, Mt. Schlee, Miss Coutts, Mt. Schlee, Miss Coutts, Mt. R. Ross Thomson, Mt. P. E. Buston, Mr. and Mis. R. Ross Thomson, Mt. P. E. Buston, M. N. F. Smith, Mc. A. C. Byer, Mt. J. W. Copmaon, Mr. and Mis. B. H. Horsey, Mt. and Mis. W. A. Young, Miss J. M. Hewitt, Mr. H. McArthur, Mr. Rr. S. Davidson, Mr. Alf, Shruhsole, Mr. Turpin, Mc. R. Shelling, and Mt. A. Lambert, in cabin.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

Business in yarns, woollens and cotton piece goods continues stagnant in the extreme, and quo-tations are merely nominal.

#### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Gray Shirtings-Bilb, 384 yds. 59 inches	\$2 55	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings-oth, 324 yds. 45 inches	2.80	to 3.35
I', Cloth 7 th, 24 yards, 32 inches		lu 2.00
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, prinches.		10 2 00
Prints-Asserted, 24 yards, 30 inches.	2 00	10 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Black,		YARDA
32 inches		to 0.15
WOOLIENS		

Planne's		****** ***** **	\$0.30	Lo.	0.50
- Italian Cloth, 3n y	auds, ga	inches best	0.35	£49	0.48
Stalian Coth, 30			- 0.3		
Medium			0.30	Lo	0.12
Dalena Cloth, 3	o yarda,	12 inches	17		
Сыштон ,			0 25	Fir i	0.274

Mousseline de Enine—Crope, 2 par-le,
31 inches a.15 to a.22
Cloths-Pilota, 51 of 56 inches 0.35 to 0.50
Clotha-Pranidents, 51 10 56 inchas 0.00 to 0.75
Clutha-Duinn, 54 up 56 inches 0.30 to 0.85
Binniceta-Sential aud Groen, 3 to 3h.
ret &
pun risca.
Velvels-Black, 35 yards, sainches 7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawen, 22 yards, 12-3 inches, 0.75 to 1.00
FindreyReils-z.o to 2.4th, 24/25 yards,
30 inches
Tuckey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/25 yards,
30 inches 1 75 to 8,10
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4h, 24/15 yards,
32 inches 2.40 to 2.70
32 inches
32 inches 3 00 to 3.50
COLEUN YARUS. CON COUR.
Nos. 16 24, Singles
Nos. 18/32, Singles
Nos. 18/42. Singles
Nos. 38/42, Singles
Nos. 32, Doubles 45.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles
Nos. 32, Doubles
Nos. 32, Doubles       45.00 to 48.00         Nos. 42, Doubles       51.75 to 54.50         Nos. 1/60, Plain       61.00 to 61.00         Nos. 2/80, Plain       75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 32, Doubles     46.00 to 48.00       Nos. 42, Doubles     51.75 to 54.50       Nos. 1,60, Plain     61.00 to 61.00       Nos. 2,80, Plain     75.00 to 77.00       Nos. 2,100, Plain     90,00 to 100.00
Nos. 32, Doubles     46.00 to 48.00       Nos. 42, Doubles     51.75 to 34.50       Nos. 150, Plain     61.00 to 61.00       Nos. 280, Plain     75.00 to 77.00       Nos. 2/100, Plain     90.00 to 100.00       Nos. 2/100, Gassed     73.00 to 79.00
Nos. 32, Doubles     46.00 to 48.00       Nos. 42, Doubles     51.75 to 54.50       Nos. 12, 50, Plain     51.00 to 61.00       Nos. 2780, Plain     75.00 to 77.00       Nos. 27100, Plain     90.00 to 100.00       Nos. 2760, Gassed     72.00 to 79.00       Nos. 280, Gassed     80.00 to 95.00
Nos. 32, Doubles     46.00 to 48.00       Nos. 42, Doubles     51.75 to 34.50       Nos. 150, Plain     61.00 to 61.00       Nos. 280, Plain     75.00 to 77.00       Nos. 2/100, Plain     90.00 to 100.00       Nos. 2/100, Gassed     73.00 to 79.00
Nos. 32, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00 Nos. 42, Doubles 51.75 to 54.50 Nos. 150, Plain 61.00 to 61.00 Nos. 2/80, Plain 75.00 to 77.00 Nos. 2/100, Plain 90.00 to 100.00 Nos. 2/100, Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Nos. 2/80, Gassed 89.00 to 95.00 Nos. 2/100, Gassed 122.00 to 124.00
Nos. 32, Doubles
Nos. 32, Doubles
Nos. 32, Doubles

#### ARELAES.

Nothing new whatever doing, and a number of orders cemain not taken up. Quotations are will

	ik i	HEREIG.
Round and aquace & inch. and upward.3.95	to	4.20
fron Plates, assorted 4.20	lo.	4.50
Sheet Iron	to	5.30
Galvanized from sheets 8.30	to	10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	to	6.10
Fin Plates, per box	to	6.00
Pig 1con, Un. 3	to	3 10
Hoop Iran (1 to 14 inch)	to	5.45

#### KEROSERIE.

Very little business has been transacted and Very little Disiners has been transacted and prices are hardening all round in view of war. It is reported that holders, both of American and Russian oil, are very firm, in view of a possible stoppage of supplies from America. Quotations may be considered to be on the average 5 to 10 cents, higher than in our list.

American	12 00 to	1.07
Russian	1.95 to	2.05
Langkat	<b>—</b> .	1,85

#### SUGAR.

A fair business has been done in Brown, principally Formosa, at well maintained prices, which are likely to increase owing to the imminence of war and the possible suspension of import from

		PAR PICEL
Brown	fakas	\$4.10 to 1.20
lår reven	Manila	4.75 to \$ 50
Brown	Daitong	3.85 to 3 90
HIGHIN	Сангона, учения политический	3.70 to 4.65
White	Java and Penang	0.50 10 7.60
White	Refined	7.35 14 g.00

#### EXPORTS.

### RAW SH.K.

Business transacted during the week amounts to Soy boxes sold, at some concession in prices, white stocks had risen to 11,204 boxes on the 22nd instant. Shipments comprise 113 hales per City of Peking and 80 bales per Columbia, for America.



# GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS, &c. GEO. COURTICE'S CONCENTRATED EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly fested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century.

R is NOT A DYE, but the redoming principle of the Nut Gall in a concentrated term, perfectly harmless, and will positively restore the colour line is a lature in two notice.

NOTE—Thirds more: Professor of Hart Species to be Howevelch R website of the Linear Temple.

## GEO. COURTICE & CO.,

Laboratory, 8, Bishop's Court, Chancery Lane,

CLIC 234, STRAND.

PRICES: 26, 6d., 5s., 6d., 5s., 10s. 6d. 10 PO BOTTLE

This EXTRACT is INVALUABLE to LADIES, as it restores the Colour close to the Skin.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### QUOTATIONS.

- Eifatures - Kalia g'it, en/12 den	Nominal
Eilaturea - Extra 13/15, 14/16 den	930 to 040
	920 to 910
	880 to Ego
Filatures-No. 11, 10/14 deniers	goo to gra
	850 to 860
	Bso to Báo
	820 to 830
	8go to goo
Re-reals-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	8ao to 830
	Soo to Bro
	780 to 760
Respects-No. 3, 14/20 deniers	
	840 to 850
Knkedan-No. 1 :	820 to 830
Knkedas - No. 14	790 to 800
Kakedes-No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas-No. at	www.

#### WASTE SH.K.

Sales reported amount to 233 boxes and stock is estimated at 6,773 boxes. Quotations are nominal.

#### QUOTATIONS.

<del>-</del>		
Noshi-Filature, Best	tras to	120
Noshi-Filature, Good	105 to	110
Nonhi-Oshu, Best	110 to	115
Noshi-Oshu, Good	Foo to	103
Noshi-Oshu, Medina	go to	05
Noshi-Shinshu, Best	70 to	75
Noshi-Shinsku, Good	65 to	674
Noshi-Bushu, Best	115 to	420
Noshi-Bushu, Gond	100 to	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to	
Noshi-Joshu, Good	đo to	65
Noshi-Joshu, Fair	55 to	571
Kibino-Filatore, Hogt	95 to	100
Kihiso-Fileture, Seconds	85 to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso-Mushu, Fair	20 to	924

#### TEA.

There have been no sales of last season's teas during the week, and stocks remain at 77,800 lbs. A few catties of new leaf have been received both here and at Kobe and some of these were sent away by the Chy of Peking. Prices promise to be considerably higher than in average seasons.

#### QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal,
Choice	('à 8 ±
Fine	Nomi-
Good Medium	\$17 10 28
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	
Common	1g to 20

#### EXCHANGE.

Silve	er steady and rates all nuclianged,	
×194	ling ~ Hank T.T	2/0,2
-		2/01
-	4 months' sight	2 0
-	- Private 4 months' sight	2 0
-	- 6 months' sight	1/02
Oa	Parts-Bank aight	2 54
	Lyons - Private 4 months sight .	2.50101
1.3 pe	America - Bank Bills on demand.,	481
	- Private 4 months' sight	
4.Epc	Germany-Bank sight	
	- Private 4 months sight	
$O_{\mathbf{B}}$	Honghong-Bank night	lo/_dis.
	" - Private rodaya sight	
On	Shangbai-Bank sight	80
	- Private 10 days' night	814
On	India-Bunk right	
	- Private 30 days' sight	155
Rai	Silver (London)	2511



December 5, 1896.



The clearest skin, free from pimple, spot, or blemish, the softest, whitest hands, shapely nails, and luxuriant, lustious hair with clean, wholesome scalp, are produced by Cuticura Soar, the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. The only preventive of pimples, hietches, red, rough, and oily skin, red, rough hands with shapeless nails, and baby blemishes, because the only preventive of the cause, viz.: inflammation and clogging of the Poiss.

Solit throughout the world. British depot: F. Newszry & Sons, I, King Edwardet, London. Forrag Daug And Cukn. Cogr., Sole Props., Solton, U. S. A. 42" "All About the Skin," a 64-page book, post tree.

#### & CO., ENGINEERS.

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THE OLD G. HERMANN DEBATISTE WORKS. ESTABLISHED 1830.

The Oldest and Largest Makers I the World of Chocolate, Cocos, and Confectionery Plants.

Over 2,500 Chocolate Factories fitted up to January 1st, 1896.

GRINDING MACHINERY for all kinds of dry or wet substances, colours, printing links, tollet soap, perfumery, and chemicals.

MIXING, CRUSHING, AND PULYERISING MACHINES FOR ALL MATERIALS.

Address Messes. C. ROHDE & Co.

November 21st, 1896.



The "Milkmaid" Brand is guaranteed to contain all the cream of the original milk. In the process of manufacture nothing but water is removed, nothing but the best refined sugar added.

Avoid low-priced brands from which the cream has been abstracted, and ask for the "Milkmad" Brand the best for all purpe網VERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT





# AND ORNAMENTAL, OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

" SHARP, CLEAN, AND FULL OF CHARACTER." ORNAMENTAL CONSTRUCTIVE WORK OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

VERANDAHS, BALCOHIES, BANDSTANDS, ARCADES, MIOSES, CONSERVATORIES, ROOFS, RAILWAY STATIONS, BARRACKS, FACTORIES, PUBLIC WORKS, MARKETS, &c.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PILLARS, BRACKETS, AND WIRE WAYS.
BUMBROUS HEIGHTS AND DESIGNS TO SUIT THE DIFFERENT REQUIREMENTS.

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# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 18.]

MEGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.

YOKOHAMA, APRIL 30TH, 1898. 月三年五十二治明 智監書信編日三十 Vol. XXIX。

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

# PATECH OUR DOTS: ADVIKABE OUR POURKA!"

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WERKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable us same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

VOKOBANA: SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH, 1808.

#### BIRTHS.

On the 25th inst, at No. 90-8 Settlement, the wife of R. Prister, of a daughter.

At O.aka, on the 23rd inst,, the Wife of GAVIN ALEXANDER FORREST, of a son.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Tes Spanish Squadron has left Manila to meet the American Fleet.

FRANCE and Italy have officially proclaimed their neutrality.

THE Americans have bombarded and destroyed the half-completed batteries at Matanzas.

Two French missionaries have been murdered. by Chinese at Yunanchao in the province of Kwansi.

In pursuance of her neutrality, Great Britain has prevented the sailing of American torcedo vessels from Falmouth.

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organising auxilitary cruisers, and gives American ships 30 days to clear Spanish ports.

THE Russian authorities have applied to the German firm of Kunst, Albers & Co., for the charter of eight steamers.

THE battleship and cruiser now in course of construction by Armstrong & Co. for Japan have been named the Hatsuse and Isumo.

THE Americans have captured the Miguel Fose, laden with valuable cargo, also the Catalina, Saturnin, and various smaller craft.

On the 26th inst. the branch office of the Nip-pon Yusen Kaisha, near Yokohama Railway station, was partially destroyed by fire.

THE new Oriental Hotel, on the Bund, Yokohama, is to be opened on the 2nd proximo under the management of Messra. Dewette and Muraour.

THE Americans have captured the Spanish Transatlantic Liner Panama while bound from New York to Havans, with Spanish refugees and valuable cargo.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, in submitting the Budget, stated in the House of Commons, that the surplus of the past year amounts to €3.678000.

As the result of the negotiations between the Japanese and Chinese Governments the latter has pledged herself not to cede the province of Fuhkien to any other Power,

THE U.S. squadron, which has been anchored in Mirs Bay for several days, left for the Philip-pines on the 27th inst., with a view to capturing the Spanish men-of-war there.

THE plague is apreading in Formosa. It is reported that from the 20th to the 22nd inst. 15 cases were reported in Daichu, 5 in. Kagi, 22 in Taipeh, and 3 in Teckcham.

An American torpedo destroyer has engaged a Spanish gun-boat off Malanzas. After eleven shots had been exchanged, the American retired, the vessel being apparently damaged.

IT appears certain that no large body of troops will be sent to Cuba for several months, partly owing to the lack of equipment, and partly because of the approaching fever season,

On the 26th inst, the United States Government notified the Japanese Authorities that all tele-grams for Cuba would be examined at Key West and that cipher messages are prohibited.

MR. BALFOUR has notified the belligerent parties that Britain cannot lay down the principle that that coal constitutes contraband of war. It, he said, may frequently be so, but not necessarily.

PRERIDENT McKinely in a message to Congress asked for a joint Resolution declaring that a state of war exists since the 21st inclusive. This resolution has passed in both Houses

INFORMATION has been received from Vladivostock that the Russian Government has recently prohibited telegrams in cipher and in the Japanese Kana, from being received for trans-

A MAN named Iwasaki Sadanosuke, living in the village of Shimo okaba, in Kuji-gori, on the 24th inst. murdered two fishermen named Yasu and Chusuke. The muiderer was arrest-

Diseases Investigation Bureau, will be despatched to the Island to investigate the condition and management of the hospitals, etc.

IT is reported that the authorities have ordered the Staff Officers of the Divisions of the Army throughout the country to assemble on the 25th inst., at Tokyo, where a council will be held for about a week.

PRESIDENT McKinley has issued a proclamation granting Spanish vessels leaving or arriving in the States till May 21, to clear unmolested, but the Prize Courts are in adjudicate on the captures already made.

THE Tea Traders' Guild of Yokohama gave a very enjoyable entertainment at the Chitose restaurant on the evening of the 27th inst., at which a number of foreign merchants were among the guests.

Tex Spanish Minister has left Washington. The American Ultimatum has reached Madrid and Spain immediately broke off diplomatic relations, and the American Minister left Madrid. Hostilities have commenced.

A TELEGRAM dated New York, April 23rd, and received by the Mitsni Bussan Kaisha the same afternoon, states that hostilities have commenced at Cuba, a Spanish merchantman has been seized, and Havana blockaded.

THE Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on the 26th, 27th and 28th inst. and proved one of the most successful and enjoyable on record, with the exception of the last day, when persistent rain marred the enjoyment of the sport.

A LONDON telegram of the 25th inst. stated :-The blockade of Havana has been established. The cruiser Nashville has captured the Spanish merchant steamer Buenaventura, also the Pedro. The Spaniards have captured the wheat-laden ship Shanandoah bound for Antwerp. President McKinley has called out 100,000 volunteers.

THE Import market in Yokohama still continues stagmant in the extreme, no business of importance being reported in cotton piece goods, yarns, fancy piece goods or woollens. The recent rise in prices in Manchester, con-sequent on the expected short arrivals of raw cotton from America, owing to the war with Spain, is, however, expected to have the effect of moving off some of the accumulated stocks within a short time, but at present the extreme tightness of the money market and high rates of interest demanded by the banks prevents dealers from taking up goods. Metals are suffering from the same cause as cotton goods and stocks are still accumulating. The kerosene market is firmer and shows some signs of improvement, and a good business has been done in augar, both brown and white refined, at materially increased prices. Further large imports of rice have been made from Suigon, Rangoon and China and there are now large stores of the grain both in Yokohama and Kobe. Prices, however, still rule much higher than in average years. In Exports a fair business has been done in Silk, at considerable concessions on the part of holders, in view of the demand for America having fallen off in consequence of the war. Some two or three bundred picula of the new season's ten have been received and the samples dispatched by the Doric on the 30th. The quality of the leaf is considered excellent—better than for the last two years but quotations are high and appear likely to be maintained. Very little has been done Spain reserves the right of resorting to priva-teering. Meanwhile she is confining herself to moss, Mr. Shiga, an assistant in the Contagions and tobaccontage has slightly improved.

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

There is a great deal said at present about m strong foreign policy and a weak foreign policy, but the fact is that the strength or weakness of a country's attitude towards toreign States must he determined by the circumstances of the moment. To talk of a uniformly stalwart, or a uniformly yielding, policy is merely to display ignorance. No one questions the loyalty of the motives by which the strong-policy agitators of to-day are influenced. The question is whether their agitation conduces to the interests of the nation. It is in the interests of the nation and nowhere else that the mainspring of foreign policy must be sought. The conditions with which the country is required to deal III present are not of sudden origin. They are the sequel of events now three years old. Japan had an nequestionable right to annex the Liaotung Peninsula, and the Three Powers, when they insisted that it must be restored, were interfering with her just rights, whatever may have been their motive or their pretext. It is natural that every patriotic Japanese should resent their action, and the unconditional surrender of the Peninsula may well furnish food for reflection. But to give way to unreasoning resentment is not the way to repair a misfortune or to redress a wrong. Japan may easily make a mistake at this juncture. The mind of the masses is not very discerning. To many persons roughness and violence seem the only means of national self-assertion. In pre-Meiji days ignorant fauatics or patriots imagined that murderous assaults upon foreigners were good methods of terminating foreign intercourse, whereas they served only to embarrass the country and to put weapons into the hands of the Western Powers. Patriotism may easily be converted into fanaticism. The strong-policy agitators should remember that danger; should remember that they are dealing with materials which may at any moment clude their control and work irremediable mischief. Japan's statesmen have their hands full at present. Never have they been called on to manipulate a more delicate or important situation. It should be the sim of all traly patriotic men to strengthen and to support them, instead of creating difficulties in which the country's enemies will find only fresh opportunities. We need scarcely say that these are the sentiments of the Fiji Shimpo.

It is much to be desired that men who agitate in favour of a strong foreign policy should consider whether the nation has kent abreast of the policy hitherto pursued by the Government. Everybody knows that to use big words and to flourish weapons can never place the prestige and influence of a country on a solid foundation. What is of prime importance is to develop the material resources of the nation. But that is precisely the end which the party politicians of the time seem careless of achieving. Compare, for a moment, the opportunities that the Government has created and the people's manner of utilizing them. After considerable difficulty the Government obtained a railway building concession from Korea, but private enterprise could not be roused to take advantage of the opportunity. The Shimonoseki Treaty provided for the opening of several new ports and the inauguration of manufacturing industry in China, but the people have remained indifferent to the chances thus created, and foreigners have been the only gainers. Is it not advisable that the nation should prove itself competent to keep up with the Government's lead before agitation is fomented for the pur-pose of urging the Government to still greater speed? The Chuo Shimbun, from which we quote, thinks that the efforts of wise patriotism should be directed to making the people discharge the duty properly devolving on them—the duty of developing industry and commerce—instead of forcing upon the Gov-ernment measures which the nation is evidently unprepared to consummate or to profit by. . . .

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order: one is to reduce the expenditure; the other, to increase the revenue. The Matsukata Cabinet, unable to effect the former, proposed to have recourse to the latter only, but hevertheless shrank from carrying out its policy fully, and would have been content to face a deficiency of some 13 million yen in the Budget, Such a method of finance can not be gravely discussed. Count Inouye, taking the matter in hand on behalf of the present Cabinet, has partially restored equilibrium by lopping off 46 millions from the expenditure. Some describe his policy as one of retrenchment; others speak of it me re-organization of the finances. It is neither the one nor the other. What Count Induye has done is merely to re-apportion the outlays on account of the post bellum programme. He has not cut down the dimensions of the programme, nor has he postponed the date of its consummation. He has only distributed the expenditures differently, so that the portion falling to the present year is much less than it would have been according to the original plan. On the other hand, the portions falling to future years become correspondingly greater, so that the advent of the evil day is merely put off. The policy is purely temporiz On the other hand, it is necessary to distinguish between the extraordinary expenditures connected with the post-bellum programme and the ordinary expenditures that are independent of it. The former are to be defrayed, in great part, by public loans, when the Indemnity is exhausted. These loans should be floated in fixed amounts year by year, but, the market having been unfavourable for the operation, a sum of over 30 million yen remained unfloated at the close of last year (March 31st, 1898), and of the sums actually floated, considerable portions had been taken up by the Treasury itself. Forty-nine millions should be raised during the current year, but owing to Count Inouye's modifications that sum is reduced to about fifteen millions, Adding these fifteen millions to the unfloated figure of last year, it appears that a total of over 45 million ren worth of bonds should be issued before March 31st, 1899. There is no prospect whatever that an operation of such magnitude, or anything approximating to it, can be carried out at home. Recourse will have to be had to foreign markets, or to the Indemnity. When the Masukata Cabinet went out of office, there remained nominally 49 million yer of the Indemnity. But a part of it had been employed in buying bonds issued by the Government, and a large portion had been converted into silver yen or ingots. The remainder of the Indemnity is to be paid over in a lump sum next month, and the Treasury will thus come into possession of ample funds. Doubiless the idea is to draw upon those funds for the sums which would otherwise have had to be obtained by loan. In fact, the Indemnity is to be drawn upon for everything, and the financial methods of the be compared to those of a man who, time may finding himself in possession of a sum of bor-towed money, changes his scale of expenditure accordingly, trusting that something will "turn up" in the future. There has been no adjustment of the finances in the true sense of the term. There has been no provision for increasing the revenue or permanently diminishing the expenditures. The nation wants to get beyond the vicious circle of the Indemnity. It wants to see its way clearly ahead. To place the finances on a sound footing is the great task inviting the efforts of the present Cabinet. Foreign policy is a secondary matter. The people will be quite content if the finances are arranged. There are the views of the Shogyo Shimpo.

The Mainichi Shimban constitutes itself the mouthpiece of those that advocate the redemption of a large quantity of War Bonds by the State as the best means of restor-ing a vigorous tone to the industrial and commercial market. It is not to be denied that the prices of all kinds of shares and There are two fundamental measures to be of late, and that great depression exists owing two gunboats of the first class; adopted in setting the finances of a State in to scarcity of floating capital. Japan has not class; and four torpedo boats. securities have undergone heavy depreciation

suffered as much as Germany did, perhaps, after the war with France, owing to the different policy pursued with regard to the indemnity and the War Bonds. But she seems likely to be a greater sufferer hereafter, unless the Government takes steps to redeem the War Bonds. It need scarcely be said that the Mainichi indicates the Indemnity as the source from which money should be obtained for that purpose, but inasmuch as it does not enter at all into the arithmetic of the question, or make any attempt to show how much of the Indemnity would be available, its remarks do not bear a practical aspect.

. . In the programme of reduced expenditures elaborated by the present Minister of Finance, a sum of over six hundred and twenty thousand ren is cut out of the appropriation originally fixed (in the form of continuing outlays) for the improvement of State Railways, and a further som of over one million two hundred thousand yen in the annual appropriation for railway extension (First Period Lines). Thus the total reduction in the grants for railways is 1 # million yen. The Kokumin Shimbun condemus this policy in unmeasured terms. It declares that without means of communication a country's armaments, however powerful, are virtually useless; there can be no healthy development of the nation's material resources. These points are elaborated by our contemporary, but its arguments naturally present no novel features. The main fact is that it strongly advocates recourse to foreign capital for the purposes of railway construction and improvement, and supports its contention by reference to Europe and Americs, where foreign money has been freely used for the purpose.

#### THE TWO FLEETS.

The war between America and Spain will be essentially a naval war, and a comparison of the fleets of the two countries will therefore be interesting. Neither is a first class naval power, but both possess a number of fine, up-to-date war vessels. America has 33 armoured ships, including nine battleships, five of them of over 10,000 tons displacement; she has besides 39 unarmoured ships, many of them obsolete in design, and even some of the old monitors are included. She has 28 umarmoured gunboats, and 27 torpedo beats. In all 128 war vessels, with 1.640 guns, 15.760 officers and men, and 3.339 naval teserves. Spain has 11 armoured ships, most of them powerful vessels of modern design, ranging from 7,000 to nearly 10,000 tons displacement, she has 63 unarmoused ships, two asmoured gunboats, 40 unarmoured gunboats, and 79 torpede boats. In all 197 vessels with 960 guns, 26, 460 officers and men, and 25,000 naval reserves. The United States have recently purchased two new cruisers from Brazil and will convert the New York, Paris, St. Louis, and St. Paul, of the New York Southampton line, into cenisers.

#### MANILA'S DEFENCES.

Though the scene of war will probably be chiefly in Cuban waters and on the Atlautic sea board, the Philippines may receive attention from the American Asiatic Fleet. The islands are protected by the following war vessels: Isia de Cuba, protected and class cruiser, 1,045 tons displacement; Isla de Zuson, protected and class cruiser, 1,045 tons; Reina Cristina, sat class cruiser, 21 guns. 3,540 tons; rat class cruiser Castilla, 11 guns, 3,260 tons; Velasco, 2nd class cruiser, 7 guns, 1152 tons; D. Juan de Austria, 2nd class cruiser, 13 guna, guus, 1160; Eleano, 3rd class cruiser, 7 guns, 500 tons; General Leso, 6 guns 520 tons; Marques del Duero 5 guns 500 tons. Besides two gunboate of the first class; 17 of the second

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#### THE WAR.

A telegram received by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha at 4 p.m. on the 23rd instant, and dated New York 3.05 a.m. 23rd April, says :- " Hostilities have commenced Havana is blockaded; a Spanish merchant-man has been seized." There is little There is little reason to doubt the correctness of this news, though possibly French intervention may still succeed in averting a serious struggle. The blockading of Havana would be a natural measure, and doubtless to that end a United States squadron was recently assembled at Key West, which island is in Florida Bay immediately opposite to the Cuban capital. But to blockade Havana would be a step of comparatively little utility unless the Spanish Squadron is in that port, upon which point we have no information. It is of great interest at this juncture to compare the naval forces of the two Powers. A sufficiently clear idea of their relative strength may be obtained by setting down the most powerful ships only :-

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The United States has 10 ships, all of considerable fighting power, against Spain's fourteen. But it will be observed that the advantage is with the Spanish vessels in point of speed—assuming Brassey's figures to be correct. Certainly this long array of 20-knot vessels on the Spanish side somewhat taxes credulity, but we can only follow the tables. Our readers understand, of course, that barbette and turret ships are much more heavily armoured than protected cruisers. A vessel like the Columbia, for example, should have little chance against the Almirante Oquendo, though their displacement is about the same. In weight of metal the advantage is with the American ships. They carry twenty 13-inch and six 12-inch guns, against two 12'5-inch, twelve 11-inch, and two 10-inch on the Spanish side. Of course these lists give no information as to the strength of the and the fight. But it is trained of war, are not liable to capture under a Digitized by

gunboats, torpedo-boats, and torpedo destroyers-13 in all-reached Puertorico towards the close of March, and that the Infanta Maria Teresa, the Vizcaya, the Almirante Oquendo, the Cristobal Colon, and the Victoria had probably reached the same place by the middle of April. It is possible that these vessels, as well as the torpedo flotilla, are now in Havana. - 16 not, it will be their first duty to break the blockade of that place. Under any circumstances a severe naval engagement may be expected to take place almost immediately, for the fleets can scarcely have any difficulty in finding each other. It has been conjectured that the Spanish ships might abandon Cuba to its fate and undertake a war of reprisals along the coast of the United States. But it is absolutely necessary for the Spanish fleet to retain a basis of operations. Puertorico would serve, of course, but the American Admiral will not leave Puertorico undisturbed if the Spaniards employ their vessels elsewhere. fact, the arena of battle seems to be narrowly localized. What is certain, too, is that unless the Spanish vessels can guard all the ports of Cuba-and they are numerous—the people of the United States will speedily take hand in the of a military expedition: the season forbids it. But the rebellion is likely to assume overwhelming dimensions with America fighting for the rebels. An anxious question is Spain's decision with regard to the Treaty of Paris. The United States Government has signified its intention of observing it, and is thus precluded from privateering. Spain will forfeit the sympathy of civilized nations unless she adopts the same course. We presume that the United States squadron on this station, or at any rate a part of it, will cross the Pacific and share the fighting. There is little employment for the ships in the Far East unless they go to Manila, and the defeat of the Spaniards in the Philippines would not greatly serve the American cause. Coaling difficulties, also, have to be considered. We do not ourselves believe that there will be much trouble on that score, however. United States Admiral has already procured two cargoes of coal, it is said, and if more be needed, it can be obtained with ease from Shanghai or Canton. Telegrams in the vernacular press say that the state of the Philippines has become very much disturbed and that fresh troops will have to be sent from Spain. Poor Spain! The waters of adversity are closing over her head,

The following appears in the Official Gazette of the 26th instant :-

NOTIFICATION No. 8 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR FORE ON APPAIRS.

The Edway Extraordinary and Minister Pleni The Euroy Extraordinary and Minister Pleni-potentiary; if the United States in Japan has sent to this Department a communication under date of the 23rd instant, to the effect that, on the 22rd instant, the President of the United States approved by Proclamation the Idackade of the parts on the morth coast of Coha between Cardenas and Bahia Henda, and also of Gienfuegos on the south coast; that in the event of hostifines between the United States and Spain, the Government of the United States will not resent to privateering, and will adhere to the following recognised rules of inter-national law: national law:-

1. The neutral flag covers a belligerent's goods,

3. Blockade, in order to be binding, must be effective. (signed)

ed) NISHI TOKUJIRO, Baron, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. 26th day, 4th month, 31st year of Maiji. (dated)

It is, of course, an error to say that the United States' Government has signified its adhesion to the Treaty of Paris. The latter was a document negotiated for the purpose of settling the Eastern Question after the Crimean War. The Treaty having been concluded, the plenipotentiaries who had met to discuss its termsthe so-called Congress of Paris-took the opportunity to elaborate an agreement on the subject of the right of search and the rules generally of maritime war, and it is to the declarations embodying those rules that America has signified her adhesion on this occasion.

The Official Gazette publishes the following information forwarded from Washington by the Japanese Representative in that city:—" The Spanish Government having announced that the intimation conveyed to it by the United States Minister in Madrid on the 21st of April to the effect that the Congress of the United game, by pouring supplies, arms, and possibly men into the island to assist the insurgents. There is little chance the tranquillization and indexenting of a military expedition. the island of Cuba, is tantamount to a declaration of War, and having recalled its Representative from Washington and severed all relations with the United States, the United States Congress adopted a resolution on the 26th of April to the effect that a state of War between the two countries existed from the 21st of

> Having lived for the last four days in momentary expectation of news that a decisive battle had been fought in the neighbourhood of Cuba, people are beginning to wonder a little at the silence of the telegraph. What is the cause of the delay? The United States took the ini-tiative. Its ships proceeded to Cuba and blockaded the whole of the coast which remains in Spanish possession. By that step the object proclaimed on the part of America was virtually accomplished. Spain was shut out of Cuba, and her people there were cut off from all sources of supply and re-inforcement. Upon the Spanish fleet, therefore, devolved the responsibility of re-establishing communica-tions with the island. Why has no attempt been made to discharge that duty? We do not understand the hesitation. Two explanations suggest themselves. One is that Spain has decided to aban-don Cuba temporarily to its fate, and to undertake a war of reprisals along the coast of the United States. It has been generally assumed that such a manœuvre is impossible owing to the coal dilemma, for if the Spanish fleet gave up its base, it would very soon find itself in straits for fuel. But there would be no great difficulty in holding a station in Puertorico, and at the same time detaching a powerful flying squadron for offensive operations along the coast. America has organized a flying squadron doubtless to provide against enterprises of that kind, and sooner or later the Spanish squadron would be brought to bay. It might be "la er," however, and in that case the first news to reach us may be the bombarding and destruction of some important places on the Atlantic coast of the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

States. The second and more probable hypothesis is that Spain is mustering all her strength to break the blockade. idle to conjecture what she hopes to gain by delay. She knows her own business best, and she may be waiting for additional vessels to cross the Atlantic before she attempts anything. But where is the American flying squadron in the meanwhile? We presume that it is cruising off Puertorico watching the torpedo flotilla and other ships of Spain which were assembled there at the time of the declaration of war. But it is all guess work. The only thing certain is that the delay on Spain's part in attempting to break the Cuban blockade contrasts vividly with the celerity shown by America in establishing the blockade. As for the United States squadron in these waters, its first business has been to obtain and secure a base of operations. It has selected Mirs Bay for the purpose, and we shall be very curious to hear what China has had to say on the subject, for the procedure is, of course, m plain violation of her neutrality, and whether she is a consenting party or a dissenting, responsibility will rest with her vis-à-vis Spain. There will probably be some surprise that the American ships did not at once make a dash for Manila, since every day's delay will greatly increase the difficulties of any such enterprise. But as we said at the outset, the advantages of an expedition against the Philippines are doubtful, unless the tenure of the islands as security for the payment of an indemnity be in contemplation. The logical course for America is to localize the war as much as possible. She would not think of holding the Philippines permanently, and nevertheless become responsible for their administration if she drove out the Spaniards. She would be responsible, too, for the prevention of outrages on the part of the natives, and that is a responsibility which holds to a still greater extent in the case of Cuba. The Cuban insurgents have a terrible legacy of vengeance to exact from the Spaniards, and if the former get the upper hand while the latter's avenues of escape are closed by a blockading squadron, awful atrocities may be perpetrated. The only way to avert all danger of such a catastrophe is to land American troops, but the season is almost prohibitive of that step.

#### THE STRONG FOREIGN POLICY PARTY AND FUHRIEN.

The representatives of the strongforeign-policy party are not at all satisfied with the action of the Government in obtaining from China a promise not to lease or cede any portion of Fuhkien to a foreign Power. They claim that, with the strength at Japan's command, she is in a position to make her voice very audible in Far-Eastern councils, and that it is ridiculous for her to confine herself to following the futile example set by other states by way of supplementing the genuine concessions that they have gained. An engagement given by China not to alienate any part of Fuhkien is worthless, they say, for China is helpless in the face of a strong Power, and if she

State but Japan; if, in short, a reversionary interest is secured to Japan in the province, it is a very fine arrangement. But it can not be interpreted in that sense. It is an idle promise which China is not competent to implement, and no provision is made for the contingency of her violating it, or being subjected to compulsion by a Power seeking its violation. The "stalwarts" profess to think that the Government's action about Fulkien was prompted entirely by the pressure that they themselves brought to bear on Marquis Ito, and insist that since the Cabinet they shows at length some signs of waking from its lethargy, it should proceed a step further, and ask for a lease of try would be great. But the concession Amov and Foochow, the occupation of is limited to periods of famine in Japan. Amoy and Foochow, the occupation of order in Formosa. Some of the Opposition journals assert, however, that the permission, for there is no prospect what-Foochow, but that it failed to obtain m price, and its heavy cost is m serious matter. satisfactory answer.

Even an independent journal like the Asahi urges the importance of leasing a port in Fuhkien, and we have already seen that the Jin Shimpo takes the same The Asahs, however, expresses great satisfaction in connexion with the Fuhkien incident, and notes with much pleasure that the rapidity and smoothness of the negotiations may be taken as a conclusive proof of China's good-will to-wards Japan. In the case of similar proposals submitted by other Powers, the Peking Government has invariably raised objections and made delay, but Japan put in her request on the 20th and obtained an affirmative reply within four days. The concession with regard to the export of rice is also welcomed by our contemporary. Last year, nearly 5 million yen worth of rice came to Japan from China, but it was not Chinese rice. It only came through Chinese ports. (We do not understand this assertion), If no official prohibition stood in the way of the export of Chinese rice, there can be no doubt that large quantities would find their way to Japan, to the great benefit of both countries.

The Nippon is finely sarcastic. It was not aware that the possibility of China's leasing her provinces to foreign Powers had entered the field of practical politics. Does the Japanese Government intend to have been made by Count Itagaki is that place on record the fact that China may lease any one, or all, of her eleven provinces to foreign Powers provided that she reserves Fuhkien? As for the mining she reserves Funktion to the state of the concession, it adds nothing whatever to the Skimonoseki Treaty. The latter contains a perfectly explicit most-favourednation clause which secures to Japan the general right that she has now stipulated for in a particular instance. Was the Government apprehensive that there might be some special difficulty in extending the clause to mining privileges? Really its forethought does it much credit. The third concession, too, is a very noble Germany has obtained Kiao-chou affair. and a large tract of territory; Russia has obtained Liaotung; England has obtained

read in the sense of a promise that to the concession about the export of rice. Funkien shall not be ceded to any The cereal may be had in the Middle Kingdom in almost unlimited quantities for less than 10 yen a koku, whereas its price in the Japanese market is from 14 to 15 yen. Owing to the prohibition imposed on its export by the Chinese Government, all sorts of roundabout devices have to be employed in order to get it out of the country, the commonest plan being to ship it from Shanghai to Canton; then to re-ship it at the latter port nominally for the use of the Chinese in Hongkong, and finally to ship it from Hongkong to Japan. (The Customs Returns do not show any import of rice from Hongkong, so that the Jiji's reasoning is not plain). If it could be freely sent to Japan direct, the boon to the latter counthose places being essential for the pur- That greatly detracts from its value. Our pose of establishing tranquillity and good contemporary hopes that the Government

#### THE REASON.

The Liberal organ (Tokyo Shimbun) denies, with some show of indignation, the allegation hitherto universally believed that the Cabinet's refusal to give a port-folio to Count Itagaki was the prime cause of the rupture between the Liberals and the Ministry. It alleges that there were much deeper sources of dissatisfaction, and that they were submitted by Count Itagaki to Marquis Ito. The first was that never at any general elections in Japan had so much money passed hands as at the last elections. Whether this accusation is laid directly at the Government's door, or whether it merely amounts to saying that the official measures to prevent corruption were inefficient, we do not gather. is certain is that the Liberal candidates stood as supporters of the Cabinet. When, therefore, the Liberal leader charges that corruption was rife, we find ourselves obliged to choose between two hypotheses, namely, either that he accuses his own followers of bribery and the Government of having failed to interfere and perhaps even. of having abetted them; or that he accuses the Progressists of bribery and the Government of having countenanced corruption in the interests of its own opponents. It must be confessed that this point is very obscure. The second protest said to the new Budget was compiled without con-sulting the Liberals. The third, that alterations have been made in the programme of armaments expansion. On these three grounds great dissatisfaction had developed itself in the Party, and the only way to restore confidence was to admit Count Itagaki to the Cabinet. But the Ministry declined to take that step, and thus a rup-ture became inevitable. It will be seen that the Liberal organ makes Count Itagaki's non-admission merely the proximate, not the prime, cause of the trouble.

On Good Friday a large crowd gathered on the river bank in the German concession at Tientsin to witness the removal of a coffin. The corpse was found to be in a state of perfect ward proudly and gets permission to buy the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third Power? If the agreement can be Digitized by Control of the sake of pleasing a third power of the

#### THE GOVERNMENT AND FLOATING CAPITAL.

In the Jiji Shimpo we find a statement of the programme contemplated by the Government for the purpose ot easing the tightness in the money market. It is not an extensive programme, nor can it be expected to produce large results. Briefly stated, the plan is to buy up public securi-ties and thus increase the volume of the floating capital. According to a law en-acted in 1889, the Minister of Finance is empowered to extinguish portions of the national debt either by employing the process of lot to redeem loan-bonds or by purchasing them in the open market. No limit is put upon such transactions. The The amount of the bonds redeemed or purchased depends entirely upon the surplus which the treasury has available. There happens to be no surplus available at present, so the power created by that particular law can not be exercised. Another resource, however, is to employ for the same purpose any funds lying in the Deposit Bureau of the Finance Department. There are three million yenthus available, the proceeds obtained from the sale of Consolidated Bonds by the Bank of Japan. Of these three millions, one million is to used for buying shares of the Industries Encouragement Bank, and two millions for the purchase of public bonds. Finally, a sum of 340,000 yen, part of the Indemnity—can also be applied to the latter object. These remedial measures, accompanied, perhaps, by a lowering of the rate of interest of the Bank of Japan, are described as constituting the Government's immediate programme. They seem like I drop in the ocean. Another journal (the Shogyo Shimpo) says that the Industries Encour-Shogyo agement Bank is relied upon as a means of affording relief to the money market; that a fresh issue of its shares will soon take place, and that, if the people do not subscribe for them, the Government will do so.

## · MENTS.

Speculation has busied itself for some time about the various enterprises plan-ned by the people. Whence could funds be obtained to carry them on, or would they have to be abandoned? With recolumns of the Tokyo Asahi that the protwenty million yen which they could not hope to obtain in the home market, recently opened negotiations with Messrs, Samuel Samuel and Company, and obtained that firm's promise to lend the required finds provided that the rate of interest was six per cent, and the price of the bonds 90 yen perioo yen face value. Official consent alone was required to complete the transaction. Official consent, however, could not be obtained. When application was made to the Minister when such a price was proposed for six-per-cent, bonds, the idea became alto-gether extravagant. He told the projecforthcoming. Digitized by GOOS sestiment.

#### STATE OWNERSHIP OF JAPANESE RAILWAYS.

The members of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce have propounded a policy which, if pursued, will, in their opinion, put an end to the difficulties that confront apan in connexion with want of capital. They urge that the State should purchase all the railways now in private hands, obtaining money from abroad for the purpose. This theory is not based on financial considerations alone. Another element enters into the question. It is that, after the Revised Treaties go into operation, foreigners will be certain to purchase shares in Japanese railways and, in the course of time, will become virtual owners of the lines. The Chamber does not object to foreigners qua foreigners, but it thinks that the control of a country's railways ought not to be in the hands of aliens, who would naturally raise the rates of freight to the highest possible figure, and who could not be expected to afford due facilities for the transport of troops and warlike material. The best way to avert that danger is for the State to buy up all the lines. About a hundred million yen have already been invested in the lines, and two or three times that sum would be needed to acquire possession of them and carry them to completion. But discontent. the money could easily be obtained by the Government in foreign markets, and its introduction into the country would remove the one obstacle which at present checks Japan's development, lack of the journal's staff. capital.

The above views of the Kyoto Chamber are strongly traversed by the Keizai Zasshi. It is contended by that journal that the course recommended by the Chamber is economically defective, since foreign capital coming into the country for the purchase of railway shares would be obtained without any expense to Japan, whereas the raising of a loan abroad would be a very costly operation. MONEY FOR HARBOUR IMPROVE. The Chamber admits that large sales of railway shares are likely to be made to foreigners: in other words, that large sums of money will thus be imported. But it proposes to neglect that cheap means of obtaining capital and to substitute the expensive method of a foreign loan. As to the Chamber's fears about ference to this matter, we read in the foreign control of Japanese railways, the Keisai find them quite chimerical. jectors of harbour improvements at has always advocated the introduction of Osaka, Yokohama, Nagasaki, and Nii-foreign capital by indirect channels—that gata, finding themselves in need of is, by the sale of shares and bonds,—and He addressed himself solely to the quesit thinks that the plan applies to railways as well as to other kinds of enterprises. There is virtually no fear that foreigners will get the control of the lines into their hands, and, at any rate, if the Japanese are to begin by shrinking from competition with other nationalities, the only logical course is to close the country once more. Japan must take her chance. If she can not fight her battles without recourse to faulty and artificial devices, her defeat is certain. The grandmotherher defeat is certain. When application was made to the Minister her defeat is certain. The grandmother-land that the proposed by methods adovocated by the Kyoto tolios. On the contrary, the Liberal terms were not to be entertained. To sell even five-per-cent, bonds at 90 was a sensible people. If the acquisition of the tion of occupying an unofficial position transaction he could not sanction, and when such a price was proposed for six-on the general grounds that State owner. Cabinet without sharing in the duties of gether extravagant. He told the project is preferable to private ownership, the firming that review of the facts was still tors to wait. Some other means of case would be different. But this talk in Marquis Ito's possession. Hence, in

#### COUNT KURODA. COUNT INOUYE AND MARQUIS ITO.

Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council, was naturally the first person whom the Emperor consulted after the fall of the Matsukata Cabinet. He recommended that the duty of organizing a new ministry be entrusted to Marquis Ito, and his advice was endorsed by Marquis Yamagata and Count Inouye. Count Kuroda's views on the present crisis would, therefore, be interesting to ascertain. The Tokyo Asahi gives a report of some remarks alleged to have been made by him, but they amount to nothing more than an expression of deep regret that a Cabinet apparently so strong should have got into difficulties within such a short period after its organization, and a general condemnation of the want of resolution shown by the Ministers of the Crown. It is possible, however, to read between the lines of the Count's comments a conviction that the proper course for the Cabinet is independence of the Diet. Having received the mandate of the Emperor, the Ministers should conduct the administration unflinchingly until that mandate is withdrawn, and should be careful not to trouble His Majesty by resigning merely because this set of politicians or that choose to show

Count Inouye's views are also published the same journal. They were exby the same journal. They were expressed to a friend, not to a member of the journal's staff. According to the Count, the responsibility for the present situation rests entirely with the Liberals. Even had they asked for the admission of Count Itagaki alone into the Cabinet, they must have known that their application could scarcely be granted. But they asked for several portfolios, thus making it wholly impossible for the Government to comply. They have themselves alone to blame. Referring, then, to his financial They have themselves alone to policy and to the opposition it had evoked among the Liberals, Count Inouve said that he had not in any way interfered with the integrity of the armaments-expansion programme. What he had done was merely to extend the period for its completion in accordance with the financial capacities of the State. If the Liberals would take the trouble to inquire into the facts of the case before assuming an attitude of criticism, the public would be less misled,

Marquis Ito, too, has been speaking. tion whether any engagement had been given by him to the Liberals at the time of the Cabinet's organization in the sense that their leaders should subsequently receive portfolios. There had been no such engagement, nor any talk of an engagement. Various meetings had taken place between the Marquis and the Liberal leaders last December, and correspondence had passed. But neither at interviews nor in writing had there been any hint that the Party expected portship of all means of public communication the Administration. Correspondence confirming that review of the facts was still obtaining funds would by and by be about keeping out the foreigner is mere coming forward now to ask for portfolios, forthcoming. Digitized by GOS sestiment.

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the Cabinet, the Liberals had made a radical departure from the understanding that existed between them and the Ministry.

#### BARON IWASAKI ON THE POLICY OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

Baron Iwasaki, President of the Bank of Japan, is quoted as having made some remarks about the policy of the Bauk. He noted the immense increase that took place in the import trade during 1896 and 1897, and alluded to the fact that the ingress of foreign goods continues to grow, the excess up to the present during this year having been some 32 million yen and the exodus of specie in the same time fully 20 millions. So long as the process of bringing over the Indemnity funds continued, the hard-money reserve of the Bank of Japan did not reflect the state of the foreign trade; but now that no such recuperative factor is at work, the reserve has rapidly fallen, so it is nearly 201 mil-lion yen less than it was at the end of last year. The volume of the convertible currency has also diminished to the extent of 40 million yen, so that only 185 millions are now in circulation. It is understood, of course, that the volume of convertible paper is influenced by the fluctuations in the specie reserve, and to this may be added the consideration that each individual of the nation knows his own wants, and that whether he buys more from foreigners or sells more to them is a matter having no special con-cern for officialdom. Nevertheless to maintain a due ratio between the gold in the vaults of the central bank and the paper notes circulating in the country is important, and financiers have to pay attention to that problem. It must not be supposed, however, that the rate of interest as fixed by the Bank of Japan depends on the exodus of specie, or that, as has been asserted in some quarters, the Directors of the Bank raise the rate from time to time in order to check the outflow of gold, as is done by the Bank of England. The conditions existing in Japan are quite different from those existing in Great Britain. The raising of on the exodus of specie since it renders money difficult to procure and so hinders the purchase of imports. But, on the other hand, the lowering of the rate and the issue of convertible notes over and above the legal limit, have an indirect effect in restoring the balance of trade by bringing capital within reach of industrial enterprise and thus increasing the quantity of manufactures for sale abroad. Such subjects, however, occupy a secondary place only in the policy of the Bank. What is primarily considered is the state of the money market—the demand for capital, the nature of the purposes for which it is needed, and the supply available. Hence there is no reason to anticipate-as some have anticipated-that because a marked exodus of specie has taken place since the spring set in, a further raising its interest by the Bank will a measure is apparent just now.

One of the halls whizzed through the air and gracefully alighted in the middle of the Police Court. Fortunately the Magistrate was not sitting.

Digitized by Court of the halls whizzed through the air and the former journal remarks that the former journal remarks that the United States has become a country of prime importance im Japan's trade; the scribe to the War Bonds as an investment. On the grown arms that aggregated 79½

Digitized by Court of the principle underlying that decision. At a moment of patriotic enthusiasm the people put up large sums for warlike purposes. They did not subscribe to the War Bonds as an investment. On the grown arms appreciate the principle underlying that decision. At a moment of patriotic enthusiasm the people put up large sums for warlike purposes. They did not subscribe to the War Bonds as an investment. The golf mania is progressing in Shanghai,

#### THE WAR AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The vernacular press has displayed remarkable indifference during the progress of the events that have culminated in a rupture of the peace between Spain and the United States. Now that war has actually broken out, however, we may expect some definite expressions of opinion. Monday, as, our readers know, is an "off day" with the majority of the Tokyo journals, and of those that appear the only important sheets are the Chuo the Nippon, and the Yomiuri. Not one of them, however, attempts to pronounce a verdict as to the rights or wrongs of the war. The Nippon, which is nothing if not outspoken, confines itself to a review of the incidents leading up to the crisis. Its statement is only in outline and does not lean to either side. Brief reference is made to Spain's failure to suppress the rebellion; to the umbrage taken by the Spaniards at the secret interference of the American people; to Weyler's atrong policy; to its failure; to the fall of the Cabinet in Madrid and the accession of Sagasta to power; to Spain's change of policy and willingness to grant local autonomy to the Cubans; to the rejection of any programme short of freedom; to the intervention of the United States Government for the purpose of inducing Spain to cease fighting and recognise the island's independence; to the steadily growing feeling in America that the interests of trade must no longer be impaired nor the principles of morality violated by this ceaseless struggle; to the President's unavoidable obedience to public sentiment; to the intervention of foreign States whose governments felt that the peace of the world should not be endangered and its trade impeded by such cause; to the apparent settlement of the trouble, and then to the occurrence of two events which greatly aggravated the situation, namely, the de Lome letter and the Maine disaster. With regard to the former, the Nippon says that the American authorities were to blame for not securing the rate of interest has an indirect effect the inviolability of private correspondence, and that Spain was unduly harrassed in connection with the incident after she by recalling de Lome. With regard to cerned, the nations would be on the the Maine, our contemporary seems to side of Spain, but their interests draw consider it beyond dispute that the vessel them in a different direction. was destroyed by a mine or some agent independent of the explosives on board. Having thus carried events down to their may have m very serious effect upon bids her to push it vigorously, and other Japan's trade with the United States. Powers will probably intervence: among the populations of both the belligerents, but we fail to grasp the Nippon's meaning. The article concludes by alleging that an attack on the Philippines by the United States Squadron in these waters is unlikely, the Washington and Osaka have both decided that the Government having too much respect for soon be ordered. No probability of such the peace of the world to needlessly to pursue at the present juncture is to reextend the sphere of warlike operations.

million yen last year out of a total of 375 million; and it bought from Japan 521 million yen worth of commodities out of a a total of 159 million, whereas Japan bought from it only 27 million out of a total of 219. It is further to be noted that whereas the imports from America to Japan arrive nearly entirely during the first half of the year, the exports from America to Japan are sent out during the second half. Already some 30 million yen worth of commodities have come from the States this year and practically nothing has gone thither, the season for silk and tea not having yet come. Japan is already suffering from commercial depression, and if one of the main arteries of her trade be now cut, her distress will be greatly augmented. There is further be greatly augmented. There is further the probability that the United States squadron on this station will proceed to the Philippines and seize them, in which case Japan's trade with those islandsamounting to nearly 3 million yen-would suffer, and the war would be brought almost to her doors. These considerations suggest that the Japanese Govern-ment should use its good offices with all possible energy to mediate between the belligerents, carefully avoiding, of course, all semblance of interference in the affairs of foreign countries and simply taking the ground that her material interests are imperilled.

The Yominer's writing is more original. It says that the United States' navy has a displacement of 170,000 tons and the Spanish a displacement of only 100,000, but the Spaniards handle their ships better than the Americans, so that the victory will probably be with them at the outset. Spain, however, is weakened by domestic troubles and will go under on that account. France is interested in saving Spain from complete disaster, for a successful Carlist revolution in the latter country might endanger the republican institutions of the former. England, too, has always been opposed to America's Cuban policy and does not want the United States to come into possession of the island. But England has been "squared" by means of a secret agreement that Havana shall be handed over to her, and her sympathy with America has now been shown by Mr. Balfour's declaration on the subject of had made all the reparation in her power coal. In short, so far as right is conwhile they are ostensibly neutral, they will probably take sides as far as is possible without seriously compromising

## THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND THE INDEMNITY.

wisest policy for the Finance Department deem War Bonds with the remainder of The commercial aspect of the problem and appreciate the principle underlying chiefly occupies the Chuo and the Yomiuri that decision. At a moment of patriotic

mediately after the conclusion of the war, measures would be adopted to redeem the Bonds, thus setting free the capital so much needed for industrial purposes. Hence they are not a little embarrassed by the prospect of having to hold the Bonds for many years until it suits the convenience of the State to redeem them. If the process of redemption fixed by the regular budgetary system be followed, only some four million yen worth of public securities are redeemed annually. business men want something much more rapid. Hence their proposal as to the Indemnity. But what are the details of their plan? Do they suggest that the funds accruing from the Indemnity should be at once applied to redeem War Bonds, and that the Bonds thus redeemed should be re-sold in the foreign markets when suitable opportunities present themselves? In other words, do they suggest that the Indemnity should be employed to immediately replenish the floating capital of the dimensions of the armaments ex-Indemnity should be employed to immedination without regard to the demands of State finance? That is a feasible plan, of course, but it presents many difficulties. On the other hand, if the financial needs of the State be taken into account, it appears that there are practically no funds available from the Indemnity for the purchase of War Bonds. A statement may be made in two forms, the more easily comprehended of the two being this :-

already made or to be immediately made ...... 287,868.897

> 74,315,600 Remaining

ingols .....

20,000 000

Remainder actually available. 14.315.600 According to the above method of reckoning, some 14 millions might be available for the redemption of War Bonds. But there is a deficit of about 13 million yen in the Budget for the current fiscal year, and unless it be met by a draft on the in-demnity, no source of supply is in sight. Thus the Indemnity does not seem to lend itself at all to the purpose contemplated by the two Chambers of Commerce, unless the first plan mentioned above expresses their idea. The silver lying in the Treasury's vaults represents an asset, it is true. By selling it for gold and applying the proceeds to redemption purposes, a good deal might be done. But what it is that the Chambers actually recommend; we do not yet know.

There is another claim upon the Indemnity. It figures, indeed, in Japanese finance like the widow's cruse: every one seems to regard it as inexhaustible. The other claim comes from the cotton-spinners. Things are not prospering with them, and they think that the Government should come to their assistance, buying up the shares of the amalgamated companies to the extent of some 20 million yen, and reselling them when the sun of prosperity shines again. It is alleged by a vernacular newspaper that the Minister of State for Finance has practically given his consent to a scheme of that nature. We doubt it greatly.

#### COUNT INOUYE ON FINANCE.

Count Inouye has made a brief statement of his financial policy to the Jiji Shimpo:—" People talk of my financial policy as one of restriction and imagine that retrenchment is the order of the day all round. That is a mistake. I have reduced only the unproductive expenditures. And even in that direction what I have done can not be called a real reduc-tion. I have always had my own views But to about armaments expansion. carry out those views would involve a recasting of the present programme ab initio, which, of course, is out of the question. Nevertheless, in the appropriations for the Army and the Navy as well as in those for the various Departments, I have cut down by 46 million yen the outlays estimated in the Budget submitted to the Diet last December. pansion programme, The dimensions remain unaltered, the sum to he paid out in each year being alone re-adjusted, so as to equalize the amounts, in obedience to financial convenience. On the other hand, I have kept steadily in view the development of productive enterprises. These enterprises are considerably embarrassed at present. Notably in the case of several industries connected with the export trade, there is such a want of floating capital that even the wages of operatives can not be paid; machinery and raw material are lying idle; loss is piled daily upon loss; the volume of exports is diminished; the balance of trade become more and more unfavourable, and the diminution of the gold reserves proceeds apace. It is my great desire to render every possible assistance to these enter-The public is well acquainted prises. with the financial resources at the Government's command, and understands that they are by no means sufficient to fully satisfy the needs of the time. But they will be employed as far as they go in the interests of productive enterprise. That has been my policy from the first. If was decided upon without any reference to the procedure of the manufacturers in the Keihan districts, and I am pursuing it now and intend to pursue it with all possible vigour. If I have not reduced, but only readjusted, the expenditures on account of unproductive works, still less am I likely to apply the pruning knife to the outlays for productive purposes."

A deputation headed by Mr. Nakano Buyei visited Count Inouve on the 23rd instant and addressed him at great length on the subject of finance, urging that some strong measure must be speedily adopted to raise commerce and industry from the morass of depression in which they are now plunged. The arguments advanced by the deputation are already familiar to our readers. Their cardinal point was that capitalists had emptied their coffers to purchase War Bonds; that, no steps having been taken to redeem the Bonds, an embarrassing deficiency of capital had resulted, and that the Bonds had now fallen to such a discount that their holders saw themselves condemned to heavy loss. On these grounds the deputation contended that the funds accruing from the Inpart at any rate, for the redemption of has demonstrated the need of such inwar Bonds. Count Inouge did not give structions Original from
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any definite reply. He said that Messrs. Shibusawa and Nakamigawa had already approached him on the same subject, but that the matter demanded careful thought before a decision could be taken.

#### COUNT OKUMA ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

It is impossible to tell how much or how little reliance may be placed on alleged interviews with statesmen appearing in the Yorosu Choko. In reproducing, there-fore, from the columns of that journal the gist of a conversation said to have taken place between a member of its staff and the Count, we must ask our readers to acquict us of any responsibility. The interviewer makes the Count say that affairs have taken an exceedingly inconvenient turn for the Cabinet. Its foreign policy is vehemently attacked; its political allies, the Liberals, have deserted it, and the opening of the Diet is close at hand. With regard to foreign policy, the Ministry's apologists say that it is engaged in negotiations with Russia about Korea, and that their result will atone for the failures in Liaotung and Shantung. But, after all, what the Cabinet is doing can not be more than reducing to clearer terms the convention already existing, nor is it likely that anything will be accomplished beyond, perhaps, an arrangement for the establishment of a Japanese-Korean Bank and the obtaining of a charter for the Soul-Fusan railway. Considering that Japan has had to suspend the doubling of her own Tokaido road, and to postpone the project for the Formosan Bank, she is not likely to profit much by gaining such privileges in Korea. The fact is that the Japanese public should rouse itself to the necessity of putting backbone into the Cabinet's foreign policy. The peoples of England and Spain have lately set that example. Two great opportunities were lost, first, when China asked Japan to postpone the payment of the remainder of the Indemnity, and secondly, when England intimated her desire to occupy Wei-hai-wei after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops. It is not too late, however, even now to protest against the actions of Russia and Germany. If they can be induced to withdraw from Liaotung and Shantung, England may be trusted to leave Wei-hai-wei. Speaking of domestic politics, the Count spoke of the Ito Cabinet's Parliamentary prospects as hopeless, but added that if the Ministry resigned, the Progressists could not undertake to form a Cabinet, since they do not command a majority in the Lower House. Possibly a coalition Ministry of Progressists and Liberals would be the only feasible plan.

#### TEA.

We see it recorded in vernacular journals that the Yokohama Tea Guild has forwarded a circular to all the tea-producing districts, enjoining care in the processes of manufacture. Several points are set forth in detail-as the necessity of not mixing old leaves with new; the desirability of care in drying; the evil of allowing the leaves to be smoked; the importance of using good charcoal for firing purposes, and so on, all of which sound very rudimentary, demnity in May ought to be applied, in but it must be presumed that experience

#### FANCY DRESS BALL AT THE BRA-ZILIAN LEGATION.

A fancy dress ball was given by His Excellency the Brazilian Minister and Madame Lisboa at the Brazilian Legation in Tokyo on the 21st. instant. weather proved singularly unpropitious, for at the close of a balmy though boisterous spring day the wind suddenly veered to the north, bringing down a deluge of rain and producing a wintry temperature.

Despite these deterrent circumstances the salons of the Legation were filled at half-past nine with a crowd of guests in costumes of great variety, historical, allegorical, national, grotesque, rustic, barbarian and picturesque. Many of the ladies wore masks, but that pleasant method of mystification was not de rigueur; nor, indeed, were fancy costumes, a freedom of choice which naturally commended itself to some of the less juvenile men and to a few of the staider ladies. The English hunt-ball dress was much affected by the gentlemen, and its adoption by several different nationals, German, French, Spanish, and Belgian, constituted one of the rare tributes paid by Europe to British taste. The scene when dancing commenced might fairly be called brilliant, perhaps the most brilliant witnessed in Tokyo since the celebrated ball twelve years ago which had the distinction of being elevated to the rank of a political event and helping materially to bring the social fashions of the Occident into dis-favour in Japan. Our readers must pardon us if we shrink from the task of setting down the costumes in detail. Many of them were sufficiently beautiful and striking to deserve the most minute description, but it would be a feat beyond our powers to pass in review, unit by unit, a crowd in which a gay Pierrot might be seen escorting a Turkish lady mysterionsly veiled; a Russian noble with a stately Mary Queen of Scots; a German peasantgirl and Little Red Riding Hood attended by three admirably disguised monkeys whose sepulchral talk turned chiefly on their inability to wash clothes; a dainty little gipsy lass and a colossal Billion Squire of the roistering days; circus-Maxican warriors, Persian grandees, ante-Confucian Chinese, and so forth and so on, a picturesque but most perplexing ensemble. Madame Lisboa's dainty costume of green satin decorated with red chrysanthemums won universal admiration, and her sister's dress of Columbine with its glittering sequins and chapeau gensd'arme was probably one of the prettiest in the ball. Mrs. Macmillan in the powder and patches of the good to admit Count Itagaki to its ranks. No old time presented an exquisite picture, and Miss Howe as Klondyke, wearing m reason can therefore be discerned why white satin dress trimmed with fur and the Liberals should assume an attitude of decorated with nuggets of gold, was uni-opposition in the approaching session of versally voted "too charming for anything." the Diet. The probability is that they Madame de Frétas in blue and gold will discuss the Cabinet's measures strictly satin as a Swiss; Madame Renaud in the richly embroidered costume of a Pole; against them without any reference to the two daughters of the Chinese Minister, party feeling. As for the Liberal Union-delightfully decked out and making tinklists, they recognise the paramount importing music as they moved; Madame von Treutler wearing the gold-laced tunic of a nation—the problem of completing the hussar; Madame Schinzinger in the arrangements for carrying the Revised quaint and picturesque German costume Treaties into operation and the problem of sixty years ago; Madame de Carcer in of foreign policy. They have not the the dress of the First Empire; Viscoun-slightest intention of dragging such ques-

von Fallot as a Spanish belle; Miss Conder, as a gipsy; Viscountess du Dresnay in powder and patches; Miss Aoki as a Circassian beauty—all these and many others showed what can be accomplished by taste and ingenuity even without the aid of the professional costumier. Among the gentlemen's costumes one of the handsomest and most interesting was that the transaction our contemporary does of Mr. J. Conder, who appeared as Ota not say. The purchase rate is said handsomest and most interesting was that the transaction our contemporary oces of Mr. J. Conder, who appeared as Ota not say. The purchase rate is said Dokan, every detail of the dress perfect; and perhaps the quaintest that of Mr. Van de Polder, who figured as Fukuroku-ji, the cylinder-pated deity of longeroku-ji, the cyl table (Mr. Atcheson), in the midst of a quadrille, and a masked Zingara Queen distributing cards and telling fortunes. The cotillon proved particularly successful, the favours being of the daintiest des-cription, and the "ribbon figures" re-markably graceful. Immense merriment was afforded by a figure in which mottos found inside eggs had to be matched by would-be partners, and the most picturesque moments of the evening were during the dancing of the Pas de Patinears and the Valse Minuet. The arrangements for refreshments and supper were sumptuous, and so keen was the enjoyment that dancing did not cease until past four o'clock in the morning.

#### THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS AND THE LIBERALS.

Mr. Sassa Tomofusa, the most prominent Parliamentary member of the National Unionists, has made an interesting statement to one of the staff of the Nichi Nichi Shimbun. It has been generally supposed, he said, that the National Unionists are seeking to restore the coalition that formerly existed between the Cabinet and the Liberals; in fact, that they stand in the position of mediators. But the truth is that the relation between the Liberals and the Cabinet was always much more intimate than the relation between the National Unionists and the Cabinet. The leaders of the National Unionists were even ignorant of the causes that led to the severance of the Ministry's connexion with the Liberals. So far as the Armaments-expansion programme and the policy of national finance are concerned, the Unionists and the Liberals think alike, and will work together, nor is there any reason to suppose that a grave difference of opinion has occurred between the Liberals and the Government on either of the subjects. In fact, the only apparent reason of the split is the Cabinet's refusal point of principle is involved, and no reason can therefore be discerned why on their merits, and vote for them or ance of the problems now confronting the arrangements for carrying the Revised

#### THE INDEMNITY.

According to the Shogyo Shimbun the Government agreed to purchase through the Bank of England bonds of the new Chinese loan to the extent of two millions sterling. Why the Bank of England should be asked to undertake cash, receives a part of it in bonds. Shogyo asks why, if the Government is ready now to embark in such a specula-tion. China's request for a postponement of the time of paying the indemnity was refused two months ago. The financial result would have been the same, but large political capital night have been gained by accommodating China direct instead of accommodating the persons who have undertaken to raise the loan for her. Again, it is alleged that whereas Japan pays £88 for each bond, thus gaining £240,000 on the transaction, and recieving 41 per cent. interest, the Bank of England gets the bonds for £35, thus clearing £60,000 on the transaction. Surely better terms could have been obtained by dealing direct with the Syndicate? Further, the five-per-cent. Japanese War Bonds are now procurable in the market for 91 yen per 100 yen of face value. They thus give \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per cent. interest as an investment. If the Government can afford to lay out two million pounds sterling on paper securities, why does it not buy up its own bonds, thus accomplishing a better pecunary result and relieving the distressful tightness in the home money market?

We quote these criticisms, but they do not seem to display the acumen generally characteristic of the Shogyo Shinpo's writing. For it is quite plain that if the Government is taking over a portion of the Indemnity in Chinese bonds, the transaction is unavoidable, and must not, therefore, be judged by the light of ordinary financial principles. We have no special information on the subject, but it appears to us pretty clear that the Government takes the bonds because it can not get cash, and there is an end of the matter.

#### THE SOUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

In the course of an article on the relations between Iapan and Korea the Mainichi Shimbun makes am interesting statement about the Soul-Chemulpo Railway. It alleges that Mr. J. Morse, who holds the concession for the line, promised the Matsukata Ministry that he would transfer the road to Japan immediately after its completion, and a bill authorizing the Government to acquire it will accordingly be introduced in the next session of the Diet. The statement is made in the context of various remarks about the withdrawal of Russia's military and financial experts and the abandonment of the peninsula to Japan's influence, and we infer that our contemtess de Bondy in that of a Laplander; tions into the field of party politics, and mrs. Conder as Shizu-no-me; the Misses Nishikawa as Spring and Autumn Miss Diet's session to a close without troubled hard the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the first part of the far the more decisive part which more decisive part which Japan von Falled his accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which will be more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which will be more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decisive part which accordance of the far the more decision of the far the more decision of the far the more decision of the far the more decision of the far the more decision of the far the more decision of the far the more decision of the far the more de East. There is, however, no suggestion of an aggressive policy on Japan's side. It is claimed on her behalf that she seeks simply to strengthen Korea's capacity for independence by leading her into the path of naval progress and material development. Our readers do not care to hear much on that subject, we imagine. They will be much more interested to learn that the French syndicate, which recently obtained a concession from the Korean Government to build a Soul-Wiju line, has been making strenuous efforts to purchase the Soul-Chemulpo line from Mr. Morse, but the latter, despite the large profit that he might secure by selling to the French, stands firmly by his promise to Japan. In short, Mr. Morse seems to have played an exceptionally dis-interested and honorable part through-out these transactions. It is easy to appreciate the importance of the line to the French Syndicate, for to connect Wiju with Soul by railway would be a somewhat futile operation unless the road can be extended to Chemulpo. Rumour says that the Syndicate is promised a guarantee of 4 per cent. by the Paris Government provided that it can obtain possession of the Soul-Chemulpo section, but it is difficult to credit that. All observers agree that, from a purely business point of view, a road from Soul to Wiju could not possibly pay, and the general impression has been that in seeking a concession for that line and negotiating the Soul-Chemulpo section, the French Syndicate merely played Russia's game, the intention being to transfer the whole line to the latter at a subsequent date. Such a theory involves the hypothesis that the Korean peninsula is to be Russia's maritime outlet, but, inasmuch as he has now turned to the Liaotung peninsula, the strong pro-bability is that the Sönl-Wiju line will remain unbuilt, and that the Soul-Chemulpo road will cease to interest the French Syndicate.

#### "THINGS JAPANESE."

"Things Japanese" has reached its third edition, and will doubtless pass through a good many more, for it fills its own field so completely that little room remains for trespassers. We have spoken more than once of this book, but not in terms of unalloyed praise. Professor Chamberlain's wide range of knowledge and exceptional powers of exposition compel admiration, but his love of humour sometimes seems to interfere with the full exercise of his sense of proportion. However, it is indeed a rare thing to find a great scholar who carries his weight of learning so lightly as Mr. Chamberlain does, and who knows how to brighten the dullest subjects with airy conceptions and graceful fancies. Descending to particulars, we ourselves have a grievance to urge against him-a triffing complaint indeed, but still a complaint. He continues to class the editor of the Japan Mail sible writer of Mr. Chamberlain's type, among the "small band of foreign enthull t is, indeed, easy to find in every comsiasts who deny that the art of Japan is munity men who imagine that all adminilimited in its scope and decorative rather strative or diplomatic proceedings which than representative," and who "put it on do not exactly accord with their own a level with that of Greece and Italy." theories are the acts of bungling states-The editor of the Japan Mail has not men and ignorant officials. But Professor spoken or written anything that justifies Chamberlain certainly belongs to a difthat it is, in his opinion, essentially Digitized by

decorative art, and that, as representative art, it can not be placed on the same plane with the art of Greece and Italy. Mr. Chamberlain in the same paragraph laughs at the same unfortunate editor for saying that "Kyosai was perhaps the greatest limner of crows that Japan, nay the whole world, has produced," and asks very wittily whether such a dictum does not recall the artist whose epitaph recorded that he was "the Raphael of Cats." That is excellent fun, and the editor of the Japan Mail joins heartily in the laugh. But the truth is that his comment on Kyosai, when separated from its context as Mr. Chamberlain separates it, wears a very misleading aspect. The comment was penned with explicit reference to an article in a London journal discussing a new departure made by certain English artists who essayed to draw birds after the Japanese fashion, and whose work the London newspaper compared with that of the Kyoto painter Bairei. Precisely in the same way, if some one were to discuss mew itinerary of the Hakone district, we might observe that Professor Chamberlain had compiled the best Japanese itineraries ever written, without inever, these are small matters. more important are Professor Chamberlain's account of Treaty Revision and his criticisms thereon. He ascribes the failsurely if the existence of such a panic among the Japanese people was sufficient to wreck Treaty Revision at the close of 1889, the Foreign Office in Tokyo would not have resumed the negotiations in 1890. For our own part-and we watched the course of events with much attention-we should hesitate to affirm that the opponents of mixed residence in Japan ever became sufficiently numerous or influential to seriously affect the question of Treaty Revision. Concerning the British Revised Treaty and the British Foreign Office, Mr. Chamberlain is very severe. He says that the Treaty abounds with defects; he pays a high tribute to the diplomatic skill of the Japanese; he asserts that the latter "adroitly caused the chief seat of the negotiations to be shifted from Tokyo, where some of the local diplomats possessed an adequate knowledge of the subject, to the European residents in Japan (that is, the class which possesses the best knowledge of the state of the case) almost unanimously regard the British Foreign Office with contempt for having allowed itself to be so grossly misled and beaten." One does not expect such wholesale statements from a responsible writer of Mr. Chamberlain's type.

gains anything by negotiation, except the being laughed at,' and still the Foreign Office slumbers and blunders on as in Nelson's day." The British Foreign Office and the British Diplomatic Service have, at all events, the best personnel that the British nation can furnish, and it ought to occur to a close reasoner like Mr. Chamberlain that if the incompetence of the British official is always so palpable to the non-official, some singularly unkind fate must contrive that the ability is invariably on the side of the latter. As to the British Revised Treaty, there is no denying that, judged by the wisdom which follows the event, it is not a perfect document. But it is by no means so imperfect as Mr. Chamberlain's criticism implies, for some of the so-called omissions regarded by him as crucial relate to subjects which do not belong to the sphere of conventional arrangement but are always left to be regulated by domestic legislation. For example, no independent country binds itself by treaty to allow foreigners to publish newspapers within its borders, or foreign doctors and lawyers to practise among its people and in its courts without any official scrutiny tending to suggest for a moment that the of their diplomas. Details apart, however, compilation of itineraries is the crown of it may be generally stated that the con-British sinologues' achievements. How ditions with which the negotiators of the Much Treaty had to deal were immensely difficult. No guiding precedents were available, and diplomacy must have been omniscient if, on the first occasion of ure of the negotiations in 1889 to "panic admitting an Oriental State to the comity at the idea of Japan being thrown open to of Western nations, a covenant perfectly foreign trade and residence." That is a satisfactory at every point, totus teres very novel conception; a conception that etque rotundus, had been elaborated. seems difficult to reconcile with facts. For Evidently Professor Chamberlain has not reflected upon these points. He seems to have devoted himself uniquely to stating the case against Treaty Revision in the strongest possible terms, and just as he forgets, or fails to notice, that the Treaty was the work, not of a Rosebery Cabinet alone, but also of a Salisbury, so, when he speaks of the scene of negotiation having been "shifted from Tokyo, where some of the local diplomats possessed an adequate knowledge of the subject to the European foreign offices which possessed little or none," he equally forgets, or fails to notice, that the diplomats who had charge of the negotiations in London were precisely the men who would have had charge of them had the scene been in Tokyo, namely, Mr. de Bunsen and Mr. Gubbins. However, it is an uncongenial task to criticise Mr. Chamberlain. Whether we agree with his views or differ from them, they are always delightfully stated foreign offices, which possessed little or and lucidly conceived, and we welcome this none;" and he declares that "from the third edition of "Things Japanese" with point of view of patriotic Englishmen, the its many additions and improvements as a its many additions and improvements as a genuine boon to everyone seeking in-formation about any topic under the sun of Japan.

#### BARON ITO'S RESIGNATION.

Baron Ito Miyoji's resignation of the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce has been accepted, and Mr. Kaneko Kentaro is appointed to succeed him. It is stated -and we have no doubt of the correctness of the statement-that Marquis Ito endeavoured to persuade the Baron to reconsider his decision, but without success. Most people will be disposed to conclude, his inclusion in such a coterie. He has, ferent grade of critic, and with astonish-on the contrary, invariably maintained ment we find him writing:—"It is a wisely. He has associated himself closely that the scope of Japanese art is limited, hundred years since Nelson noted the with the Liberal Party during the past UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

coalition between that Party and the Cabinet at the close of 1885—the coalition which proved of such great importance, since it secured the passage of the postbellum measures through the Diet-was brought about chiefly through Baron Ito's offices as intermediary, and the public understood very well, when he received a portfolio in December, that he represented the link between the Ministry and the Liberals. It is true that his name is not actually borne on the Party's roll, but the connexion is now almost as close as that existing between the Progressists and Count Okuma. Apart from any question of principle, the shrewdest course for rising statesmen in Japan is to ally themselves with a political party. Nothing is surer under the sun than the ultimate advent of the era when the system of party Cabinets will be established. On the other hand, nothing is plainer than the comparative insignificance to which a Cabinet Minister is already condemued unless he possesses either clan prestige or the backing of a political party. Parties may not yet be competent to assume the control of the Administration and to fill the offices of State from their own ranks, but they certainly are competent to give immensely increased weight to any official acting as their mouthpiece. Baron Ito is one of the cleverest men of his era. He would rise high under any circumstances. But on the crest of a Liberal wave his elevation will be far more rapid and exalted than his unaided exertious could have made it. We do not mean to suggest that his motives are simply selfish. But personal ambition is, after all, the mainspring of human beings' actions, and we presume that he is not more than human.

#### THE "OSAKA ASAHI" ON AMERICA AND SPAIN.

The Osaka Asahi, which ranks with the leading journals of Tokyo, observes that Japan has no reason to be partial in the struggle now unfortunately inaugurated, and that she sympathises sincerely with each of the countries condemned to suffer the horrors of war. Spain has been for several years endeavouring to quell a rebellion in Cuba and has utterly failed to do so. Her sovereignty in the island has no longer any real existence. Nevertheless she obstinately refuses to recognise the independence for which the insurgents have been fighting. Under these circumstances the Government of the United States has intervened to put an end to the struggle by securing independence for the Cubans, and thus Spain and America find themselves in the lists. Our Osaka contemporary confines itself to that brief and apparently colourless statement, but the drift of its sympathies can be easily discerned. As to the result of the war, it pertinently observes that if Spain has failed signally to reduce the insurgents to obedience after years of exhausting effort, it is difficult to see how she can hope to conquer the Americans plus the insurgents. She may leave Cuba to its fate and confine herself to reprisals along be cut off, it is hopeless to think of estathe United States coasts, which are ill-blishing full security of life and property protected, but there are reasons which in Formosa. The Chinese Authorities are throw much doubt on her capacity to evidently incompetent, or at any rate they make such a diversion. The Asaki then make no resolute effort, to check the missing discusses the effects of the war upon chief. The capacity or good-will has now journal, in connexion with the recent Japan's tradal relations with America, but been tested by three years' experience, strong-policy agitation, that although a its remarks are virtually identical with and it is plain that unless Japan can take section of the nation clamours for selfthose of other journals from which we the law into her own hands, nothing mention in the field of foreign have already motion of the law into her own hands, nothing mention in the field of foreign have already motion of the law into her own hands, nothing mention in the field of foreign have already motion of the law into her own hands, nothing mention in the field of foreign have already method to be a supplied to the law into her own hands, nothing mention in the field of foreign have already mention in the f

### JAPAN AND CHINA.

A telegram from Peking, dated 5.40 a.m. on the 26th, says :-

At the instance of the Japanese Minister Pleni-potentiary, the Chinese Government has en-gaged that no part of the province of Fuhkien shall ever be ceded to a funcing Power.

Fuhkien, as our readers doubtless know is the part of the mainland lying opposite to Formosa. If the telegram be correct, it follows, therefore, that Japan has adopted the method of Great Britain and France, and has obtained m guarantee that the portion of the Chinese empire in which she is most interested shall not be alienated. What the value of such guarantees may be, it is difficult to say. It appears rather a superfluous kind of arrangement that the Government of a country, at the instance of another State, should promise not to do something which its own interests forbid it to do. But the truth is that these engagements to which China pledges herself are intended to be a kind of polite method of delimiting spheres of influence, and the Japanese nation will doubtless feel now that it has obtained a recognised footing in any council for the partition of China; or, perhaps we should rather say, for her preservation.

The news that China has pledged herself vis-à-vis Japan not to transfer any part of the province of Fuhkien to a foreign Power seems to be received with much satisfaction in Tokyo, but as yet the only journal that has commented on the intelligence is the Jiji Shimpo. That is, of course, attributable to the fact that the Jiji was the first to receive the telegram and could thus publish its views simultaneously with the intelligence. We observe, however, that the Fift does not interpret the engagement as creating, in any sense, a "sphere of Japanese influence. If takes the line that China has not shown herself capable of safeguarding her own territories and that Japan must endeavour to assist her neighbour at least in so far as Japanese interests are directly concerned. They are undoubtedly concerned with respect to Fuhkien, for it lies opposite to Formosa, from which it is separated only by a narrow channel, and the transfer of the province, or of any part of it, to the possession of a strong foreign State, would seriously menace the safety of Formosa. Hence the step taken by the Tokyo Cabinet in obtaining a guarantee of the integrity of Fuhkin is a proper and statesmanlike measure. The Jiji contends, however, that something more is necessary. Three years have elapsed since Japan obtained possession of Formosa, yet the island can not be said to have been brought to a condition of good order. Insurrections are still rife, and there is no apparent prospect of their complete cessation. One chief reason for such an unsatisfactory state of affairs is not far to seek. The insurgents receive perpetual assistance in the form of arms, munitions of war, and money from the mainland, and unless that source of supply

She ought therefore to ask China for a lease of some portion of Fulkien. Here the Fifi is distinctly vague. We do not quite perceive, and our contemporary's readers will labour under the same difficulty, how the leasing of a position in the province of Fuhkien would enable Japan to supervise and control the intercourse between the whole province and Formosa. Foochow and Amoy at least would have to be held, and that is a pretty "tall order." However, the Fiji re-frains from defining its ideas and merely says "a portion of Fuhkien." Concerning the period of the lease, our contemporary sees no occasion to fix it. The formula "a temporary lease" would meet with the requirements of the occasion, and it would be clearly understood that Japan has no intention whatever of territorial aggrandisement or of permanent occupation, but that, while seeking primarity to reduce Formosa to a state of peace and good order, her secondary object is to assist in preserving the integrity of the Chinese Empire.

Further telegraphic intelligence from Peking is to the effect that the Chinese Government has given the following engagement:--

t.—Japanese subjects forming partnerships with Chinese subjects for the purpose of carrying on mining operations in China shall enjoy the same privileges as those granted by the Chinese Government to the subjects or citizens, of any other

foreign Power.
2. Whenever Japan suffers from a scarcity of 2.—Whenever Japan autors imposed by the food stuffs, the prohibitions imposed by the Chinese Authorities on the export of rice shall be

With regard to the former of these concessions, it might be supposed at first sight that no special stipulation of the kind was necessary, since the ground is cover-ed by the most-favoured-nation clause, But in their recent dealings with China foreign Powers appear to have travelled considerably beyond the limits of the most-favoured nation clause. The scope of the latter is general, whereas Russia, France, and Germany have been seeking, apparently, to obtain for themselves exclusive mining privileges in certain parts of the Chinese dominions-Russia in Manchuria, Germany in Shantung and France in Yunnan. That process, if carried far enough, would ultimately reduce the most-favoured-nation clause to a dead letter by excluding large sections of the Chinese empire from the scope of its operation. We read the concession now obtained by Japan in the sense that any of her subjects, entering into partnership with Chinese subjects for purposes of mining enterprise, will be entitled to enjoy, whether in Manchuria, or in Shantung, or in Yunnan, or anywhere else, the same privileges-not with regard to the same mines, of course-as those already granted, or hereafter grant-ed, to Russians, or Germans, or Frenchmen or whomsoever it may be. If that is what the stipulation signifies it is an adroit way of getting behind any monopoly that a foreign Power may attempt to establish in favour of its own nationals in China. The question is, however, how far are the Japanese people prepared to areas of enterprise beyond the seas, no adequate, or nearly adequate, attempt has been made to utilize the privileges and concessions already secured. Rail-ways are not built in Korea or Formosa; mercantile establishments are not formed last long. in the newly opened settlement in China; manufacturing enterprise is left entirely to foreigners in the neighbouring empire. Will the sequel of this mining concession be different? The Japanese are unable to find capital for a hundred lucrative undertakings that invite development at home; whence will they procure capital for mining purposes in China? Seldom in the history of the world has it befallen any nation to be so effectually held back from wealth and prosperity by the want of means to utilize its opportunities.

#### THE "JIJI" ON THE WAR.

That the United States will come out of the war victorious, no one can doubt, says the Jin Shimpo. But there will be a great deal of financial trouble. Large quantities of American securities are held abroad, and already more than once their holders have showed signs of weakening in consequence of the instability of the American financial system. It is impossible to be certain that the country will not turn to the silver standard one fine morning, and the element of doubt thus existing will be greatly accentuated by the war. For the first question to be asked is, whence will funds be obtained to carry on belligerent operations? The Republican Cabinet adopted a greatly increased scale of import duties last year with the hope that the additional revenue thus accruing would balance the public accounts. But their expectation has been disappointed. Up to the end of February there was a balance of over 10 million yen on the wrong side. Apparently, then, recourse must be had to a loan. The Treasury has a gold reserve of 150 million yen, and it holds silver bullion and silver certificates to a total value of some goo millions. If the gold be touched, there will be immediate apprehensions as to the stability of the public securi-ties, and foreign holders will unload so rapidly as to cause a heavy drain upon the country's stocks of the precious metals. It is true that a wave of prosperity swept over the country last year. But it had no permanent source. It was due entirely to the accident of a comparative failure of the wheat crop in Europe contemporaneous with a plentiful yield in the United States. It would seem, then, that the better classes will severely feel the effects of this war owing to the depreciation of the securities in which their money is invested. It need scarcely be said that the Jiji does not predict any financial embarrassment for the Americans as a nation. Its pessimistic views have reference to trade only, and especially to the trade with Japan. Tea, silk piece goods, raw silk, porcelain, and such commodities are the chief staples of export from this country to the States, and such articles are precisely those upon the demand for which the war is likely to produce a disastrous effect. There will facilities: the Pacific Ocean lies altoge-ther remote from the fighting arena, and though Spain, since she has not given her adherence to the Treaty of Paris, may cause great inconvenience by

neutral vessels, her privateering operations are not likely to extend to this quarter of the globe. But Japan's export trade will suffer severely, and it is to be earnestly prayed that the war will not

In another article the same journal expresses the opinion that victory may rest with Spain in the opening incidents of the War. Its reasons for such a forecast are that although, so far as ships and armaments are concerned, the contending forces are pretty equal, the personnel of the American navy is very mixed and the Spaniards are excellently trained in maritime exercises and naval tactics. United States, too, has been so long at peace that its capacity to make ready for war at a moment's notice is doubtful. On the other hand, Spain's finances are at a very low ebb. There is no telling, therefore, which of the belligerents will be found the better prepared, but the opening episodes may be unfavourable to America, though her great resources must ultimately give the battle to her hands.

#### THE EXHIBITION OF APPLIED ART AT UYENO.

It appears to us that the Spring Exhibition of Applied Art in the Gallery of the Art Association, in Uyeno Park, which was opened on the 1st instant, is not so fully furnished as usual. But we observe a steady tendency towards refinement of decorative design and an increasing disposition to discard the florid meretricious style which threatened at one time to come into vogue. Much of the silversmith's work, is really beautiful, but the prices-as is invariably the case at these exhibitions—are certainly higher than the figures that would be charged for the same specimens by ordinary dealers. A vase, for example, which no visitor can fail to notice-iris flowers in coloured enamels suspended in a pierced net-work of iris leaves and stalks; a very exquisite design-is marked 250 yen. The actual cost of the metal can not exceed 50 or 60 yen, so that there remain nearly 200 yen for the workmanship. Most of the specimens in this section are designed to suit Japanese taste and to be serviceable in Japanese houses. They lose nothing for that reason,

Modelling in plaster is one of the fea-tures of the Exhibition, and a very successful feature. It can scarcely be called a novelty, for modelling in wax has long been a speciality in Japan, and from wax to plaster the interval is small. What is novel, however, about the specimens shown at the Uyeno Exhibition is their essentially Occidental character. They have evident traces of the Italian school that once promised to become so flourishing under the instruction of Ragusa and Capeletti, but unfortunately succumbed to the singular phantasy that Japanese art is perfect in itself-totus teres atque rotundus - and would only be contaminated by any borrowing from Western sources. The nation has nearly, but not altogether, recovered from that vertigo, and we daresay that the fine examples of plaster modelling shown at Uyeno lose nothing scarcely be any interruption of shipping in the eyes of the present-day Japanese facilities: the Pacific Ocean lies altoge virtuoso because of their plainly foreign affinities.

Cloisonné enamels are, as usual, pro-fusely represented. But there is a happy obsence of the garish pieces that used Original from

invariably to disfigure these annual displays. Sobriety and chastity of decorative design are noticeable in the great majority of cases. Indeed, a few of the specimens are veritable chefs-d' œuvre, and the connoisseurs that buy for the Imperial Household have, as usual, show the accuracy of their judgment by selecting the very choicest examples for the Palace collection.

Carvings in ivory are above the average, though comparatively few in number, but carvings in wood are distinctly inferior. There is a species of glyptic work much appreciated in Japan — work which occupies in its class the same place as sketches in black and white occupy in pictorial art. The chisel of the carver is expected to produce effects similar to those due to strength and directness of line in painting on silk or paper. Masters of this particular glyptic faculty achieve work that charms by its combination of massiveness and grace, dignity and deli-cacy. But the efforts of the tyro are impertinently clumsy: they suggest laborious hewing rather than refined chiselling. The two kinds may be seen at Uyeno, the latter unhappily more prominent than the former.

There is not much to be said about the keramic section. Our old friend Inouye Ryosai has made a bold attempt to re-produce the celebrated "Hawthorn" of the Kanghsi era. He is still a long way below the standard of his ambition, but has at any rate succeeded in turning out one very pretty example. Considerable progress has been made in blue sous converte. The tone of the blue is, perhaps, no better than that previously obtained—a fine clear strong tint—but the quality of the white field has improved so much that we recognise a distinct approach to the grand contrast of Chinese wares in this class. Seifu and Makuzu send a few very lovely specimens; other potler are expresented by préces which, hough not of the highest grade, have unquestionable merit.

There is a profusion of delightful little objects belonging to the Komainono class -cigar and cigarette holders, rings, studs, clasps, tobacco-pouches, hair-pins, &c.,-and there are some very lovely silk fabrics. It goes without saying that the Exhibition will well repay a visit.

#### THE NATIONAL DEBT.

With regard to the distribution of the National Debt or Japan, the Shogyo Shimpo publishes the following table, which, however, must be regarded as approximate only, though the approximations are probably very close :

Inh historia and historia and a significant	
Holders III Bonds.	Amount in Yen.
Imperial Household Department	. 7,588,590
Bank of Japan,	42,303,370
Reserve for redemption of bank notes	4,818,850
Reserves for redemption of Nationa	1
Bank notes	. 4,581,900
Famine Reliel Funds (provincial)	
Finance Department	
Purchased by various Banks with the	
money of depositors	
Nobles' Hereditary Property	
Specie Bank	7.344,750
National Banks	. 35.981.335
Private Banks	
Foreign Communes	
Private Individuals	133,644,202
Total	. 370.080.728

It is stated that the Bank of Japan will immediately take steps to purchase about 20 million yes worth of the bouds held by private and National Banks.

WHAT WILL THE CABINET DO?

HERE is, of course, much curiosity to ascertain what course the Cabinet intends to pursue at the present juncture. The conciliatory character of Marquis ITO'S domestic policy is so well known that his stern refusal to entertain the proposal of the Liberals creates surprise. He is also a resourceful statesman, and men are inclined to conjecture that when he turned his back on the Liberals, he knew that he should find new supporters elsewhere. The latter hypothesis points, of course, to an alliance with the Progressists. But it may reasonably be doubted whether half-a-dozen thoughtful persons really believe that Marquis ITO has deliberately thrown over his old allies for the sake of propitiating his old opponents. Another perplexing feature of his action is that he has allowed this impasse to occur. That is not typical of his administrative strategy. His tenure of office is generally marked by the prevalence of calm and quiet in all directions. Complications do not arise. Fuel exists in abundance whatever statesman be at the head of affairs, but the essence of Marquis ITO'S management is that he prevents the application of the match. With combustibles lying around, there is no explosion. Yet now, within three months of his assumption of power, his Cabinet has broken with practically all political parties, and seems destined to achieve the record of being the first Japanese Ministry to meet the Diet with the self-chosen certainty of an overwhelming majority in opposition. That is not like the adroit, all-placating Marquis ITO, whose tactfulness we have long admired, say the critics. What is the explanation? Some of the vernacular press cast about for an answer with evident bewilderment. They look in all directions save the true one. The Chuo, as the organ of the petty political remnant still clinging to the Cabinet, ought to be "on the inner track." Yet the Chuo has nothing more explicit to offer its readers than a vague statement that Marquis ITO derived his resolution from a Cabinet decision. What decision? No one supposes that in a matter of such gravity the Premier acted without consulting his colleagues, or that he had no opportunity of consulting them before the Liberal mine was sprung. It conveys little information to be told that Marquis them. when he rejected the Liberals' demand. What we want to learn is why the Premier and the Cabinet unanimously decided that an adverse answer must be given to the Liberals' not unnatural request for a portfolio. We have not the least doubt that the if it cared to do so, but its relations with Liberal Party its support is Digitized by

purchasing at the cost of any fraction of the Cabinet's independence. Since the general elections there have been evidences that the Liberals are without the cohesion which can be derived only from a practical sense of descipline. They are divided into cliques with varying estimates of the terms upon which their aid should be given to a Ministry. It is quite plain that if the admission of Count ITAGAKI to the Cabinet, either now or at some early date, satisfied one section of the Liberals, another section would not hesitate to put up its special favorite for another portfolio by-and-by. An endless scramble for office would thus be inaugurated. In fact if the newspapers truly report what has happened, two or three portfolios were actually asked for. The Liberal leaders, speaking before the elections, did not suffer. hesitate to guarantee their Party's support of the Cabinet without any immediate reward, but found themselves unable after the elections, to fulfil their pledge. In a word, the rank and file of the Party have broken away from control, and the Liberals have lost the two essential elements of cooperative potentiality, homogeniety and descipline. It is not to be supposed that Marquis ITO would have hesitated to concede any reasonable terms, such as the admission of Count ITAGAKI to the Cabinet. He did not shrink from making the Liberal leader his administrative colleague two years ago and there is no reason why he should shrink be taken with reserve. In our opinion from the same step to-day. But he may properly shrink from inaugurating a series of concessions without any visible finality. That would be the worst course that he could possibly adopt, not merely from the point of view of public morality but also in the interests of the Liberal Party itself.

Concerning this transition from sensible moderation to office-seeking ambition on the part of the Liberals, the only apparent reasons are the increase of strength and general elections brought. A host of new came to call its roll, it found itself so powerful numerically that the time for dictating terms seemed to have come.

It is another illustration of the old criticism "persons not principles." The cohesion and discipline of political parties in Japan depend, not upon their platforms, but upon the men that lead ITO had the other Ministers at his back ality of Count OKUMA must be ascrib- and from Tientsin, Peking, Newchwang, ed the fact that, alone among politi- and so forth, might be dammed at any cal associations, his Party-the former Kaishin-to-has retained its stability and developed its strength since the day of its juncture. It is not for a moment our organization seventeen years ago. Yet desire to suggest that in stationing hereven in the Kaishin-to there exist lines of self at Port Arthur, Russia entertains Chuo could make the case perfectly clear cleavage-a Shimada line, a Hatoyama line, designs hostile to the progress and dean Ozaki line-along which the Party may the Liberals forbid it to be frank. The at any moment split into fragments, and have no right to attribute to her any fact is that in the present condition of the probably would split if Count OKUMA'S motive of the kind. She has made a

political parties in the English sense of the term. Her so-called "party politicians" seem to lack the elements most essential to working union.

What, then, will the Cabinet do? We can not see that it need do anything in the sense of endeavouring to placate this party or that. There is little probability of the Opposition's resorting to any extreme measures in the approaching extraordinary session of the Diet. At all events, the Government must face the contingency. In the event of an obstinate refusal to legislate about matters of vital national importance, the Constitution reserves ample powers to the Throne, and however reluctant the Cabinet might be to invoke the Sovereign's assistance, the public interests can not be allowed to

## FAPAN AND FUHKIEN.

T is stated by a vernacular journal that L since France's ambition with regard to the south of China is well known, the possibility of her raising some objection to the engagement recently given by China to Japan about the province of Fuhkien was foreseen, and steps were accordingly taken to secure her acquiescence beforehand. We gather that the Chinese Government is supposed to have communicated with the French on the subject, but, of course, the whole statement must England is the Power chiefly concerned. France has never suggested, however remotely, that her "sphere of influence" extends beyond the extreme southern provinces of China, and there is not the remotest possibility that any attempt on her part to establish herself in eastern Kwangtung would be endorsed by Great Britain. On the other hand, it is an undeniable historical fact that England's "sphere of influence" extends from the great change of personnel that the Hongkong to the mouth of the Yangtsze and up the Yangtsze valley to Chungking. men were returned, and when the Party Russia's proceedings in Manchuria, and especially in Liaotung, have compelled the British Government to acquire a naval station at the entrance of the Gulf of Pechili, in pursuance of England's unvarying policy that all trade routes in the Far East shall be secured against closure by any Power. With Russian war-ships at Port Arthur the great stream of commerce, To the overshadowing person- nine-tenths of it British, which flows to moment unless English war-ships were on the spot to prevent such a disastrous convelopment of the world's commerce. We UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

coup having for its immediate object the laying of railways and the extension of trade, an object which Great Britain, least of all civilized Powers, would be justified in opposing. It is true that some critics speak of England's action with contempt, and are pleased to represent her in the light of a pusillanimous braggart who talks big until the flash of a sword is seen and then cringes. That is mere silliness. Englishmen can afford to laugh at it. No thoughtful observer has failed to see that Russia's southward march towards the Yellow Sea and the Gulf of Pechili might one day place her in a position commanding a great tradal avenue along which British commerce passes in large and always growing volume. No thoughtful observer has ever supposed that her aim in pushing southward was to close that avenue. But there are times when a State is compelled, in the interests of its own safety, to utilize to the full every opportunity offering to its hand. Were Russia and England at war, the former would naturally employ whatever means presented themselves for inflicting hurt on her enemy, and among such means a very potent one would be to close the Shantung-Liaotung gate of the Gulf of Pechili. England, on her side, was bound to secure herself against such a catastrophe. She could not, with any show of consistency or justice, offer armed opposition to Russia's commercial expansion in Manchuria. All that she could do was to insist that her own interests and the interests of trade in general should not be impaired, and as a matter of fact, she obtained whatever security was possible on that score. The Port-Arthur question complicated the situation not a little. Had Russia confined herself to purely commercial expansion England could have afforded to look on complacently. But is there in the world any Power sufficiently confiding to embark on such a scheme as Russia's Manchurian project of railway building and commercial enterprise without making at the same time some provision of armed protection? We do not think so. It seems to us that if England herself were to change places with Russia in Manchuria, she would consider it essential to have a naval station in the immediate vicinity of her new scene of activity. It would, therefore, have been an outrage had England employed force to prevent the acquisition of Port Arthur by Russia. She was justified in endeavouring to dissuade Russia from taking that step, and we know that she did endeavour to dissuade her, promising, by way of reassurance, that if the Russian Government refrained from obtaining a naval port near the Gulf of Pechili, the British Government would pursue a similar policy of abstention. In other words, Lord SALIS-BURY said to Count MUNAVISIT. Position would not remain u

we will be content not to place our ships in menacing proximity to your new sphere of commercial expansion in Manchuria." Russia would not be content, however, and, speaking friendly, her decision seems quite natural. It forced England's hand, however, Nothing remained but to occupy Wei-haiwei and thus to provide against a danger which, whatever may be Russia's present intention, would become very real and very serious in time of war. The Hispano-American contest is only a few days old, and yet we already see what losses a country can suffer if it is not in a position to effectively police the routes of its maritime carrying trade. With Russia at Port Arthur, and England no nearer than Hongkong, enormous damage might be done in the Gulf of Pechili before a British cruiser could reach the scene of that a route which might greatly facilitate It would have been a depredations. veritable vertigo had England fought to keep Russia out of Port Arthur, but with Russia at Port Arthur, Wei-hai-wei be- frequent the treaty ports. These men came sine qua non to England. On the might render invaluable assistance in Russia at Port Arthur, Wei-bai-wei beother hand, her occupation of Wei-hai-wei introducing Japanese travellers to influendoes not bear the interpretation that she has extended her sphere of influence to the gate of the Gulf of Pechili. She still remains within her former limits, the the Chinese in Japan before seeking that Yangtsze Valley and the coastwise route of the Chinese in China, yet the plain fact from the mouth of that great river to does not appear to be recognised in practice. We may observe, en passant, that Hongkong. The Formosan channel is the same argument applies in perhaps as part of the route—a most important part great a degree, to the case of the foreignof it. When England offered no protest ers in Japan. Their friendship would be to Japan's acquisition of Formosa, she an excellent preliminary to the friendship gave to this country a signal evidence of good will and confidence, for it is evident that a fleet having the Pescadores for basis commands the Formos-an Channel. The province of Fuhkien canards has again opened. We are told, cadores for basis commands the Formosforms the Western coast of the Chan- for example, that six American merchant nel, and Japan has now made that province the subject of an agreement between herself and China. It appears extravagant to assume that France's consent had to be sought by way of prelimin- the Stars and Stripes are seen there ary. Great Britain is the Power concerned-very vitally concerned, too. She has apparently raised no objection. She re-Revision; namely, the policy of regarding with thoroughly friendly eyes the growth country should not mistake her complaisance for indifference. They talk of obtaining a lease of some important position in Fuhkien, whence to check the export of arms and munitions to the Formosau insurgents. Were such a position obtained. Japan would hold both sides of the Formosan Channel. In one sense it is satisfactory to find that England's acquiescence is taken for granted, but we desire to remind the Japanese that if Great Britain amicably permits such doings BURY said to Count MURAVIEFF :- " Be on the part of this country, she certainly would not remain inactive were any other if worked, to be an important source of revenue

RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

The tendency among Japanese publicists to visit China is becoming marked. Messrs, Kioura Keigo, Matsudaira Masanao, and Hotta Rentaro recently passed over to the continent and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi is to follow soon. These names probably mean very little to foreign readers, but they are widely known in Japan, and when we say that they might be supplemented by many others of lesser note, it will be seen that there is a decided impulse to establish closer relations with the neighbouring empire. The fact is welcomed by vernacular newspapers, which justly note that while the Government has been very generally urged to show sympathy with China and to employ friendly influence for breaking down her conservatism, the people themselves have hitherto taken little or no trouble to promote that end. It is, at the same time, remarked access to the object in view is practically neglected. China has sent here an able Minister and clever Consular officials, and a great number of her shrewd merchants tial circles in China and conveying information as to the best methods for them to pursue. It is obviously of the first expediency to cultivate the friendship of of foreigners abroad.

### CANARDS.

steamers have been captured by a Spanish war vessel in the Mideterranean. could six American steamers have been doing in the Medeterradean? We do not believe that so many steamers flying in as many years. Then, again, rumour says that the Olympia has been sunk. telegram received on the 24th said that she had left Hongkong, in company with mains true to the policy frequently enun- the Boston, the Detroit, etc. on the 23rd, ciated by her in connexion with Treaty apparently for Manila, and a telegram received on the 25th says that she is destroyed. The thing is incredible. If the ship had met with disaster, the news could of Japanese influence in the Far East. not possibly have come so soon. The But it is well that the publicists of this blockade of Cuba by a United States squadron is undoubtedly true-not the blockade of the whole island, of course, but only a section of the northern coast, including Havana. The reported cutting of the line of railway is not unlikely to be true. It could have been effected by landing a party from one of the ships, and such dashing exploits are just what may be expected of American seamen.

> Native advices from Peking, says the Peking and Tientsin Times, relate the discovery of a coal mine about 55 11 outside the city gate near Mo shi kac. The coal is said to lie near the surface and to be vastly superior to the coal of any other mines in the district, and promises,

### A USEFUL MAGAZINE.

The Gailloku Gogaku Zasshi, or "magazine of foreign languages," appears to be achieving great success. It is in large demand, a convincing proof that the failure of previous attempts in a similar line has been due to want of efficiency on the part of the authors, not to lack of interest on the part of the reading pub-lic. The magazine is chiefly subscribed for by students. To them it constitutes a veritable instructor in English, German, French, Russian, Italian, Spanish, Korean, and Chinese. Its appearance each month is doubtless welcomed innumerable learners, whose access to books is limited, who can not afford to enlist the aid of a foreign teacher, and who find in each number of the magazine material to nourish their knowledge throughout the month. Some of the best men available in Japan are engaged in edi ing the magazine, the English department being supervised by Professor Kanda, the German by Professor Omura, the French by Professor Imamura, and so on. It would be too much to say that there are no mistakes. Open ing the book at random, we find the sentence Yokohama to kurabemaru to koko wa yohodo samui derho, which is translated "It is very cold here compared with Yokohama, inn't it?" the true translation being, "I expect it is very cold here compared with Yokohama?" Again: "Can you tell me whether Mr. Tanaka is coming back to Tokyo at once?" is given as the rendering of Tanaka kun wa sugu ni Tokyo ye kacile kuru no dare ka kimi ga shiran no ka. The translator loses sight altogether of the two no. Yet their presence has an important significance. They make it necessary to translate the Japanese into "Do you not know, then, whether Mr. Tanaka is to return at once to Tokyo?" This is a subtle but vital point. In an English letter, too, we find the phrase "would you believe it that I have already been, "would you believe it that I have already been, &c." Correct usage does not sanction "it that" in such a sentence. Again, at page 69, we read "the police was summoned," a grammatical error; at page 72, a lady is made to say "it is after every possible reflection that I have thus stolen myself out;" at page 73. a father "roars out, taking it, doubtless, for a mischief of some naughty boy; "at page 76, a grandmother says" I trust Master Taio is all the same well, being quite bury with his postte. the same well, being quite busy with his pretty mischiefs;" and at page 77, a daughter "takes two or three puffs at her tiny pipe in order to dissemble herself." and "makes two or three dry coughs." It is evident, in short, that the magazine needs just a little more care to be magazine needs just a little more care to be really excellent, and since it now commands such a wide circulation that every error contained in its pages is liable to become fixed in the minds of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of students, the want of that trifling modicum of additional attention is much to be regretted, especially an the plan of the magazine is so good and the choice of material generally so

### THE LIBERALY AND THE GOVERN MENT.

Commenting upon the dispute between the Cabinet and the Liberals, the Jiji says that the Liberals' demand for a portfolio is quite justifiable, and that nothing can be more unreasonable on the part of the Government than to altempt to secure the aid of the Liberal politicians without any terms of concession. The Government appears to think that, should the Liberals withdraw, their vacancy can immediately be supplied by the Progressiats. But the latter would not venture to support the Cabinet, and even II they did their adhesion would be attended with claims still more formidable than those advanced by the Liberals. If the two leading parties are not to be relied upon, the finure of the Government may easily be imagined. It is deeply to be regretted that the Government, at this critical moment of the Eastern question, is unable to formulate a firm policy on account of the instability of its form

dation. The Government ought to make what concessions are necessary, while the other political parties should make sacrifices on their part in order that the difficulties now on the political horizon may be safely passed through

The Nippon thinks the Liberals quite justified in claiming the Count's admission to the Cabinet. To the Liberal Party, indeed, the present Cabinet owes its footing, and the Government's loss of the support of the Liberals must shake its whole foundation.

The Kokumin is consparatively cautious in its tone, but suggests action for the restoration of the balance of power in the Far East and the revision of Count Inouye's financial programme, which looks extremely unsubstantial

### HON. A. N. HIGINBOTHAM.

The Hon. Mr. Higinbotham, formerly President of the Chicago World's Fair, is now visiting Japan with his wife and two daughters. Some leaders of Tokio Society are exerting themselves to help the visitors to see whatever is worth seeing, but unfortunately the period of Mr. Higinbotham's stay is so short that there is difficulty in meeting all the demands on his time.

Last Friday evening, the party were invited to Mr. T. Hayashi's residence at Akabane, Shiba. Mr. Sone, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Okuda, the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. S. Saito (Mr. Okuda's predecessor,) were among the invited, besides several of the host's friends who have had the advantage of visiting Europe and America. Mr. Hayashi's name must be familiar to our readers as an art critic and the exhibitor of the celebrated Twelve Bronze Falcons made by Chokichi Suzuki.

After a sumptuous dinner, showing all the resources of the Japanese cuisine, a band of some thirty geishs from Shimbashi enlivened the evening with dancing and music. The solection of performances was cleverly made so as to show a wide range of the fair criticia. cieverly made so as to show a wide range of the fair artistes' accomplishments. There were five principal dances, commencing with the usual sambaro and ending with the Temptation of the Priest Kisen. This last was very ably performed by two young geisha. They pourtrayed with remarkable histrionic power the priest struggling against the emotion of love which threatened at every moment to master When this dramatic incident was at its climax there came upon the stage-which had been specially erected for the evening -a band of young girls personating the disciples of the priest. After these had carried on a brief dialogue, the spirit of the dance gradually changed. the music passed to a livelier atrain, and anddealy the four pretty disciples threw their apper robes off their right shoulders, and showed the stars and stripes embroidered on their sleeves. It was a pretty and courteons conception, and of course the patriotic pleasure of the guests found warm expression. This was followed by the well known harvest dance in which all the geisha of the evening joined, except, of course, the musicians. The brilliant colours of the dancers' costumes and their graceful motions made the onlookers so enthusiastic that, by the time the ring of gersha, which grew gradually larger at each turn, had extended beyond the stage and reached the place where the gnests were seated, the latter rose en masse and joined the merry measure. Conspicuous among the dancers of the evening was Masaya of Shimbashi, whom the popular verdict places head and shoulders above her contemporary attiates.

Mr. Higinbotham was the guest of the United States Minister on Saturday, and of Mr. Okura Kihachiro on Monday. The members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce are to entertain him to-day (Tuesday) at the Maple Club.

gined. It is deeply to be regretted that the Government, at this critical moment of the Eastern question, is unable to formulate a firm policy on account of the instability of its foundation.

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THE NEW M. M. STEAMER.

A large number of Yokohama residents on Saturday afternoon had an opportunity, thanks to the courtesy of Captain Vaquier and M. Conil, agent of the Messageries Maritimes, of inspecting the new steamer Indus which has been placed on the Company's Far Eastern Service. The Consular services and shipping offices were well represented, and many ladies graced the proceedings with their presence. A most liberal hospitality was accorded the visitors; an elegant cold collation was served in the saloon; the Yokohama Band played a capital selection of music; and altogether the whole affair was of the most enjoyable description.

The Isdus is of the same design and dimensions as the Laos, which was described in the Japan Mail a few months ago. She was built at La Ciotat, near Marseilles, at a cost of nearly seven million francs, and has the rig and appearance of all the French mail boats. She is 141.75 metres long, 15.50 beam, and 11 deep; her gross tomage is 8500, and her engines develope a horse power of 7200. This enables her to make an average speed of 14 horse an hory though on heart the state.

knots an hour, though on her trial she did 18.4.
It is, perhaps, in the richness and completeness of their interior arrangements that the French mail boats make their chief appeal to the public. Other lines have steamers as large, as fast, and as punctual, but few aim at making their boats so luxurious and artistic-more, indeed, like a fine hotel than a seagoing ship. The Indus probably passes the high water mark of excellence in this respect. The decorations are more than rich, more than tasteful—they are magnificent. The saloon, for example, is saloon, for example, possible to imagine an apartment on board ship. It is in the Louis Quinze style; all the woodwork is of oak, and beautifully carved; and the massive chimney piece is a really spleudid piece of work; while some paintings by Mr. Fels, in the best style of French decorative art, add immensely to the effect. A splendid staircase, also sitistically carved, leads to a handsome corridor above; and close at hand, is the music room, most elaborately decorated in two shades of salmon and silver, and containing a splendid grand plane. The ceiling and walls are beautifully painted, the former by M. Moreau-Leret; and the latter by M. M. Esbron and Fels.

The reading from and smoke room are two other features which merit a passing notice. The first is decorated with linerasta in gold and green, and all the woodwork is of mahogany, while two chaiming landscapes by Mr. Fernand Gingon relieve the walls. The smoking room, though naturally not so elaborate as some of the other apartments, is very tastefully decoated, the Louis Quinze style being adopted here also, while the art of M. Felz is seen in some

pretty monochrome designs.

The second class accommodation, though of course plainer in style, is good; and the cabins, mon all the French steamers, are tolerably roomy and very well fitted, all the details of lighting, toilet, and emphoard accommodation being on the best modern plan. And the elegant confections served in the salcon of the Indus on Saturday afternoon showed that the chef is well up in the sirier and more ethereal branches of an art in which his compatriots are unapproachable. If his more solid efforts are equally successful the Indus will maintain the reputation of the French boats for keeping a first-class

### THE NEW MINISTER OF AGRICUL TURE AND COMMERCE.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro receives his first portfolio as Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. For many years he has occupied a prominent place in the official world and been recognised as one of the ablest among the rising statesmen of the era. We offer him our hearty congratulations on his accession to Ministerial rank and trust that he may achieve the auccess his talents committed desorre.

### JAPANENE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The National Unionists, remarks the Hochi, are now considering the formation of a new Ministry in the expectation that Marquis Ito will retire from the Cabinet. Marquis Yamagata is alleged to be the head of the movement. Steps were taken to induce a section of Libera's to make common cause with the National Unionists, with Mr. Nakamura Motoo at their head. Viscount Takashima's mansion is the head querters of the party, and their programme has in view the following appointments:—Prime Minister, Marquis Yamagaia (N.U.); Minister of War, Viscount Takashima's Marquis Hashima (S.); Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hoshi (L.); Minister for Communications, Mr. Shirane (N.U.); Finance, Mr. Sone (N.U.); Navy, Count Kabayama (S.); Home, Count Itagaki (L.); Agriculture and Com-merce, Viscount Shinagawa (N.U.); Justice Mr. Matsuda (L.); Education, Marquis Kuro-da Nagashige (S). This programme, the Bochi adds in the picturesque language of Oriental allegory, "is like a monster having the head of a dragon, the face of a monkey, the body of a cat, and the tail of a dog. The notion deserves in itself extreme wonder, and imparts, in fact, a new aspect to the political world."

The excitement in the political atmosphere since the rupture between the Liberals and the Cabinet has not yet calmed. Nothing definite is forthcoming from the Liberals as to their policy, but the members of the Party may, according to the Yorozu, be classified as follows: -(1) Those who, with the Progressists, are disposed to make an absolute attack upon the government. (2) Those who, though they will assail the Government on a certain points on which they consider attacks are absolutely necessary, insist upon the desirability of avoiding a vote indicating want of confidence in the Cabinet. (3) Those who are diametrically opposed to Count Inouye's financial policy, and who, while assuming a most judicious attitude In regard to diplomatic questions, are resolved to reject the budget now leady for presentation at the extraordinary session of the Diet Which of these three classes of politicians will command the majority in the Diet is quite un-certain. If in regard to the Government's financial policy the Progressists take the same attitude as the Liberals, and reject Count Inonye's programme, it is quite natural that Marquis Ito should either quit the Cabinet, or change it entirely, or form a new Coalition The Progressiate are is dulging in Ministry. The Progressists are i-dulging in whimsical forecasts of the future of the Cabinet, among them being the following: (x) A coalition Cabinet consisting of Liberals and Progresslets. (2) A Coalition of the Satsuma elique, Liberals, and National Unionists, with Marquis Saigo at their head. (3) Marquis Yamagata as Premier. (4) Count Inouye to resign his position as Minister of Finance in the Cabinet. The policy of the Liberals, however, will not be determined until after s general meeting on the arrival of the local Representatives in the capital. If it be found that the Tosa Clique commands the majority, then the Kwanto and Hokushin sections will probably form themselves into a new party.

From the Jijj we gather the following:—The price of rice in Soul rises day by day, being quoted at 26 sen per sho in Korean measure and 17 sen in Japanese. The Korean people are reduced to the last extremity; but nevertheless, in view of the acarcity of grain con-sequent upon the failure of crops in Japan during the past two years, the Japanese merchants in Korea are assiduously engaged in the export of Korean cereals to this country. Wheat, owing to the unusual warmth of last winter, did not turn out as bad been an icipated, and the poor have been obliged to feed on roots and backs. Disquietude prevails throughout the country, and the Emperor has found it necessary to issue a special rescript for the suppression of local commotions. As the misery of the people is growing too serious between the overlooked neighbors. Their trial shipment in October last proved extensions which is a good briar with pure tobacco," is her pretty tremely successful, a large order being sub-life dided dyspepsia among women smokers." A be overlooked neighbors where the suppression of local commotions.

between the Korean authorities and the Chinese Consul with a view to quantities of grain being imported from Shanghai. Arrangements are now being made to carry this scheme into practice, A certain Korean has presented an address to the throne in which, after pointing out the necessity of promulgating preventive laws against the export of rice, be exhorts the Emperor that foreign troops should be kept away, that aliens should be limited to their settlements, that no stranger should be allowed to travel in the interior without passports from the Korean government, that the circulation of foreign coins and notes should be peremptorily forbidden, and that the taxable boundaries in Deer Island should immediately be determined. These propositions are quite reasonable from a Korean point of view, but they can hardly be carried into practice.

Mr. Kataoka Chokuun, President of the Japan Land and Sea Insurance Company, is reported by the Nichi Nichi to have addressed a meeting of leading business men in Osaka. He urged that the Government ought to support the Industrial Bank in the issue of loans, so that the Bank might be enabled to extend help to the various private companies engaged in productive enter-prises. The present resources of the Bank do iot allow any single loan to exceed 125,000 yen, but these restrictions ought to be replaced by more liberal regulations. He also argued that the Bank of Japan should be directed to proceed with the redemption of public loan bonds, and he denied that any necessity existed for raising rates of interest on the part of the Nippon Ginko. The step taken in this direction is generally construed as having arisen from a desire to restore the currency to its vaults, to prevent the appreciation of commodities, or to check the mania for speculative undertakings. But it is not at all a judicious plan to sacrifice legitimate enterprises for the sake of suppressing speculation.

The Ito Cabinet, remarks the Kokumin, line begun to show instability within three months of its organisation. Two plans suggest themselves at this juncture. The Government has either to secure a fresh promise of cooperation from the Liberals, or to adopt a policy in-dependent of political parties. There is some talk of the possibility of the Progressists being consulted, but now that the Ito Cabinet ha declined the demands of the Liberal party, how is it possible for it to acquiesce in the claims of the Progressists? Will the Premier try to restore the former understanding with the Li-berals? In that case, the portfolio of Home Minister must be granted to Count Itageki, while the installation of the Count is likely to be attended with other radical changes in the Cabinet. The Liberals are strenuously opposed to the financial policy formulated by Count Inouye, and it seems that no alternative exists for the Premier but to resort m the policy of standing about from all parties,

Ever since the Government monopoly in leaf tobacco was established the import of the leaf has steadily increased, the figures for January and February reaching 884,435 and 1,419,721 cattees, valued at 82,629 and 152,952 yen respectively. The import of cigars, cigarettes, and cut lobacco, on the other hand, in January did not exceed 66 263 ren in value, while the amount for February scarcely reached 124,330 ren. The enormous import of foreign leaf is doubtless attributable to the abnormal appreciation of the native product consequent upon the monopoly. The Japanese Consul in Shanghai makes the following comments :- " At the end of each year accumulations of tobacco in the various warehouses do not fall short of 100,000 bags on the average, containing 200 cattles each. Merchants in Shanghai were shrewd enough to predict that quotations would rise the Japanese in Shanghai were induced to compete in the purchase of the leaf, and the quotations at present are more than double those in October last." There is, says the Tokyo Shimbun, cause for anxiety that the increasing import of Chinese tobacco will produce an injurious effect upon the Government, monopoly.

The depreciation of silver bullion and the rise in Shanghai exchange rates, together with the standstill in the export of yarns to China during the latter half of last year, have, according to the Nichi Nichi, combined to bring about serious decline in the cotton-spinning industry of Japan. The export to China began to revive at the end of last year, and in the beginning of 1898 a certain degree of prosperity was restored, quotations in February having risen to 96.50 yes per bale. This, however, proved only temporary, and the tradal depression in Shanghai. as well as political events, have again influenced exports to China. Prices have thus rapidly fallen, the rate at present being less than 85 yen, a decrease of over ten ven as compared with the maximum quotation of one or two months ago. To make matters worse, tightness of the money market has set in, with a corresponding enhancement of rates of interest. The Noda Spinning Company was the first to succimb. and, unable to continue work, the factory, which originally cost 4,000,000 yen, was recently sold to the Hirano Spinning Company for a sum of 180,000 yen only. Shareholders who have paid 20 yen will only receive 4 yen. The Asahi Factory is in a most embarrassed position, and other companies are also on the verge of disaster. With the exception of one or two they will not only be unable to declare dividends, but will probably go into bankruptcy should the present state of affairs continue for any length of time. A little grain of comfort, how-ever, comes from Osaka. Yarns are, it seems, ever, comes from Osaka. Yarns are, it seems, quoted in Shanghai at 78 taels while the exchange is fixed at 82 taels, at which price export yields a profit. It is reported that the demand may also revive in other parts of China.

According to the Jiji the foreign trade of Yokohama, Kobe, and Osaka during the first half of this mouth may be tabulated as follows .-

	Exports.	Imports.
Valentinena	Yen.	Yen.
Yekohama		3,819.953
		8,018,605
Osaka	82,883	238,134
Total	4,568,419	12,076,692
Excess of imports	_	7,508,282
	rt of Bullion.	Import.
	Yen.	Yen.
Yokohama		207,107
Koba		86,081
Osaka	3,900	3,610
-	3.900	2,510
Total	5.570.391	296,798
Excess of exports	5,867,391	_
The figures for the var- up to the present are as	ious ports fro	m January
	Exports.	Imports.
	Yen.	Yen.
From January to March.		65,210 124
First half of April	33.309.079	12,076,692
Print than the April	4,500,410	12,0/0,092
Total	37.877,489	77,295.826
Excess of imports	_	39,418,337
	t of Bullian.	import,
	Yen.	Yan.
Room Income to March		2 6 10

The Daily Mail has some correspondence on the question of "Smoking Carriages for Ladies." Miss Mand Chesterton, B.A., de-

From January to March.29,060,765 First teem of April ...... 5.570,391

Total ......34,631,156

Excess of exports ...31,690,637

2,643,730 296,798

2,940,318

### THE NEW YOROHAMA HOTEL.

Since Yokohama has become to rich Americans something like Boulogne and Ostend are to middle class Londoners the prospects of the hotel business have become particularly rosy. Already the Treaty Port has two or three establishments which do not yield, in point of solid comfort, to average first rate hotels in Europe, though of course the necessities of the case do not demand the huge structures and ultra laxury of arrangement that one associates with the great modern hostelry. The latest addition to hotel accommodation in Yokohama is certainly one of which the Settlement can be proud. The Oriental, which is fast nearing completion and will shortly be opened to the public, is a large and haudsome structure in red brick, with stone dressing, occupying a commanding position on the Bund, and possessed of an architectural finish that places it far beyond the average of the rather amorphous European buildings in Japan. It is the largest building under a single roof lu Yokohama and occupies a space of 500 tsubos. Its exterior is in the style of the Italian Renaissance, and the decorations of the principal rooms are on the same plan. There are two rooms are on the same plan. large and handsome entrance halls, one facing the Bund, and the other the side atreet to the right. On the left of the main entrance is the dining room, with an elaborately moulded hiski wood ceiling, carved wooden panels seven feet high, and an elegant design of wall decoration in green. The room is about 40 feet by 70 in Almost equally large is the har room, but the great feature of the place is the stair-case hall behind. It is 50 feet by 70, and lighted by skylights of richly stained cathedral glass. A great central staircase of solid stone, with massive and richly carved balustrades, leads to the great upper corridor which entirely encircles the whole building and into which the bedrooms (of which there are 40), ladies' drawing room, and other apartments open. The floor of the hall is handsomely tiled, and at the back of the staircage is a winter garden, which will be furnished with flowers and shrubs, and will form a pleasant lounge or "sitting out" ground during balls and dances. The rooms are all nicely furnished, filled with every "modern convenience" (that classic phrase covers more in this instance than an electric bell which won't work, as in some hotels we wot of), lighted by work, as in some notes we do to.). I specified by electricity, and warmed by an ingenious heating apparatus which can be regulated to a nicety by the occupant. The kitchen, too, is all that an artist like the Oriental's chef can desire. In fact, the hotel is more than a credit to the enterprise of the owners, Mesars. Muraour and Dewette, and to the architectural ability of Mr. Richard Seel, on whose design it has been erected. Those that have had the pleasure of testing M. Muraour's cuistne—he is probably the best cook in the East-and Mr. Dewette's managing ability can scarcely entertain any doubts of the hotel's success.

### MIRS BAY.

Mirs Bay is a particularly fine harbour on the coast of Kwangtung, a little to the north of Hongkong. If the report be true that the United States squadron on this station has proceeded to Mirs Bay and occupied it with the intention of employing it for the purpose of a basis of naval operations during the present war, we must suppose that China is a consenting party. In any case she becomes responsible for a breach of neutrality vis-d-v x Spain. In all probability England, too, has been consulted, for the necessity of acquiring Mirs Bay has so long been insisted on by the people of Hongkong that Great Britain has a kind of prescriptive right to the place, and certainly would object very strongly if any Power but the United States attempted to occupy it. We appreciate the absurdity of alleging that to have coveted a certain place for a length of time constitutes a title to its possession, but such appears to be one of the fin de siècle canons that the world has come to recognise. Of course nothing is yet definitely known about Mirs Bay and the

### A PLEA FOR THE POLICE.

That the re-adjustment of the various administrative Departments will become necessary when the revised treaties come into operation is beyond question; and the greatest difficulty will probably be in connection with the police and prison institutions. With respect to the former measures must be taken to appoint officers well versed in English in the leading ports and cities likely to be thronged by foreigners when mixed residence takes place. Even at present the policemen in large towns are required to devote some of their time to the study of English, but owing to the inadequacy of their salaries constables who have attained proficiency in English generally change their profession. In a certain prefecture half the constables who were sent to school for the study of English are reported to have left as soon as they obtained a grip of the language Unless the treatment of the force Is improved, any attempt to retain constables in office after they are perfectly trained for special duty will prove futile. The same remarks apply with equal force to police Inspectors and Superin-tendents of experience. The Chief Police tendents of experience. The Chief Police Inspectors are charged with great responsibili-ties in regard to the welfare and tranquility of the State; but the honours granted them are comparatively insignificant. In short, sweeping changes must be introduced into the existing system of police. The in Japan also needs reform. The prison system in Japan also needs reform. Japan ought not to be behind other nations in making improved arrangements in her houses of correction. So remarks the Tokyo Asahi.

### CAPITAL IN JAPANESE ENTER-PRISES. .

Now that the scarcity of capital is creating anxiety in the economic market, it is interesting to note how fast the demand for capital bas increased of late years and is still increasing. The following table shows the increase in the capital of various enterprises since 1895:—

CONSELIDATED C-PITAL.

Prior to Increase in Increase in Increase in 1895.
1895. 1896. 1897.
Yen. Yen. Yen. Yen.

Agricultural 184,197. 68.033 69.05 99.05 11,000.570 11,000.00 11,000.517 (0mmsrci=1 29.79.33 26.05.79.610.00 17,013.900 63.375.517 (77) 17,013.900 63.375.517 (77) 18,000 77,013.000 77,

A large proportion of this increase is, how ever, nominal, and exists only in the account books, and it is necessary to refer to the following table for the funds actually absorbed in enterprises of various descriptions:—

# CAPITAL INVESTED IN POPULAR ENTERPRISES. CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL.

### Private | Increase 
States attempted to occupy it. We appreciate the absurdity of alleging that to have coveled a certain place for a length of time constitutes a title to its possession, but such appears to be though i is believed the vessel can be raised. The Toyothima lies in 5½ fathoms of water, has come to recognise. Of course nothing is about three cables distance from the land, and yet definitely known shout Mirs Bay and the American squadron.

### CHINA'S NEW OPEN PORT.

Chinwan-tao, otherwise Tangho, which was declared open to foreign trade after the agreement to lease Wei-hai-wei to England, is in the Funing district of the province of Childi, a little to the south-west of Shanhaikuan. We do not know whether even that explicit statement will convey much information to the majority of our readers, and it may therefore be well to add that Shan-haikman lies on the Western Coast of the Liaotung Gulf, to the north of Taku-in other words, to the north of the mouth of the Peiho. The advantage gained by opening Chinwan-tao is that it is accessible for steamers all the year round, and as it will be connected by rail with Tientsin, Peking, and the Siberian road—when-ever that is finished—the result is that Tientsin and Peking, instead of being shut off from all maritime communications throughout the winter, will now be in touch with the sea from year's end to year's end. Another feature of the new port is that Shanhaikuan would be the natural place for a force to land if an attack on Paking were contemplated. From other points of view, also, its strategical importance is considerable, and with Wei-hai-wei in England's hands and Chin wan-tao open to foreign trade, Peking's chances of security are greatly improved.

### MR. MCLEAVY BROWN.

We take the following from the Soul Independent:-

We have received the following communication from a certain Korean guild (literal translation from Korean):

To His Excellency,

The Editor of The Independent:

Lofty Sir:

We hope your Excellency will insert the enclosed copy of an inscription which has been engraved on a tablet exected in honour of the Chiel Commissioner of Customs and Adviser of the Finance

on a tablet erected in honoin a fire conservation of the Finance Department, the great Englishman, Brown, so that the great and small people of Great Han will never forget Mr. Brown's services:—

"Brown, the great Englishman, Chief Commissioner of Dalhan. He understands Chinese, long connected with the Korean service. He is firm yet tender, he is accurate and economic in financial administration. He studies and plans for our welfare, Because of unfortunate circumstances he was relieved from the Finance Department too soon for our good, Whoever succeeds him cannot surpage this sage. His fame spreads worldwide and his deeds will be written on silk and bamboo."

on silk and bamboo."

(We insert this copy of the inscription with great pleasure. Though humble in origin and of quaint and simple style we believe that the message comes from the hearts of a grateful peuple. We have previously announced Mr. Brown's worthy recognition at the hands of his government. We are glad to print this hearty recognition from the people whom he has faithfully served. Though conched in the extravagant terms of Oriental language we believe there is a truth underneath which makes it an amusual tribute.—Ed. I.)

### JAPANESE TEA PROSPECTS.

The tea season opens in a few days. The expenses of manufacture have risen greatly, and it is believed that provincial tea growers will not part with their goods if the rates fall below 55 ven. The first tea steamer leaves Yokohama on the 30th instant, and foreign firms may expect to be compelled to buy at high quotations, insamuch as the arrivals by that time will not exceed 20,000 or 30,000 catties. The total output this year may reasonably be expected in be 20 ercent, less than in ordinary years. At a gathering of tea merchants held in Yokohama on the afternoon of the 19th instant it was resolved that the "superfine" from Suruga and Totomi should be quoted at from 54 to 55 yen; "medeiun" from 47 to 48 yen; "common" from Hamamateu and Im at 40 yen, and "best common" at from 44 to 45 yen,

The Chinaman who was removed from the P. and O. steamer Robilla and sent in the quarantine station at Nagasaki suffering from plague diel in the 3rd inst.

### FAPANESE LEPROSY.

Mr. Murakami Shosei, of the Epidemic Investigation Institute, publishes a lengthy article in the columns of the Tiji on the subject of Japanese leprosy. The article may be epitomined un follows:-

Leprosy in Japan has long been regarded as a non-infectious disease, but the recent deve-lopment of medical science has proved it to be In point of danger it is indeed contagious. more formidable than any of the eight epidemic diseases hitherto known.

The origin of this terrible disease has been ascribed to the wrath of Heaven. Whoever is tormented by the malady incurs in Japan the imputation that he has reaped the fruits of sins committed by his father or ancestors. Prayer and supplication to deities and Buddhas have therefore been the only courses taken by the sufferers; and it is for this reason that the sacred mountains of Nariassau in Shimosa, Minobu-san in Kai, and Shoto-san in Sannki are always crowded with aufortunate people infected with the malady. The disease being considered as hereditary, all the family and relatives of sufferers are shunned and isolated from social connexion. But the notion that the malady is hereditary is really quite erroneous; it is only contagious. As to the origin of the maindy no definite records exist in Japan, but its traces were already discernible as early as the middle ages. No preventive measures were then adopted, nor was the contagious nature of the disease known. Leprosy therefore rapidly spread, and of late it has begun to show signs of increasing in still greater measure. A few years ago, a village in a certain prefecture was infected, and in a short time the whole place was simply an abode of lepers. An adjoining village is now threatened with contagion. A family of six in Gumma prefecture is said to have lately been seized with the malady, one after another. Investigations completed by the Sanitary Bureau in September last show the aggregate number of lepers throughout the empire (Hokkaido being excepted) to be 23.660. It is quite certain that this calculation is under the mark, the real number being probably more than double the figure above mentioned. That in a country possessing only forty millions of population the number of lepers should be so large is a fact which must be ascribed to neglect in adopting preventive measures; and future failure to take resolute steps involves a serious menace to the whole nation. The one practicable method of dealing with the disease is isolation— separation of the infected from the rest of the community. Norway has set the example with perfect anccess, and the sooner this scheme is adopted in Japan the better. Japan has al-ready lost opportunities for taking decisive measures, and further delay may mean utter disaster.

Properly speaking, leprosy is a chronic infections disease: its duration is 30 to 40 years at maximum and 5 or 6 years at minimum. Secrecy and the success with which leprosy patients conceal the disease in the earlier stages are the great difficulties with which sanitary reformers will have to contend. The law of notification must strictly be enforced; and isolation places for lepers, where they may be kept in decent comfort, must be provided.

Isolation can be effected in two ways: the first, by providing special residences for lepers; the second, by doling out a tract of land for their exclusive use. The former process is the better, but it requires an immense outlay for buildings and a considerable amount in allowances to sufferers. If the Government be unable to bear all the expenses at once steps may be taken for the present to separate patients only in the three leading cities and the five open ports where communication is extremely brisk. At any rate lepers should be subjected to medical treatment.

The meeting of the Yokohama Literary So ciety, which was to have been held this evening is unavoidably postponed to May bili.

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### A GOLD FINLD IN MANCHURIA.

From eastern Manchujia comes news that an apparently rich gold-field has been discovered. Just a year ago, travellers having bowlstull of gold became tolerably frequent visitors at the small inna in the district. They proved to be fatmers and labourers who had discovered gold in a valley in the neighbourhood and who were carrying their "piles" to the nearest city. Of course a rush was made to the place, and it was found on the Western slope of m hill traversed by a small stream which disclosed, along its banks, a substratum of richly auriferous soil. Very soon two thousand diggers were working within a distance of one-sixth of a mile along the stream. From an arithmetical point of view it will not at first be perceived how they managed to fit in, since each man's claim must have been only 10 inches wide. But the ex-planation given is that 12 men occupied each claim, sharing the outcome equally, and that only two worked in it at a time, one plying a mattock, the other a spade. A great rush to up this spring. It is an interesting question whether the region in the neighbourhood of the river and even the adjoining monutains may not prove to be rich in gold.

### THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The shares of the Industrial Bank do not seem to attract subscribers despite the premia that they bear. The first issue is twenty thousand shares of 50 yen face value. Up to the 22nd instant, however, only two thousand applications had been received, the shares applied for totalling ten thousand. In other words, only five hundred thousand yen have been forthcoming. Several places have still to be heard from, however-as Osaka, Nagoya, Kyoto, Gilu, Miye, &c -and the list may possibly have filled before the 25th, when the period for subscription closed. But the chances are that even this first issue will have to be assisted by the State, and if that be the case, the second issue will probably have to be taken up entirely by the Government. Capital is evidently very scarce in Japan at present.

## THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The National Unionists have been left in the lurch, so to speak, by the action of the Liberals in severing connexion with the Government, Added to the Liberals they made a powerful party, quite competent to secure the passage of the Cabinets' bills through the Diet, but, standing alone, they are unable to accomplish anything. It does not appear, however, that they have any intention of following the example of the Liberals. They mean to stand by the Cabinet either as its sole supporters, or as intermedia They mean to stand by the Cabinet, ries working to restore the old relations between the latter and the Liberals.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. R. B. Bardsley, who was known in Yokohama, was recently found dead in his bunk on the Hangchow, bound from Chesoo to Swntow. It is thought that death was caused by laudanum poisoning,

The following is the result of the last Manila Lottery :---

Third Prize ..... 10,304 Fourth Prize ...... 18,000

It is reported that a well-known Shanghai re-sident has won the first prize.

An example of the unconscious satire of Deceased died "on his way home after consulting a specialist." An inquest was held, and a verdict returned of "Death from natural causes." Which reminds one of the junior reporter who wrote: "Deceased died without the state of the property of the propert

medical assistance, and an inquest was there-fore necessary." Poor doctors! A Jury of that kind is worse than a conscience.

The Medical Press and Circular urges The Medical Press and Circular arges society to pay no attention to the ingenious Frenchman who professes to have discovered the microbe of baldness. It says that baldness is "determined by a readjustment of the peripheral circulation," and "the incidence of this retrograde process is greatly influenced by heredity." That is quite clear, we trust,

A lifeboat believed to belong to the N. P. boat Pelican has been sighted by Captain Helm, of the ship Falkirk, near the Aleutian islands. The sea was too furious to permit of the lowering of a boat to examine it. It is feared that the Pelican's crew, numbering forty-one, were drowned, or died of starration, even if they reached shore, unless they found some Indian settlement, because the steamer was provisioned for only an ordinary trip.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, speaking at the annual dinner of the Solicitors' Managing Clerks' Association, claimed that the prejudice with which the legal profession has to contend is smaller than it was, but pointed to the stage lawyer and to the anecdotes aimed at the profession as evidence that a considerable body of ill-feeling remains. As an instance of the bitterness with which lawyers are sometimes spoken of, he mentioned that a modern wit had lately described a well-known solicitor to him as : professing Christian and a practising attorney."

It is stated that the Russian government has decided to adopt the metric system. United States and the British Empire will thus soon be the only important countries which have not adopted the decimal system of weights and measures. An imperial commission has also been appointed at St. Petersburg to consider the best means of abandoning the Russian calendar in favour of that which prevails in other parts of the civilised world.

A terrible disaster is reported from Illinois. By the bursting of a dam on the Ohio the Settlement of Shawneetown was flooded to the depth of fifteen to 20 feet in parts. Scores of people—some of the newspapers place the number at 250—perished, and the destruction of property was terrible. The Sheriff, a Mr. Galloway, lost his wife and four children. The disaster was aggravated by a terrific atorm, the wind blowing at the rate of 35 miles an hour,

Fleet Sargeon Christopher Knox Ord, M.D., F.L.S., died at Lewisham, London, recently, aged 72. From 1864 to 1866 he was surgeon of the Royal Marine battalion sent out for service in Japan, and was present at the bom-bardment of the batteries at the Straits of Shimonoseki and the capture of the batteries, stockade magazines, &c., from Sept. 5 to Sept. 8. 1864.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha has been granted by the Government a sum of 16,056 ven, as compensation for the loss of the Company's ateamer Ajikawa Maru, while under charter to the army during the war with China. The vessel stranded in the port of Newchang in April, 1895, and was blown up with dynamice by order of the Japanese military authorities. The sum granted is said to be only one-third of her value.

German Consulates are to be established at Vladivostock and Nicolaiefsk. In these ports there are not only many important German trading houses, but the fitting and chartering of ships is largely in the lands of the Germans. The present brisk state of trade between Germany and Eastern Siberia shows prospects of rapidly increasing. A direct and regular steamship line is about to be started between Hamburg and Vladivostok.

quickest and best way in which I can inform its many friends that, owing to the rise in rice and the fact that there have been very few contributions of late, they are sorely pressed to know which way to turn, and I would urge all who can do so to leud a "helping hand." During Mr. Pettee's absence contributions for the Asylum may be sent to me at Okayama.

A certain school-board, shocked at the vulgarity of some of our nursery rhymes, has Bowdlerised them. Here is a specimen of its labours :-

VOLGAR RNULTSO.

If I had a dookey as wouldn't go,
Do you think I'd wallop him? Oh, dear no!
I'd give him some corn, and cry: "Gee wa!
Gee up, Neddy!" VULGAR ANGLISH.

THE LANGUAGE OF THE YOUNG PERSON. THE LANGUAGE OF THE YOUNG A SECOND IT I had an animal average to speed,
Do you think I'd chastise him? No indeed!
I'd give him some outs and cry; "Proceed!
Go on, Edward?"

A German statistician has been making calculations as to beer-drinking in certain towns in Germany, Austria, and Hungary. The inhabitants of Munich consume on an average 566 litres per head every year; at Prague the figure falls to 172; at Berlin to 160; and Vienna on 145. On the other hand, the Nurembergers drink 321 litres each. According to the same suthority, they do not care a great deal for beer at Paris. The Parisian is content with only II litres a year. As to the brewing of beer, Germany is first with 61,300,000 hectolitres a year; Great Britain comes next with 3.000,000; and the combined output of the United States and Australia is 55,400,000.

Recently while Mr. Jordan, H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires in Korea, was walking along a street in Soul in the company of another foreign gentleman, a drunken Korean soldier, belonging to the first regiment of the Imperial Guard, saluted him by "a friendly whack across the shoulder," Mr. Jordan seized the offender and handed him over to the nearest police station. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, hearing of the episode, immediately called on Mr. Jordan and made suitable apologies, while the War Department took the prisoner into its hands and sentenced him to be shot. Mr. Jordan' expressed a wish that the man should not be dealt with so severely. and the sentence was commuted to ten years' banishment.

Rester's special agent writes of Peking: It is the dirtiest and worst kept town I have ever seen. The atreets are crowded with carts, which make deep ruts, and there is no pave ment. The gates are closed at nightfall, and re-opened at midnight, to allow Ministers to proceed to audiences, which are held at two o'clock in the morning. I was struck by the spathy of the inhabitants. Nobody displays the slightest interest in public affairs, except the officials, of whom a great number, it is stated, receive grants from the Russian secret service fund, representing a very large amount yearly. Nothing could convey a better idea of the utter conservation, and childishness of the Chinese than two sights which I witnessed yesterday, The first was a body of soldiers engaged in practising with hows and arrows, and the other was the picture of a huge cannon painted on a canvas acreening a part of the town wall, the object apparently being to frighten intending invaders. A European temarked to me that it was a good thing the loan had been concluded. for in a week's time it would be difficult to do business, as the kite-flying season would then have begun.

Newspaper enterprise has apparently broken out in a new and altogether reprehensible direction. At Bow Street a few weeks ago, Albert Eavres, allias Frederick Mason, inquiry agent, of Dalston, was charged with forging an order or request for admission to H.M. Prison at Holloway. It was stated that prisoner presented himself at Holloway Prison, gave in m paper representing himself as a solicitor's clerk, and statement for the defence. He afterwards sold Eugland between English girls and Chinese to Aloyd's News a statement which he alleged subjects. "Such unions," the committee rethe prisoner had made to him confessing his guilt. The newspaper published this sensational copy with flating headlines, and paid £20 for it. The prisoner was committed for trial,

Mr. Goschen gave un one reason for not enlarging his new naval construction estimates that it would be impossible to procure sufficient armour and probably guns for any greater number of ships than he has provided for. He further went on to say that it had been suggested that the Admirally should themselves construct works where armour could be manufactured; but he did not think the House generally would be inclined to encourage them in such a task. But why, says a paval expert, it should be had policy for the State to make a portion of her own aimour, and yet good for her to manufacture the greater part of her own guns, and even to build some of her own propelling machinery, is beyond my comprehension. Year by year we shall want more armour-plates, and surely this ought to be a reason for at once in-creasing our means of supplying them. But instead of this, Mr. Goschen merely gave utterance to a few weak platitudes about the unwisdom of checking the development of private enterprise by the Government undertaking the works. As well talk of checking the develop ment of any one of the various trades daily carried on in the Government yards.

Paris has invented a new method by which misguided women can either mar the good tooks with which they have been gifted or accentuate their natural ugliness. It is the feather blouse. This is usually composed of the green and blue plumage of the lophophore bird, but the flamingo and the peacock are also requisitioned. The hope is expressed, indeed, that because feather blouses "are expensive and easily go out of order," the fashion will not last long; but human nature is so constituted that these manifest defects in a material for clothes are often accounted its greatest merits. Thus the main reason why the popularity of the silk hat cannot be shaken is that it is expensive compared with other hats and easily gets out of order. A bowler does not in itself reveal a man's position and character; neither does a straw or one of the indented soft felt constructions. But a single glance at a silk hat, its shape, condition, and gloss, will tell whether its owner belongs to the feunesse dorte of Piccadilly, the city clerk species, or the mysterious shabby genteel personages who get their living in all kind of dark by ways.

In the course of a week or two the first through express train will start from the Moscow station at St. Petersburg on its journey of six days to the furthest point reached in the construction of the Great Siberian Railway. The Russian Minister of Ways and Communications has decided to compose an express train out of the railway carriages now in use on the Moscow and Kursk line. This train will be made up every fourteen days, and will consist of six luggage vans, one first-class, and two secondclass carriages, a restaurant car, in which only cold meals and wine will be served, and a saloon car, which will contain a small library of railway guide-books, and about twenty newspapers. As on the line between Warsaw and Vienna, it will be possible to order dinner by telegram, and the meal will be served in the carriages if so desired. The "Siberian Express" will take the following route:—St. Petersburg to Moscow, 404 miles; thence to Riazan, a distance of 115 miles; at Riajsk, 60 miles south of Riazan, the train will take an easterly direction to Samara, 450 miles distant; here the line leads in a north-east direction to Ufa, which is 250 miles distant, and is sinated in the southermost alopes of the Ural mountains. From this point the traveller will begin his journey through Siberia.

The committee of the Shanghai branch of

subjects. "Such unions," mark, "are not illegal and from some points of view possibly not improper, and it is consequently impossible to call upon the authorities to interfere; but the committee desire to point out as strongly as they can that the present condition of affairs in China is such as to make the chances of a happy result to auch a marriage almost nil, while there is not the slightest prospect of any change taking place during the lifetime of the present generation sufficient to justify an Englishwoman in counting on even a tolerably comfortable life if allied to a Chinese husband. The committee wish to place on record their opinion that even when the strictest inquiries show the Chinaman in question to be an honourable and well-educated man, of social standing in his own country equal or superior to that of the lady to whom he is anxious to be engaged. and with ample means to justify his getting married, the final result is likely to be of the most disappointing description. So long as the married couple reside in Europe the result may be tolerable, but almost every Chinaman returns sooner or later to China, and there, whatever the husband may do, the position of the foreign wife is, in the present state of Chinese society, absolutely intolerable."

The Channel Squadron was recently in a really bad way with measles. On March 13 there were four battleships and one cruiser in quarantine at Gibraltar from this cause. All the ships left Gibraltar on March 2, and arrived at Carthagena on the 5th. There they heard that small-pox and typhoid fever were rife, Therefore on anchoring a signal was made that there was to be no leave for gunroom officers, no fruit or vegetables were allowed to be taken on board, and all milk was ordered to be coiled. The same evening the Squadron took up anchor and got under way again, but on the morrow fell in with bad weather, and anchored in Moryrea Bay. On the 7th they left again, arriving at Valencia the same day; but as with so many measle-stricken ships it was useless to go any-where else, they arrived at Gibraltar again on the 13th. A correspondent writes to the Globe as follows :--- " What is to be done? The measles are constantly recurring in the infected ships, and the Vice-Admiral cannot take them anywhere. I datesay you know the exaggerated funk of nearly all Mediterranean ports at any infections disease, and they all think you have a little cholera up your sleeve if you show a yellow flag. The whole thing is an awful pity. It would seem to most people that the best way out of this difficulty-and it is a source of much anxiety to the Commander-in-Chief-would be the return of the Squadron to Pouland, where all the usual drills could be carried out.

The Speaker has a very incisive article on Lord Salisbury and his Eastern policy. It observes that what Great Britain needs is a firm and clear sighted diplomacy. "Alas!" it adds "this is just what she does not seem at present to have at her command, and herein lies the real danger to the peace of the world. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that one of the gravest dangers at the present moment is to be found in the feebleness and untrustworthiness of Lord Salisbury as Foreign Minister. Of his feebleness and lack of nerve there is no need for us to speak, eeeing that so much is being said upon the subject by his own anpporters. The myth which acclaimed Lord Salisbury as a great Foreign Minister is a thing of the past. By displays of weakness, vaciliation, and absolute timidity in the face of our rivals, repeated again and again, he has absolutely destroyed the national confidence in his firmness of purpose, He has, at the same time, sown a deep and wide feeling of distrust with regard to his statements of fact. To add to our sense of helplessness we have to face the astounding fact that, at this most critical moment, Lord Salisbury is proposing to absent himself from England for several weeks. He is bound, in the terribly on the representation that he was proparing a the public to the contracting of marriages in absence of Mr. William Terriss, on the representation that he was proparing a the public to the contracting of marriages in absence of ILLINOIS AT

present moment from his villa at Beaulieu. If he attempts to do so he will be guilty of a crime against the Commonwealth. Before he leaves England it is his duty-a duty from which no-body can relieve him-to place the control of our foreign affairs in the hands of a competent aubatitute. If he does not take this step, he will make himself personally responsible for the disasters into which we shall inevitably drift.

Carl Hertz, the conjurer who is shortly to give n performance at Yokohama, was recently Colombo with a yachting party, fishing. wanted him to while away the time with some feats. Hertz finally consented. He borrowed m gold waich from an old gentleman, who was horror-stricken to see the valuable instrument (apparently) thrown overboard. Hertz then procured a fishing-rod and line, and sat down with the air of an experienced angler, with his legs dangling over the side of the yacht. Presently he got a "bite" and hauled his capture—a good sized fish-on board, which, on being cut open, disclosed the gentleman's watch in all its pristine beauty and undamaged. Such are his powers of palming. Once during his career Carl Hertz was sold. It was by a little boy when he was performing in the Southern States of America. One of his tricks consisted in patting a dollar borrowed from the audience into an orange, and afterwards placing it in a boy's pocket. The boy is, of course, a confederate, to whom a dollar has been given by the conjurer before he appears on the stage, On the night in question the boy, when called up in the presence of the audience to take the dollar out of his pocket, replied, as he produced a quantity of small change, " Here's 98 cents.: I got thirsty and changed the dollar you gave Atter that Mr. Hertz decided never more to work with a confederate.

It is now settled that two new battalions are to be added to each of the three following regi ments-the Royal Fusiliers, the Royal wickshire, and the Lancashire Fusiliers. Recruits in these territorial districts are fairly plentiful, and the authorities do not doubt their ability to raise the six battalions in a short time. The Royal Warwickshite, Royal Fusiliers, and Lancashire Fusiliers are all old and distinguiahed regiments, and should, on that account, be popular in the recruiting market. The Royal Warwickshire is one of the "Holland" Regiment of the Stuart days; it saw much service in the wars against Louis XIV., and after its return to England with William of Orange it fought bravely in the Iriah and Flanders campaigns. After distinguished service in many quarters of the globe, it served in the Peninsular War, for which it hears the honours—Rolica, Vimiera, Corunna, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Orthes, and Peninsula. Its other battle honouse are Niagara, South Africa 1864-47 and 1851-53. The Royal Fusiliers, the old 7th, was added to the Army at the time of the Monmouth rebeltion, and is the oldest fusilier regiment in the service. It bears the battle honours-Talavera, Martinique, Albu-hera, Badajos, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Orthes, Toulouse, Poninsula, Aima, Inkerman, Sebastopol, Kandahar 1880, and Alghanstan 1879 So. The Lancashire is the old 20th, and its establishment dutes from 1688. Its battle honours include Dettingen, Minden, Egmontop-Zee, Egypt with the Sphiux, Maida, Vi-miera, Cornina, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Ortehs, Toulouse, Peninsula, Alma, Inkerman, Sebastopol, and Lucknow.

Mr. Woolf Joel, who was shot a few weeks ago at Johannesburg first went to the Cape when he was 15 years of age. Three years operations on the diamond fields at Kimberley brought him a fortune. He returned home, but again set out for the Cape in 1881, and such was his grasp of the undertakings with which his uncle, the late Mr. B. I. Barnato, was associated, that he was admitted a full partner in Barnato Brothers. He became Chairman of the Kimberley Mining Board

of De Beers. It was upon Mr. loel's suggestions that Barnato Brothers turned their attention to Johannesburg, and it was the large business concerns built up there which engaged most of his attention during the last few years. When Mr. Joel went to Johannesburg in January, it was with the intention of putting the mining companies in the Barnato group on a solid basis. He was exceedingly popular throughout South Africs, and the promoters of charities there found in him a ready supporter. His death naturally recalls the incident at Monte Carlo in 1895, when he won £16,000 at the tables in half an hour. This arose out of a walking match from La Puible to Nice with his friend, Mr. Frank Gardner. The stakes were £100 aside, and the arrangement was that the winner should at once proceed to the Casino and place the whole of the loser's money on the red for joint account. Mr. Joel won the match, and carried out the bargain. The incident culminated in the famous "Read Dinner" m the Savoy Hotel in November, 1895.

### SPRING MEETING OF THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

PATRONS:-H.I.H. Komatsu no-Miya, H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, and H.I.H. Takeshito-no-Miya. PREMINDENT CONMITTEE:—Sir Ernest Salow, R.C.M.G. President; Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President; W. B. Walter, Esq., A. Dumelin, Esq., Jas. Dodds, Esq., R.D. Robison, Esq., F. Strabler, Esq., W.W. Till, Esq., Bann d'Anethan, E. Knaff, Esq., Count Offini, G. Philip, Esq., T. Thomas, Esq., S. Isaacs, Esq., and W.F. Mitchall Esq., Saloss, Esq., and W.F. Mitchall Esq. chell, Esq.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: W.W. Till, Esq. Chairman; T. Rinoiye, Esq., V. Blad, Esq. E. Rusff, Esq., S. Isaacs, Esq., T. Thomas, Esq., J.C. Nicholson, Esq., and H. Tennant, Esq., Secretary.

### FIRST DAY .- TURSDAY, APRIL 26TH.

After one day's postponement owing to the heavy rain of Sunday and Monday the Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club was opened on Tuesday under fairly favourable circumstances. The course was rather heavy going from its recent drenching but scarcely an bad as might have been expected under the circumstances. Though not sunny the weather was fine and there was a good average attendance on the Grand Stand for a first day. Most of the events were well contisted and afforded ex-cellent sport. In spite of the heavy course one record was broken, by Saikio winning the All Aged Stakes, three-quarters a mile, in stith of a second less than Idaho's time last autumn. The arrangements were time last autums. The arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by the executive committee consisting of Mr. Bianchi, Judge; Mr. S. Warming, Assistant Judge; Mr. J. C. Nieholson, Santer; Mr. E. Hutchinson, Assistant Starter; Dr. Wheeler, Clerk of the Scales; Mr. F. J. Hail, Time-keeper; Mr. J. McArthut, Assistant Time-keeper; the extra stewards being Messrs. W. F. Mitchell, L. Abel, C. Gibbins, J. Naudin and G. M. Woolsey. Clerk of the Course, Mr. E. Knaff.

The various events were m follow:-

Mr. Worthington's Tomist, 1441b.....(Yasu) o Mr. Worthington's Inpiter, 1411b....(Hayashi) o Mr. Nemo's Royaliste, 1561b......(Nakayama) o Mr. Tatsusa'. Maidzuru, 1441b.......(Riki) o Mr. Avis's Gauder, 1441b......(Goto) o Mr. Russia's Cozack, 1471b.......(Hořikoshi) o

Tomist appeared to be the favourite at the start, Mr. Worthington declared best of his two to win. Ten out of thirteen entrants turned out, and, after a little delay noting to trouble given by Tourist, got away fairly well together. Jupiter took the lead, with Tradesman next, and Royalist third, at the Trees almost the same order was maintained. On entering the straight a fine race tained. On entering the straight a fine race ensued between Tradesman and Martings@chiller when he was little over it years of the and ensued between Tradesman and Marting a Chair a live bound in the control of the co

cie a poor third about three lengths behind. Time 1.37%

Pari Mutuse, \$5 Pool—Miditon o, Martingale 3, Tandat 2, Jupiter o, Royaliste o, Mardzuru 6, Gauder o, Edlancie 8, Cozack 8, Tradesman o, Rield 1; total 23=\$115—Tradesman \$103. \$2 Pool—Muliton 3, Martingale 17, Tourist 18, Jupiter 7, Royaliste 7, Maidzuru 26, Gas det 5, Eclancie 26, Cozack 12, Tradesman 3; total 124=\$248—Tradesman \$74.

-The JAPAN STAKES, Prize veine yen 200, for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription Country-breds of 1897 that have not won more than two races at date of entry; weight as per scale. 💈 Mile. Entrance fee, Yes 10.

Mr. Yoda's Matsushima, 139lb. ...(Tsubouchi) 1 Mr. Russia's Hermine, 132ib. .....(Horikichi) 2 Mr. Worthington's Dargai, 135lb. .....(Yasu) o

Only three horses started and as a matter of Only three horses started and as a matter of fact it was no race at all. Two of the starters, Matsushima and Hermine, were sent away, leaving Dargai twenty lengths behind, and of course completely out of the race. The two first mentioned ran almost neck and neck as far as the Trees, when Matsushima got alread by a couple of lengths. In the run home Hermine made a game try and recovered half the distance between herself and Matsushima but was bestern but a length. Tome Matsushima, but was beaten by a length. Time

PARI MUTURL, E Pool-Dargai II, Matsushima 34, Hermine 24; total 60=\$345-Matsushima 29. In Pool-Dargai 31, Matsushima 28, Hermine 43; total 152=\$304-Matsushima \$3.50.

-The TRIAL PLATE, 1st Prize, yen 200; 2nd, yen 50, for all China Phoies; weight as per scale. 4 mile. Butrance fee, yen 10. Mr. States's Oregon (late Componnise)

After one futile attempt the field of eight statters were got away on fairly level terms. Kirigomi and Suma took up the running and led to the Shake-peare, where the latter gave place to Tomit and Usugumo. At the Trees Kirigomi led, but at the entrance to the straight Oregon came up very strongly and easily worked to the front, passing the post about half a length ahead of Kirigoni, with Kindar, who had come away in the run home, third, about two lengths behind. Time,

PARI MUTUBL, \$5 Pool—Oregon 31, Kirigomi 3, Opportuniste 5, Suma 4, Kestret 4, Usuguma 25, Tomiti 12, Kunder 15; total 99=\$495—Oregon \$14. Il Pool—Oregon 70, Kingomi 13, Opportuniste 23, Suma 16, Kestret 11, Usugumo 53, Tomiti 21, Kinder 29; total 236=\$472—Oregon \$66. \$6.

-The ALL-AGED STAKES, value yen 200, for all Country-breds; weight as per scale. \( \frac{1}{4} \) Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 130tb ............(Hakodate) 1 Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 142lb ............(Riki) 2 Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. ...........(Sugiura) 3

Idaho was a warm favourite and carried most of the money, though Tatsuta also found a fair number of backers. Saikio, whose chances were considered very slight, got rather the best of the start, and, holding her position at the front by about a length all round, came strong in the home stretch and won a good race by a couple of lengths from Tatsuta, with the favourite about a length in the rear. Time, 1.232, a fifth of a second less than Idaho's record of last autumn.

Part Muturl, 1 Pool-Idaho 51, Taisuta 25, Saikio 21; total 204-\$520-Saikio \$16.50. \$2 Pool-Idaho 122, Tatsuta 14, Saikio 71; total 277 =\$554-Saikio \$7.

5.—The Nanking Stares, First prize, yen 250; .— LUE WANKING STARES, First prize, yen 250; 2nd, yen 50. For Subscription China Panies of Automo, 1897, and Spring, 1898; weight as per scale; whiners in Japan at date of entry 51b. extra for each tace won, 14 Miles. Entrance fee, yen IO.

Mr. Derliy's Martingale, 153'b. ... (Takahashi) 1 Mr. News's Eclarcie, 150lb. ... (Mr. Kingdon) 2 Mr. E. Owen's Dr. Jun (late Minet,

Mr. S. Owen's Dr. Jim (late Minet, 1521b..................(Mr. Moitu) 3
Mr. States's Colorado, 144th.........(Suginta) 0
Mr. Guignol's Berald, 155th......(Mr. Longin) 0
Alt/Whithington's Mercury, 150th......(Mr. Nicholaon) 0

Mr. Durand's Romeins, 152lb, ..... (Sato) o Mr. Nemo's Pique Assiette, 153lb. ........ (Ichi) o Mr. Avis's Gander, 144lb. ......(Gulo) o Mr. Russia's Doorak, 144lb. .......(Huikoshi) o

Mr. Russia's Doorak, 1441b. ... ......(Horikoshi) of Out of a field of thirteen ten ponies faced the starter, and were got away to a fair start without much difficulty. Colorado, Gander, Eclaircie, and Mercury were in the front cank in passing the Stand for the first time, and continued to keep the same order till the Shakespeare was reached, Martingale came away from his field between the Shakespeare and the Trees, and at the entrance of the Stiaight ran to the front, with Eclaircie a length behind. In the run home Martingale, hard ridden, passed the post about a length and a half ahead of Eclaircie, with Dr. Jim, who had come up strong at the finish, half a length behind. Time 2.352.

Part Mutuel. \$5 Pool—Colorado 27, Mar-

Pari Mutuel, \$5 Pool—Colorado 27, Maitingale 6. Herald 3, Mercury 18, Romulus 3, Peque Assiette 7. Gander 4, Eclaicie 7, Daorack 13. Dr. Jan 36; total 124=\$220—Martingale \$08.00. \$2 Pool—Colorado 22, Martingale 24, Herald 6, Mercury 41, Romulus 11, Peque Assiette 10, Gander 11, Eclaircie 30, Doorak 31, Dr. Jim 56: total 242=\$484—Martingale \$18.00.

6.—The Maidens' Plats, value, yen 200. For Country, breds, Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription Country-breds of 1897 that have not won more than two races at date of entry; weight as per scale, 11 Mile. Entrance fee

Mr. Yodo's Matsushima, 135lbs....(Tsubouchi) I Mr. Russia's Hermine, 130lbs.......(Harikoshi) 2 Mr. Guignol's Chiyada, 130 bs.......(Katsu) 3 Mr. Durand's Pimerauven, 140lbs....(Rubata) 0 Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lbs.......(Hubtori)

Five started, Matsushima being the favourite. On passing the stand the first time, the favourite, Tomboy and Chiyoda ran neck and neck. After rising from the din Matsushima still led with Hermion at his quarters, the others being left many lengths behind. The same order was kept in the home stretch, where Hermion made an effect but failed to come up with the favourite, which passed the post about three quarters of a length ahead of Hermine, Chiyoda finishing third three or four lengths behind. Time 2 18½.

Part Muture, \$5 Pool—Chiyoda 32, Plumean vent 14, Matsushima 6, Hermine 28, Tomboy 24; total 159=\$795—Matsushima \$1, 50. \$2 Poul—Chiyoda 73, Plumeanvent 38, Matsushima 81, Hermine 52, Tomboy 63; total 307=\$614—Matsushima \$6,80. On passing the stand the first time, the favourite,

81, Hermine 52, To Matsushima \$6,80.

7.—The Shanghai Plats, 1st prize, yen 250; 2nd, yen 50. For all Clina Ponies; weight as per scale. 13 Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

150lbs.....(Sugiura) o Mr. Nishimura's Niitaka, 150lbs.....(Hattúri) n

After a fair start the eight starters can well together half round the course, with the exception of Torpedo and Nillaka who either waited too of Torpedo and Nillaka who either waited too long or had not get the legs. After passing the Trees however Ectabeur, Mr. Darcy and Miyajima came away from their field and a fine race counted down the Straight, the former passing the post by a short half length ahead of Miyajima, with Mr. Darcy m fair third; the others lengths behind. Time 3.26.

PARI MUTUBL, \$5 Pool—Miyajima 25, Torpedo 4, Orion 58, Opportuniste 4, Mr. Darcy 31, Eclaireur 28, Tronhadour 6, Niitaka 12, Field 1; total 169=\$845—Eclaireur \$27.00. \$2 Pool—Miyajima 50, Torpedo 22, Orion 126, Opportuniste 23, Mr. Darcy 13, Eclairear 56, Tronhadour 27, Niitaka 28; total 345=\$690—Eclaireur \$11.00.

-The Nippon Plate, value, yen 200. For all Country-breds; weight as per scale, 13 Mile Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Traveller 145lbs......(Yasu) 1 Mr. Nishimura's Hayakaze, 140lbs. (Takahachi) 2

This race resulted in match between Traveller and Hayakaze, brother and sixter, the older pony carrying five pounds more than his sixter. The match was considered a very open event and hoth ponies were well backed. At the start Travelle got a slight lead, but at the Stand, after covering the half mile the mare came up and the two raced nock and neck down and up the Dip and past the Shakespeare. In the Straight however aid Travelle follow:

Digitized by This race resulted in a match between Traveller

sister behind, winning a good race by about two lengths. Time 2.57%.

Part Mutuel, \$5 Pool—Traveller 51, Haya-kaze 69; total 120=\$605—Traveller \$10.50 \$2
Pool—Traveller 105, Hayakaze 126; total 231= \$462-Traveller \$3.90.

The Negishi Stakes, value, yen 200. For Country-breds that have never won a Country-bred Champion Race or a Newmarket Plate; Subscription Maidens 5lb, allowance; weight as per scale. I mile, Butrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 145'bs. ......(Ichi) Mr. Worthington's Tambour Major

Only four stated, of which Tambour Major appeared to be first favourite. Philomet took up the running after the start, but Sasha came away and took the lead on rising from the Dip: In the run home Sasha kept his lead, and though Tambour Major made a good try, won a good tace by about half a length, with Philomet third several lengths behind. Time, 1.57\frac{1}{2}.

Part MUTURL \$\frac{1}{2} \text{Paper} \text{Major Major 32}.

Part Muturl, \$5 Pool—Tambor Major 32, Sasha 34, Philomet 5, Rigi 7; total 78=\$390— Sasha \$10.30. \$2 Pool—Tambor Major 71, Sasha 53, Philomet 9, Rigi 10; total 143=\$286—Sasha

SECOND DAY .- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH.

Ideal racing weather favoured the second day of the Spring Meeting on Wednesday, while the course had also hardened into a firmer and more satisfactory condition. There was probably the largest attendance of speciators in the enclosure of any recent seasons, the ladies also gracing the scene is their charming spring toilettes in strong force. There was a considerable contingent of visitors from Tokyo, which included amongst others the German and Belgian Ministers, Mr. Paget, Secretary of the British Legation, etc. His Majesty the Emperor had been invited to attend the Races on that day, but was unable to do so through indisposition, Baron Sannomiya was present, however, and after the third race presented the prize given by His Majesty for the Banzai Stakes, a pair of beautiful inlaid vases, to Mr. Isaacs, owner of the winner. In presenting the prize the Baron expressed His Majesty's regret at being unable to accept the invitation of the Club on that occasion, Mr. Thomas replied on behalf of the Club, and three hearty cheers and banssi were given for His Majesty the Emperor by all present. The fourth race of the day, for the Ladica' Purse, brought out the large field of eleven ponies and aroused the keenest interest. The coveted prize was presented to the winning rider, Mr. Pakenham, by Miss Morse, who accompanied the presentation with a graceful little speech, to which Mr. Pakenham made a suitable reply. The winner has been a popular and successful gentleman rider for near macore of years, but this was his first win of the Ladies' Purse. Most of the events were well contested and excellent sport was afforded to the numerous speciators. The pari-mutuel was almost blocked throughout the afternoon by crowds of speculators. The Town Band contributed to the enjoyment of visitors by performing the following programme of music:--

1-Here, There and Everywhere March, by A. I—Here, There and Everywhere March, by A. Rose.
2—Overline z. Op. Zampa, by Herold.
3—Faotasie a Op. Faust, by Gounod.
4—The Mikado Waltz, by —
5—Port Arthur March, by F. Eckert,
6—Amorette (Entracte), by F. Rose.
7—Emani Scene and Arra, by Verdi,
8—Overline "Olivia," by S. H. Hyde.
9—Nahant March, by W. H. Thomas.
10—Brawma Waltz, by O. Roeder,
11—The Whistling Polka, by —
12—Potpouri Gedanken-Suiche, by Ed. Kiesler.
13—Flederman's Quadrille, by Strauss.

12—Potpouri Gedanken-Stricke, by Ed. Kit 13—Flederman's Quadrille, by Straiss. 14—The Manhattan Beach, by S. P. Sonsa. 15—Mon Bijon Mazinka, by Faist. 16—Viellichen Gavotte, by Wallfesch. 17—La Grifferie Polka, by — 18—Golden Beauty Waltz, by Godfrey.

The results of the various races were as

ler's staying powers told, and he gradually left his L.-THE CHINA HANDICAP, 1st Prize, yen 200; 201d, yen 50, a Handicap for Sobscription Clinia Pontes, non-winners in Japan at data of entry. Handicap after first day's racing. I Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

winning by about a couple of lengths, with Tourist a good third. Time 1.5376.

a good third. 11me 1.5375:

PARI MUTURL, \$5 Pool—Colorado 7, Mirition 1, Martingale 10, Tourist 2, Mercury 3, Pique-Assiette 2, Gauder 3, Doorak 8; total 36—\$180—Doorak \$20.00, \$2 Pool—Colorado 20, Mirition 7, Martingale 41, Tourist 10, Mercury 15, Pique-Assiette 8, Gauder 7, Doorak 24; total 132—\$264—Doorak \$9.90.

2.—The BANZAI STAKES, 1st prize, yen 200; 2nd, yen 50, for all Country-breds, weight as per scale; winners at the meeting 5lb, extra each race won. 1 Mile. Entrance lee, yen 10.

Mr. States's Idaho, 140lbs................(Sugiura) I Mr. Wotthington's Tambour Major

Only three started, of whom Taisuta appeared to be the favourite. Idahn rushed to the front directly after getting away and kept the lead all tound, winning easily by about three lengths, Tatsuta and Tambour Major running a dead heat for second place. Time 2.13%. The prize for this race, a beautiful pair of inlaid vases, was presented by H-M, the Emperor.

PARI MUTURL, \$5 Pool—Idaho 22, Tambour Major 17, Tambour Major 17, Tambour 32, Field 4, Field 1; total 76 = \$350—Idaho \$15 50. \$2 Pool—Idaho 42, Tombour Major 43, Tambut 54; total 139=\$278—Idaho \$5.90

3.—The COUNTRY-BRED HANDIGAP, 1-t prize, yen 150; 2nd, yen 50; a Handicap for Country-breds; Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription Country-breds of 1897 that have not won more than two races at date of entry; Handicap after first day's racing. One Mile. Entrance for years. fee, yen to.

Mt. Yodo's Matsushima, 130lbs....(Tsubouchi) 1
Mt. Russia's Hermine, 130lbs......(Horikushi) 2
Mt. R. Field's Tomboy, 143lbs.........(Riki) 3
Mt. Guignol's Chiyoda, 126lbs........(Katsn) 0
Mt. Worthington's Dargat, 123lbs....(Hayashi) 0

After one breskaway and a little delay a splendid start was effected. Chiyoda made the pace and led for the first taif mile with Matsushima and Tomboy next in order. At the Shakespeare Matsushima worked into first place with Hermine clove up. At the distance the latter challenged the leader, but failed to reach him, Matsushima passing the post a short length ahead, and Tomboy a poor third. Time, 1.57 18.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool—Chiyoda 20, Dargai 19, Matsushima 58, Hermine 43, Tomboy 27; total 167—\$835—Matsushima \$12.50. \$2 Pool—Chiyoda 50, Dargai 51, Matsushima 127, Hermina 109, Tomboy 70, Field 1; total 414—\$828—Matsushima 127 shiima \$5 80.

4.—The Ladies' Purse, Presented. For all China Ponies. To be ridden by members of the Club or visitors whose name must be sent to the Committee before the meeting and approved by them; weight as per scale with 5lb, added. One Mile. Butrance fee, yen to.

Mr. States's Oregon, 155lbs. (Mr. Pakenham) 1
Mr. News's Eclairenr, 155lbs. ...(Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. R. Field's Kindar, 149lbs. ...(Mr. Michie) 3
Mr. Hyogo's Miyajima, 158lbs. (Mr. Pearson) 0
Mr. Guignol's Torpedo, 152lbs. ...(Mr. Longin) 0
Mr. Worthington's Orion, 152lbs. ...(Mr. Nicholan) 2

Mr. Nemo's Opportuniste, fózibs.(Mr. Nicholsen) #
Mr. Nemo's Opportuniste, fózibs.(Mr. Andreis) o
Mr. Tytherleigh's Kestrel, 1521bs. (Mr. Easton) o
Mr. Tatsma's Usuguma, 155tbs....(Mr. Mottu) o
Mr. Avis's Tomit, 149tbs.............(Mr. Owen) o
Mr. Nichimura's Nitakes vertile.

Mc. Avis's Tomut, 149 03..... Mc. Nishimura's Nittaka, 155lbs. (Mc. Nishimura) =

The large field of eleven ponies turned out for this race, which is given by Togarded as one of the

most interesting events of the meeting. A great most interesting events of the meeting. A great deal of trouble was experienced in getting the ponies off, but at last, after about a quarter of an hour had been lost, a fair start was effected. Kindar, Miyajima, and Torpedo made the running for the first half mile or so, but then gave place to Oregon, Orion, and Tomit. Entering the Straight Oregon led by a length or two and passed the post about two lengths in front of Eclaircie, who had come up with a rush III the discover with Kindar third shout three lengths is tance, with Kindar third about three lengths be-hind. Time, 2.1336.

PARI MUTUBL, II Pool-Oregon 143, Miya-jima 32, Torpedo 11, Orion 97, Opportuniste 21, Kestrel 13, Usugumo 37, Tomtit 17, Eclaicon 127, Kinder 20, Nihaka 14; total 532=\$1,064— Oregon \$6 70.

5.—The MANDARIN PLATE, 1st prize, yen 200; 2nd, yen 50, for Subscription China Punies of Autumn 1897 and Spring 1898; weight as per scale; winners in Japan at date of entry 5lb.
extra for each race won; winner of race t first 5lb. extra; of two races excluded. & Mile. Entrance fee, ven 10.

Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lbs. ... (Takahashi) 1 Mt. Desby's Martingale, 153lbs....(1 akahashi) 1
Mt. Nishimura Tradesman, 144lbs....(Mr. Hattoti) 2
Mt. Russia's Doorak, 144lbs.....(Mr. Mottu) 3
Mt. Worthington's Toprist, 144lbs......(Yasu) 0
Mt. Durand's Romulus, 152lbs......(Kabota) 0
Mt. Nemo's Pique Assiette, 153lbs.(Nakazumi) 0
Mt. Tatsuta's Maidauru, 144lbs..........(Riki) 0
Mt. Avie's Gander, 144lbs............(Goto) 0
Mt. E. Owen's Dr, Jim, 152lbs....(Mr. Owen) 0
Mt. B. Owen's Dr, Jim, 152lbs....(Mr. Owen) 0

Martingale started a warm favourite and took the lead from the start, followed at first by Tourist and Romulus. On entering the Straight Tradesman and Doorak ran into second and third places respectively and passed the post in the same order, Martingale finishing about three quarters of a length ahead of Tradesman. Time, 1.36}.

PART MUTUEL, \$5 Puol-Martingale 69, Tourist PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool—Mattingale 09, Lourist 7, Ronnlus 5, Pique Assiette 5, Maidzuru 31, Gaudet 6, Doorak 55, Tradesman 21, Dr. Jim 17; total 216—\$1,080—Martingale \$14,00. \$2 Pool—Martingale 137, Tourist 24, Ronnlus 12, Pique Assiette 10, Maidzuru 47, Gander 13, Doorak 70, Tradesman 40, Dr. Jim 21, Another lot 37; total 411—\$822—Martingale \$5,40.

6.—The Kanagawa Stakes, tat prize, yen 200; 2nd, yen 50; for Country-breds that have never wor a Country-bred Champion or a New-market Plate; Subscription Maidens 5th allow ance; weight as per scale; winners on the first day 7lb, extra : of two races excluded. # Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yode's Saikie, 137lbs(Hakodate)	1
Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 142lbs(Ichi)	2
Mr. Avis's Philamel, 130lbs(Sugmes)	3
Mr. Sphina's Mezurashi, 125(Sata)	C
Mr. Guignol's Chivoda, 130lbs (Katsu)	C

Saikio and Sasha started warm favourites. After Salist and Salist started warm tavorries. After a poor start in which Mezurashi got left several lengths behind, the two favourites went to the front, and on entering the Straight were joined by Philomel. After a good cace Saikio finished about a length and half altead of Sasha, with Philomel third about two tengths behind. The time was third about two lengths behind. The time was remarkably good, 10%, Saikio thus beating her own previous recent by 3 seconds.

PARI MUTURI, \$5 Pool-Mezurashi 11, Chiyoda \$850—Saikio \$9. \$2 Paul—Mezin ashi 18, Chiyota 6, Sasha 71, Saikio \$9. \$2 Paul—Mezin ashi 18, Chiyoda 11, Sasha 84, Saikio 211, Philomel 11; total 335-\$670-Saikio \$2.80.

7.—The MANCHURIAN STAKES, 1st prize, yen 200; 2nd, yen 50; for all China Ponler; weight as per scale; winner of race 7 first day or race 4 second day 5th. extra; of two races excluded. 14 Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Hyogo's Miyajima, 153'bs. ...(Takahashi) 1 Mr. Catter's Mr. Datcy, 150'bs. (Mr. Pearson) 2 Mr. Carter's Mr. Datey, 130 or Mr. Mr. Worthington's Kirigoun, 147ths.
(Mr. Pakenham) 3

After a capital start Usugumo rushed to the front and for half a mile led the field by five or six lengths. By the time the Shakespeare was reached, however, he was practically finished and Miyajuna and Sunta worked to the front. In the with Knigoni close up. In an excellent finish Mr. Hyogo's Miyajina, 154lba. ...(l'akalushi) o Miyajina passed the post about half a length ahead of Mr. Darcy, with Kirigoni a good third.

Time, 2.33.

Digitized by

PARI M. TURL, \$5 Pool-Miyajima 88, Torpedo Kurgomi 20, Suma 4, Usuguno 2, Mr. Darcy , Troubadom 2, Niitaka 3; total 148-\$740-liyajima \$7,50. \$2 Pool-Miyajima 110, Tor-14. Troubadoni 2, troubadoni 2, troubadoni 3, 50, \$2 Pool-Miyajima 110, 1m-pedo 3, Kingoni 33, Suma 13, Usugumo 21, Mr. Datey 10, Troubadour 6, Niitaka 5; total 210=\$420-Miyajima \$3.40.

8.—The CBLESTIAL STAKES, 1st Prize, yen 200; 2nd, yen 50; 3rd, yen 25; for Subscription China Portes, non-winners in Japan at date of entry; weight as per scale; winner of race 5 first day 5th extra; of two caces excluded. 1½ Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. News's Echsiccie, 150lbs. ...(Mr. Kingdon) 

Edaircie started a warm favourite. After a Ectaticle stated a warm rayonite. After a fairly good start Mercury, Gauder and Coforada ian nick and neck past the Grand Stand and until the Dip had been negociated. Just before the Shakespeare was reached Eclaincie pulled up the Snakespeare was reached perfect the fine of the front and with Colorado alongside led the field by a length. In the Straight Eclaircie drew away slightly from Colorado and Mercury ran into third place. This order was maintained to the finish, Eclaircia beating Colorado by three or four lengths, with Mercury a good third. Time, 28.L.

PARI MUTURL, \$5 Pool—Colorado 71, Mercury 16, Royaliste 21, Gander 9, Eclaircie 98, Field 2; total 217—\$1,085—Eclaircie \$10. \$2 Pool—Colorado 92, Mercury 34, Royaliste 62, Gander 20, Eclaircie 178, Field 1, total 387—\$774—Eclaircie

9.—The SHIMOSA PLATE, 1st prize, yen 150; 2nd yen 50, for all Country-breds; weight as per scale; maidens and non-winners at Antumn Meeting 1897, allowed 51b.; winners at meeting 5'b. extra, of two races excluded. Mile. Entrance fee, 10 yen.

Mr. States's Idaho, 140bs.................(Suginta) I Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 142bs................(Riki) \* Mr. Worthington's Traveller, 145bs.....(Yasu) \* Mr. Nishimura's Havakaze, 140bs.(Takahashi) o \* Dead-heat.

A let of trouble was given by the fidgetty halfbreds at the start, but eventually, after a consider-able delay, they were got away on fairly level terms. Idahu and Traveller worked to the front non after the start, but on rising from the Dip, Taisuita took second place. On entering the Straight Idaho had a good lead, which she increased just before passing the Stand and won casily by four or five lengths, Taisuita and Traveller making a dead heat for second place. Time, 2.104.

PARI MUTURL, \$5 Pool-Tâtsuta 35. Haya-kaze 40, Idaho 78, Traveller 82; total 235-\$1,175 - Idaho \$13 50. \$2 Pool-Tatsuta 64, Hayakaze -Idaho \$13 50. \$2 Pool-Tatsuta 64, Hayakaze 118, Idaho 99, Traveller 126; total 407=\$814-

### THIRD DAY .- THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH.

After such a glorious racing day as Wednesday, the weather on Thursday came as a sad disappointment to all interested in the races. Up to moon there had been showers, with oc-casional glimpses of the sun, but after one o'clock a steady drizzle set in, with periodic heavier downpours of rain. Naturally the at-tendance was limited and there was little enjoyment either for participants in the races or speciators. In spite of the unfavourable conditions, however, some good sport was offered, and the mud larks had a good time on the sodden course. The first race of the day, the Cezarewitch, brought out the biggest field of the meeting and was a very open event. Mr. Worthington, the owner of Kirigomi, the winner, was fortunate in securing four wins out of eight races during the day. The results of the eight races during the day. races were as follow:--

....The Chranewitch, 1st prize, yen 300; 2nd, Ponces; a forced entry of yen 20 for all China
Ponces; a forced entry of yen 20 for all China
Punies entered at the meeting; non-starters half
forleit; handicap after second day's racing. t

Mr. Worthington's Kirigomi, 139lbs ..... (Yasu) Mr. Derby's Mactingale, 153lbs. (Mr. Kingdon) 

Mr. Carter's Mr. Darcy, 145lbs. (Mr. Pakenham) o

Mr. Vodo's Suma, 137/bs. .....(Suma) 0 

137lbs. ......(Sato) o 

The big field of seventeen ponies stripped for this race, and as might have been expected it was no easy task to get them away together. After or four tries, however, a fairly good start facted. Kingomi and Mr. Darcy very soon was effected. assumed the lead, with the others in a brinch from a couple to five or six lengths technical. At the Trees Martingale came to the front with Kingomi on his quarters and Kestrel in third place. In the Straight Kingomi challenged Martingale and the respectively appropriate the constitution of the con Straight Krigons challenged martingale and after a splendid race overhauled him opposite the Stand, withing by about a head, with Kestrel third, about two lengths behind Martingale. Time,

PARI MUTUEL, \$10 Pool-Martingale 4, Miyajima 6. Mercury o, Kirigoni 2, Romulus o, Kestrel o, Uangumo 1, Mr. Darcy 2, Suma o, Gander trel o, Usugumo 1, Mr. Daicy 2, Suma o, Gander o. Tomtit o. Doorak 2, Kinder o, Troubadour o. Nitaka o, Tradesman o, Dr. Jim 2, Rield 4; total 23=\$253—Kirigomi \$103.00. \$5 Pool—Martingate 9, Miyajima 25, Mercury 2, Kirigomi 9, Romulus 3, Kestrel 1, Usugumo 7, Mr. Daicy 11, Suma 3, Gander 1, Tomtit 1, Doorak 6, Kinder 5, Troubadour 1, Niitaka 3, Tradesman 3, Dr. Jim 5, Field 1; total 96=\$480—Kirigomi \$48.00.

.—The PRIX DES HARAS, 1st prize, yen 250; 2nd, yen 50; a Handicap for all Country-breds; a forced entry of yen 20 for all country-breds entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after second day's racing. 1 Mile,

Mr. Avis's Philomel, 115ths ...... (Sugiura) o

Only four out of seventeen entrants turned out Only four out of seventeen entrants turned out for this race, Tatauta and Tambour Major appearing to be about equal favourities. A capital start was effected without difficulty and after running evenly for the first quarter mile Tambour Major went to the front with Tatauta next in order, the other two lengths behind. Between the Shakespeare and the Trees Tatauta come up pretty well on the leader, but in the run home Tambour Major shook her off and passed the post with three lengths to the good; Rigi a poor third and Philomel bringing up the rear. Time, 1,551.

PARI MUTUEL, \$10 Pool-Tambour Major 14. Tatsuta 19, Philomel 3, Rigi 2; total 38=\$418— Tambour Majur \$24.00. \$5 Pool — Tambour Major 48, Tatsuta 59, Philomel 6, Rigi 6; total 119=\$495—Tambour Major \$11.00.

The CHINA SUBSCRIPTION CONSOLATION, Value, yen 150; a Consolation Race for Subscription China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry, that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale. Mile. Entrance fer, yen 5.

...(Yasu) r Mr. Worthington's Tourist, 144lbs. . Mr. Worthington's Tourist, 144lbs.........(Yasn) T. Mr. Russia's Cozack, 147lbs........(Houkoshi) 2 Mr. Avis's Gauder, 144lbs..............(Goto) 3 Mr. State's Colorado, 144lbs...........(Sugiura) 0 Mr. Sphiux's Mitlion, 150lbs.......(Takahashi) 0 Mr. Nemo's Pique-Assiette. 153lbs.......(Ichi) W. Nemo's Royaliste, 156lbs..........(Nakazumi) 0 Mr. Tatsuta's Maidzuru, 144lbs................(Riki) #

After several attempts a very lively start was made, and the horses can in a cluster till after ascending the Dip, when Gander and Tourist came away from the field. At the Trees Colorado came up and nearly collared the leaders, but on entering the straight Corack came with a rush and passed Gander, but failed to reach Tourist who passed the post about a length ahead. Time, 1.40%.

PARI MUTURE, \$10 Pool-Colorado 5, Mirliton 1, Tom ist 14, Pique Assiette 3, Royaliste 2, Maizunu 9, Gander 2, Cozack 6, Field 1; total 43=; \$473-Taurist \$27.00. \$5 Puni—Colorado 204 Muliton 8, Tourist 53, P.que Assiette 9, Royaliste 4, Moizunu 34, Gander 8, Cozack 21, Field 12 total 158=\$790-Tourist \$13.00.

4 -The China Champion, prize value, yen 300. a Champion Race for all China Ponies; a

Mr. State's Oregon, 150lbs. (Mr. Packeuliam) 1
Mr. Derly's Martingale, 153lbs...(Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. Carter's Mr. Darcy, 150lbs....(Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. News's Eclaireit, 150lbs.....(Mr. Kingdon) 3
Mr. News's Eclaireit, 150lbs......(Hr. Kingdon) 4
Mr. Nishimura's Niitaka, 153lbs......(Hattori) 6
Mr. Hyogo's Miyajima 153lbs......(Tatahashi) 5
Mr. Worthington's Kiriguni, 147lbs....(Yasu) 6
Mr. Worthington's Orion, 149lbs....(Yasu) 6 Mr. Worthington's Ocion, 149lb

(Mr. Nichelson) o

After a fair start the field of nine ran on very even terms for nearly the mile. Between the Trees and the Straight Martingale led, with Mr. Darcy in second place. In the Straight Oregon, who had been going well within himself a little be-

who had been going well within himself a little behind the leaders, came to the front with m good spurt and passing Mr. Darcy and Martingale, won a good race by half a length, two lengths separating second and third. Time, 2.54½.

PARI MUTUBL; \$to Pool—Oregon 18, Martingale 2, Eclaireus 5, Miyajima 2, Eclaireus 8, Kirigomi 1, Nilraka 0, Mr. Darcy 4, Orion 4, Rield 1; total 45=\$405—Oregon \$22 00. \$5 Pool—Oregon 81, Martingale 8, Eclaireus 34, Miyajima 16, Eclaireis 47, Kirigomi 7, Niltaka 4, Mr. Darcy 8, Orion 21; total 226=\$330—Oregon \$12 50.

5.—The MAIDENS' Consolation, prize value, —the MAIDENS' CONSOLATION, prize value, yen 150; a Consolation Race for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription Country-breds of 1897, that have not won more than two races at date of entry, and have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale. § Mile. Butrance fee, yen 5. yen 5.

Mr. Russia's Hermine, 130lbs. .....(Horikoshi) 1 Mr. Sphint's Mezurasii, 130lbs. ..........(Yasu) 2 Mr. Worthington's Dangai, 135lbs. .......(Yasu) 3 Mr. Guignol's Chiyoda, 130lbs. ................(Katsu) 0

After a very poor start Mezmashi and Chiyoda took the lead and ran neck and neck to the Shakespeare, when Chiyoda fell behind and Her-mine joined Mezurashi. In the distance Hermine came with a rush and took the lead, winning easily by three lengths or so from Mezurashi, while Dargai finished third about two lengths behind the latter. Time, 1.32.

PARI MUTURI, \$10 Pool—Medzurashi 4, Chi-yoda 6, Dargai 2, Hermine 18; total 30—\$300— Hermine \$14. \$2 Pool—Medzurashi 20, Chiyoda 20, Dargai 26, Hermine 93; total 169—\$845— Hermine \$8.00.

 The Country Brad Champion, prize value, yeu 300, a Champion Race for all Country-breds, a forced entry for winners at the meeting, for winners of one race yen to, of two races yen 20; and more than two races yen 40, optional to beaten horses at an entrance fee of yen 25, weight as per scale. 12 Mile,

Mr. State's Idaho, 140lbs. .................................. (Sugiura)
Mr. Worthington's Tambour Major, 135lbs.
(Hayashi)

Mr. Nishimma's Hayakaze, 140ibs. (Takal Mr. Worthington's Traveller, 145lbs. ...(Yasu) o Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 145lbs. ....(Ichi) o

After a good level start Idaho and Saslia come After a good level start Idaho and Sasha come to the front and so passed the stand the first time; after going down the Dip and up the hill Idaho drew away and at the Shakespeare led by three or four lengths, Hayakaze taking second place. In the run home Idaho kept his lead and Tambour Major displaced Hayakaze for second place. The post was passed in this order, Idaho winning easily by three lengths, with about two lengths between second and third. Time, I 42 70.

PARI MUTURL, \$10 Pool-Travelle: 16, Sabla 6, Idabo 15, Tambou Major 2, Hayakase 4; total 43=\$430-Idabo \$25. \$5 Pool-Traveller 76, Sasha 30, Idabo 89, Tombour Major II, Hayakaze 17; total 223=\$1,115-Idabo \$11.

7.—The CHINA Solack, 1st prize, year 150; 2nd, year 50, a Consolation Race for all China Ponies that have started and not won a race at the meeting, weight as per scale. ‡ Mile. Entrance lee, yen 5.

At last however the flag dropped to a good start. Kestrel, Kindar, and Opportuniste appeared to be making the running from the start, and by the time the Shakespeare was reached the field was well strung out in pairs and singles. Coming down the Straight the field got together again and it appeared to be a very open event, but just before the Stand Orion came away with Kindar on his quarters and won cleverly by about half a length, with Maldzuru a length behind Kindar for third place. Time, 1.4270.

PARI MUTUEL, \$10 Pool-Colorado 1, Torpedo PARI MUTURI, \$10 Pool—Colorado I, Torpedo O, Orion 7, Remulus o, Opportunisle o, Kestrel 2, Maidzuru I, Usugumo I, Suma I, Tonnito, Cozack 3, Kindar 14, Nillaka 2, Dr. Jun I, Rield 4; total 37=\$370—Orion \$47. \$5 Pool—Colorado 7, Torpedo 3, Oriou 45, Romulus 4, Opportuniste 2, Kestrel 21, Maidzuru 2, Usugumo 10, Suma 2, Tomtit 3, Cozack 13, Kindar 80, Niltaka 7, Dr. Jim 17, Field 1; total 217=\$1,085—Oregon \$21,50.

The Country-BRED Consolation, prize value, yen 150; a Consolation Race for all Country-breds that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale. 1} Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Norfolk's Rigi, 140ibs .....(Goto) o

After a capital start, Rigi and Tatsuta took the lead and ran fairly level until the Houses, where Rigi was finished and dropped behind, while Tatsuta increased his lead to about ten lengths, the others following in procession, Hayszake being second and Philomel thind. The finish was in the same order, Tatsuta cantering in about half a dozen lengths ahead of Hayakaze. Time 2.17%.

PARI MUTUBL, \$10 Pool-Tatsuta 23, Philomel 2, Rigi 4, Hayakaze 15; total 44=\$440-Tatsuta \$17. \$5 Pool-Tatsuia 106, Philomel 13, Rigi 15, \$17. \$5 Pool-Tatsuta 106, Philomel 13, Rigi Hayakaze 49; total 183-\$915-Tatsuta \$7 50.

### THE TEA MERCHANTS' GUILD.

On Wednesday evening the Tea Traders Guild of Yokohama held their annual social entertainment at the Chitose restaurant, to which a number of the foreign merchants in Yokohama interested in the business were invited. In the course of the proceedings Mr. Otani Kahei, President of the Guild, delivered the following

GENTLEMEN .-- I feel very much honoured with your presence at this gathering, which gives us an opportunity of coming into even closer relationship at this juncture when the opening of the tea season of the year is close at hand,

On hehalf of the members of the Tea Guild of Yokohama, I thank you for this favour, and, at the same time, I beg your permission to avail my-self of this opportunity of making some remarks which, in our opinion, bear with much importance upon the tea trade. I wish to call your attention to the present movement of the Japanese tea merchants, stimulated by the U.S. Laws prohibiting the importation of musholescent tea, instituted and put into effect during last year, and also by the raising of the "standard sample" to a quality superior to that of the lormer. As you are aware, gentlemen, of the tea-exported from Kobe and Yokohama during last year, the amount rejected at American ports as On behalf of the members of the Tea Guild of year, the amount rejected at American ports as unqualified for importation reached the large iniqualized for importation reached the large quantity of some 2,000 packages. It, indeed, so great an amount of lea meets with the disapproval of the States inspectors during this year as in the last, not only will the reportation of Japan tea in the estimation of the tea purchasers of the United States be defauted, but the demand for on tea in Canada might also suffer a string decrease. Canada might also suffer a serious decrease, If such a state of affairs should transpire, it will not only be a misfortune to the Japanese merchants, but, I fear, also to your good selves. In view of preventing this, the Central Tea Traders' Association held ordinary and extra-ordinary ungerings, and discussed the question of ordinary meetings, and discussed the question of establishing Tea Inspection Offices at Vokolsama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, to exercise strict supervision against the exponention of poor quality tea. It was hoped to put this into practice from this year,

of the "standard sample" to a superior grade. Therefore, it behaves us that we tea dealers, whether native or foreign, who are engaged in the direct exportation of tea, should pay every care direct exportation of lea, should pay every care to the quality of tea we export. At present a fear and uncertainty is entertained by an all whether or not any lea of the grade lower than good medium, however much care may be taken in the selection of quality, might be rejected by the U.S. inspection after arrival at the other side of the Pacific. It is indeed to do away with this ancertainty that we earnestly desire that a thorough inspection of lea may be made at the ports of exportation, so that the American at the ports of exportation, so that the American and Canadian purchasers may rest assured that all Japan ten is sound and reliable in quality, and that we may be able to feel no fear of inspection at the port of importation,

But I consider that the urgent need of the present time is to inform the producers of the actual condition of the tea market in the consuming countries, to nege them to produce a better quality of tea, and in general, to do away with former majoractices. To this end, I visited the tea districts and personally interviewed visited the ten of the subject, and to my great the producers on the subject, and to my great satisfaction, I received their concurrence with my opinion. I trust the ten of this year will show an improvement, as the native merchants of Yakohama will exercise strict control against the ex-portation of poor tea, and it is our sincere hope that you will be also good enough to exercise strict supervision in order to check the marketing of poor tea,

You have always been and are now directly endeavoring to win a good reputation for Japan tea, and to increase the demand for it. For this, we have always been thankful. The measures we have been taking in the United States and Canada for the extension of the tea market under the protection of the Government, were tools designed to retain public confidence in Japan tea and nothing further, and the advantage that may accrue will result in direct benefit to yourselves as well as to us.

In short, any foreign merchant who exports a to snort, any foreign inercuant who experts a good quality of tea only, and thereby increases the demand for Japan tea is our benefactor, but any native who exports poor grade tea aiming only at a chance of obtaining temporary gain, is our enemy.

It is our sincere and earnest hope that you will thoroughly understand our desire in this matter, and that in future we may, hand in hand, exert our united efforts for the prosperity of our tea

ade, I thank you again for the honour you confer non us by your presence and wish for the upon us by your presence and wish f prosperity and good health of all of you.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### "'POLICY' CHRISTIANS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—In your weekly issue of the 16-h
"X" delivers himself on the Doshisha. And he
has told as "spank-dondle" all about it, just like
"Observer" did before him. In fact he seems "Observer" did before him. In fact he seems to have taken his copy from his medecessor; and has perfectly illustrated his "policy." He has written one column in order apparently to make it appear that his concluding paragraph of stale venom was quite a natural and logical observation. These two nameless champions of darkness would be reminded by their own conduct of a very ancient Bible story if they were at all ac-quainted with that Book. It was indeed a valu quainted with that Book. It was indeed a value hope that Christianity entertained if it hoped that its entrance into Japan would be attended by a feast as merry as Job's children made, but minus the presence of the devil. Wherever the gospal has gone, there also have gone just such character's as are being exemplified by Messus, "X Rays" and "Observer," They come tike Satan, to and fro, up and down the earth; at times like buzzards flopping down upon fifthy carrion, they take up anew the thread of their almost but lated task. They do indeed in the sense of that humble American bird serve a most healthful purpose. Yet few indeed would relish that calling. These wanderers who have found their way to the East, and who seem to feast with delight on every sin among professed Chris-

banishing all religions from her schools. This is not true of the U.S. in any sense of the term. In some localities where Roman Catholicism is powerful, and has got the upper hand, the public reading of the Bible has been removed. This is the pure work of the Papacy, done to build up that system of ignorance and the destruction of liberty and enlightenment. But even here the books laught are saturated with the Christian doctines, and it cannot be correctly said that the Bible has been banished from the U.S. Schools. The Schools are truly Christian. It is absolutely preposterous to think of a school without a moral basis; and equally preposterous to think of a moral basis without a religious basis. We should like without a religious basis. We should like "X Rays" to turn on his wonderful light and give

us a few examples to the contrary, if he pleases.

Not only does religion permeate the whole educational system of the U.S., but throughout, the Bible is publicly permitted to be read. I have attended three State universities in I have attended three State universities in as many States, and the Bible was read publicly by the president of each. Moreover, instead of the U.S. ignoring (eligion, she gives the strongest encouragement to all (with one exception, Moreonoism, I think), by permitting denominational bodies to establish Biblical chairs in connection with her universities. The U.S. believes that nearly all kinds of religious are better than or religion, and is liberal in aiding with the public funds any educational enterprises which these bodies may conduct. Thousands of dollars. these bodies may conduct. Thousands of follars are granted each year to denominational educational work. And if Buddhism should ever plant an educational institution in the U.S., I have not the least doubt that it would receive like favors.

Japan, in her educational policy is by no means eading in the path of the U.S.

I have not the least doubt that the Educational Department has adopted its present course with a view of avoiding seeming partiality in matters review or avoiding seaming partiality in matters in ligious. But in so doing, the Department goes just contrary to the course of the U.S.; for the latter recognizes the educational work of all denomina-tions. I emphatically say that the Department cannot maintain its present position as the spirit of enlightenment and freedom of thought advances. Such a course would not be tolerated for a moment in the U.S. It would not seem at all just to favour young men who obtain their moral and religious training at one place above those who obtain it at another place. And is this not practically what the present Regulations do? The observations of another place. And is this not practically what the present Regulations do? The observations of "X" here are utterly worthless. In fact, even if he had the ability to touch the subject, he did not intend to duso; since his concluding effusions were his sole object. Take two schools. One gives religious instruction to its students, who are, however, perfectly free to accept or reject it. The other school omits such instruction, but may encourage its students to the very strictest religious observance out of school. Neither school costs the Government a rin. They do the same kind of secular educational work. And the students are turned out with the very same kind of education. But the one obtained his religious knowledge inside the school, while the other obtained it outside. Now, sir, if the Department, by maining a lavor to the students of the former school, becomes an upholder of the religious doctrines they have been taught, why would it not in favoring the fatter measure become an upholder of the religious doctrines that learned, though not within school hours? The U.S. by no means considers a favor granted in have learned, though not within school hours? The U.S. by no means considers a favor granted to a school as equivalent to upholding its religion. The only difference in the case of Japanese schools is that the Department favors a student school is that the Department invois a student with a religious part is not obtained in school. To say that the Department would become an upholder of a religion tanght in a school if it should grant a favor to said school would be the same as saying a rayer to sain school would be the same as saying that it becomes the upholder of each student's religion in any school to which a favor is granted. The position of the Department is untenable, and I prophesy that it will soon be changed.

But since this phase of the question seems III we been beyond the logical sounding of Mr. X Rays," and has from the first been a one-sided "X Rays," and has from the first been a one-sided discussion, we pass on to the remarkable discoveries this "brilliant light" has and ended. He has discovered "Christians" and "Christians." "zeal-ous-fad Christians," "policy-purpose Christians," "Occidental Christians," "O' cental Christians," "honour-as-men Christians," "Doshisha Christians, " Deshisha Christians, " "elect-without-honour-or-common-honesty Christians," "obliging-testify Christians."
Probably it was too smuch to be hoped for that

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the ne plus ultra of the matter. There are no genuine Christians! This is the conclusion, after "X Rays" has turned on his light. There is ab solutely no use to debate the question seriously when science has testified.

That the management of a great institution has failten into great sin is no reason at all for suppos-ing that all Christians are no better. Such logic is no credit to the mental perception of the logi-cian. And to asperse the character of Mr. Ni-shima, who is now dead and gone and cannot eturn to defend himself, is malignant and grossly disbolical.

Finally Mr. "X Rays" tells us that " a high standaid of morality can be attained without the fetish of any religion." We infer from the context that he means that religion, and especially Christian ity, is unnecessary to the highest moral development. This we emphatically deny, and challenge ment. This we emphatically deny, and challenge him to prove his assertion or step down and out. We do not care to mince matters, and expect to stand square to the wind against the poisonous blasts of infidelity seeking patronage in this country. It is our business to show our fellow men in Japan what a rickety raft they embark upon when they board the ship of infidelity and agnosticism. I should think the experiment of France ought to give every infidel the blues even yet when he thinks about it. Probably it does.

B. SNODGRASS. Very truly, Tokyo, April 22nd, 1898.

### RUSSIA, CHINA, AND YAPAN.

The following translation is given by the Globe of a remarkable article by the well-known Russian writer "Sigma" which appeared in the Novoe Vremya recently:

Vremyz recently:

"The invasion of China by the Japanese, for which they had long been making preparations, was bastened by the ukase of the late Emperor of the 19th of May, 1891, regarding the construction of the Siberian Railway. One of the most highly thought of public men in Russia, a man of considerable political experience, gave utterance in 1895 to these words:—Rollowing as far as one can the Japanese press, I am convinced that if it had not been for the Siberian Railway, Japan would not have been in a hurry to commence the late war, which was above all an attempt on her part to wake up dormant China and Korea, and, by pointing out to them clearly the threatening pointing out to them clearly the threatening nature of the bitme, to join hands with them in a struggle in which the existence of each and every one of them was endangered. However much Japan may have developed her own strength and japan thay have developed he was strength and resources, that strength by itself would ne strength be far inferior to what it would be were she in close alliance with an awakened China and Korea. However, the atempt of impatient Japan did not succeed. Her unseasoned young strength did not suffice; China and Korea showed themselves wholly suprepared for it; and, what is more important still, France and Grimany came to the support of Russia. The present Japanese Government wisely withdraw from the most important results of her victories, the footbold she had acquired on the Asiatic mainland. It is but too clear that had only Japan become a continental Power of Asia she could have spread her wings widely over China and Korea. But Japan, having where your China and Rotest. But Japan, having lost the basis for a future alliance of the whole yellow tace, now enjoys an opportunity of carrying on the stringle by substituting for Asiatic allies those European Powers—above all, England -whose interests suffer from the Siberian Rail-Now, if Japan is striving to arouse the way. Now, it Japan is strong to atoms the whole yellow race, Russia can at the same time play her old historic part: that is, of pacifying that race from the West, where in days of yore we pushed back from the heart of our kingdom the bordes of Poloutzi, Petcheniegi (Turkish Mongotian races), and of Tartais. Our action at Chilu and the Russo-Chinese loan are but a continuation of the policy of peaceful subjugation of those nations of the yellow race who inhabit the huge tract of country between the Volga and the Pacific, whose blood, besides, flows in our veins. There is no political sentimentality in this.

"We do not live in the East by virtue of our Pacific Squadion, or of our diplomatists, or in the persons of the directors of the Russo-Chinese Bank. No; we live there by virtue of the greatness of the Russian name and the spirit of our policy. The Chinese know that Tchengis-Kuan held an honorary rank under a Russian Czar, and that he commanded Russian troop, the same as Prince Russian dees testar. Thus know that this discoverer, since he provis in the darkness, that he commanded Russian troops, the same as should have discovered any genuine Christian. However, this discovery he has not made. Of course, he knows all about it, just like "Observers of the Russian people, and they trust to yet" (7), and we must consider his investigations as our merchants, our consuls, and our officers to help

them in the day of need. They do not confound

us with Europeans.

"The London Globe publishes articles on "How to Checkmate Russia," in which it advocates the to Checkmate Russia, in which it advocates the immediate seizure of the peninsula of Port Arthur, or the demand that our future railway shall not approach nearer than 50 miles of it, and that Clima should not be allowed to hand that port over to any other Power. The author of these articles, whose profound knowledge of his subject is only equalled by his deep antipathy to Russia, advises England to take Victoria Bay, one of the bays of the wide Talies wan Gulf, in which some afthe British fleet and its transports was anchored. of the British fleet and its transports were auchored

of the British fleet and its transports were auchored in 1860, saying that by its seizure a heavy blow will be dealt to Russian aims in the East. I bring this forward to show the feeling of the hour.

"Prince Konoi, the President of the Japanese House of Peers, writes an article in one of the Japanese papers, in which he urges an alliance between China and Japan, so as to form an opposing force to the pretensions of European Powers in the East. Contemporary diplomatic considerations, says the Prince, may result in combinations liable to obscure the main issue for the present, but they are only the details of a great struggle but they are only the details of a great struggle which is going on between the white and yellow races, in which the Chinese and Japanese must inevitably stand side by side. Europeans do not look upon the yellow race in the same way as they do on the African and sawage races. Their contempt for them is mixed with fear. The Prince advises his contraymen, especially these living in China, not to follow the bad example of European ans, and openly show their contempt for the Chinese. He deplores the more than foolish rechinese. He deplores the more than foolish re-joicing of the Japanese at the fate of China. He advises them to be friendly to the Chinese, and especially to semove from them any feelings of envy and suspicion."

### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE " JAPAN TIMES")

THE WAR.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS RUPTURED ON BOTH SIDES.

ENGLAND ADHERES TO THE TREATY OF PARIS.

COAL NOT NECESSARILY CONTRABAND OF WAR.

HOSTILITIES REPORTED AS "COMMENCED." London, April 22.
The Spanish Minister has left Wash-

The American Ultimatum has ington. reached Madrid, and Spain immediately broke off diplomatic relations, and the American Minister left Madrid. Hostilities have commenced. Mr. Balfour has notified the belligerent parties of England's adhesion to the principles of the Treaty of Paris, and that Britain cannot lay down the principle that coal constitutes contraband of war. It, he said, may frequently be so, but not necessarily,

[The above telegram having been received by us somewhat ambiguously worded, our rendering of it was given only after considerable basitation, especially in regard to the point of the actual outbreak of bostilities, which was not quite clear.—ED. F. T.]

TROOPS TO SUPPORT THE FLEET.

London, April 23.
A squadron has left Key West for Havana, which is to be blockaded. As soon as the troops have been concentrated, they will be despatched to co-operate with the warships.

A telegram dated New York, April 23rd a.m. and received by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha the same afternoon, states that hostilities have commenced at Cuba, a Spanish merchantman has been seized, and Havana blockaded.

HAVANA BLOCKADE ESTABLISHED. CAPTURE OF MERCHANTMEN ON BOTH

SIDES. ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS

CALLED OUT IN AMERICA. AMERICAN HARBOURS TO BE MINED. GREAT RISE OF WHEAT IN ENGLAND.

London, April 25. The blockade of Havana has been

established. The cruiser Nashville has captured the Spanish merchant steamer Buenaventura, also the Pedro. The Spaniards have captured the wheat laden ship Shenandoah bound for Antwerp. President McKinley has called out 100,000 volunteers. The utmost secrecy is maintained regarding the movements of the Spanish squadrons; meanwhile Spain is still hesitating about renouncing privateering. President McKinley repudiates all intention to annex Cuba. Admiral Sampson is tion to annex Cuba. Admiral Sampson is in command of the blockading squadron. Orders have been issued to mine American harbours. The war is causing a great rise in the price of wheat in England.

SPAIN STICKS TO PRIVATEERING. THIRTY DAYS' GRACE TO AMERICAN SHIPS.

London, April 26. Spain reserves the right of resorting to privateering. Meanwhile she is confining herself to organising auxiliary cruisers, and gives American ships 30 days to clear Spanish ports.

CONGRESS RECOGNIZES STATE OF WAR SINCE APRIL 21.

President McKinley in a message to Congress asked for a joint Resolution declaring that a state of war exists since the 21st inclusive. This resolution has passed in both Houses.

MOVEMENTS OF THE SPANISH SQUADRON.

The Spanish Squadron still remains at St. Vincent, but will probably sail to- the importation of the cereal into Japan.

AMERICANS CAPTURE RICH BOOTY.

The Americans have captured the Miguel Jose, laden with valuable cargo, also the Catalina, Saturnia, and various smaller craft.

### BRITAIN'S NEUTRALITY,

London, April 27. The British declaration of neutrality has been published in the London Gazette. The Governments of India and the Colonies are also instructed to enforce its stipulations.

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS CALLED OUT.

The Washington Government has summoned the different States to furnish their quotas of volunteers.

### PROTRACTED CAMPAIGN PROBABLE.

It appears certain that no large body of troops will be sent to Cuba for several months, partly owing to the lack of equipment, and partly because of the approaching fever season.

ENGLAND'S REVENUE. SURPLUS OF NEARLY FOUR MIL-LION STERLING REDUCTION OF TAXATION.

London, April 23. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in submitting the Budget, stated in the House of Commons, that the surplus of the past year amounts to £3,678,000. As a result the tax on incomes ranging between £400,000 and £700,000 (?) is to be abated, and the Tobacco duty is to be reduced to sixpence per pound, but there is no reduction in

### BRITAIN, RUSSIA, AND PORT ARTHUR.

ACUTE CRISIS.

The Blue Book on the China despatches conflict between Great Britain and Russia | The Osaka harbour construction of the Port Arthur. testifies to the extreme acuteness of the

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(Received by the Fin.)

KWÖN CHAI HYONG AND YUN CHÖNGKU.

Soul, April 23. Mr. Kpön chai hyong, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Yun chongku, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, have been appointed Acting Ministers.

### YE TO CHAI.

Söul, April 25. Mr. Ye To Chai has been appointed Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry.

CHINA AGREES TO JAPAN'S WISHES.

Peking, April 26. As the result of the negotiations between our Minister Yano and the Chinese Government, the latter has pledged herself not to cede the province of Full-Kien to any other Power.

In compliance with Minister Yano's representations the Imperial Chinese Government has agreed to the following stipulations:

That when Japanese subjects enter into mining industry in the interior of China, in partnership with Chinese, China shall extend to the former all the rights and privileges granted to the subjects of other foreign powers.

That in the event of a bad crop in Japan, China shall suspend the law prohibiting the export of rice, and grant facilities for

POK CHÖNG YANG.

Söul, April 26. Mr. Pok Chöng Yang has been appointed Minister of Home Affairs.

### YON YUNG-SÖN.

Söul, April 26. Mr. Yun Yong-sön was appointed Mini-ster President of State to-day,

### AMERICAN NAVAL MOVEMENT.

Hongkong, April 28. The U.S. Asiatic squadron, which had assembled in Mirs Bay, left there for Manila yesterday afternoon. The object of the departure is to secure the safety of American merchantmen by capturing the Spanish warships in the vicinity of the Philippine Islands.

[SPECIAL TREEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL"]

Kobe, 22nd April, 4.20 p.m. A Kobe firm has received this cable: Minister at Madrid handed passports: American gunboats ordered to Cuba,

### SATURDAY'S EARTHQUAKE.

Hakodate, April #3 A severe, prolonged earthquake occurred here at 8 45 this morning.

### RESON THE " KORN HURSES."

COMMODORE DEWEY'S SQUADRON.

Shanghai, 3 47 p.m., April 26th. The American Squadron is at anchor in Mus Bay.

### (FRUM JAPANESE PAPERS.) FLOODS IN HOKKAIDO.

Sapporo, April 23. Owing to the melting of the snow on the surrounding mountains, all the rivers about Kamikawa and Sozachi have overflown, rational bridge and many other bridges are destroyed. The rational file of the Trako Tetsudo between Yubari and Sarachi is damaged. The floods are still increasing.

### OSAKA HARBOUR LOAN BONDS.

Osaka, April 23. The Osaka harbour construction bunds will SANYO RAILWAY CO.

Kobe, April 23. The Sanyo Railway Company to-day held a general meeting and decided to declare a dividend of 8 per cent, per annum, and mincrense the capital by aix million ven.

### THE SANGU RAILWAY CO.

Tau (Inc), April 24. The general meeting of the Sangu Railway Co. was held to day, when a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent, per animum was declared.

### SUICIDE OF AN OFFICIAL.

Yamanashi, April 25. Mr. Kazumado Naoshige, an officer of the Yamanashi Kencho, committed suicide yesterday. The cause is not yet known.

### THE STANDING SQUADRON.

Kobe, April 25.

The standing squadron, consisting of seven vessels, will leave here on the 28th instant for

### PLAGUE IN TAIPEH.

Taipeh, April 25.

The plague is now very prevalent here and the official residences are all unoccupied.

### A PRECAUTION.

Oids, April 25. Three torpedo boats have arrived here to protect the Bay in case it should be necessary.

### SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

Osaka, April 26.

Vesterday a soldier named Shiwoya of the 37th Regiment accidentally shot another soldier, named Milke, of the same regiment.

### KOREAN MINISTRY.

Soul, April 26. Mr. Yen Zo Yen has been appointed a Coun-

## SEVERE STORM AND LOSS OF LIFE.

Mito, April 22.

In a severe gale which recently occurred on the coast a fishing boat foundered off Kajimaura and five fishermen were drowned.

Awamori, April 28.

On the 2211d inst., a storm arose on the Coast of Iwasaki in Nishitsugaru. Many fishing boats were wrecked and three men were drowned. The steamer Kwaiyo Maru was diamasted in the same storm,

### FIRE.

Hiroshima, April 28. This morning fire broke out in the village of Kuwa, and 43 houses were burnt to the ground and two persons badly injured.

## INSURANCE OFFICES AND THE WAR.

Osaka, April 28. All the Marine Insurance Companies of thus city have concelled their contracts for insurance of vessels and cargo for Manila.

### MAIL STEAMERS.

### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

1				
ı	From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
ı	Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric #	F. Apr. ag
ı	Smierica	P. M. Ca.	Peru s	Sal May B
l	Canada, &comm	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan 3	Tu. May 3
	Hongkong		Laos 4	W. May 4
	Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of I dis g	Th. May g
	Hongkong		China	M. May 9
	Europe			W. May as
Į	America	O. & O. Go.	Gaelic	Su. May sp

- : Left Kobe on the abit just.
  2 Left San Francisco on the 1sth inst. 3 Left Vancouver on the noth inst.
- Left Shanghai on the agth inst.
- s Left Hone kong on the 17th hat.

ı	THE	NEXIM	AH, LEAVI	⊈S.	
	For	Line.	Steamer,	Date.	
,	America		Doric	Sa. Apr. 3	
	Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Pero	M. May	8
	Hongkong	. P. R. Co.	km, of Japan	Tu. May	6
1	Shanghei	N Y.E.	Nagato Name	W. May	
ı	anada, &c Europe, via S'hai.	C P.R.Co.	Ronauf India	P. May 0	
ı	America		Lanz	W. May 81	
I	Hongkong	P. NI, 1 0.	thins	W. May at	
1	Hongkong (FIGH)	na listroma	Hohenzollern Gaelie	F. May J	
		LONDAL LANGER	Ciaelic	M, May 30	3

### NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Yokosuka, April 29 It is rumoured that the two cruisers Faji and Yashina will leave shouly for Formosan waters. The Chingen will leave here to join the standing squadron which is now in the Western Sea. It is rumoured that the warship Akitsushima will be despatched to Manila. The Chikuba will leave for Korea on the 1st May and the Poshine for Kure on the 5th May.

Shimonoseki, April 29. The Warships Matsushima and Ivaniwa have passed here on route for the West.

Nagasaki, April 29. The German Cruiser Helene (?) arrived to-day from Kiao-chou Bay.

### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Curse Entres.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-

The Tokyo Chess Club hilds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Sziwai-cha Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF	PROBLEM No. 365.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1-R to R 3	1-K to K 4
2-O to B 7 ch	2-K takes Kt
3-K to R 6 mate	_
3	if 2—K ta Q 5
2-Q takes P (B 4)	sus as fe
- 2	1—K to K to
2-Q to Q K1 2	2-P to B 6
3-Ki to Q 5 mate	
	il 2—P to B 5
3-P takes P mate	
	if 2—P to R 5
3-P to Q 4 mate	
· .	1-P to B 6
2-Q to K+2 ch	2 K to K 6
3—Kt to Q 5 mate	_
	1-P to B 5
2-Q to Kt 6 ch	2-K to K 4
3—R to R 5 mate	
-	1-P to R 5
2-Q to Q K: 2 ch	2—K 10 K 6
3-P to Q 4 mate	
-	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., D.D., Skak, Voila, and Marco.

### PROBLEM No. 367. By T. D. CLARKS, Merino.



White mates in two moves.

### THE NEW AUSTRALIAN OPENING.

The following is one of two games recently played by correspondence between Messis, G. B. Hall, of Sydney, and H. Charlick, of Adelaide, to test the reply to P to Q 4, which the latter player introduced to the notice of the cheas world in 1891. The Queen's opening view with the Ruy Lopez in popularity in congresses and tournaments, for the important reason that each of these two openings yields a greater majority of wins for White than any other debut. The inventor claims for his counter-gambit that, although he sacrifices a Pawn, he at once obtains the attack, and is able speedly to develophis game. The manœuvring that ensues is much livelier than that produced by the ordinary Queen's Gambit Declined, which is one of the dulest of openings. Black has considerable scope for counter attack. For instance, instead of playing 2—Kt to Q B 3 he can play 2—P to Q 3, 2—P to K B 3, or 2—P to Q 4, all of which are worthy of analysis. The postum of Mr. H. H. in Australian chess circles, ranking as he does in Sydney in the

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same class as Messrs, Crane, Jacobsen, and Walface, entitles each of the following games to special attention. The inventor is quite satisfied with the result, and considers that his counter-attack the result, and consulers that he could have a Queen's opening against a first-class player. He hopes that the publicity the new counter-gambit has received will elicit an opinion from competent judges.

Begun September 28, 1896, ended Mar. 1, 1898. (The Charlick Counter-Gambit.)

White-Mr, G. B. Hall.	Black-Mr. H. Charlick.	
WHITE, BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.	
1 P Q4 P K4!(a)	26 R R3 BxB	
a PaP Ki QB3	27 KxB _ P R4!(g)	
3 B KB4 P Q3	28 P R61 PxBP	
4 PxP Q B3!	29 PxP K K12	
5 Q Bsq BxP	30 P B4 R K 4	
6 BxB QxB	31 K B5 R QRsq	
7 K: KB3 B B4	32 P Roch RxP	
8 Kt B3 Castles	33 RxR KxR	
9 P K3 K1 B3	34 R K15 P R5	
10 B K2 P K R3(b)	35 R R5 R K17	
12 Kt QKt5 Q K2	36 RxBP RxQRP	
12 P B3 P K14	37 P K4 RxP	
13 Kt(K15) Q	38 P K5 R R6ch	
4 (c) KinKt	39 K Ki4 R K6l(h)	
14 BPxKt Kt KS	40 R R5 P B4	
15 Kt Q2(d) II KR4	41 R*RP P B5	
to KtaKt Bakt	42 K B5 P B6	
17 Q B5 Q×Q	43 K K6 P B7	
18 PxQ P K (e)	44 R R q K K 4! 45 P B5 K B5	
	46 R QBsq K Q6(best)	
	47 K Q5 R B6(best)	
	48 P 86 K Q7	
	49 RxPch KxR	
23 P K 14 KR K 59 24 R Q3 P B4	50 E B6(best) R B4	
25 R KK1 B K4	30 12 25(2037)11 24	
25 K KKK D K-4	•	

DRAWN GAME.

(a) This sacrifice gives the name to the opening.
(b) Not a waster, as Black B contemplates a King-side attack.

(c) Bost, as it opens a file for attack, and gives the White Q some liberty of action.

(d) White with a Pawn up aims at simplifying matters.

matters.

(r) Of course White regains the K Kt P by R to K Kt q it Black play I takes P.

(i) Black prepares to focus on the weak KP.

(g) Well played, thus nullifies White's material advantage. advantage.

(h) Also good, The cuding is well managed by both players.

(1) A stubborn contest between two well-matched apponents.

### U.S. CHAMPION MATCH. THIRD GAME.

made to Military		Black-Showalter.	
White-Fillsbury.			
WHITE,	BLACK.		BLACK.
	PK <sub>3</sub>	23 Kt Q4	Q Ki3
2 P Q4	P Q <sub>4</sub>	24 KR K-q	BK5
3 OK B3	KKCB3 1	25 R K2	Q Ba
4 B KK 5	B K <sub>2</sub>	26 K 1 B3	BxKt
5 P K5 6 B*B	KK+ Q2	27 QxB	P K(4(d)
6 B×B	QxB "	28 Q̃R K-q	
7 K1 K15(#	)Ö Q∗q l	(e)	Q Kizeli
II P KB4		29 K R-q	PxP
o QK R3	P QB4	30 PxP	K Rsq(f)
to P B3	QK B <sub>3</sub> P QK <sub>4</sub>	31 R KKisq	Q B <sub>2</sub> Q KB <sub>2</sub>
ıı Kı B3	P QK·4	32 R K 4	Q KB2
12 Kt B2	Q K(3(b)	33 Q K3	$R_RP(R)$
13 PxP	KixBP	1 34 O NSCII	R B3
14 KKt Q4	Castles	35 K KB2	P Q5
15 B Q3	P B3	36 R(K(4)	A
ıō P∗P	RxP		Q KK(2(b)
17 Casiles	B Q2	37 RxR	™ KKtsq
18 P QK(4	KixB	38 R×P	P×P
19 QxKt	QR KB-q	39 QxQuli	KxQ
20 Q K3	B K-q	40 R Ktach	
21 F K13	■ K₁3(c)	4t RxR	K×R
32 K1xK1	QxKt	42 II QB8	Resigns

(a) This device has been employed before. (a) I mis nevice has been employed before. It gives White an opportunity to play P to Q B 3, in anticipation of Black's P to Q B 4.

(b) P to 1 5 is possibly here best; with care it might prevail.

(c) Black has done very well, and may be said blave at least an equal game. (d) This move forms the turning point of the

game. It seems to have been too ventuesome. Black had a safe draw in hand,

Hack had a sale draw in liants,

(e) Better and more ambitious than 28—Q to

Ki 4, Q takes Q B P.

(i) It R takes P, 31—Q to Kt 3 ch, K to R sq.
32—R to K Kt sq. &c.; or 31—Q to Kt 2 ch, K

(g) Yielding to the latal temptation.

(h) Black must have overlooked that K to Kt

is the nearline we are defense.

2 in this position was no defence.

### LATEST SHIPPING.

### ARRIVALS.

ARRIVALS.

Formasa, H iiish steamer, 2.516, A. G. Cubitt, 23 d'April,—London via potts and Kobe, 22nd April, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001 K. Yamanouch, 23rd April,—Yokkaichi, 22nd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Szechuen, British steamer, 1,158, Pennyfather, 23rd April,—Anping, 17th April, Sugar and kice.—Butterfield and Swire.

Almond Branch. British steamer, 2,101. Anderson

Almond Brauch. Bitish steamer, 2,191, Anderson, 24th April,—Rangoon and Kobe 22nd April, Rice.—M. Raspe & Co.

Nagoya Haru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 24th April, Durin wa ports, 19th April, General, Nuppor Yusen Kaisha.

Australian, British steamer, 1,784, Heims, 25th April,—Australia and New Zraland via ports, Kobe, 23rd April, General,—Browne & Co. Kong Beng, British steamer, 863, W. F. Joslin, 25th April,—Hongkong, Rice.—Chinese. Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 35th April,—Vokkaichi, 24th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walter.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walter, 25th April, - Robe, 23 d April, Geoerah. - Nip-pon Vusen Kaisha.

April, - Nagasaki, 22nd April, Coal, - Misu Bishi Co.

Bishi Co.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, F. W.
Horton, 25th April,—Hakodate, 23rd April,
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kintuch, B. hish steamer, 2,88t. C. de la Parelle.
26th April,—Liverpond via ports, Kohe, 25th
April, General.—M. M. Strachan & Co.
Iksi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai,
27th April,—Kobe, 25th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Over Margaret British steamer, 1,022, Dunbar.

Queen Hargaret, British steamer, 1,932, Dunbar, 27th April,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Shanghai 19th April, General,—Frazar 8z Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109. J. Giese, 27th April, - Shimonoseki, 24th April, General, - Nippon Visen Kaisha.

-Nippon Yusen Ksisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Untezono, 27th April,—Otaru via ports, 22nd April, Griterid,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934. J. Nice, 27th April,—Bombay via purts, Kobe, 26th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Mayu, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Yamacouchi, 27th April,—Yokkaichi, 26th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, F. Brown, 27th April,—Seattle, Washington, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wahanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, 28th

'akanoura Maru, Inpanese steamer, 1,556, 28th April, Kulir, 26th April, General.—Nippon Vusen Kaisha.

Evandale, British steamer, 2,468, J. Buyers, 28th April, -Rangoon via Hangkong, 18th April, Rice. --Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Macduff, British steamer, 1881, W. S. Thomson,
28th April,—London via ports, Robe, 26th
April, General.—Didwell, Carlill & Co.
Quickstap, American barkentine, 379, Hansen,
29th April,—Takuw, 9th April, 600 Tons Salt.
—Becker & Co.
Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Soyekawa, 28th April,—Yokkaichi, 27th April, Generel.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 564, Nakajima,

Mutsu Maru, Japanese Steamer. 564, Nakajima, 28th April, Mororao 25th April, Coal. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1.662, A. Dixon, 29 h April, -Hongkong via Moji and Kohe, 27th April, Mails and General, -Dodwell, Carlill &

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,682, W. Town-send, 29 h April,—Landon via ports, Hongkung, 22nd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

No. 15 Kannon Maru, Japanese steamri, 1,805; V. Fittikawa, 29 li April.—Robe, 28 h. April, G-neral.—Nippon Vusen Raisha.

General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 29th
April,—Hongkong via ports, 19th April, Mails
and General,—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Otarn Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Tibballs,
29th April—Otarn via ports, 23th April, Genetal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yechiyo Maru. Japanese steamer, 222 M. Vaci

Yechigo Maru, Japanese stemmer, 712, M. Yagi, 29th April,—Yokkaichi, 28th April, General.— Nippon Yusen Keisha.

### DEPARTURES.

Isa Marn, Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 23rd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Original from

No. 15 Kannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,805, Y. Furukawa, 23 d April,—Kobe, General,— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Wm. Pithie, 23rd April, -- Moji, Ballast -- Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Shiragawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001 K. Yamanonchi, 24th April,—Yokkaichi, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,
Yinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 24th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Higo, 24th April, - Olaru via port, General. - Nippon

24th April, — Olaru via port, General, — Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437; K. Soye-kawa, 25th April, — Vokkaichi, General, — Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

pon Yusen Kaisha.

Independent, German steamer, 871, Holtz, 25th April,—Kobe, General.—M. Raspe & Cu. Australian, British steamer, 1,784, Helms, 26th April,—Australia and New Zealand via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—Browne & Co. Thekla, German steamer, 2,363, Madson, 26th April,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon Evers & Co. Yechigo Mars, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 27th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indus, French steamer, 2,200 Vagnier, 27th April,

Indus, French steamer, 2,200 Vagnier, 27th April,
—Maiseilles via poits, Mails and General,
M. M. S.S. Co.

Lok Sang, British steamer, 979, W. G. G. Leask, 27th April, -Moji, Ballasi. - Jardine, Matheson & Co.

& Co. Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, Frantico, 27th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cotter, 27th,—Robe, General.—Nappon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 27-h April,—Oram via poits, General.—
Nuppan Yusen Kaisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J.
McKenzie, 27th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1933, A. W. S. Thomson, 27th April,—Kobe, General.—Coines &
Co.

Hinco Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, 14 Wolley.

Hingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 881, H. Walter, 27th April,—Kabe via Yokkaichi, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Temick, 27th April,—Nigasaki, Billast.—Missa Bishi Ca.

Tileste, Austrian steamer, 2,350, Mitis, 27th Apr.,
—Kobe, General.—Browne & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.001, K.

Yamanouchi, 28th April,—Yokkaichi, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Ume-zono, 28th April,—Robe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wuotan, German steamer, 1,201, Jacobson, 28th April,—Saigon, Ballast,—Captain.

Antenor, British steamer, 3 327, M. H. T. Jackson, 29th April,—London via perts, General.—Butterfield & Swite.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109. J. Giese, 20th April, Sakata, General. Nippon Yusen

Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 20th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,315, F. Brown, 20th April,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sechuen, British steamer, 1,158, Pennyfather, 30th April,—Shanghai, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

and Swire.

### PASSENGERS.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Formosa, from London and ports:—Mr. Booth, Mrs. Booth, Miss Booth, and Mrs. Cattrell, in cabin.

Per British steamer Australian, from Australia and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Bennett, Miss M. A. Boorman, Mr. J. Dalghsh, Mr. A. G. Donovan, Mr. A. Carson, Mr. J. Carson, Mr. J. Raynor, Mr. J. F. Peacon, D. S. Martin, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. T. B. Pocklington, Mr. and Mrs. Man Smith, Mr. A. B. Macdonald, Miss M. K. Sutton, Mr. T. S. Stephenson, Mr. A. W. Hanerell, and Mr. Goodwin, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Sanuki Maru, from London via ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Clutterback, in cabin; 3 Europeans, and 2 Japanese, in second class; 3 Europeans, and 4 Japanese, in sterage.

Per British steamer Dorig, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bellamy Brown, Miss Julia V. A. Henry, Miss May, Mr. K. A. Akiesoff, Mr. E. O. Liz, Miss Kartabskava, Mr. Russell Harper, Mr. A. A. Drew, Miss M. Ro

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bertson, Miss R. Kulm, Mr. T. P. Ball, Mr. The de Berigny, Mr. Filipe S. Mesa, Mr. Chas, Braumer, Mr. W. J. Schooth, Mr. L. M. Leefe, Mr. J. E. Lembie, Mrs. Henry and child, Mrs. Bertam and child, Mrs. Lynwood, Mrs. A. Duncan, Mr. H. A. Garfield, Mr. H. M. Arnondd, Mr. W. H. Slaw, Mrs. V. G. Bennett and child, Mrs. and Miss McKon, Mr. Geo. Hantol, Col. W. W. Brown, Mr. R. Blecker, Mr. Y. A. Dodge, Mr. T. Keishow, O. Pollack, Mr. J. W. Copman, Mr. E. W. Noel, and Mr. C. Churchill, in cabin. For Horndrilu:—Col. C. Stawin, Mr. Hing Choog, and Mr. Hung Song, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. G. Corroll, Dr. and Mrs. Whitney, Mr. F. A. Carl, Mr. J. A. Sullivan, Mr. Snagge, Mr. R. Lesike, Mrs. T. P. Ball, Rev. Mr. Lachenr, Miss E. T. Davidson, Mr. Poy Sing Jing, Mrs. J. Rief, Mr. A. B. Leslie Mellwille, Mr. W. Assaonk, child and amah, and Mr. G. Brockman in cabin.

### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Australian, for Australia:

—Mr. A. Marks, and Mr. R. H. Macks, in cabin, Per French steamer Indus, for Marseilles via ports.—Mr. W. Schmidt, Mr. D. Larrieu, Mr. F. S. Siephenson, Mr. G. M. Cutting, Mr. te Dr. de Penfeilhaux, Mr. G. M. Cutting, Mr. te Dr. de Penfeilhaux, Mr. Middleton, Don Clandino Lopez and boy, Mr. and Mue. M. Sernet, Mr. and Mme. T. Wassilieff, infant, and servant, Mr. and Mme. Ludolph, Mne. Rothisson, Mr. Asabina, Mr. M. Kinzo, Mr. Suzuki, Miss Origant, Mr. s. Westall, Mrs. Y. Comperus, Mrs. Faller, Mrs. G. Beil, Mr. Mannice Bell, Mr. T. Bonnet, Mr. Ronssid, Mr. Juventin, Mr. and Mme. Espicury, and 2 infants, Mr. E Fortun, Mr. S. Arisaka, and Mr. S. Kumasaki, in cabin. Per British steamer Australian, for Australia:

Per German steamer Preussen, by steamer Hohenzollern, from Hongkung :--Mr. Henry Baehr, Mr. and Mrs. F. Baltzer and children, Mr. Ottomas Lord, and Miss G. Stornebrink, in cabin,

### CARGO.

Per Fernch steamer Indus, for Marseilles :-- Raw Sith im Europe, 124 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 34 bales.

### REPORTS.

The British steamer Doric, Captain Harry Smith, reports -Sailed from Hongkong April 19th via ports, of call. Had fine weather throughout, and arrived at Yokuhama April 29th at 5 50

### LATEST COMMERCIAL,

### IMPORTS.

No business has been reported in yarns, shirtngs, fancies or woollens, but it is considered proballe that in view of the recent advance in Manchester rates consequent on the war between the United States and Spain, a move will shortly be made in the market. Quotations for the present are purely cominal. A rise in price of American law cotton is expected, but has not as yet influced the market to any appreciable extent.

# COTTON PORCE GODOS.

PSE ILACE,
Gieralitinga-84 D., 381 ydn. goinches \$2 35 to 2 85
Grey Shirtings-oll, 314 yels, 15 inches 1.80 to 3.35
L. Cloth-7th, 24 yards, 32 inches 18. to 200
Indigo Shirtings-re yarde, trinches, 1 95 to 2 90
32 inches 0 184 to 0.25
WOOLLENS. PRINTERING
Flannels \$0.30 to 0.50
Hallan Scioli, to yards, 32 inches heal of as to olds.
Italian Cloth, 30 yaids, 37 inches
Medium
Italian Cluth, 30 yanda, 32 inches
Comptens 0 25 to 0,174
Mouneline de Luine-Cinpa, 21 yants,
Chate Pilate or a scientist
Cluths-Pilnte, 51 m 55 inches 0.15 to 0 58
Cloths-Presidents, 51 se 56 inches 0.60 to 0 75
Claths-Daine, 5 ; of 56 inches 0.50 to 0.85
Munkets-Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 B.
par h 6 to to a fo
hite rings,
Velvete-Illach, 35 yards, 24 inches 7 75 to 9.90
Victoria Launs, 12 yards, 12-3 inches, 0 75 to 1.00
Inrhey Reds-2.0 to 2.4 h, 2 p 25 yards,
30 inches
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 31b, 24/25 yards,
30 inches 1 75 tu 2,10
Turkey Reds-3,8 to 4lb, 21/15 yards,
32 inches \$40 to \$.70
Inskey Reds-4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards,
entirely and the control of the Charlest
32inches 3 00 to 3 50
COTTOD VARIES, van com,
Tua. 10 24, Singles \$18.50 to 40.50
Nos. 28/12, Singles
Nos. 18'12 Sicoles

Nos. 12, Doubles	46.00 M	
Nos. 42, Doubles	51 75 to	54.50
Nos. a/60, Plain	61.00 to	
Non. 2/80, Plain	25.00 le	
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99,00 to	
Nos. 2/6n, Gassed	72 00 to	
Nos. 2 80. Gassed		
Nos. 2 ton, Gassed	89.00 to	
	112.00 to	124.00
RAW COTTON.	ten	FICUL.
American Middling	San an h	a a. 6.
Indian Proach	- W = O = 10 E	30.ng
Chinese	30-20 E	0 21.06
Chinese	- 81 20	31.50
MICIALS.		
Nothing whatever doing.		
		H PIGOS.
Round and square   inch. and upw.	and a second	N PIGOR
fron Plates, assorted	mu.j.g5	0 4.20
Sheet Lan	4. <b>20</b> .1	to 4.50
Sheet Iron		10 5.20
Gaivanized fron sheets	8.3a	10.00
Ante a samte Mtheiteffil	0 68	ta 6 to
I ITI F IBLOW, clock Date	F 60	4 6
rightenn, 140 . A ter en en en en en en	2.05	fa 2 10
Hoop Iron (\$ to 14 inch)	2103	2 10
test between the contract the c		to 5,25

KICKOSERER. Prices have a tendency to rise, but little business has been transacted during the week.

American arms arms arms arms arms	12 00 to 2.07
Russian.	1.95 to 2.05
Langkat	r,£5

Arrivals of Brown during the past two weeks amount to 25,250 piculs Manila, 50,649 piculs Formosa and 18,100 piculs China. Sales have been 45,000 piculs Manila and China and 51,000 piculs Formosa. Prices have advanced 35 to 40 sen per picul for Manila and China, and 70 sen for Formosa. A good steady business has been done in White Refined at an advance of 25 sen per nicul.

Henne	Paleau.	PER PIGNE.
O	Inkno	\$4.95 10 5.00
EXECUTABLE.	TO 2 OF PARTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND ADD	C at la c Ro
131.0444	Dations	4.50 to 4 fc
RECUE	Canton	4 40 10 6 50
White	lava and Penang	Sector to
White	Rafinad	4130 10 7.00
		7.50 10 0.00

### EXPORTS.

### RAW SILK.

During the last three or four days a fair business has been transacted owing to a considerable ness has been transacted using to a considerable ceduction in the prices asked by dealers, principally for Europe. There is little or no demand for America, owing to the war with Spain, and consequently prices are in favour of brivers, Stocks amount to 6 700 piculs, against 4,850 piculs. at same time last year. Shipments consist of 124 bales per Indus for Europe.

### QUOLITIONS.

Blainess-Hatta g'ri, rofte den	Nominal
Climinica Batim 13/15, 14/16 den	Just to new
COMPANY AND A TOTAL AND A SECOND ASSESSMENT	See to East
CHattees-No. 1, 13/15, 11/16 dan	. Szo to Sto
FURLINGSTRIVE, III. 10/11 deplein	Sto to Rie
E1181111008-100, 14, 11/10, 14/17 dan.	Ran to RAn
CHRISTER-148. 2. Intis if a tierters.	. Broto Sta
Cliatives Ito, I, II Indeplets	Rin to Ray
Ke-reels	Bon to one
Re-reels-210, 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	Sto to Sin
the traction of the traction o	Son to Di-
Re-reels-No. 24, 1118 deniers	. Sno to Bio
Reiteels-Ho. 3, eg'an deniern,	700 10 708
Kakedas-Katra	
Kakadan No.	. 840 to 840
Kakadas-No. :	. 820 to 830
Kakedas-No. 14.	790 to 800
Kakedas-Ho.s	. 76e to 770
dasedas-No. 24	
TAP A RESERVE AS A SECOND	

No new Insiness has been done and the only shipment has been 205 bales for Europe per Indus. Stock amounts to 3.115 piculs.

plock amounts to 3.115 piculs.			
QUOTATIONS.			
Best	1115	ř.	120
TORDI-PHARMER, Good	for	to	110
Wolfin - Ushu, Beat and an appropriate the second	1 60	01	115
Nushi-Oshu, Gand			103
Noshi-Oshu, Mediam			95
Noshi-Shinsha Best married and Shinsha Charles	70	to	75
Noshi-Shiushu, Good			674
			120
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	99		
Noshi - Joshu, Good	бo		
Noshi- osles, Fair			524
Sibigo-Pilature, Best			100
Cibiso-Filature, Seconds	85		90
Kibiso → Joshu, Good	25	ŧο	10
Kibiso-Bushu, fair	20	Ēυ	22
TEA.			-

About 250 piculs of new season's ten have About 250 picus or new season's ten nave arrived, and for which prices are quoted at \$40 to \$45 per picul. The quality of the samples is good and it is generally anticipated that the crap will be better than that of the past two seasons.

### QUOTATIONS.

Choicest		Nominal
Lhoice		Nominal
Finest	D	Nominal
Good Medium		Nominal

Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Nominal

### EXCHANGE.

Silver & higher from London and sterling quotations higher from Chiha have made rates on China easier but otherwise no change has taken place.

Stelling Bank I. I 3/01
- Bills on demand 2/01
- 4 monthe' sight 2 of
- Private 4 months sight 2 of
- 6 months' sight 1/0
On Parls-Bank night 2 54
On Lyons - Private 4 months sight , 2.50tol
Он America-Bank Bills on demand., 481
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight 50}</li> </ul>
On Gormany-Bank sight 2.054
- Private 4 months' sight 2.11
On Hongkong-Bank sight 6to610/edis.
- Private rodays' sight, 71to8% dis.
On Shanghai-Bank sight7911080
<ul> <li>Private to days' sight8rto8r4</li> </ul>
On India-Bank sight 150
Private 30 days' sight 155
Bas Silver (London) 16}

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.
Yokohama Engine & tron Works, Ld., \$50 sof Sa. & S.
Japan Brewery Co., I.d., Fac.,
Grand Hotel, I.d., \$100 230.50 S.
Club Hotel, I.d., \$100
Oriental Hotel, Ld., \$100
Oriental Hotel, [.d. (Fdrs.), \$11\$ 450 S.
Nagasaki Hotel Ld., yen 200 60 N.
North and Rae, f.d., \$100
Breit & Co., I.d., \$10 so Sh,
Lungfeldt & Co., Ld., frou axç St. & St.
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N.B:-SScilers, 8Buyers, SaSales, StSteady, NNomiusi, WWeak, REnquirles.

### RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

## YOROHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

VOROHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.

Shimbashi—4 40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 s.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 3.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

### **Чоконама** анд Коав.

Departure.	Arrival.
Yokohama 648 a.m.	Kobe 11.22 p.m.
Yokobama 1 26 p.m.	Kobe 9.00 a.m.
Yokobama 7.20 p.m.	Kobe 3.05 p.m.
Yokobama 10 55 p.m.	Kohe 7 00 p.m.
Kobe 6.00 8.10.	Yokohama 10.25 p.m.
Kobe ,12,30 p.m.	Yokobama 8.08 a.m.
Kabe 10.00 p.m.	Yakohama 7.06 p.m.

## YOROHAMA AND NIKKO.

1111111	From Vokoliama From Shinagawa From Akabane Arrive Utsunomiya	9.m. 7 10 8 15 9 27	8 47 9 45 11.27 2.30	9 57 11.10 1.27 4.40	p m. 12 45 2 00 3.37 6 30
	Arrive Visinotalya		4.25	6 15	7 15



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# The Japan Weekly Itlail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 19.]

REGISTERED AT THE O.P.O.

YOKOHAMA. MAY 7TH, 1898. 月三年五十二治明 日献者供養日三十 Vol. XXIX.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

" F WHER QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No nutice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insection in the "JAFAN WRKKLY MALL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of guodifaith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAUKR, and Cheques he made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 7TH, 1898.

### BIRTH.

On the 17th April, at Stewart Terrace, The Peak, Hongkong, the wife of H. PINGENEY, of

### MARRIAGE.

On the 18th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. R. F. Colibeld, M.A., ARTHUR FRANCIS BELLAMY, third son of the fare Capitain Thomas I. Brown, of Ipswich, England, to Marton Maud Edith, eldest daughter of John Isaac Plummer, Esq., M.A., F.R.A.S., of Hongkong.

At Bremen, Germany, on the 21st March, A.C., EUGEN VON DER HEYDE, aged 55, formerly partner

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE American navy continues to capture Spanish merchantmen.

Marquis Saionji's resignation of the portfolio of Minister of Education has been accepted,

THE Americans have bombarded and destroyed the half-completed batteries at Matanzas.

On the 28th ult, the Italian Minister gave a din-ner party at his official residence in Tokyo.

Two French missionaries have Been Digitized by

by Chinese at Yunanchao, in the province of Kwansi.

THE blockade of Havana has been partially raised, most of the U.S. aquadron returning to Key West for coal.

In pursuance of her neutrality, Great Britain has prevented the sailing of American torpedo vessels from Falmouth.

HE American steamer Shenandoah has arrived at Liverpool. The report of her capture by the Spaniarda was untrue.

Mr. News Tresunosure has been appointed Secretary of the Red Cross Society, with the sauction of His Mujesty.

THE Spanish defeat at Manila is causing disgraceful scenes in Spain and martial war has been proclaimed in Madrid.

THE split between the Liberal Party and the Cabinet continues, and is not expected to be healed before the meeting of the Diet.

At the meeting of the Meijl Fire Insurance Company on the and a dividend was declared at the rate of 13 per cent, per cent, per annum.

THE United States Government has chartered eight large steamers as transports. It is supposed that they are intended to carry troops at once to Cuba.

The submarine cable between Manila and the mainland has been destroyed by the U.S. Navy so no news of the actual position of affairs can be obtained.

It is reported that the marine telegraph cables between Shimonoseki and Naruto Straits and between Isenoumi, Shikoku, and Sanyodo have been completed.

THE Americans have captured the Spanish Fransatlantic Liner Panama while bound from New York to Havana, with Spanish refugees and valuable cargo.

Congress is to be asked to authorize immedi ately a bond issue to provide funds wherewith to carry on the war, the estimate for the next two months being \$50 000 000.

A woman named Udukawa Tatsu, 50 years old, living at No. 13, Nagaoka-cho, Houjo, Tokyo, on the 2nd instant committed suicide by taking a large quantity of hydrochloric acid,

IT is stated that America will hold the Philippines until the close of the war, and then, if the indemnity is not paid, will sell them to a Enropean power, preferably Great Britain.

Notifications of neutrality have been issued by various governments in connection with the Hispano-American war. Japan is taking the usual steps to carry out the regulations.

Owing to the protests of European Powers, the Washington Senate Committee has decided to suppress the increased tonnage dues on shipping which the Lower House had passed.

An American torpedo destroyer has engaged a Spanish gau-boat off Matanzas. After eleven shots had been exchanged, the Americans retired, the vessel being apparently damaged.

THE Yokohama Central Tea Guild bus received a telegram dated 27th ult., from the New York branch to the effect that Congress has rejected

in the States till May 21 m clear unmolested, but the Prize Courts are to adjudicate on the captures already made.

A REPORT comes from Formosa that on the 23rd ultimo the Imperial troops attacked a band of native robbers near Tamsui. Thirty natives were killed, 7 wounded, and over 26 made

THE Japanese battleship and cruiser which are now in course of construction by Armstrong & Co., England, were recently named by the authorities, the former being called the Haisuse and the latter the Idsumo.

Owing to the prevalence of the plugue in Formosa, it is said that Mr. Shiga, an assistant in the Contagious Diseases Investigation Bureau, will be despatched to the Island to investigate the condition and management of the hospitals,

An employé of the Normal Dispensary in Yokohama, named Kohayashi, 32 years of age, living at No. 36 Bandaicho, was recently arrested and sent to the Court for trial on a charge of selling a patent medicine without a license from the Government.

On the morning of the 1st inst., a man named Horikiri Renemon, 61 years old, living at Asa-kusa, Tokyo, cut his wife's throat and fatally wounded his adopted son. He afterwards nusuccessfully attempted suicide. Jealousy was the cause of the crime.

THE U. S. squadron on the Asiatic station, under command of Commodore Dewey, engaged the Spanish squadron near Cavite on the 1st, silenced the forts, and put the Spaniards to flight. Manila is said to have been fired and half destroyed before the close of the fight,

In the House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain stated that the Government was not prepared to re-enact the Contagious Disease Ordinance for the Straits Settlements, but that the former was in communication with the Governor of the Settlements as to whether some other measures could be adopted as a possible check to the further spread of venereal disease.

THE rising at Sierra Leone now practically involves the whole Colony. Factories have been burned, and a native manager and a number of missionaries massacred. The rebels are now close to Freetown. Reinforcements have been despatched. The cruiser Blake has left Gibraltar, conveying a naval brigade to be landed at Freetows.

Business has been very small this week, the little business that was doing being "held-up" pending war developments. A few deliveries of yarns have taken place, but at rates that indicated a desire to clear godowns at any price, Prices are nominally the same as last week in the Metal market in view of no business offering. Sugar remains fairly steady for Formoga sorts, in other varieties no business it attring. Raw Silk some little has been done, chiefly in filature and re-reels for the United States, both by foreign and native shippers, and prices have risen by \$10 to \$20 on the week. Weste silk is very dall with very little enquiry, though if holders would make themselves current business could be arranged. New season's leaf is still very discouraging, the new tea Parsident McKinier has issued a proclama the date. Exchange is steady on gold the granting Spanish vessels leaving or arriving building the modern weaker on China. offered this week not showing the improvement hoped for. Some 6,457 piculs have been set-

### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The two questions of the hour are foreign licy and finance. Our readers have already policy and finance. Our readers have already formed, we do not doubt, a pretty clear idea as to the attitude of Japanese public opinion towards these problems. The Liberals, who, until recently, were allies of the Cabinet, atil remain supporters of its foreign policy but are strongly inclined to oppose the financial programme adopted by Count Inouye. The Progressists denounce the Ministry's foreign policy, but as yet show no sign of attacking its finance. Each party is acting consistently. It was with the consent and by the sid of the Liberals that the posi-bellum programme of 1895 was ela-borated and passed through the Diet. They pledged themselves then to a very bold and spirited scheme of national economy, and it is not wonderful that they should now rebel against what, to superficial observers, seems a morement of retrenchment and besitation. On the other hand, they endorsed the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula in 1885, and have ever since favoured a moderate line in foreign affairs. Hence they find themselves now in agreement with the Cabinet at one point but in collision with it at another. The Progressists, on the other hand, have been more or less identified with economy of public expenditures, a less vigorous expansion of the Army than the Ito Ministry planned after the War, and abstention from the imposition of fresh taxes. Therefore they can not, with any show of consistency, attack the make-ends-meet methods of Count But, ever since the days when strict treaty enforcement came upon the lapis, they have been "stalwarts" in the field of foreign affairs, and they are consequently free to attack any Ministry which fails to plant the national standard on ideal heights of prestige and self assertion. Such are the broad lines of the assertion. Such are the broad lines of the situation. Each party opposed to the Government occupies a camp with conveniently vigue limits. The Progressists, while they clamour for something signal in foreign affairs, do not attempt to state clearly what that something should be. The Liberals, while they denounce a policy of hesitation and halting in financial affairs, avoid any exposition of what they consider resolute and progressive. It is true that, within the past few days, Count Itagaki, the Liberal leader, has come forward with a programme for State purchase of private railwayby means of a foreign loan, but, in enunciating his plan, he was careful to explain that he spoke simply as Itagaki, not as the head of the Liberal Party. Thus the Liberals are in the irresponsible position of decrying the Cabinet's method of extricating the nation from a financial dilemma, without offering any alternative method of their own. It is also true that some of the Progressist organs have begun to advocate the acquisition of Amoy and Foochow by lease. But their tone is tentative and uncertain, and, on the other hand, the "stalwart" agitators confine themselves to declaring that the engagement obtained from China with regard to Fubkien is an abortive and valueless affair, calculated to disturb still further rather than III redress the balance of power in the Far Rust. How that balance is to be redressed they do not indicate, though, perhaps, we shall be justified in interring that nothing short of an attempt to drive Russia from Liaotung and Germany from Kiao chou, by way of preliminary to the withdrawal of England from Wei-hai-wei, would satisfy them. On these bases journalistic discussion is now proceeding, but readers of the vernacular press will doubtless agree with us when we say that the nebulous and shadowy of weariness and impatience.

In finance the catch-words of the time are shokroku and sektyoku, which signify "negative" and "positive," with all the secondary meanings that individual interpretations may devise. The Liberals say that Count Inonye's devise. The Liberals say that Count Inonye's imoney—that is to say, foreign capital—that an imoney—that is to say, foreign capital—that an embatrassent state of affairs now exists; yet the proposal is to relieve the embarrassment by a is indicated by "negative." Count Inouge has proposal is to relieve the embarrassment by a further introduction of foreign money.

Digitized by To Sittle in Korea, and dender the difference. Now, once more, the Korean areas offers itself for Japan to exploit. How should she proceed? The Yiji sees only one way. As many Japanese is indicated by "negative." Count Inouge has further introduction of foreign money.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINIOIS AT

not reduced any programme or cut down the dimensions of any scheme. He has merely dimensions of any scheme. He has merely readjusted the public expenditures so that they shall fit the public income immediately available. How can such procedure be rightly called negative? Empirical financiers have sundry nostrums to cure the malady of the hour. Some would sell bonds abroad; some would raise a foreign loan; some would have the State purchase the private railways; some would apply the Indemnity to redeem the War Bonds. There is no general agreement as in the wisest course, and, at any rate, all these schemes are special measures lying outside the limits of the ordinary finances with which Count Inouye has hitherto been dealing. That there is distiens among manufacturers and that many enterprises are threatened with rule, no one can doubt. But how to assist them impartially and prudently is a problem of immense difficulty. It is not to be denied that the responsibil ty for the present state of affairs rests in some degree with the Government and not altogether with the people. The Government doubtless recognises the fact, and Count Inouye is understood to be revolving plane to ease the situation. The utmost care and circumspection are necessary, however, lest in removing one cause of trouble another and perhaps a greater be created. Public opinion now seems to be inclining towards the purchase of all the private railways by the State as a device for increasing the stock of floating capital in the hands of the people. It is impossible to doubt that State ownership of railways is the only policy really conducive to public convenience, material progress, and strategical expediency. (The Nicht Nicht devotes two long articles to demonstrating this proposition, but we refrain from epitomising them, the arguments, though forcible, being already familiar to our readers). But an operation of such magnitude and importance is not to be undertaken merely for the sake of putting capital into the hands of the people or restoring vigour to the share market. The step must be well and maturely considered. (It will thus be seen that the Nichi Nichi neither opposes nor endorses the proposition with which Count Itagaki has now identified himself. In theory it is an ardent advocate of State ownership, but in practice it is fastidious as to times and methods).

The Tokyo Shimbun (Liberal organ) discusses the same question at considerable length, but nine-tenths of its arguments are devoted to establishing the economical, technical, and national advantages of State-owned lines as compared with private lines. These arguments, being of a general character, without any bearing on the special case of Japan, need not occupy our attention. As to the particular pro-blem a solution of which is sought by this device, the Liberal organ confines itself to a bold but undemonstrated assertion that the intraduction of foreign capital is absolutely necessary at the present juncture and that the only wise way of obtaining and employing it is a national loan for the purchase of the principal systems of railways, namely, the Nippon, the Sanyo, the Kobu, and the Kiushin.

There is much to be said in favour of State ownership of railways, and, as Count Itagski has always been an advocate of that policy, his proposal to put it into practice now for the sake of relieving the dearth of floating capital can not be regarded as strange or unreasonable. Is such a measure desirable, however? Going to the root of the present embarrassment, we find that the responsibility rests with the extraordinary appreciation of commodities. To what is that appreciation due? Evidently to redundant currency. To what is redundant cur-rency due? Plainly to the fact that large sums have been brought over to Japan owing to receipts on account of the Indemnity and the sale of bonds abroad. In other words, it is because of the rapid introduction of foreign renders such a programme still more questionable is that a large sum is about to be received from China and brought over to Japan, so that, under any circumstances, many millions of money are to be added to the stock already in the country. That result can not but be viewed with some uneasiness by economists. If, then, 150 or 160 millions were obtained abroad and scattered among the people as the purchase money of the Nippon, Kobu, Sanyo, and Kiushin railways, can there be any doubt that still further and more rapid appreciation of commodities would ensue owing to a plethors of media of exchange, and that the present evils of tightness of capital, excess of imports, and exodus of gold would be sharply accentuated, so that the country would ultimately be plunged into a worse slough than ever? Such is the gist of the Fomiuri Shimbun's argument on this important subject.

The Mainichi Shimbun (Progressiet organ) opposes the project. In fact, the public seem likely to divide along the lines of political parties, the Liberals advocating State ownership, the Progressists denying the wisdom of such a course. On the side of the latter there is virtually only one solid argument, namely, that the question of railways is one which concerns the permanent welfare of the country, and that its solution must not be prostituted to the temporary purpose of rel eving a dearth of floating capital. The Mainichi itself does not besitate to admit that the construction of several lines. can not be continued owing to the shareholders' inability to pay up the calls on their shares, and that not only the progress of railway-making is threatened with interruption, but also much of the capital already invested may be lost. But it contends that difficulties of that kind must not be allowed to influence the country's attitude towards the general problem of State or private ownership, and it condemns Count Itagaki for allowing himself to become the tool of needy speculaters.

Turning to the question of foreign policy, we find in the Jiji Shimpo two articles directed to prove that Japan's great faults in dealing with foreign countries are romantic altruism and a tendency to regard herself as the depository of a civilizing mission. In proof of this somewhat startling assertion, our contemporary points to the war with China. Nine apanese ont of every ten entertained but one idea about the war, namely, that it was a fight undertaken by Japan on behalf of the weak against the strong. Such sentimentalism is graceful enough in its way, but it is apt to entail great disadvantages when it is one sided. Peo-ple do not succeed in the affairs of everyday life by perpetually turning their cheeks to the a simile which our contemporary tenders by funket bakugyaku, or not tudging till one's bend is cut off; still less can any long suffering or romance of the kind be permitted in international dealings. Other peoples simply laugh at the victim of the fad and take advantage of his silliness. The Koreaus, for example, never comprehended the long-suffering action of Japan in 1873, 1881, and 1884. They attributed it to weakness or timidity, and despised the Japanese. All quixotism of the soit—gikyo, the Yifi calls it—must be laid aside. The idea must be abandoned, too, that Japan's mission is to propagate by direct processes the civiliza-tion which she has berself adopted. It was by pursuing that programme that she made herself dishked in Korea, and opened a door for the interference of a Power not at all troubled by such moral yearnings. It is a mistake to assume that the Koreans are in a condition resembling that of the Japanese immediately before the Restoration, and that the forces which moved the latter can be efficacious to prise the former out of the rut of stagnation. The Koreans are far behind what the Japanese then were, and

mining, industrial enterprise, agriculture, and other employments. There is room for five millions of immigrants. Thus and thus only can Japan utilize her opportunity, and lead Korea gradually but surely into the path of progress and prosperity. The Government's hand should not appear in the matter, beyond obtaining for Japanese subjects the criviles of obtaining for Japanese subjects the privilege of owning real estate in Kores.

The Kohumin Shimbun urges the importance of an understanding between Great Britain, the United States, and Japan to secure the peace of the Far East. America opened Japan; England opened Chins. America is Japan's neighbour on the east; England is her neighbour on the south. Four-fifths of China's foreign trade are in British hands, and Great Britain is at the head of Japan's importers, while the United States takes far the largest share of her exports. As for Japan's position and relations vis-à vis China, they need not be discussed. Obviously the three States chiefly concerned in keeping the peace of the Far East are England, the United States, and Japan, and it is equally plain that the state of China's affairs and the Hispano-American quarrel constitute a unique opportunity for an understanding between the three Powers. That is the gist of the Rokumin's article. It is decidedly vague.

### JAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENTS.

On the 26th ult. a spring regatta was held by the students of the Meiji Law School on the upper part of the Sumida river. After the sports about two hundred of them, the worse for drink, invaded the Yoshiwara, which they had been strictly forbidden to enter. There a quarrel ensued between them and some 300 leafers, and a free fight quickly arose. The constables of the two out stations proved insufficient to queli the disturbance, and a message was sent to the Head Police Station in Asakusa to obtain reinforcements. Many were severely wounded on both sides, and it was with great difficulty that the commotion was quelled. Twenty five students and a great number of the other combatants were arrested.

The predominance of the Tosa clique of the Liberal Party, remarks the Yorosu, has aroused indignation among Liberals who are really and atrougly attached to the Party. The Kwanto members are strongly opposed to the inauguration of Count Itageki and Mr. Hayashi, as leaders, and have resolved to recommend Mr. Hoshi. Should the Tosa clique prove too powerful the members from Kwanto will have their names struck off the list, and form a separate party for themselves.

According to the Hochi, Mr. Bockman, Director of the Oriental Agency for a certain engineering company in France, has proposed to provide the Formosan Railway Company with machinery and appliances on easy terms, the cost to be paid in yearly installments after the opening of the traffic. It is also stated that through the efforts of Mr. One Kinroku and a few others, Messrs. Pocock & Co., London, are prepare to advance a loan to the amount of £1,500,000 (15 millions yen). Marquis Ito is reported to favour Mr. Bockman's programme, while the company itself advocates that of Mesers, Pocock & Co.

According to the Shogro, the number of Japanese immigrants to Hawaii aggregates 30,000, and their money is probably not less than 1,000,000 year. The banks in Hawaii, however, do not pay interest on these moneys and the labourers have frequently applied to the various Immigration Companies with a view to more advantageous arrangements for their savings. All negotiations with local banks

security-money and reserve on behalf of contract labourers, interest to be paid on such deposits. (2) If any immigrant be found unable to provide security for himself, the amount, not exceeding 40 yen, shall be sent to him by the Bank, under the guarantee of more than two trustworthy surcies responsible for repayment.

(3) Each labourer is bound to pay expenses emigration in installments at the rate of one dollar per month during the first year of immi-gration, and of two dollars during the four months of the second year. The Bank has pledged itself to devote its utmost energies to the furtherance of immigration enterprises.

The Nippon Ginko's report of transactions during the week ending the 23rd instant, pub-lished in the Mainichi, shows a reduction in the reserve of 3.430,000 yen,—a fact which proves that the exodus of specie is increasing day by day. The general tendency may be perceived from the following figures:-

Specie

Reduction B

compared

with the Reserve. prev. month. Van. 3.799 256 19,377,136 8,274,039 Thus the amount of reduction from the end of last year up till the 23rd instant does not fall short of 41,450,000 yes, and the largest dimi-nation is for this month. The briskness with which the outflow of hard metal takes place M present is truly surprising. The stringency of the money market continues as serious ever, and the embarrassment to popular enterprises is daily becoming more pressing. With the tea and silk seasons at hand portion of floating capital will be absorbed in these enterprises. So unless an increase of the reserve be undertaken by appropriations of the Indemnity the immediate issue of 10 or 20

The libel case instituted by the ex-Minister for Agriculture and Commerce against the Porosu was continued on the 29th ultimo at the District Court, Tokyo. It was alleged that the paper had charged the ex-Minister with the receipt of bribes to the amount of 30,000 year in reference to recent proceedings against the Osaka Rice Exchange. The defence was a plea of justification, alleging that the publication of the article was for the public good. case was adjourned.

million yen of notes above the legal limit will

be absolutely indispensable at this juncture.

According to the Yorosu Mr. Tsutuhara, President of the Banking Bureau, recently spoke on the redemption of public bonds by appropria-tions of the Indemnity. He says:—"As the present embarrassment results, not from the faults of the economic world alone, but chiefly from the policy adopted by the Government, the Government itself ought to exert its utmost energies for amelioration. The redemption of public loans would alone bring about a relaxation in the money market, restore the issue of notes to the logal limit, and, in short, change the economic aspect entirely. It is alleged that redemption would require funds of at least 100 million. That is, however, unnecessarily million yen. large; 50 millions would be sufficient. Simultancously with the liquidation of loans, the programme for increased taxation must be carried into effect." This programme, the Foresu thinks, would disorganise the financial system instead of proving a remedy.

The Chun states that the Meiji Cotton Spinning Company in Oaka recently, in combination with eighteen other companies, submitted the following resolutions to the President of the Industrial Bank: -That the Bank shall issue loans to the value of existing securities; that new companies shall be entitled to loans

points (1) If the spinning industry fails to realize a profit at the current price of yarns how can it be maintained? If yarns are really on the verge of over production, what remedy can be adopted? What process can be recommended for extending the market for yarns both in the interior and in foreign countries? (z) What is the ratio of floating capital to the funds required for the purchase of coal and other materials and for the payment of wages?

(3) The advantages or disadvantages of time bargains.

(4) The life of machinery and the ratio of reserves set apart for depreciation.

(5) The maximum amount of receives. A special committee was appointed by the six leading companies to prepare a reply.

The Osaka Asahi deals at great length with the economic situation. Its chief conclusions are: (1) That the Government has, by the over-issue of convertible notes after the war, brought about an abnormal appreciation of commodities. (2) That the authorities having adopted an unusually liberal post bellum policy, a mania has arisen for the organisation of companies and corporations. (3) The Governments' collection from the domestic market of an enormous amount of funds in the form of war bonds has had a tightening effect on the money market. The last of these three propositions is regarded with serious concern. The Government has collected war bonds to the amount of 100 million yen, and as yet has adopted no measures for redemption. Thus the market has been deprived of its working funds exactly to the amount mentioned. But the decrease in the supply of capital in connection with the retention of war bonds is really insignificant compared with the increase of the demand for ca-pital among private individuals. Count Inouye's investigation proves the aggregate funds of various joint stock companies in 1894 to have scarcely reached 330 million yes, whereas this amount was augmented by 1897 to 500 millions. That the Government has erred in permitting the Nippon Ginko to lower its rate of interest as a means for encouraging popular enterprises is beyond doubt; but the authorities can hardly be justified in attempting to relieve the market of its present embarrassment by schemes destined to impair the existing enterprises which they have themselves encouraged to start. The issue of convertible notes is also commented on. The notes in circulation on 21st April, 1894, did not exceed 137,904.751 yen, against 179,776,033 ren for the cor esponding period of this year—an increase of 40 million Prices of commodities have extravagantly Ten. risen in consequence, the rate having increased by 50 per cent. in Tokyo and 70 per cent. in Osaka. That is to say, the over-issue of notes has impaired the efficiency of money by 60 per cent. on the average. Where 40,000 year were formerly sufficient in the case, say, of a railway, a sum of 64,000 year is now required. To adopt a measure for bringing about the depreciation of commodities is therefore absolutely indispens-How can this object be attained? able. introduction of foreign capital, the state ownership of private railways, the purchase of war bonds by the Indemnity—all these are clamoured for, but they are no better than temporising schemes. Increased taxation only can be recommended, asserts the Osaka Asahi, at this conjuncture Business men should devote their energies to formulating a scheme for radical reform, instead of being content with raising "importunate cries" against the government.

### THE BOUNTY FOR DIRECTLY EXPORTED SILK.

Among the bills prepared by the Government for presentation to the Diet last session, there was one for rescinding the law by which a bounty is granted for silk directly exported. The dissolution of the Lower House made the passage of the measure impossible. Vernacular having failed, steps were taken by the silied after commencing work; that machinery passage of the measure impossible. Vernacular Emigration Council to come to an arrangement with the Tokyo-Yokohama Savings Bank, and plant may be pledged for loans, that newspapers say that it will be introduced at an and the following points were finally agreed upon:—(1) Each Emigration Company shall the President is reported to have presented to the bounty principle, the reacinding measure

deposit in the Tokyo-Yokoh me Savings Balk a request for information or the following migjeted expensed to pass without deficulty.

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### COUNT ORUMA ON CURRENT TOPICS.

Count Okuma, who utters his opinions very freely on current topics, or, at any rate, is represented as uttering them very freely, has been interviewed by the Yomiuri Shimbun, and has expressed himself in somewhat contemptuous terms about the concessions said to have been obtained by the Cabinet from China. He ridicules the stipulation about mining operations as altogether superfluous. The Shimonoseki Treaty guarantees mostfavoured-nation treatment to Japanese subjects. To make a special stipulation now on such a subject is not merely m work of supererogation, but also a proceeding calculated to throw doubts upon the binding force of the Treaty. As to the removal of the restriction upon the export of rice, the fact appears to be that the Cabinet failed to obtain any such pro-mise from China. The agreement about the non-alienation of Fuhkien is all very well in its way, but, after all, it is a poor kind of affair. Japan comes in at the tail of the hunt and gathers up the crumbs that have fallen from the feast of the big Powers. It is a petty piece of imitation. Besides, rumour alleges that the Ministry can not even claim originality for its coup. The idea was put into its head by a certain foreign Government, which said "Why do you stand with your finger in your mouth when Powers are making a feast of China. Step in and claim a morsel for yourself." A great parade is made of A great parade is made of these concessions, but they have been sought simply for the purpose of taking the wind out of the sails of the strong-foreign-policy party. As for the State owner-ship of private railways, it is nonsense. The State has shown itself quite incompetent to discharge even the limited functions already devolving on it. The railways under its control are mismanaged; its postal, telegraph, and telephone services furnish ground for perpetual complaint. Who would be silly enough to saddle it with largely increased responsibilities? The very men now agitating for the pur-chase of the railways by the State, agitachase of the ranways by the State, age of the lines to be bought and their cost. State rankays to the people. In a word, lines to be bought and their cost. The method he recommended was as convenient instruments for influencing the share market. The Liberals are even less scrupulous, for they pervert this question of State ownership into a means of winning over the "business men" to their side. The interests of the country are altogether secondary considerations in the eyes of such politicians.

We reproduce the above-it is only an epitome, of course-because everything attributed to Count. Okuma has interest, but we greatly doubt whether he used such language. In the first place, his information is quite incorrect and that it and information is quite incorrect, and that is a defect seldom exhibited in his utterances. He speaks of the three concessions as having been actually asked for by the Japanese Government in connection with recent events. But it is well known that the questions of mining privileges and the export of rice did not form the topic of any serious discussion. No demands about such matters have ever been formulated by Japan, nor have any concessions been obtained from China. The proposal with reference to Fuhkien stood entirely alone, and had become a subject of pourparlers

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in Peking long before the agitators for a "stalwart" policy took the field. In the second place, Count Okuma speaks of a great parade being made of the concessions, whereas the talk about them has been chiefly confined to the Opposition journals, and the only person responsible for coupling them together is the Jiji Shimpo's Peking correspondent. These are misconceptions into which Count Okuma is most unlikely to have fallen.

### COUNT ITAGAKI ON FINANCE.

Count Itagaki, the Liberal leader, has just delivered a lecture in Tokyo on the subject of the nation's economical condition. We have not space to translate his remarks in full, neither is there any occasion to do so. The main point is occasion to do so. The main point is that he advocates the State purchase of the principal private railways with the object of converting into floating capital the capital fixed in those enterprises. He thinks that although the industrial and commercial fever which overtook the people after the war has its disadvantages, its benefits greatly predominate, and it would be little short of a calamity were the Government to adopt a negative financial policy at this juncture, as there seems to be reason to apprehend. The Government itself is not altogether free from responsibility in connexion with this outburst of fever, for by stipulating, at the time of the Shimonoseki negotiations, that new ports should be opened in China, that industrial facilities should be granted there, and that a considerable part of Manchuria should be handed over to Japan, the statesmen of the day helped materially to create a spirit of enter-prise. What has to be done now is to take care that a disastrous reaction does not take place, and that many sound undertakings calculated to enrich the nation are not swept away by the wave of impecuniosity now threatening to inundate the country. The only sound palliative is to introduce foreign capital. There are several ways of effecting that end, but the best and simplest seems to be the State purchase of private railways. Count to regard 5 per cent, as the normal profit of a road, and to purchase the shares of the various lines on that basis-paying 120 yen for a 100-yen share where 6 per cent. profit was obtainable; 160 yen in the case of 8 per cent.; 80 yen in the case of 4 per cent. and so on. He indicates the Nippon, Sanyo, Kiushiu, and Kobu as the four principal lines to be dealt with, and estimates that it would cost 95 million yen to acquire them, their paid-up capital, however, being only 53 millions. These figures were based on returns compiled at the end of 1896. If the extensions made since then and the Hokkaido line were included, it would probably be found that a total of from 150 to 200 million yen must be paid. His idea was to submit to the Diet in its approaching extraordinary session a Representation urging the State purchase of the lines, and the convocation of another extraordinary session as soon as the Government could complete the investigations necessary for compiling a detailed bill.

### IBERALS & THE GOVERNMENT.

If we may credit the Yomiuri Shimbun, which on such a subject is not altogether trustworthy, there is a strong prospect of renewed coalition between the Liberal Party and the Cabinet. The Progressist organ enters into very minute detail as to the extreme section and the moderate section of the Party, their composition, and the measures that have been adopted to reconcile them on lines favourable to the Cabinet. We need not reproduce these explanations. The main facts are sufficient; namely, that the Tosa wing of the Party had never any paramount desire to sever relations with the Ministry; that the concurrence of views between the Party and the Government, with regard to foreign affairs and the virtual concurrence with regard to finance now that Count Inouye's explanations have been heard, render separation unreasonable, and that, a large majority of the members having been persuaded to reconsider their decision partly by the exertions of the leaders, notably Count Itagaki and Messrs. Hayashi and Kataoka, and partly by the efforts of Baron Ito and the National Unionists, a rapprochement is now almost assured. The Yomiuri predicts, however, that all the members will not be induced to return to their allegiance, and that a split in the ranks of the Party will take place, though the seceders will probably be few. It further alleges that after the Diet rises, on the conclusion of the pending session, Count Itagaki will become Minister of State for Home Affairs and Baron Ito will receive the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. It will be understood that we reproduce this news for what it may be worth. We have never, for our own part, believed in the permanency of the rupture between the Liberals and the Ito Cabinet, but it appears to us that a renewal of the tie after so brief a period of division could scarcely have been anticipated.

### THE INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The subscribers for the first issue of the Industrial Bank's shares were required to put up one-fourth of the amount of their subscriptions at once. It results that the capital immediately flowing into the Bank's coffers is as follows, the places of its provenance being also indicated :-

		Yen.
Tokyo		. 87,5000
Chiba		
Nata		. 125,000
Miye	*********	175,000
Sbizaoka		250,000
Yamanashi		
Tortori		
Okayama		250,000

The pettiness of these subscriptions is is striking, especially in the case of Tokyo. Nevertheless they represent a total of over five million yon, when the whole of the instalments are paid up. It is alleged, however, that many of the subscribers will be puzzled to meet the second call. That seems a strange apprehension. At all events we may assume that if the issue of these premium. bearing bonds has produced such an insignificant result, any attempt to float an ordinary loan would be signalty unsuccessial iginal from

### COUNT INOUYE'S EXPLANATION.

The prominent members of the Liberal Party called on Count Inouye within the past few days and obtained from him an explanation as to his financial policy. His Excellency said that it was a great mismake to suppose that he had meddled with the programme of armaments' expansion as a whole. The fact was that a considerable portion of the outlays originally appropriated for 1896 and 1897 had not been expended—it had been found impossible to carry out the works with the rapidity originally contemplated. To add these unfinished portions to the previously designed operations for 1898, and carry out the whole in one year, would be quite out of the question. Hence a readjustment of the method of apportioning the outlays for the various years had become neces-sary. The new arrangement would effect greater equalization of the annual ex-penditures throughout the remainder of the period, but if some slight postponements took place in the immediate future, there would be compensatory accelerations later on, so that the general result would not be altered. With regard to productive enterprises, the sum to be spent was 70 million yen, of which about one half would be paid out in the form of wages, thus increasing the purchasing power of the consuming classes, and accentuating evils from which the country was now suffering, namely, appreciation of prices and dislocation of the balance of trade. That inconvenience might not be felt so much if the money were drawn, in the first place, from the domestic market, and subsequently restored to it. But it was out of the question now to think of floating a domestic loan. Consequently the Government had to fall back upon the Indemnity, and since to obtain the money from that source would exercise a correspondingly disturbing effect on the market, it became inevitable that a slight reduction of the expenditures on account of railway construction should be made. Count Inouye spoke also of the project advocated in some quarters, namely, the redemption of War Bonds, and ad-mitted that it might be necessary under certain dircumstances, which, however, he evidently did not regard as now He explained, also, that the plan of affording assistance to enterprises by means of accommodation from the Industrial Bank was only a temporary expedient.

### RAILWAYS AND THE INDEMNITY.

There appear to be two sections among public men-we exclude political parties the Government's part to relieve the present distress in the money market. One wise not to see that the composition of section is headed by the Tokyo Chamber these insubordinate and graceless appeals of Commerce; the other, by the so-called to public sentiment indicates a defect "business men" in the Diet and the somewhere in his system. Perhaps he The manufacturing interest generally. former advocate the employment of the Indemnity-due next month-for redeeming War Bonds; the latter recommend the purchase of private railways by the safely pass so many years without making any general endorsement of the Indemnity device is that its promoters do not indicate any method of obtaining money to meet the outlays which would be defrayed with the Indemnity were it not applied to the purchase of War Fonds. We purely the purchase of War Fonds We purely taking a large quantity of hydrochloric acid.

In the Sneeteign rights at the Middle Kingdom shall not be impaised by the transaction, Au. II.—With regard to the limits of the leased land, steps shall hereafter be taken to determine by survey to what distance the boundary should to the purchase of War Fonds. We purely taking a large quantity of hydrochloric acid.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT device is that its promoters do not indi-cate any method of obtaining money to

sume that practical men like the members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce have fully thought out that phase of the problem, but their ideas about it have not been clearly enunciated. So far as we can discover, they are satisfied to assume that if the Government purchases War Bonds now, it can easily sell them by and by in the foreign market. In fact, they recommend a foreign loan, but, instead of waiting until the preliminaries for it can be arranged, they would have the Government utilize the Indemnity at once to relieve the embarrassment of capitalists, and then proceed leisurely to get money abroad at a subsequent period. But, as we have said, that part of the programme lacks explicitness. As for the railway plan, it is evidently incapable of immediate realization. Viscount Katsura, the Minister of War, is said to support it, and the National Unionists are expected to introduce, in the next session of the Diet, a But long Representation favouring it. and careful investigations and inspections would be necessary before the programme could be reduced to a practical shape, and the prospect of so much delay doubtless deters many people. Our readers will observe, however, that the introduc-tion of foreign capital is the final goal of both projects.

# SERVICE.

The N.-C. Daily News gives space to article, apparently communicated, which contains a bitter and most unseemly attack upon Sir Robert Hart. The writer alleges that Sir Robert's only answer to the petition addressed to him on the subject of the Customs employes' pay has been to promote four thirdclass assistants to the rank of Deputy Commissioner over the heads of 50 of their seniors. Of course he does not pretend that it is a direct answer, but he claims that it is Sir Robert's method of showing his resolve not to brook any interference with his autocracy. In short, having received a petition which by implication accuses him of arbitrarily neglecting the just claims of his subordinates, he replies by a defiant display of fresh arbitrariness. The accusation is elaborated and presented in uncompromising We are astonished that the N.-C. Daily News gives space to such scandalous writing. It must know per-fectly well that the Inspector-General is fectly well that the Inspector-General is and a copy of it has been forwarded to incapable of any action of the kind, and the Fifi Shimpo by the latter's special that if he has not yet succeeded in obtaining an increase of salary for the members of the Service, his efforts to do so -both of whom favour some hold step on have been unsparing within the limits of prudence. Sir Robert, however, is too somewhere in his system. Perhaps he would do well to note, too, that the Chairman of the China Association in Shanghai recently alluded to him as "a recluse in Peking." No commanding officer can What chiefly militates against a tour of inspection to the various posts under his contral.

### THE " OTHER " CONCESSIONS.

The same telegram that brought intelligence of China's engagement not to alienate any part of Funkien announced that the Japanese Representative in Peking had simultaneously obtained two other concessions, one relating to mining privileges, the other to the rescinding of the prohibition on the export of rice. The whole of the news seems to have been implicitly credited by the general public, and several vernacular newspapers have commented on it as true. But it now turns out that the only trustworthy part is that relating to the province of Fulkien. Only one thing was asked for by Japan the engagement about Fulikien. She submitted the request informally just a month ago, and after various pour-parlers had prepared the way, it was formally laid before the Tsung li Yameu on the 20th instant, China's consent having been practically secured by that time. mention these dates because of their interest in connexion with the recent agitation of the "Stalwarts," The latter will doubtless be disposed to conclude that their proceedings acted as a spur to the Cabinet and were directly responsible for the demand about Funkien. But the Chinese Representative in Peking had his instruction on the subject long before the Stalwarts" made their voice heard. As to the concessions about mining and rice, THE IMPERIAL CHINESE CUSTOMS they formed no part of Japan's demands. Indeed, they may be dismissed as altoge-ther apocryphal. Some talk about an engagement on the subject of mining took place a considerable time ago, we understand, but it never took the form of an engagement of any kind. The same is true about the export of rice. More than once that question has been raised, but quite independently of any negotiations growing out of the recent complications. China, however, is understood to remain obstinately conservative on the subject of her people's main bread-stuff. She can not be persuaded to see that if they prefer to sell their surplus rice abroad at a lucrative price rather than keep it at home for the sake of its almost imperceptible effect in cheapening the cost for domestic consumers, they are entitled to choose freely.

### THE RUSSO-CHINESE CONVENTION.

The Russo-Chinese Convention with regard to Liaotung and correlated matters, was signed in Peking on the 27th March, correspondent in that city. It runs as follows :-

Li and Chang (here follow their titles and degree) having been invested with plenipotentiary powers by His Imperiat Majesty the Emperor of China, and M. Pauloff, Russian Changé d'Affaires in Peking, having been similarly invested by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, have this day—3rd of the 3rd month of the 24th year Kwangsu—concluded the following convention with regard to the lessing of Port Arthur and Talien:— Talien

anen :---Art. I.--In order to provide for Russia a suit-Att. 1.—In order to provide for Russia a sustable basis on the northern coast of China, and thereby to render her awal position complete and secure, His Majesty the Emperne of China agrees hereby to leave Port Arthur and Talien together with their adjacent waters to Russia. Provided that the Sovereign rights of the Muldle Kingdom shall not be invasited by the transaction.

But the exact limits and all other details con nected with the operation of this Convention shall nected with the operation of this Convention shall be determined after consultation between the Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg and the Russian Government. Provided that, within the limits thus determined, Russia shall enjoy the rights and privileges of a lessee.

Art. 11i,—The period of the lease shall be 25 years from the date of signing this Convention. Provided that, at the conclusion of that period, it may be prolonged by mutual agreement between the contracting parties.

may be prolonged by mutual agreement between the contracting parties.

Art. IV.—The district, territorial and maritime, described in Art. I, shall serve as a depot of military and naval supplies for Russia, and the principal officials administering its affairs may be Russians, acting under a chief who shall have general responsibility. Provided, however, that such officials must not bear the tille of government of the finding of the leaved land, but within subjects of the Middle Kingdom shall not be permitted to encamp within the limits of the leaved land, but within subjects of the Middle Kingdom shall be entitled to reside these provided that they do not behave lawlessly. In the event of a breach of the law by a Chinese subject, he shall be handed over to the nearest Chinese local tribunal for judgment and the infliction of a penalty. All details relating to the administration of justice shall be determined in accordance with the Russo-Chinese Treaty of 1860 (the 10th year of Hien-Chinese Treaty of 1860 (the 10th year of Hien-

Chinese Treaty of 1800 (the 10th year of Fleinfung).

Art, V.—Beyond the northern boundary of the leased land an uninhabited space shall be left, its limits to be hereafter determined by the Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg and the Russian Government in consultation. All affairs within this space shall be under the control of Chinese officials, but Chinese troops may not enter there except after consultation with the Russian authorities.

Att. VI.—The contracting parties agree to regard Post Arthur as a naval station. It shall be used by Russian and Chinese ships only, and be used by Russian and Chinese ships only, and neither the men-of-war nor the merchant-men of any other Power shall have access to it. Similarly, in the case of Talien Bay, one part shall serve as a naval station for the war-ships of China and Russia, but the rest shall be a commercial port, open for the ingress and egress of the ships of all outions.

Act. VII.—In view of the importance of Port Arthur and Talien, Russia undectakes to construct, at her own expense, whatever barracks and forts may be required, and to adopt whatever other means are necessary, for the defence of those places.

those places.

Act, VIII.—It shall be permitted to construct a railway, from a point in the part of the Trans-Asian truck road for the building of which China gave her consent in 1896, to Talien, all the details of construction to be in accordance with the Chinese system of Manchurian lines. Moreover, a broach of the lines or constructed may be carried branch of the line so constructed may be carried from some place midway between Yangtsze (Newfrom some place midway between Yangtsze (New-chwang) and the Yalu River to a convenient point on the sea coast. All details relating to the direc-tion of the roads and their building shall be settled by the Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg in consultation with the Director of the Trans-Asian Railway. Provided that the Russian Go-vernment explicity engages that there shall be no trespassing upon, or seizure of, Chinese territory in connextom with the above railway works. Art, IX.—This Convention shall become opera-tive from the day of its conclusion, and the ratifi-cations shall be exchanged in St. Petersburg.

The above appears to have been rendered from the Chinese into Japanese, so that our interpretation is only a translation from a a translation, and can not be relied on for accuracy. One very important point, however, appears quite plain, namely, that a portion of Talien Bay is to be converted into a naval station accessible to Chinese and Russian war-ships only. That is a new feature of an open port. Another interesting point is that there is to be a branch of the Liaotung railway, leading from a point mid-way between Newchwang and the mouth of the Yalu to the sea. What sea is contemplated we can not yet tell-whether the Gulf of Pechili or the Yellow Sea. If the former Newchwang will probably be the objective point. If the latter, the line will probably traverse Southern Shinking and emerge at Taku- point outside, and such would seem to be shan, which is about 25 miles west of the the truth, though it must be confessed that mouth of the Yalu.

### THE FIR I ENGAGEMENT.

Tuesday, May 3rd. The telegraph on Monday brought news of the first naval engagement between the American and Spanish squadrons. Spanish ships, we are told, were almost completely destroyed, with very heavy loss of life, the American vessels also suffering more or less. It is a singularly unsatisfactory telegram, for it affords no information whatever as to the place where the fight took place or how many ships were engaged. "The Spanish squadron in Manila" are the words used. It is not to be supposed, however, that the Spanish vessels lay quietly in Manila to be bombarded. Their programme would have been to cruise off the mouth of the Pasig so as cover the auchorage from attack, and the probability is, therefore, that the battle took place within a few miles of Luzon. Its result could never have been in doubt, for the Spanish force was inferior at every point to the Ameri-The squadrons were probably comcan. posed as follows :--

### SPANISH.

Descrip- Ton-Name, rion, sage Date, Armamest, Wooden 3,548 2882 Four 5,0-in. (Kropp);
cruiser.

Steel ... 3,550 1886 Six 6.8-in. (Hontocruiser.

Like 1.8-in. (Hontocruiser.

Q.F.; two 3pr.; two
historial; four 6-pr.

Steel ... 2.0-or 1887 Sees as Like de UNITED STATES SQUADRON. Descrip- Ton-tion. nage. D-te, Armament. 29. 31m 25 6 m70 Barton ...... Steel .... 3,000 1883 critiser. Cancerd .......Gumbent. 2,710 1888 Petrel .......Gombont... Aga 1887

The great advantage of the American ships is in point of quick-firing gans, the quick-firers on the Spanish side being all of comparatively small calibre. The American ships are also much superior in respect of protective armour. We judge from the telegram that the Spaniards fought gallantly. That, indeed, might have been expected. But they never had any chance. It must be confessed that these operations at the Philippines furnish much ground for apprehen-sion. Commodore Dewey has no force at his command to preserve order in the islands, and it is more than probable that the destruction of the Spanish squadron and fortifications will be the signal for another outburst of rebellion against which the Spanish troops will now find great difficulty in making head.

Wednesday, May 4th.

Nothing could be more unsatisfactory than the particulars thus far received of the naval operations at the Philippines. We remain in doubt even as to the important question, where was the original engagement fought. Our own impression, as stated when the first news came to hand, was that the fight did not take place within the Bay of Manila, but at some things are still very vague. The entrance simple and unmistakable translation hodai Digitized by Google

to the Bay of Manila is through a comparatively narrow channel, the navigable dimensions of which are still further reduced by the islands of Corregidor and This channel was defended by Faile. torpedoes and mines, and could not have been attempted by ships under fire. town of Manila lies some 25 miles distant from the entrance of the Bay. Now as we know that Manila fell ultimately within range of the guns of the United States Squadron, it follows that the latter must have effected an entrance into the Bay. The wisest plan of defence for the Spainards, we imagine, would have been to keep their ships within the Bay and use them for cannonading vessels attempting to find a passage through the torpedoes at the entrance, Military obstacles are not intended merely to check an enemy's advance. Torpedoes and are mines, if skilfully used, may, indeed, not only check his advance but disable him completely. Still no system of obstacles has ever yet been contrived which a resolute assailant can not remove, or render innocuous, if he has ample time at his disposal. Hence every military engineer, when planning obstacles, is careful to fulfil the essential condition of such devices, namely, that an enemy while attempting to destroy or negotiate them shall be continually under fire. Provision in that sense was partially made at the entrance to Manila bay by means of batteries on the islands of Corregidor and Faile, but of course the defences would have been immensely strengthened had all the available ships-of-war been disposed in such a manner as to be able to concentrate their fire on the site of the torpedoes and mines without being themselves exposed to the cannonade of vessels outside. That does not appear to have been the method pursued at Manila, however, and doubtless there were good reasons for departing from the fundamental rule of defensive works. So far as we can understand from the meagre intelligence thus far received, the Spanish Squadron of four vesselsprobably the Castilla (wooden cruiser, 3,342 tons), the Reina Christina (steel cruiser, 3,500 tons), the Isla de Fuzan (steel cruiser, 1,030 tons) and the Isla de Cuba (steel cruiser, 1,030 tons)was cruising along the coast to the north of Manila when it encountered the United States Squadron - the Olympia cruiser, 5,800 tons), the Detroit cruiser, 2,000 tons), the Raleigh cruiser, 3,183 tons), the Boston cruiser, 3,000 tons), the Concord cruiser, 1,700 tons) and the Petrel (steel cruiser, 890 tons). In the engagement, which is said to have lasted only one hour, two of the Spanish ships were blown up (the Reina Christina and another), and two escaped to Manila in a partially dis-abled condition, and made for the river Pasig, where the other craft flying the Spanish flag were probably lying. Com-modore Dewey's Squadron was then able to remove the torpedoes and get into the Bay, having first silenced the batteries. It has been stated in two telegrams that "Pachini" was occupied—so, at least the transliterated name reads-but unless "Pachini" be an incorrect rendering of "Faile," we have no clue to its where-abouts. Some suggest that "batteries" was the word telegraphed, but we think it most unlikely that the Japanese syllabary would have been employed to transmit an English word in its original form when the

as though the point of saturation had been

was available. After entering the Bay, the first object of Commodore Dewey would have been to complete the destruction of the Spanish Squadron, and the projectiles directed against the vessels lying in the Pasig doubtless set fire to the town of Manila. It is out of the question, of course, that any bombardment of the town was deliberately undertaken. Such appears to have been the sequence of events, but it is virtually all guesswork.

### YAPAN AND THE HISPANO-AMERICAN WAR.

The Japanese Government having issued a declaration of neutrality in conformity with the rules of international law, the Minister of State for the Navy has given instructions to the effect that steps must be taken to guard against the use of any of the open ports, or any harbour in Formosa and the Pescadores, for the export of contraband of war, or for any purpose connected with belligerent operations. The disposition of the naval forces required to give effect to these instructions is to be determined by the officers in command at the Yokosuka, Kure, and Saseho admiralties, and the Governor-General of Formosa.

The only point of special interest in the rules enacted by the Japanese Government for the enforcement of neutrality is that men-of-war of the belligerents are allowed to procure in Japanese har-bours a supply of coal sufficient to take them to the nearest port of their own country. That regulation might work very conveniently for the ships of the United States, for they could obtain at Nagasaki coal sufficient to carry them across the Pacific, whereas a Spanish vessel could obtain only enough for the voyage to Luzon. Spanish vessels, however, are out of the reckoning for the pre-sent, at all events. Such of them as are not completely disabled appear to be blockaded in the barbour at Cavité. Privateers may appear upon the scene, but the rules distinguish between privateers and ships used for warlike purposes, the former not being permitted to enter Japanese territorial waters except under stress of weather, or disablement, or owing to lack of articles indispensable to navigation. Coal is an article indispensable to navigation. but coal-within the limitations mentioned above-is to be supplied only to "menof-war and other ships used for warlike purposes," from which category privateers are excluded. We congratulate Japan upon this rule, though it follows as a matter of course from her adoption of the Paris Conference's principles. It is a disgrace to civilization that armed outrages against private property should be perpetrated, as they are now perpetrated, by war-ships of the United States and Spain. The United States has eschewed privateering, but suffers its warships to pursue and capture Spanish merchantmen, the Spaniards adopting the same tactics. It seems to us that there is no difference between such proceedings and the deenough without the addition of such barbarons features.

On the 3rd inst. a fereign firm in Yokobanta received a telegram from Hongkong to the London Economist. On two or three occaeffect that the price of rice is new lower by 3 pr sions be has referred in terms almost of wisdom of precautions such as keeping the 4 per cent. Digitized by OS Chinese source of supply always open.

### THE RICE PROBLEM.

far passed. The concession reported to have been obtained by Japan from China regarding the export of rice is a mere canard, but it re-directs attention to a question of great importance to this country. The difficulty that Japan is beginning to experience in providing herself with food can not be even approximately measured by the discrepancy between the rapid growth of her population and the slow extension of her rice-growing area. A lay on account of the war was 230 million sufficiently disquieting prospect is, indeed, yen. Of that total, 130 millions were suggested by the latter statistics alone, but the truth is that the number of riceeaters has increased of late years with caters has increased of late years with enterprises had they been available for rapidity enormously disproportionate to such a purpose. In other words, 130 the increase of the population. In provincial districts where, thirty years ago, nine persons out of every ten regarded pure rice as a rarely attainable luxury, and were content to live, from year's end to year's end, on barley alone, or barley mixed with a modicum of rice, six persons out of every ten now count it a hardship if they can not sit down to at least one square meal of unadulterated rice daily. That is one of the chief reasons why the price of rice has steadily appreciated during the past two decades, until it stands to-day at a figure quite the treble of its quotation in 1875. Think how busily the brains of political economists in England would be cudgelled were the people required to pay a shilling for the loaf that cost only four pence twenty years ago. Yet that is precisely what has happened in Japan-neither more nor less. Is it difficult to understand not only why such an appreciation of the cereal's value has taken place but also why the prices of commodities in general have appreciated simultaneously? More than once statistics have been adduced in these columns to show that that if the agricultural classes in Japan-and they constitute the great bulk of the nation-were taxed to-day according to the scale of taxation in feudal times, they would be paying from six to seven times as much as they are actually paying. Can there be any doubt that such a conspicuous lightening of their burdens has sensibly affected their prosperity? There are publicists who affirm that a plethora of media of exchange and the scattering of large sums of money among the consuming classes in connexion with the war and the post-bellum measures have caused the appreciation of rice and of commodi-We do not ourselves ties in general, believe that there is any plethora of currency in Japan. Here are some comparative figures :-

Amount of currency per capita or various coun-

yen	yen
Austria19	England
Denmark25	United States46
	1 ipan 61
Grimany	•

It must be remembered, too, that in every struction of private houses or the robbery one of the Occidental countries shown in of private warehouses. War is bad the above table, the system of credit is more highly developed than it is in Japan, and the work thrown upon the currency is correspondingly lighter, There is a critic who writes from Yokohama to the

We wonder whether it ever occurred to him to construct a table like the above; or by what process of reasoning he arrives at the conclusion that media of exchange are so redundant in this country. There can be no doubt, in this country. There can be no doubt, of course, that the great sums of money distributed among the consuming classes in connexion with the war must have influenced the prices of commodities. But, after all, the magnitude of that factor of disturbance is not so striking as many Japanese writers affirm. The whole outcapital, and would probably have been invested in industrial and commercial millions would have reached the pockets of the consuming classes independently of the war. By how much, then, did the war actually increase the purchasing power of the consuming classes? Probably by less than Ioo million yen—a great deal less, we imagine, but let us say 100 millions. Such a sum is a mere trifle when measured by the arithmetic of the It is estimated that the total taxes. annual income of the classes who live by the land in Japan does not exceed 1,000 million yen. Some statisticians put the figure much lower, but our own calculations indicate about 900 millions. We take the estimate of 1,000 millions, therefore, in order to err on the right side if we err at all. Now out of that income of 1,000 millions, the taxes actually paid are 38 millions, approximately, whereas, if the rates of former times were exacted, the land-owners would have to pay about 280 millions. Here we have a difference of 242 million yen, or nearly a quarter of the landowners' total income. The effect of that change, operating as it does year after year, is plainly very great. people, having so much more money to spend on rice, have ceased to regard it as a luxury and now count it among the necessaries of life. Increased demand has, therefore, pushed up the price, and, as an inevitable consequence, the prices of all other commodities have risen correspondingly, for rice is still, and has always been, the real measure of value in Japan. If the artizan and the merchant must pay more for their rice, they want to sell their manufactures and goods at proportionately higher rates, and so one thing reacts upon another. This rapid appreciation of prices-in other words this greatly enhanced cost of living-handicaps Japan very heavily in her industrial and commercial competition with other coun-If the supply of rice could be doubled, the nation's prospects would be immensely improved. Such considerations show the importance of providing that the Chinese cereal shall be always available. There used at one time to be a universal prejudice against Chinese rice, and even now no Japanese will eat it if he can get home-grown grain. But that partiality Thousands of grows weaker every year. dainty palates have become reconciled to a mixture of the Japanese and the Chinese cereals, and necessity will constantly operate to render folks less fastidious. The rice problem with all its far-reaching corollaries may well occupy the attention of Japanese statesmen, and suggest the

## THE QUESTION OF THE DAY.

In a very brief period a large section of the nation may be said to have declared in favour of raising a foreign loan for the purpose of purchasing the private railways and placing them in the hands of the State. When Count Itagaki first made public his advocacy of that course, he was careful to represent himself as a private individual, not as the spokesman of the Liberal Party. But he has now assumed a different tone. It will be remembered that his original utterances were made to a meeting of "business men" who came together at his invitation. The same business men reciprocated by getting up an entertain-ment in his honour at the Imperial Hotel on the 2nd instant, and on that occasion Count Itagaki declared that not only the Liberal Party, but also the National Unionists, were in favour of the project; that a measure in that sense would be introduced in the next session of the Diet, and that it would certainly be carried by a majority. These important statements occurred in the course of an address in which the speaker referred, also, to the satisfaction he experienced in finding that cordial and cooperative relations had been established between the Liberals and the business men, and in which he further offered an explana-tion of the policy of the Liberals in supporting the extensive scheme of armaments expansion whose dimensions had been more or less criticised by the busi-ness men. There was some talk of appointing a committee of business men over tifty of them attended the meeting -for the purpose of investigating the question, but, on the motion of Mr. Incuye Kakugoro, it was decided that the sense of the business men should be obtained by means of a circular. There can be no doubt, however, that this question has now entered the field of practical politics. It would be interesting to know whether the Liberals entertained any such programme when they were still in alliance with the Cabinet, or whether their con-demnation of what they call the "negative" · financial policy of the Administration has taken the practical form of State-owned railways and the introduction of foreign capital.

The Liberal organ (Tokyo Shimbun) has a paragraph combating the criticism of the Progressionists, namely, that this railway scheme is prompted simply by a speculative desire to improve the price of shares. Our contemporary uses very general terms, but if its representation of the conditions existing in industrial and commercial circles be even approximately correct, save the situation.

### PRESIDENCY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Kazuo as President and Mr. Taguchi marriages come to him, in both cases post Ukichi as Vice-President. It has never factum. The charge was indeed most exbeen found that the election of the travalgant, as we noted at the time.

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President and Vice-President constituted a certain guide to the relative strength of parties in the House, but Tokyo journalists seem to think that the election in this session will be an important index as showing the inclination of the business men and the indepenthe business men and the independents who hold the balance of power. We imagine that there can not be much doubt about the business men. Count Itagaki's State-railway policy has won them com-

### THE LIBERALS AND THE FAR EASTERN QUESTION.

A general meeting of Liberal members of the Diet was held on the 30th ultimo, under the presidency of the Count Itagaki. It is stated that some 65 members were present, but their debate is not reported. Three resolutions were submitted by the Committee and unanimously adopted. We translate them from the columns of the Tokyo Shimbun (Liberal Organ):-

I. With reference to the leasing of important positions in China by the Great Powers of the West, there is at present no necessity for our country to office any protest.

2. Suitable steps should be at once taken to preserving the peace of the East and maintaining

the balance of power,

3. Every effort should be made to induce China and Korea to adopt material civilization (bummer no jibutsu).

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi and two others were elected to form a deputation for the purpose of submitting these resolutions to the Premier and explaining their import. It is evident that considerable explanation is required, for while the first resolution is in direct opposition to the views enunciated by the Progressists and consequently presents no obscurity, the second indicates some programme which the public will be very curious to see unfolded. One thing, however, is made quite plain by the re-solutions, namely, that the Liberals have no sympathy with the "strong-foreign-policy" agitators, and that, consequently, any attempt on the part of the latter to impeach the Cabinet in the Diet will be failure.

### ENGLISH WOMEN AS CHINESE WIVES.

Sir Halliday Macartney has penned a justly indignant protest against the curious action of the N.-C. Daily News in attempting to hold him responsible for marriages contracted between English women and Chinese subjects. It may be remembered that the Shanghai journal's It may be indignation was raised on behalf of four most unhappy English girls who were deserted by their Chinese husbands in there is very great embarrassment, and Shanghai and left in a state of destitution. nothing short of a wholesale measure will "Some" of the husbands were said to have been members of the Chinese Legation in London, and in view of that fact the N.-C. Daily News was betrayed into remarks about Sir Halliday that could scarcely have been penned unless some malice It is believed that the Liberals and prepense existed. Sir Halliday comments National Unionists have agreed to put up on the significant fact that not one of the Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi for President, and husbands' names was given by the Shang-Mr. Hotoda Hajime for Vice-President, of hai journal, and then goes on to show that the new House of Representatives. The only once during his twenty-two years of former is a prominent member of the service at the Legation has he been Liberal Party; the latter, of the National consulted about a marriage between an Unionists. The candidates for whom the English woman and a Chinese man, and Progressists will vote are Dr. Hatoyama that only twice has the knowledge of such

### THE REVISED TREATIES.

In referring to the very wholesale criticism of the Revised Auglo-Japanese Treaty penued by the author of "Things Japanese," we might have mentioned two points which will probably interest him and his readers. He thinks it remarkable that such a treaty should have been concluded by England except in the sequel of a war of defeat, and he attributes, by implication, the supposed defects of the document to the fact that it was negotiated in London where little knowledge existed on the subject. As to the former point, the critic and his fellow thinkers seem to forget that the object of the compilers of the Treaty was to place Japan on something like an equal footing with European States, so far, at any rate, as the essential forms of international intercourse are concerned. The Treaty was therefore drafted upon the lines of similar covenants between the civilized, independent States of Europe. The author of "Things Japanese" and certain other critics would have preferred a very much fuller covenant, securing to foreigners various privileges and immunities of which no mention appears in the Treaty. That would certainly have been very pleasant. We should all have liked But a document of that nature would have been a novelty; a radical departure from the kind of agreement sanctioned by precedent in Europe. Japan would never have accepted it. She would have justly objected that it differentiated her from the nations of Christendom quite as emphatically as the old Treaty differentiates her. Concerning the second point, namely, that the Revised Treaty was the result of London's ignorance, the critics will probably be surprised to learn that, in all its main features, the document was simply a replica of the draft elaborated and accepted by all the Western Powers consulting at the Foreign Office in Tokyo during the celebrated three-years' negotiations of 1885, 1886, and 1887. The lines of the latter draft were purposely followed as closely as possible by the London negotiators of 1893-4, in order to obtain a document which would be tolerably sure of universal endorsement. It seems to us that if the author of "Things Japanese" had devoted five minutes to conversing with some of the persons who possess a knowledge of the facts relating to the Treaty, he would have saved himself penning a criticism which doubtless he now regrets very sincerely.

### COUNT KABAYAMA.

Count Kabayama, Minister of Home Affairs in the former Cabinet, is now in Kagoshima. It will be remembered that he was represented by rumour as having contrived, or cooperated in, various schemes for effecting a disruption between the Matsukata Cabinet and the Progressists, and that he was even suspected of entertaining a plan to organize a "militaryforce" ministry. No one acquainted intimately with Count Kabayama could have attributed such intentions to him. He probably felt considerably hurt at the imputations, for he left the capital after the fall of the Matsukata Ministry and has been little heard of lately. His voice reaches us now, however, from Kagoshima through the columns of the Tokyo Asahi. He strongly condemns the conduct of politicum នៃ politicum po

the Cabinet in the field of foreign affairs. The one thing above all others that party agitators should refrain from making capital of is the country's foreign policy. After laying down that thoroughly sound maxim, the Count went on to pay a very high tribute to Marquis Ito. He said that no man is free from faults and probably Marquis Ito has some, but that, taken all round, the country has no statesman like him for either foreign or domestic affairs. The trouble is that he has no colleagues to support him loyally and intelligently, and that the nation, instead of uniting to strengthen and sustain him, was, in some sections, lukewarm if not hostile. With regard to the present Cabinet, it was not Marquis Ito's ideal. He had organized it as a makeshift, and if any statesman could put together a Ministry stronger and better suited to the needs of the time, the Marquis would doubtless hand over the reins of office without hesitation. Meanwhile it was probable that some minor changes in the composition of the Cabinet would be found inevitable.

### THE OLD QUESTION.

Once against the old question of party cabinets is paraded in its rusty uniform, and with all pump and ceremony thrust into the forefront of the political fight. It is a weary question. Party cabinets have to come : that is quite certain, and, though the route by which they are to arrive seemed interesting at one time, the nation is at present confronted by pro-blems of so much greater immediate importance that it must be indisposed that a number of the applicants were not to turn again to the ancient cause of dis-pute. We do not think, indeed, that there is any prospect of the question's becoming vital just now, but still in pur-suance of our business as recorders of current events, we note its re-appearance upon the scene. Count Itagaki, speaking at a meeting of his Party last Tuesday, said that the Ito Cabinet was not a party Cabinet; that it had, indeed, departed from the principle of party Cabinets. "Nevertheless," he added, "that fact alone did not constitute a reason for attacking it. If the Liberals were to attack a Ministry merely because it was not organized on party lines, how would they proceed towards a Cabinet organized by the Progressists, for example." Such a statement seems to involve the idea that a Ministry may be efficient and satisfactory though standing aloof from political parties. So Count Itagaki is roundly criticized by the Progressist organs, and accused of deserting the colours under which he and his followers have fought so long.

Concerning the above, the Fiji Shimpo alleges that a conviction is more or less prevalent among the Liberals that the time for genuine party government has not yet arrived. There is no one party strong enough to organise a stable Cabinet, and if the attempt, being made, were to end in failure, the clan statesmen would recover a stronger grasp of power than The Liberals have now learned that Count Inouye's financial policy is not negative, and that they have no reason to complain of it. On the other hand, they endorse the Cabinet's foreign policy. Hence there is no reason why they should into practice.

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### THE IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

It was announced on the invitation cards to the Imperial Garden Party on the 28th ultimo that, in the event of rain, the Party would be abandoned. When, therefore, rain began to fall heavily in the forenoon, most of those who had the honour of being invited must have abandoned all hope. A momentary semblance of skyclearing in the afternoon, however, in-duced a number of persons to repair to the Shiba Detached Palace. But very soon the clouds closed again overhead and the rain poured down unceasingly, so that the Imperial Princes who had come to welcome the guests in the absence of the Emperor and Empress, made only a brief stay, and the Party degenerated into a mere calling and leaving of cards. was particularly disappointing, doubtless, in another respect also, for instead of the gorgeous invitation cards hitherto issued with the Imperial crest embossed in prised us so much as to find a journal like gold and hearing the names of the first shimps lending the weight of its Emperor and Empress — cards which were preserved by the guests as valued souvenirs — small, insignificant tickets did duty on this occasion, and their holders were directed to surrender them at the entrance to the Palace. The Japanese Imperial Garden Parties have become one of the features of the country, and many tourists, if they do not come to Japan expressly to be present at them, certainly time their arrival so as to be here at the proper season. It is stated that between fifty and sixty names were sent in from one legation, and we suspect a little chagrined at not being able to carry off the usual memento. We do not sympathise with them ourselves, but that is another matter.

### PRINCE HENKY IN SHANGHAL

Prince Henry of Prussia had a busy and apparently a pleasant, time in Shang-hai. The German Consul-General entertained His Royal Highness at dinner and afterwards the Prince held a reception at the Consulate, about 150 persons being specially invited. A public tiffin was given in honour of the Prince in Chang Su-ho's garden; and a ball at the Club Concordia the same evening. The following day—Wednesday, 20th—he lunched on board the Prinz Heinrich and in the evening a grand torchlight procession was organized. On the 21st His Royal Highnessinspected the German-drilled Chinese troops at Woosung, and seems to have found them very proficient. The North-China Daily News says:-

Their Excellencies Governor K'uei and Provincial Treasurer Nieh have prepared some very excial Treasurer Nich tave prepared some very ex-pensive and rare ancient works of act for presen-tation to Prince Henry of Prussia. The first named official will present a number of milk-white jade carvings and ancient gold work. H.E. Nich's presents consist of a rare and valuable dark-coloured jade sceptre of the Han dynasty, nearly 2,000 years old, and some fifteen pieces of ceramic act of the Tang dynasty which existed some twelve centuries ago, all of them being most satefully and exceptively set arone stands and tastefully and expensively set upon stands and enclosed in boxes of beautifully polished sed wood lined with bronze and souff-coloured satin. The last-manted official is said to have spent some Tis, 30,000 upon his tribute to Prince Henry.

Twelve genuine specimens of keramic

### AMOY.

The "stalwarts" continue to cry out that Amoy must be leased by Japan, and some of them are now prepared to declare that the Japanese Government actually asked for that place and obtained only a promise that the province in which it is situated should not be made over to any foreign Power. The assertion seems to us as extravagant as the project is absurd, and we congratulate the Nichi Nichi Shimbun on ridiculing the whole affair. Not one of the four Powers which have obtained leases of harbours and lands in China during the past few months has dreamed of asking for a port already open to the commerce of the world. If any Government were fatuous enough to formulate such a request, it would find itself vehemently opposed by all the Powers whose subjects or citizens had vested interests at the port in question. Nothing has surgreat influence to popularise this outcry of a section of the "statwarts." We could understand a proposal for the lease of Takushan, which virtually commands the mouth of the Yalu River, is not without considerable tradal prospects, and lies within the "sphere" which events seem to be mapping out for Japan. But to think of asking for Amoy is mere childishness.

The "Stalwarts" held another meeting in the Nakamura-ro on the 1st instant There were nearly 300 persons present, and several speeches were delivered, but beyond the fact that the Government's "weak" foreign policy was denounced, it is difficult to discover what took place, Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune distinguished himself. He argued that in seeking and obtaining an engagement from China about the non-alienation of any part of the province of Fuhkien, the Cabinet by implication declared its willingness that all other provinces and districts in China might be leased or ceded to foreign Powers. the engagement became an additional factor of disturbance. Apparently this politician would not be content with anything less than a guarantee for the integrity of the whole Chinese empire, just as his fellow-politicians aim at driving Russia and Germany out of Liaotung and Shantung.

### A DECLARATION OF POLICY.

There has arisen a secret hope in the breasts of many foreign residents that the severance of relations between the Cabinet and the Liberals may imperil the passage of the Civil Code through the Diet and thus result in a postponement of the much-dreaded event, the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. As individuals all units of the Settlement Communities may be excused for harbouring that hope. Japan herself assume the responsibility of postponing the operation of the Revised Treaties, the foreign residents would be justified in rejoicing, supposing them to be really disturbed by apprehensions; a supposition which we, for our own part, find much difficulty in entertaining. question then is, will the disaffection of Hence there is no reason why they should attack the Ministry except on the vague principle of party government, a principle which they are not themselves able to put into practice.

Ware dating from the Tang dynasty are the Liberals affect the passing of the Code? Evidently not. Count Itagaki principle of party government, a principle which they are not themselves able to put into practice.

Prince Henry cares for such things. They has just delivered to the members certainly will not appeal to his sense of of his Party a speech which is coninto practice.

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the Ito Cabinet in pursuance of the general principle of Parliamentary mandates and for the special purpose of carrying out the post-bellum measures, which were of paramount national importance. They were willing to continue the alliance, but Marquis Ito had declined to entertain their reasonable proposals, and they had no choice but to sever the connexion. They were now independent. It did not follow that because they had broken off one relation they must cement another, or lish statesmen use the word, is given that because they were not united with point." Such things are very easy to the Cabinet, they must unreasoningly write, and we presume that some English-oppose all its measures. For years past men are so curiously constituted as to find the Party had been pledged to the principle. of Treaty Revision. In order to consummate that object, it was necessary that the remaining portion of the Civil Code like to hear a statement of the justifica-must be passed without delay through the tion, or even the excuse, that England Diet in the approaching session. The Party would devote its energies to that

Passing on, then, to speak of other matters, Count Itagaki said that there were strong reasons to be dissatisfied with the manner of conducting the last general elections. It was now quite plain that the present system needed reform, and a bill would be introduced next session for that purpose. The leading leatures of the measure would be the lowering of the property-qualification for voters from 15 yen of direct taxes to 5 yen; the recasting of electoral districts so that their limits should coincide with those of cities and prefectures; adoption of the system of unsigned ballots, and an increase of the number of members to 560. His idea was that if the bill passed through the Diet in the extraordinary session now been uttered by German statesmen at about to open, the general elections on the England's expense, not much need be reformed lines might be held at once, so as to enable the new representatives to meet next December in Tokyo.

Concerning the strength of the Party, the Count said that the National Unionists and the Business Men were with them, so that they could count on a majority in the House. In connexion with that, he referred to the third plank in the Party's present platform, namely, the introduction of foreign capital. No reasonable doubt could be entertained that such a step was absolutely necessary at this juncture. The State purchase of private railways was the best way to manage the matter. State ownership of railways was unquestionably the wisest principle, and its practical adoption might now be combined with the supply of a crying want. By hypothecating the railways there was little doubt that foreign capital might be obtained at 31 per cent. interest.

Itagaki practically threw his glove in Marquis Ito's face. He said that the Liberal Party had three grounds of complaint against the Ministry. The first was the matter of the elections: the promised policy of strict neutrality and suppression of all malpractices had not been carried out. The second was connected with finance. Count Inouye's financial policy was certainly of a negative character, and other port is expected to be in the south consequently approach to the rolling and the port is expected to be in the south consequently approach to the rolling and the rolli consequently opposed to the policy ad-vocated by the Liberals. The third was The Yomiuri is a little "off colour," we printed, and that no portion of it remained in the matter of party Cabinets. Marquis imagine.

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he said, originally formed a coalition with Ho had pledged himself to build his Cabinet on the foundation of a political party. He had not done so. Events would indicate the nature of the measures to be adopted by the Liberals in consequence.

### THE HACKNEYED SNEER.

"At the same time," says the Japan Gazette, "the German sneer that there is never less danger of war than when Engpleasure in writing and reading them. But setting aside flippant jibes and turning to practical common sense, we should tion, or even the excuse, that England The could have found for going to war in connexion with recent events. Will any of the flooters and jeerers take pen in hand, and soberly tell us when, where, and why England should have drawn the sword. We want a working theory, not a mere froth of verbosity. What reason had Eng-land to go to war? With whom should existed for recourse to arms-quite impossible. There was excitement in England on receipt of false and sensational news about Russia's proceedings and intentions, but to say that the excited mood should have been translated into bellicose action after the absence of all just cause for passion or violence had been discovered, is really too silly.

> said. We daresay the Germans, after their "Mailed Fist" episode, will be disposed to laugh with us rather than against us. That "Mailed Fist" was waved in England's face if in anybody's, yet it never could have found its way to the East without England's continued assistance, and when we recently heard of it, it was being dined and wined at Government House in Hongkong with its flagships undergoing repairs in a British dock, or entertained at public tiffins and balls in Shanghai. The danger of war does not seem to be very imminent when German mailed fists are raised aloft. Sic sit sem-

### PRINCE HENRY AND KIAO-CHOU.

The Yomiuri has a tale about Kiaochou. It says that Germany's reasons for occupying the place were to facilitate the With respect to the Cabinet, Count Parliamentary adoption of her naval expansion programme, in the first place; Marquis Ito's face. He said that the and, in the second, to obtain m foothold Marquis was a fool for not yielding; that for commercial and military purposes he would have to yield; that if he did not, in the East. Prince Henry, however, his Cabinet could not stand, and that now has come to the conclusion that was the time to make him yield. The Kiao-chou is not all suited to the objects contemplated; that to convert

### EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Marquis Saionji's illness has finally necessitated his retirement from the post of Minister of State for Education. His tenure of office was very brief, yet he succeeded in winning the full confidence of educational circles, and great regret will doubtless be felt at his resignation, expecially from such a cause. His successor is Professor Toyama, hitherto President of the Imperial University. Professor Toyama is a comparatively young man, being only in his fiftieth year. He has been connected with education throughout the whole of his life. Before the Restoration, his talents attracted the attention of the Tokugawa Government, by whom he was sent to England to study, and after the Restoration the Imperial Government despatched him to the United States for the same purpose. He took his degree at the University of Michigan, and on his return to Japan became Professor of English Literature, rising subsequently to be dean of the Literature College, and finally, in 1807, to be President of the University. He possesses a perfect knowledge of English she have fought? On what occasion? It and is deeply versed in English litera-is impossible to show that any valid cause ture. In his own language, too, he has greatly distinguished himself as a writer, and his eloquence and wit have gained him a high reputation for oratory in the House of Peers, of which he is a member by Imperial nomi-nation. There can be no doubt that the new Minister is a man of most vigorous intellect, and his management of educational affairs will be watched with much interest. His appointment raises to no less than six the number of new men holding portfolios in the present Cabinet; namely, Baron Nishi (Foreign Affairs), Viscount Katsura (War), Baron Suyematsu (Communications), Mr. Sone (Justice), Mr. Kaneko (Agriculture and Commerce), Professor Toyama (Education). The elder statesmen are only four: namely, Marquis Ito (Minister President), Marquis Saigo (Navy), Count Inouye (Finance) and Viscount Yoshi-kawa (Home Affairs). It need scarcely be said that some sensation-mongers are endeavouring to interpret Marquis Saionji's resignation as a protest against the appointment of Mr. Kaneko Kentaro to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce—an extremely silly suggestion. They further allege that Baron Nishi, tired of being mere locum tenens, has definitely resigned, and that Baron Hayashi will probably be recalled from St. Petersburg to take his place-another canard. It seems pretty certain, however, that Pro-fessor Kikuchi, the present Vice-Minister of Education, will resign and be appointed to the Presidency of the Imperial University. Some people allege that Professor Kano will also resign, but on that point we are unable to speak.

### REDEMPTION OF WAR BONDS.

Messra. Suyenobu, Nakano, Toyokawa, and Ikeds, representing about a hundred men of affairs, called upon Count Inouge on the 4th instant, and urged upon him the advisability of applying from 50 to 100 million yen of the Indemnity to the redemption of War Bonds. Count Incure, it is said, did not deny that the redemption of War Bonds might afford great relief to the money market at present, but he explained that the Indemnity was all approfor such a division

### STILL THE LAND-TENURE QUESTION.

We observe that the Kobe Chronicle returns to the question of the tenure of land under the kind of lease described in the new Code as a "superficies." Our contemporary is still apprehensive that the Code in operation may be found very different from the Code in theory, and its apprehension seems to have been accentuated by reference to the judgment delivered by the Osaka Appeal Court in the Mascarenhas case. Perhaps our readers remember the case. A Portuguese obtained a perpetual lease of a plot of land in Kobe at a rent which, owing to the appreciation of property in the district, became notoriously inadequate 25 years subsequently. The owners of the land applied for a revision of the rent, and the Court entertained the application, from which fact the Kobe Chronicle is disposed to infer that the Courts may interpret the new Code in accordance with some now We would point unforeseen principle. out to our contemporary that the new Code is not yet in force, and that, consequently, the import of its provisions can not be inferred from the practice of the Courts at present. We would also point out that a perpetual lease, like that of Mascarenhas, would, even under the new Code, be subject to revision by a Law Court on application by either the lessor or lessee. We would also point out that a lease for a fixed term, however long, is explicitly exempted by the new Code from such revision. We would also point out that, according to the decision of the very Osaka Court which disquiets our contemporary, when rent is fixed for a definite term of years, as would be the case with a superficies of the only kind useful to a foreigner, no legal tribunal will have competence to alter it. We would also point out that when a question as to the nature of superficies was recently put by a leading Yokohama resident, in the presence of three other foreigners, to the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the latter replied that, according to the rendering of legal experts and of the Government, a superficies, as defined by the new Code, may be for any period—a thousand years, for example. We presume that the subject will be understood one of these days, but the perplexity about it is very strange.

### WAS IT "DISSIMULATION?"

With reference to the Doshisha affair, the following criticism appears in the Japan Gasette :-

From the point of view of strict integrity of conduct the American Board of Missionaries were from the first in the wrong. They attempted by artifice to evade the conduions of the Treaty and artifice to evade the conditions of the Treaty and they have been by artifice defranded of the magnificent institution they succeeded in erecting. This seems a harsh thing to say, but if the American Board could have legitimately obtained the site at Kyoto does anyone imagine that they would have handed over their property to a Japanese Board of Trustees? They certainly would not, or if they obtained Japanese assistance they would have kept strict hold of the title-deeds. Truth is not served by evasion. They should have shunned the appearance of evil, and waited with patience until they could have built and owned the college that generous Christians in America endowed, not that the Japanese might have a secular education, which the Government provides, but an education, as the founders and benefactors intended, based on Christian principles. based on Christian principles.

certain form of dissimulation." We are quite unable to appreciate the justice of such a criticism. Where was the departure from strict integrity; where the dissimulation? If a man employs a Japanese friend to purchase real estate outside the settlements, and registers it in the name of the friend while holding possession of it all the while for his own use, and regarding it as his own property, he is certainly evading the law. But if he says to a Japanese friend, "I will furnish funds to establish a school for benevolent purposes and you shall own the school as well as the site on which it stands, provided that you, too, give your services, and provided, also, that the school is conducted on certain lines," how can it be said that such a philanthropist is guilty of even the small-est dissimulation? The transactions connected with the Doshisha were all straightforward and above-board. The site the college was openly acquired by Mr. Nishima, who had been the projector of the whole affair-with money subscribed in response to his appeal. Mr. Nishima did not purchase the land and erect the buildings in order that they might be the property of Mr. Harris or the American Board Mission. He acquired them in order that they might serve an educational purpose to which Mr. Harris was willing to contribute money and the Missionaries to devote their services. The principles of "strict integrity" were not departed from by so much as a hair's breath in such a transaction, so far as we can see.

### REUTER.

Reuter's agent in Yokohama, telegraphing to London on the 31st of March, said :

The official organ and other journals comment-ing on the expected British naval display in Chin-ese waters describe it as a piece of mere bluff, It is not likely, they say, that it will be followed by action, as had Great Britain been in earnest she would not have allowed matters to reach the pre-

What does the sender of this message call "the official organ," we should like to know. And what are "the other journals"? The leading Japanese journals certainly did not describe the British naval display as "a piece of mere bluff," and we presume that Reuter's agent understood that people in London would read his telegram as a reference to the contents of Japanese newspapers and no others. It certainly never would occur to them to suppose that he could think it worth while to send a statement about the opinions of two local English journals published in Yokohama, and we do not see to what others he can have been referring. The telegram is most misleading, and is also absolutely false in one respect, for there is no such thing as an official organ. It is not to be supposed that Reuter's agent had any intention of deceiving the British public, but unless he is more circumspect he may discover to his surprise and inconvenience that the Japanese Government objects to having wholly erroneous versious of its views dis seminated abroad.

A Hongkong telegram appearing in the China Gazette reports that two passengers were pan about "your the and your Okumas," pronounce at Singapore, for having in their possession a quarter of a million of forged Hongkong Bank like "Q." Professor Chamberlain probably notes. They had already disposed of apurious adopted the rule for that reason, but it seems a Our contemporary concludes by saying notes to the face value of two thousand dollars physical weight of his great authority should that the missionagies by the lent to a misleading method.

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### ACCENTUATION OF TAPANESE WORDS.

Mr. Walter Dening in contributing to the Gaikoku Gogaku Zasshi a series of assays entitled "Practical Hints to atudents of English." They seem to be well thought out and full of information that should prove very useful. In the second of the series-which has just appeared—we find the following interesting paragraph :---

Now to come to the subject of access, Professor Chamberlain in his Handbook of Colloquial Japan-ese (Second Edition, p. 19) makes some remarks on the subject of accentuation with which I am not able to agree. Speaking of the Japanese language, he says: "There is little or no tonic accent and only a very slight rhetorical accent; that is to say, that all the syllables of a word and all the words that all the syllables of a word and all the words of a sentence are pronounced equally or nearly so." Mr. Chamberlain somewhat qualifies this observation in a note on the same page when he says:—"The statement made in the above paragraph concerning the absence of secent in Japanese is intended rather for purposes of practical instruction than of scientific accuracy. There is a slight tonic accent in Japanese. But so expenditude the state that they have been marked instruction than of scientific accuracy. There is a slight tonic accent in Japanese. But so extremely slight is it, that it has never been marked in any dictionary whether native or foreign, it has no influence on procedy, it votes from province to province, and inhabitants of the same province contradict, not only each other but themselves, in their usage and the explanation which they give concerning it. If this theory were correct, we might account for the general instruction to accent shown by Lapanese students when reading Russinown by Lapanese Russinown by Lap inight account for the general inattention to accent shown by Japanese students when reading English by saying that it is caused by the absence of accent in their own tongue. But I must contest as unable to accept this explanation. Whether the accent heard in the pronunciation of Japanese should be called a tonic accent or a rhetorical accent is a nice question which I cannot pane to discuss here. But what I have no desitation in affirming is that there is heard in the case of the nonunciation of all three-villable Japanese words. affirming is that there is heard in the case of the pronunciation of all three-syllable Japanese words a distinct accent on one syllable, which could not be omitted or changed to another syllable without shocking the native ear. Take such words as wata'kushi, dorobo', Hako'ne, Ko'koro, wasure'ita, Miya'ko. In every case you will find that the voice rests on one syllable. Inattention to this fact accounts for much of the mispronunciation of Japanese among foreigners. The distinctness of the Japanese accent struck me so forcibly when I began to study Japanese more than 20 years ago that I invariably marked the accent of every new word which I took down from the lips of my Japanese friends. The fact that the accent is out marked in dictionaries goes for nothing, as anothody can maintain that I review; apply in Japanis in an advanced state of development. The compilers of native dictionaries would not think it accessary to furnish guides to their own countrymen in the matter of accent. That foreign dictionaries give no accents only proves their defectionaries give no accents only proves their defectionaries, I have often level of missionaries and tionaries give no accents only proves their defec-tiveness. I have often heard missionaries and others deplote this imperfection in Hephana's Decimary. That provincial Japanese annetime differ on the matter of accent is easily accounted differ on the matter of accent is easily accounted for, on the ground of prevailing inaccuracy and general slipshodness of articulation prevalent among semi-educated people whose attention has never been called to the importance of distinct promuciation. Whether the accent in Japanese is important or not can easily be tested by dropping it or changing it. I once knew a foreigner who always said wolakushs, and another who pronounced the town Ora'in Oran', much to the antisement of their heaters. As for Mr. Chamberlain's theory that in a word like Miyanoshisa the stress of the voice should be placed equally on each syllable, I have nover heard a Japanese carry it out in practice. carry it out in practice.

We are entirely at one with Mr. Dening in this matter. The rule that all the syllables of a Japanese word should be equally accentuated has had considerable vogue, and may, perhaps, have served some useful purpose, for the soverest syllabic monotony would be in many cases preferable to the excraciating blunders often made by foreigners, as, for example, when the gentleman in the Foreign Office warned a visitor from

## THE DOSHISHA TRUSTEES EXPLANATION.

THE Rev. Mr. YOKOI, President of the high reputation in Japan, has contributed from America, and the control of its to the Far East for April an article setting forth the views of the Trustees hands, though legally and nominally in with regard to the question that has of late attracted so much attention in this country. It is a brief article, occupying only eight pages of the magazine, and its diction proves that no foreign hand con- fifty thousand yen were obtained. Thencetributed anything to its compilation. In forth the number of Japanese trustees was short, we have in these eight pages a considerably augmented and the power of statement which may be accepted as an unadulterated exposition of the Trustees' convictions. The tone is eminently quiet taught; the Doshisha remained a Christian and moderate. Mr. YOKOI obviously institution. But now questions came up writes with perfectly clear conscience about the quality of the Christianity that and consequently remains undisturbed by the storm of hostile criticism that his acts, and the acts of his fellow-trustees, have evoked. That is a very curious fact. On the one hand, we have a number of men of unimpeachable integrity, thorough competence to form an impartial judgment, and a disposition the reverse of hostilewe have a number of such men declaring vehemently that a great wrong has been perpetrated and that funds subscribed by American Christians have been perverted to uses never contemplated by the donors ; on the other, we have the men against whom the charge is brought, men, also, of the highest repute, explaining with calm confidence that no fault lies at their door and that they have been guided throughout by principles of right and justice. How are these two positions to be reconciled, or do they admit of reconciliation? The answer seems to us to be contained in the one word "compromise," a word with which every observer of Japanese conduct soon becomes familiar. The Trustees of the Doshisha have compromised. They have excluded the teaching of Christian morality from the carriculum of the middle school attached to the institution; they have included it in the curriculum of the theological school. That is the case in a nut-shell.

Mr. YOKOI claims that there were two elements in the Doshisha, the Japanese pervaded by Christian influences." foreign element, however, desired that education should be subserved to Christian propagandism; the Japanese element wished that religion should be merely "altried to state it with the utmost fairness. foreseen that this conflict of views would that it amounts to a compromise. Chris-

Thus the institution grew to maturity hefore its parents had agreed as to its final career. During the first twelve years of its existence, the funds for its Doshisha, a man who enjoys a very support were contributed nearly entirely affairs remained practically in American the hands of the Japanese who figured before the law as the owners of the land and buildings. An appeal was then made for Japanese contributions, and some control began to be increasingly assumed by them. Christianity, however, was still ought to be professed. The American patrons wanted a special type of Christianity; the trustees insisted upon Christianity "free from all dogmatical or denominational colouring of whatever kind." Here the rift widened, and assumed the dimensions of a gulf when the Japanese trustees decided that religious teaching must be purely voluntary, whereas the American patrons wished to have it compulsory. The Japanese gained the day, and gave practical expression to their views in 1896 when, on the occasion of organizing a middle-school curriculum, fund. Mr. NISHIMA was an eminent Chris-"religious instruction was formally omit- tian. He had become conspicuous for his The considerations of expediency that dictated the latter step are already known to our readers; namely, that it thus became possible to obtain official recognition for the school, and official rebe exempted from military service up to for which contributions were sought was the age of 26. On the other hand, "the was secured by providing a sphere for it" Christian lines in the framework of the deal has been said about the arbitrary "not imposed on the Doshisha as a condition for any gift," but was voluntarily element and the foreign element. Both after the founding of the place. The American Christians be employed on acelements had originally in view "the trustees were therefore competent to count of the middle school, a wrong is building up of an educational institution amend their own work, and their amend- committed. But assuming that a strict The ment consisted simply in the elimination division of the institution's resources is all change.

bending between two burdens, have been able to find some support for their conscience in the views expounded by Mr. YOKOI, and, speaking for ourselves, we should have welcomed his explanation with the utmost satisfaction and readily acknowledged its cogency, had there been any reasonable possibility of doing so. But no one can examine Mr. YOKOI'S vindication without observing the contradiction between its terms. He tells us that both the Japanese element and the foreign element had originally in view "the building up of an educational institution pervaded by Christian influence." Is the middle school of the Doshisha "pervaded by Christian influences?" If so, whence do they emanate, and how are they operative? Mr. YOKOI tells us that the Japanese element wished religion to be "a factor in education." Is religion a factor in the education furnished at the middle school of the Doshisha? If so what constitutes the religious factor and how does it work? We fail to see that, even on the showing of Mr. YOKOI himself, a middle school such as he and his co-trustees have organized in connexion with the Doshisha can ever have been contemplated by the Japanese philanthropists who, in response to Mr. NISHIMA'S appeal, contributed some fifty thousand yen in 1888 to the Doshisha University earnest propagandism of the Christian creed in Japan long before he appealed to his countrymen to assist his educational work. There can not have been the remotest doubt in the mind of any person cognition meant that the students would responding to his appeal that the object the endowment of an educational institupermanency of the missionary principle tion on Christian lines. Are there any -the theological department-" distinct middle school constructed by Mr. YOKOI and different from the middle school and his co-trustees? If so, where do they where the Japanese held sway." A great appear and how is their presence exhibited? It must be assumed, of course, that alteration of the constitution by the Mr. YOKOI intends the public to undertrustees. Mr. Yokoi meets this charge stand that the middle school of the Doby pointing out that the constitution was shisha is supported entirely with Japanese money. He can not doubt for a moment, indeed he evidently does not doubt, that drawn up by the trustees twelve years if even a yen of the funds contributed by of an unpractical clause which prohibited thus made, we want to hear from Mr. YOKOI whether he believes that American Such is Mr. YOKOI's case. We have Christians would ever have subscribed funds for the endowment of a college with factor in education." It should have been Our readers will agree with us, we think, which an absolutely non-religious school was to be associated. If Mr. HARRIS and become more and more accentuated as tianity is preserved in the theological the other philanthropists of the United time went by. It was not foreseen; or, department and banished from the middle States who gave large sums in response if foreseen, no provision was made against school: the middle school is organized to the appeal of Mr. NISHIMA and the it. Both sides shrank from an explana- on purely secular lines; the theological American Board Missionaries, had imagintion which might have involved a rupture department, on religious. We can per-ed that one of the affiliated institutions of at the very outset of their enterprise, feell well understand that the trustees, the Doslogichal fram to be a school from Digitized by

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which all Christian teaching was eliminate that "the Yokohama committee would have confining foreigners, because the climatic and endow the Doshisha? That is the violated, but with that point we are not convicted of crime, and secondly the treat-American subscribers have answered for of crime are to undergo punishment. As protest stands there can be only one report attentively, he would have seen been diverted from the purpose for which the place of detention at Kajibashi, where it was given and that great wrong has foreigners arrested in the Tokyo district been done. We are fully persuaded that will lie awaiting trial, but that, the inspecscientious man who believes that he and his colleagues have found a fair exit from more time at their immediate disposal, it a difficult situation. But it is exceedingly doubtful whether a single foreign critic will acquit them of an unjust act.

### YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COM-MERCE AND SUGAMO PRISON.

THE report published by the President and two members of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce with reference to their visit to the Sugamo Prison in Tokyo is worth pointing out that the Committee is criticised by the Kobe Chronicle in a are quite mistaken in believing that any manner which seems to invite a few words change is in progress in the direction of of comment. This question of prison accommodation for foreign suspects or malefactors after the Revised Treaties go into formation direct from the Minister of operation, and, indeed, all cognate ques- State for Home Affairs. It is quite true, questions that are likely to arise after tions, ought to be excluded as much as as the Kobe Chronicle observes, that before possible from the domain of controversy. centralization can be effected, the Diet's It is in the general interest that a satis- sanction must be obtained. factory understanding should be reached, mittee were perfectly well aware of that and no reason exists why such matters when they compiled their report. They should not be calmly discussed rather must have been aware of it long ago, but than hotly argued. "Scotus" perhaps at all events they were informed of it by thinks that this rule might conveniently the Minister of State for Home Affairs, have applied to his case, but the "Scotus" episode was a mere breaking of toy lances. intention was to seek the necessary autho-There was little earnestness in our persi-rity in the next regular session of the flage and equally little in his, we imagine, Diet. and since he took refuge at last in the solace of doggrel verse, his wounds have to make on other points. He thinks that doubtless healed by this time. A report the report of the Committee discloses a presented to the Yokohama Chamber of sufficiently unsatisfactory state of affairs, Commerce belongs to a very different since the cells are not warmed; since class of document from the "Scotus" they have a necessary in one corner, controversy. The Kobe Chronicle, while "whence the effluvia arising on hot summer noting that the prison at Sugamo is sup- nights would be in itself sufficient to breed posed to be the one which will "be used a pestilence;" since the rations for for foreigners under sentence when extra- prisoners undergoing punishment " would commodation of Japanese subjects." HER territoriality is abolished," asks, neverthe- appear to be only sufficient to sustain life," less, "what is the value of the report," seeing that "foreigners who are shortly to " without warmth in winter and with walls rance. Japanese statesmen would have come under Japanese law are more interes- exposed to the fierce glare of the sun in similar hesitation, and really we can not ted in knowing the worst they may expect if summer, would inflict terrible suffering." | see that it would be fair or wise on the they should be accused of crime and, as is It appears to us that the first and the last of part of foreign Governments to insist. the practice in Japan, detained for months these criticisms alone has any cogency.

without bail," and expresses the opinion The dark cells at Sugamo are not fit for Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLI

ed, would they have subscribed to found done far more service to the interests of the question has such special importance in community, which we are sure they have at the case of a foreigner. These cells are vital question which Mr. YOKOI'S vindica- heart, if they had inspected the prison at the only defective part of the Sugamo tion leaves entirely unanswered. Accord- Tobe." The answer to that criticism is Prison. We do not know that dark cells ing to his own showing, the intentions of very simple. Two points have to be inve- are ever intended to be comfortable, but even the Japanese subscribers have been stigated; first, the treatment of foreigners they certainly might be better than those immediately concerned. What we have ment of foreigners suspected of crime. be put there. Again, the absence of to ask is whether he, or his co-trustees, The committee visited the Sugamo Prison warming apparatus throughout the prisare in a position to answer for the to satisfy themselves on the former point, on is a blemish, but, as the Commit-American subscribers. Surely not. The since it is there that foreigners convicted tee's report clearly states, steps are themselves by the mouths of the American to the latter point, had the editor of the the necessary and the supposed effluyia, Board Missionaries, and so long as their Kobe Chronicle read the Committee's verdict, namely, that their money has that their original intention was to visit it is an unintentional wrong. Mr. YOKOI'S tion of the Sugamo Prison alone having life, that is all that punishment rations do apology is that of an earnest and con-occupied the whole forenoon, and the members of the Committee having no became necessary to postpone the visit to Kajibashi. With regard to the Yokohama district, our contemporary does not seem to be aware that a new prison is now being built at Negishi, to supplant the present jail at Tobe. An inspection of the latter would therefore be useless for the purpose which the Committee have in view.

> The Kobe Chronicle further says :- " It centralization." As to that, we can only say that the Committee received its inwho added that the Government's present

> Our contemporary has some comments and since the dark punishment cells,

at Sugamo, if foreigners are liable to about to be taken to remedy it. As to there is no effluvia and there need not be any. Everything is scrupulously clean, and a free use of lime in summer entirely obviates the danger alluded to by our contemporary. Finally, as to the punishment rations being barely sufficient to sustain everywhere. The plain fact is that the Sugamo Prison is planned and constructed on the best and most modern system. and if the editor of the Kobe Chronicle has an opportunity of visiting it, we venture to predict that he would be agreeably surprised.

One other point may be referred to. " Promises by prison board officials, semiofficial newspapers, or members of the Government are of absolutely no value," says our contemporary, "unless they take the form of diplomatic assurances." Well, it certainly would be very pleasant and comfortable if a definite and binding engagement could be obtained from the Japanese Government not merely with regard to the treatment of foreign prisoners, but also with regard to many other 1899. All of us endorse that general principle, but its application must be within the bounds of reason, and we can not think that it would be within the bounds of reason to seek from the Japanese Government a diplomatic assurance that the treatment of foreigners in Japanese jails shall differ from the treatment of natives. Would the Government of any independent State give such an assurance? Imagine the Japanese Government approaching HER MAJESTY'S Ministry, and saying :- " The hardships of imprisonment will be as greatly augmented for our people if they have to eat skilly and drink buttermilk in your jails, as would the hardships of your people in our jails if they had to live on rice, barley, and daikon. We must ask you to give us an official pledge that exceptional arrangements shall be made in your prisons for the ac-MAJESTY'S Ministry would not be in the least degree likely to give any such assu-

### REVIEW.\*

In our humble opinion the ideal work on Iapan has yet to be written. The books that have appeared might be profitably classified as scientific and non-scientific, or an historic and practical. The value attached to each volume that has been published must depend on the bent of individual minds. Before we can determine this in any given instance, we must ask, which faculty predominates in the inmost recesses of the reader's mind, reason or imagination? For what is he searching thoughout the journey of life, truth or beauty? A close analysis of earnest and powerful minds tends to show that there is no such thing as dual government in the soul. One faculty occupies a throne shared by no rival. In the case of such writers as Sir Edwin Arnold and Mr. Lafcadio Hearn it is quite apparent that the logical faculty is in abeyance: imagination reigns supreme. As poetic flights or outbursts the works of these authors on Japan are delightful reading. But no one who has studied the Japanese in a deeper manner, by more intimate daily intercourse with all classes of the people than either of these writers pretends to have had, can possibly regard a large part of their description as anything more than pleasing fancy. Both have given reins to the poetic fancy and thus have, from a purely literary point of view, scored a success granted to lew, They addressed an audience. They have pleased addressed an audience. They have pleased that audience beyond all expectation. Their chapters of word-painting rank high as prose poems, and as such may be read a bundred ears bence But as exponents of Japanese life and thought they are unreliable. They have done for Japanese thought what Christian Greek philosophers did for Hebrew thought, what Hindoo philosophers did for ancient Hindoo thought, and what far keener intellects than that of Confucins did for his indefinite atterances, They have given form and beauty to much that never existed except in vague outline or in nudeveloped germs in the Japaness mind. In doing this they have unavoidably been guilty of misrepresentation. The Japanese mind as seen through their kaleidoscope is a much more exquisite piece of mechanism than the oldest and best-informed residents of this country have ever met with in actual life. The Japanese nation of Arnold and Hearn is not the nation we have known for a quarter of a century, but a purely ideal one manufactured out of the authors' brains. It is high time that this was pointed out, for, while such works as we are now considering please a certain section of the English public, they do a great deal of haim among a section of the Japanese public, as could be shown in detail did space allow.

But there is something to be said in defence of this style of writing. The exaggeration and poetic license in which the authors indulge is easential to the success of their work as literary artists. It is recorded of a famous Latin his-torian how he declared that he would have made Pompey win the battle of Pharsala had the effective turn of the sentence required it. "He may sland for the true type of literary artist," says Professor Raleigh, in his delightful essay on Style. "The business of letters," continues this writer, "howsnever simple it may seem to those who think truth-telling a gift of nature, is in reality two-fold, to find words for a meaning, and to find a meaning for words Now it is the word that refuses to yield, and now the meaning, so that he who attempts to wed them is at the same time altering his words to suit his meaning, and modifying and thaping his meaning to satisfy the requirements of his words. The humblest processes of thought have had their first education from language long before they took shape in literature." As Professor Raleigh shows in another part of his essay, to use words in a strictly scientific sense is fatal to art. Definition acts on art like a palsy. It kills the creative faculty to subject it

\* "Feudal and Modern Japan," by Arthur May Knapp: 2 vols. Second Edition. L. C. Page & Co., Buston.
† "Style" by Walter Raleigh, p. 63.

to scientific rule. The conclusion to which this somewhat long introduction leads us is that before selecting the books to be read on Japan readers must ask themselves one question, do I

read to know? or do I read to be amused?

Now we come to Mr. Knapp's little work bound up in a daintly volumes. "Feudal and Modern Japan 'does not presend to be anything like a thorough account of Japanese live and thought, and many parts of it need to be labelled poetic, being written from the Hearn and Arnold point of view; yet it undoubtedly fulfils a most useful function in popularising know-ledge hitherto stowed away in the archives of the Asiatic Society of Japan and elsewhere. In the first volume, which treats of Feudal Japan, Mr. Knapp has utilised to good purpose the investigations of the late Dr. Simmons and of Professor Wigmore. Many of the facts culled by Mr. Knapp from Dr. Wigmore's long essays are of great interest, and are, we venture to think, not generally known. Such, for instance, are the high position occupied by the farmer in ancient Japanese society, the great consideration shown to him in assessing taxes, and his corresponding readiness to contribute towards the maintenance of the State. On this latter point, quoting from Dr. Wigmore, Mr. Knapp says, "The payment of taxes did not a says, "The payment of taxes did not seem to be considered by the peasantry as a burden, but as a loyal duty in which they took more or less pride. It was an offering, as the word mitsugi mono signifies. The time of the annual payment of the rice at the collector's storehouses .....instead of being an occasion of sorrow and irruation, was more like a fair where each vied with the other in presenting for official inspection the best return of rice, &c." and similar sketches are decidedly refreshing, read at the close of the nineteenth century when most of the world is groaning under the burden of ever-increasing taxation.

The last chapter of "Feudal Japan," entitled Religious Invasious," predicts that Occidental "Religious invasions, predicts mat Octinema, Christianity will meet with little permanent success in this country. Two difficulties stand in the way, argues Mr. Knapp. One a race difficulty. Christianity is not found in force to-day outside the Aryan family. The other than the intense nationdifficulty is connected with the intense nationalism of the Japanese and their attachment to ancestral worship - a practice that is unspar-ingly condemned by the Christian church.

Among the contents of Volume II. are two chapters on the Japanese language which leave a good deal to be desired in point of accuracy, but which nevertheless contain some useful information for those to whom the Japanese language is a terra incognita. Thise times Mr. Knapp prints Shibaraku o me ni kakarimashita as the equivalent of "It is a long time since I saw you." And several times we have O shikk i itashimashita. Much of what Mr. Knapp says on the negatives in Japanese is founded on misconception and imperfect knowledge of the subject. He seems to over look the fact that even in our own language the strongest of all positive affirmations often consists of an accumulation of negatives. Take our English translation of Paul's assertion of his oneness with Christ. What could be more grand than the passage:—"For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." These negatives are introduced only with a view of increasing the strength of the positive asser ion. In writing on the sacredness of the Japanese ideographs much of what Mr. Knapp says, following Professor Hearn, is purely imaginary. But it is harmless and will no doubt please certain readers. The same may be said of the unparalleled patriotism the Japanese are said to possess. From the writing of Messes. Hearn and Knapp one might be led to suppose that patriotism no longer existed among Anglo-Saxons. These

of other European nations. We would recommend these gentlemen to study a very remarkable modern book on this subject:-"Deeds that won the Empire," by Rev. W. H. Fitchett, which is not a romance, but a caref fly compiled his-tory of the deeds of our forefathers. If our American friends think that this spirit exists no longer in Anglo-Saxon breasts they have read accounts of our Indian Frontier war and recent Egyptian campaigns to no purpose.

We cannot help saying from the point of view of a critic we could wish that Mr. Knapp's book had a little less of the glamour that characterises the works of Sir Edwin Arnold, Mr. Hearn, and other men of their class. What we want is discerning criticism of Japanese life and thought. Too strong a sympathy with the Japanese blinds the eyes to facts. Antipathy on the other hand is fatal to a right understanding of the subject of study. The ideal book would be one in which the real facts are stated with all the grace and charm that has been given to fiction. A knowledge of the facts, however, in not to be gained in a day. And, with all their talents and industry, it cannot be said that the authors of some of the most popular of modern works on Japan have reached the bed-rock of Japanese life. The huge superstructure on which so much time and labour have been expended has very little basis in real fact,

Notwithstanding all we have written we have no besitation in saying that Mr. Knapp's little volumes are full of interesting matter and from many points of view descrive the success they have met with. When describing Japanese customs pure and simple Mr. Knapp is at his best, and the chapter on "Inversious and Contradictions" is very amusingly written and is for the most part true to fact. Mr. Knapp is, we understand, engaged in collecting materials for another work on the same subject.

### PAUPERISM IN TOKYO.

The Tokyo Poor Asylum contains at present 248 panpers, inclusive of women. The public may have been inclined to suppose that the abnormal appreciation of commodities, which has brought many to the verge of starvation, must have increased the number of paupers in the Asylum. The fact, however, has proved the contrary. The inmates remain the same in number as they were three years ago. The appreciation of commodities seems not to have influenced the matter; and it is said that the increase of inmates was most prominent when prices were at the lowest rates. Most of the paupers in the Asylum are deformed persons or invalids unable to work for themselves. men are engaged in the manufacture of tadon (balls of powered charcoal), the women in washing. Foundlings now number 133, lost children 9, and uphans 59. Each aurse takes care of twenty or thirty children. A special school is organised for these children. There are special apartments for the medical treatment of the sick, who are entirely separated from the rest of the children. The necessity of establishing a penitentiary was early feit, and subscriptions have already been secured to the amount of 14,900 yen, of which the greater portion was contributed by Marquis Tokugawa, Baron Iwasaki, the two Mitsui families, and foreign philanthropists. The above facts we gather from the Tokyo Asahi.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the Kingsin line accepted by about 2,400 against 100 votes the amalgamation offer of the Hamburg-American line. Therefore, the Kingsin shareholders for each of their shares of m. 1,000, which present are quoted 1264 per cent., obtain Bamburg-America line share of m. 1,000, which at present are quoted at 1151 per cent., and in addition m.120 for each Kingsin share. Thus the Kingsin shareger ex-holders receive from the Hamburg-American writers line 1154 plus 12 per cent. equals 1274 per have read English history to no purpose if they think that Japanese patriotism surpasses all that is recorded in English annals, or in the annals covered original from

### TORYO LODGE INSTALLATION.

The ceremony of installing the Worshipful Master of the Tokyo Lodge of Freemasons took place on the 29th ultime, the Right Worshipful W. H. Stone, District Grand Master, officiating. The most graphic description we can give of the ceremony is to reproduce the programme of the evening, a veritable work of art and arudition, prepared, we believe, by Brother H. J. Terry :-

OFFICERS OF TORYO LODGE, No. 2015, E.C. And though that he was worthy he was wys.
"Prologue."

Wor. Bro. Davidson Macdonald, M.D., D.G.J.W......I.P.M. There was also a Doctour of Phisik; There was also a Doctour of Phone; In al this world ne was ther name him like, "Prologue.

Bin. W. F. Page., ......Secty. Thereto be couthe endite and make a thing, There couthe no man pynche at his writing. "Prologue."

Wor. Bio, W. Silver Hall, D.S.G.W ... D. of C. He is a man of heigh discression,
I waine yow well, he is a passying man,
"Prologue of the Cuanouns Yeman."

" Prologne."

......Tyler. Bro. H. Ivison So mote I then, then are a propre man, "Pardonere's Prologue."

CHAUGER'S MENU.

For by my trouthe, if that I schal not tye,
I ne saugh this year so mery a companye.

\*\* Prologue."

And to the souper sette he us anon, And served us with vitaille atte best. Strong was the wyn, and wel to drynke us leete.

Potage a La Reine. Ne studieth nat ; lay hand to, every man. "Prologue."

Tai, Sauce Chambord. With finnes rede, and scales silver bright.

Assembly of Foules.

Filet a la Perigneux.
Bacon or beef, or such thing as we find.
" Soumpnere's Tale."

Chand froid de Volaile, To boyle chicknes and the mary bones " Prologue."

Asperges a la Creme. Asperges a in Ground,
Alle devotees that man cowde thyrike,
"Prologue."

Diende Franc.
The foule royall, above you all in degre.
"Assembly of Foules." Salade de Saison.

Herbus greet and smale, "Tale of Sira Thopas."

Carte aux Pommes, Tart and galyngale,—" Prologue," Glace aux Amands,

And deputies no than been in my knowyng. "Squyere's Tale," Gateaux, Fruits, Fromage.

Gateaux, Fruite, Fromage.

I will both drynke and byten on a cake.

Eet of the fruyt.—Pardoneres Prologue.

A goddes kickel or a trip of chese.

Sommipmere's Tale.

Digitized by

Cafe, Liquents The spices and the wyn is come

"Squyere's Tale."
The place gave a thousand savours scote,
"Assembly of Faules." TOASTS.

The Queen and the Craft. Lady, thi bounté and thy magnificence, Thy virtu and thi gret bumilité, There can no tongue express in no science. "Princesses' Tale."

II.-The Most Worshipful Grand Master of England,

Bio, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Bio. rayses.

And benedicite,

How mighty and how great a find is he,

"Cuckow and Nightingale,"

II—The Officers of the Grand Lodge.
Every man for the wisdom that he cao,
Was achaply for to ben an alderman,

"Prologues"

IV.—The R.W. District Grand Master of Japan, Bro. William H. Stone. Unto his ordre he was a noble post, Unto his ordre he was a stood pro-Full wel biloved and famulier was he.

"Prologue."

The Officers of the District Grand Lodge. .-The Officers of the District Science.
The wisdom of an heep of lernede men.
" Prologue."

VI.—The Worshipful Master of the Tokyo Lodge. Bro. Broest L. James, D.G. J. D. Sa mote I wel the !

As (culy a maistre ye shall fynde of me. "Coke's Tale."

VII,-The Sister Constitutions. Lyvyng in pees and partight charitee, Clothed in on lyveere Of a solempne and gret fraternite.

" Prologue." VIII .- The Visiting Brethren. Thus ben they knyt with sterne alliannee Of brotherhed, -" Schipmanne's Tale." IX .- The Past Master of the Tokyo Lodge.

A man of gret degré-" Frere's Tale." A man of gret degree— reces a con-But he was like a maister or a pope. "Prologue,"

The Officers of the Tokyo Lodge. Upon my faith, thou art an officer.

"Munke's Prologue."

XI.—The Wives, Daughters and Sisters of "Masons."

Al so good and trewe As ever was wyl sittien the world was newe,
"Wife of Buth's Tale,"

And if that excellent was hir beauté, A thousand fold more vertions was sche; In hire he lakketh no condicion,

That is to preyse. "Tale of the Doctom of Phisik," The Musical Bestbren. XII.

He syngeth crowying as a nightyngale. "Millere's Tale."

That O phens, ne of Thehes Amphingun, He maden he never such a melodye.
"Marchannde's Tale."

XIII .- The Tyler's Toast. With thurst, with cold, with hunger so confoundlyd.— Man of Lawe's Tale."

### THE TEA GUILD'S REGULATIONS.

The Yokohama Tea Guild has inaugurated the following rules for the inspection of teas and the rejection of inferior qualities;

Art. I.—Dust tea, wet, overficed, swept, calcuted, or decayed tea or powder is forbidden.

Art. II.—Each foreign firm shall be communicated with in regard to the processes for the control of the dust tea, and requested to undertake the strict enforcement of the same.

Art. III.—It any member of the Guild shall have dealt in the spurious teas mentioned in the

preceding Article, he shall be suspended for one

year.

Art. IV.—Any member of the Guild dealing in the spurious teas mentioned in Article I, shall be required to pay to the Guild, for breach of faith, a sum of not less than 60 year and not more than 100 year for each offence.

Note.—The amount of the fine shall be determined by a disciplinary committee specially appointed for the purpose.

Art. V.—Any member falling within the provisions of Article IV, shall be punished by the disciplinary committee.

ciplinary committee.

Art. VI.—Whenever spinions tea is found it shall be presented to the Guild's Office for

A.t. VII.—The disciplinary committee shall consist of the entire members of the Guild, but three of them shall be chosen every month by lot as agents to deal with matters arising during that month, a conference to be held if necessary with the rest of the members.

Note.—Such agents are empowered to appoint special employes in cases of necessity.

Art. VIII.—Inspectors are authorised to enter at any time the waterhouses or godowns of any of the members for examination.

members for examination.

Att. IX.—Any person who gives authentic information to the Tea Guild concerning members dealing in spurious tea, shall be presented with half the amount of fines to be exacted in accordance with Article II.

ance with Article III.

Art. X — Wholesale merchants shall not buy from retail dealers any tea other than that recognised by Inspectors as pure and genuine,

Art. X I.—Any broker attached to the Guild who is found to have been concerned in the sale.

of spirious ten to any of the members of the Guild shall be suspended for one year.

Art. XII.—If any member of the Guild or Inspector shall become aware of spirious teas having at any time been transported to the interior, the fact shall be reported to the Guild's Office and to the members of the Guild,

the members of the Guild.

Act. XIII.—These regulations shall be enforced from May 1st of the 31st year to April 30th of the 32nd year of Meijf.

Notes—If, on the expiration of the term, the enforcement of the regulations is to be continued, the decision shall be taken by a fresh conference.

Act. XIV.—Revision or amendment, when necessary, of these tubes shall only be effected by a conference of the entire members of the Guild.

### KOREAN ITEMS.

The following is from the Yorosu :- Chinese marauders are swarming about the Korean frontiers, and owing to a serious disturbance a troop of 200 men was despatched on the 15th instant to the acene of depredation. The commander of the Phyong-an-do garrison reports that nine of the adjoining provinces have been infested by Chinese freebooters whom he with his whole force failed to repel, and against whom he has applied for reinforcements from Sönl.

The new Russian Minister to Korea is reported to have reproved Kim Heung yuk in these terrific sentences:-"Despite thy being a mere Secretary-Interpreter, thou impairedst the national honour of Russia in the time of my predecessors. Refrain thou from all interference hereafter." Kim, it is said, bowed at the Miniter's feet and presented most humble apologies.

On the 16th just, over 200 men of the Body Guards were disbanded for superannuation.

A project was on foot some time ago in the Korean Court for the institution of a national assembly. However, Puk Chong-yang, Minister of Finance, together with three others, represented to the Emperor that the establishment of a Parliament would be attended with the expansion of popular rights and the gradual diminution of the royal prerogatives. On this the Emperor was extremely surprised and announced his resolution to relinquish the scheme for a Parlia-

The land to be appropriated for the construction of railways between Soul and Inchhon has already been surveyed and fixed on, but nothing has yet been paid for it. Some 300 landowners recently repaired to the Finance Department to demand payment. The total cost is said to amount to 40,000 year.

The Independent notes the fact that a company of Koreaus has been formed to publish a daily newspaper in Soul. It is a four page paper printed in pure Unmun. It is called Myail Sinmun or Daily News.

One comes across some strange items of news in the Korean Independent, but quainter still are the comments that its editor occasionally tacks on to a paragraph. Witness the following :-

The agent of Ye Yongik, the chief director of mines, went down to Keumfin district in Chulla Original from

gold mine. About 1.500 miners arose and mobbed the office of the agent and tried to kill him. Fortunately the agent escaped through a hole in the wall and reached Soula few days ago. The chief director became very indignant over the action of the miners and ordered the governor to punish the leaders of the mob and to protect his agent hereafter from further danger.

[If the chief director refrains from sending down robbers as his agents he would accomplish his purpose better. When one is robber he is apt to chase the robber forgesting the robber's rank or

this purpose better. When one is rabbed be to app to chase the robber forgetting the robber's rank or

According to the statute law all the mines of the country are under the control of the Dep't of Agric, Com, and Ind., but last year the power of controlling was taken away by the Imperial Household Department. Ex Governor Ye Yongik has been made Chief Director of Mines and he has been empowered to send his own agents to the interior to collect revenues from the miners. These agents have been committing most unlead of ourrages in various places, causing many clots, and the Home Dep't has been flooded with comand the Home Dep't has been mouded with com-plaints of every nature. A few weeks ago the Council of State passed a resolution forbidding the Chief Director of Mines from sending his own agents without consent of the Department of Agriculture, and reminded him to observe the laws and regulations governing mines. The director promised the Council that he would obey laws and regulations governing mines. The director promised the Council that he would object the order of the Council in the matter, and went away. Two days fater he sent a telegram to the governors of the various provinces staring that the Imperial Household Dep't was pressed for money and in order to relieve the department he had sent his agents to the mines to collect gold dust for the use of the Imperial Household Dep't. He did this through his loyalty to the Imperial house, but to his susprise the Dep't of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry interfered with his noble work. In view of his true loyalty and patriotism he could not obey the order of the Council, to the detriment of the interests of the Imperial house. If any governor has the same loyal splict be mint show it by driving out the agents of the Dep't of Agriculture and sustain the actions of the agents sent by the Imperial Household Department.

The message of the Chief Director caused much alarm in the Council and the Dep't of Agric. Judging from present indications the Clief Director is on top and the law and regulations are on the downward path.

Our Korean contemporary thus relates the story of a recent assault upon the British Minister and its consequences to the offender :-

A few days ago while J. N. Jerdan, E.q., the Botish Minister, was walking along the stone bridge near the forme site of the Sörl Cremipo Ry, depot in company with Rev. II. H. Apppearabler, a Korean soldier belonging to the first regiment of the Imperial guard was coming was regiment of the Imperial guard was coming was coming toward the bridge from the opposite direction. He was very drunk and appeared to be unable to control his limbs. When passing Mr. Jordan the drunken man suddenly rased his arm and saluted the Minister by a friendly whick across his (Mr. Jordan's) shoulder, Mr. Jordan was at the time maware of the soldier's approach and the unexpected and foreithe salutation startled him considerably. The gentlemen seized the effender and banded him Henen seized the effender and banded him over to the police station near by. The Minister over to be proces station near by. The amisses of Foreign Affairs, beating of the episode, immediately called on Mr. Jordan and made suitable apologies and the War Department took the prisoner into its bands and sentenced him to be shot. However, Mr. Jordan expressed his desire that this summary punishment should not be meted out. In view of the Minister's request the War Department commuted the sentence to leaves to the transgressor for his audacious conduct on the ground of his being under the influence of liquor, but we cannot excuse his indulgence in drink which led him to commit such an act.

The Minister of Agriculture, Joung Nak yong, has resigned. His resignation, says our contemporary, was received with undisquised joy by everybody in the city except his few friends among the palace runners. Before he resigned his post, however, he secured the governorship of South Chungchong for his

The underwriters of the steamer Pelican paid the insurance due on her on March 16th.

### JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY.

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Japan Brewery Company, Limited, was held on Saturday afternoon. Mr. J. Dodds presided, and there were also present Messis. sided, and there were also present Messis. Hayneman, W. R. Bennett, and J. D. Hutchison (Directors); Messis. W. Kirkwood, A. B. Waltord, T. Duer, F. Cunmins, Captain Weston, C. W. Ure, H. Heckert, F. S. James, F. S. Adrian, A. Band, W. Sutter, H. Z. Wheeler, A. Woolley, C. B. Stedman, D. Reess, T. Il Glover, Dr. Divers, and Capt. Lee.

The Chairman remarked :-

After an absence from Yokuhama of a year, I am much pleased once again to meet the Shareholders of the Company in this room, and to be able to address them from the chair which your Directors have been as kind as m invite me to occupy once more. On my return here, one of the first things in connection with the Brewery that attracted my attention was the large adventisement in once more. On my return here, one of the first things in connection with the Brewery that attracted my attention was the long advertisement in the newspapers, under which the present meeting is called. Before making any inquiries, it appeared to me to denote a want of second between the shareholders and the Board—a feeling, possibly, on the part of the former that the Ducctors were moving too slowly. Since, however, I have had the opportunity of perusing the minutes of the Board meetings, I have proved that this feeling, if it existed, was entirely without foundation—that the Ducctors were moving towards the same goal as that pointed to by the resolutions to be brought forward to-day, namely, that, in view of the rapidly-increasing business of the Company, it is absolutely necessary to caise additional capital to enable the Company to cope with the ever increasing orders that pour in upon the Brewery. But, naturally, in the interests of the Shareholders, the Board moved with circumspection and caurion in view of circumstances, of which the Shareholders had not full knowledge. The signatories to the requisition only anticipated the action of the Directors—betwendthing and called The signaturies to the requisition only anticipal the action of the Directors—they would be to be course have submitted a scheme to the Share-holders, but are now practically at one with the requisitionists in an amended series of Resolutims, which they have recently sent in; and as the Directors find themselves so full accord with the scheme proposed in the amendment, I will read it from the chair and commend it for adoption to the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then read the requisition as

April 25th, 1808.

To the Directors.

JAPAN BRAWERY COMPANY, LIMITED, Yokohama.

Opinions having been expressed by certain shareholders that they are not willing to support a portion of the Resolutions that we a portion of the Kesolutions that we gave notice we should bring before the Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders, to be held on the 30th April, and considering, as we do, that it is most desirable in the interests of the Company that changes such as we propose should meet practically the unanimous support of all concerned, we now beg to give notice of our request to the Chairman of that meeting to lay such Resolutions before the shareholders amended as follows:--

1. That (h) and (c) of Resolution 3, be omitted, 2. That in consequence of such unissian, Resolution 3 (d) be amended as follows:—The words in line 1. "That the halance of 300,000 yen of Capital," to read 6 That 300,000 yen of such Capital."

Capital."

The words in the last paragraph "with the 6,000 shares in (a) (b) and (c) mentioned" to read "with the 3,000 shares in Resolution 1 and Resolutions 3 (a) mentioned."

The words in the last paragraph "on the other 6,000 shares." to read "on the other 3,000 shares."

3 That in consequence of the ounsion of Resolution 3 (b) & (c) this further Resolution be added to take the place of such unission:

"That the balance of 150,000 year of Capital be obtained in such manner and at such times as the

obtained in such manner and at such times as the Directors for the time being may see fit."

and further:

4. "That throughout these Resolutions the word year to read Dillars in the event of the carrying into effect of Resolution their ginepracticable."

We are aware that difficulties may arise in

converting the Company's Capital from dollars Digitized by Google

position for this Company or any other Compuny in Japan to be in, to have to keep its accounts in dollars when all its transactions are

We appreciate fully that some shareholders desire to see the Reserve Funds increased and built up to a sum equal to our original Capital or even more, and as our Articles give full power to use such funds in the concern; that is first as Capital, although not so treatedfurther balance of Capital of 150,000 yen will not be at present required, although it may be at some future time. To meet this very reasonable desire the present amendments are chiefly directed.

We believe we are right in saying that the great increase of late years and still daily improvement in the Company's business; creating a demand that the Brewery is unable to meet, necessitate the expenditure of the money now asked for, and that when this has been expended the Company will be in a position to withstand any opposition no matter from what quar-

ter it may come.

We, therefore, confidently trust that our resolutions as amended will meet with the onanimous support of all shareholders,

We are, Gentlemen, yours faithfully;

THOMAS B. GLOVER (Signed) MONTAGUE K REWOOD. R. A. WYLIE. WM. SUTTER.
AMBROSE II. WALFORD. BELLA A. JAMES. F. S. JAMES.

The Chairman said that was signed by the same signatories as the original resolutions and, therefore, was an amendment now proposed from the chair because the directors gave it their full support, according, as it did, with their own ideas. Their only objection to the first proposals was the dealing with the reserve fund, in which, he thought, even some of the requisitionists had also agreed since. In fact, by this amendment they signified their accordance with the board. The original resolution and the amendment were now both before the meeting if any shareholder wished

to say anything on the subject.

The resolutions as finally adopted were as

I. That the present Capital of the Company of \$150,000, in 1,500 shares of \$100 each bu converted into a Capital of 150,000 yen currency in 3.000 share of yen 50 each.

II. That the Capital of the Company be further increased to make in all a capital sum of 600,000 yen by the issue of 9,000 shares of yen 50 each.

III. That such conversion and increase of

capital be effected as follows:

(a.) That each Shareholder on the registered list of Shareholders on the 1st May, 1898, receive in lieu of each \$100 share then held by

him 2 shares of 50 pen each,

(b.) That 300,000 pen of such Capital he obtained by the issue of 6000 shares of 50 year each. Such shares to be offered at par to shareholders on the registered list of shareholders on the 1st May, 1898, in proportion of 4 new shares for every \$100 share then held by them.

Applications to be sent in on or before the tst July. This time to be extended up to 1st September for shareholders non resident in

Payment to be made as follows:-

to yen on application.

10 ,, ,, 1st September, 1898. 10 ,, ,, 1st lannary, 1899.

Shares not applied for by Shareholders to be disposed of at such premium and in such manner as the Directors may see fit, and such pre nium to be passed to Reserve Fund.

These shares (6,000) not to be entitled to rank for dividend for the year ending 31st March, 1899, with the 3,000 shares in Resolution I. and Resolution III. (a) mentioned, but Both owners and insurers are resident in Great to zen, but we hope they may not be insuper- to receive interest at a rate of 7 per cent. per Britain.

Li is obviously a most unsatisfactory annum en all installments from the time of the

same being paid. If the dividend for the year ending 31st March, 1899, should be 5 yen per share or more on the other 3,000 shares auch interest to be 10 per cent., and if 7 yen 50 or more-than 15 per cent.

(c.) That the balance of 150,000 yen of capital be obtained in such manner and at such time or times = the Directors for the time being may see fit.

IV. That throughout these Resolutions the word yes to read Dollars in the event of the carrying into effect of Resolution I. being impracticable.

Dated 14th March, 1898.

In the course of the discussion on the various clauses of the resolutions Mr. Wheeler asked what was the motive of the directors in changing the 100 dollar shares to 50 dollar shares.

The CHAIRMAN said it was to facilitate dealing, and also to spread shares among a large number of shareholders by bringing them within the reach of small investors.

Mr. Ugz asked whether, if that was the view of the directors, it would not be better to make

them of even a lower nominal value;
The Chairman: I think myself that 50 yen is low enough. I may mention that the proposal to reduce the value of shares comes from the requisitionists and not from the Board, and I do not see any actual necessity for it, but still I agree with the reasons the requisitionists have adduced.

Mr. Ung said he thought that it would be more effective to the purpose in view to make the shares to dollar shares.

Mr. WHEELER: I think brokerage would come in there.—(laughter.)
The point was not pressed.

With reference to resolution III, section B, WHEELER moved that the paragraph "Shares not applied for by Shareholders to be disposed of at such premium and in such manner as the directors mas see fit, and such premium to be passed to Reserve Fund " should be amended so as to preclude such shares from being allotted at a premium of less than 100 dollars.

The CHARMAN said he did not think it was usual to fetter the hands of the directors in that way. It was generally left to their discretion, and

he thought it could safely be left to them. Mr. WHERLER said that under the English law the powers of the Directors seemed to be unlimited; they seemed to have a Star Chamber power, and the shareholders had no check over them in the matter of disposing of these shares. He did not in any way, however, impute anything to the present Board. The object of the amendment was to prevent speculators possibly taking possession of the market.

Captain WESTON seconded the amendment, which was lost by a large majority.

The CHAIRMAN:-The Directors will bear

the caution in mind.

With regard to the resolution for changing the accounts of the Company from dollars to yen the CHAIRMAN said an application would have to go to Hongkong and it rested with them whether they would admit the change or not. He amounced that the directors would endeavour to make the necessary second extraordinary meeting correspond with the general meeting of the Company.

A vote of thanks concluded the meeting, and the Shareholders present afterwards went over the Brewery premises.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Three sons of the Gaekwar of Baroda, accompanied by their English tutor and his wife, and a native doctor, were passengers on board the Lass from Bombayto Yokohama.

We gather from the Robe Chronicle that the crew selected for the Interport match at Yokohama on the 21st inst., comprises Sorhagen (stroke), Kalkhof, Brockhurst, Mancini, and Meek (cox).

It is rumoured that both the Crescent and St. George are coming out to the Far East.
One of them should bring a relief craw for the

Barfleur, whose ship's company are now over their three years' turn of service in that ship. The Crescent and the St. George are sister -first class cruisers of 7,700 tons, built in 1892 and steaming 19.7 knots.

A Brussels telegram says :- Four Belgian officers will shortly leave for Chiun in order to reorganise the Chinese field and siege artillery. The members of the mission, MM. Five, Wiltamer, Servais and Richard, are all prominent officers in the Belgian army, thoroughly versed in the technicalities of their profession,

The first through train de luxe for the Siberian line is finished. It is composed of four splendid cars built at Moscow, an open saloen dining car, bathroom, library, telephones, electric lighting, refrigerators, ventilating apparatus, piano, chess, and means for gymnastic exercise. Nothing like it has ever been seen on Russian railroads.

Prince Henry of Prussia, according to a waters until the autumn of next year. After delivering the Emperor's presents to the Chinese Emperor, he will visit Tokyo to perform a similar courtesy. The Deutschland will remain us the flagship in Asia for some years, Prince Henry returning in 1899 on another vessel.

Russian journals state that the coal discovered last autumn by a Russian expedition on the shore of the Sea of Okhotsk is, as regards quality, better than any other coal beds discovered up to the present are extremely rich. This discovery should be, beyond question, of great value to the Russian Fleet In the Pacific.

Information has been received in Hongkong, says the China Mail, that the American sailing ship Daniel Barnes, bound from New York to Hongkong, with a cargo of 5,700 cases oil, gone ashore near Lampong in the Sunda Strait and is filled with water. The Daniel Barnes, which left New York on 16th December, is a wooden vessel of 1,485 gross tonnage. was built in 1877 in Bath, Me.

The plague seems to be steadily making headway in Hongkong and the adjacent mainland : meanwhile the Sanitary authorities of the colony are indulging in what seems to outsiders a series of petty squabbles as to the best way of combating the disease, each official having "his own little plan." Still there is not at present much cause for alarm, and so soon as the wet weather sets in a steady abatement may be expected.

At the regular monthly meeting of the O'Tentosama Lodge, No. 1263, held at the Masonic Temple on Tuesday evening, occasion was taken to present the Worshipful Master, Bro. A. Bellamy Brown, with a wedding gift. It took the form of a massive marble clock, suitably inscribed, together with a pair of handsome silver candelabra, Wor. Bro. Stanley E. Unite, I.P.M., made the presentation on behalf of the members of the Lodge in an appropriate speech, and the W. M. afterwards returned

The Iloilo Heraldo reports the arrival m that port of a tugboat purchased at Singapore for the Itoilo harbour works. Stormy weather was encountered and the voyage occupied twenty seven days, of which seven were spent waiting at Labuan for weather to clear and two at When nearing Hoilo she had to Balabac. borrow a couple of tons of coal from a Spanish gunboat to help her on to her destination. All the stores she had left was the proverbial "half bottle of whisky,"

It is now certain that the celebrated Viceroy Chang Chi-tung has awakened in a thorough appreciation of the advantages of Western civilization, and that he is about to give a very aignal proof of his altered mood by sending a hundred young men to study in Japan. How the youths are to be chosen or exactly when they

and naval affairs and technical matters in general. Such action on the part of the Viceroy is very remarkable, for the mood of the Chinese hitherto has been to despise the Japanese and regard them as upstarts and renegades from the revered systems of antiquity. The times have certainly changed.

The result of the race-for the Jubilea vaseby the members of the Nippon Bicycle Club on Saturday, over a 32 mile course from Yokohama to Kodau, was Scott first, Kingdon second, and Collaco third. The time of the winner, who started scratch, was then 50 minutes, the best time on record in Yokohama. The first four men fell near the finish, but Scott was first up and away and so won a capital race.

The International Committee to study the position of foreigners in Japan under the new freaties was constituted in Yokohama on Mouday, the 2nd instant, and consists of Messas. R. D. Robison, Chairman; James R. Morse, Vice-Chairman; H. Abegg; F. Bianchi; G. W. Bramhall; James Dodda; C. Giussani; L. Gouilloud; H. J. Holm; Ryle Holme; E. Knaff; F. Nabholz; and E. Wismer, with power to add to their number.

Since the four principal marine insurance companies — the Teikoku Kaijo, the Tokai Kaijo, the Nippon Kairiku, and the Nippon Kaijo-formed a combination, they have in-creased rates all round and made their rules more stringent. A meeting of ship owners and shippers of cargo was held in Osaka a few days ago (27th ultimo) to protest against this action, and to ask for modifications of various regula-tions. The united companies asked for two weeks to consider the matter, but intimated their inability to postpone the operation of the new system, as it had already been advertised throughout the country.

The accident on the Tokaido Railway is said to have been caused by a blunder on the part of a pointsman. The time was 1,15 a.m.—on the 30th instant—and the place Totauka. In attempting to shunt the through luggage train from Yokohama to Kobe, the pointsman worked a wrong lever, and the engine, leaving the line, dragged the wagons after it, the whole upsetting. The engine and cars were considerably damaged and the rails were broken, but no injury resulted to life or timb. Assistance was speedily sent from Yokohama to clear and repair the line, and communication was restored after some eight hours' interval.

The Church Missionary Society in April entered upon its centenary year, and the Bishop of Exeter has written strongly urging the committee to make an effort to raise the sum of one million sterling during the year. As a beginning he offers the sum of £1,000, and intimates his readiness to give at the close of the year a second £1,000 II it should be the year a necond to make up the million suggested. Although the rooth birthday of the Society will not come round until April, 1899, preparations are already being made for its observance.

Three Europeans recently succumbed in ongkong to the plague. One was a lad of Hongkong to the plague. One was a lad of 14, the second a child, and the latest was Sister Higgen, one of the European nurses of the Government Civil Hospital, who contracted the disease whilst on duty. Since this paragraph was set up in type, news has been received in Vokohama of the death by plague on Tuesday of the eldest son of Mr. D. R. Crawford (of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.) who died after barely a day's illness.

About 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, fire broke out at the Tokiwa Hotel, which closely ad-joins the Jiyutei Hotel, Kohe. The flames spread rapidly and before they could be got under had completely destroyed the Tokiwa, half burned the Jiyutei, and involved three other houses in almost complete min. The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is believed to have originated will arrive we do not know, but it appears that in the hitchen quarters. There was a good the subjects of their studies are to be military supply of water, and the firemen and police UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

worked with a will. The outbreak was entirely Governor, Sir W. Robinson. It was in the suppressed by 6 o'clock. The body of a maid-servant belonging to one or other of these hotels was found during the excitement on the railway bank not far away, a handkerchief stuffed in the throat, and seemingly dead by suffocation. A man suspected of the murder and also of starting the fire has been arrested, and is now in hospital owing to one of his feet having been run over by a passing train. He is said to have tried to strangle himself, and then to have thrown himself on the track .- Hiogo News.

The new 6-inch quick-firing gun just adopted for the British Navy is claimed to be, in view of its recent trial performances, the best in the secondary battery of any warships in the world. The 6-inch quick-firer throws a 100-pound armour piercing shell, and the new guns fire one round in 61-2 seconds, and eight rounds in 56 seconds. The atriking force of these shells is rated at 5.374 foot tons, against 3,241 foot tons in the old quick-firers of the same calibre in use up to the present.

A letter from Mark Twain to a friend shows he is still the same old Mark:—"Thank you for your good messages. I think it very pleasant to be out of debt, and shall try to not let anyone put me in again. At work? Yes, after a fashion, but if Vienna were less attractive, and its people less engaging, I could work harder. Lecturing? No, I was intending to lecture in Austria and round about, but when I got out of debt I cancelled all that. Honest people do not go robbing the public on the platform, except when they are in debt. Disseminate this idea-it can do no good."

M. Pierre Leory-Beaulieu, writing in the Economiste Français on the country and rural population of Japan, makes the following remarks :-- The Japanese, even in the villages, are seriously engaged in the way of progress: it is not, of course, a question of changing everything at once as by the magician's wand; but the first impulse was given and did not meet with any resistance. As far an agriculture, they would have, indeed, a great deal to learn, not so much for what they are now cultivating as for the advisability of varying the products according to regions and not to restrain their culture, as is the case nearly everywhere, to the exclusive production of rice alone; their me thods also apply to the question of cattle breeding. These reforms are difficult, because small owners, in spite of their qualities, especially with such a laborious people, have the great draw-back of not being innovators. These reforms should be of great importance in a country where the population, so dense already, angments yearly by 300 000, and where so small a portion of the soil is utilised.

Experiments were recently made in the United States with regard to the Lee rifle adopted by the Government for the Navy. The tests were conducted by the same surgeons and Army officers who conducted similar experiments about two years ago with the Krag-Jorgens-n Army Two cadavers were used, one of a fat negro and the other of a very thin white man, These were bound to planks and placed behind white canvas targets, at which the marksmen simed. According to one member of the board, the rifle did not prove a success as compared with the Krag-Jorgensen Army gun, neither for penetrative powers nor humane qualities. At a range of 1,000 yards, supposed to be the distance at which the Lee rifle will be used most frequently in naval warfare, the steel-jacketed bullets of the Lee tifle failed to go through a corpse, and one bullet failed even to go through the right arm below the elbow. From a humane standpoint the weapon proved worse than the Krag-Jorgensen, for the bullets shattered bones

course of a reply to Sir J. Colomb, who asked in the House of Commons whether Mr. Chambersin's attention had been called to statements alleged to have been made by Sir William Robinson, the late Governor of Hongkong, relative to the defences of that place; whether Sir William Robinson did make such state-ments; and whether Colonial Office regulations prohibited ex-Governors communicating to the public Press information relating to the defence of colonies acquired during their tenure of office. Mr. Chamberlain said,—My atten-tion has been called to the statements alleged to have been made by Sir William Robinson to a Press representative. I do not know whether the report is correct or not, but I may say generally that I entirely disapprove of the practice, which has recently become common, of officials in the colonial service, or recently in that service, allowing themselves to be interviewed on leaving or arriving in England and giving their opinions on debateable questions public policy or on matters affecting the defence and military resources of British possessions. I am causing a circular to this effect to be addressed to all officers in the colonial service abroad .- (Cheers.)

### TENURE OF LAND IN FORMOSA.

The following is extracted from the report of the China Association presented at the annual meeting held on the 23rd March m No. 122, Leadenhali Street, London:-

Among the various questions that arose in Formosa, in consequence of its annexation to Jupan, and in which it was necessary to have the rights and privileges of foreigners clearly established, was that of the ownership of land at the treaty ports. The official autouncement made by the Japanese Government in January, 1895, was that foreigners would be allowed to reside and carry on trade at Keling, Tamsui, Anping, and Takao, and in the city of Tainan.

Mr. Midzumo, Chief of the Civil Department,

adds that, though it follows as a matter of comes that foreigners will not be able after the fixing o these limits to reside, carry on trade, make lead leases of lands or buildings, or to purchase buildings outside the limits—yet the authorities will recognise, as buildered, existing leases of lands and buildings, or the ownership in buildings (at the four ports and Tainan), acquired before the deli-mitation of the boundaries of mixed residence, notwithstanding that such houses or lands may be situate outside the newly-fixed limits of mixed residence. As regards the northern part of the island, therefore, the matter has now been satis facturily disposed of.

facturity disposed of.

The town of Twatutia had been in a different position. Although for many years this port has been the headquarters of the foreign trade of the north of the island, no foreigners had the right of lease of lands or tuildings. The practice bad been for English firms and others to hold the tand or buildings necessary for their business in the name of their Chinese compradures. It consequently became necessary to regularise this position. These properties have consequently been registered in the shape of perpetual leases in the names of the British subjects interested, and foreign firms at Twatutia can now claim. and foreign firms at Twatutia can now clain and toreign times at twattitia can more crain as a right what until now they have only enjoyed as a privilege. This official regularisation of the position is, Mr. Bunar, H.M.'s Consul at Tamsui, considers, a matter of especial ratisfaction; as, although Twatutia has for many years past been the headquarters of foreign trade in the north of the island, no B itish subject had been allowed to own or lease lands or huddings in his own name. The question, therefore, which sooner or later must have been decided -- whether the acquisition of lands or buildings since the cession to Japan, in a place where rights of leave even had never been granted to foreigners, could have been maintained—is now disposed of. In answer to inquiries on the subject, the acting Chief of the Civil Department replied in the terms of a letter onto tragments instead of piercing them. In point of accuracy the gun did not seem to compare with the Army weapon, and this feature is attributed to the lightness of the bullet.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, H. M. Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been publicly snubbing Hon kong's late.

Digitized by Contracts of sale or lease between British subjects were taken to make those contracts in conformity with the allusted city will doubtless see to it that no harm befalls there will be able to own land (though within the limits of "mixed residence" parse regarding the kindness he and other America citizens have received at the hands of Mr. Williams speaks in terms of the highest of the principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been publicly snubbing Hon kong's late.

Digitized by Contracts of sale or lease between British subjects after make those contracts in conformity with the allusted city will doubtless see to it that no harm befalls the family.

Mr. Williams speaks in terms of the highest reaction carried residence." It became necessary, therefore, the colonies, that British subjects should make arrangements

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT which leaves no doubt as to the recognition of contracts of sale or lease between British subjects

before that date to place their relations with Chinesa Define that date to prace their relations with Chinese compradores in respect of land on a proper basis. Under Mr. Bonar's advice such arrangements, mostly in the nature of perpetual leases from the Chinese, who themselves become lessess in peretuity, were practically completed; so it is vale to conclude that British subjects have now done all that is necessary to secure their interests.

### THE WAR.

### THE LATEST NEWS FROM MANILA. (From the China Mail.)

On the morning of April 26th, about seven o'clock, the China and Manila S.S. Cu.'s steamer Esmeralda (Captain Tayler) arrived in Hongkong from Manila, bringing sixteen European and over three hundred Chinese and other Adatic passengers. Amongst the European passengers was Mr. O. F. Williams, the Consular representative of the United States, for whose arrival Commodore Dewey has been waiting with his squadron at Mis Devey has been waiting with his squadron at Miss Bay. Mr. Williams has remained in Manila as long as it was possible, to look after the interests of the Republic. Although his position was one of great danger for the last week or more, he pluckily elected to semain at his post, and has thus baen able to bring away information of the de-tences of Manila and environs, the disposition of the Spanish forces, the relative proportions of European and native troops, the condition of the and native troops, the condition of the waiships, torpedo boats and armament, which cannot fail to be of immense value to Commodore Dewey when he proceeds to bombard the capital of the Philippines. Mr. Williams was received upon his arrival in Hongkong by Fleet Paymaster D. A. Smith of the Squadon, Eusign H. H. Galdwell, Flag Secretary to Commodore Dewey, and Mr. Consul Rounseville Wildman, and immediates and including a secretary to the control of the squadon of the Mr. Commi Rounseville Wildman, and immediately on his landing granted an interview to the representatives of the New York Herald, New York World, and the China Mail. The Herald's representative accompanies the Olympia; the World's reporter is berthed an board the Hugh McCulloch.

### AMERICANS SEEK REPUGE ON BRITISH VESSELS.

On Friday, the 15th of April, the American Consul at Manila received an intimation from his Government to prepare to leave the Philippines, and that, in accordance with arrangements made between the United States and British Governnents, he was to hand over his records and impediments to the care of the British Consul, Mr. E. A. Rawson-Walker, who, in Mr. Williams' absence, would look after American interests. Mr. Williams at once opened up communications with the Governor General, General Primo de Rivera, who professed to be ignorant of the strained re-ations between Spain and the United States, Without the consent of the Spanish authorities no transfer could be made officially from the United States to the British Consulate. The Governor General cabled to Madrid for instructions. Officially, Saturday was a holiday: Sanday, of course, was a holy day, and without the consent course, was a huly day, and without the consent of the Archbishop (after being properly feed) no official progress could be made; and General de Rivera continued to "made-time" until the arrival of his successor, General Don Basilio Augusti, by the Isla de Mindanao, from Spain, when the due transfer was made of all American interests to Mr. Rawson Walker.

As is generally known in Hongkong, there is quite a Buropean Colony in Marila, a congregation of foreigners, other than Spaniards, which has remained memolested throughout the whole of the mained monolested throughout the whole of the trouble with the Philippines since 1806 down to the present time. This Colony included sometwenty-five American subjects engaged in business in the Philippines. Immediately upon the receipt of this orders from Washington, the American Consulwaned his countrymen to winden p business and to leave Manila as soon as possible. One or two have left, but the majority have gone on hoard British sailing vessels in the Bay, where they should be safe from molestation whatever fare befalls the city of Manila. One American, Mr. Johnson (said to be an ex-officer of the United States army), who went across to Manila from Hongkong several weeks ago, is, we believe, the only citizen several weeks ago, is, we believe, the only Citizen of the United States now in Manila. His wife having presented him with an olive branch a few days prior to the departure of the Esmeralda, Mr.

Scotian skipper went to the Consulate, and offered an asylum to Mr. Williams during the few days he was to remain ashore before embarking on the Esmeralds. The kind offer was declined. Mr. Williams considered it his duty to remain at his own Consulate so long as he stayed in Manila. The Governor-General, fearing his own people, also offered to receive Mc. Williams in his palace, and, on this offer being declined with thanks, wished to send a large body-guard to defand the Consulate, This, happily, was not required. No indignity, no insult whatever was manifested towards Mr. Williams. He was allowed to haverse the streets, unguarded and alone, from the Consulate to the Palace or to his hotel, without the slightest interference from the Spanish populace; but he had no somer described the Consulate than the insignia of the United States on the shield above the doorway was obliterated, and replaced by the Spanish flag. while the name hourds were taken down and kicked into atoms. Timeous notice having been issued to the few American sailing ships in the Bay, they cleared at once, and sailed away for safer latitudes, with one exception—the Great Admiral—which had almost completed loading a cargo of hemp for New York. Captain Stirling is in command, and New York. Captain Stirling is in command, and the has his wife and three children on board. It is not certain that he had a full crew, which may have accounted partly for his delay in clearing out, but as his shipping papers were not quite in order, he was evidently straid of being treated severely by the Spaniards should he he captured by a Spanish warship. Before the departure of the Esmeralda, Captain Stirling was seen by Mr. Williams, and advised to recognise the expediency of getting away from Manila as speedily as possible, but it is expected the Great Admiral is now in hands of the Spaniards. Another American in hands of the Spaniards. Another American sailing vessel, which had gone to Cebn, is believed to have been captured by one of the smaller Spanish gunbeats.

# SPANISH PREPARATIONS FOR A

The hasty preparations that are being made for the defence of Manila reveal a state of rotten-ness probably unparalleled in the military and ness probably unparalleled in the military and naval history of any modern European Power. In the war between China and Japan the world got an insight into the lack of patriotism of avaricious officials. Where militions of dollars had been granted to purchase the most modern and most highly approved weapons and waiships and to keep them supplied with reserve ammunition and in a thorough state of efficiency, it was discovered that the officials and officers had enriched them that the officials and officers had enriched them selves at the expense of the State and had allowed the services, such as they were, to "go to the dogs," The present hostilities between Spain and the United States will similarly reveal the lack of patiotism and the desire for individual plunder which has corruded the Spanish services and sapped the vitality of the nation, leaving it helpless and at the mercy of the first Power to attack it. The mines and tupedoes defending the hay of Manifa are more to less mothing. ing the bay of Manila are more or less mythical.
Until a supply of wormout cable had been purchased from the Sherard Osborn some weeks ago, the wherewithal to render the mines effecago, the wherewithal to render the mines effective was non-existent; and even now it is asserted by those who ought III know that the approaches to Manila are not guarded so effectually as they might have been, and with care, the American squadron should experience little difficulty in getting within shelling distance of the city. Some topedness were in stock at the Government Assenal at Cavité, and these have been refin bished for the emergency, but important parts were discovered to be missing and will have parts were discovered to be missing and will have to be replaced—if that is possible—before they can form an element in the defence of the Bay.

At this point, it is well to describe the approach to Manila. We make the following extract from Mr. John Foreman's work on the Philippine Istands :-

"The entrance to the Bay is divided into two The entrance to the Bay is divided into two passages by the small Island of Corregidor, on which is a lighthouse showing a revelving bright light, visible 20 miles off. Here is also a signal station, communicating by a semaphore with a telegraph station on the opposite Luzon coast, and thence by wire with Manila.

(The entrance to the Paris Pines is better the paris Pines is better to the Paris Pines in the Paris Pines is better to the Paris Pines in the Paris Pines is better to the Paris Pines in the Paris Pines is better to the Paris Pines in the Paris Pines in the Paris Pines is the Paris Pines in the Paris Pin

"The entrance to the Pasig River is between two moles, which can out westward respectively from the Citadel on the S. bank and from the business subsit b of Binondo on the N. bank. At the outer extremity of line Nothern mole is a lighthouse, showing a fixed red light, visible 8 niles.

"Vessels drawing up to 13 feet can enter the River. In the middle of 1887, a few electric lights

River. In the middle of 1887, a lew electric rights were established along the quaya from the River month to the first bridge; and one light also on that bridge, so that steamers can enter the River after smeet if desirable. The what age is wholly Digitized by

occupied by steamers and sailing craft trading within the Archipelago. The tides are very irregular. The rise and fall at springs may be taken to be 5 feet."

Earthworks have been thrown up on the Island

of Corregidor, and some guns from the cruises Castilla have been placed in position. The Castilla is moored fore and aft off Manila City as a sert of guardship, prepared to receive the assault of the enemy. Appended is a list of the Spanish ships now in the Bay of Manila or in the River Pasig, where they are expected to await the arrival of and engage the American squadron:—

Reina Cristina, 1st class unprotected cruiser, gims 21, displacement 3,520.

Castilla, 1st class unprotected cruiser, guns 22,

displacement 3,260.

Don Antonio de Ulloa, 2nd cruiser, guns 13, displacement 1,160.
D. Juan de Austria, 2nd class cruiser, ques 13,

displacement 1,159. Valasco, 2nd class cruiser, guns 7, displacement

Isla de Cuba, 2nd class protected craiser, guns 10, displacement 1,045.
Isla de Luson, 2nd class protected craiser, guns 10,

Isla de Luson, 2nd class protected cruiser, guns 10, displacement 1,045.

There are several other small gumboats, little better than armed launches, scattered about among the islands, but for fighting purposes: against cruisers they need not be reckoned with, and if their commanders have a reasonable amount of discretion they will not attempt to get within range of Commodore Dewey's guns. Moored fore and aft, the Castilla cannot prove very effective as a "cruiser," and one of her officers had so little faith in her ability to ward off an attack that he pave it me his opinion that the officers had so little latti in her ability to ward off an attack that he gave it as his opinion that she would go down at her moorings. Along the Lunetta and on the walls of the city antique canons of wonderful types may be seen displayed osteniationsly but of no practical value for the defence of the shore. Some of these guns are over 150 years old, and will be as dangerous to the support as they can be to an energy. There are guinters as they can be to an enemy. There are no modern breech loading guns, and the arma-ment of most of the ships are of obsolete pattern. Scarcity of ammunition and projectiles is also re-ported, and it was hoped by the officers responsible for the defence of Luzon that the *Isla de Mindanao*, which arrived a few days ago, would bring out a fresh supply. Governo-General Augustin was evidently afraid of being captured, for the fish de Mindanao afrived at Manila flying the French ensign and disguised somewhat as a steamer of the Russian Volunteer fleet.

### A MASSACRE OF THE SPANIARDS FEARED.

The population of Manila and the suburbs is estimated at about a quarter of a million souls. estimated at about a quarter of a million souls. Of these about 20,000 are Chinese, 7,000 Spaniards engaged in trade, and 300 other Europeans and Americans. The available Spanish troops of European origin is estimated at less than 10,000 (possibly 7,000), but there is a large force of native auxiliaries whose loyalty is only measured by the opportunities to desert. A week or two ago, the authorities heart of disaffection in mue regiment. Unable to learn details the European officers picked out six corporals and shot them at sight, threatening to serve mue is the same fashiou on threatening to serve more in the same fashion on the morrow if the ringleaders were not handed up. During the night, the whole regiment deserted in a budy, going over to the rebels with their rifles and accountements. On the hills around Mauila, and accountements. On the tills around Manna, there is a force of 25,000 setleds ready to descend upon Manila as soon as the first shots are heard from the American ships. These men are hadly organised, and only about 5,000 are armed with rifles; and as they are likely to be joined by the natives in the city the outlook for the Spaniarda, military and civil, is far from encouraging. It is feared there will be a general massacre. Unless military and civil, is far from encouraging. It is feared there will be a general massacre. Unless the Spaniards submit at an early stage of the fighting and ask from the Americans the protection the Spanish forces are unable to provide, the city will be looted, probably fired, and many lives

Use in the indiscriminate slaughter.

When the Emeralda left, the Chinese, who invariably suffer from both sides, loyalists and rebels, were deserting from the city like rate from a sinking ship. For a cabin passage by the Esma-ralda as high as \$150 was offered to addition to the ordinary fare of \$50; and although the official number of deck passengers is returned at about 200, we are informed that the actual figures are much higher, and that \$25 was paid for the deck passage

It is not anticipated that the Europeaus (ather than Spaniards) will be in any danger, as the rebels have all along respected their lives and property. The priests and civil administrators need exact little mercy. As the American Consul Matsmersfrom

accompanies the squadron, his local knowledge will accompanies the squadron, his local knowledge will be useful to prevent inniccessary loss of life in the bombardment of Manila, a contingency that is reckoned on by our American consins. The Americans in the Philippines are anxious to see the establishment of British rule in the Archipelago. establishment of British that the Spanish domina-tion is last approaching its end in the Philippines as it is in Cuba, and that, as the natives are un-able to undertake the administration, the United States, if victorious, will invite the co-operation of Great Britain. Such a course would be accept-able to Britishers in the Far East, and we are voicing British opinion when we say that these rich islands, under intelligent rule, would speedily become a valuable asset to the countries administering the government. Any suggestion of confi-tion on the part # the United States should be welcomed by Great Britain so far as it applies to the Philippine Islands.

### A LETTER FROM MANILA.

SERIOUS DISLOCATION OF THE HEMP TRADE.

We have seen a private letter from Manila, in which the correspondent given his opinion of the probable effect of a descent of the United States probable effect of m descent of the United States squadron on the Philippines. "Six days after teaving Hongkong," he writes," they would be in possession of the Philippines." There are some forts on the island of Corregidor, which divides the entrance of the Bay of Mauila into two passages, and torpedoes are laid in the passages, but as soon as these are passed the Spanish fleet, he is of opinion, will be easily disposed of, and the Spaniards will give in. The Indians are massing round under leaders, and are expected to attack the towns any day. In the provinces the natives are rising at every point, and Euroed to attack the towns any day. In the provinces the natives are rising at every point, and Europeans and Chinese are retiring from the interior in the coast towns. Owing to no supplies being able to reach the provinces it looks as if the hemp production will entirely cease, and until the trouble is over no hope is held out for the renewal of production. Hemp in the United Kingdom had advanced £2 a ton, and was expected to rise £2 more next week. The writer expresses the belief that the war will be of short duration in the Philipopines. tion in the Philippines.

The following telegrams taken from the Shang-

The following telegrams taken from the Snang-hai Mercury contain meagre details of events preceding the battle of Manila:—

Hongkong, 28th April (1,35 p.m.).

The United States Squadron, accompanied by steam colliers, left Mirs Bay for Manila at 2 p.m., yesterday. Consul Williams, late U.S. Consul at Manila, is on board the Ballimore.

Alevadrini one of the Josuggent Chiefs. is an

Alexandrini, one of the Insurgent Chiefs, is on board the Zafiro. He in to be in command of the

beard the Zafro. He was to be in communic or the instrigents upon mixiwal, arrangements having already been planned; but he has very strict orders not to be barbarous.

The chief object of the United States squadron will be to capture the Spanish fleet, or destroy it. Upon reaching Manila, Commodore Dewey will demand capitulation within thirty minutes, if this demand is not complied with the U.S. fleet will bombard Manila.

### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE " JAPAN TIMES") THE WAR.

FRENCH AND ITALIAN NEUTRALITY. GRACE TO SPANISH VESSELS.

London, April 28. France and Italy have officially pro-claimed their neutrality. President Mc-Kinley has issued a proclamation granting Spanish vessels leaving or arriving in the States till May 21, to clear unmolested, but the Prize Courts are to adjudicate on the captures already made.

ENGLAND EXERCISES HER NEUTRALITY. In pursuance of her neutrality, Great Britain has prevented the sailing of American torpedo vessels from Falmouth.

AMERICANS MAKE RICH CAPTURE. The Americans have captured the Spanish Transatlantic Liner Panama while bound from New York to Havana, with Spanish refugees and valuable cargo.

BOMBARDMENT OF MATANZAS.

London, April 29.

THE "SHENANDOAH" SAFE AND SOUND.

The American steamer Shenandoah has arrived at Liverpool. The report of her capture by the Spaniards was untrue.

NAVAL SKIRMISH OFF MATANZAS.

An American torpedo destroyer has engaged a Spanish gun-boat off Matanzas. After eleven shots had been exchanged, the Americans retired, the vessel being apparently damaged.

SPANISH SQUADRON GOES TO MEET THE ENEMY.

The Spanish Squadron has left Manila to meet the American Fleet.

London, April 30. The Spanish Squadron which had been lying at St. Vincent, has sailed for a destination which is kept secret.

[The Spaniards themselves seem as much puzzled about this Squadron as we are. St. Vincent is a Portuguese possession, and it seems singular to hear of its serving as an anchorage for a Spanish Squadron at the present time.

ED. J.M.]

The United States Coast-defence Terror, after a long chase, succeeded in capturing the large and valuable Spanish steamer Guido.

The Terror is a vessel of 3,990 tons, built in 1883, carrying a fine modern armament, in which are included four 10 in gine, and steaming 10 knots an hour. We do not understand how she can have overhauled any Jarge, fast steamer .- En. F.M.1

According to Spanish reports, the bombardment of Matanzas by the United States Squadron resulted in the killing of one mule.

[Reuter is to be congratulated on forwarding this news,—En.  $\mathcal{F}$ , M.]

Portugal has declared neutrality in connexion with the Hispano-American

The United States Government has chartered eight large steamers as transports. It is supposed that they are intended to carry troops at once to Cuba.

The President of the Board of Trade, replying to a question in the British House of Commons, said that Her Majesty's Government was exchanging notes with the Great Powers for the purpose of submitting to Washington a joint protest against measure introduced in the United States' Congress for increasing the harbour dues eight-fold.

### KEY WEST THREATENED.

London, May 2. The Americans fear that Key West will be the first port of attack by the Spaniards.

THE U.S. FLYING SOUADRON.

The U.S. Government has despatched a flying squadron to intercept the Spanish squadrón which was reported to have left St. Vincent.

### INSURGENTS CO-OPERATING.

Simultaneously with the bombardment of Matanzas by the Americans, the in-surgents advanced towards the town, but the latter were repulsed with twenty kill-This indicates that the Americans and insurgents are co-operating.

WAR REVENUE AND TONNAGE DUES.

The House of Representatives at Washington has passed a bill creating war revenue, including tonnage dues.

### EUROPEAN PROTESTS.

The British, French, and German representatives are protesting against the increase of tonnage dues and threaten to transfer their trade to Canadian and Mexican ports, if the increase is insisted upon. Digitized by GOOGLE

EXCITEMENT AND LAMENTATION AT MADRID.

London, May 3

Great excitement prevails at Madrid Spain's unpreparedness.

"BEGINNING OF THE END."

The American victory at Manila has produced a state of buoyancy on the European bourses, it being considered the beginning of the end.

PROBABLE BOND ISSUE.

London, May 3.

The United States Treasury estimates that the war will increase the expenditure by \$50,000,000 for the next two months, completely exhausting the currency in the treasury. Hence Congress is asked immediately to authorize a bond issue.

Martial Law has been proclaimed at Madrid.

at Havana.

BRITISH WARSHIP AT HAVANA. The British cruiser Talbot has arrived

[The Talbot is a 2nd class coniser; 5,600 tons displacement, Indicated h.-p. 9,600; guns; 65-in. q.f. 64.7-in. 9 12-pr., 13-pr., 440., 11; speed, 19 5, complement 433; handebed in 1895 at Devouport.]

INCREASED TONNAGE DUES SUPPRESSED.

The Washington Senate Committee has decided to suppress the increased tounage dues.

THE BATTLE OF MANILA.

No details have been received in London about the battle of Manila beyond the actual fact of the Spanish defeat.

AMERICAN FLEET LEAVES HAVANA.

London, May 5.

There is still no news from Manila. The bulk of the American fleet which had been blockading Havana, suddenly went to Key West and, after coaling, sailed for the supposed purpose of encountering the Spaniards.

SEARCHING THE ATLANTIC.

The swiftest scouts are searching the Atlantic for Spanish vessels.

SPANISH SQUADRON DOOMED.

The Naval Board has decided that the Spanish Squadron must be destroyed before Havana is taken.

PHILIPPINES TO BE HELD AS SECURITY AND MAY BE SOLD TO ENGLAND.

The New York Times says that President McKinley is determined to retain the Philippines until the close of the war, Should Spain fail to pay the indemnity, the islands will be sold to a European Power, preferably Great Britain.

WILD SCENES IN MADRID.

Wild scenes are occurring in Madrid, In the Cortes, Senor Sagasta has been fiercely attacked on account of the Manila disaster, and for the Government's unpreparedness, despite the immense colonial

THE TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

London, April 29. The following is the result of the racing in the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes : Disraeli 1. Wantage 2. Hinus 3.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA. The Pest is spreading rapidly at Calcutta and the people are much alarmed, CONTAGIOUS DISEASE ORDI-

NANCE.

London, April 30.

berlain stated that the Government was not prepared to re-enact the Contagious Disease Ordinance for Straits Settlements, but that the former was in communication owing to the complete Spanish defeat at with the Governor of the Settlements as Manila, and people are openly lamenting to whether some other measures could be adopted as a possible check to the further spread of venereal disease.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

"BRITAIN WILL REMAIN AT THE TOP OF THE TREE."

The China Association entertained the Hon. Edward Blake at a banquet. Sir W. des Vœux presided, and Sir C. Clementi Smith and 150 others were present. Sir Clementi Smith said Mr. Blake assumed office under the most favourable auspices. In reply Mr. Blake said that whatever betide he had the profoundest belief that Britain would remain at the top of the tree, and that British interests would ever be paramount.

(Received by the Fiji.)

FRENCH MISSIONARIES MURDERED.

Peking, April 28.

Two French missionaries have been murdered by Chinese at Yunanchao in the province of Kwansi,

EXPORT OF CHINESE RICE.

Peking, April 29. On further enquiries into the withdrawal of the prohibition of the exportation of Chinese rice, it is stated that, owing to the failure of crops in Southern China, no rice will be exported to Japan this year. The withdrawal of the prohibition, however, is to be notified in the event of a bad year in Japan.

RUSSO-CHINA BANK AND OTHER CON-CESSIONS.

Peking, April 30. The Chinese Government has granted the following privileges to the Russo-China Bank: (1) Construction of a railway extending from Kwohluh in Chili province to Taiyuen in Shansi province, and (2) the extraction of minerals in Taiynen and Fanchow.

AMERICAN SQUADRON SAILS INTO MANILA BAY.

Hongkong, May 3. Having cannonaded and taken possession of Corregidor Island, the American fleet proceeded into Manila Bay yesterday. OCCUPATION OF MANILA.

Hongkong, May 3. The Americans having sunk or destroyed the Spanish warships, and silenced the coast batteries, have occupied the city of Manila.

SUBMARINE CABLE DESTROYED.

Hongkong, May 3 The cable has been destroyed by the Americans.

> FROM THE "KOBE HORELD" THE MOVE ON MANILA.

Shanghai, 10 30 a.m. April 28.
Alejandrini, one of the leaders of the late rebellion in the Philippines, accompanies the United States Squadron to Manila, in order to exercise control over the tebel forces, known to be massed in the rear of the city, and w prevent the rebels from any acts of barbarism in the event of a successful attack on the city;

(FROM THE "N.- ", DATET NAME")

END OF THE REBELLION IN BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

Sangapore, April 26.

Mat Salleh has submitted on terms astrafactory to the British North Borneo Company, and In the House of Commons Mr. Cham-libe rebelligh is ended.

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Cassa Sorrow.

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Clubs are closed during the summer months

SCLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 366. WHITE. 1-B to B 7 1-K takes R 2-B to Q 5 mate I-Piakes 🖩 2-Q to B 2 male 1-Q to Q 4 2-B takes P mate t-P takes P 2-Q to B 5 mate [takes P B moves (or [takes Kt) 2-Q takes Q mate t-K B moves 2-Q takes P mate

etc., etc.

Correct solutions received from Voila, Miss S.,

Marce, and J.A.F.
Last week's Problem should have been numbered 368 and the games 382 and 383 respectively

PROBLEM No. 369. By EMIL PRADIGNAT. First Prize Italian International Tournament.



White mates in three moves.

SOLUTION OF THE ZIG-ZAG PUZZLE.

J.A.F. sends solution of the Zig-Zag Puzzle which we published a little time ago. "Supposing the nine squares to be the ones furthest down in the right-hand corner, beginning with K R sq., proceed thus:—B to B sq. Q to Kt 2, K to R 3, B to R 2, R to Kt 2, Q to R sq. B to Kt 2, R to B sq. B to Kt 2, R to Kt xq. K to R 2, B to R 3, Q to Kt 2, K to R 3, B to R 3, Q to Kt 2, K to R 3, Q to Kt 2, R to R sq. B to R sq. B to R sq. R to Kt 2, B to R sq. B to R sq. R to Kt 2, B to R sq. Q to Kt 2, R to R 3, B to R 2, K to R 3, B to R sq. Q to Kt 2, K to B sq. to B sq.

#### YOKOHAMA CHAMP:ONSHIP.

The Championship has been won by Mr. Friedlander, with a clean score of nine wins and no losses. Mr. Friedlander this becomes the holder for the ensuing year of the Championship Trophy, a fine silver cup, presented six years ago by Mr. O. Keil.

The previous champions of the Y. C. C. were Mr. O. Balk (1893) and Mr. J. F. Griffin (1896).

The Yokobama Chess Club, as will be seen from the notice above, is now closed, but members desicous of playing during the summer will always find some boards going at the Secretary's residence (No. 22-B Bluff) every Thursday evening, and are cordially invited.

#### CHESS IN TOKYO RND GAMR.



In the above position Black had played R from 3 to K B 3 attacking the Q. White now re-In the attove position Black had played R from R 310 K B 3 attacking the Q. White now replied by R to Q 8! Black has no resource. Capturing the Q leads to immediate mate, and the Q cannot move, without irreparable loss, in order to let the K escape.

#### GAMR, No. 384.

THE UNITED STATES CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH.

Pill-bury won the twelfth game in the match with Showalter, on Friday, April 1, the victory giving him the match and the Championship, with the stakes of \$2,000. The following is the summary:-

Jame	. Date		Opening.	Was by.
	Feli,	25	French Defence	Showalter
4	12	28	Ruy Ropez	Pillsbioy
3	Mar.	4	French Defence	Pillsbory
	- 10	7	P to Q4	Dinwii
4 5 6		10	Q's Gamli, Declined P to Q 4	Pallsbury
6	13	14	P to Q 4	D-aws
7	18	16	French Defence	Pillsharry
8		21	Ruy Ropez	Showalter
9	15	23	Q's Gamb. Declined	Pillsbin y
10		25	Ruy Lopez	Pillshury
1.1	=	30	French Defence	Showalter
12	Apr.	1	Ruy Lopez	Palshury
Total-Pillsbury, 7; Showalter, 3; Drawn, 2.				

#### FOURTH GAME.

Queen's Pawn's Opening.

	-	- r
White-Showalter.		Black-Pillsbory.
WHITE.	BLACK,	WHITE BLACK
1 P Q4	PQ4	30 Kt Q3 P B3
2 P K2	P Q <sub>4</sub> K <sub>1</sub> KB <sub>3</sub>	31 Kt B5(1) BxKt
2 B O 2	Kt Bain	32 PxB   B K⋅2
4 P KB4 5 Kt KB3 6 PxKt	Ki QKis	1 22 O O4 R KB2
5 Kt K B3	Kix Beh	34 P KR4 Q K5
6 PxKt	P K3	35 R Q q QxQ
7 K B3	P B4	36 R×Q 1 R(B2) K2
8 PxP	Bx P	37 P R5   K B2
o P O4	B K <sub>2</sub>	38 K B2 R K5
10 O O3	P QR <sub>3</sub>	39 B Q6   P QR4
11 Castles	P ÕKi4	40 R B 3 B B 3
12 Kt K5	Q K(3(b)	41 R×R R×R
13 B Q2	B K 2	42 R B4 R QB5
14 F B5	Castles	Lia RyR OPyR/al
15 B K-q	OR Osq	44 B B7 P R5
16 B R4	₿₿Ğ	la⊂BR∈ PR₂
17 PxP(c)	OxP `	46 P K K14 K K3
18 Kt K2	Ki Kis(d)	47 B B3 K Q4
tn B K∵a	B Koz(e)	48 P Ki5(b) R PrP
20 B B4	B B3	49 BxP B K-q
21 K1x Kt	Lixici	SO BxP(K(2) BxP
22 B B7	Ř Q2	5t P QR3 - K×P
22 B B7 23 QR B-q	R K-q	52 B B6 K O.i
24 K KB3	O K(3	1 53 BxP
25 Q Q2	B KIA	I 54 PxP PB6
26 H B4	B B3	SSPxP KBs
27 R K 3	O III4	[56 P K4 ■ K√g(j)
28 R KB-q	Q K3	5 7 Drawn game.
2g K≀B q	₿ Ka	"

#### Notes from The Press, Philadelphia.

(a) The usual play is P to K 3, or P to K 4. The xt-olav, however, is quite satisfactory. He will (a) The usual play is P to K 3, or P to K 4. The text-play, however, is quite satisfactory. He will be enabled to continue K to K 5 and K takes B or P to K 4, both leading to a good development.

(b) He could not play B to K 2 on account of K takes K 1 P, followed eventually by Q takes K t P (ch) and Q takes B.

(c) Much better was P to K K 14, which would have given White pretty good chances for a King identical. The text increasable Rivel to text the process of the K 1 in the state of the country of the count

side attack. The text move enables Black to equal

ize the game.

(d) An excellent move, which completely breaks the adverse attack. White now can not well play K:—K B4 on account of Kt x Kt and Kt x Q. Similar would be Black's answer, should White play B takes B. Perhaps the best play White has on hand is B to Kt 3, which, however, leaves him without any advantage.

without any advantage.

(e) Better, perhaps, was Kt takes Kt.

(i) Had White played II to R 6, then B to Q 3 might have been answered, and White lost time in retreating the Bishop. The text-play leads to an exchange of Kt against Bishop, after which there is bardly any winning chance for either side.

exchange of its against Bishop, after which there is hardly any winning chance for either side.

(g) This exchange leaves a Bishop and 6 Pawns on either side. The Bishops being of apposite colours the legitimate outcome would be a drawn game. The contestants, however, continued playing and some pretty combinations are made. By proper play, however, either side can easily hold his own.

(b) A pretty move. If Black plays R P tokes P, then White answers B takes P, and B ack can not capture the Bishop since P to R 6 would win. If, however, Black captures with B P, then B takes

(i) Now Black attempts to win. The sacrifice of the Kt P and B P gives him the passed Q R P, Digitized by Google Constitution of the sacrification of the sacrificati

(j) This virtually ends the battle. White can not win, since he can not gnard the Q Kt and Q B P, for if he moves B to B 6 or B to Q 2 Black would answer P to R 6. Nor has Black any winning White's Bishop easily stops the adverse Pawn.

#### AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

The British Chess Monthly says that Mr. Jacobsen, the new Australian champion, has received another challenge besides that of Mr. Jonas, and one that comes from a rather mexpected quarter. The name of Mr. Wallace will be remembered as that of a former champion of Australia before Mr. Crane. It was thought that he had retired altogether from the practice of chess, but he has now written a letter to Mr. Jacobsen to say that "as a general feeling of regret appears to exist in Australian chess circles that he (Mr. Wallace) has never crossed swords with him, he has yielded to the wishes of a numthat be (Mr. Wallace) has never crossed swords with him, he has yielded to the wishes of a number of glayers and consented to resenter the chessworld." He then states his intention to challenge Mr. Jacobsen to play a match with him, either before or after his match with Mr. Jonas. Mr. Jacobsen, in his answer, congratulates him on his return to the chess arena, but states that he canod give a definite reply notil his match with Mr. Jonas is over, when he hopes that Mr. Wallace will challenge the wioner.

#### CHESS NOTES.

Maishall, another young player, is Champion of the Brooklyn Chess Club. He beat Napier, last year's Champion, in the tie match.

Janowski, the Freech Champion, and Amos Bonn, the Englishman, were going to play a match about the 1st of April.

The Netherland Chess Association proposes to

celebrate the 25th autiversary of its organization by a Tournament in Gravenbagen, Holland, Queen Emma and the Queen Regent offer three

Ajeeb, the famous automaton Chess-player, rak against Napier the other right, and the Turn found more than his match in the Binoklyn lad. The humiliation of defeat was averted, however, by turning out the lights. Literary Digest.

#### MAIL STEAMERS

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

Line.	Steamer.	Date,
P. M. Co.	China r	To May 10
P. & O. Co.	Rosetta n	Tit. May to
N. D. Linya	Hohensollern 3	Tu May ro
M. 61 Co.		W. May il
O, & O. Co.	Helpic	The May 19
P. M. Co.	C. of R. de Piuc	Th. May 19
C. P. R. Co	Em, of China	M. Slay at
C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Jap n	Th. May at
O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. May 19
	P. M. Co. P. & O. Co. N. D. Lloyd M. M. Co. O. & O. Co. P. M. Co. C. P. R. Co. C. P. R. Co. O. & O. Co.	P. M. Co. P. & CO Co. Rogetta s N. D. Litoy Hohensollers 3 M. 61 Co. O. & O. Co. P. M. Co. C. P. R. Co. Em. of China

- r Left Nagasaki on the 6th inst. \* Left Nagasaki on the 5th inst.
- 3 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst.
  4 Left San Francisco on the 30th April.

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

4 6 1 45	14 125/64 1/1	OTHER CENTRE	
for	Line.	Steamer,	Date,
Europe, vin S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Laon	W. May re
Shanghai	N. Y. E.	Kobe Blazu	W. May re
America	P. M. 10.	( hina	W. May 11
Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hobenzollern	F. May 15
Bongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Tu. May 17
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de J'ro	F. May 10
America	O. & O. Co.	relate	Sa. May 21
Hongkong	( , P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. May 23
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. May 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. May 30

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 1st May,—San Francisco, 12th April, and Hono-lults, 20th April, Maths and General,—P. M. S.C. Co. Canton, British steamer, 1,110, S. Wilde, 1st May, —Ito Ito, 22th April, Sugar,—Jardine, Mathe-son & Co.

Hupeh, British steamer, 1,846, Quail, 1st May,-Hongkong, 23rd April, General,-Butterfield

& Swite.

& Swite.

Zweena, Beitish steamer, Nesbit, 1st May,—
Hongkong, Rice.—M. Raspe & Co.

Bopnton, British steamer, 1,630, Levin, 1st May,—
Kohe, 29 h April, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha,
Candia, British steamer, 4,195. G. K. Wright, 1st
May,—London via ports, Kohe, 30th April,
General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Hermes, Numerican steamer, 865. L. C. Jensen,

fermes. No wegian steamer, 865. J. C. Jensen, 2nd May,—Hungkung, 22nd April, General.—
Omitimation & Co.

Phanix, Norwegian steamer, 1,964, M. Larsen, 1st May,—Newchwang, 24th April, Beans and Bean Rick.—M. Raspe & Co. Hunan, British steamer, 1,158, Franci; 2nd May, —Takow, 24th April, Sugar.—Buterfield and Swins.

— Takow, 24th April, Sugar.—Buterfield and Swive.

Yuen Sang, British steamer, 1,106, Kynoch, 1st May,—Hongkong, 25th April, Sugar and Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Empress of Fapan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 3rd May,—Vancouver, B.C., 20th April, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Heiyen Ken (7), Japanese gunbost, 2,185, Capt. K. Ohtsuka, 3rd May,—Yokosuka, 3rd May.

Fooksang, British steamer, 991, Anderson, 4th May,—Hongkong, Rice and Rugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Laos, French steamer, 2,200, Flandin, 4th May,—Marseilles via ports, Kohe 3rd May, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binger, 4th May,—Hambung via ports, Hongkong 26th April, General.—H Abrens & Co. Nachf.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, T. H. Dohson, 5th May,—Tacona, Wash, and Victoria, B.C., 16th Apr., Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 5th May, Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 4th May, Mails and General. - C. P. R.

Co.
Queen Olga, British steamer, 2,147. Geo. R.
Harris, 6th May,—New York via Suez Canal
and way ports, Kobe, 4th May, General.—
Butterfield & Swite.
Sarpedon, Brittish steamer, 2,828, Grier, 6th May,
—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 4th May, General.—
Butterfield & Swite.
Conton Reighb & Swite.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 6th May,—London via ports, Kobe, 5th May, Gene-ial.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

DEPARTURES.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 30th April,—Victoria B.C., via Tacoma, Wash, Mails & General.—Dudwell Carlill & Co.

Dorio, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 30th April,—San Francisco and Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. D. O. S.S. Co.

Almond Branch, British steamer, 2,19t, Anderson, 30th April.—Ranguon via Kuchmotsu, General. Billast.—Captain.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, A. G. Cubiit, 1st May,—London via pirts, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Amarapoora, British steamer, 1,619, W. D. Came rot, 2nd May,—Takow, Lumber.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Latona, British steamer, 1,934, A. G. Parket, 2nd May,—Nagasaki via Moji, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kong Beng, British steamer, 862, W. F. Joslin, 2nd May,—Saigon, Ballast.—Captain.

Queen Margret, British steamer, 1,932, Dunbar, 2nd May,—Kube, General—Frazon & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,881, W. S. Thomson, 2nd May,—Moji via Kobe, Ballast.,—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Poru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 2nd May,—Hongkong via poots, Mails and General.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540. D. Friele, 2nd May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.
—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, C. de la Perelle, 2nd May,—Shanghai, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

chan & Co.,

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo.

A. Lee, 4th May,—Honghong via ports, Mails and General.—C, P. R. Co.

Zweena, British steamer, 941, Nesbit, 4th May,—Moji, Ballasi.—M. Raspe & Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 1.691, T. H. Dobson, 6th May,—Hongkong via potts, Matls and General.—Dadwell Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P., Marshall, 6th May,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Canlon, British steamer, 1,110, S. Wilde, 6th May,
—Kobe, Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Ivin, 7th May,
— Moji via Kube, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per American steamer Peru, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. C. Cook, Paymaster Heap, U.S.N., Mr. Henry Lazell, Mr. Chas. Ebbecke, and Mr. C. W. Sandford, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. Wilmer Harries, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Jas. Buskett, and Mr. T. Brown, in cabin. T. Brown, in cabin. Brown, in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of Japan, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. A. Adelsdorfer, Mr. W. H. Butcher, Mr. Berrick, Mr. C. D. Black, Mr.

Bleecher, Rev. Dr. Caiman, Mr. and Mis. Cattwight, Miss Ellis, Mr. R. Finch, Mrs. R. Finch, Mr. Gerald Fowke, Mr. W. W. Favell, Mr. T. Faithurst, Mr. H. R. Hunt, Dr. Heixbeimer, Mr. Harvie, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hunt, Mr. W. P. Johnson, Mr. K. Kegami, Dr. B. Lanfer, Mr. W. P. Itchard Morgan, M.P., Miss Kathleen Morgan, Miss Gwendoline Morgan, Mr. C. A. Morsing, Miss Mast, Mr. George W. Middleton, Mr. Thomas S. Perry, Mr. J. H. Peacock, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Scritner, Mr. Chas. A. Schroth, Mr. John C. Siegried, Mr. E. Savonnet, Mr. J. Stewart, Rev. D. B. Schneder, Mrs. and the (two) Misses Schneder, Mr. C. A. Tomes, and Mr. Young, in cabin; 6 in second class; 66 in steerage. Per French steamer Laoz, from Marseilles via notits:—Mr. Pada Sahet Gaikossar, Prince Calley Sing Ras, Prince Tonsing Ras, Prince Calley Sing Ras, Prince Tonsing Ras, Prince Clessfee Ras, Mr. Nance Lahel Gaige, Mr. Gouserness, Princess Indra Raza, Prince Pairyaseb Gaikossar, Mr. and Mrs. French, Dr. Gajdkar, Mr. Rage Sahel Gaikossar, Mr. Solumkerao, Prince Gaikossar and 3 daughters, Mr. Sindadre, Mr. and Mrs. Plugger, Mr. R. P. Menengrier, Mr. Ojeieds, Mr. Tsudzuki, Mr. Levy, Mr. Juge, Mr. Lays, Mr. Mad. Herrings, Mr. A. Romboch, Mr. Ester Ceneubon, Mr. L. Motter, Mr. and Mrs. Bymard and daughter, Mr. Eymard, Mr. Jackter, Mr. Tass ka Loi, Mrs. Domballe, Mrs. Oh Yon, Mr. Ek Kee, Mr. Herpesson, Mr. Penfeilhou, Mr. MacKin, and Mr. Chue Yuen, in cabin. Per British steamer Empress of India, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Challes, Mr. B. Nicenvenheysew, Mr. J. G. Gilchrist, Mr. E. C. Wilton, Miss Nil, Dr. and Mrs. Machie and 4 children, Mrs. J. H. Doeye and child, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Whitios, State and Child, Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp, Rev. W. J. Dounnoud, Mr. B. Fyle, in cabin; 8 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer Empress of India, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. Rogers, Mr. C. S. Dixwell, Mr. and Mrs. B. Doubnand, Mr. B. Doubnand, Mr. B. C. Suith, Mr. H. C. D. Wikinoso, child & onaid, Mr. E. C. Ray, Mrs. Lingle and child, Mr. and Mrs. Bockmann and ch five second class; 439 in steerage.

DEFARTED.

Per British steamer Formosa, for London via ports:—Mr. E. H. Booth J.P., Dr. Booth, Miss Broth, Mrs. Cottrell, Mr. and Mrs. E. Oliver, Afr. M. Virvesyacaya and native servant, Mr. A. Mac Leay, Mr. H. M. Thomas, Mr. E. Owen, Mr. A. N. Hausell, Mr. J. M. Hay, Mr. H. Brindley, Miss Hay, Miss Clement Smith, and Mr. J. S. Goodison, in cabin.

#### CARGOS.

Per British steamer Formesa, for London via ports:-Raw Silk for Europe, 123 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 77 Bales.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

The war monopolises all attention and lusiness is practically at a standstill in the import market. A few deliveries of yarns have taken place at rates below the prices ruling last week.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Gray Shirtinga-84 B. 384 yds. guinghes \$2 55 to 2 85
Control of the second of the s
Grey Shistings-9h, 384 yds. 45 inches a:80 to 3:35
l'. Cloth-718, 24 yards, 32 inches 1.8e to 4 00
Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 44 inches. 1.95 to a 90
tittifn muttille-in taleide 44 inchest. 1.87 to 3.80
Prints-Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,. 2 00 to 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Black, ern rann.
Chittee it and Carleton tones
3s inches
WOOLLENS. FIR TARE,
Flanuela
Italian Clath, 30 yards, 32 inches best 0.35 to 0.41
ithism ciden, 30 haids, 32 inches them 0.33 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yacits, 32 inches
Madiane
The state of the s
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches
Common
Mousseling de Laine-Coupe, 24 yas-in.
31 inches
Cloths-Pilota, 51 4 56 inches 0.35 to 0.50
Cloths-Presidents, 51:0 56 inches 0.50 to 0.75
Clotha-Union, 54 ift 56 inches 0.30 to 0.85
Blaukets-Scatlet and Green, 3 to 3h,
rei \$ 0 50 to 0.50
PER PIRCH.
Victoria Lawon, 12 yaule, 12-3 inches,. 0 75 to 1.00
Furkey Reds 2.0 to 2.4th, 24/25 yards,
30 inches 1.30 to 1.70
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 pards,
I HIREA DEGREE TO TO 410" ESTAD ASSESSED.
Furkey Reds-3.8 to 4th, 24/25 yards,
12 inches 2.30 to 1.70
32 inches
34 inches
34 inches
32 inches
3 inches
34 inches
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34 inches
32 inches
32 inches
34 inches 4.40 to 3.70 Fisikey Beds—4.8 to 5 b, 14/33 yards, 3 ou to 3.50 to 3.50 inches 5 state 5 sta
34 inches
34 inches 4.40 to 3.70 Fuskey Beds—4.8 to 5 b, 14/33 yards, 3 ou to 3.50 to 3.50 inches 5 to 5 b, 14/33 yards, 3 ou to 3.50 Not. 36/34, Singles 41.00 to 43 ou Not. 36/24, Singles 44.00 to 43.00 Not. 31, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00 Not. 31, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00 Not. 31, Doubles 51.75 to 3.150 Not. 3 fo, Plain 51.75 to 3.150 Not. 3 fo, Plain 51.75 to 3.150 Not. 3 fo, Plain 50.00 to 77.00 Not. 3 fo, Plain 75.00 to 77.00 Not. 3 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 80.00 to 85.00
34 inches 4.40 to 3.70 Fuskey Beds—4.8 to 5 b, 14/33 yards, 3 ou to 3.50 to 3.50 inches 5 to 5 b, 14/33 yards, 3 ou to 3.50 Not. 36/34, Singles 41.00 to 43 ou Not. 36/24, Singles 44.00 to 43.00 Not. 31, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00 Not. 31, Doubles 46.00 to 48.00 Not. 31, Doubles 51.75 to 3.150 Not. 3 fo, Plain 51.75 to 3.150 Not. 3 fo, Plain 51.75 to 3.150 Not. 3 fo, Plain 50.00 to 77.00 Not. 3 fo, Plain 75.00 to 77.00 Not. 3 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 72.00 to 79.00 Not. 2 for Gassed 80.00 to 85.00
34 inches
34 inches
32 inches
34 inches
34 inches
34 inches
32 inches
34 inches

There is nothing whatever doing; prices are no-minally the same as last week.

PAR PICE	
Round and square & inch. and upward.3.95 to 4.2	40
Iron Plates, assorted 4.10 to 4.5	^
Sheet Iron	~
Galvanized from sheets	×
Wire Maile, assorted 6 50 to 7.	'n
l'in l'Intes, per line 5 90 to 6	
Pip lenn, tin. 3	
Hoop from (4 to 14 inch)	9 C
KEROSKNE.	- 3
RERUSKAR.	
Little doing still.	
American 12 00 to 2.	07
Russian 1.05 to 2.4	

SHGAR. The market remains fairly steady in face of

uian attivals,	
	FRE PICOL.
Srown Takao	\$4.95 to \$.00
Brown Manila	5.25 to s.
Brown Dailong	4.50 to 2.55
Brown Canton	4.40 to \$.50
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 2.00
White Italiant	T Enlana



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EYEBROWS, &c.

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## EXPORTS.

EXPORTS.
RAW SILK.

Some little has been done, chiefly in filatures and re-reals for the United States Markets, both by foreign and native shippers. Prices are \$10 to \$20 higher on the week. Holders seems to have recovered a little confidence, and are not eager sellers, even at present rates.

QUOTATIONS.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures-Kulre g'et, 10/12 den	. Nominat
Filaturen-Extra +3/15, 14/16 den	030 to 040
Filatures-No. 1, 10/13 deplots	800 to 870
	820 830
Filntures-No. 14, ro/14 deniera	810 th 840
Filatures-No. 14, 13/10, 14/17 den	850 to 800
Filatures-No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filntures-flo. s. s 4/18 deniera	820 to 830
Re-reals-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 dan	Sgo to ggo
Re-reals-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 dang	840 to 810
Re-raels-No. 1, 6 g/all daniera	Soo to Bro
Re-reals-No. 21, 14/18 deniera	780 E 700
Re-reels-No. 3, 44/20 deniers	
Kakedas-Extra	840 to 850
Kakedas-No. 1	820 M 810
Kakedas-No. 11	790 to 800
Kakedas-No. s	700 III 770
Kakedas-No. 24	7
WASTE SILK.	
ANDIE BILL	

Still very dull, but there is rather more enquiry; and if helders are current, some little business will probably be put through.

QUOTATIONS.		
Noshi-Filature, Best	1 15 to	120
Noshi-Fileture, Good	1 05 to	110
Noshi-Oshu, Best.,	t to to	8+5
Noshi-Oshu, Good	100 to	103
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	90 to	
Noglid-Shinehu, Heat	70 to	75
Noshi-Shinshu, Good	65 to	674
Noshi-Bushu, Heat	115 to	
Nophi-Books, Good.,	ano to	110
Nonhi-Bushu, Medium	go to	95
Noshies Daley, Agail	€a ta	65
Noshi-loshu, Fair	55 ta	57 t
Kihiso-Filature, flest	95 to	100
Kilifan-Piletore, Spaniste married and	85 to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20 to	326
2004		

Settlements up to the 5th of May were 6,457 picula. The test so far does not show the imass overment lapsed for, but prices have ruled \$3 to \$4 per picul-higher than last season's opening rates.

Chaicest\$42	& upwards.
Chaice were represented the state of the second	\$38 to \$10
Finat	Sis to \$1/
Good Medium	Nominal-
Medium	Nominal-
Good Common	Nominal-
Социов	Nominal-

EXCHANGE. Silman & himbor f and rates all un

Diffice I tellistet statt Politron arte inter-	Aille ffin.
itered.	
Starling Bank T.F	lo 1 tol
- Bills on demand	2/0 Pa
- 4 montha' aight	2,0 <sub>78</sub>
- Primare 4 manthu night	1/0
- 6 months sight	1/0
Cin Parte-Bank night	2 541
On Lyone - Psivate a months' night .	2.50
On America-Bank Bills on demand	48
- Private 4 months' sight	501
On Gormany-Bank night	1.05
	pr
- Private 4 months' sight	2, f I
On Hongkong-Bank sight	7º/_dis.
- Private to days' sight, 8	
On Shanghai-Bank sight	80 l
- Private 10 days' sight	812
On India-Bank night	150
	-
- Private 30 days' sight	155
Has Silver (London)	26



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ebiets, Gloves, &c.

4 AOLINE TOLLET OREAM. Softening and beautifying for the econplexion.

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January 181, 1898.

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purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills, Sin Sanual Barar, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribut taries in Abyasia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahoameto inform the Bakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis, in I short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, an possessing unmistable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value,"

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# The Japan Weekly Itlail:

REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 20.

YOKOHAMA. MAY 14TH, 1898. 月三年五十二治典 Vol. XXIX. 開記者信頼日日十 Vol. XXIX.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

A BYTHER OUR DOTH: VDAIRNME OUR GONKRY).,

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WARKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the same

Warkty Mail." must be authenticated by the same and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the Mannauk, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the Harron.

VOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, 1898.

#### DEATH.

At Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, an the 4th May, Lindsay Stanford Lamont Craw-ford (eldest son of D. R. F. Clawford, E.q., Hongkong), aged 20 years and 10 months.

NAKANO TARNAKIRA, Governor of Karagawa Keo, at his official residence at Isecho, at 7.30 p.m., on the 12th instant, aged 53 years and 9 months. The fineral will take place on the 17th instant, at I o'clock p.m., starting from Azaba to Anyama Cemetery.

#### SUM WARY OF NEWS.

GRAVE riots have occurred in many parts of Spain.

VERY little additional news is yet to hand regarding the operations at Manila.

TRE Kojime Bank, which suspended payment some weeks ago, has decided to give up business.

THE Athletic Sports of the Y.C. and A.C. took place on Saturday and passed off very anccessfully.

Ten Spanish squadron remains M Cadiz, leaving the U.S. fleet at liberty to attack Havana and Puertorico.

Some minor naval encounters Digitized by

On the 8th inst, a case of cholera was reported at Kakigara-cho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo. The victim died the next morning,

Russia has leased 800 square miles in the Liaotung Peninsula, and Great Britain has leased an extra 200 square miles at Kowloon.

THE French elections have resulted in the return of 211 Republicans, 136 Extreme Left, 36 Monarchists, and 180 who must be reballoted for.

It is reported that during last mouth the receipts of the Post, Telegraph and Telephone Offices through the country amounted to yen 1,152,235.

During the week, Carl Hertz the well-known English conjurer, has been filling the Public Hall, Yokohama, with thoroughly delighted audiences.

THE quarantine authorities on the 9th inst. received information that in Formosa 49 new cases of the plague appeared on the 5th and

THE plague at Hongkong and Bombay is subsiding. At the former place some half-dozen Europeans have fallen victims to the disease this spring.

On the 9th inst, all the bankers of the Eastern provinces held a meeting at the Selyoken restaurant, Uyeno Park, Tokyo. After business, they dined together,

ITALY has been placed under martial law in consequence of serious rioting in all the big The rioters, it is alleged, have been incited by political agitators.

GOVERNOR NAKANO, of Kanagawa, who has been slowly dying of consumption during the past two years, succumbed to the tavages of the disease on Thursday evening.

OPINION in favour of a foreign loan is strengthening day by day in Japan. The Cotton-Spinners of Japan are still seeking an exit from their present pecuniary embarrasament.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain has stated that the reports of the rising in Sierra Leone were exaggerated. There was no intention to despatch European troops there.

THE balance of the China Indemnity having been paid to Japan at the proper date, steps are being taken to evacuate Wei hei wei. Two British regiments will occupy the place in the autumn.

The Inbilee Cup-a bandsome trophy-presented to the Reliance Wheelmen's Club by the Diamond Jubilee Committee, was finally won by E. H. Irwine on Wednesday evening after a very good race.

A FORCE of 6,000 men is assembling at San Francisco, whence they will embark for Manila. Congress has passed a vote of thanks to Com-modore Dewey, the Commander of the U.S. Asiatic Squadron. -

On the 2nd inst. the British gun-bunt Linnet was sent to Manila to watch operations there. A telegram dated the 6th inst. from Hongkong, states that another British warship, the Immortalite, of the Asiatic aquadron, has been despatched to the Philippines.

During April exports reached yen to 619,270 and imports yen 29,832,947. The exports of

reported during the week in which Spain has and bar gold to the value of yen 40.452, and always been worsted. 398,253 were imported.

> A CHINESE moß at Shashi, on the Yangize, has burned the Japanese Consulate, the Customs, the premises of Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., and the China M. N. Company and some churches. The Consuls have fled down river with the missionaries.

> The following warships are charged with the task of carrying into effect the Neutrality Decree in respect to the Hispano-American war :- The Hiyei and Kaimon at Kohe, the Oshima at Hakata, the Chinyen at Moji, the Amagi at Oginohama, the Soko Tameni, the Katturagi at the Percadores, and the Yamalo at Keelung.

> THE Tientsin concession treaty has been signed. Japan has acquired by virtue of the treaty a spacious concession on the upper course of the Pei-ho. Japan has also secured the right of constructing a break-water on the lower course of the river and of establishing a tramway thence inside the walls of Tientsin.

> THE Foreign Office on the 9th inst. received a telegram from Soul that the Russian military officials who have been released from the service of the Korean Government, but who have been staying in the capital, recently received an intimation from St. Petersburg to leave. They will therefore take the first mail for Vladivostock.

> THE French Government has proposed fresh claims to the Chinese Government. They are to the following effect:-That 30,000 taels be paid as compensation to the families of the murdered missionaries, that a church be established as a memorial of those murdered, and that the railway be extended from Nanking, Kwangsi, to the coast of Canton.

THE week's trade has been small in the extreme. so far as imports are concerned. A few feeble enquiries were made for certain low-figured yarns, but as there was no response in the rise in Manchester no business resulted. In fancy cottons and woollens no improvement is reported. The metal market is still very quiet. During the week several lots of damaged bar iron were sold at auction and realized satisfactory prices and some galvanized iron wire was also moved off in a similar fashion. Kerosene is quiet with no appreciable change. Regarding angars, business has been fairly steady, white refined being in most demand. Turning to exports, an in-creased activity is noted in raw silk, the decline in prices, together with an increase of public confidence in America, leading to better demand in New York. In consequence, prices tose again, and even at 40 yen per picul advance on lowest prices of last month, holders are reluctant to sell. Settlements to date amount to 53.665, against 46.300 bales at sume date last year. Waste silk is quiet, though the tendency is towards hardening. Owing to last fishery prospects being good this year, ordinary quality fish oil is quoted at ren 6 per picul for July-August delivery. Copper quotations, in sympathy with London, bave fallen a point or so, with a general tendency to further weakness. A large amount of business has been done in tea, the settlements for the week totalling 12,655 picula. Prices, on an average, are 15 per cent. higher than last year, but it is thought that they will soon begin to fall. The and imports yen 29.832.947. The exports of cup quality is fairly satisfactory now, the precions metals amounted in gold coins and particle of the leaf also showing a marked bar gold to yen 11,914.803, and in silver coin improvement since last week. Exchange is and bar silver to yen 6,197,557. Gold coins with the leaf also showing a marked improvement since last week. Exchange is the last week.

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

According to the Nichi Nichi Shimbun Japan has no reason to be uneasy about the Hispano-American war. Whatever be its issue she will not suffer. That seemingly singular theory is based upon a profound belief in the resources and recuperative capacity of the United States. America's wealth is so great and her trade so enormous that any change in her condition would be felt by the whole world; but, on the other hand, she is so strong that, though victory might be expected to launch her upon a career of extraordinary enterprise and prosperity, defeat would rouse her to efforts scarcely less vigorous and far-reaching. In short, the Nichi Nichi evidently regards her as a magnificent steed which, if beaten in one race, would simply be spurred to draw upon its illimitable reserves of atrength and swiftness in the next. As for Spain, her defeat and the breakdown of her finances would close one of the sources from which Europe receives supplementary supplies of iron and copper. An appreciation of the market prices of those staples would follow, and though Japan might be slightly inconvenienced in the matter of iron, she would gain by the increased demand for her copper. She has therefore, no cause to be concerned. We extract that kernel of reflection from a very large shell of platitudes composing an article which is not distinguished by the terseness and force habitual to the Nichi Nichi Shimbun.

This is certainly a curious time to advocate the colonization of the Philippines from Japan; but the Jiji Shimpo, being convinced that the propinquity of the islands to Formosa forbids Japan to be indifferent to their fate, and being also convinced that she should not think of attempting to gain possession of them, as some people suggest, sees no course except to despatch Japanese colonists thither in the largest numbers possible. In tendering that advice our contemporary preaches from its familiar text, namely, that whereas the population of Japan is increasing with great rapidity, the area of the food-producing land is virtually in-Thus, while the population grew from 36 millions in 1880, approximately, to 424 millions in 1897—or an increase of 64 millions in 17 years—the area of rice land was 6.870,000 neren in 1891; 6,820,000 acres in 1894, and 6 870,000 acres in 1895; and during the past five or six years the annual yield of rice has varied between the narrow limits of 38 millions and 41 millions of koku. England, with a population of 48 millions, has an area of 120 000 square miles, or over 300 inhabitants to the aquare mile, and Japan, with 422 millions or persons, has 140,000 square miles, or 280 persons per square mile. She is thus nearly m densely populated as England, and certainly has no room for her abundant inhabi tants. In the Philippines the case is quite different. Seven millions of people are acattered over 114 000 square miles, being at the rate of 30 per square mile (sic). There is, consequently, room for many millions of immigrants, and the country produces an abundance of sugar, tobacco, bemp, and coffee. It lies at Japan's southern gate inviting her people to enter in and occupy it. The Frii does not indicate the steps to be taken for effecting colonization, but seems to think that Spain is the Power to be consulted, thought it admits that the islands have virtually passed into the possession of the United States.

\* \* \* The Yomiurs Shimbun, discussing the same topic, says that after much discussion two facts emerge plainly; one is that the public at large are convinced of the necessity of adopting some measure to relieve the present attingency of the money market; the other, that the various measures hitherto under consideration have been case a little more clearly.

reduced to two, the purchase of the private railways by the State, or the purchase of War Bonds with the Indemnity. Concerning the former device, it brings up the museral question whether State concerning the lailways is desirable, and it involves many problems which

should be solved independently of extraneous considerations. Hence, on the whole, the wisest plan seems to be the purchase of War Bonds. It is contended, however, that only some 21 million yen are available from the Indemnity for any such purpose. That appears to be a misconception, based on failure to observe that a still unspont sum of 128 millions, on account of armaments expansion, is in-cluded in the account. There is no apparent reason why a part of that aum should not be devoted to purchasing War Bonds immediately, the money required hereafter for the armaments' expansion programme being otherwise procured as the need for it arises. Very likely procured as the need for it arises. if the present crisis were relieved by a measure on such a scale, there would be no difficulty in selling the bonds by and-by in the home market, and thus recourse to foreign capital might be altogether avoided.

It is understood that the Government intends to devote a sum of about 20 million yen to subscribing for shares of the Industrial Bank and redeeming War Bands. The money for the purpose is to be taken from the Indemnity, and the Shopgo Shimpo gives figures showing how that aum and no more is available :-

Total of Indemnity and Lizotung Re- trocessien Fund, according to origi- nal calculation, principal and interest	Yen.
included	228,346,051
Total sheady received	245,745 048 169,488.909

Remaining out of total ai-	76. <b>256</b> 130
Amount to be received	133,838,446
Not assessed to be received	

Net amount to be received	116,439,448
Add sum remaining from previous	76,256,139
Total actually available	192,695.587

mount required for Armaments' ex-	
pausion programme, 2nd period	118,379,988

20,000,000

18,000 000

Remainder	74-315 599
Som already devoted to procluse of domestic War Bonds	15.000,000

GGHC3(-F. 44 Mr. 42-1-41)
Sum devoted to purchase of Chinese
Loan Bonds
Sum required for Budget of 1897 8
Total

To state the facts in a simpler form, the Treasury, on receipt of the remainder of the Indemnity, will have in its possession 157.605.587 ren in specie and 35 million ren in bondsnamely, 15 million yen worth of domestic War Bonds and 20 million yen worth of Chinese loan bonds-but of that sum, 118,379,988 yen is required for the purposes of the armaments expansion programme and 18 million yes for the purposes of the current year's budget, so that only 21,315,599 ven is available for redeeming War Bonds. It is contended that to redeem 21 million yen worth of bonds is not sufficient, and that at least 100 millions should be devoted to the purpose. But where is the money to come from? The Government could of course draw upon the funds that have to be laid aside for the armaments' expansion programme, but if it did so, either the programme must be given up or funds must be raised elsewhere. It might also sell the bonds in its possession-–15 millions of domestic and 20 millions of Chinesebut the transaction could scarcely be effected at present without serious loss. It would be well if the persons who advocate the employment of 100 million yen from the Indemnity for redeeming bonds would examine the arithmetic of the case a little more clearly.

though it believes that the Americans are not a little apprehensive about the bravery and dash of the Spaniards, and would therefore be glad to reduce the contest to an affair of money. The Spainards can not accept a challenge of purses, but must bring the business to a speedy ter-mination, in which object they will be assisted by the sentiment of Europe, the continuance of the struggle being highly injurious to the material interests of Occidental Powers, that remarkable dictum is put forward by our contemporary in the purpose of re-assuring the teagrowers and sericulturists of Japan, who are said to be so much perturbed by the prospect of losing the American market that they are throwing away the young tea-leaves and allowing their silk worms to perish. The Caus alleges that such hastiness has always marked the conduct of the agricultural classes. If the price of rice rises, they convert the uplands into paddyfields, and if silk is high, they pull up their teashrubs and plant mulberry trees, never pausing to reflect whether the conditions to which they adapt themselves are likely to be permanent. According to all appearances, peace will be restored before the ten and silk seasons are inaugurated. People should keep up their hearts, and not aggravate ills by anticipating them.

#### KOBE WATER SUPPLY PROBLEM.

The difficulty of perfecting the water aupply of Kobe lies, the Mainichi remarks, in the overwhelming rapidity with which the population of that town is increasing. Mr. Burton's programme placed the limit of augmentation at 250,000, and the estimate of outlay was 11 million yen. Before work was commenced, however, the population had increased to about 190,000, and in a few years it will probably exceed 300,000. The programme has therefore had to be changed. It became necessary to take the two rivers-Minatogawa and Nunobiki-as the sources of supply, and to increase the total outlay to 6,290,000 yen. Meanwhile prices of commodities have risen considerably, and the subsidy of the Trensury does not exceed 300 000 yen, against 1,500,000 yen originally estimated. A project is on foot to introduce a petition in the special session of the Diet for obtaining a further subsidy. The Government, however, seems to have already intimated its inability to acquiesce, and the citizens of Kobe are now in a state of serious anxiety as to the future of the works. The aid granted by the Government in connexion with waterworks was 24 per cent, of the total outlay in the case of Hakodate, 18.8 per cent. for Nagasaki, and 30 per cent, for Tokyo, Osaka, and Yokohama.

#### SILK STATISTICS.

It is to be regretted, remarks the Zokyo Shimbun, that the silk industry does not keep pace with the development of the nation and the expansion of commerce. The following table shows the number of cocoons obtained during the five years ended 1895 :-Danie

١	,	Cocoons.	" Ball "	Waste.	Rerect.
ı	Year.	koku.	koku.	koku.	koku.
ı	1891	1,249,912	179.525	108,106	42,657
ı	1892	1,138,000	178,134	123,743	
ı	1893	1,307,725	204,290	128,855	
ļ	1894	1.390.307			
ì	1895	1,790,030	244 983	163,764	53.396
	Statistics she	ow that the	average a	mount o	busined
	from each co				
ľ	sko, in 1893	50 ske, in	1894 58 4	the, and	in 1865
ļ	67 440. Fr	oni these fi	guies it m	ay be pe	ceived
	that the gen				
	ceed 50 or	60 shu.	Sericultur	e is not	yet free
	from failure	a and misc	alculation	is, and	there is
	a lack of sk				
	the industr				
!	five years				
	yen : 1892,				
	yen ; 1894.				
	yen. This:				
L	value, The				
•					
	fluctuations				ned no
ď	This Clarking	a (Cogrillation)			

#### FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The foreign public must be somewhat weary of listening to prescriptions for healing the disease of impecuniosity from which Japan is now suffering. On the whole, opinions may be said to be divided into two camps, one of which advocates the introduction of foreign capital for the State purchase of private railways; the other recommends that the Indemnity be employed for the redemption of Bonds. Which of the two views will gain the ascendancy it is difficult to foresee, but if we examine the grouping of politi-cians, we find that the Liberals, the National Unionists, and a number of the "business men" are in favour of the railway scheme, whereas the Progressists, headed by Count Okuma, and their allies, the party headed by Viscount Tani, are opposed to any measure of the kind. Hence it might be concluded that, as the greater strength numerically is with the Liberals and their associates, their programme must win the day. But the Government has the casting vote, and, so far as can be ascertained, the Government condemns all heroic measures, its plan being to devote some twenty million yen from the Indemnity to purchasing War Bonds and shares in the Industrial Bank, so that the latter will be in a position to meet, partially at any rate, the pressing need for floating capital that now makes itself felt. The weakness of the Progressists' position is that they have hitherto maintained a negative attitude. They oppose the Liberals' device of State railways, but they have not clearly declared their allegiance to the other plan, namely, a large purchase of War Bonds with the Indemnity. In the closing days of the Matsukata Cabinet's career, we heard a good deal about the Industrial and Agricultural Banks. The intention of these banks' official projectors was that, by introducing foreign capital comes in. If the State the element of a lottery and prize bearing bonds, the surplus money which, owing to war expenditures and outlays on account of armanents expansion, had flowed into the hands of the consuming classes, might be collected and converted into capital for the use of productive enterprises. As a matter of fact, however, the idea of founding such banks originated with the Ito Cabinet, in which Viscount Watanabe held the portfolio of Finance, and the Viscount, in a recent ing, with considerable insistence, that interview with a representative of the Jiji Shimpo, very justly recalled the circumstance. He also pointed out that the method adopted by the present Cabinet the redemption of War Bonds, seem to be in placing the Industrial Bank's shares now in a more moderate frame of mind. upon the market was defective, for, in effect, the Government had taken steps which virtually amounted to seeking subscribers among the very capitalists whose embarrassment, owing to lack of money, the Bank is organised to relieve. We can not clearly follow Viscount Watanabe's line of argument at this stage, but society for investigating economical sub-his contention appears to be that the jects. The Society assembled on the Code and, after having done so, to indulge Minister of Finance appealed to the capi-7th instant in the Imperial Hotel. To in the pleasure of attacking the Governtalists of Osaka and Kyoto, instead of looking for subscribers among the consuming classes only. Be that as it may, the interesting point is to recall that the Ito Cabinet, in constructing the post-bellum programme ichiro, Amenomiya Keijiro, and Ove Taku, twenty days will be appreciated. The of expenditures, foresaw that the transfer as among the most prominent. The bill embodying the remainder of the Code of large sums of money from the stocks of debate was opened by Mr. Inouye. His will have to be handed to a Special Com-

premium-bearing shares. Probably the scheme would have proved successful had it been carried out speedily by the Matsukata Cabinet, which succeeded the Ito Ministry. So, at least, Viscount Watanabe thinks, and we note his conclusion that, owing to the tardiness of the Matsukata financiers, the opportunity of consummating the purpose of the Bank was lost. The Ito Cabinet, in fact, had a sound grasp of the financial situation, but did not remain in office long enough to carry its plans to achievement, and Count Inouye, finding that the time has passed for utilizing one of the main features of those plans, is compelled to fall back on the device of placing a limited stock of capital at the disposal of the public by purchasing the Industrial Bank's shares and War Bonds with a portion of the Indemnity. Viscount Watanabe-whose comments are very interesting in view of the position he held in the former Ito Cabinetdoes not condemn Count Inouye's proceeding, but thinks that, if it were possible to sell the War Bonds in foreign markets, such would be the best plan at present. He believes, however, that it is not possible to do so, owing to the agreement made by the Matsukata Ministry with Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company, pledging the former not to sell any honds abroad without giving the refusal of them to the latter at the rate fixed in the agreement. But he is mistaken, we think. The Government's contract with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. merely engages the former to avail itself of the latter's agency if better terms and facilities can not be obtained elsewhere. However, the main point is that Viscount Watanabe recommends a foreign loan. In fact, all the non-official schemes before the public eventuate in the introduction of foreign capital. If War Bonds are sold abroad, purchases the private railways, foreign capital must be imported for the purpose. If the Indemnity be employed to redeem War Bonds, foreign capital must subsesequently be procured to meet the expenses that would otherwise have been capital is the goal of all the programmes.

The agitators, or at any rate one section of them, who have hitherto been urgsteps should be at once taken to relieve the pressure in the money market by devoting a large portion of the Indemnity to It will be remembered that a number of gentlemen, calling themselves the "busi-ness men" (Jitsugyo-ka) of Tokyo and Yokohama, met recently in the Tokyo Geographical Society's room, and organized an association to which they gave the name of Keinai Kenkiu Doshi-kai, or personnel, we may mention the names of

industrial and agricultural banks with that were a decision publicly adopt-premium-bearing shares. Probably the ed for the State purchase of private railways, the shares of the latter would inevitably go up so as to render the transaction very difficult; and were the re-demption of War Bonds undertaken on a large scale, a similar result must be anticipated. In short, he condemned heroic measures, and the sense of the meeting was evidently with him. A standing committee of twenty members was appointed, and three of its number were subsequently deputed to wait upon Count Inouye, who must find a large part of his time occupied with interviews. Minister is reported to have made the statement already familiar to the public, namely, that the Government sees its way to devoting 20 million yen of the Indemnity to relieve the dearth of floating capital, without inconveniencing the financial arrangements for the next two years, but that for the moment there is no official intention of going beyond that measure. At the same time Count Inouye spoke of a foreign loan in terms which showed that, while he was not prepared to discuss details immediately, he foresaw the pro-bable necessity of ultimate recourse to such a step.

#### COUNT OKUMA AND THE CODES:

Count Okuma, as our readers know, is a strong advocate of all movements tending to interest the people in politics. Next to a good administration, he considers that a strong opposition is the best thing a country can possess. It may well be supposed, therefore, that he does not condemn the conduct of political parties at the present juncture. But he thinks that there are times and seasons for everything, and that when the whole nation is interested in cooperation between the Administration and the Legislature for a special purpose, party questions should be relegated to the background. Such an occasion is the approaching session of the Diet. The remaining portion of the Civil Code will have to be passed in order that it may be put into operation soon enough to allow of the completion of the defrayed from the Indemnity. Foreign arrangements for the Revised Treaties. After more than twenty years of effort Japan has at length succeeded in obtaining treaties that place her on an equality with Occidental States, and it would be a hational calamity if, owing to disputes between political parties and the Diet, she sacrificed the results of her long labours. Count Okuma recommends, therefore, that a collision between the Cabinet and the Opposition should not be precipitated in the approaching session, and that both sides should exercise patience for the sake of passing the Code and consummating the work of Treaty Re-

To some of our readers it may appear help our readers to form an idea of its ment to its heart's content. But if the procedure adopted in the Japanese Houses Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Shibusawa Ki- be considered, the difficulty of achieving saku, Inouye Kakugoro, Tokoyama Mago-both objects during a short session of only floating capital to the hands of the conspectation that the mitter for examination, and the latter can suming classes would be attemed. The wisest plan to pursue was to leave the scarcely be expected to present its report inconvenient results, and, in order to Government to choose its own times and without at least a week's deliberation. Correct that evil, devised the scheme of seasons for action. He pointed out the latter that a week's deliberation.

Lower House debating and passing the Code, there remain only ten or eleven days for the Upper House to deal with the bill, and it is obvious that if the Lower House precipitates a collision with the Cabinet, and provokes a sentence of dissolution before the bill emerges from the hands of the Peers, the whole of the legislative steps thus far taken with regard to the Code will be abortive. Thus we arrive at the result that the political parties must behave with moderation and avoid a fatal collision from the Diet's opening day until the day when the President of the Upper House-we assume that the Code is laid before the Lower House first -transmits the duly sanctioned bill to the Government. That means an attitude of comparative placidity throughout the whole session, for it is improbable that the bill can find its way through both Houses in less than twenty days.

## A FOREIGN LOAN. The Nicki Nichi Shimbun contains an

article which gives some very important information, presumably trustworthy, namely, that the Government contemplates raising a foreign loan of 150 million yen. We have pointed out more than once that all the schemes propounded for relieving the present dearth of floating capital resolve themselves into the same issue, a foreign loan. In fact, Japan must have money. She has sunk large sums in railways, ships, manufactories, and other enterprises, and unless her material development is now to be arrested, she must obtain means to continue it. Count Inouye has been blamed by many observers because, according to their supposition, he had decided to adopt what they call a "negative" policy. Those that know Count Inouye could not but be amused by such an accusation. He is certainly the least likely of ail Japan's statesmen to adopt a timid or retrogressive course. On the other hand, he is not the man to take a step in the field of national finance without seeing clearly where his foot is to be planted. Consequently, his first procedure on coming into office was to collect full information on all points of economic importance. He set his subordinates to compile reports showing the State's continuing expenditures on account of public works; the corresponding outlays by local Governments; the amount of capital invested in State and private enterprises from 1804 to 1897, whether paid up or only pledged, together with various other details, the whole forming a bulky collection of 32 returns. This work was completed on March 15th, and the Minister, being now furnished with the necessary information, applied himself to elaborate a scheme of finance extending over a term of ten years. The deliberation of his procedure seems to have misled people into supposing that he had resolved to call a halt, and the impression was probably deepened by the fact that he re-distributed the annual expenditures on account of armament expansion so as to carry forward a sum of about 40 million yen, as well as by the action of the Bank of Japan in maising its rate of interest. But the truth is that idea of a foreign loan. Viscount Katsura, regard to foreign policy recently formulat-Baron Sayematsu Mr. Sone and Mr. by the standing committee and report- on that bolm. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Kaneko favour it strongly, and imarquis ed in case contains the line line line in dications that he that no occasion exists for entering any lite himself has given indications that he that no occasion exists for entering any regards it with approval. But Count Inouye protest against the recent action of habitually refrains from disclosing his tern Powers in the Far East; that efforts plans until they assume perfectly definite should be made to preserve the balance proportions, and, of course, he is specially of power, and that all means should be reticent with regard to financial affairs, for in that field a premature official utterance may produce serious disturbance. Misinterpreting his silence, financiers, business men, and politicians have propounded all sorts of schemes, some advocating the State purchase of private railways, others the redemption of a large quantity of War Bonds with the Indemnity, and others, again, the raising of a foreign loan pure and simple. There are strong have no resource but to adopt a programme reasons for concluding that the Govern- of obstruction, pure and simple. It is out ment will resort to the last expedient. It of the question that they should introduce is known that Count Inouye has already either an Address to the Throne or a Redecided to apply 20 million yen from presentation to the Government calling the Indemnity to relieve the pressure for the establishment of the party principle. in the money market—5 million yen to the Constitution distinctly provides that be placed at the disposal of the In- the Ministers of the Crown receive their dustrial Bank for giving accommoda-tion to manufacturing enterprises, and 15 millions to be employed by the Bank device practised by the Liberals in former of Japan in buying up War Bonds. But years, namely, opposition to every importthese are only partial and temporizing ant Government measure, so as to render measures. Something more radical is legislation, and even administration, imneeded, and it will doubtless take the possible. It was by adhering to that form of a foreign loan of 150 million yen. method in the early days of the Diet that The Minister is expected to make a statement in that sense when the Diet assembles, and to introduce a bill, which will (hakai-to), and tell into national discredit. probably pass without much opposition. The details of the programme are not revealed, of course. Whether the loan revealed, of course. Whether the loan however? The only logical line to take will be made this year or next, and to is that a Cabinet not obeying the partywhat purpose its proceeds will be immediately applied-these are points concerning which no information is yet forth-

#### THE CABINET AND THE LIBERALS.

Rumours were recently circulated that the relations between the Liberals and the Cabinet were about to be restored to their old footing. The report emanated from Progressist sources and was, consequently, regarded with great distrust. No thoughtful person could imagine that either the Liberals or the Cabinet would make such a pastime of politics as to solemnly sever their connexion with one another in April and renew it again in May. The general meeting of the Liberal Party held in the Party's office in the Shiba district of Tokyo on the 5th instant has finally dispelled all doubts. A resolution was adopted declaring that, inasmuch as the Ministry now in office is not based on the principle of party Cabinets, and can not, therefore, be regarded as conducing to the practical consummation of constitutional institutions, the Liberals must oppose it, the method of opposition to be left to the discretion of the parliamentary members. This resolution was not endorsed unanimously by those present-some 200 in number. A strong effort was made to eliminate the words "must oppose it," the ground taken by the objectors being that the mere fact of the Cabinet's not having a political party for its basis did not constitute a sufficient reason for opposing it. This objection

Kaneko favour it strongly, and Marquis ed in these columns at the time; namely, exhausted to lead China and Korea into the path of progress. A change was also made in the number of the general commissioners of the Party, so as to balance the representation of the various sections.

> The difficulty under which the Liberals labour is that, in order to give effect to their resolution of opposing the Cabinet because of its non-party foundation, they mandate from the Sovereign. Hence the sole plan to be pursued is the familiar old the Liberals obtained for themselves the soubriquet of the "destructive party" Their leaders are naturally unwilling to resume such tactics. What is to be done, mandate system is unworthy of the confidence of the Diet and must be opposed at every point. But the political views of the present Cabinet are identical with those of the Liberals in all matters of real importance. It was supposed that a difference existed with regard to finance, but the Liberals have now learned that their conception of Count Inouve's programme was mistaken. In what manner, then, they can give effect to the resolution adopted at the general meeting it is not easy to perceive.

#### THE PROGRESSISTS.

The Commissioners and Parliamentary members of the Progressists held a meeting on Saturday, 7th instant, to determine what resolutions should be submitted to the Party at its general meeting on the following day. Three resolutions were adopted. They certainly did not err on the side of explicitness. The first was to the effect that Japan should make common cause with states which aimed at preserving peace and the balance of power in the Far East, and at developing commerce. The second, that steps should be taken to remove the difficulties now embarrassing economical circles and promote industrial develop-ment. The third, that the Party's representatives in the Diet should pursue their long-cherished objects with regard to the reform of the Law of Elections and the Law of Public Meeting and Political Associations. It is plain that Great Britain and the United States of America was over-ruled, however, and the resolu- Britain and the United States of America tion received the assent of a large majority are referred to in the first resolution. As plans. As a matter of fact, there is no in its original form. Subsequently the to the second, the public would have member of the Cabinet opposed to the meeting endorsed the resolutions with liked to learn what step the Progressists dea of a foreign loan. Viscount Katsura, regard to foreign policy recently formulated advocate but no infant.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### COTTON APINNER'S DIFFICULTIES.

The progress of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan has been watched with great interest, as furnishing a valuable test of the manufacturing and organizing capa-city of the people. When the enterprise began to emerge from its babyhood, the possibility of its attaining any considerable size was strenuously denied by many foreign observers, their conviction being that the Japanese were not fitted for such work and could never make head against foreign competition. We ourselves entertained and expressed a very different view, and the event justified us. But the industry is now in a depressed condition; several mills have been obliged to cease work, and the shares of all have greatly depreciated. If such a state of affairs indicated any permanent decline, the Japanese might reasonably feel anxious. But it appears that the two causes responsible for the depression are either temporary or remediable. The first is overproduction. For several years the growth of the industry lagged behind the growth of domestic demand, and mill-owners, finding a ready market at their doors, went on increasing their spindles until the number reached a million and the output became greater than the immediate needs of the nation. Thus in 1897, of the total quantity of yarn produced some eighty thousand bales remained on the hands of the producers, and it is estimated that the surplus during the present year will be more than the double of that figure. Had not the industry been vigorously inaugurated in China, a great and growing market for Japanese imported yarns would have existed there. But since the Shimonoseki Treaty secured to foreigners the privilege of engaging in manufactures in the Middle Kingdom, Japanese yarns have been brought into competition with local products in that country. There can be no doubt that the demand for yarns in Japan will gradually assume larger dimensions, but in the meanwhile mill-owners have gone ahead of their opportunities, and embarrassment has been the inevitable result. The second cause of trouble is that the mills are without a sufficient supply of working capital, and can not obtain it in the present straitened condition of the money market. It is estimated that the working capital required is about 30 per cent. of the fixed capital, and since the capital sunk in the cotton mills is supposed to be 33 million yen, the working funds should aggregate about 10 millions. We do not know how far the funds actually available fall short of the latter figure, but it is evident that this part of the problem can be solved without much trouble if the Minister of Finance instructs the Industrial Bank to accommodate the mill-owners, as he is said to have decided upon doing. On the whole, then, it may be concluded that the condition of the industry is not such as to inspire serious apprehension.

Public attention has been attracted to the state of the cotton mills by an investigation which the President of the Industrial Bank recently undertook as a preliminary to placing capital at their disposal. Not the least interesting fact elicited by the inquiry is that many of the mills do not make proper allowance for depreciation of plant, and do not apply a subject. Their sense of hearing is far therefore, this crisis is likely to inure to any part of their earnings to reserves for more delicate than that of men.

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equalizing dividends or meeting losses The President of the Bank addressed various queries to the mill-owners, and the replies received from some twenty mills in and about Osaka have been published by the vernacular press. These replies show that out of about 330,000 yen required to start a mill of 10,000 spindles, 250,000 yen go to purchase machinery, 20,000 yen to buying land, and 60,000 yen to erecting buildings. The life of the machinery is estimated at 20 years, during which time it loses two-thirds of its original value. A mill of ten thousand spindles ought, therefore, to set aside from eight to nine thousand yen annually. As to the reserves for equalizing dividends and meeting losses, no estimate is given, but the long and short of the matter appears to be that many mills have been devoting the whole of their earnings to the payment of dividends instead of making proper provision for wear and tear and contingencies. Should the Treasury come to the assistance of the mills, an opportunity will be afforded for compelling the adoption of a proper system, so that, on the whole, the occurrence of this crisis may be attended with permanently healthy results. The Osaka mill-owners aver that a profit of 7 yen per bale is obtainable, and that there is consequently no reason why the industry should not prosper.

#### PRONUNCIATION OF JAPANESE WORDS.

We congratulate the writer in the Japan Gazette who has published his dictum about the accentuation of Japanese words. It is not often that men attain such confidence as he evidently possesses, and the feeling must be very comfortable. definitely decides that "Mr. Chamberlain, not Mr. Dening, is perfectly right," and he dismisses the views of the editor of the Japan Mail as "nousense." Rules of pronunciation are very difficult to compile: so much depends on the ear of the compiler. We recall a case in point. A certain well-known sinologue invited to dinner two friends who, like himself, had studied the Japanese language for several years. During dinner a discussion arose as to the proper pronunciation of a word, the two guests taking one view and the host the other. It was agreed that a learned Japanese should be called and asked to render the word in dispute. That being done, each party to the controversy remained more than ever convinced that he was right, and marvelled more than even at the other's obstinacy. We ourselves have studied Japanese for more than thirty years, but in the matter of pronunciation we do not venture to assert positively that such and such a method is right or such and such a method wrong. So far as our ear enables us to judge, we find that the rule which dictates absolute equality of accentuation for every syllable of a Japanese word is misleading. We find, on the contrary, that there is a distinct tonic accent in such words as hirosa, kuroshi, kakaru, tatami, suberu, atama, itasa, yoaki, hanashi, shikaru, tegami, shirosa, tsubushi, and hundreds of others that could be named. But it may be that we are entirely mistaken. Ladies, per-

#### THE " YOROZU CHOHO."

After a trial of extraordinarily protracted length the editor and printer of the Yorozu Choho have been found guilty of libelling Baron Ito, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of five yen. The public is to be congratulated on this result. We have never seen in the columns of any newspaper such a display of vindictive malevolence as that made by the Yorozu Choho. Throughout the whole time of the trial it published note after note and article after article abusing Baron Ito in the most unscrupulous manner. The lowest class of journalism would be disgraced by such a performance, and it was time that the law should interfere to send to their proper place, the convict's cell, men so indifferent to every moral principle as the conductors of the vile sheet. The Japanese are curiously long-suffering about newspaper libels. They seem to regard it as a petty proceeding that a man should invoke the aid of the law in vindication of his reputation, and low journalists are not slow to take advantage of the immunity thus secured. In the case of the Yorozu Choho just punishment has been inflicted on two malefactors, but we doubt whether the trial will not do more barm than good. Its length has been monstrous and the expenses incurred by the aggrieved party must have totalled many hundreds, if not thousands, of yen, yet the costs which the court ordered the Yorozu Choho to bear were only seventeen yen and some sen. Of course the newspaper had to fee barristers and pay the expenses of witnesses on its own behalf, so that, on the whole, its proprietors will be heavily out of pocket. Still Baron Ito is left to pay his own costs, and how many are there that could afford to face a libel suit with that result before them? A fitting penalty has been inflicted, but full justice has not been done.

#### THE COTTON SPINNERS.

Mr. Kawashima, President of the Industrial Bank, has explained at some length his views about the best method of assisting the cotton-spinners out of the difficulties into which they have fallen. The gist of what he says is that several of the companies are working on too small a scale, and that by judicious amalgamation, their organization might he greatly improved. In some cases, however, there are obstacles to the con-summation of that programme. He also asserts that, instead of endeavoring to place their business on a safe and permanent footing, many of the companies have thought only of paying big dividends and having their shares quoted at a high figure in the market. In times of special prosperity they did not lay aside sufficient reserve funds for depreciation of plant and buildings and equalization of dividends, but appropriated all their profits to dividend proposes. If they are to receive accommodation from the Industrial Bank, it will be necessary that they should enter into an explicit agreement to introduce certain reforms such as shall be satisfactory to the Director

#### THE FIGHT AT MANILA.

May 11th.

Later intelligence says that the Spanish ships sunk in Manila Bay on the 1st instant were 3 cruisers, 8 gun-hoats, and 2 torpedo-boats. The number of killed and wounded on the Spanish side is now put at a thousand, and there are said to have been no casualties in the American squadron. That is a most singular record. first thought which suggests itself is that the American ships managed to complete their work of destruction without coming within range of the Spaniards' fire, but, on closer examination, it will be found that the difference between the armaments of the two squadrons was scarcely sufficient to warrant such a supposition. The Castilla, the Reina Christina, the Isla de Luson and the Isla de Cuba all carried ordnance as heavy and capable of shooting at as long a range as that of the American cruisers Detroit and Raleigh. Whatever advantage existed in respect of range was with the Olympia and the Boston, which carry six 8-inch guns, four and two, respective ly,—whereas on the Spanish side the heaviest weapons were the six 6.2 inch Hontorias of the Reina Christina. The Olympia and the Boston might have undertaken the task of commanding the Spaniards with their big guns, keeping out of the enemy's effective range all the while. But it would have been | long and very arduous undertaking; for artillery practice at a distance greater than the effective range of the 6.2-inch and 5.9-inch guns carried by the Reina Christina and the Castilla can never be certain or rapidly destructive. That rule would hold even on shore, and is notably true when the gun platform is the deck of a ship. We are inclined to think, therefore, that the explanation of such a very strikingly unequal result is to be sought in the quick-firing guns. The Olympia, the Detroit, and the Raleigh carry total of no less than twenty-nine 5-inch quickfirers, and the only weapons that need be taken into account in this matter on the Spanish side were the Reina Christina's two 2.2 inch quick-firers. Without entering into minute calculations, it may be broadly stated that the striking energy of a shot-or, in every-day language, its destructive potentiality-varies as the cube of its calibre. Thus the comparative figures for 2.2 inch and a 5 inch shot are 10.648 and 125, and the potentiality of the United States' Squadron's quick-firing armanent is represented by 3625, whereas that of the Spanish Squadron was only 21.396. To bring the Spanish vessels within the effective zone of 5-inch quick-firers, the Olympia, range of the Reina Christina's 6.2 inch disseminated immediately. Hontorias and the Castilla's 5.9 inch thesis easiest to entertain is that the Com-Krupps. But the Americans need not have steamed within range—in fact, they might have kept far out of range-of the from their twenty-nine quick-firers, they has occupied the Philippines; a supposi-were only exposed to a cannonade from tion difficult to reconcile with the small

on the basis of these calculations. The extraordinary immunity enjoyed by one side compared with the terrible injury inflicted on the other. If things fell out as we imagine, the incident will furnish an interesting object lesson to naval experts. It will not be a conclusive lesson, however. On the contrary, its instructive-ness will fail exactly where the ex-perience of the battle of the Yalu failed. In the latter fight the Japanese quick-firers certainly displayed much destructive power. But the conditions were exceppower. But the conditions were excep-tional, for the Japanese were not themselves exposed to the fire that would generally be directed against weapons such as they used. So at Manila, the American quick-firers, using common shell, were pitted against slow-firing guns of nearly equal calibre doubtless discharging armour-piercing shot. Such conditions are too unequal to be regarded as a test.

The telegram further tells us that no bombardment of Manila has taken place, and that the American Commodore was negotiating for a peaceful surrender of the island at the date of the latest intelligence. No one ever supposed, we presume, that Commodore Dewey would have deliberately trained his guns on the town of Manila. When very positive statements arrived that the place had been set on fire by the cannonade and nearly burned to the ground, we could only conclude that in attacking some Spanish ships anchored in the river, a conflagration had been accidently caused. It is very satisfactory to learn that nothing of the kind has occurred, and also that the Commodore is adopting firm measures to hold the rebellion in check. Evidently the cutting of the telegraph wire was not done by the Americans.

May 12th.

It is certainly remarkable that no detailed accounts of the operations at the Philippines have been forwarded to Washington. The telegraph has been cut - that we know. But Manila is within m few hours from Hongkong by steam-er, and news might easily have been er, and news might easily have been transmitted by Commodore Dewey if he were disposed to be communicative. There is an apprehension that his silence may indicate disaster, but that view does not seem very credible. On the contrary, it the Detroit, and the Raleigh must, appears to us that had any serious disas-of course, have placed themselves within ter occurred, news of it would have been ter occurred, news of it would have been The hypomodore has need of all his ships-or rather of every man they can land-to preserve order in the islands, and that he can not Reina Christina's 2.2 inch quick-firers, spare a vessel for despatch-carrying Thus while the United States' three ships purposes. Of course, that hypothesis were discharging a perfect hail of sheils involves the further supposition that he the ten slow-firers of the Spanish vessels, force at his disposal and the strength of We speak of "shells," because it was the Spanish gerrison. Still, if he had left

less employed. It is difficult to find a Spanish Squadron and the Spanish forts simile capable of expressing the over-whelming nature of the American fire as He has probably found that the destruction compared with that of the Spaniards, or disabling of the enemy's men-of-war and batteries constitutes only a small part event may prove, of course, that our of his work, and that it has been necessary hypothesis of the conditions under which to organise a naval brigade so strong as to the battle took place are quite erroneous. absorb nearly all his men and officers. But we see no other explanation of the News can not be much longer delayed, however. Meanwhile it seems pretty certain that the United States Government has determined to send out troops to the Far East, for the City of Peking has been chartered, and no other use is conceivable for her. It would be a wise move on the part of America to take possession of the Philippines, for they are a very valuable property and doubtless their sale would go far to recoup the expense of the war.

With regard to the doings on the Cuban

side, Spain's delay about striking a blow is becoming very suggestive. It is true that her chief basis lies at a long distance from the scene of operations, but if the United States Government was able to despatch a blockading squadron to Cuba and a flying squadron to the adjacent seas with in twenty-four hours of the declaration of war, it is certainly a marked contrast that Spain has not yet completed her preparations to assert herself in any way. There is a possibility, of course, that she may have deliberately chosen a Fabian policy. In these days when naval squadrons move with such celerity and can deliver crippling blows in such a brief period, the despatch of a flotilla of transports before complete mastery has been obtained of the seas to be traversed by them, is a step from which any Power would shrink. Were America's naval strength incomparably superior to that of Spain, so superior that she could organize an invincible convoying fleet as well as an invincible flying squadron, she might despatch an army to Cuba at once. But her strength, so far as ships, armour, and armament are concerned, is not by any means superior to that of her enemy, and it would, consequently, be little short of recklessness did she attempt the transport of troops to Cuba before the Spanish fleet is crippled, Besides, there is the climatic question. Cuba is an unsupportable place for American soldiers at this season. The Spanish Government understands all these things very well, and, understanding them, may have concluded that it would be the wisest plan to make preparations leisurely, leaving the United States' blockading and flying squadrons to wear out their patience and perhaps suffer more or less injury by constantly keeping at sea. That would be a conceivable programme if Spain could afford to play a waiting game. But can she afford to do so? Already she is threatened by serious domestic dis-turbances, and, whatever be the risks connected with crossing swords, it has never been her habit to hang back from the combat. To us the more credible explanation is the simpler one, namely, that she is not ready. If the rumours persis-tently circulated during the past twelvemonths be trustworthy, her operations against Cuba betrayed, in some important respects, a shocking state of unreadiness. She showed wonderful tenacity of purpose and really admirable superiority to diffi-culties in her perpetual despatch of troops We speak of "shells," because it was the Spanish garrison. Still, it ne nad left doubtless a shell attack. Armour-piercing projectiles would not have been necessary known long ago; and if, on the other hand, against ships so lightly protected as the Spanish cruisers were, and cannon shells charged with high explosive were doubt-

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bly the stories told about those matters were exaggerations, but one thing, at all events, is certain, namely, that the military efforts Spain has been making for the past two years might well have exhausted the strength of a richer and more resourceful Power. Is it a reasonable supposition that, simultaneously with such a terrible military strain, she was careful to keep her navy also in fighting trim, especially when the ships were not needed at all in connexion with her operations against Cuba? We do not think it is reason-Our conviction is that Spain is quite unprepared for a duel at sea, and that her delay in sending a fleet to raise the blockade of Cuba and restore communications with the island is simply attributable to the state of her ships, their armament, and their equipment. Will she have leisure to get ready? The American squadrons can not possibly take the risk of crossing the Atlantic, thus leaving the home waters and coasts entirely undefended. They will not go to Cadiz to look for the foe; or, at least, if they do, it will be an example of dash that defies the ordinary principles of warfare. But the Spanish nation will not be content to see the arena left entirely to the enemy. America can not well go to Spain, but it is Spain's business to go to America, and the former's people may became worse to her than her enemy if she hangs back long. Englishmen, of course, can have only one sentiment in this matter. They want their kinsmen to win, and they would not entertain the smallest doubt about the final issue though there were ten Spains to be fought instead of one. But the Spaniard is such a good fellow, such a brave, generous, high-spirited gentleman, that we do most heartily wish it had fallen to some other hand to strike at him in his hour of adversity.

### DEATH OF PRINCE KUNG.

Some time has passed since the name of Prince Kung used to rise to every one's lips whenever China's foreign affairs were discussed. Old age removed the great statesman from the scene of active business several years before his death, which has just been announced. Yet he was not an old man in the ordinary acceptation of the term. According to our calculation he had only completed his sixty-sixth year at the time of his decease, being thus ten years younger than Li Hung-chang, who is still capable of vigorous service, and who has been appointed Imperial Commissioner to delimit the boundaries of Russia's newly leased lands in Liaotung. Prince Kung, being the immediately younger brother of Hienfung, the last Emperor of China, was conse-quently senior uncle of the reigning sovereign. As far back as 1859, he was a member of a board of three officials charged with the duty of managing "bar-military expansion to the resources of the barian affairs," and when the French country, but seem to admit that the time and British forces moved against Peking in 1860, the task of conferring with Lord Elgin, discussing the terms of peace, and negotiating the treaty devolved upon him. negotiating the treaty devolved upon him. Indemnity is to be ultimately applied are He it was that organised the Tsung-li already fixed. But a considerable time Yamen, that wonderful piece of diplo- must elapse before it is needed for those matic mechanism, endowed with a per-purposes, and, in the meanwhile the In-petual capacity for doing nothing, and demnity will be lying idle and the nation he it was that, by a display of strik- will continue to suffer from want of floating energy and high courage, wrested the government of his country from that the ludemnity be used at once for hery was damaged so as to be unservicePrince Tsai and his seven colleagues redeeming War Bonds. Opportunities to abortion are remarkable affair. Digitized by Gougle

on the board of regents who, had they been suffered to remain at the head of affairs after the death of Hienfung, would probably have destroyed their country. At one moment of his career ruin nearly overtook the Prince. He attempted to pit himself against the two Regent-Empresses, and the result was the loss of all his appointments and his dismissal from official life. But in the short space of five weeks his friends brought about his re-instatement in power, and thenceforth he abandoned all schemes of undue ambition, if, indeed, he had ever entertained any. That was 33 years ago, and four years later (1869) he made his celebrated remark to Sir Rutherford Alcock when the latter was leaving Peking:-"If you could only relieve us of missionaries and opium there need not be any more trouble in China." When the present Emperor assumed the reins of sovereignty in 1874. his first act was to degrade Kung and his son from their hereditary rank as princes of the empire for using "language in many respects unbecoming," and on the very next day a decree of the two Empresses restored the Prince to his old place. These vicissitudes were scarcely thought of by the general public, and certainly did not detract from the high reputation enjoyed by the Prince as one of the greatest of China's modern states-men. The tongue of rumour never found any material to construct charges of dishonesty against him, and it will be universally felt that China loses in him an official whom she can ill spare.

#### TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting held on the 7th instant, decided that, in view of the existing scarcity of floating capital, the State ought to purchase the private railways, raising money abroad for the purpose. The Chamber adopted a number of more or less detailed rules as to the method of effecting the purchase, but we refrain from translating them, as they have no special interest. The principal point to be noted is that twenty years' purchase is the Chamber's idea of a fair price; in other words, the net average earnings of a railway during the three years preceding the date of purchase should be multiplied by twenty to find the value of the line.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has adopted two petitions for presentation to the Diet in the session now about to open. One is in favour of employing the Indemnity for redeeming War Bonds. The document is couched in general terms, and may be briefly summarized by saying that its compilers see pressing necessity for the addition of mlarge sum to the floating capital of the nation. They speak, also, of the desirability of adapting the programme of has passed for any effective modification of the scheme. It is very well understood, of course, that the purposes to which the

procure means of defraying the expendi-tures to meet which the Indemnity is now assigned will easily be found.

The second petition adopted by the Chamber is in favour of admitting foreigners to become shareholders in Japanese companies, with the exception of the Bank of Japan, the Specie Bank, the State-protected companies, and all mining enterprises. The petition does not discuss the question at any length, but merely insists that neither the laws of the land nor the treaties with foreign Powers contain any veto against foreigners enjoying the privilege in question.

#### THE "WINSLOW" AND THE GUN-BOATS.

The action reported to have taken place off Cardenas ou the 8th instant between the United States torpedo vessel Winslow and three gun-boats, must have been a notable affair. We do not know exactly what the Winslow is, but we believe that she is a first-class torpedo-boat-one of the group named after American Admirals, as the Cushing, the Ericsson, and so forth. If so, assuming her to be the finest of that class, her displacement is 185 tons; her speed 27.5 knots, and her armament, three torpedo tubes and four 3-pounder quick-firers. Neither do we know what were the three gun-boats against which the Winslow was pitted. But, omitting two small gun-vessels built in Hongkong, and not taking account of torpedo gunboats, which are larger and finer craft than the ordinary gun-boat, we know that among Spain's ten gun-vessels, four are ships built before 1890 and capable of steaming only It knots, and six are comparatively new with a speed of from 19 to 32.5 knots. Whether old or new, these gunboats are far more heavily armed than any torpedo vessel. They nearly all carry two or three 4.7-inch Hontorias, with a secondary armament of quick-firersgenerally 2.2-inch or 6-pounders. In an engagement with such vessels the Winslow's torpedoes can not have served her at all. She dare not venture within torpedo range of the gunboats, for their 4.7-inch guns or 2.2-inch quick-firers would sink her at once at such close quarters. Hence she must have relied solely on her 3-pr. quick-firers. So long as she was not crippled, she could always escape, of course. But escape does not appear to have been her pro-gramme. She is said to have fought a brilliant action with the gunboats, dis-abling one of them and sustaining no hurt herself. Presumably what she did was to run at great speed within such a short distance of the enemy that her comparatively feeble little 3-pr. quick-firers could be employed effectively. Of course, in order to get near enough to accomplish anything with 3-pounders, she must have been within point-blank range of 6 pounders and 2.2 inch guns-that is to say within pointblank range of the Spainards. How she managed to escape under such circumstances we can not understand. would seem to have been extremely bad gunnery on the Spanish side. As to the feat of disabling a six-hundred-ton gunboat with 3-pr. projectiles, it is very remarkable, Probably what is meant by "disabled" is that the gunboat's machi-

#### THE SHASHI AFFAIR.

It is a matter of some curiosity to observe the mood of the Japanese people with respect to the Shashi outrage. steps taken by Germany in connexion with the murder of two missionaries in Shangtung were ridiculed by the Tokyo press, journals of all shades of political opinion agreeing in the contention that the demands preferred by the Berlin Government were out of proportion to the incident on which they were based. "Pinch your own flesh if you want to appreciate your neighbour's pain" is an ancient saying in the East, and one naturally watches with interest the temper shown by the Japanese nation now that it has to suffer outrages itself at China's hands. It must be confessed that modern Japan has not shown an exacting temper in her dealings with her weaker neighbours. In 1881 and 1884 she exhibited remarkable forbearance towards Korea. Acts which she then agreed to condone without exacting any large reparation would have involved extensive losses of Korean territory had the more refined diplomacy of the present day been required to assess their consequences. But all the Powers were comparatively tolerant in their treatment of weaker brethren a dozen years ago. Japan had no heroic examples whereon to model her procedure in those days. She is better instructed now, and consequently the question, what will she do, becomes very interesting.

moderately. It observes that the people of Hupeh have long been noted for antiforeign prejudice and that the opening of Shashi was attended with great difficulties, the Peking Government having been obliged to exert all its influence in effecting the necessary arrangements. Hence the instance of mob violence now reported need not astonish anyone. If Japan adopted the precedents recently furnished by Western Powers in their manner of treating missionary outrages, she would have to assume an exceedingly stern attitude towards China at present. But it is not in the policy of the Japanese nation to take advantages of another State's weakness, neither do the Japanese entertain any feelings of distrust or of illwill towards the Chinese. On the other hand, the borning of a Consulate over which the Japanese flag floated, and the expulsion of the Consul, a duly accredited agent of the Japanese Government, are acts which belong to a category very different from the assassination or illtreatment of missionaries. They are acts which touch the national honour, and they can not possibly be lightly overlooked. If the deaths of two missionaries cost China a slice of territory, a harbour, an indemnity, the construction and Imperial life and property, but also to prevent the cessions as to railways and mining, the to have fatal effects upon her integrity against Japan, and that the burning of the destruction of the Japanese Consulate and independence. The last three de-British consulate and other buildings was the driving out of the Japanese Consul, mands may seem to bear a character of purely incidental. It is not to be were they measured by the same standard self-seeking on Japan's part; but in truth imagined, however, that the Peking the driving out of the Japanese Consul, of exaction, would warrant a long cata-logue of demands. The Japanese Govern-ment, however, will simply obey the dictates of strict justice. Compensation for the loss of the consultate and for any

authorities of Shashi were wanting in the adoption of proper precautions or in employing with due vigour the forces available at the time of the outrage, they should be dealt with accordingly. Beyond that Japan's demands need not go. At the same time, it will be well for the Chinese Government to remember that incidents like this Shashi outrage are not likely to be treated by other Powers with the same spirit of tolerance as Japan displays. If China hopes to maintain any part of her integrity, she had better exert all her strength to repress these anti-foreign demonstrations. Should she find her own strength indequate for the pur-pose, she would do well to avail herself of the assistance of some friendly Power.

The Yomiuri Shimbun expresses much sympathy with the Chinese Government. It regards this occurrence as another instance of the obstinate conservatism and anti-foreign feeling that pervade the masses in certain parts of China, especially in Hupeh, Honan, and some other provinces in the Valley of the Yangtsze. Japan appreciates her neighbour's diffi-culties. She will not follow the example of Germany, which made the murder of two missionaries by a band of robbers a pretext for territorial and commercial aggrandisement. Neither the laws of morality nor the laws of nations permit such procedure. China will be treated with due courtesy, consideration, and justice. Still, it is not to be denied that the destruction of a Consulate and the The Jili Shimpo writes quietly and driving out of a consulare outrages which can not be lightly passed over, for, though an ignorant mob be directly answerable, such events assume a national character, and the responsibility for them rests ultimately with the Chinese Government, mately with the Chinese Government, Japan ought, therefore, to prefer the following demands:—(1) That China must send an ambassador to offer an apology for the outrage. (2) That the ringleaders of the riot should be duly punished and the fact officially reported to Japan. (3) That proper compensation be paid for the destroyed consulate and other losses incurted. (4) That the Chinese Govern-ment take steps to post a force of guards in each of the foreign settlements. That the Chinese Government employ thirty Japanese to act as its advisers in civil and military affairs. (6) That Japanese instructors and advisers be engaged to there will be no such disposition. Japan assist the various provincial governments. recognized principles of intercourse between civilized states. As for the fourth, namely, the posting of guards in the various foreign settlements, it is a step that China should be pressed to take not merely for the better security of foreign

sires to treat China with all deference. friendship, and consideration, and is anxious to assist in preserving her neighbour's integrity. It can scarcely be doubted that the best assistants China can have for the purpose of shaping an enlightened career are Japanese who know and use her literature, who employ the same script as her people, who understand her customs, usages, and history, and who have had practical experience in dealing with the very difficulties that beset her. The employment of a few of its people is a small matter to this empire from a selfish point of view, but the introduction of such a leaven seems the best and least repellent way of turning China from her prejudices, and inducing her to embrace the civilization in which lies her only chance of national safety,

The Tokyo Asahi very sensibly remarks that the Shashi outrage was not directed specially against Japan. Great Britain suffered equally. We do not know yet even whether it took the character of an anti-foreign demonstration. Of course the prevalence of strong anti-foreign feeling in Hupeh and Honan has long been re-cognised. But there is a possibility that the recent riot owed its origin to the instigation of officials who had lost their posts as collectors of likin owing to the hypothecation of the latter as security for China's new foreign debt. There is also possibility that disaffected secret societies were at the bottom of the affair, their object being to embarrass the central Government by embroiling it with foreign States and exposing it to heavy demands. All hastiness of judgment must therefore be avoided. The true facts of the case must be ascertained before any action is taken, and it must not be forgotten that the incompetence of the Peking Authorities to police the provinces efficiently has often been demonstrated. Under any circumstances, an example like that set by Germany last year must not be followed. If England and Japan were disposed to make this incident a pretext for doing as Germany did, namely, achieving a longcherished ambition without any proper regard for the rights of the case, they might prefer sweeping demands, since the burning of consulates is an act of national import, which can not be said of the assassination of a missionary. But of course and England will adopt a similar line in (7) That a China-Japan bank be organized. seeking reparation, and will keep within With regard to the first three of the above the strict limits of justice. The Asahi demands, they are in accord with the thinks, however, that as Shashi was opened through Japan's exertions, the latter Power should take the lead in this matter, and should approach England for the purpose of arranging concerted action.

The Chugai Shogyo Shimpo writes in a similar strain, but is disposed to think dedication of a temple, and other con-repetition of ourrages which can not fail that the outrage was primarily directed other damage suffered must, as a matter of course, be exacted, and the punishment of the ringleaders in the riot will be ment of the ringleaders in the riot will be mot less essential. Further, should it appear after investigation that the local prefer extortionate demands. Japan de-day of the opening of Shashi, fears were

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entertained that the proverbial anti-foreign prejudices of the people would lead to outrages. It is the expected, therefore, that has happened on this occasion.

#### " NICHI-NICHI SHIMBUN" & THE RUSSO-JAPANESE PROTOCOL.

The Nichs-Nichs Shimbun compliments the Cabinet very highly on the success that has attended its efforts to come to a satisfactory understanding with Russia on the importance of preserving the independence of Korea. Our contemporary alleges that when Count Okuma held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs he allowed himself to be entirely engrossed with questions of party politics, the result being that the interests of the country were not safeguarded abroad nor its prestige vindicated. In the Korean Peninsula, especially, Russia's influence became paramount, the military and financial affairs of that empire falling almost completely under her control. The present Cabinet, on assuming office, lost no time in applying itself to correct the disorder in the country's foreign affairs, and the Protocol just published is one of the results of its labours. Formerly Japan, in her attempts to assert the independence of Korea, had to confront China only. But after the war of 1894-5, three European Powers stepped into China's place, and it was not possible for Japan to stand against them. Now, she has recovered her lost position, and, whereas formerly she could obtain only China's recognition of the peninsular Empire's independence, she has to-day succeeded in obtaining its recognition by one of the great Powers of Europe, a consummation that marks m new departure in the politics of the Far East. She has also secured Russia's promise to abstain from placing any impediment in the path of Japanese commercial and industrial relations with Korea. That pledge should have a reassuring effect. There is no doubt that a very unsatisfactory state of affairs existed in Korea from the point of view of the lapanese man of business. Obstructions and difficulties of all kinds were encountered by persons endeavouring to prosecute enterprises in the peninsula, and it was felt that nothing could be resolutely or confidently attempted. sense of insecurity is now removed, and the fact furnishes matter for congratulation when we remember the large commercial and industrial interests that Japan has in Korea. The Nichi Nichi further points out that, although the Government has now discharged its duty, its efforts can not be crowned with practical fruits unless the nation rise to the level of the situation thus created, and concludes by significantly observing that, Korea being the field where Japan's influence must be extended, her failure there would be tantamount to her effacement in the Far

There is a somewhat remarkable display of indifference on the part of the Japanese press towards the Russo-Japanese Protocol. The only journal of importance by which it has thus far been discussed is the Kokumin Shimbun, a paper which, as a matter of course, shows no disposition to give the Government any credit for the Protocol. It alleges that, in effect, the provisions of the document tine happened to be convenient.

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equal footing towards Korea, and openly recognise the state of affairs now actually existing. In fact, according to the Kokumin, neither of the contracting parties has gained or granted anything; each is placed exactly in the position to which it is entitled. Rumour says, however, that the price paid by Japan for the Protocol was the recognition of Russia's new status in Manchuria. If that be true, the Govern-ment has made a stupendous blunder, for it has given away a great deal and obtained nothing at all in return. The Kokumin makes a very poor show of believing the story. Indeed, its whole article is transparently captious and prejudiced.

#### STILL THE PRISON QUESTION.

The Kobe Chronicle is still dissatisfied with the members of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce who prepared and pub lished a report about the Sugamo Prison. Referring to our remarks on the subject, our contemporary says :-

The Mail says that it is in Sugamo Prison that foreigners suspected of crime are to undergo punishment. What foreigners? Are foreigners arrested in any part of the Empire to be brought to Sugamo? Are foreigners arrested in the provinces to be detained in a Tokyo-fu prison, and carried backwards and forwards for examination. and trial to the district where the alleged crime was committed? It is only reasonable to assume that a foreigner arrested in the interior will be detained in the nearest provincial prison during the process of his examination. If he is denied half, he may be detained for months in such a

That is a perplexing statement. The Mail did not say that foreigners "suspected of crime are to undergo punishment at Sugamo Prison." The Mail is ment at Sugamo Prison." The Mail is not aware that persons "suspected" of crime are subjected to punishment in any civilized country. We should conclude of course, that "suspected" was a misprint for convicted "-especially as the Kobe Chronicle quotes us correctly elsewhere in the same article-were it not that that hypothesis becomes untenable in the face of our contemporary's appended comments about "foreigners arrested in the provinces" being "detained in a Tokyo prison and carried backwards and forwards for examination and trial to the district where the alleged crime was committed,' It is not surprising that the effect of newspaper discussions in this part of the world is to confuse and bewilder the public. The Kobe Chronscle has made itself conspicuous for its crusade in this matter of prisons, yet we now find it talking about a prison for the "punishment of foreigners suspected of crime," and then proceeding to ask a number of questions which are comically irrelevant. The simple fact is that Sugamo Prison is understood to be the place where foreigners convicted of crime will undergo punishment. We do not know whether it is to be the only prison used for that purpose in Japan, but it certainly will be the principal prison. It is a convict prison. Persons awaiting trial are not incarcerated there. kind of building in which foreign convicts will undergo punishment, and the nature of the treatment they will receive there, are not the least important points to be investigated in connexion with this subject. They are points to which the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce first directed its attention, not, indeed, of deliberate choice, but simply because that rou-

where suspects will be detained than to learn the kind of places where convicts will undergo punishment, and blames the members of the Yokohama Chamber for publishing any report until they could supply information on the former point as well as the latter. That is amusingly hypercritical. The compilers of the report may be pardoned for imagining that two entirely independent branches of their subject might be independently discussed. We shall presently hear what they have to say about the places where persons awaiting trial are detained, and we venture to predict that, with the exception of the editor of our Kobe contemporary, no one will be so curiously exacting as to assert that they should not have said anything about the treatment of convicts until they knew all about the treatment of suspects,

#### THE FORMOSA RAILWAY.

It is alleged by the Yorozu Choho that Messrs. Peacock and Company, of Lohdon, have now definitely agreed to lend to the projectors of the Formosa Railway a sum of £1,500,000,the conditions being, five per cent. interest; 95 yen per 100 yen bond; 15 years without redemption, and redemption thereafter within a period of three years: and, finally, the purchase of all the railway's locomotives from Messrs. Peacock and Company at approximately the same prices as those paid for the locomotives on State and private lines in Japan. The Yorozu expresses much surprise at this arrangement, and observes that, according to the charter of the Formosan Railway Company, it is not allowed to contract debts exceeding one half of its paid-up capital. At present the Company's subscribed capital is only to million yen, and nothing has yet been paid up. How, then, can it be justified in borrowing 15 million ven?

#### TORYO I ITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

Owing to the theatrical performance of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society having been fixed for Tuesday, the 17th instant, so that the full dress rehearsal takes place on Monday, the 16th, it has been found necessary to postpone the usual fortnightly meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society until Monday, the 23rd instant. We have been asked to make this intimation to our readers, but it seems well to add a word of explanation, as the similarity of the two societies' names may create some confusion. The Tokyo Literary and Musical Society has its head-quarters in Tsukiji and holds its meetings twice a month in the Parish Buildings. Tokyo Musical and Dramatic Society can not be said to have its headquarters in any particular place, and does not give performances at set intervals, but when it does organize an entertainment, the place is usually the Shoreikai Hall. According to the original plan, the Dramatic and Musical Society was to give its second performance for this year on Monday, the 10th instant. There would then have been no clashing with the regular bi-monthly performance of the sister Society on Monday, 16th. But, The owing to the sudden illness of Madame la amount to nothing worth speaking of. They Kabe Chronicle apparently thinks it more Baronne d'Anethan, who was to have merely place Japan and Bussia on an important to know the kind of places playing the principal rôle in the theatricals of the Dramatic Society, the latter had to put off its full dress rehearsal and performance until the 16th and 17th respectively, and a corresponding postponement of the Literary Society's meeting until the 23rd became necessary. The dates as now fixed are, therefore, these :--

Monday, 15th, 8.30 p.m.—Full Dress Rehearsal in the Shoreikai, Tora-no-mon; Tokyo Dra-matic and Musical Society.

matic and Minical Society.
Tuesday, 17th, 8.30 p.m.—Amateur Theatrical
Performance, in the Shoreikai, Tora-nomon; Tokyo D amatic and Musical Society.
Monday, 23td, 8.30 n.m.—Regular bi-monthly
meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical
Society, in the Parish Building, Tsukiji.

We may add that, in the case of both societies, these performances will conclude the programmes for the first half of 1898.

#### A DELIRIOUS PERFORMANCE.

We have had occasion to refer once or twice to a publication of which few of our readers are likely to have any direct knowledge-the Shepherd's Voice. It is a semi-missionary periodical, edited by Mr. Eugenese Snodgrass with Biblical interpretation by the Rev. J. M. McCaleb. In its last number it contains an article headed "Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society," the writer of which expresses great indignation because "a farcical comedy called 'Naval Engagements' was exhibited in the Episcopal Building in Tokyo." That, of course, is quite incorrect. The performance of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society did not take place in the Episcopal Building, wherever that may be. It took place in the hall of the Shoreikai, an edifice without any religious affinities whatever. Mistakes, however, may be made by the most careful writers, and if only a mistake were in question, there would be little to say. But the writer of the article takes upon himself to assert that "the personal (sic) of the actors were Christians, skeptics, infidels, and what not;" that "the devil and sectarianism went hand in hand when these buildings were thrown open for theatricals;" that "the performance was worldly, yea! absolutely immoral and indecent;" that the actors "exhibited their diabolical wares within the very holy of holies," and that "the organizations under the name of churches of Christ which set up such Satanic performances have no more claim to be called a church than a variety theatrical troop would have." The only conclusion to be drawn from such raving is that the writer is insane. He evidently a species of irresponsible fanatic for whom charitable folks must feel profound pity.

#### PRIVATE PROPERTY IN WAR.

What we have written on the subject of private property in war seems to have conveyed to Mr. Tyler--whose letter we publish elsewhere—an impression not contemplated by us. It was not our intention to reflect on the action of the United States in particular. America is acting in this matter as all other nations But we do unhesitatingly affirm that the principles of civilization are outraged when war-ships pursue and capture merchant vessels upon the high sea simply because the latter are flying the colours of an enemy. The extremely remote contingency that such vessels, if not captured, may be used by the enemy for

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transporting troops and munitions of war is scarcely relevant, in our opinion. If that were the real motive of capture, the vessels should be restored to their owners on the re-establishment of peace, whereas they are sold for the benefit of their captors. All private property ought to be secure alike in peace and in war. That the civilized nations of the world war. It is appointed at Sension Bureau.

January, 1874, resigned all his official posts. Applicately agree upon that point we are ultimately agree upon that point, we are entirely persuaded.

#### A SINGULAR STORY.

Under the heading "Foreign Employés in Japan," Mr. Basil Hall Chamberlain makes the assertion that "a Frenchman codified Japanese law and abolished torture." In support of that statement he tells the following tale:

This forward step was entirely due to the personal initiative of Monsieur Boissonnade de Fon-tarable. Soon after his arrival in the country in tarable. Such after insarrival in the country in 1873, when seated one day busy with the preliminates for the work of codification, he heard grouns in an adjoining apartment, and asked what they meant. An evasive answer was returned; but he persisted, and finally burst into the room whence the growns issued, to find a man stretched on the tortor-boards with layers of beavy stones piled on his legs. Returning to his Japanese colleagues, he plainly hold them that such horrors and civilised law could not coexist, that torture must cease instantly, or that he must resign. This firm stand brought about the instruction. This firm stand brought about the immediate disuse of a practice so shocking to humanity. The sufferer—a young man accused of a political offence—afterwards cone to entinence as Count Mutsu, sometime Minister of Foreign

This appears to us to be a most extraordinary narrative. Why M. Boissonnade should have carried on the work of codification in a jail, as must have been the case if the chamber adjoining the scene of his study was a torture room, we can not pretend to guess. But details of that kind are of secondary importance. The chief difficulty about the story is that in 1874, when Mr. Chamberlain represents Mr. Mutsu as undergoing torture, the latter was Chief of a Bureau in the Home Department, and had recently been appointed to that post after serving as Governor of Kanagawa. It certainly will not be very pleasant for the late Count Mutsu's family and numerous admirers to read this extraordinary canard about him, and to be told that, at a time when he held high office, he was receiving the treatment of a common criminal.

in the above article which refers to a strange story which appears in "Things Japanese" on the subject of the abolition of torture in Japan, we made some statements from memory as to the official position held by Mr. Mutsu—the late Count Mutsu—at the time when the author of "Things Japanese" represents him as having been subjected to torture. We have now examined the record of Count Mutsu's services and are in a position to show conclusively that the story contained in "Things Japanese" must be a pure canard. The story is that, in 1873, M. Boissonnade, being engaged with preliminaries for the work of codi-fying the laws of Japan, heard groans in an apartment adjoining that where be was at work; forced his way into the room; found Mr. Mutsu undergoing torture; declared that he must resign at once if such practises were not abandoned immediately, and was successful in his protest. Now the official record of Mr. Mutsu's services runs:-

August, 1871, appointed Governor of Kanagawa, January, 1872, received the additional appointment of Datjo in the Foreign Office for a special

February, 1872, received Fureign Office appoint-

the Finance Department, as well as the post

of controller of Customs at Kanagawa. March; 1872, resigned his additional appointment at the Customs.

June, 1872, appointed President of the Taxation Bureau.

It is obviously a mistake-and a very extraordinary mistake too-to suppose that the late Csunt, Mutsu can have been subjected to torture at any time between 1871 and 1875. In fact, he was in high repute and held an important official post at the very time when M. Boissonnade is said to have found him "stretched on the torture-boards with layers of heavy stones piled on his legs."

It is further to be noted that the abolition of torture is said to have taken place in 1873, in consequence of "the firm stand" made by M. Boissonnade. But on referring to the archives, we find that the Notification partially abolishing torture was issued on August 25th, 1874. It ran

NOTIFICATION No. 19 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

From ancient times it has been the practice to is testing in investigating criminal cases. But it would be an outrage if an intocent person should be made to appear guilty owing to the use of undue severity. Therefore recourse to torture of undue severity. Therefore i shall in future be discontinued.

shall to future be discontinued.

Provided that, in cases where the process of examination might otherwise present difficulties, torture may be employed for the occasion, but should such necessity occur, the circumstances must be noted, and a report of all instances of the kind must be made to the Department of Justice at the end of each month.

(Dated) August 25th, 1874. It is plain from this document that torture was not abolished in 1873, and that, so was not about no 1073, and that, so far from its "immediate disuse" having been brought about by M. Boissonnade's "firm stand," it was only partially abolished in Appret 1871. lished in August, 1874.

In our correspondence columns will be found an extraordinary letter signed "Amicus." We deliberatelly call at an extraordinary letter, not so much because of its discourteous tone-courtesy s too often at a discount in the Far East-as because the writer, basing his assertions on two perfectly plain arti-cles in this journal, gravely attributes to us statements which cannot possibly be deduced from those articles. He says that we have "denied to Mr. Boissonade the chief share in the complete and final abolition of torture in Japan," and that we have "seen fit to endeavour to deprive him of a glory which he prized above all others." We have done nothing of the kind. If "Amicus" read the articles which appear to have roused his indignation on behalf of his absent friend-a man whose friendship we also enjoyed and for whose noble character we entertain the highest admiration-he must have brought to their perusal some prejudice which strangely blinded him to their true import and object. We know nothing of M. Boissonade's share in procuring the abolition of torture. The main question, the question to which we applied ourselves almost uniquely, was whether the late Mr. (afterwards Count) Mutsu suffered torture at the hands of the judicial authorities in 1873 or 1874. We have shown absolutely, shown beyond all per-adventure or possibility of doubt, that Mr. of Vice-President of the Taxation Bureau in original from Original from

declares that he "had from Monsieur Boissonade's own lips the assertion to which you take exception." "Amicus" venture to affirm, then, that, according to the direct testimony of M. Boissonade, Mr. Mutsu was subjected to torture in 1873 or 1874, and that M. Boissonnade was "an ocular witness of the case?" It is wholly impossible that M. Boissonade can have made any such statement, for the thing never happened. To show that it never happened, and to repudiate a falsehood so injurious to Count Mutsu's memory and so painful to his relatives and friends, was our main object in writing. As to M. Boissonade's share in procuring the abolition of torture, we repeat that we know nothing. But when by way of evidence that "the step was entirely due to his initiative," a story is put forward which can not by any possibility be reconciled with historical facts, we simply decline to accept the tale. We do so, however, without the smallest prejudice to M. Boissonade's claim. A second point also was noted by us; namely, that, according to the writer of "Things Japanese," the "firm stand" made by M. Boissonade in 1873 "brought about the immediate disuse of a practice so shocking " (i.e. torture). Now Notification No. 19, issued by the Department of Justice on August 25th, 1874, interdicted the general use of torture in criminal investigations, but ex-plicitly reserved to judges discretionary power to resort to it "in cases where the process of examination might otherwise present difficulties." There was consequently no immediate disuse of "a practice so shocking" either in 1873 or in 1874. Thus the story related in "Things Japanis again shown to be unworthy of credit. Does it follow that the honour of being mainly instrumental in bring-ing about the abolition of torture in Japan must be denied to M. Boissonade? Of course not. The only thing proved is that an erroneous version of the facts has been published. It is very possible that M. Boissonade did become a fortuitous witness of the application of torture to some unfortunate Japanese subject, and it is very possible that the pity and indignation aroused in him by. pity and indignation aroused in him by, the spectacle proinpted him to enter a protest of such vehemence as to greatly influence the Japanese authorities. The story in "Things Japanese" may contain that much truth. But for the rest it is a false story and "Amicus" only weakens M. Boissonade's claim by levelling singularly indiscriminating and unjust accusations at our heads. M. Boissonade, were he now in Japan, would certainly "enter a protest against such a manner of writing listory." But not against our manner: against the manner of the author of "Things Japanese" and of "Amicus." We have adduced extracts from official archives in support of every statement made by us, and we invite "Amicus" to descend from the cloudland of friendship's romance, and, instead of indulging in sentimental generalities, to demonstrate plainly that we have erred in any degree, however trivial. We do not dispute M. Boissonade's claim. We dispute simply the evidence adduced in support of it by the author of "Things Japanese."

#### RELIANCE WHEELMEN.

#### THE JUBILER CUP RACE.

The third and final race among members of the Reliance Wheelmen for the handsome lubilee Cup, took place on Wednesday evening at the Cricket Ground before a large assemblage. A fairly stiff breeze was blowing but it did not interfere very seriously with the riders. Out of the eight entries, six came to the post, the absentees being J. B. Gibbs, jun., and C. Thwaites, who were prevented by business engagements.

The course was five miles, necessitating 17 laps. The only one to drop out was McChesney, who retired at the eighth lap, all the others finishing. It was not till the rath lap that matters began to be interesting. By this time Itwine had passed Bohlke and began to draw up on Kay Smith. In the next lap he passed to the front and kept there to the end. Meanwhile Bain and Dewette began to draw up and first one and then the other passed, but eventually Bain drew clear and the pair passed Bohlke in that order. From the 15th lap all was over save the shouting, Irwine having the race well in hand, and he passed the post an easy winner by several lengths. Upon the times being worked out the following results were obtained, the men being placed as figured below:—

*	Mia.	Sec.
E. H. Irwine(1)	15	21
K. Smith(2)	15	44
C. H. Baio(3)	15	4
A. L. J. Dewelle	15	10
R. Bulilke(5)	15	371

The officers of the day were:—Referes, E. Adet; Starter, T. Abbey; Judges, F. M. Gowey, B. J. Jackson, H. F. Arthur; Time-keepers, E. Mendelson, G. S. Nelson, A. M. Wolf; Scorers, H. Gunn, E. Barfoot, and C.V. Schmidt. After the race Mrs. E. Champneys Irwine presented the prizes. E. H. Irwine, 1st, obtained the Jubilee cup and a medal for his win in the second race; Smith took second prize and medal for win in the first race; Bain took third prize, and Dewette fourth prize.

#### " KABUKIZA" THEATRE.

Globe-trotters have now an opportunity of obtaining an interesting glimpse of the high dramatic art of Japan and the ways of native theatre-goess. Mr. Danjuro, the greatest of Japanese modern actors, is running an attractive hill at the Kabukiza theatre, Kobikicho, and no better chance of seeing Japanese acting at its highest can be had.

The Kabukiza programme is one of the best ever placed before the Tokyo public. The performances, which last from 11 a, m. to 8 p m., consist of the repetition of three plays. The first represents a quariel between two Courtladies and the loyalty of a devoted maidservant, who kills the enemy of her mistress. Daujuro, Shucho, and Kikugoro, the former as the ladies, and the latter as the servant, are the actors, and the manner in which they imitate the walk, actions, and manners of Japanese women is a revelation. The second play is in the most mournful vein of tragedy. It illustrates the gailantry and loyalty of the old fendal times, and there is a brave young noble (with all the perfections of the Adelphi hero on his head) and a fascinating lady whose hard adventures enchain the sympathy of a Japanese audience as much as the woes of Romeo and Juliet would move a Western theatre. The period is that of 1000 years back, and the dresses are all of archaic pattern. The last play is probably the most interesting to foreign sight-seers. It illustrates the heroism of a young gentleman of Vedo in the olden time, and the gotgenous

panoramic representation of the famous Kanda festival is a spectacle well worth seeing. So, too, is the Okaru Kampei dance, with 50 sctors on the stage. Indeed, the whole is as good as can be seen in Japan. Foreigners visiting the theatre are invariably received with the utmost politeness.

#### KOBE'S CELEBRATION.

The celebration of Kobe's thirtieth anniversary passed off most successfully on Saturday. M. de Lucy-Fossarieu, doyen of the Consular body, made an excellent reply to the Governor's addiess. Having aliaded to the wonderful growth of the town, whose trade during the thirty years of its existence had grown from 50 to 160 millions a year, making Kobe rank as the third port in the Far East, the speaker continued, says the Chronicle:—

"As I am speaking now on behalf of your foreign guests, I may be allowed, without wishing in any way to belittle the merits of your country-men, to claim for the foreign merchants the portion that belongs to them in the wonderful expansion of the trade of this port (and of the general trade of Japan), and share of legitimate pride which they also are entitled to derive from it. Their experience, their capital, their intelligence, their credit, and their connections all over the world were the first elements out of which came the birth, the creat, and their connections an over the work were the first elements out of which came the birth, the growth, and at last, with your direct participation, the expansion of a trade which now entrobes or supports many militons of Japanese—merchants, peasants, working men, sailors, or labourers—and which has so powerfully contributed to the present expansion and granulated from titles. peasants, working men, suitors, or labourers—and which has so powerfully contributed to the present prosperity and greatness of Japan. These are titles to consideration which perhaps there is too much inclination in certain quarters to forget. In the eyes of some of your nationals, the pioneers of former times, having become competitors, are no longer even civals, but intruders, if not enemies. The amount of business which passes through their hands is jealously calculated as so much that ought of eight to belong to Japanese, and of which the Japanese are maintify defrauded. This—need I say it—is to indulge a prejudice as baneful as: it is unjust;—haneful because it tends to excite a spirit of antagonism moverthy of our times, and the effects of which, especially in Kobe, are felt even elsewhere than in the field of commerce; unjust, because Japan offers to commercial enterprises a field wide enough for all, and without any necessity existing for driving out those who were first to till it. It is an acknowledged convention that sentiment must be kept apart from business, and that in such matters interest is the only criterion. It would therefore be a mistake, even from that in such matters interest is the only criterion. It would therefore be a mistake, even from that in such matters interest is the only criterion. It would therefore that it is precisely the interest of foreigners just as much as of Japanese to develop Japan's trade in the widest degree of which it is capable, to open constantly new onlets for it, and to extend its resources, so that, while it is true they are working for themselves, their efforts in the end make for the general good of your country. It is therefore with a much sincerity as the Japanese that foreigners general good of your country. It is therefore with as much sincerity as the Japanese that foreigness as much sincerity as the Japanese that foreigness settled in Kobe congratulate themselves upon the tesuits obtained so far;—with as much energy will they endeavour not only to maintain those tesuits, but to improve on them in the future. Japanese and foreigners have been the joint builders of a commercial prosperity such as few cities could boast of in the like space of time; and in the new era of which we are now on the eve—for, by a curious coincidence, to-day's ceremony is destined to mark almost precisely in the history of Kobe the point of separation between the old and the new régimes of Treaties—we may hope that the continuation of these joint we may hope that the continuation of these joint we may hope that the continuation of these joint efforts will bring forth results none the less satisfactory."

Mr. Arthur W. A'Beckett speaks of the fare at the weekly dinner of the Punch staff. It is thus described: "The simplest thing in the world. A few oysters, a little clear soup, a bit of salmon, a couple of enti-fees—one white one brown—a vegetable salad, a saddle of mutton, a bird, a sweet or two, an ice, a savoury, and a cup of coffee. Then, if we have that, we shall want nothing better. For, after all, we only require an excuse for the wines—and they are always excellent."

### RUSSO-JAFANESE PROTOCOL.

T has been understood for some little time that the Governments of Russia the sequel of the YAMAGATA-LOBANOW Convention, and the text of the document is now published.

PRUTOGOL.

Baron Nissi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and Baron Rosen, le Conseiller d'Etat actuel et Chambellan, Rosen, le Conseiller d'Etat actuel et Chambellan, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipolen-tiary of His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias, duly authorized to that effect, have agreed upon the following articles in pussuance of Articli 4 of the Protocol signed at Moscow on the 9th June, 1896, btween Marshal Marquis Yamagata and Prince Lobanney, Secretary of State:—

Art. I — The Imperial Governments of Japan and Russia definitively recognize the sovereignty and entire independence of Korea, and mutually engage to reliain from all direct interference in the internal affairs of that country.

the internal artains of that country.

Art. II.—Desiring to avoid every possible cause of misunderstanding in the future, the Imperial Governments of Japan and Russia mutually engage, in case Korea should apply to Japan or Russia for advice and assistance, not to take any measure in the nomination of military instructors and financial advisers, without having previously come to a mutual agreement on the subject.

Art. III.—In view of the large development of Japanese commercial and industrial enterprise in Koren, as well as the considerable number of Japanese subjects resident in that country, the Imperial Russia Government will not impede the development of the commercial and industrial relations between Japan and Korea.

Done at Tokyo, in duplicate, this 25th day of April, 1898.

[L.S.J] Nissi. [L.S.] Rosen.

It will be seen that the first article contains a very explicit declaration of the high contracting parties' recognition of Korea's sovereignty and independence. As to the worth of such a declaration, it is useless to say anything. The validity of every pledge depends, to a large extent, upon the good faith of those concerned in observing it. At this particular moment Russia appears to have no designs upon Korean integrity, but if she succeeds in eliminating such designs from the future history of her procedure in the Far East, she will have to shape the course of events in a manner inconsistent with present indications. Assuming that her programme about Liaotung and the Manchurian railway is carried out, there is no closing our eyes to the fact that the whole section of Eastern Asia, extending from the Sea of Japan on the east to the Khingan range on the west, and bounded on the south by the Liaotung Gulf, the Korean Bay, and the Yalu River, will, one day, be added to her empire. Can she afford, when that day comes, to leave Korea independent? Not unless she resigns herself to abandon, or virtually abandon, Vladivostock; for the Power seated in the Korean peninsula would command the line of communications from Peter the Great Bay to Liaotung. That the promise contained in this new protocol has been made in good faith, no one has any right to doubt. That it can be faithfully observed in the face of the conditions created by other covenants, appears to us altogether problematical.

furnishing military and financial advisers to Korea, is unexpectedly clear. We should not have looked for more than an engagement that either side must notify and Japan had negotiated a protocol in the other before furnishing such advisers; whereas we have an engagement that "mutual agreement" must be an essential preliminary. "Mutual agreement" means, of course, that an absolute veto can be imposed by one of the two Powers on the acts of the other in this matter. Russia certainly did not interpret the YAMAGATA-LOBANOW Convention in that sense. When she was asked by the Emperor of KOREA to furnish military and financial advisers, she complied at once with the request, taking no steps whatever to inform Japan and ignoring the latter's subsequent protests. She has now, however, assumed a very different attitude, and doubtless the Japanese nation will derive much satisfaction from the change.

between the lines. It speaks of "the large development of Japanese commercial and industrial enterprises in Korea" and engages the Russian Government, in view of those facts, not to impede the growth of Japan's tradal and manufacturing relations with Korea. Such language amounts to an admission that Japan's material interests in the Korean peninsula are dominant. Of course, there can be no question that they do predominate, but a conventional declaration of the fact on Russia's part is significant. For the rest, this article will have the effect of dispelling scheme, by such men as Counts Okuma and a feeling of uneasiness which has greatly Inouye and their friends. The supporters of impeded Japan's enterprise in Korea of late, especially in the matter of railways.

It is curious to note how completety Japan has stepped into the place hitherto occupied by China vis-à-vis Korea. This ROSEN-NISHI Protocol bears a remarkably close resemblance to the ITO-LI convention of 1885. It was predicted by good judges at the latter date that if unhappily China and Japan should ever quarrel over Korea, the onlooker, Russia, would principally profit by the fracas. The forecast was sound. It is with Russia that Japan has now to parley about Koreau independence, as she parleyed with China thirteen years ago. Let us hope that the analogy will never be pushed to completion.

#### DEPARTURE OF MR. & MRS. HEROD.

Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Herod left Tokyo by the 9 a.m. train on the morning of the 11th, to take the steamer which sailed at noon for San Francisco. A large number of Tokyo residents, Foreign and Japanese, assembled at Shimbashi to bid them farewell, and to wish them the good-fortune and happiness which ought certainly to fall to their lot wherever they find themselves. Mr. Herod is still a very young man, but has already given convincing ars to us altogether problematical.

The second article, with reference to them most delightful memories.

#### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The Döshisha affair, on which so much has been written in these columns, not only forms the subject of numerous articles in the religious magazines, but has been taken up by secular newspapers and discussed from varied points of view. Among what has been written points of view. Among what has been written it is hard to find anything like a strong desence of the Trustees. So much criticism of their action has already been published in the Jayan Mail that we now confine ourselves to a reproduction of the gist of what has been said in their favour. In the Kirisuto Krō Shimbun, one of the Döshisha teachers, Mr. Abe Isawo, as a private individual, writes in the following terms .- It can not be maintained that the members of an Association have no right to change its rules. It is not forms but ussentials that are important. The idea of establishing Döshisha Ordinary Middle Schools resembling in every respect those under the direct control of the Mombusho and qualified to claim all the privileges granted to such schools, was carried into practice during the Presidency of Mr. Kosaki Hiromichi. The original principle of these schools was thorough conformity with the Mombusho regulations. The third article invites some reading That the carrying out of this principle would involve a certain amount of change in the con-stitution of the Doshisha should have been foreseen by the Members of the Association. If there were any objections to the course folof "the considerable number of Japanese lowed they should have been brought forward subjects resident in that country," and it I the time of the establishment of the achools. The whole movement of which the action complained of is the culmination should have been denounced II the outset. amount of compromise is involved in establishment of such schools was evident from the very first.

> In an address delivered to the students of the Döshisha and others, President Yokoi alludes to the action of the Trustees. To the objection that this action is contrary to the wishes of the founders of the Institution he replies that the American Board was not the sole founder of the Doshisha, that no less than 50,000 yen was subthe institution being partly foreign and partly apanese, it is unreasonable to demand that the Japanese element should be made subservient to the foreign. There are those who advocate, continues Mr. Yokoi, the dissolution of the company and the return of the money realised by the sale of the property to the original aub-scribers. This plan might suit the subscribers, scribers. but would such a proceeding be fair to the men by whose exertions the institution was founded? Would it be fair to such men m Nijima, Yemamoto, and Yamazaki? That after an existence of 20 years the Doshisha should attain independence and assert its own individuality, is quite natural. The attack on the action of the Trustees now going on is only to be regarded as the display of antipathy to the thorough independence of the Institution.

> Writing in the Kirisutokyo Shimbun, Mr. Tamura Nao-omi contends that the Doshisha, being a self-governing body, has a perfect right to alter its own rules. The article that in the old rules declared that certain rules were unalterable from every point of view was re-garded as most inconvenient. With the progress of events and of thought the rules of every existing body need readjustment, and surely every Society has the power to alter its own rules. Few people realise what restriction in this respect implies. To give an example:—One of the Articles of Association (Art, IV.) says that Kyoto shall be the head-quarters of the Doshisha. Now supposing a very rich man were to offer to subscribe a large sum of money on the condition that another place be made head-quarters, could Art. IV. not be altered? There are in America and elsewhere numbers of Societies which have altered even their fundamental rules. Hence undue fuss has been made over this Döshisha affair.

Original from



The general public in Japan, continues Mr. Tamura, has been entirely mininformed in re-ference to the Doshisha. It has never been a Christian Institution, as people in America are well aware. When I was in America I constantly read paragraphs in the newspapers calling attention to the lack of Christianity in the Döshisha. The American Board, the principal American subscribers, and many of the Missionaries have known for years that the Doshisha was not Christian. On this we give Mr. Tamurat ipsissima verba:---American Board wa mochiron, senkyőshi deme, ippan no kifusha (subscribers) demo, Doshisha wo Kirisutokyo shugi no gakko to wa hitolsu mo shinfite wa oranu nari. The rules of the Deshisha as far as Christianity is concerned have for a long time been a dead letter. Rules are of no use without the men to carry them out, and it is so open secret that for many years past the Kumini churches, which were intimately connected with the founding of the Doshisha, have been permeated with Unitarianism. To attack the present trustees of the Doshisha and represent them as the sole cause of the change in the Rules of the Insti-tution shows great ignorance. The trend of thought in the Congregational Churches has for years past all been in the direction of rationalism. The action of the trusteen in the result of general feeling and sentiment, and it would be more beneficial for those who undertake to discuss this question in pay more attention to the remote cause of that action rather than represent it as entirely isolated. To argue as if the Kumini Churches were Christian and orthodox and as if the lack of Christianity were confined to the Döshisha, reveals profound ignorance of the real state of affairs.

It is not the Doshisha and the Kumini Churches at its back alone that have in recent charches at its back above that have in recent years forfeiged the confidence of the American Christian public. The Nihon Krisuto Kyō kai is in the same boat. It comes to this, that as soon m Japanese churches reject dogman and formulae considered reject dogman and formulae considered essential by Occidental churches they lose the support and sympathy of foreign mission boards. The rejection of the Westminster Catechism by the Nihon Kirisuto Kyōkai (Presbyterian) was the signal for the withdrawal of a large amount of pecuniary support. Undue fuss has been made over the revision of the Doshisha rules. What is wanted is an earnest and able set of men to work the Insti-What is wanted is an tution. Rules of themselves are of little use and there is no object in preserving forms that represent no living influence of any kind.

Writing in the Rikugo Zasshi, Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta asserts that the Doshisha has not sacrificed Christianity to convenience, that the school is Christian in all essential respects. Article III, of the Rules declares that Christianity is the basis of the moral education imparted by Doshisha schools and that article still remains intact. If the object of the Mombusho was me get rid of every Christian element in the Insti-tution, why did it allow Art. III. to remain an a part of the Rules? The whole thing is a mystery.

The Shahai Zasshi is surprised that Mr. Kosaki renounces all responsibility in connecwhereas it was under his Presidency that the Trustees cut off their connection with the American Board on the acore of doctrinal differences of opinion. Mr. Kosaki attacks the present Trustees in the Shin Seiki. The fact is. says the Shakai Zasshi, this Doshisha episode reveals to how great an extent the Chris-tian church is split up into rival factions. The part the Mombusho has played in the whole affair is condemned by the Shakai Zasshi. As long as the standard of the Department as regards secular subjects is reached, says this organ, exemption from conscription should be granted as well as other privileges claimed by middle schools. President Yokoi is doubtShakai Zasshi, iliat changes have of late been made in the rules of a number of mission schools, in order to bring them into conformity with the Mombusho regulations or the requirements of local School Boards? Have not such institutions as the Aoyama Gaku-in, the Azabu Eiwagakko, the Rikkyo gakko, the Nihou Chugaku-in, the Meiji-gakuin, and the Nara Chū gakko all recently stated that they are prepared to give up teaching the Bible as a part of the school curriculum in return for official recognition as Ordinary Middle Schools? This being the case is not the outery against the Doshisha alone somewhat unreasonable?

We now add a brief summary of the part taken by the newspapers in this controversy. The Nippon condemns the course followed by the Mombusho in unmeasured terms, asserting that its action in this case in of a piece with numerous other decisions. It has no fixed policy, and blunders and temporises from month to month. The Fomiuri adds that in the present instance in addition to a desire to temporise the Department stood in fear of opposition from the "Nihon Shugi " party, which has been making no small stir against Christianity. It behoves the Minister of Education, says the Font-ari, to give the world his reasons for abolishing religion from the schools. The Fift Shimps asks, what there is to object to in religion if a school in other respects reaches the required standard? If a school fulfile all the regulations of the Department as regards instruction imparted, to refuse to give it official license and status on account of some objection to its principles is altogether indefensible. The Höchi Shimbun and other papers adopt the same line of argument. A correspondent in the Yorozu Choho writes approvingly of the action of the Department and thinks that it indicates a new departure in the right direction. Thus we see that there is the widest difference of opinion as regards the nature of the action taken by the Mombusho and also of that taken by the Doshisha, and as regards the causes of those lines of action and their probable consequences.

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According to the Selkyō Shimpō (Greek Church), there are signs that the Protestant Episcopalians and Greek Church Christians in Japan are favourably disposed to each other, the writer says that hitherto the various merits of the Eastern Church as an embodiment of the teaching of the Apostles of Christ have not been fully acknowledged by Protestant Episcopalians, but that since the Lambeth Conference held last year the feeling of Protestants has to a large extent changed, and that this is very manifest in Japan. We imagine that the change referred to, if it has taken place, is confined to the sentiments of what are known an high Church Episcopalians and that it would be incorrect to suppose that the evangelical section of the Episcopal Protestant Church shares this feeling. The writer in the Seikyō Shimpō seems in regard the change with supreme satisfaction. His representation of what has taken place conveys the impression that Protestant Episcopalians are the benefited and the Greek Church the benefactor in the altered situation.

The scheme of smalgamating the Rikugo Zasshi and the Shukyo has been carried into practice. The first number of the new Magazine contains an article in English from the pen of Dr. Clay MacCauley, stating the object of the new magazine and the reasons for the union of the two old ones, which we append:

In this magazine the Rikugo sasshi, one of In this magazine the Assay and the Shukyō, a younger periodical, have been united. The older name Rikugō sasshi has been tetained for the new publication and the Shukyo's editor and publisher have taken it under then care, assisted by the editors and contributors of the older magazine.

For the information of those who are not fami

because each of them, separately for a long time, having been doing practically the same work, under the same notives, in essentially the same ways, their friends have concluded that, should their separate energies be brought together, their service to their common cause could be greatly increased and their cause much faither advanced. In union lies strength.

In the united unagazines no new aim is pro-posed. The present Rikugo-sasshi is still, like the past Rikugo-sasshi and the Shukyo, devoted to nosed. the furtherance in thought and practice of Religion, Ethics, and Social Science in accordance with the estitics, and Social Science in accordance with the best knowledge that may be gained concerning these vital human interests. The magazine represents no sect in religion or faction in pulitics, its pages are offered to all free eachest, severent minds for an open, independent parliament upon the great objects for whose success it has been established. Its directors have no stronger wish than that it may belp in "furthering the progress of the Industries regards." as the presented than that it may help in "furthering the pro-gress of the Japanese people," as the present writer said at the founding of the Shakyō," by making known to them the best and most practical results of Social Science in the largest comprehension of the term, as far as it applies to personal, domestic, charitable, educational, industrial, commercial, and art life;" that it may emphasize the conclusions of the restandar emphasize the conclusions of the profoundest Ethical Research; and that it may help too in opening up larger vistas for religious laith and aspiration, without which the human soul is barren and bound, and a nation is deprived of its greatest source of dignity and true power.

The fact that the magazine is published by the Japan Unitarian Association does not in any measure limit the large purpose just set forth. This same purpose is in harmony with the sims of all agencies bearing the Unitarian name. Unitarians are in no manner a religious sect, nor do then form a sengrate denomination exceed as do they form a separate denomination, except as other religionists and moral reformers refuse to accept their freedom, and set up barriers against them. In fact, at the present time the moral and religious movement in Christendom known as Unitarianism is aynonymous with perfectly free intellectual research, accompanying a supreme desire to know only the full truth concerning all questions of Ethics and Religion. Unitarianism is a \*movement;" its advocates have never been gathered into a fixed ecclesiastical organization, nor their present balleful formula. cal organization, nor their personal beliefs formula-ted into an established, authoritative creed. Like every other human interest that is dependent upon man's advancing knowledge and va-environment, Unitarianism, except in its environment, Unitarianism, except he its free thought and constant aim at the truth, is always changing and will go ferward. Of course, all the world knows that four years ago the Unitarian Churches of the United States, assembled in a National Conference, adopted unanimously the declaration;—"These churches accept the religion of Jesus, holding, in accordance with his teaching, that practical religion is summed up in love to God and love to man." That declaration unquestionably states what is tose of the dominant faith of the men and women who made it. But it does not tell also of a very important faither belief they hold. At the same time that they summed up the Christian religion as "Love to God and love to man," and confessed this religion as their own, they also declared unanimously that, their constituency being "Congrereligion as their own, they also declared insant-mously that, their constituency being "Congre-gational in tradition and polity," their faith may not be "constitued as an authoritative test;" and "we cordially invite to our working fellowship," they added, "any who, while differing from us in belief, are in general sympathy with our spirit and our practical aims." In such attitude the They can think of no truer or grander interpretation for Christianity, their successful religion, than Christianity, their successful religion, than Christ's own declaration that they are to God and love to man" are the religion, lian Curist's own deciration that "flove to God and love to man" are the sum of the divine law for the human soul, but, true to their sense of mental and spiritual freedom, they invite to their fellowship, and are willing to cooperate with, any one who is in practical sympathy with themselves, let him be in practical sympathy with themselves, let him be in denominational or religious association whatever olse he may be. It is for this reason that Unitarians are all the time doing things, supporting agencies, cooperating with persons who are not professed Unitarians and who may indeed prefer some other name. The thing, not a name, is that which Unitarians prize most to the great work of advancing man's moral and spiritual welface.

There is nothing strange then in the fact that a

There is nothing strange, then, in the fact that a Unitarian Association has undertaken the present middle schools. President Yokoi is doubtless to blame for not pointing this out. Forthermore, it devolved on the President to give
to the foreign supporters of the Institution a
full account of the reasons for changing the
Articles of Association. Is it not true, sake the

The two periodicals have become one simply

There is nothing strange, then, in the fact that a
Unitarian Association has undertaken the present
publication. The names of persons associated
with several different religious denominations
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with the circumstances under which the union
of the two magazines has taken place it is
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lies in our freedom, rationalism, and large sympathies in Morals and Religion. We are associated and we work together here, as is indicated in the name of our magazine, as members of the Universal Church.

With this statement, which no one should misunderstand, we now after the Rikugō-sasski to the Japanese people as a helper to them in these critical times in their career. My own conviction is, that what is most of all needed in this land, as indeed it is needed throughout the world, is a profunder and more real sense with every human being of personal spiritual character and dignity. In particular, I mean, a personal consciousness of essential relationship with the infinite and eternal Power and Life we name God, and recognition of a divine brotherhood among mankind. Only out of such consciousness, I believe, can come a satisfying solution of the great problems that individual-, families, communities, and states must try to solve. Men need food, clothing, manufactures, commerce, art, and science, of course. I would not say one word to check mechanical industry or physical and intellectual progress. But, along with these things, and needed even more than they for the attainment of the best human welfare, are apicitual aspiration, faith, hope, and love. It is the undeniable testimony of history that though greatness for men and nations is found in physical power and gain, their true grandeur appears only when, above all, they are moved by the sical power and gain, their time grandeur appears only when, above all, they are moved by the inspirations and ideals of the sout. To the fulfilment of the high missionthal serks these ends, I would here dedicate the Rikugo-zasshi which we to day begin anew.

The New Rikugo-Zasshi covers about 90 pages and contains a number of high class articles on religion, education, philosophy and history. Among them an editorial on the tendeacy of religious thought in Japan at the present time is of considerable interest. The following is the gist of the writer's remarks:— The prevailing tendency at the present time in the religious world is neither towards orthodoxy nor towards Unitarianism as such. higher criticism and the evolution of religious thought have worked great changes in earnest minds. Hitherto the Christian's God has been regarded too exclusively as a transcendental being. It is now felt that he is before all else an immanent God. Thanks to the efforts of German rationalists, arbitrariness, conjecture, dogma and ceremonialism have given place to rationalism. Instead of only following the lead of the early disciples of Christ and accepting an final their decisions, we are able to study Christ for ourselves. Doctrinal Christianity has been succeeded by historical Christianity. there has been a great change as regards the importance attached to the present life compared with the life that is to come. In former times both Christianity and Buddhism laid far too much stress on future bliss and future punishment. But such men are beginning to realise that the Kingdom of Heaven is within them. The influence of religious thought on everyday life in recognized to be of great moment. Social reform is attracting increased attention among Christians. Forces increased attention among Christians. Forces which have hitherto been working separately are combining. Science and religion are joining hands. Orthodoxy and heterodoxy are fraternising with each other in order to further a cause in which they are equally interested. The spirit of union is abroad in the religious world. The amalgamation of the Rikugō Zarshi and the Shūkyō has no sectarian object. Its chief design is to furnish to the world a more full and adequate exponent of the world a more full and adequate exponent of high class Christian thought than has hitherto been possible with the limited resources at the disposal of the two old organs.

An article in the new Rikugo Zasshi, entitled

"The Present Religious Stagnancy and the Coming Century," traverses the views of Mr. Kosaki as expressed in the Shinseiki. Mr. Kosaki thinks that Christians have entered on a new era because an evangelistic society called the Fukuin domei-kat has of late been making m great flourish of trumpets. The writer in the Rikugo Zasshi whom we are quoting can discover no elements of comfort in the work of this society, because its members are mostly of

only be compared to Chinese who should confront enemies armed with modern rifles, clad in old armour and relying on the spear, the sword, and the bow. The members of this society are believers in the infallibility of the Bible, in a world called into existence by the fiat of God, lu the eternal punishment of herelica and unbelievers, in the resurrection of the body and a final day of judgment. There are missionaries who come to this country and spend years in battering down Buddhist and Shinto superstitions only to replace them with Christian superstitions. What cause for rejoicing is there in this? The present stagnancy in the religious world is solely owing to the fact that the majority of religious teachers are behind the age, are engaged in expounding exploded theories. long as they do this they will make no headway.

In the portion of the Taiyo devoted to the discussion of religious topics, attention is called to the wide prevalence of the sectarian spirit in Japan. Petry jealousy, narrow mindedness, and self-glorification are very conspicuous in Buddhist, Christian, and Shinto ranks alike; and this it is more than anything else that hinders progress.

There is also in the same number of the Taiyo a note entitled "A word to the Advocates of a State-religion," in which the writer marshals the usual arguments against State Churches, with which our readers are doubiless familiar. Neither England nor Russia has benefited by the amalgamation of Government and religion, says this writer, as is admitted by those who are thoroughly versed in the subject. In Japan neither Buddhism nor Shinto have derived permanent aid from their connection with the State. Those Shintoists who are now agitating in favour of State patronage do not realise that public opinion is dead against the adoption of any such measure, says the ? asyō.

In the pages of the Nihon Shugi Dr. Inonye Tetsujiro labours hard in establish a raison d'elre for the party whose cause he has es poused. He endeavours to prove that the Japanese are being or have been denationalised. What is this principle called cosmopolitanism about which so much is said? asks Dr. Inouye. I know of no principle or principles that are unconnected with the different nations that constitute what we call the world. What is most plain is that all the powerful nations are each developing their own nationality, are each studying their own special interests. They borrow from other countries, but they assimilate what they borrow, so that it becomes part of their individuality as nations This is what we Japanese need to do. It is quite true that we have derived great benefit from our intercourse with foreigners, and I entertain the highest regard for Europeans, but must confess that there are times when I feel it necessary for us to fall back on our nationality Specially is this the case when we are conscious of being slighted in any way by foreign countries.

In the Teisugaku Zasshi, Mr. Hattori Unokichi discusses the various senses attached to the term  $\mathcal{F}$  (Heaven) in the Chinese Classics. The gist of the article is that different writers used the word in different senses and that to most minds the word was vague and indefinite. The power represented by this term was appealed to as a rule by those whose political baro-meter stood low and was neglected by those who held the reins of state. The ideas of the Northern Chinese on the subject of Heaven differed

Considerably from those of the Southerners.
No. 133 of the Tetsugaku Zasshi has a note on the absence of Text-books on Buddhiat Ethics. Though Buddhism has a name in the world for the excellence of its ethical system. there exists no treatise in Japanese which sets forth the distinctive features of Buddhist ethics. It ought to be easy to trace the effects of Buddhist teaching on the moral notions entertained by the inhabitants of those conutries where the creed has most prospered. Then the separa-

Baron Takasaki Seitu has lounded a Society called the 掌字警會 Shōzenkai, whose object is the promotion of virtue of a practical kind, The members deprecate selecting any thing like a theoretical ethical basis. They welcome all who are agreed as to the desirability of raising the standard of moral life among the masses and who are anxious to contribute something towards that end, whether Confucianists, Buddhists, Shintoists or Christians. The Society purposes collecting money for benevolent objects and publishing biographies of men of exceptional virtue, living and dead.

The Jogaku-sasshi furnishes some interesting statistics on Protestant Female Schools, which show in what proportion they are managed ex-clusively by Japanese.

The Seikökai (Episcopalian), 16. Two of

these only are solely controlled by Japanese. TheNihon Kirisatokyō kai (Presbyterian), r

One of these only is independent of foreign aid, The Kumisi-Kyōkai (Congregational), 10. No less than 8 of these are wholly under Japanese control.
The following schools all receive foreign

support :-Methodist Episcopal, 8. Baptists, 4. Japaness Methodist 3. Universalists, 2. Gospel Methodists, 1. Friends, 1. Southern Methodist, 2. Unconnected with any sect, 2, making a total of 64, out of which only II schools are entirely independent.

The Shinri, the organ of the German Church, is a well-sustained periodical, Dr. Christlieb, Mr. Schiller, and Mr. Minami being very regular contributors. In Nos. 97 and 98, which lie before us, there are articles on "the Apotie before us, there are attices on the applicatic Character of Sermons in the Mission Field; "" Marriage According to the New Civil Law;" "The Past and Future of the Christian Church" "Observation on the Theological World of Germany" and other subjects.

In the Shinsei Ki (the New Century) Mr. Kosaki Hiromichi publishes statistics bearing on the work of the Kumiai Churches. Some of these were given by us last month. As regards the number of baptisms, the year 1887 was the most prosperous one the mission has ever known, the figures being 1,976. After 1890, with the exception of two years, the figures gradually drop. The table reads as follows:— 1890, 1,670; 1891, 823; 1892, 949; 1893, 970; 1894, 461; 1895, 266; 1896, 420

Mr. Kosaki, after commenting on these figures, expresses the opinion that the Church is about to enter on a period of prosperity. The principal reason given for taking this view is the activity of the Evangelistic Association known as the Fukuin Dômei Kai, as indicated in the comments of the Rikugo Zasshi on the Fukuin Domei Kai given above. Messrs. Kosaki and Uemura disapprove of the course followed by the Rikugo Zasshi in uniting its forces with the Unitarian and rationalistic organ the Shukyo, and have nevered heir connection with the magazine and started the new periodical noticed by us last month, the Shinseiki, which may be regarded as a semiorthodox rival to the Rikugo.

In the last number of the old Rikugo Zasshi appears a very long ar icle by Mr. Yebina Danjo on "Our Attitude to the Spirit of the Times," to which we cannot pretend to do justice. Mr. Yebina recommends his countrymen to adopt a liberal form of Protestant Christianity and to make it thoroughly Japanese in character. He says there is something quite peculiar and distinctive about the Christianity of each Western country and that in Japan the moulding process that in ancient times was applied to Buddhism and Confucian-ism with such success should be applied to Christianity now. The leading Christian Christianity now. The leading Christian churches are the Presbyterian and Congregational bedies, and they should combine their forces and devise a system of doctrine that shall include all the essentials of Christianity and exclude all the orthodox school and hence rely on weapons of war that are entirely out of date. They can desirable regarded from various points of view. that criticism and science have now found to be desirable regarded from various points of view.



this type would be fur more solid and reliable than the national ideal championed by the leaders of the "Nippon Shugi" movement, whose views are characterised by bigotty, narrow-minded-ness, anti-foreign spirit and fusty conservatism.

Writing in the Bukkyō, Professor Murakam Sensei maintains that as charity is the central doctrine of Christianity so compassion is the central doctrine of Buddhism. Christianity the central doctrine of Buddhism. Christianity finds the world full of hatred and tries to instil into men's minds a spirit of forbearance with each other, to change enmity into friendship. Buddhism is struck with the amount of misery to be found in the world. It regards human beings as pitiable to the last degree and preaches universal compassion. When Professor Muzakami attempts to show that the two principles are antagonistic III each other, that there is a selfishness in the charity of the Christian not found in the compassion of the Buddhist, we confess we are unable to follow him see no logic in his facts. He holds that Buddhism and Japanese morality founded thereon are superior to Christianity, because less selfish. To Professor Murakami Buddhism is pure altruism, while Christianity is one of the many forms of egoism.

The state of the Chief Hongwan temples appears to be growing worse and worse. not refer to the buildings, but to the granizations known as the Higsshi and Nishi Hongwanji. The friction between the Chiet Abbots of these temples, the Otani brothers, and the priests that erve under them still continues, and not a few Buddhists predict the speedy downfall of the sect. From the Chief Abbot down to the humblest acolyte the morals of the sect are said to be bad. But notwithstanding this, statistics to hand show that the Otani-ha still wields immense power. The following table shows the number of families in various provinces that belong to this sect. The list, however, does not

Section to no substitute trace evanteractors				
No. of	Province. Esmilies.			
	Province. Enmilies.			
Echigo109,920	Mikawa 42,000			
Omi 96,120	Echisen 31,680			
Mina 79,680	Kawachi 20,040			
Rick 68,640	Settsu 28,080			
Owari 53,520	1se 24,660			
Noto 51,720	Musashi 20,400			
Maura 44.400				

It is said that one-ninth of the total population of Japan belongs to the Otani-ha. It is un-doubtedly true that the majority of their ad herents are extremely ignorant and superstitious, but of their devotion there can be no question. A somewhat extraordinary proof of this was given in the year 1880, says a magazine which lies before us. There is nothing more precious to a woman than her hair. In order to show what sacrifices the female devotees of the sect were prepared to make for their religion, it was given out that in building the Hongwanji ropes made of women's hair would be used and that all women who valued their religion highly should cut off their hair and send it to Kyōto. No less than 53 huge ropes were made with the hair thus collected. Twenty-nine were wern out by constant use and destroyed, but 24 still remain. The total length of these hair ropes was 4,528 shaku,the thickness of each rope 16 shaku 5 sun, and the total weight 1,511 kwan 650 memme Reckoning the hair of each woman to weigh about 50 memme, no less than 30,213 persons must have sent contributions. The following shows the proportion in which each of the eight provinces named contributed to the 53 ropes, Etchü, 16; Echigo, 15; Ugo, 10; Sanuki, 4; Echizen, 3; Harima, 3; Iwaki, 1; Bungo, 1.

The Pu-iten, the Shinto organ, condemns in a very decided manner the fuss that is being made by certain Buddhist and Shintoists over the near approach of mixed residence and the strong anti-foreign sentiments to which so many writers give utterance, as calculated to hinder the progress of the nation. This magazine also opposes the establishment of Buddhism as a state religion in an article entitled Bukkyō wa Kokkyō ni arasu, "Buddhism is not a State Religion.

#### FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. J. R. HEROD

On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., a farewell dinner was given by the members of the Tokyo Club to Mr. J. R. Herod, Secretary of the United States Legation, who is about to visit America on leave. Mr. Herod has been for several years in Tokyo, and has won remarkable popuis return to Tokyo, but wherever the routine of the service to which he devotes his exceptional abilities may take him, he will carry with him the hearty good wishes of his numerous friends in Japan, and if his career be crowned by success in proportion to their hopes and his own merits, he will certainly reach a distinguished place. About seventy members of the Club assembled to drink his health, the Chair and Vice-chair being occupied by the Belgian Minister, Baron d'Anethan, and the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Komura, respectively. The following speeches were delivered :-

Baron D'ANSTHAN said:—GENTLEMEN,—The Club's dinners are a very nice institution and I am always very glad to join in them; no one takes with more pleasure than I these opportunities to show, on the eve of friends' departure, our friendiness and regard for those of our companious with whom we have had such pleasant intercourse. There is, however, a feature of these banquels to which I fear I must object. We ought to after the custom that it is always on the vice president, and on the foreign vice position, that falls the task to express the sentiments of the Club to the guest of the evening. At these parties we have suppressed Baron D'ANETHAN said :- GENTLEMEN,-The the evening. At these parties we have suppressed all formality; there is no precedence; each and all are on the same footing, in one word we are on these occasions good and true republicans. Well, under these circumstances, I am of opinion that the vice-president is entitled to the privileges that the vice-president is entitled to the privileges you all enjoy and ought not to be reminded of the exalted situation your kindness has raised him to. It would be a real kindness, Gentlemen, II you would listen to the good advice I take the liberty of giving you. A concert where we hear too many solos—when the artist has no particular merit—is apt to be tedious and we applaud the moment when a full orchestra plays off! I have many opportunities of judging—no oratorical facility or talent, and the difficulty I find in varying my tunes on the same theme is most trying and painful. So in the future we shall change the actual rule and it will be the duty, not of the vice-president but of the most eluquent of us to charm the andience and to cover with flowers the victim we are preparing for with flowers the victim we are preparing for the sacrifice. I feel happy, however, that this last opportunity I have to speak at a Club diener falls on the occasion when it is given me to speak to and about Mr. Herod. Herod is the friend in the corps diplomatique whom we have known for the topoget time; in his occasion. is the friend in the corps diplomatague whom we have known for the longest time; in his presence I am no more dayen; I bow to his longer experience of the country and I feel towards him the respect and the veneration that are due to our ancient. That homage must be gratifying to him, for if he is an ancient diplomat in Tokyo he has not yet the sad privilege to use the grand phrase—and that phrase I suppose carries with it ideas of experience and wisdom—"I have lived half a century!" Ah! Gentlemen, with what joy most of us would we not go back to the age of our old though so young friend, and feel how he must have felt when his Government appointed him, notwithyoung titend, and leet how he must have left when his Government appointed him, notwith-standing his youth but taking only into consideration his merits, to the important post of first secretary of the United States Legation. In countries

ments I might pay him I keep here in my heart. Now, Gentlemen, before going back to the golden silence that I ought not to have broken I will ask you a favour. In the sacred precincts of the Tokyo Club, austere and serious Club when we the Tokyo Club, anstere and serious Club when we only meet to speak on the important political questions of the day and collect only in the reading room, in this Club so strictly and exclusively reserved to us men (I am afraid it is a bold proposition) I propose—but it will only his for once—to break the rules and to beg leave to introduce a Lady. Grant my wish, Gentlemen, the lady will appear only in her astral shape and will listen—in silence—to the toast we are proposing—Gentlemen, fill up your bumpers, drinking to our friend Mr. Herod and his fair and charming wife.

Mr. Heron replied in the following terms:—
It is with a feeling of some disconfiture that I lise to reply to the flattering remarks of Baron d'Angitan. In my five years' membership of the Cub I have so often applauded the panegyric pronounced upon the chosen one who is being fattened as an offering to the sea, that there is a fattened as an offering to the sea, that there is a disagreeable strangeness in being called from the reviewing stand to join the procession of the departing. There — something indescribably pathetic in the position. To have looked for years with langing eyes at the place of honaur at our President's light, to gain it for two short hours and then depart to reflect upon one's triumph; and, lest even the memory of it should be lost in the qualins of mal de mér—somehow it doesn't sound so leaful in French—to inflict the body with bad beef tea and biscuit. I'm sure you will agree that I deeply regret leaving the Club which I have known so long. Not that I mean to vie with the sages of the orgret leaving the Club which I have known so long. Not that I mean to vie with the sages of the organization, but I was here in its palmy days, when like fallen princes we enjoyed an increasing deficit amid the luxuries of the old imposing Rokumei-kan, "Hall of the Stag's Voice." If that stag might only have been translated into a telephone with its unheeded cries to the Electric Light Comwith its unheeded cries to the Electric Light Company for light for the darkening billiard room! What satisfaction to have tred the gloomy corridor and reached the cosy room far in the rear in the times when a Cotaishman held the chair in English Literature and a Dutchman discoursed on the condition of his "peoples" when not engaged in philosophic argument with Mr. Hike. The atmosphere of the place was academic. I have heard a certain gentleman mustering his statistics, to prove that twenty feet of snow fell in a single night in the Hokkaido, and the certainty of millions under the law for the encouragement of navigation by saling a sampan in a circle about the Shimangawa torts. A hundred times I have seen two mentand for ten minutes in deep reflection debating gama forts. A hundred times I have seen two mens stand for ten minutes in deep reflection debating mentally on what was to be the coming drink—like the Maine farmer, who in sorting polators said it was not such hard work but a terrible strain on the judgment. O tempora, O mores. Never mind about the mores; we will continue with tempora mutantur. The shock of 1894 has changed the tenor of our ways. We have advanced with the brazen times and become like them. We are his injectility and making are showy now, we are businesslike and making money, and the cool effrontery required to walk into our marble-countered refreshment room and proclaim our vices to the world has had its effect upon the younger elements of our society. They are becaming fast, while the venerables, like Reuter's telegrams, come seldom and when they do come have little to say. This disposition towards silence comes from experience with they do come have little to say. This disposition towards silence comes from experience with the Japanese. They have learned that for a foreigner the less said in that language the batter for all concerned. I myself in a spirit of confidence once tried to expess in Japanese my appreciation of a servant's conduct by offering him my congratulations and two yen, and found to my dismay that I had discharged two domestics and lamed a horse. Even inanimate objects are affected by the perversity of heredity. I have even heard a German horn give excruciating tones for no other reason than that it was blown by Japanese wind. Simply the contrariety of the medium, So I fear it is with the mutual misunderstandings that infortunately often embitter one's life in Japan. It is not that there is a fault. It cannot be laid to the fault of gue nor of the other—it is the wind instrument's obstinate disposition. Such dispositions and such unfainness are to be corrected and it is the clubs that most of all do the work. Foremost that of Tokyo. They are our places of meetings, the centre of our social life; a character with all its perjudice of race and rearings disposed into this cosmoplitan stream soon has its roughness subbed away and emerges—not perfect pelbaps in all—but perfect in good fellowship and mutual undestanding. Other organizations may boast a larger membership and more commodious quarters, but none can rival us in our surique position of a cosmopolitan tay of the United States Legation. In countries where rules and traditions are more strict and binding than in the American diplomatic service such rapid promotion would have been difficult. The way Mr. Herod justified the confidence of his Government shows that it was as well deserved as well canned, and proves the truth of this saying of I forget what diplomat: It is the young women and not the dowagers who should wend diamonds and the young men who night to occupy the most important posts." But, Gentledian of the centre of our should wend official services of Mr. Herod; what I wish to praise, and you all do it with me, are the personal qualities that have made Mr. Herod most popular amongst us. I could go on long an that subject. I have much to say, but I refrain. I am afraid of intoxicating his young head with too much incense, and the nice complifamily with but one object-mutual entertainment

MR. MACCAULBY said :- " Mr. President and MR. MACCAULEY said:—"Mr. President and fellow members of the Tokyo Club: I hope you will pardon me as I rise in obedience to the call of my name. I do not know exactly why I am aummoned. I mean, that some distractions at this part of the table have prevented me from hearing what our Vice-President has just been saying, and that I am not at all prepared for his sudden demand, and do not know what the lead is that I am to follow. Of course, I know that we are here to give a "good by "greeting to one of our club comrades. But, if you will pardon the levity, let me help myself along by telling you that feel myself at this moment much in the situation of a young women of whom I have heard in the back-country of North Carolina in America,

feel myself at this moment much in the situation of a young women of whom I have heard in the back-country of North Carolina in America, who at one time met with a very great surprise. I have repeated the story once before in Tokyo but not to any here present, I think. Telling it now may make clear the reason for my present embarrassment and also give me time to think of something befuting the object of our coming together. Once upon a time, so it is said, a wedding was about to take place in a village among the North Carolina mountains. Life in that part of the world is a little ruder and cheaper, and ways of living there are somewhat more reckless and impulsive than in some other localities. Well—the bridal party had assembled in the Church and the ceremony went forward smoothly enough until it became the clergyman's duty to pronounce the happy pair husband and wife. But, starting in with his official declaration to this effect, be cominned, "And themans as God has jined together"—"These uns, "spoke up the hidegroom, correcting. "Jim," replied the minister, "I leasued ye all ye know and I tell ye. Them nors in right." "These uns," spoke up the hidegroom, correcting. "Jim," replied the minister, "I leasued ye all ye know and I tell ye. Them nors in right." "These uns," said the man. "I tell ye, No!" retorted the parson," Them uns' is right." "These uns!" asserted the man reaching at the same time for his hip-pocket. But the minister was too quick him and fired through bis gown. The shot was the signal for a general moles. In a few minutes the chapel was emptied and quiet, These, one of the party,—so the story val moles. In a few minutes the chapel was emptied and quiet. Then, one of the party,—so the story rai meses. In a tew minutes the chapter, so the story goes,—peeped into the building through a window. All that his eyes discovered need not now be reconsted, but, as he looked, he saw the would-be hide creeping out from behind the pulpit and, rising, look disconsolately over the desolate scene; then he heard her say with a sight;—"These yes self-cockin pistols is playin' the dence with my prospects." The moral of which story, gentleman, is, that the quick fining demands of our Vice-President have made rather doubtful my prospects as a speech-maker this evening. But seriously, now that I am on my feet, I certainly ought to be ready under any circumstance to say some appreciative word at a "good bye" danner given to so good a club man, so good a friend, and so good a legation officer a. Hendd. I have known Mr. Herod ever since he came to Japan. One of my first impressions on sering him was that the United States Government had tisked a great deal in sending so young a man to so ed a great deal in sending so young a man to so important a station. But years and experience do not always measure a man's ability and wisdom. Some men are immature and incapable however long their lives may be. And there are oftens who can grasp and command though their lives are convergingly for their lives may be. however long their lives may be. And there are others who can grasp and command though their years are comparatively few. There are others than Pitt who must, though able like him, he guilty for a time of the crime of being young. Mr. Herod, I am glad to know, soon proved himself equal to the work to which he had been appointed, and his going from the United States legation now, brings a loss to my country's service that I am sorry to see made. Just at present I believe that Mr. Herod's work is of special value. I admire, I respect the personnel of which the diplomatic representation of the United States in Japan is composed, but such is the fatuity of the method by which the United States has ne continuous diplomatic system, that during the last year gractically all our legation officers have come to us new to their work. Mr. Herod is the only member of the legation who is comparatively old in it, and who binds the past to the present. He knows America's diplomatic bistory in Japan, having studied it for many years bark. He is familiar now with the difficult efficience and involved ceremonial of diplomatic cucles. He knows by long true learning, the ways of the Japanese Government's various bureaux and how to secure easy entrance and hearing in them. He has become a fluent despatch write is at capable and successful officer, and a good connection in his public relations, and you and I know that as non-

However, since he is going let our best wishes go with him and our confidence that success will attend him in whatever he may begin anew else. where in the world. But let us hope also that be going may have a more agreeable sequel than his prospecity elsewhere. Tomight we say "good bye," but at some not distant future may we also be able to say—"Why, how d'ye do I ferod! Glad to see you back! Hope you have come to stay a long time!"

#### JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The Tipi discusses the question of increased taxation. It says with regard to the new taxation schemes hitherto adopted it may be noticed that the receipts, except those from the sake tax, are in most cases far less than the original estimate. The Budget for the 31st fiscal year shows the reduction in the Trade Tax and Registration Duties to be no less than 1,700 000 ven, while the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly will fail to secure the estimated revenue unless radical reforms be made in the system. In view of the expansion of armaments and necessary schemes of reform, the adoption of a scheme for increased taxation is absolutely indispensable. It may evoke opposition on all sides, and the Government hesitates to introduce it in the forthcoming session of the Diet because of the ikelihood of its being rejected by the whole Parliament. But the Government, asserts the Jiji, ought to carry such a scheme into practice, Should Parliament prove refractory steps for dissolution might be resorted to.

The conflict between Spain and America seems to have considerably affected the silk trade in China. Information from Shanghai, dated the 23rd April and published in the Koku-min, contains the following paragraphs:— Owing to the extravagant depreciation of silk consequent upon the Hispano-American war. the owners of filatures are inclined to offer their stock for sale. The whole stock in Shanghai amounts at present to 1,000 bales. As for Chinese filatures, the common brand alone is in demand, and even that in a very insignificant degree. Prices are speedily falling. With regard to sericultural enterprise it may be noted that the growth of worms is unusually excellent owing to the abundance of mulberry leaves. Intelligence from Canton under date 16th April states that sales of silk to Europe goods. The districts on the western frontiers are gradually being undertaken, but that no of Szechuan are also in a miserable condition, business is done for America.

The Kokumin discusses the position of the Liberals in a long article. If the formation of a party Ministry is really the Liberals' prime object, they are even now not without opportu-It is not necessary for them either to shake hands with Marquis Ito or to sever their connection with him. They have only to co-operate with the Progressists. Should strict amalgamation prove impracticable, an alliance will answer the purpose. This scheme would secure to them the support of over two thirds of the Representatives of the Diet, and with these the inanguration of a party Cabinet would be an inevitable result. Count Itagaki, however, is opposed to these views. We are in no way, adds the Kokumin, hoatile to a party Ministry if parties qualified for the responsibility exist. But it is to be regretted that the political parties now in existence are utterly disqualified for the work which they seek to undertake. They Liberals are yet far from a state of mature wisdom; so are the Progressists Even the Liberals and Progressists combined are unfit for party Government. Not only are they numeri cally insignificant, but they are wanting in po-

Dr. Inouye Yenryo, who acquired some re-putation by the publication of a series of essays on ghosts and hobgoblins, now writes a lengthy article on the necessity of reforming Buddhism in Japan. He says the believers in Buddhism throughout the world now number 500 millious, worker generally. Altogether he is a capable and successful officer, and a good coinsellor in his public relations, and you and I know that as not a with its here he is a pleasant companion and a with its here he is a pleasant companion and a true friend. I am sorry he is going away.

garded as a glorious fact. India, which claims to be the original seat of Buddhism, was over-powered by Brahminism and Mohammedanism. Korea and China still retain the semblance of Buddhist doctrines, but they have already lost the spirit of the creed. Japan alone may claim the reputation of preserving Buddhism in its ori-ginal spirit. But it is necessary that Buddhism should be reconciled in the general current of civilisation. Most of the enlightened personages of Japan have grievously fallen into the errors of materialism, ignoring the existence of both God and Buddha. They insist upon the nonexistence of the future and the soul; religion is a plaything for the ignorant, while morality is a creation of society. There is no more heavenly doctrine than the survival of the fittest, no other human principles than striving for material profit or advantage. To all this the pricate have given no answer; they have proved themselves destitute of energy and spirit. They have sacrificed their knowledge and character for money; and instead of being called priests they deserve the name of mere temple keepers or beggare.

The freight for coat from Moji to Hongkong continues to increase. The rates stand & 2.40 yen for Hongkong and 2.20 yen for Shanghai. In spite of this abnormal enhancement, the import of foreign cereals is steadily undertaken at the rate of 60 sen per picul from Saigon to Yokohama. Still there is con-Saigon to Yokohama. Still there is con-siderable difficulty in chartering steamers on this route, and the scarcity of ships is not only felt for foreign service, butaline for consting voyages. The coal at Moji has begun to accummulate beyond ordinary limits, the atock at present being 140,000 tons. The amount exported during last month is suid to have aggregated 23.561 tons, valued at 654 416 yes, a decrease of 18,794 tons in quantity and 814,196 yen in value.

Information from the Japanese Consul in Shanghai, dated April 15th and published in the Mainichi, announces that the extreme appreciation of rice in the various provinces of Chiua has led to much disturbance. The inhabitants of Szechuan in particular are almost on the point of statuation, and a mob about 300 strong recently broke into the Governor's house, and carried away furniture and other household the famine being such as was never experienced during the past fifty years. Paupers in a single province total 130,000. Function, too, is suffering from scarcity, in spite of the export of rice being prohibited in all the producing districts. Originally the supply of rice for that province was secured from Formosa, but since the transfer of the island to Japanese jurisdiction the amount of import has decreased.

The Osaka Asahi ridicules the Cabinet's claim that China's recent stipulation not to lease Fuhkien to any Power is a guarantee for preserving the permanent tranquillity of the Far East. The journal also thinks that, in spite of the concessions alleged to be made by Russia in the convention recently signed, Russia has still designs on Korea; and it urges that more substantial schemes than the guarantee against the concession of Funkien or protests against foreign powers ought to be contemplated in the interests of the country.

The General Assembly of the United Spinning Companies was held on the 7th instant at the Saka-n Restaurant, Osaka. With a view to the establishment of rules for the appraisement of Indian cotton, seven commissioners representing buyers and sellers were appointed. A representation concerning the enforcement of punctuality in the delivery of yarna for expert was unanimously approved. A draft of the provisions for the encouragement of the export of yarns was considered, but



month totalled 1,690, with an aggregate capital of 356,180,924 year. These figures indicate an increase of 23 banks and 6,760,000 year in capital over the previous month. Classified according to old and new banks, the figures stand thus t-

Banbe.	At the end of March. Cap. Ven.	I pp. in	antilu-	At the end April, apital Ten.
Nippon	30,000,000	_		30,000,000
Sipecia	17,000,000	_		18,000,000
Industrial	10,000,000	-	- 1	30,000,000
Agricultural and Indus-		6,900,000	31	29,900,000
National		-,,	35	7,925,000
Savings		60,000	¥35	Fa, 184, 300
Joint-stock	200,715,140	3,405,000		137,655,140
Joint Partnership	6 363,900	20,000	34	6,353,000
loint Capital,	9 814,564	_	306	9.274.514
Private	5,759,010	1,800.000	76	5,859,000
Total	LED-DEL-DEL	6,514,000	9,600	249-180-014

The figures for joint stock companies are as

Companies			b- April, Cap Yen
Commercial	243,696,365	19	245,857,365
Industrial	271,032,936	38	273,586,986
Agricoltu-el zor	3,172,538		3,441,538
Total	319,001,840	43	114-680-000

The prices of stricles of daily consumption still continue to sise. The average value of commodities in April this year was, according to the Nippon Ginko's investigation, 179, an increase of 3 over the previous month and of 19 over the corresponding period of last year. Rice, however, which is the standard of all prices, is expected to depreciate before long. The following comparative table shows the ex-traordinary fluctuations in the domestic as well as foreign staples for the past two years :-

April	April 1897	April 1868.	Apri.
		_	-
Coal242	175	Copper211	30.
lion175	180	Cotton, spun135	139
Yain-war118	125	Shirtings200	_
Silk flosn 123	108	Timber280	227
Charcoal 195	174	Wead,204	-
Keinsena106	107	Sake	112
Soy147	137	Dried busito 246	246
Sugar130	120	Barley308	141
Salt255	314	Wheat	187
Beached		Oil cake219	179
cotton121	95	Rice bran 221	150
Pertifizers 221	159	Imported yarn.121	1134
Vegetable ,		Japanese cut	
Wax125	115	Toliacce179	123
Eggs211	186	Hemp149	149
Tea131	122	Miso228	182
Matting203	206	Fowls for food, 180	168
Raw lacquer113	112	Flour	179
Oil235	231	Leather and	
Nails107	110	hides186	168
Lining Stuff106	_	Silk thread129	121
Glass panes159	_	Average179	160
	de the	value for January,	
	10 1116	rame to: January,	100/
is taken at 100.			

The Department for Agriculture and Commerce recently issued a notification over the alguature of the new Minister, embodying regulations for the accommodation of students to be trained or instructed in the art of deep-sea fishing. Students are in be chosen from among graduates of the Marine Products Training Schools, new and old, and their number is limited to twenty, The term of instruction is three years, subject to alteration at the discre-tion of the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce. The expenses allowed for each student are 15 yen per mensem, but this amount may be demanded from the student if he leaves the school on his own account or violates the directions issued by the Minister from time to

Taking advantage of the agitation raised by Count Itagaki on the subject of the state ownership of private railways, bankers, stock-holders, and others are reported by the Chue to have recently formed a combination to be designated the Economic Investigation Society, fifty members having already been enlisted. On the night of the 7th instant a general meeting was held at which various important resolutions were passed. Some of them insisted upon the necessity of the state purchase of railways, but this was vehemently opposed by the majority, who stated, that although the questions regard-

loans, were questions that might be debated for immediate adoption, yet, as the same could in no way be carried into effect without money, the introduction of foreign capital should at any rate be made the prime object of the Society. It was therefore resolved to agitate for steps to relieve the economic market of its present embarrassment by recourse to a foreign loan. A committee of 20 were sppninted, Messra. Okura, Hara, Morimura, Yasuda, and Shibusawa being among the number.

According to the Foresu, the principal points proposed by the Tosa clique to the Premier in regard to the revision of the Law of Election are as follow :-- Voters' qualificational taxation. The whole city or prefecture to constitute an electoral district. Suspension of civic rights in the case of bribery being detected and elections so effected to be invalidated. The proceedings of special election agents to be considered as the proceedings of the candidates themselves. Any candidate known to have resorted to bribery to be sendered ineligible as a candidate at the next election. Bribed electors, making a voluntary confession, to be entirely absolved from punishment. No money under whatever pretext to be presented to electors as expenses for carriages, lodgings, refreshments, &c. In addition to these provisions it is anggested that the regulations for the control of elections promulgated by the urgent Imperial Ordinance are to be adopted, and elaborate rules enforced against outrages or menaces of political bullies (soshi). The Yorosu adda that it is doubtful whether the Premier has entertained these proposals.

The recent rise in the wages of artisans is remarkable. The Nippon publishes the result of investigations on the subject by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce. The following table shows the difference between wages paid on the 25th year of Medi and the current rates :-

•1	ogth year of Meifs.		32+1	grat year.	
36		and class			
	yen	Jen.	yen.	уеп.	
Tailors (Japanese diess)		.30	1.00	-50	
Printers	.30	.20	.50	.30	
Tateguya (makers of					
doors, screens, &cc.)	.70	.30	1 00	-35	
Tailors (foreign diess)	.80	.26	-95	.40	
Servants (males for one					
month)	2 00	00.1	3 00	1.50	
Maid servants (half a					
year)	6.00	3 50	10.00	7.00	
Masons	.60	.40	1.00	.70	
Embroiderers	-35	.25	-40	-30	
Barbers	.30	.22	.50	.40	
Coopers	-40	.30	-55	-40	
Book-binders	.70	-50	1 00	_	
Saddle-makers	-40	120	-60	-40	
Painters ,	-30	.15	.50	.25	
Tin labouters	-30	-15	.50	- 45.5	
Engravers	,бо	.40	-80	.50	
Carriage makers	.40	.25	.70	-40	
Plasterers	.38	-33	-60	-55	
Carpenters	40	.25	.70	.50	
Roplers	-45	-30	I to	.80	
Ship carpenters	-35	.25	-75	-55	
Paper-hangers	-35	٠10	.80	-50	
Mat-makers	.50	-35	.60	.40	
Ordinary coolies	.36	.23	-50	-32	
Lacquerers	.38	-115	-50	-25	
Dyeis	.30	20	-40	-30	
Tobacco cutters	-45	.30	.70	.50	
Shormakers	.40	.15	-55	,25	
Blacksmiths	.75	.28	1.00	-55	
				00	

The Osaka Asaki remarks that the Liberala are reported to have relinquished all opposition to the Government with regard to its financial policy; and some are expressing the opinion that after the close of the forthcoming extra-ordinary session of the Diet, Baron Ito is to secure the portfolio of Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Count Itagaki is to be nominated Home Minister. These statements all tend to show that the Liberals are disposed to renew their alliance with the Cabinet. In this movement, adds the Osaka Asahi, the Tosa clique

who have also assumed an attitude of hostility. The Liberals appear to entertain serious anxiety in regard to the deficiency of able men which may present itself in the event of a party Cabinet being organised. Steps are being taken, it is said, to enlist outside the party such personages as Messis. Miyoshi Taizo, Wakamiya Seiin, Ozaki Saburo, and Ando Tero. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that Viscount Aoki looks on himself as the future Premier.

The trade returns of the Finance Department for the past four months are as follow:

	Merchandise.
Exports	10,619 470
Excess (Imports)	29,832,947 19,215,477 Bullion,
Imports	
Exports	447.705
Excess (Exports)	17,664.655

Such an excess of imports, remarks the Mainicht, is probably without precedent. In short, the inequality of commerce has reached its Below are the comparative figures for the past four months :-

	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of Impacts, Year.
January	10,916 330	18,871,153	7.954 825
February	11 445 247	20 538,227	9.092 980
March	10,947 502	25,809,751	14,862,249
April	10,619 470	29,832,974	19,215,477

Total ..... 43,928,549 95,052,082 51,123,533 The export trade, it will be seen, does not display any great difference since January, but in the case of the import trade a really extraordinary increase—an increase utterly beyond anticipa-tion—is noticeable. The excess of imports has reached 52,220,000 yes, and, should affairs continue in the present condition, the a amount will probably exceed 100 millions by the end of the year. The export of specie during the four months aggregated 47,173,125 ven, and imports 3 091,426 ven, the excess in favour of the former being 44,081,699 ven. It may be inferred that the excess by the end of the year will not be less than 80 millions. These anomalies ought to be seriously con-sidered, especially when the domestic market is so considerably depressed and all industries are no lamentably neglected as m present on account of the want of capital.

At the Kwanto Bankers' Assembly held at the Seiyoken Restaurant on the 9th instant, Baron I wasaki is reported by the Mainichi to have spoken in opposition to the introduction of foreign capital. He said the late war with China has been the direct cause of the embarrassment into which the market has fallen. A sum of 170 million yen out of the total Indemnity being distributed among the people at large, capitalists were tempted into speculation and the labouring classes found their consuming power auddenly and considerably augmented. Since this importation of expital was responsible for the present situation, it was matter for wonder that the introduction of more foreign capital should be looked to for readjusting the finances.

The full payment by China of the remainder of the Indomnity necessitates the speedy with-drawal of Japanese troops from Wei-hai-wei. According to the Shimonoseki treaty, the evacuation must take place within four weeks from the date of the receipt of the Indemnity. Cabinet having held a special conference on the 9th instaut, a telegram was immediately despatched to Major General Miyoshi, Commandant of the Wei-hai-wei gatrison, with instructions to evacuate the place at once. over, Colonel Nakaoka and Lieutenaut-Colonel Hongo, together with four other officers, were ordered on the 10th to proceed to Wei-hai-wei to make various arrangements in regard to the evacuation. Six steamers of over 2,000 tons are to be despatched as transports, two of them, who stated, that although the questions regenting the purchase of railways, the redemption of loans, the lowering of the Nippon Ginko's achedule of interest, the expansion of the limits of goods for exceptively at the realized process. The Kiushu The steamer Hino Maru, hitherto employed and Hokushiu sections are positively in opporting a regular service to Wei-hai-wei, will also of goods for exceptively at the realized process. The Kiushu The steamer Hino Maru, hitherto employed and Hokushiu sections are positively in opporting a regular service to Wei-hai-wei, will also of goods for exceptively at the realized process. have been vested with plenary authority for the delivery of the territory, the ceremony being only to hoist the Chinese flag, to fire salutes, and to exchange certificates duly signed by com-missioners of the two countries. Coloned Okazaki, who recently came to Tokyo to be present at the special councils of the General Staff, returned to Wei-hal-wei on the 10th inst. to assist in the withdrawal of the troops.

#### KOREAN NOZES.

The Japanese War Department, saya the Independent, has presented to His Majesty the Emperor of Korea ten new Murata magazine rifles through Captain Nodzu, the military attacké of the Japanese Legation in this city. Captain Nodzu attended the War Department with the gifts asking the Minister to forward them to His Majesty.

The Korean Council of State recently passed an appropriation of \$70,000, to be expended on new buildings for the Kyengwon Palace, and then sanctioned \$9.60 for official seals to be used in Legations abroad.

Under the heading, "The worm turns again," our Soul contemporary prints the following interesting narrative:---

The record which appears in another column of this paper concerning the late magistrate of Jingsan is worthy of special remark by those who are anxiously watching the signs of better times in Korea, and this little event must come with delightful refreshment. According to our version of the account there seems to be a magistratic part of the property of the proper version of the account there seems to be a mag-strate in Korea who wishes to be honest and up-right. He was implored by the people of a district through which be was passing to give his opinion concerning the legality of certain mutual taxes. This he refused to do, but, like a man, went to the offending magistrate and about its a manner which did not provide empire. asked, in a manner which did not provoke comity, concerning the tax to which the people referred. concerning the tax to which the people referred. The magnitude admitted that the tax was extramediumly and was not authorized by the Finance Department. The ex magnitude, of Jingsan then upbraided the offending magnitude upon which he was seized and cruelly punished. Then occurred an event as rare of occurrence as it is delightful when it happens. The people who had legged the examagistrate to plead their case broke min the compound of the magnitude and rescued the lacerated man and took him to the hospital of Pyengyang.

With all the bare-faced (we can't think of anything but bare-faced that's bad enough) (ascality of a scounded the magistrate telegraphed to the governor that he had punished the offending exmagistrate because the latter had stracked the magistrate at the head of an anned force. The governor, on advice from Söul, ordered the offender to be sent to the capital. Our version as a pointed to expert is not complete at this point. offender to be sent to the capital. Our version as printed elewhere is not complete at this point. When the exemagistrate prepared to leave the hospital on his litter the people who had swarmed in from the country tendered him an ovation almost impacialleled in record years. They surged about the litter and laid upon it tokens of their esteem for the man who had befriended them as signally. Women took from they shoulders their silken cloaks, and tore coins from the ends of claims and cast them at the hero of the hom. A Ruman triumpth was enacted in the the hour. A Ruman triumph was enacted in the one-time Hermit nation and tendered to a man who had faced an inscriptions representative of the wickedness which reigns in high places and laid bare the crime which he was committing.

Such a demonstration as this, together with the build conduct of the ex-magistrate, is, as we have said, a sign of the times. It has almost seemed that "you can't fool all the people all the time" in Korea. But could the people only teatize that they had some rights after all and, better, could they only act always as on the present occasion with the courage of their convictions, officials would take good care not to abuse their rights.

We are of the opinion that this Pyeng-yang incident will not be forgotten. We do not successage popular uprisings as such, but when the peuple are burdened by a tax which is admitted by those who collect it to be illegal, we cannot but praise the deed. "The worm turns." Thus a paper of the Far East scatteningsly headed an editorial on the deed. "The worm turns." Thus a paper of the Far East scatteriously headed an editorial on the distress. In return for this magnanisty, the Rorean employed a most hat grant the Isance of the Rorean people a most had altogether inappropriate, though effect might have suggested a panese the privilege of establishing the Soul-Fusan rulway and working coal mines in Soul,

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more nonrable fille for a sovereign, independent people. The incident recorded by us in this issue may be called another twist of the worm's tail. Still pechaps at each turn the muscles are growing harder and a self-consciousness is coming into existence. Perhaps the worm will find that it can turn when it chooses to do so. Perhaps it is finding out that the observer it was Pethaps it is finding out that the oftener it turns the easier it is to do so. Perhaps it is coming to the conclusion that it will turn oftener in the future.

The Imperial Household Department Korea has sent the following despatch to the Department of Agriculture, Commerce and In-

dustry:-"The power of controlling the mines in the "The power of controlling the mines in the country unist be invested in the Imperial Household Department. The Department has appointed a chief director to whom the management of all the mines has been entrusted. The Department tearns that the Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry has been interfering with the work of the chief director by sending departmental agents to the mines whose actions clash against the interest of the inspectors sent by the chief director. Hereafter the Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry must not send any inspector or in any the Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry must not send any inspector our in any way interfere with the mines in the country. It is the wish of His Imperial Majesty that mining interests must be under the countral of the Imperial Household Department," The Department of Agriculture Commerce and Industry replied as follows:—"The Department has been sending inspectors and attempted to collect revenues from the mines in accordance wish the statute law which authorizes this Department to perform the duties above mentioned. However, if it is the with of His Majesty to transfer the work to the Household Department the Department will interfere with the management of the mines.

This is the Independent's comment :-

Then the statute law ought to be repealed and the Bureau of Mines and Mining in the Agricultural Department ought to be abilished, so that at least the salaries of the officials of the Bureau can be saved by the Government.

An enterprising spirit is slowly but surely permeating the hearts of Koreans. One of the latest indications is that a Korean company has been formed to manufacture eigars in Songdo and Soul with Koksan tobacco. Koksan is a mountainess distance. Koksan is a mountainous district tobacco. Koksan is a mountainous district in Whanghai and produces a consideable quantity of tobacco. The quality is not as good as that raised in the Shungchou district of Pyengan Do, but it is cheaper and also darker in colour. The company ships, on an average, to 000 cigars daily to various cities in the country and the demand is said to be increasing. They burn fairly well, and considering the price (which is thirty-four cents per 100) it is a reasonably good smoke. We hope, concludes the Independent, thal tobacco. We hope, concludes the Independent, that many enterprises may spring up in this land.

Rumour is current in Soul that a number of Korean fugitives now in Japan, including Mr. Pak Yonghao, are to return by May or June in order to reform the Cabinet with the aid of the Japanese Government.

A notification was recently issued by the Agricultural, Commercial, and Industrial Department to the effect that a special postal ser vice is to be opened from May 15th in Hwanghai, Kauwon, and Chhugchhong, and from June 1st in Cholla, Kyongsaug, Hamgyong, and Phyongan, under the supervision of the Headman of the district.

The Koreans have begun to assert that they have a right to a share in the Indemnity receiv ed by Japan from China, m they entered into an alliance with Japan for defensive and offensive purposes at the time of the late war. Nothing, remarks the Yomiuri, can be more absurd. Korea received immeasurable assistance from Japan, and the gratitude she owes to the Japanese people ought not to be forgotten in long as she exists as a nation. However, as a matter of favour it might be well for Japan to grant to Korea some three million yen out of the Indemnity so as to relieve the latter of her present

more honorable title for a sovereign, independent Fusan, Inchhon, and Mokpho, Wonsan and This would be to the advantage of Chianam.

> The Hachi has a long and highly eulogistic article on America's loreign policy. To carry out the principles of justice in her diplomacy seems to be America's aim. In her policy towards Korea she reproved Japan as to the affair of the Queen but combined with the latter and England in opposing the aggressive measures of Russia with regard to the deten-tion of the Korean King, the engagement of Russian military instructors, and many other permicious proceedings. Americans have no political relations with other parts of the world, and this enables them to justly decide Oriental questions affecting other nations. They are in close contact with the American Indians, and their racial prejudices are therefore much more insignificant than those entertained by most of the European nations. Owing to these and other circumstances, their attitude in the Far East differs entirely from that of other Powers, whose policy is one of aggression and plunder. America, adds the Hochi, is but too willing to display her sympathy towards China and other Oriental countries which are new in a grievous condition. Japan on this point should entirely coincide with America both in policy and general feeling.

#### NEWS OF THE WEER.

A swordfish, measuring fourteen feet two inches from head to tail, was caught at Penang recently. The aword was five feet long.

The German Chirorgical Society have denounced the Dum-Dum bullet, and suggest that the provisions of the St. Petersburg Convention should be extended in order to prohibit its use.

Mr. Thos. H. Reid, of the China Mail staff, went to Manila in the Esmeralda to represent the Landon Times during the bombardment of Corregidor Island and Caviré, but owing to the cable being out was unable to get his report through by wire.

On the water being pumped out of the May Flint on Saturday, it was seen, says the Kobe Chronicle, that the ship narrowly escaped destruction, for the tops had been burnt off the cases in which the time of kerosene oil were nacked.

We are glad to be able to say that Madame la Baronne d'Auethan has almost completely recovered from her recent illness. The Baroness and His Excellency the Belgian Minister ielt Tokyo on the 11th for Nikko, where they will remain until the 16th instant.

It is reported in the China Mail that H.M.S. Powerful is to go home in about five or six months, and she will be relieved by her sister ship H.M.S. Zerrible, which has gone into commission. This arrangement has possibly been made in consequence of the many enquiries in the House of Commons regarding the Powerful's machinery.

"Words fail me," said Mr. Healy in the House of Commons a few weeks ago; and by a happy coincidence, Punch next morning came out with a picture of wordy waifare in the Eastend, in which one of the combatants finds himself in exactly the same and plight. "Why don't yer answer im back?" asks a hystander. "'Ow can I?" queries the combatant; "'E's used all the best words."

Our Tientsin contemporary reports that a lamentable accident occurred recently at the Fang-shan colliery, by which some forty men lost their lives, the mine being suddenly flooded by the bursting of the river's bank, and forty miners being drowned before any rescue could be effected. Three men who had only a few minutes before gone to the surface to relight

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

raise funds for the purchase of a war vessel. It is stated that fabulous prices were paid for seats. The Queen Regent paid 2,000% for her box; the Bank of Spain 20,000%; the Countess Bartons, 4,000%; the Larios Bank, 6,000%; the Tobacco Company, 4,000%; and the Marquis Torrelaguna, 12,000%. Large prices were also paid by other distinguished personages, while clubs and regiments, civil and military corporations, doctors, and all classes of society handsomely contributed towards the 140,000% which have already been collected towards the object in view.

At Singapore on the 25th April a private of the West Yorkshire Regiment, named William Yates, of B. Company, was fatally wounded while acting as musketry marker at the butts. It appears that the deceased, who had been employed as a musketry marker for the last twelve months and who had seen five years' service, left the butts before "cease firing" was sounded. He was shot from the firing point, the huller entering his right breast and coming out at the top of his shoulder. The accident occurred about six o'clock, and, half-an-hour later, the man had bled to death internally.—Straits

The Imperial Marine Insurance Company (Teikoku Kaijo Hoken Kabushiki Kwaisha), is making a large extension in the scope of its operations. The Company has established agencies in nearly all the principal foreign ports, and its standing and credit are high, the names of Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, the promoter, and Mr. Takei Morimasa, the President, being some assurance of the stability of the concern. The bankers are the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Yokohama Specie Bank, and claims will be paid through them. The Yokohama agents are Mr. Kohei Otani, Motohama-cho, and Messrs. Bowden Brothers & Co., No. 164, Settlement, who are prepared to accept all marine risks.

In the China Mail we find some details of the death of Sister Frances (Miss Elizabeth Frances Higgen), who has failen a martyr to duty at Hongkong. The cause of her death was the most severe type of plague, designated plague pneumonia. She was only taken ill on Tuesday, April 26th, with slight fever, when she was attended by Dr. Atkinson, and by that evening she was slightly better. On Wednesday, anapicious symptoms intervened, and she was transferred to an isolation ward at the Government Civil Hospital. Early on Thursday morning it was evident that she was suffering from plague pneumonia, which is almost in-She contracted the disease from variably fatal. one of the ward boys who was taken ill with the same disease on the 20th ult. The deceased sister was nursing the boy, who, in his delirium, spat on her clothes and face. Shortly after midnight, Sister Frances became much worse, and died in the presence of the matron, three sisters and Dr. Atkinson. Drs. Atkinson, Lowson and Bell, were in constant attendance, The deceased was one of the six sisters who arrived in Hongkong in 1890; and was engaged in plagne work in 1894, 1896 and 1898.

The death of Colonel Dyer, the Employers' Champion in the great engineers' strike, was probably due in a large measure to the mental strain of the struggle. From the age of 18 Colonel Dyer had an exceptionally active career. His military service included the Crimean and Indian Mutiny campaigus, and in the fighting he had his horse shot under him on two occasions. He retired from the Army with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and entered the Government Small Arms Factory at Enfield as assistant-superintendent, and subsequently became associated with the large works of Sir Joseph Whitworth at Manchester. Here he proved himself a captain of industry, and his reputation in a shrewd manufacturer was enhanced when he identified himself with the control of the vast manufacturing concerns of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co. at Elswick. To Colonel Dyer belongs the credit of having brought about the amalgamation mot know of any. Digitized by GOOS

of the Armstrong and Whitworth firms. One of the most striking things about the late Colonel Dyer, says a home paper, was the distinction of his manner, and his unvarying courtesy to all with whom he came in contact—friends and opponents alike. In the sharpest fight he never forgot that he was a gentleman himself or that his opponent was entitled to a patient hearing; yet it would be laid to find an adversary more determined or harder to beat. He was neither violent nor bland, but he knew exactly what he wanted and how to get it. In other words, he was a real leader of men, and his death has cut short a career which must have been distinguished and might have been great.

We have already announced the death from plague of Mr. L. S. L. Crawford, eldest son of Mr. David Crawford (of Messrs. Lane, Crawford, & Co., Hougkong). In the Daily Press we read that as a member of the Volunteer Corps the deceased was buried with military honours. The procession was headed by the firing party with seversed arms and the Band of the King's Own Regiment playing a funeral march. The came the coffin on a gun carriage with the flag as a pall and the deceased's belinet and sword bayonet, followed by the chief mourners, Mr. G. A. Caldwell and Mr. Duncan Clark, brothersin-law of the deceased, the members of the firm, and intimate friends of the family. The Volunteers came next, almost every man carrying a wreath or cross; and S.r John Carrington, the Commandant, and all the officers were present. At the Monument the procession was joined by a large assemblage of friends. The funeral ser vice was conducted by the Rev. G. J. Williams of Union Church. At the close of the service three volleys were fired over the grave by the firing party, the "last post" was sounded, and the sad assembly slowly dispersed. The deceased was only twenty years of age. He was a member of the Cricket Club and frequently played in Club matches, and was also an active member of the Philharmonic Society.

The following notice to Mariners, No. 320, refers to the Foochow District, of the China Sea and is issued by Mr. A. M. Bisbee, Coast Inspector, of the I. M. C .: - Sunken rock in Cow's Horn Pass, near the northern entrance to Haitan Strait: Notice is hereby given of the existence, to the westward of Brown Rock, Tessara Group of Islands, of a rocky patch, shout half a cable long in a north and south direction by about three quarters of a cable wide, and having two pinuacles, about 30 yards apart, near im middle, on which there is a depth of not more than 4 feet at low water of spring tides. To this rocky patch the name "Namoa Rock" has been given From the two pinnacles of the patch the highes part of Brown Rock bears E. \(\frac{1}{2}\) S., the highest part of Fairway Island S. \(\frac{1}{2}\) E., and the Cow's Horn S.W. \(\frac{1}{4}\) W. Vessels coming through Haitan Straits from the southward, if wishing to use the channel to the westward of the Texsara Group, should, after passing Slut Island, steer so as to bring Brown Rock open to the eastward of Fairway Island, N. ‡ E. Keep this mark on nutil Cow's Horn bears W.N.W., which will lead clear of the rocks lying 21 miles S. by E. of Cow's Horn Point, and steer so as to pass about 2 cables to the westward of Fairway Island. Then gradually bring the west point of Shingan Island in line with the west end of Fairway Island, S. # W., which will lead about a cables west of Brown Rock. Keep this mark on, being careful not to open Shingen Island west of Fairway Island when nearing the Namoa Rock, until the southernmost point of Great Dragon Island (the north-easternmost island of the Tessara Group) is open to the northward of Brown Rock, when a N.E. by N. course may be steered. Brown Rock may be passed safely at a distance of a cable to the westward of it. The steamer Namoa struck on the patch of rocks described in the foregoing on the 3rd October, 1897, and became a intel month. became a iotal wreck. The local fishermen,

#### YOROHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SUGGESTED DIGEST OF THE CODES.

The International Committee appointed to study the position of foreigners under the new Treaties, and to take what steps may appear right in their interests, have decided as a first step to obtain from the best legal authority a complete Digest of the Codes.

As this will necessitate an outlay of yes 3,000, and to cover other necessary expenses, a subscription list is circulated as a guarantee for such outlay.

The Committee think that the amount guaranteed will not necessarily be all called up, but that the work may be done efficiently they call upon their fellow residents in Japan to support them liberally.

#### DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA.

We deeply tegret to announce the death of Mr. Nakano, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, which took place on the 12th inst. at 7.30 p.m. at his official residence. Mr. Nakano had been Governor of Kanagawa for several years, and during his tenure of office gained the high respect and esteem of both foreigners and Japanese. He has been ill for some time, and a groundless report of his death was circulated two or three days ago. On Wednesday, however, he seemed to have taken a turn for the better, and it was hoped that he would recover. His death will be a loss to the public, and a source of grief to a large circle of private triends.

Deceased, who was 55 years of age, had the following orders:—2nd class of the Rising Sun; Grand Cross of the Russian Order of St. Stanislans; Grand Cross of the Austrian Order of Francis Joseph; Grand Cross of the Order of the Italian Crown; Grand Officer of the Desgon of Annam; Officer of the Legion of Honour of France; Officer of the Belgian Order of Leopold; and Knight of the Netherlands Lion.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### MINO-OWARI ORPHANAGE.

To the Roitor of the "Japan Mall."

Sir,—The enclosed account of the Mino-Owari
Orphanage was written two months ago by
me and published in the Robe Herald. Since
then Mr. Igarashi has received subscriptions in
Kobe and Osaka amounting to more than
(100.00) yen one hundred. In May, he wishes to
visit Yokotama and Tokyo in the interests of his
institution. So at his request I send this paper,
hoping that you may see your way clear to publish
in whally or in part as an introduction for him to
the residents up that way.

## HOW A WORTHY JAPANESE STARTED AN ORPHANAGE IN GIFU.

The province of Huda in Gifu. Ken in one of the most rugged and broken in Japan; in fact, it seems nearly all hills at first. But there are towns in it too, made up mostly of sude one-storted houses over whose roofs are usually scattered large stones which serve instead of nails to hold down the tiles.

point of Shingan Island in line with the weat and of Fairway Island, S. & W., which will lead about a cables west of Brown Rock. Keep this mark on, being careful not to open Shingen Island weat of Fairway Island when nearing the Namoa Rock, until the southernmost point of Great Dragon Island (the morth-easternmost island of the Tessara Group) is open to the northward of Brown Rock, when a N.E. by N. course may be attered. Brown Rock when a N.E. by N. course may be attered. Brown Rock when a N.E. to the westward of it. The steamer Namoa struck on the patch of rocks described in the foregoing on the 3rd October, 1897, and became a iotal wreck. The local fishermen, though they were offered a liberal reward to point out any other sinken dangers in the passage west of Brown Rock, stated that they did not know of any.

volved grave responsibility, but, trusting in God, resolved to take the step.

him in good stead, helping to get him a hearing. As he and the children journeyed afoot and stoped at "shichi-in yadoya" (seven rin inns), their expenses were not very heavy. But sometimes at first the funds did not suffice to meet even these more the funds did not suffice to meet even these triffing bills, so the party would bluckly spend the night sleeping in the open. For one whole week they had to go with almost nothing to eat. Some times, too, although they had money, lodging would be refused them from lack of confidence. "You mean those stilldren no good," people "You mean those shillien no good," people would say. "You are going to draw their blood for magic medicine": "You are going to steaf them and sell them to foreigners," etc. etc. But happily they had large experience of kindlier treatment, receiving help from people of every faith and of an faith. After two months of tramprating through the prefectures of Griu and Miye they returned with fifty yen in packet and no debt, while the number of children had increased to twelve.

twelve.

By the advice of a Christian preacher in Gifusthey removed to that city, rented a building, and with their fifty yen capital began the business of fan making. This was in the summer of 1895. Soon after, a young man, Serta by name, who had become a Christian through Igarashi's teaching, came to help and cast in his lot with them, For a year after this they went steadily forward, taking in more children from time to time but always finding their daily food supplied.

taking in more amount aways finding their daily food supplied.

In Oct., 1896, came the great flood in G-fn Ken which wrought such wide have and destruction. The building in which they were housed was unharmed, but the source of supplies for them was almost dried up. Instead of being able to help others, most of the people of the region were themselves compelled to receive aid. The gravity belp others, most of the people of the region were themselves compelled to receive aid. The gravity of this situation recalled the hard times of the beginning and also the methods of that time. Finally it was determined to make use of these same methods again, only this time the tramp was to be much more extended. And now a second time Igacashi and this hard set out with their faces. tended. And now a second time Igacasii and his have little band set out with their faces toward the west and never changed their course till they had gone over the island of Kinshin. This tramp was beneficial in many ways beside financially, being a good education to all concerned. This time they returned with more than two hundred yen and to delts, as "seven in health" ground searchitest. This manner was in holels? are not exorbitant. This money was almost entirely given by Japanese. In fact from the very inception of this work the support has mainly come from native sources. All the gifts vet received from loreigners would hardly sum up to filty year.

From January of last year (1897) a monthly newspaper was started as the organ of the institu-tion and also as an agency for Christian teaching. this paper, distributed among factory girls and others, has already been largely useful as an evangelizing agency. The sale of it also brings in a small profic. At present the number of children in this No Hi Ikojin (Mino Hida O phanage) is facty. Of these, twelve work at fan-making, which is the chief business carried on; three work in a gela factory; the rest are all too small yet to work at a trade. But all do something to help, work at a trade. But all do something to neip, and all are daily instructed in the Scripture-, in common school branches, and in household work, sewing, etc. Two are blind, but lave learned to sewing, etc. Two are blind, but have learned to read and do many things, being sent to m school for the blind in the city.

In order to work toward self-support a great need now is the sum of five hundred yen as a capital for the fan business. With that capital this department of the work could be made thoroughly self-supporting for all the children engaged in it. They make very pretty laws of all grades, selling at retail for from two or three sen up to twelve sen each. In order to work toward self-support a great

R. E. MCALPINE. Yours truly, Kobe, April 26th 1898.

#### PRIVATE PROPERTY IN WAR.

To the Editor of the " Japan Mail,"

would be have us de, let the Spanish steamships go back to Spain, so that they could return filled with soldiers and munitions of war to be used against us?

against usr
Also, does the editor recall any instance of a
European Power ever allowing, in time of war, the
possible transports of an enemy to escape,
whether such Power was a member of the Paris agreement or not?

Obliging yours respectfully,

WILLIAM C. TYLER,

Tokyo, May 4th, 1898.

#### ETHICS OF WAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL." Sin,-In the issue of the 4th inst., an editorial ote contains the following remarks,

" It is a disgrace to civilization that armed out-"It is a disprace to civilization that armed our rages against private property should be perpetrated, as they are now perpetrated by warships of the United States and Spain," &c. to the end.

This subject may perhaps be set in a clearer

light by the following remarks:-

No doubt "War is bad enough without the addition of such barbarous features," and no one would care to excuse them except as war measures. The question is therefore whether they have been and still are justified by international principles of war, and if so, who is responsible for such justi-

fication.

Reference is made to the Declaration of Paris of 1854. Its principles failed to become a part of international law mainly as a result of the refusal of the U.S. to subscribe to the clause on privateering. Thus, as Sir H. Maine says, this "Declaration has not become part of the keneral law of other civilizations, for the assent of a State which is perhaps destined to be the most powerful in the world, and certainly the most powerful neutral world, and certainly the most powerful neutral State, has been withheld from it." "The reason given for the refusal of the United States, by Mr. Maccy, the Sec. of State, was plausible enough," This

"The United States consider powerful navies and large standing armier as permanent establishments to be detrimental to national prosperity and ments to be detrimental to national prospecity and dangerous to hiberry. . . . They can never be brought to acquiesce in any International law which may render it necessary to maintain a powerful navy or large standing armies in times of peace. If forced to windicate their rights by arms, they are content. . . to tely. . . for the protection of their commerce in no considerable degree upon their emercantile marine. If their contry were deprived of these resources it would be abilized to change its policy and assume a military obliged to change its policy and assume a military ounged to change its pairty and assume a military attitude. In resisting an attempt to change the existing maritime law that may produce such a result, it looks beyond its own interest, and embraces in its view the interest of such nations as are not likely to be dominant naval Powers

. To such nations the surrender of the right to resort to privateers would be attended with con-sequences most adverse to their commercial pro-

sequences most anverse to meir commercial pro-sperity without any compensating advantages.

It certainly ought not to excire the least sur-prise that strong naval Powers should be willing to forgo the practice comparatively useless to them, of employing privateers, upon condition that weak or Powers agree to past with their most effective means of defending their maritime rights. It is, in the opinion of this Government, to be seriously apprehended that if the use of privateers be abandoned the demandary of the demandary of the demandary of the demandary of the demandary of the content of the seriously apprehended that if the use of privateers be abandoned the demandary of the content of the seriously apprehended that if the use of privateers be abandoned the seriously of the content of the seriously of the seriou of the dominion over the seas will be surrendered to those Powers which adopt the policy and have the means of keeping up large navies. The one which has a decided naval superiority would be potentially the mistress of the ocean, and by the abolition of privateering that domination would be firmly secured. Nor would the injurious effect of a vast naval superiority to weaker states be much diminished if that superorthy were shared among three or four great Powers. It is unquestionably the interest of such weaker states to discountenance and resist a measure which fasters the growth of regular naval establishments."

Thus much to show that the clause sholishing privateeting was in reality from the United States' point of view not what it claims to be-a dis-interested advance in the principles of enlightened

As a matter of fact however, the privilege thus

able against the best of Europe's claims to civili-

zation.

It appeared subsequently to the U.S. expression on the Paris Declaration, that Spain reserved the right of resorting to privateering. The logical conclusion would therefore be that Spain's merchantmen may not only be seized in pursuance of the laws of war but over and above this also in order to prevent them from being used in privaleering,—justified therefore as a measure of national defence, and not as a mere war or retaliatory measure.

We have seen that there were cogent reasons be lave seen that there were cogen resonts for the U.S.'s refusal to subscribe to the Paris Declaration. However, it ought to be remembered, Secretary of State Marcy declared also that the U.S. would readly agree to an arrangement whereby private merchantmen and other effects of citizens of a belligerent Power should be

effects of citizens of a belligenent Power should be exempt from seizure by putilic armed vessels of the enemy except it be contraband of war and that "with this we will consent to the placing of privateering under the ban of the law of nations." (Cf. also Wookey's Intem, Law. Sec. 128.)

Nothing therefore could be plainer than that the policy of the United States so far from being unwilling to reluquish privateening (even though in the interest of the selfish military policy of the European concert it refused to bind itself to do so to the serious disadvantage of itself and smaller or namilitary Powers), put itself on recent already minilitary Powers), put itself on second already half a century ago, as favouring an enlightened policy such as unfortunately no European concert

pancy such as unibitumately no European concert as yet aspired to.

It will appear therefore that this so-called "barbacous feature" is.

1. One for which the United States is not re-

spansible. 2. That it has put itself on record before the

world as in favour of its abeliting. 3. That it has abjured privateering in the pre-

sent war, and is in practice in accord with the Paris Declaration. 4. That its present course in capturing Spanish merchantmen is justifiable not merely as a war

merchantmen is justifiable not merely as a war measure, but also since Spain has not renounced privateering, as a measure of self-defence.

5. That in any case this feature is still justified by the principles of warfare, and that every probability is that every European power would result to the same practice. In fact, in the Franco-German war even a modified form of privateering was put on the programme by Germany, though the brevity and decisive nature of the struggle gave no opportunity for putting this scheme into gave no opportunity for putting this scheme into

6. Still was is cruelty,—"hell" as some one O. Still was its criticity.—Then as some one says—and so contains many "bacharous features" besides the one mentioned. But evidently the responsibility for forcing this batharity must not be laid at the door of one who is forced to take up the gauntlet in response to an appeal higher than which none is conceivable.

which none is conceivable.

Merchant ships moving freely into spheres outside of their countries jurisdiction, and all the possibilities latent in this fact, contain an element from the point of view of beligererits which makes their exclusion from war-spoits peculiarly difficult and puts them into a somewhat different category from the "destruction of private houses, or the robbery of private werehouses." This however, forms part of a larger subject. subject.

Very respectfully, H. M. LANDIS. Meiji Gakuin, May 6. 1898.

We have already explained that our comments on this matter had no reference to the United States in particular, but were addressed to the general question of the destruction of private property in time of war.—Eb. J.M.)

#### A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR, Our greatest authority on Things Japanese having taken up the question of treaty revision, ese having taken up the question of treaty revision, this hackneyed subject becomes again of interest, though, I fear to say, of academic interest only to the general mass of us. And this interest becomes intensified when we see you, also an authority, and on this subject seemingly so well posted, inclined to cross swords with the learned professor. As a humble, but I hope careful investigator of this big question in our little world, I should deem it a Sir,—In your issue of to-day you say concerning the Hispano-American was:—"It is a disgrace to civilization that aimed outrages against private property should be perpetrated in allow-ing the war-ships of the United States to seize unclaimt ships of the Spanish on the high seas, &c." Through the columns of your valuable people the writer would be pleased to read the people the writer would be pleased to read the editor's reply to these two questions, \$2.7. What a life international principles as yet agreed property to these two questions, \$2.7. What a life international principles as yet agreed property to these two questions, \$2.7. What a life international principles as yet agreed property to these two questions, \$2.7. What a life international principles as yet agreed property to these two questions, \$2.7. What a life is charge does not go beyond that charges the life is advice lustifie to Japanese claim of private in the present context. Thus it is in full accord with all the international principles as yet agreed with a life in the property and the barbarity being concluded that would manch,—they would secure knows; while if their advice lustifie to Japanese claim of private in the capacity of experts in its dealings with the private inguity of experts in its dealings with the internation of the United States against the Patis against the Pa lavour if I could have your opinion on one point bearing on the same, to wil :- Two gentlemen attached to the British Legation assisted the Foreign

and possible subsequent unpleasantness, they would fall in the good graces of the Foreign Office? Awaiting with interest your views on the

Yours faithfully,

ASHIBIKI.

(Our investigations have not extended to the point,--- Ep. J. M.

#### THE DOSHISHA

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,-If any of your readers care to know what School think of the recent action of its trustees, they may be interested in the following extract from a letter just received from Dr. J. L. Barton, one of the secretaries of the American Board.

I am, sir, etc.,

D. W. LEARNED.

"There is no doubt, if this action has been "There is no doubt, if this action has been taken, that the religious press of this country will discuss the question very fully, and it is easy to forsee what conclusions will be drawn." In will also be the duty of the Presidential Committee to ask the trustees of the Doshisha to return to the American Board all monies given by the Board for the procluser of land for the creation of build-American Board all monies given by the Board for the purchase of land, for the erection of buildings, and for endowment for the institution. As trustees also of the Harris fund we shall have to ask for the return of the seventy five trunsand dollars which they hold. There is no doubt that the American Board and Mr. Harris would never have given a dollar for the institution were it not the three stricks in the constitution were it not the three stricks in the constitution or come. nave given a court for the institution were it not fur those two articles in the constitution or some-thing quite equivalent. The trustees repeatedly informed the deputation in Japan that Article III. would stand forever as the basis upon which adu-cation is given in the Doshisha."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

for the Editor of the "jaran mail."

SIR,—I beg the privilege of making a very few comments on the Doshisha Trustees' Explanation published in the Far East and well summarized by you in a recent number of the Fapan Mail.

I, "Two elements were in the Doshisha" with a "conflict of views," I wish to testify that no

a "conflict of views," I wish to testify that no such conflict existed between Dr. Neesina and his fureign co-workers. We worked together with the utmost harmony; it was truly Dō-shi (of like mind); the "parents" of the school were fully "agreed as to its final career." It was only when the father died and a step-father came in that

the father died and a step-father came in that discord arose.

2. "The American patrons wanted a special type of Christianity," Only if belief in a personal, living God, in a divine Saviour, and a future life is to be regarded as a "special type," Whether "special" or out, this was certainly the type of Christianity which Neesima preached and lived.

3. "The constitution was not imposed on the Doshisha as a condition for any gift." But it was adopted as a part of an arrangement by which

adopted as a part of an arrangement by which the financial control of the school was turned over

the huancial control of the school was furned over
to the trustees, and was the basis on which large
gifts were made to the school.

4. "The elimination of an unpractical clause
which prohibited all change." No change was
prohibited except in the few fundamental principles of the school.

5. "It must be assumed that Mr. Yokoi intends

S. "It must be assumed that Mr. Yokoi intends the public to understand that the middle school of the Doshisha is supported entirely with Japanese money." It certainly does seem so, but what are the facts about that school? The funds for its land and buildings were almost entirely, certainly at least 95 per cent. of them, given by American Christians to build up a Christian school. In Christians to build up a Christian school, in order to obtain the exemption from the conscription it needed to have an endowment fund of 50,000 year or thereabouts, and where was that money obtained? By appropriating to this school the money which Mr. Harris gave to found a Christian science school.

D. W. LEARNED.

Kyote, May 9th, 1898.

Yours, etc.,

#### THE LIMITS OF JAPANESE ART.

To THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Professor Chamberlain in the third and revised edition of his very valuable "Things Japanese" has made the statement (see Fapan Mail April 28th) that "Japanese Art has limitations, and is decorative and not representative." The mad is according and not representative. The statement appears to me superlatively dogmatic. However, a war-beaten veteran has more right to make "superlatively dogmatic" statements than a youthful amateur. Notwithstanding the present writer's unbounded admination and respect

ese Art is limited, and is decorative and not representative." In a theoretical sense this criticism is true in relation to the art-productions of every other country and nation. Art belonging to that category of objective sciences which are reached by an inductive procedure of ratiocination, it will always remain confined within those circumscribed limits to which our finite understanding is subject. It was in this sense, I am inclined to think, that Aristotle understood the limited realins of art when he said:—" Art constitutes a first principle which subsists in another subject. Whereas nature constitutes a first principle which rubing itself." Indeed, it is in this very limitation alone that our faith in the future of its steady growth is assued. Although literature has far greater facilities than art to express the ideas conceived by the thinking art to express the ideas conceived by the finishing agent, still often times it is greatly hampered on account of the insufficiency of the instruments necessary for bringing to life and objectifying those thoughts. Poet Coleridge knew what he was talking about when he said he could write just as good dramas as those of Shakespeare if he only knew how to do it! It is far easier to persiften idea in read a relative as activated the sonify an idea in words written or articulated than in a work of art. If the Japanese artist is constrained to battle with such limitations, his Western brother also has to combat the same disadvantages.

However, there are several points, it has to be However, there are several points, it has to be conlessed, which greatly encumber the Japanese artist and considerably curtail the freedom of his movements and flights. The absence of a good model is one of them. As long as the white Circassian is considered as the ideal type of human form in preference to the Mongolian, so long Japanese set, in its relation to the manifold activities manifested by man, will be exposed to criticism and even censure.

criticism and even censure.

Then, again, the hitherto exclusive insularity of the nation has deprived the Japanese artist from acquiring that broadness of conception and uni-versality of taste in our æsthetic faculties which are evolved gradually by the juxtaposition of art objects of divers aim and accomplishment. Western Art has a consecutive history of more than thirty centuries standing behind it. It has been integrating with untrammelled freedom and improving itself during all this period of time through an immense expanse of territory and gradually gravitating to itself with irresis-tible magnetism everything that is highest, noblest, and elevating in the most civilized nations of mankind. In the veins of a Sargeant can be easily seen flowing the blood of a Michael Angelo; and in those of Angelo the blood of a Phidias. Likewise the Greek artists also derived their high inspiration and florescent life from those unknown Masters of Egypt and Assyria who had passed into the world of oblivion continues before. These stadia of the progress of art from one country to another in the ancient world, and its ultimate consummation in the transcendent heights of Greek art are distinctly visible, just as modern and medizeval art. The complicated civilization of the western world, whether in art civilization of the western world, whether in at as in literature, is not the mature child of a single oation and born in a single generation, but from India to Africa and from Assyria to England each one has liberally contributed its own quota. If the association of ideas in the strictly psychological world leads to the formation of thought-centres in the individual mind; how much more then the association of ideas and intercommunity of tastes between nations should lead to the formation of more extensive conceptive to embosom every elevating form of knowledge and imagination.

If we turn now to the Japanese Artist we shall find him quable to claim for himself that noble fo-reign and diversified ancestry which has contribut-ed so extensively towards purifying and exalting the taste of his Western brother artist. Centuries the taste of his Western brother artist. Centuries ago a few wandering pilgrun artists visited China, and perhaps India also, and got a few archaic and simple art-germs from the countries visited, but on coming back they had to resuscitate, without the aid of a foreign tutor, the dormant life of the beclouded and fainting ideas. Even this narrow channel of intercommunication between Japan and the cuttide would make them. comment of intercommunication between Japan and the outside world more than three centuries ago was closed by the arbitrary action of a despoic government and henceforth the artist was left to grope his way in the intense intellectual darkness with which he was surrounded. Such being the conditions through which Japanese Art has passed. a youthful amateur. Notwithstanding the present writer's nubounded admiration and respect for this English Morowori, he frankly avows his insulity to understand what the learned Professor insulity to understand what the learned Professor means, or intends to mean, by saying that "Japan."

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No one who reads Pausanius can fail to see the decorative aspect of Greek art. Even the high-decorative aspect of Greek art. Ev

not many civilized countries when sequestrated from the rest of mankind relapsed into ignorance

and semi-savagery?

If by the "limits" of Japanese Art Mr. Cham If by the "limits" of Japanese Art Mr. Chamberlain means those natural short-comings and disadvantages with which every artist has to contend, and none is able to remove totally, the criticism is justifiable. But if by these "limits" the professor means the install inability of the Japanese Artist contents the restrict the professor means the install inability of the Japanese. ese Artist to grasp the reality of the universal world of Art, because his intellect and imagination were not capable of soaring into those subline regions within which his more cultured western brother has been dwelling, then I will dispute the justice and accuracy of such a judgment. There is no object in the vast universe which arrests the interest and moves an inquiring soul to deliberate activity, that has not interested and moved the over-sensitive soul of the Japanese actist. Religion and morality, life and death, heaven and ligion and morality, lite and death, neaven and earth, sea and land, visible and invisible all have passed in a panoramic order before his keen abservation. The scope of the Japanese artist, in the writers' opinion, is just as wide as that of Greece or of Italy; and to prove this is simply more than a milbas occupied from its birthday, more than a milbasium and to the present day. lenium ago, to the present day.

Neither, I confess, can I understand clearly, to charge made against Japanese Art as being decorative and not representative." The origin of art is decorative before being anything else, and whenever an object loses its distinctive decoand whenever an object toses his distinctive decorative features immediately it ceases to be, properly speaking, art, although it may still temain a representative object. The Central American totemes have ceased to be considered any longer totemes have ceased to be considered any longer as objects of art, simply because the canon of decorative beauty in the civilized man has advanced, yet these totemes still remain as representatives of the crude mind which recated them. It will be readily observed that I am using the word = decorative" in a broad sense, meaning the attractive aspect and quality of anything beautiful, a quality which never completely disappears in all the different stages of the evolution of the ascent of art. of the ascent of ait.

In the gradual advancement of human thought, as far as we can observe at present, the idea of utility has preceded that of beauty. Man in a state of nature, before taking any cognizance of an inner feeling craving after the ideally beautiful, first must have attended to his own pressing immediate physical needs. The crude poltery bereft of all on amentation, unearthed from the bereft of all ornamentation, unearthed from the ruins of remote antiquity, corroborates this, However, as necessity is the father of utility, likewise luxury in the father of beauty. From the only terra-cotta pieces which the savage has left to the posterity to the best and most delicate of the Satsuma ware the impulse moving the progress of the aut to perfection in purely decorative. The idea of decorative heavity can never for a moment abandon the thinking head of the author, nor the aesthetic eve of the user. It is this nor the aesthetic eye of the user. It is this absence of harmony, and friction concerning the conception of the idea of the beautiful, between the artist and foreign public which between the artist and foreign public which courses every species of Japaneses ert to look so unualited and bizarie to us. If we thoroughly analyze any object of representative art we shall find that each component element attracting out observation first, to be purely decoratracting out observation first, to be purely decorative; and if any residuum is left to serve as the background for all the decorative accessions, it will be found to be that of utility. When the dacorative beauty through some process of analyzation vanishes away from an object of art, the idea of utility immediately steps in to claim the vacant throne. Take for example, the Parthenon, that glory of Greek art. Taken as a unique whole it was an object of the highest glyptic and architectural Art. However, even here every object constituting that sublime edifice had a decorative import: the stansary, the friezes, the nedic object constituting that sublime edifice had a deconative import: the statuary, the friezes, the pediments, the facade, &c., and in their combined totality generated that force which enabled every Greek worshipper to comprehend the transcendent truths of his creed in a facile manner. Take again a first-class Japanese sword: the blade by Masamune, the hilt by the Kajikamas, and the metal work by the Gotos. Here each separate object, although of decorative significance, several as a component element to complete the final idea of the sword as a useful weapon for cutting. Here also hearty and utility are inseparably united together. together.

though in a different sause, is true in relation to Japanese art, both in its extensiveness and arrangement. More than literature or anything else it has beneficially affected the mantal faculerse it has been related attended the manner facti-ties and developed the religious instinct of the race. It has polished the manners of every individual, and brightened the ghorn of his daily toil, and more than all, with a convincing reality it has depicted to him the terror of sin and reward of virtue in the eternal realms of the great future. If this is not a representative art, I confess I do not know what meaning that expression conveys.

Finally, in regard to the distinctive value of Japanese art as compared with that of Greece or Italy, it is extremely difficult to come to any conltaly, it is extremely difficult to come to any con-clusion, because of the impossibility of making any satisfactory comparison. Their ideas of things beautiful, especially of the movements and posture of the human body and its diversified actions, are diametrically opposed to those of the Western nations. Frequently the writer has heard very severe criticism made of the unnatural attitude and deportment of the Japanese women as paint-ed by the Ukiyo School; while to a native the costure will apporar the acme of grace and refineed by the Ukiya School; while to a native the posture will appear the acme of grace and refinement. Hence to study Japanese art thoroughly we must study the Japanese socially and psychologically with deep sympathy. The close relationship between the actist and his productions necessitates their study together. These and a large multitude of other causes compel us to judge Japanese art by itself and not in comparison with the act of Europe. However, if a Japanese is forced to make such a comparison he has a right to demand that the contrast of every object should be made separately. The Japanese scolutor should be made separately. The Japanese sculptor has never tried his skill in marble, where the has never tried his skill in matble, where the Greek has stood at the head of all, but in wood and bronze he has produced statuse worthy the best period of Greek Art. In painted boxes the Japanese has surpassed and quite distanced his Greek brother, just as much as the painting of an Etruscan vase excels that of an Egyptian coffin. The Japanese painter has done nothing in oil to compare with the divine productions of the youth of Urbino or of Titian: but in water-colours he has expressed his thoughts with a charm and grace that a Japanese has no reason to be ashamed of. In ivory, pethaps in wood caving also, Japan is not only far ahead of Italy, but of all the Western world. In miniature art, if a few things produced in China are excluded, if a few things produced in China are excluded, Japan leads the world.

Very truly, yours, May 8th, 1898.

X.X.X.

#### ABOLITION OF TORTURE IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issues of the 7th and 9th instant you deay to Monsiem Boissonade de Fontarable the chief share in the complete and final abolition of torture in Japan. As a friend of this eminent jurisconsult who acquired so many tides to Japanese gratitude, I cannot let pass without protest the words in which you have seen fit to endeavour to deprive him of a glory which he prized above all others. For Monsiem Boissonade was an ocular witness of the last case of official tratue in Japanestiness of the last case of official tratue in Japanes. witness of the last case of official torture in Japan,—and he employed the opportunity to insist on —and he employed the opportunity to insist on the abolition of so barbarous a practice. So spe-cially proud was he of this service of humanity that (should his failing strength still permit of his exerting bimself so far) I make fittle doubt that this truly "grand old man" will humself meter a protest against your manner of writing the history of an epoch in which he played so important and so humanitarian a rôle. Meantime, and in order to obviate an error course impression being made on the mind of sow of your traders. I can affiou that the mind of may of your traders, I can affirm that I have had from Monsieur Boissonade's own lips the many other persons who had the honour of being admitted to his intimacy have heard it from him as well as I Leaving to those whose experience may render them competent witnesses or judges to discuss the other historical points touched on in your two articles, I enclose my card, and am

Sir, your obedient vervant, Tokyo, 11th May.

AMICUS.

#### SPRING SPORTS AT YOKOHAMA.

Saturday afternoon saw a large and fashiomable gathering at the Cricket Ground, Yokohama, to witness the Spring Athletic Meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club The weather, though not bright, was fine and warm, and pleasant enough to attract almost the whole of the foreign community to the ground, so that from the social point of view, as from all Digitized by

others, the affair was a great success. Ladies were present in great force, and the many hand some dresses to be noticed added hightness and colour to the scene. Yokohama ladies, however, are to some extent an exception to ladies elsewhere. They appear to take a real interest in athletics. Everyone has had the experience, probably, of trying to explain at a Lord's match the noble game of cricketto some fair young creature, and of being fluored at the end of an elaborate and lucid exposition by some such remark as "When in the umpire's turn to bat?" The Yokohama ladies, on the other hand, seem to take a personal interest in the events: they have their others, the affair was a great success. Ladies As when in the uniple's thin to bat. The Yokohama ladies, on the other hand, seem to take a personal interest in the events; they have their favourites, and watch keenly the progress of each race. As a nule the sport was excellent, the entries being fairly numerous in most of the events, while the races were generally well contested. The arrangements were under the supervision of the following committee: Mr. J. P. Mollison (President), Mr. F. C. Jackson (Sectary), and Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Judgers Mr. James Dodds, Starter; Mr. L. H. Abel and Mr. J. F. Hall, Timekeepers; Mr. C. M. Duff (Vice-President and Captain): Mr. F. E. White, Hon, Treasurer; Mesas, C. H. Bain, D. H. Blake, G. J. Libeaud, E. Ffirt Kilby, G. Philip, F. J. Lias, B. S. Edwards, and A. B. Walford. Details:

100 VARDS FLAT RACE HANDICAP.—(First and second prizes, "Insurance" Cups.)—First heat:

1, R. Van R. Smith 4 yards; 2, H. Goddard to yards; G. Walt 5 yards, 0; time 11\(\frac{1}{2}\) secs. Won by several yards. Second heat: 1, G. C. Allcock, scratch; 2, E. G. Libeaud 2 yards; H. K. A. Onderdonk 4 yards, 0; time, 11\(\frac{1}{2}\) secs. Won by about a vaid.

Final 1, Allcock; 2. Smith; 3, H. Goddard. Time, 11# secs.; won by a foot; two yards between second and third.

Long Jump.—First prize, Brokers' Cup.—1. B.
J. Dyer, scratch, actual distance 19 feet 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) feet,
2, W. B. Mason I ft. 9 in., distance 17 5\(\frac{1}{2}\) feet;
3, R. C. K. Johnson, scratch, actual distance, 17.5;
H. S. Goddard, I foot, and L. E. McChesney 5 inches, O.

POITING THE SHOT (15lbs). First prize Silkmen's Cop.—1, H.K.A. Onderdonk, sciatch, actual distance 36 feet 2 inclus; L. E. McChesney, I foot, actual distance 31 ft. \(\frac{1}{2}\) in; A. L. F. Dewette, 1 foot 6 in. o.

HALF-MILE FLAT RACE.—First prize Bankers'
Cup. 1, E. J. Libeaud, scratch; 2, H. E. Hayward, 15 yards; 3, H. W. Kilby, 30 yards; W. Goddard, 15 yards, 0; G. Watt, 20 yards 0. Time, 2mi . 14\frac{2}{3}\cdot \text{ecs}, Libeaud by the end of the first lap had worked his way through the field, and won with the greatest case by 15 yards. Kilby was a good third.

Boys' 220 VARDS RAOB.—(Boys to to 15; first prize presented by Mr. D. H. Blake), I. K. Peacock; 2, G. Liwine; 3, C. Watson. Time 294 ecs.

HIGH JUMP,—First prize, the Steamship Cup.

1, J. F. Denminond, allowed 3 inches, actual height 5t. 2 inches; 2 H. K. A. Onderdonk, scratch, 5t. 4 inches; W. B. Mason, 3 inches, o; L. B. McChest ey, 5 inches, o.

QUARTER MILE FLAT RACK.—1st Prize Ladies'
Price; 2nd, Teanen's Cup. 1, K. V.o. R. Smith,
15 yards; 2, W. B. Mason, 10 yards, 3; H. W.
Kilby, 25 yards; E. W. Kilby, 20 yards, 0; E.
Adel, 20 yards, 0; H. Goddard 7 yards, 0; R.
C. K. Johnson, 5 yards, 0. Time, 55 seconds,
Smith wan by about six yards; 1 on or five between second and third. Miss Poole presented the prize to the winner.

the prize to the winner.

GIRL'S RACE.—I. Hilda Salabelle; 2. Clara Woodruff; 3. Hilda Woodruff.

SACK RACE 50 yards.—I. A. Kingdon; E. H. Liwine 0; W. Goddiard 0; W. B. Mason 0.

HURDLE RACE, 120 yards, 10 flights. Prist prize Consular Cup.—I. E. J. Dyer, scratch; 2. H. K. Onderdonk, 5 yards; 3. W. B. Mason, 5 yards. Time, 19 seconds. Dyer won rasily.

POLE JUMP. Frist prize "Prefessional" Cup—1, H. S. Goddard, 1 foot, actual height, Il feet yin; 2, Il. Powys, 9in., 8 feet 6in; 3, H. K. A. Onderdonk, 9 inches, 8 feet 9 ii. This event was extremely well contested, and buth the winner and Ontletdook deserve congratulation on their feats.

Onderdook deserve congratulation on their feats, Orderdook deserve congratulation on their rears, Milb RACK —First prize, Mr. Dare's Challeoge Cup. 1, E. W. Kilby, 80 yards; 2, E. J. Libeaud, scratch; 3, O. M. Puole, 50 yards; G. C. Allcock, scratch; 0, K. C. Davis, 15 yards; O; W. Goddard, 20, yards, 0; H. E. Hayward, 40 yards, 0, H. hwine, 60 yards, 0; E. H. Morse, 70 yards, 0; C. S. Moss, 80 yards, 0; G. Watt, 60 yards, 0. Time, 4 mm, 57½ yecs. Libeaud made a game struggle to make up the start allowed the limit man, but was mable to overhaut him, and Kilby won with ease.

#### THE WRECK OF THE P. & O. " CHINA."

GRAPHIC ACCOUNTS BY EYE, WITNESSES OF THE DISASTER.

Full details have been received at Bombay from Full details have been received at Bombay from Aden correspondents stating how the China came to grief on Azalea Point, Perim, on March 24th, and the story is interesting as showing once more how bravely the crew and passengers of a British liner can face danger, when it falls across their path. Steaming at 13 knots the ship had Perim fairly close at dinner time. The weather, as evening closed in, was neither clear nor thick. The upper atmosphere was clear, but a slight haze bung over the surface of the water, while the wind was fresh from S.E. At 8.15 p.m., dinner in the saloni was nearly over, and many had already left to enjoy the evening on deck, when at that moment the signal belt to the engine room was rang. Land was seen looming ahead, and a harsh grinding and crushing sound was heard above the wind, and the ship had struck. To reverse the helm hard over was the work of an instant; but the ship remained firm from that moment. It was a dark night with a rising sea, which had already begun to break over as the ship canted slightly to starboard.

#### PERFECT DISCIPLING.

There were over 400 passengers on board, many of them women and children, but there was no panic. Even before many had time to realise what had happened, the ship's band struck up in the music room, and a succession of lively airs, coupled with the assurance of officers that there was no danger, brought calm comage where fear and dismay might well have been present. Rockets and bine lights were now burnt, and a boat manned by stewards was sent round to Perim Harbour to obtain assistance. At 17 30 p.m. the pilot arrived and, after examining the position of the ship, advised the removal of the passengers m the ship, advised the removal of the passengers me the shore.

#### REMOVED WITHOUT A CASUALTY.

REMOVED WITHOUT A CASUALTY.

The stern of the ship had swing round to the West, and the wind was right on her stacboard side, thus enabling boat operations to be conducted in somewhat calmer water. Without this protection the landing would have been well night impossible. Mr. Beever, Chief Officer, and Mr. Pullen, the Second Officer, then successfully established communication with the shore by means of cables. By a bridle attached to these cables the boats were fertied across from ship to shore. The Purser (Mr. J. Watt) and the ship's stewards worked, in the words of a passenger, "like Britons." Fust the women and cluddeen were saved, though some ladies elected to stand back till their has band," turn arrived. It was a strange scene as witnessed in the strong glace of the electric light, which all night long, thanks to the excellent work of the Engineers, who, under the shle guidance of the Chief Engineer (Mr. Smith), never left their posts, bit up sea and shore alike by its bright gleam, and showed the absence of those dangers which darkness might have suggested. The ladies vied with the men in calm courage and absence of complaint. The whole work was personally suger-intended by Captain de Home, and by 3 a.m. on the 25th March the landing of the passengers was competed without a single casualty of any kind, completed without a single casualty of any kind,

#### THE MISERIES OF SHIP WRECK! A WILD RESTING PLACE.

Perim Island, inhabited as it is by some 150 souls, does not offer very bospitable shelter to over sonly, does not offer very hospitable shelter to over 400 people auddenly stranded on its abores, but everything possible under the circumstances was done to mitigate the lot of those who had to spend the long night on the island until assistance could be rendered. Invalids among the passengers were sheltered under canvas erected for their comfort, and all endeavoured to make best of their surroundings. Nothing more could be done save wait on the sandy beach till break of day. The sun at length shone out on a mothey crowd varying in garb from conventional black and white evening diess to the conventional black and white evening diess to the more primitive costumes of night dress and pyiamas. And there lay the China with her great decks towering out of waters "strong in death." There, by a strange irony of fate, within a few yards of the, the hollers of the Hongkong still held out against the pitiless break of the waves. The sandy beach was bounded on the Wost by cliffs, which rose gradually to a height of 250 feet, soon to be scaled by all. The stewards of the ship were early at work, and stores galore were sent on shore.

A TRAMP TO THE RARBOWR. -- TIMELY ARRIVAL OF THE "CARTHAGE."

It was quite obvious when the rescue was attempted, that embarkation at this point of the fs-land would be attended with some risk and much promain from

discomfort, and that by far the more suitable spot ras Perim Harbour, which lies to the South of was Perim Harbom, which her to the South of the Island. So a pilgrimage was organised to that place, and the whole company reached Perim Harbour and were cheered by the good news that the P. and O. Carthage had already actived from Aden, having made a very quick rom. She had only received the news early on Friday morning, but steam was got up at one, and she reached Perim at 1.15 p.m. the same day. It was a most foctunate curromstance that a ship belonging to the Company was so accessible, as Perim would to the Company was so accessible, as Perini would have been a dreary and desolate spot for a pro-longed stay, and right glad were the pessengers to once more find themselves on board ship.

#### THE VOYAGE RESUMED

All Saturday and Sinday were required to transfer the baggage, mails, parcels post, and specie, a very heavy task. The mail was a very large one, and the China had now 14 feet of water in the forehold. The Third Officer, Mr. Brooks, rendered yeoman service in his efforts to recover passengers' haggage. Penint was left at 7 p.m. on the 27th Maich, Snez reached at 5 a.m. on the 31st, all the passengers being in good health, save that some were suffering from the strain of excitement through which they had passed. It may also be mentioned that as soon information of the disaster was received in Ader, H. M. S. Orlando, II. M. S. Racoon and the R. I. M. S. Mayo, in addition to the P. and O. Carthage, started for the scene of the wreck to sender what help they could. On arrival at Perim, the Orlando, which was proceeding homewards from Australia, volunteered to take the mails to Brindisi; but it was, as a heady mentioned, decided to use the Carthage or the purpose. Although the accommodation on the Carthage was limited, all the passengers preferred All Saturday and Sunday were required to purpose. Although the accommodation on the Carthage was limited, all the passengers preferred to put up with the inconvenience instead of returning to Aden and waiting for other homeword-bound steamers. It was expected that some would elect to do so, and both hotels at Aden had been engaged for them.

FUTILE ATTEMPTS TO GET THE " CHINA" OFF

Salvage operations were quickly started. Tugs and divers' lighters, pumps, and all necessary appliances for saving the ship and cargo were soon sent up by the Agent of the P. and O. Company, but very little success attended their efforts. It was found most difficult to keep the water down, the vessel's fore bulk heads having been stove in. the vessel's fore bulk heads having been stove in. She is lying in a very dangerous position, just below the signal station light. Alt she is affiour in five fathoms of water, while forward her danglit shows sixteen feet. The tugs cannot get at her forward, as only lighters can be got round her bows. This retards all progress, and adds to the possibility of her becoming a total wieck. Little of the cargo has been salved up till now, but hopes are entertained that with the advent of hetter weather, a good deal may yet be done in this tespect. Much anxiety is left concerning the ultimate fate of the vessel. "As the until closes," wites an Aden correspondent. "I have the after the wittes an Aden correspondent, "I hear that the weather has abated considerably within the last day or two, and every effort is being put faith to get the China off. If this much to be desired end is attained, the task will be a long and tedious one on account of the position in which the ship is at present lying. A quantity of cargo has been brought back to Adeo, including 1,800 tons of Australian fmil. and is now awaiting shipment."

—Times of Ceylon.

#### THE SEIZURE OF FORGED BANK NOTES.

CLEVER REPRODUCTIONS OF THE ISSUE OF A HONGKONG BANK.

Referring to the extensive seizore at Singapore of forged bank notes, the Singapore Free Press of April 28.h says:—

The existence of m Continental "long" firm which appears to have been doing a very extensive business in forged Hongkong and Shanghai bankbanata was houghly to light vestriday. tensive business in forged Hongkong and Shang. In his bank-notes was brought to light yesterday, two arrests being made on board the steamer, because of the police, when they were given into custody. On two arrests being made on board the steamer, lospector sine of counterfeit notes. One of the passengers, named Henri Grosse, who it is said made himself particularly pleasant to all the ladies on board on the steamer found to get notes purporting to be of sine of counterfeit notes. One of the passengers, named Henri Grosse, who it is said made himself particularly pleasant to all the ladies on board on the steamer found to get notes purporting to be of the value of \$200,000. H. Grosse also handed the value of \$200,000. H. Grosse value handed handed handed handed handed handed handed handed handed handed handed handed han

with a request for change. After some haggling the price was agreed upon, and the Kling handed over 236 sovereigns. Shortly afterwards he became turmented with doubts as to the genuineness came tormented with doubts as to the genuineness of the notes and took some of them to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, who declated them to be forgeties. Grosse was sent for, and detained antil Inspector Bourne arrived. The only account he gave as to how the notes came into his possession was that he had bought them of a money changer in Colombo. Permission was then obtained from the Consul to search the ship, and it was there found that Grosse had travelled from Germany in company with a man named Schultz, and that they had stayed three weeks in Colombo, Schultz and Grosse sharing the same cabin. Search was made of all the baggage belonging to Grosse, but nothing was found, until Inspector Bourne asked for a small tunk with a patent spring lock to be opened. Grosse immediately protested, stoutly decided that it belonged to him, and challenged the right of the detectives to interand challenged the right of the detectives to inter-fere with it, as it belonged to his cabin mate Schultz. The latter was immediately sent for, and Octualiz. The latter was unmediately sent to, and on being shown the box at ouce denied all knowledge of it. Grosse was accordingly asked to produce his teys, and eventually the box was opened, when it was seen to contain assorted bundles of notes laid flat in the box in piles of shout \$1,000 each. A suspicious movement on the part of Schuliz led the detectives to search him part of Schultz led the detectives to search him for arms, and a loaded revolver was found in his possession, a revolver not loaded being taken from Grosse. The two men were then arrested, and taken ashure, this being about 5-30 last evening. A further search was made, and in addition to the bogss notes two stamping machines for numbering notes consecutively and other counterfeiting implements were discovered, together with a large sum in gold and Bank of England notes. All the supposed Hongkong and Shanghai notes are clever reproductions of the issue of the Hongkong branch, every detail, down to the signatures, theing reproduced; and it is contons to speculate what might have happened had the gang succeeded in reaching Armoy, Swatow, or Woosing, where the sham notes would have found a ready currency. In all the total face value of the notes discovered must reach about \$252,000, the value given by the prisoner Grosse. As already stated the prisoners are believed to have spent three weeks the prisoners are believed to have spentiffice weeks for Colombe, where they purchased large quantities of jewellery, lace, etc., and in this connection it may be noted that an unfortunate chetry is in custody in Penang for having counterfeit motes in his possession, which it is supposed he may have come by honestly amongh, but which led to his arrest when he tried to exchange them. It is further stated that a number of the notes in question were in circulation on board the steamer Preussen, and yesterday one on board the steamer Pretisen, and yesterday one of the passengers, apparently inwittingly, effected some small purchases in Messis. Katz Bios, with a note which the Bank has since confiscated as a furgery. This morning it was also rumonized that over \$6,000, had been discovered hidden in one of the beds of the cabin occupied by Grosse and Schultz, but as a careful search was made of the room yesterday this may point to the fact that there are still people on board belonging to the gang who were anxious to get rid of their notes.

THE ACCUSED REFORE THE MAGISTRATE. The Straits Times at April 28th says :-

Heimich Grosse and George Schultz were charged before Mr. Wolferstan this morning with having tried yesterday to exchange with a Kling moneychanger, forged Hongkong and Shanghai Bank notes to the value of \$2,550. Inspector Bourne explained that the prisoners had come from Colonia. explained that the prisoners had come from Colombo on board the Preussen. When she arrived yesterday, they at once commenced operations, and obtained £236 in gold, in exchange for the \$2.530 worth of notes. The money-changer then became suspicious and sent the notes to the bank, where they were pronounced forgeries. The defendants were sent for, and detained at the bank until the arrival of the LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM 180 " JAPAN TIMBS") THE WAR.

THE TWO FLEETS DRAW NEAR. BATTLE IMMINENT.

London, May 10.

Reports brought by French steamers state that the American cruiser Montgomery was being chased by a powerful Spanish cruiser off Hayti. It is believed that the fleets are approaching one another and that a battle is imminent.

#### THE PHILIPPINES.

"THE TIMES" ADVOCATES AMERICAN OCCUPATION.

ACQUISITION BY OTHER POWERS DISFAVOURED.

The Times, in a leading article, remarks that the occupation by the United States will be the best temporary solution of the Philippines question. Éngland, it declares, however, is unable to regard with indifference their acquisition by France, Russia or Germany.

FIVE THOUSAND MEN FOR MANILA. CONGRESS THANKS COMMODORE DEWEY. London, May 11.

A force of 6,000 men is assembling at San Francisco, whence they will embark for Manila. Congress has passed a vote of thanks to Commodore Dewey, the Commander of the Asiatic Squadron.

#### BRILLIANT ENGAGEMENT.

The American torpedo vessel Wisslow fought a brilliant minor engagement on Sunday off Cardenas, tackling three gunboats, and disabling one, while coming out herself unscathed.

#### RIOTS IN SPAIN.

Grave riots have occurred in many parts of Spain.

SPANISH SQUADRON STILL AT CADIZ. FIELD LEFT FREE TO AMERICA.

London, May 12. Spanish Squadron remains at The Spanish Squadron remains at Cadiz. This changes the situation, as it leaves America free to attack Porto Rico and Cuba without delay.

Hongkong, 11.37 p.m., May 8.

According to intelligence brought from Manila yesterday by the Hugh McCulloch, an engagement took place off Cavité on the 4th instant between the American and Spanish squadrons. The Spanish squadron was completely destroyed, its loss in killed being 200, and in wounded, 600. American ships are said not to have suffered at all.

[Another telegram received in official quarters says that the number of Spanish ships destroyed was twelve. If that he the case, the loss of life is disproportionately small.—ED. J.M.]

Cavité harbour has been taken possession of by the United States squadron, and Manila is now blockaded.

ed with loss of life have occurred between .



MILAN UNDER MARTIAL LAW: TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE.

London May 10.

A force of 800 men is now in occupation of the streets at Milan. Fugitives from the city say that 300 rioters have been killed and 1,000 wounded. The city is now quiet.

THE RISING IN SIERRA LEONE. COLONIAL SECRETARY SAYS REPORTS ARE EXAGGERATED.

London, May 11.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain stated that the reports of the rising in Sierra Leone were exaggerated. There was no intention to despatch European troops.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS. REPUBLICAN MAJORITY.

Loudon, May 12. The French elections have resulted in the return of 211 Republicans, 136 Extreme Left, 36 Monarchists, and 180 Ballotages (?)

THE LEASE OF WEI-HAI-WEI. TO BE CARRISONED BY BRITISH TROOPS.

Two British regiments from India will proceed to Wei-hai-wei at the end of the year.

GRAVE SITUATION IN ITALY. THE COUNTRY UNDER MARTIAL LAW, RAILWAYS SEIZED BY THE MILITARY.

Martial law prevails over the greater All railways have been part of Italy. placed under military control, and a rigid censorship prevents the interchange of news. It is evident that the country is passing through the gravest crisis since it attained its unity.

London, 3 p.m., May 7. The Chinese Plenipotentiary this day paid over to the Japanese the sum of £11,008,857.16.9 in English gold coins. With regard to the sum to be received in Berlin, namely, one million pounds sterling, no intelligence of its having been paid over had been received up to 6 p.m. yesterday.

(The above is taken from the Chuo Shimbun.)

#### (Received by the Fiji.) FRESH CLAIMS BY FRANCE.

Peking, May 10. The French Government has proposed fresh claims to the following effect; that 30,000 taels be paid as compensation to the families of the murdered missionaries, that a church be established as a memorial of those murdered, and that the railway be extended from Nanking, of

Kwangsi province to the coast of Canton. CHINA'S CONCESSIONS. MINING AND RAILWAY ENTERPRISE.

Peking, May 5 A railway line reaching to Hwang Ho will be constructed in order to transport the mining products which are being excavated in the province of Shangshi by a joint firm of British and Italian merchants.

THE TIENTSIN CONCESSION TREATY.

Peking, May 11. The Tientsin concession treaty has been signed. Japan has acquired by virtue of the treaty a spacious concession on the upper course of the Pei-ho. Japan has also secured the right of constructing a inside the walls of Tientsin.

RUSSIA'S SLICE.

Peking, May 8. The extension of land leased to Russia in the Liaotung Peninsula covers 800 square miles, from Pi-tsz-wo in the East to Adams Bay in the west inclusive. The Russian Government will despatch at least 15,000 soldiers to act as garrison there.

EXPANSION OF BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The area of land which has been added to the British possessions extends for 200 square miles in Kowloon, opposite Hong-

#### THE RIOT AT SHASHI.

Peking, May 10.

At 7 p.m. on the 9th instant, a mob of Chinese rioters burned the Japanese consulate, the offices of the steam-ship company, and the custom house in Sha-(the new settlement in Szechnen established by the Shimonoseki Treaty).

Another telegram of same date adds that the officials of the Japanese Consulate barely escaped with their lives and took refuge on board ship.

Shanghai, May 11. On the night of the 9th inst, a riot arose at Shashi, and the British Consulate, the premises of Jardine, Matheson & Co., the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, and the residence of the Commissioner of Customs were reduced to ashes by the rioters. All the foreign residents here are safe. The disturbance has now subsided (10.45 a.m.)

THE DISTURBANCE AT SHASHI. (Official Telegrams from the Japanese Consul.)

Shashi, May II.

I meant to-day to go down the river as far as Hankow, but the Taotai strongly urged me to give it up, representing to me the dangers attending such a journey. He requested me either to continue my stay at his Yamên, or if I must go under any circumstances, to get on board a steamer from a safe spot in the neighbourhood. I am, consequently, making inquires about steamers. The Customs business being stopped, there is no means of despatching postal communications.

The premises of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and of the Chinese Merchants Navigation Company have been completely burnt, but those of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire are safe. The British Consul was absent, but the ship on board which he used to live was able to cut her mooring, and float down the river, thus escaping from any harm. Three Customs officials, with their families, were able to escape, but all their property has been destroyed by fire. Two churches, being removed from the seat of disturbance, escaped being burnt down. The missionaries, five in number, left for Hankow in company with the Customs officials.

MR. EITAKI ESCAPES TO KING-CHOW.

Shashi, May 12. Consul Eitaki, is now in King-chow intending to proceed to Han-kow. mob continues very turbulent.

### (SROM THE "LEINA GAZETTE,")

BEACK FLAGS ON THE WAR PATH.

Hongkong, May 6 Three thousand Black Flags have assembled at Wuchow owing to a dispute between soldiers also secured the right of constructing a break-water on the lower course of the river and of establishing a tramway thence to consult and the Custom House is guarded

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(PROM JAPANEAR PAPERS.) FIRE IN OSAKA.

Osaka, May 11. This merning at 1.30, a fire broke out at the Su'phuric Acid Manufacturing Company's works in Sakai city, and destroyed 20 buildings, belonging to the firm. Two policemen and some ten firemen were seriously injured, and the loss to the firm amounted to yen 240,000, only yen 70,000 of which is covered by insurance.

FOR WEI-HAI-WEI.

Shimonoseki, May 12. Colonel Nagaoka and other staff officers left for Wei-hai-wei to-day.

BIG FIRE AT KIRIU.

Sano, May 12. This morning at 9 o'clock, fire broke out at Kiriu-machi. Several hundred houses were destroyed.

THE WEI-HAI-WEI GARRISON.

Ujina, May 12.

The steamship Gaisen Maru and seven others arrived here from Wei-hal-wei, bringing 2,596 soldiers and officers, and 217 horses.

TROOPS FOR VLADIVOSTOCK.

Nagasaki, May 12 The Russian Volunteer steamer Niji Noogorod arrived here this morning at 9 o'clock en route to Vladivostock, bringing 800 soldiers from. Odessa.

NEW BANK.

Nagano, May 12. The Agricultural and Industrial Bank will be opened on the 16th inst.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

11112	DEVI D	IAII. IS DUI	3
From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Yaten z	W. May 18
Hongkeng	O, & O. Cu.	Belgic s	Tis, May 10
America	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de J'ro. 3	
Canada, Securitaria	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 4	Mr. May an
Hongkong	P. & O Co.	Rohiha	Tu. May a
Hongkong ,	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Jopen	Th. May of
America	O. & O. Co.	Venua 5	Th. May so
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Peru	Su. May ag
America	O. & O. Go.	Gaelic 6	Su. May ap
Europe	N. D. Llayd.	Hohensollern	W. Jone 8

- s Left Hone kong on the 20th inst. a Left II ngkong on the 20th inst.
- s Left San Francisco on the 30th April.
  4 Left Vancouver on the 20th inst.
  5 Left San Francisco on the 7th Inst.
- 6 Left San Francisco on the roth inst.

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

Par	Line.	Steamer.	Date.	
Hongkeng	P. & O. Co	Rosetta	Tu. May 17	
Shaughal	N Y. K.	Satsuma Maru	W. Slay if	
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de J'ro	P. May so	
America	O. & O. Co.	1 elgic	Sa. May #1	
flonghong	1. P. R. Co.	Em, of China	M. May as	
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. May as	
Cutuda, Reg	C P.R.Co.	€m. of Japan	P. May ay	
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Ma. 30	
America	P. M. Co.	Peru	To, May	
Storighong amount	N. D. L.	Hoheugottern	P. June in	

## RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

#### YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5 20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.

SHIMBASHI-4 40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, to, 11.15 p.m.

#### YOROHAMA AND KOMB.

Departur-,	Arrival.
Yokohuma 648 a.m.	Kobe 11.22 p.m.
Yokohama ra6 p.m.	Kub 9.00 a.m.
Yekoloma a. 7.20 p.m.	Kobe 3.05 p.m.
Vokebama 10 55 p.m.	Kolie 7 00 p.m.
Kebe 6,00 a,m,	Vokolisma 10.25 p.m.
Kobe ,12,30 p.m.	Yokohama 8.08 a,m.
Kobe 10 00 p.m.	Yokobama 7.06 p.m.

## YORGHAMA AND NIKKO.

TOROUGHE UMB	CTIKKUI	
8.m.	a.m., n.m.	p 16.
From Yokobama 7 to	8 47 9 57	12 45
From Shinagawa 8.15	9 45 11.10	2 00
From Akabane 9 27	11.27 1.27	3 27
Acrive Utsunomiya 12.30	2 30 4 40	0.30
Arrive Nikke Original front	4-25 6.15	7.15

#### DESTRUCTIVE WHIRLWIND.

Morioka, May 13.

On the night of the 11th inst., a strong whirl-wind raged on the coast near Mirako village, and over three hundred fishing boats, contain ing 1,500 fishermen, are reported missing, and it is feared many must be lost.

Later. Seven fishing boats of Omoto and sixteen of Shimanokashi and Raga, with 127 men, seem to have been lost. The warship Amagi will be sent to try to rescue the missing boats.

#### CHESS

All Communications to be addressed to the Cursa Epizon,

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Clubs are closed during the summer months.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 367.

t-B to B 5

1-P takes B 2-K takes P (forced)

3-Q to B 7 mate

1-P to K 4 2-P takes P (forced)

K to Kt 4 3-P to K 5 mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., M.W., D.D., and Marco.

W.H.S and Skak are to be credited with con-tect solution of problem 366.

PROBLEM No. 370. By H. W. BUTLER.



White to play and mate in three moves,

GAME No. 385. U. S. CHANPIONSHIP MATCH.

0. 0. 0	GAME.	
	Black-Sh	
White-Pillsbury.	WHITE.	BLACK
WHITE. BLACK.	28 Kr Q q	Ki Ki3
1 P Q4 . P Q4 2 P Q84 P K3		P R4
2 P QB4 P K3	29 P K 3	
3 QKt B3 KKt B3	30 Q K2	P R <sub>5</sub>
4 B K/5 B K2	31 Q R5	PxP
5 P K3 QK Q2	32 PxP	Kt B-q
6 Kt By Castles	33 R B5	R Q-q
7 PxP PxP	34 QR B-q	P Kt3
8 B O2 P B2	1 25 () B2	Ki K3
9 Q B2 R K-q	136 K B8	K K (2
10 Ctls. KR Kt B-q	37 R×R	KorR
It Kt Ks Kt KtS	L 38 R B5	K1 K3(d)
12 BxB QxB	39 Q × P	Q Kt3
13 KixKi BxKi	40 R B-q	OK is
.14 QR Ksq Q B3	41 Kt B2	Q K <sub>13</sub> Q K <sub>15</sub> Q Q <sub>7</sub>
15 F QR4	42 Q K5ch	F B3(e)
(a) R K2	43 OxPch	KxQ
16 P OKU, OW Ksd	44 Ki Kach	K 184
17 III K15 Q K14	45 KINQ	P KI4
18 P B4 Q B3	46 P Q5	PxP
19 Q Q2 B B4	47 KIPAP	KixP(f)
20 F R5 Q K13	48 PxKt	R Q2
2t BxB QxB	49 R B5	KxP
22 P R6 BPxP(b)	50 K B4	K Ks
22 F KU DEXT(U)	51 P Q6	K Os
23 K1xK1P Q Q2	52 M B7	R Q.q
24 PxP(c) P QR3	54 m D/	2 8 4
25 K1 B3 QxP	53 P Q7	K Q4
26 R Kung Q B3	54 R B8	Resigns
27 KR B-q Q Q3	I	

Notes from St. Tomes' Budget.

(a) This advance is attended with remarkable results.
(b) White isolates Black's pawns, however, he

may play.

(c) Clever again. If Q takes KI, 25-R to Kt

sq. (d) If R to Q 2, 39—Kt to B 3 equally wins the

END GAMES STUDY.

The following is an example of Paul Morphy?: energetic end game attacks :

BLACK. ô 

WHITE .- Morphy.

R B-q P K-4 P K-5 5 B 86 1 R K8 2 K Ba 3 K K3 4 K Q3 R Ktsq 7 K B4 P K14

The Black forces being all engaged by the com-hined action of the White Rook, passed Pawn and Bishop, the se-operation of the King is all that is necessary to decide the day.

R B•q ■ Kısq 11 K B8 12 Rx R B K<sub>13</sub> K<sub>x</sub>R 8 K KIS 13 P Queens BaQ 14 KaB Resig R Byg R Ktsq 9 K R6 Resigns

#### GAME No. 386. A TRIPLE PROM SINGAPORE.

DAMIANO GAMBIT.

White-Messrs. A. L. Chittenden Black-Messrs. J. B. Elcum and W. Mosbergen. " and W. Makepeace." BLACK. WHITE, BLACK. WHITE. 1 P K4 P K4
2 Kr KB3. P KB3(a)
3 P Q4(b) PxP(c)
4 KixP Kt K2 6 Kt QB3 7 PxP 8 KtxP PQ4 Q Q3(d) Resigns(e) 9 B B4 5 B QB4 P B<sub>3</sub>

Notes from the China Mail.

(a) This opening is very racely adopted in any serious play.

(b) The usual move is Ki takes P, and then Q

ta R 5 ch, &c.

(c) A sections mistake, Kt to Q B 3 should have been played here. If P to Q 5, Kt to K 2; but, if P takes P, P takes P, &c.
(d) Kt takes Kt was the only saving move.

(e) There was no possibility of saving the Black

#### GAME No. 387. AN EXPERT TRAPPED.

That the pioning of the King's Knight is often a stupid arrangement when the game is undeveloped is well shown in the following skirmish, which accurred between Mieses and Oebquist, two well-known players:—

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

White-Mieses. Black-Ochquist. WRITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK. P Q4 QxP Q Qq Kt QB3 5 Kr KBS B Krs 6 P Q5 Kr K 7 Kr Kt(a) and White wins. B K(5 K( K4 1 P K4 2 PxP 3 K: QB3 4 P Q4 NOTE.

(a) If now B takes Q, White wins by B to QKt 5 ch.

#### HONGKONG.

At the annual general meeting of the Hongkong Chess Club last week the question was to be de-cided whether the Club, in accordance with its tow established habir, is to keep its doors open throughout the summer. At the end of April matches and tourneys were still in full swing.

#### Norms.

We take the following report of the international cable match from The Times :-

This international contest for the trophy provided by Sir George Newnes took place on Priday and Saturday, March 18th and 19th last, and resulted in a win for England, as last year, by \$\frac{1}{2}\$ to \$\frac{1}{2}\$. Play was carried on by means of the Atlantic cables, the telegraphic arrangements being in the hands of the Commercial Cable Company. For the English side the grand hall of the Hatel Cecil had been secured, the Prince's hall having proved in the Academy of Music. Special wires are carried (e) To bring up the king among White's pawns in the Academy of Music. Special wires are carried in the Acade

former matches of the kind, the two centres, albeit some 3,500 miles apart, are brought into close touch. So much is this the case that in obviously touch. So much is this the case that in obviously easy positions the moves are exchanged—i.e., move and reply—often in something under a minute. In other cases, and when a player needs time for consideration in a difficult position, there are long waits, just as in ordinary tournament and march play. As the time consumed by the individual player is, however, carefully kept by the aid of the patent cless clocks, he is bound to make at least 20 moves in every hour of his time.

The openings adopted were mostly of a close nature. Boards t and 2 bore a very near resemblance. Boards t and 2 bore a very near resemblance. Boards t and 2 bore a very near resemblance. Boards t, and Mr. Young tried a Queen's Franchetto Defroce (x-P) to K 4, P to K 3; 2, P to Q 4, P to Q Kt 3; 3-B to Q 3, B to Kt 2) at

to Q 4, P to Q Kt 3; 3-B to Q 3, B to Kt 2) at board 8. At board 5 there was a Ruy Lopez, and at board 1 another trench. Board 7 was a Two Knights Defence.

Although this was the fifth match of the kind, we include that which remained unfinished in 1805 and the match between the House of Comnons and the House of Representatives last year, the marvel of the telegraphic communication is in no degree lessened, and perhaps, even more than the play itself, this will strike the imagination. The wires run, starting from this side, to the Royal Exchange, then to Weston-uper-Mare and round the South of Ireland to Cape Canso, Nova Scotia, which again is 850 miles from Brooklyn.

Inside the actual rooms of play no great excite-Inside the actual rooms of play to great excitement is apparent. Here in England, the players were seated at their boards, attended by their tellers. These are mostly gentlemen of the British Chess Chib, who keep the scores, carry the messages to and fro, attend to the clocks, and to the players' personal requirements, &c., and their self-secticing work is worthy of note. Around the grand half large boards were displayed on the walls—a new feature. There were other boards to enable the public to follow the play: including a walls—a new feature. There were ofter boards to enable the public to follow the play, including a gigantic one with pieces a foot high, in the centre of the room.

In his " Grand Tactics of Chess," just published by Roberts Brothers, Boston, Franklyn K. Young lays down the principle that the occupation of that lays down the principle that the accupation of that great central diagonal of the Chess-board which extends toward that side on which the opposing King has castled or must ultimately castle, is the chief essential for the winning of a game. To establish his Pawns upon this diagonal, and particularly to occupy this diagonal by Pawns which extend by one and two squares into the hostile lines, should be the primary object of each player.

Oxford and Cambridge have received a challenge from the American Universities to play a match by cable. The challenge having been cepted the match was to take place on April 20th.

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,281, R. J. Brown,

Olysses, British steamer, 2,281, K. J. Brown, 7th May,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe 6th May, General—Butterfield and Swire.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, W. Ward, 9th May,—Hongkong via ports, Kohe, 7th May, General.—Dodwell, Carllit & Cu.

Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Trask, 9th May,—San Francisco, 16th April, Mails and General.—P, M. S.S. Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,020, E. B. Bishop, oth

General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. B. Bishop, 9th
May,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, and Kobe, 8th
May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Ingraban, German steamer, 864, Ed. Piper, 9th
May,—Hongkong, 2nd May, Rice.—Chinese.
China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury,
10th May,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 9th
May, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Whamboa, British steamer, 1,109, A. W. Saies,
10th May,—Saigon via Hongkong, 3rd May,
Rice.—Botter 6 eld & Swire.
Hounslow, British steamer, 1,706. Le Templier.

Rice.—Butter field & Swire.

Hounslow. British steamer, 1,796. Le Templier,
11th May.—Hongkong, 3rd May, Rice and
Sugar.—Dodwell, Calill & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker,
10th May.—Hongkong, 5th May, Mails and
General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nacht.

Charterhouss, British steamer, 1,230, Smith, 11th
May.—Singapore, 29th April, Rice.—Otto
Reimens & Co.

Fuent Saire. British steamer, 1,106. Kynech, 10th

Keiners & Co.

Yuen Sang, British steamer, 1,106, Kynech, 10th
May,—Moji, Ballast — Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, W. Ward, 11th
May,—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Genetal.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Laos, French steamer, 2,200, Plandin, 11th May Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.— M. S.S. Co

Glenturret, British steamer, 3,086, R. Webster, Glenturret, British steamer, 3,086, R. Webster, 11th May,—London via ports, Kobr, 10th May, General.—Jandine, Matheson & Co.
Aldebaran, German ship, 1,836, Bruns, 11th May,—Middlesborough, 6th Dec., Coke and Pig Iron.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. Turner Harrison, 11th May,—Guam, 26th April, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Oceana, German steamer, 1,629, Formes, 11th May,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evera & Co.
Saint Ninian, British steamer, 1,038, Havnes.

Saint Ninian, British steamer, 1,938, Haynes, 11th May,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, Shanghai, 7th May, General.-Frazar &

Bowhead, Argentine Steam Whaler, 240, J. Cook, Talli May, -Norway via Suez Canal and Singa-pore, 16th April, Ballast. -American Trading Co.

#### DEPARTURES.

Riofun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, A. E. Muses, 7th May, - Seattle, Wash, via Kobe and Victoria, Mails and General. - Nippon Yusen

Victoria, mans and Kaisha.

Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagen, 9th May,—
Taltal, Chili, Ballast.—Captain.

Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 765, J. C. Jensen, 9th May,—Ito Ito, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson

St. Way, — Ho an, Delamer, 1,964, M. Larsen, S. Co. Phonis, Notwegian steamer, 1,964, M. Larsen, 9 h May, — Mnji, Ballast. — M. Raspe & Co. Candia, British steamer, 4,195, G. K. Wright, 10th May, — London via ports, Mails and General. — P. & O. S. N. Co.

Bellona. German steamer, 2,663. Von Binzer, 10th May, - Havre and Hamburg via ports, General. -Simon, Evers & Co.

Robe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 14th Ma—Shanghai via pous, Mails and General.—Nippon Vusen Kaisha.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,690, W. B. Seabury, 11th May, San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails

and General .- P. M. S.S. Co. Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,828, Grier, 11th May, -Liverpool via ports, General,-Butterfield & Swire.

Fooksang, British steamer, 991, Anderson, 11th May,-Moji, Ballast.-Jardine, Matheson &

Hunan, British steamer, 1,158, Fraser, 12th May, -Moji, Ballast. -Butterfield and Swire.

Astee, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, G. Teask, 12th May,—Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co., Oni. Mary, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young, 21th May,—Sydney and Melbonine via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Haisen Kan (7), Japanese guuboat, 2,185, Capt. K. Ohtsuka, 12th May,—Yokosuka.

Hohousollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Blecker, 13th May,—Hongkong via Kohe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.,

Nacht.
Charterhouse, British steamer, 1,230, N. Smith, 13th May,—Kobe, Rice.—O-to Retmers & Co.
Evandale, British steamer, 2,468, J. Buyers, 14th
May,—Newcastle, New South Wales, Balliast.
—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Canton, Bitish steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 14th May, -Loudon via posts, Maits and General -P. & O. S. N. Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Rosetta, from Hongkong via

Per British steamer Rosstta, from Hongkong via poits:—Mr. C. Campbell, Mr. F. Hart, Mr. G. Mudge, Miss Hogg, Mr. H. C. Field, Lieut. Co., Ross, Capt. Lock, Mr. Zavitz, Mr. E. B. Hunt, Capt. Butch, Paymaster Herzog, Mrs. Weight, Miss Braess, and Mr. and Mrs. Herapall, in cabin. Per Hawsiian steamer China, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss M. L. Allen, Mr. E. Bates, Mr. Peter Harvey, Mrs. Hecht, Miss Halstead, Miss Irwin, Miss Lesser, Mr. G. Matsuo, Miss E. Morrison, Miss Peice, Mrs. C. L. Lickman, Miss Kittie Rickman, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mr. A. G. Stokes, Prof. H. Sharp, and Mr. Hunter Sharp, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. E. D. Eaton, Mr. E. Gerecke, Miss Langfeldt, Miss Morrow and 2 children, Rev. E. G. Tewkesbury, wife and two children, Miss A. A. Rufsell, Mr. and Mrs. T. U. Wheelnek, Miss Winelock, Mrs. Lee B. Lok, Mr. Eng Hook Fong, Mr. Wong Lin Cho and servant, Mr. Lee Lin, Mr. Hip Lang, wife and daughter, and Mrs. Ty Hee and infant, in cabin. Per Genman steamer Hohensollern, Luny Hong-

Per German steamer Hohensollern, from Hong-kong: -Mr. and Mrs. Baltzer, Mr. H. Bael, Mr. Digitized by

N. M. Johnstone, Mr. G. Gibson, Mr. H. A. D. Simpson Baelser, Mrs. Trafford, Mr. G. Stonebrink, Mr. Ottomor Lord, Mr. E. Schmilenback, Mr. M. Muller, Mr. P. Sillins, Eng. A. Ullmann, Eng. A. Rogge, Eng. Pibyer, Mr. Hamads, Mr. Amasa, and Mr. A. R. Fuller, in cabin.

Per British schooner Esmeralda, from Guam ,— Mr. James A. Wilder and valet, Mr. Arthur Red-ding Joy, Mr. Robert Moore Hartter, and Mr. Antonio Palomo.

Per French steamer Laos, for Marseilles via ports:—The Princes of Banoda and snire, Captain Y. Anglada, Mr. Ortiz, Mr. Edward H. Shunners, Mr. H. V. Gielen, Mr. E. Savontel, Mr. A. C. Read, Mr. F. N. Leefe, Mr. Hunter Sharp, Mr. C. Thwaites, Mc. T. M. Nabhucodonosor da Casta, Mrs. E. Graham, Mrs. T. Hibana, Miss M. K. Sutton, Miss Robertson, Miss Worley, Miss Cawer, Mr. H. Lohlin, Mr. Cl. Eymard fils, Mr. Ed. Geach, Mr. and Mrs. D. Brand, Misses Brand, Mr. and Mrs. Reyes, child and 2 servants, Mr. Mattinho Marques, Mr. Geo. T. Myers, Mr. Solumkeras, Mr. Y. P. Raynar, Mr. E. Yubiot, Mr. C. Torrella, Mr. and Miss Talbot, and Mr. Payne, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Kohe Marie, In Shandhai

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Maru, Im Shanghai via potts:—Lieut. S. Hara, Mr. S. Kinashi, Dr. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Clark, Miss Officer, Mr. Lindholm, and Miss Lindholm, in cabin; Mrs. T. Hara, Mr. K. Kinashi, Mr. F. Yamazaki, Mr. Y. Fujima, Mr. and Mrs. M. Atakawa, in Master H. Sugiyama, and Mrs. M. Atakawa, in second class; 52 Japanese, and 6 Chinese, in steerage.

second class; 52 Japanese, and 6 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Hawaiian steainer China, for San Francisco via Honologin:—Mr. C. W. Arters, Mr. W. Assauck, Mrs. A. V. Atchison, Mrs. Banks, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Brittingham, Mr. G. Brockmann, Mr. J. M. Chambers, Mr. Won. H. Converse, Mr. and Mrs. Denning Jarves, Mr. V. A. Dodge, Mr. Chan. J. Davol, Dr. and Mrs. D. Baten, Mr. and Mrs. Denning Jarves, Mr. V. A. Dodge, Mr. Chan. J. Davol, Dr. and Mrs. E. D. Baten, Mrs. Elan, Mr. Eng Hook Fong, Mr. Gerecke, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Grossler, His Excellency von Gottberg, Mrs. von Gottberg, Mrs. evon Gottberg, Mrs. von Gottberg, Mrs. E. Hont, Mr. A. E. Kaeser, Mrs. Chas. Kero, Mr. H. W. Kern, Mr. J. H. Hison, Mr. E. Hunt, Mr. A. E. Kaeser, Mrs. Chas. Kero, Mr. H. W. Kern, Mrs. F. B. Laue, Mrs. C. J. Van O'Lunda, Mr. J. E. Lamble, Mrs. Ina Langleldt, Mr. Sam. B. Lowe, Mr. Ralph Lowe, Mrs. Lee B. Lock and infant, Mr. Lee Lin, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Marsh, Mr. F. Mesa, Mr. C. A. Mitchell, Mrs. Morrow and two children, Mrs. Noyes, Major and Mrs. H. S. Pickands, Col. and Mrs. von Oertzen, Mrs. H. S. Pickands, Col. and Mrs. von Oertzen, Mrs. R. H. Passmore, Miss Russell, Mrs. M. A. Runyan, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Alden Thomogyan, Miss Runyan, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Tewkshury and child, Master Tewkshury, Lieut, T. C. L. Thomas, R.A., Mr. and Mrs. T. II. Wheelock, Miss Wheelock, Mr. Wong Lum Cho and servant, Mr. J. D. Wright, and Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Winterbottam, in cabin. botham, in cabin.

Per German steamer Hohenzollern, for Hong-kong via ports: Mr. Alb. Bombach, Mr. O. Volgt, Mrs. A. Booth, Mr. F. Staniland, Mr. T. H. Ketshaw, Capt. B. Grandman, Mr. V. Besser, Mr. G. W. Middleton, and Mr. Van Nierop, in

#### CARGOES.

Per Hawaiian steamer China, for San Fran

cisco, naky loui :-	_			
	TEA			
	Astr	NEW		
	RANDERON.	YORK.	CHICAGO	Engale.
Shanghai	_	_	Photo:	_
Amoy	_	-	-	_
Hinga		_		_
Yokehama	230	1,807	1,120	3,556
Hongkong	147	-		147
	-			
Total	386	1,897	1,420	3.703
	SILK			
	BAN	NEW		
	RANCIEC	groten .	HARTFORD,	10346.
Shanghai	_	_		-
Hongkong	_			_
Voltobama	_	ıőa	_	162
Talal	-	16 z		161
Raw and Waste	Silk shi	pped p	er stean	ter Ho-
hensollern:				

Opti Italy. Austr & F'nce. Eng. \_ 21 12 45 45 As bales Raw Silk : 128 bales Waste Silk

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

There are a few inquiries for certain cheap chaps of Yarn, but as far as transactions are concerned the market is practically a blank. Faucy cottons and woollens show no improvement. As far as any business is done, prices rule at last week's rates. GOLFOD PIECK GODDS,

Grey Shittinga-Bith, 384 yds, 39 inches \$2 55 to 2 85
Grey Shirtings-alb, 384 yels, 45 inches 4.80 to 3.35
L. Cloth-7lb, 21 ynids, 32 inches 1.8a to 200
Indigo Shirtings-12 yarde, 41 inches. 1.95 10 2.90
Prints-Assorted, 21 yarde, 30 inches, 2 en to 5.75
Cotton-Hallans and Satteens High, ras rass.
3º inches
WOOLLENS.
Flannels \$0.30 to 0.50
Hallan Cloth, jo yands, 32 inches best 10.15 to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches
Medium
Unline Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches
Chmmon
Manusaline de Laine-Crape, 2 parde.
21 inches 0,15 to 0.23
Cluths-Pilota, \$1 at \$5 inches p. 15 to p. 50
Clatha-Presidents, 51@ 56 inches 0.60 to 0 75
Cloths-Daing, 54 of 55 tuches a.ta to a Re
Contrate-Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3th.
per la management and an entre at 50 for 60
Value leco
Velvata-Black, 35 yands, 44 inches 7.75 to p bo
Victoria Lawas, 12 yards, 12-xinches. 0.75 to 1.00
Tuckey Rads-2.0 to 2.4h, 24/25 yacils.
30 inches
Turkey Reds-2.8 to 3h, 24/15 yards,
30 inches
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4th, 24/15 yards,
32 inches
Imkey Reds-4.8 to 5%, 24/25 pards,
30 inches 3 00 to 3.50
Total Bases Bloomers
the office Civilian
Maria and the Control of the Control
Nor. 2/100, Plain
Nos. 2,60, Gassed
Nos. 2 Sa. Gassed Sg.po to 95.00
Nos. a rou, Gassed 113.00 to 124.00
RAW COTTON. PIR PICES,
American Midding
TOCHER DIFFERENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE
Chinana

METALS. 10 41 50 Market still very quiet; a few auction sales of damaged bar iron and wire have taken placed.

	the second property of
n ,	FAM A LUCK
Round and square & inch. and	upwardig.gr to 4.20
TOR FIREW, NAMOILE &	
3heer (400	
Galvanized from sheets	
BRE. PL St.	8.30 10 10.00
Wire Dails, assurted	6.50 to 7.50
Till Lifeton' bei, Don	5 06 le 6 00
Pig irne, fin. 1	7 01 10 0 10
Hoop Iron (1 to 11 inch)	w. w. 40 to \$ 10
stoop from (4 to 14 men)	5.00 to 5,15
IGEROSES	В.

Market quiet, with no appreciable, thange in quotations.

THE PART OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	\$2 00 to 1	1.07
Russian	1 95 to a	1.05
Langkat		1,85
SHEAR		

Arrivals - Manila, 27,091 piculs; China, 6,598 piculs. Sales at an advance of 5 to 20 sen per picul. Of Formosans there have been arrivals of 28,060 piculs; prices are 55 sen higher.

Brown	Takan	Lant to non-
Herman	Afaith.	44.95 to 5.00
DIDABI	Manila	5.25 to 5.80
Brewn	Daitong	4.50 to 4.55
Brown	Gunton and an armed mental armed many	4.40 to 5.50
Millian	Inna and Banan	4-fo to 2-20
AA III CG	[ava and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White	Refined	7.50 to 0.00
		1.10 th glob

#### EXPORTS.

EXPORTS.

The decline in prices, together with an increase in public confidence in the issue of the war, inspired by recent American successes, has operated in bringing about an increased demand from New York; and prices are accordingly again on the rise. The stock mosold in Yokohama amounts to 59 565 piculs, and settlements from April 28th to May 9th, amount to only 405 piculs.

RAW SH.K.

_	INTER STITE
162	QUOTATIONS.
	Filatures-Matra g're, cutes den Nominal
161	Filaturea-Entra 13/15, 14:16 den
F 21	Filstmes-No. 1, 10/13 dameia 860 to 870
er <i>Hò</i> -	Malmes-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den 820 to 830
	Filatures-No. 14, to/14 deniers 830 to 840
	Filatio es-No. 14. 13:16, 14 ty den 830 to 860
ce. Eng.	Filatures-Ho, a, 10/15 damers 85n to 850
	Filatines-fila, 2, 44 18 daniera 820 to 830
- 2ñ	Re-reels140. 4, 13/15, 14/16 den, 890 to 900
= =	Re-reels-140. 11, 13 10, 14/17 den 820 to 830
	Re-reels-140. 2, 11/18 tlaniers 800 to 810
s	Re Water Man Information January
Sifk.	Re-Condition afrompi deniers
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-11MIX	/ERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

	414.65.060.000.60161.01	
Kekedas-No. 14	*************************	790 to 800
	****************************	
Kanedas-No. 24		-

#### WASTE SILK.

There have been practically no purchases during the past week, and the quantity in stock is now 48,899 boxes. Quotations are only nominal,

#### QUOTATIONS.

Noshi-Filatura, Bast	0 15 to 1	120
Noshi-Filature, Good	1#5 to (	10
Yeshi-Oshu, Best	110 to 1	115
Yoshi-Oshu, Good	Loc to 1	oj
Noshi-Oshu, Mediana	go to	95
Noshi-Shinche, Best	70 to	75
Norhi-Shinghu, Good	űş to	671
Nonhi-Bushu, Hant	115 to (	30
Noshi-Bushu, Good	100 to 1	10
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	90 to	95
Noshi-loshe, Good	fo to	65
Nashi-Joshu, Fair	55 to	578
Kibiso-Filature, Best	95 to 1	100
Kihiso-Filature, Seconda	85 to	gá
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	36
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20 to:	124

#### TEA.

A large business has been done during the last week, and up to a few days ago purchases were 12,655 piculs, as compared with 10,883 piculs for a similar period last year. Prices on an average have been about 15 per cent. higher than in 1897, but there is now an easier feeling. The quality of the leaf, which at first was not so satisfactory, has improperly - HATLELAND

BOOLVIION2"	
Choicest	\$1e to 41
Choice	\$38 to 38
Finest	\$36 to 37
Fine	\$14 to 15 Nominal
Good Medium	
Medium	Nominal.
Good Commos	Nemina!
Common	Nominal.

#### EXCHANGE.

Rates continue unaltered but very firm, silver from London being & higher and sterling quotations from China # to # higher. Rates on China

HE GHZIEL		
Southing-	-Rask T.T	
	- Rills on demand	
	4 months' sight	
	Pitrate 4 months sight	
	6 months sight	a, 014
	Ban∎ sight	
	i — Privato 4 montha aight 🐽	
De Ame	eien- Bunk Rille on demand	. 49
_	<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight.</li> </ul>	501
On Gern	nany—Bank sight	1.06
	- Private 4 months' sight,	. 2.TI
On Don	gkong -Bank sight	. 7º/odis.
_	Private roduya' sight	8º die.
Op Shan	ighai-Bank aight	801
	- Private 10 days' sight	
On Judi	n-Bunk right	. 150
-	Private 30 days' sight	. 155
	e: (London)	



## WATERING **APPARATUS**

Non-treezing & Ordinary Hydrants and Street Washers. Garden Watering Boxes and Apparatus.

Gon-Metal, Copper, and Cast-Iron Cocks and Valves.

#### E, GUESNIER, E.G.P.,

Engineer and Cock Mnfr., Successor of ACHILLE CADET) 27, Rue des Tuillandiers,

PARIS.

Hydropathic and Massage Apparatus supplied to the Vishy Co.

Vapour Batha (Berthe system).

Apply to Boyes & Co., agents for M. OPPENSEINER & Co., PARIS.

December 5, 1896.

## NEW TREATY.

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# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 21.]

REGISTERED AT THE M.P.O. AS A PEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, MAY 21ST, 1898. 月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 可配合的動作三十

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" PAISCE QUE DOIS: ABVIRNNE QUE POURRA!"

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of annuymous correspondence,
Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAK
WERKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name
and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a
guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business
be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made
payable to same: and that literary contributions be
addressed to the EDITOR.

VOKONAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 21ST, 1898.

#### DEATHS.

On the 15th instant at Kamakura, MURIEL AGNES, wife of Charles David Wilkinson, of Hongkong.

On the 19th May, in France, Monsieur Hannt Schneider, Regent de la Barque de France; londateur des Usines du Creusot, Saone et Iondateur des U Loire,-By Cable,

At Queenstown, Ireland, Mary Louisa, the beloved wife of Francis Owston, aged 42 years,-By telegram.

At No. 87, Settlement, at 3,15 a.m., on the 19th instant, Lilly Francis Amelia, beloved wife of James Weaver, Esq., aged 33 years.

#### SUM WARY OF NEWS.

THE Diet was opened by the Emperor in person on the 19th inst.

THE death is reported from England of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

THE Russian Government has bought the English ruce-horae Gattee More for £25,000.

PRINCE HENRY of Pressia may shortly be expected in Japan on a two months' cruise.

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ing to starve the Spaniards into surrender; he will not bombard it until the arrival of troops.

THE bicycle races of the Y. C. and A. C., held on Saturday last, were very successfully carried

THE Commander of the U. S. torpedo-boat Winslow is said to have been killed while leading an attack on Cardenas,

THE French Minister has addressed a demand to the Korean Government for sanction to engage in coal mining in Phyong-yang.

REUTER alleges that the Americans have had a repulse at Cuba while attempting to land troops at Cenfuegos, and also at Cardenas.

SENOR SAGASTA has declared in the Cortes that the present or any future government will proseemte the Hispano-American war to the bitter

Mr. NAKAWO, late Governor of Kanagawa, was buried in Tokyo with the honours due to his rank, on Tuesday. There was a large attendance at the funeral.

THE Japanese Consul, who went to Hankow after the disturbance at Shashi, will return to Japan to make a report to the authorities personally of the facts.

MR. BRODRICK, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, denies that either the Highland Infantry or the Yorkshire Regiment are to be despatched to Wei-hai-wei.

THE Russian Minister has applied to the Korsan Government for the purchase of land to the ex-tent of 10 miles in the vicinity of the Russian settlement at Mokpho.

LORD SALISBURY has declined to give an explanation of Mr. Chamberlain's speech, but declares that Great Britain is determined to keep open the markets of China.

THE Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society brought their season to a close on Tuesday evening with a capital performance of the com-edy "Offerings to Folly."

THE Queen's Birthday will be celebrated in Tokyo by a garden party given by the British Minister at the Legation; in Yokohama, by a cricket match and yacht races.

A cook on the warship lwall, staying at Yoko-suka, committed sucide on the 17th by throwing himself into the sea. He is said to have been embarrassed with debt.

unpreparedness of the fleet and the wretched marksmanship of the Spanish gun-ners account in great measure for the easy victory of the American aquadron at Manila.

A REPORT comes to hand from Shanghai that the crop of silk in North China is expected to be very large, while in Central China there is likely to be a large reduction in the output,

Two Chinamen, Chan-bosho, 47, living at No. 121 Settlement, Yokohama, and Chin-kosen, 44, of No. 147 were arrested by the police on the 14th inst, on a charge of opium smuggling.

MESSER, LARDINE, MATRESON & Co. nee soid to have secured the contract to construct, with a capital of 21 million pounds sterling, the trunk railway between Ningpo, Hangkow, and Shanghai.

Nine houses were burnt down and 5 half destroved. Five firemen received injuries. The fire was caused by the breakage of a lamp.

SIR ERNEST SATOW, the British Minister, Sir Charles Mitchell, Governor-General of the Straits Settlements, and Lady Mitchell, who have been at Nikko for some weeks, returned to Tokyo on the 16th instant.

THE United States Senate has passed a vote of thanks III Commodore Dewey for his services at Manila, promoted him to the rank of Rear Admiral, conferred on him a gold medal, and extended his term of service ten years.

THE warship Inkasage, which was under con-struction by Armstrong and Company, New-castle, has been completed, and on the 13th inst. was delivered to the Japanese authorities. It will leave England on the 19th or 20th inst.

THE Yokohama Water-work Loan has been almost twice covered. The sum of 400,000 year was required but when the tenders were opened on May 15th, it was found that 338 applications had been sent in, their total subscriptions amounting to yes 733,300.

On the morning of the 6th instant, the warship Saiyen was steaming off the coast of Bingo Province, on her way from Kobe, when, in the dense fog, she collided with the junk, Peiloku Maru, laden with 135 tons of coal. The latter sank but the crew were saved by the Saiyen.

THE American press generally warmly approves Mr. Chamberlain's speech and welcomes the prospective alliance. In Spain the speech has aroused indignation. The Berlin and Paris papers deplore the language as being calculatto irritate instead of allay the present difficulties.

THERE is a wearisome monotony about the market reports this week, every merchant con-sulted returning the same cry, "no change to report: no business doing." But things are not quite so bad an that, a few straggling sales of grey shirtings have been effected and some packages of fancy cottons have left godown, while woollens have been enquired after in a casual kind of way. In metals, however, all kinds suffered neglect and quotations are therefore nominally unchanged. A slow, flag-ging business is said in have characterised the week in regard to kerosene and the market remains unchanged. A further advance of 25 to 50 sen per picul has taken place in brown sugara and business continues brisk, supply being about equal to demand. A fair business has been done in white refined at previous rates and the market closes steady. An increased demand for raw silk has come from America and Europe but holders are spoiling their chances by raising prices. The stock on hand and visible supply is much larger than at this time last year, so a reduction in rates must come about sooner or later. The weather has been unfavourable for the new crop the last few days, and of course the darennial apring telegrams telling of frost devastations are now arriving, being due almost to a day. Holders of waste silk continue very firm and no business was done during the week. Ten people have been very busy, the settlements for the week totalling 31,090 picula, though the total for the season to date is below that for last year. Stocks are large and the market closes weak. So far the new fishery Expected in Japan on a two months' cruise.

A FIRE broke out on the 17th inst. at 7 p.m. catch has not come up to expectations, and at a house occuped by a widow named Ikeda quotations for first quality oit have risen. Copper Seki, No. 1, Kawara-munchi, Asakusa, Tokyo, ramaina upchanged. Exchange is firm.

## SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

We have already laid before our readers an accurate statement of the views entertained by the vernacular press with regard to the Shashi ourage. There is a unanimous moderation of tone and a marked disposition to refrain from any step calculated to embarrass China. The Nichi Nichi Shimbun, to whose utterances on this subject we have not yet alluded, speaks in a similarly sympathetic strain, but adds that the problem of wearing the Chinese from their hingled concerns to grow to grow the strain. their bigoted conservatism seems to grow more and more hopeless. It is with the object of familiarizing her with foreigners, making her acquainted with the advantages of foreign trade and developing her resources that foreign Powers prefer demands for the opening of ports, the building of rail ways, and so on; but if open ports are simply to serve as places for the perpetration of outrages against the persons and property of foreigners, it will become a question whether the latter should not adopt measures for their own protection, measures more or less hurtful to China's sovereignty. As to the partition of the Chinese empire among Western States, the Nichi Nichi appears to entertain no uneasiness. With the solitary exception of England all the European Powers, it says, have shown themselves unable to make colonization prosperous. England has succeded in bringing the people of India under her sway and governing them peacefully and prosperously, but the Chinese are very different from the people of India, and the task of imposing a foreign yoke upon them is beyond the strength of the States that seem disposed at present to make the essay.

Writing on the subject of Japan's relations with Koren, the Jiji Shimpo repeats its familiar proposition that the only sound and certainly successful course is for Japanese to proceed in numbers to the peninsula and engage in all kinds of profitable enterprises, agriculture, trade, manufacturing, mining, railway building and so on. The racial affinities between the Japanese and the Koreans are sufficiently close to render the success of such enterprises tolerably certain. An important preliminary step is the establishment of a strong bank to assist financially. Capital would have to be obtained in Japan for the purpose at the outset, but it might reasonably be hoped that, in the course of time, the Koreans themselves would become depositors on a large scale. The profits accruing can scarcely be doubted, and in connexion with the organization of such a financial agency steps might be taken to secure the circulation of Japanese silver ren coins in the peninsula, to the mutual advantage of both countries. We have greatly abbreviated the Jifi Shimpo'r article, but it contains nothing else that would interest our readers.

The Yorozu Choho, as might have been expecied, calls the recently concluded Russo-Japanese Protocol mere "nonsense." In the first place. Russia will not pay any attention to its provisious when it suits her convenience to disregard them. She anapped her fingers at the Yamagata-Lohanow Convention the moment that she saw her account in doing so. In the second place, it is not Russia but Japan that the Protocol hampers. Russia finds it irksome at present to meddle with Korean affairs. The Mancharian problem occupies her entire atten-tion. Had she been persuaded to sign this protocol at the time when it suited her policy to fix her grasp upon Korea-last spring, for example—the document might have been regarded with some satisfaction. But now that she has voluntarily stepped out and left the field clear for Japan, the result of such a protocol is to prevent the latter from utilizing the attuation as she might otherwise have done, Russia having already determined to stand aloof in the interests of her own convenience, concedes nothing when she embodies her abstencedes nothing when she emboutes her mount to in a document. But Japan concedes a great deal when she agrees that her hands shall templates the introduction of a bill for increased Digitized by

he fattered which would otherwise have been free. That, stated briefly, is the gist of the Yerosu Choho's comments on the first two articles of the Protocol. With respect to the third, it inquires what possible right Russia would have had under any circumstances to oppose the development of Japanese trade and industry in the peninsula. She could have had no such right, and it is consequently absurd to pledge her not to exercise it. On the whole, our contemporary concludes that the profits conferred by the Protocol belong solely to Russia. Japan has been thoroughly befooled.

The country finds itself confronted by circumstances which render it most desirable that a strong Government should be organized, possessing the confidence of the nation. But the Meiji statesmen can not retain their grasp of administrative power because of the obstruction of political parties; the political parties, while they cry not for parliamentary cabinets, are not able to organize such cabinets, and experience has now amply proved that a coalition between the Meiji statesmen and a political party will not work. What, then, is to be done, asks the Kokumin Shimbun. There is only one course, to form a new party which shall include, first, the Meifi statesmen, since they possess administraweigh statesmen, since they possess administrative experience; secondly, representatives of the wealthy classes, since it is essential that the claims of property shall be fully recognised and its interests guarded; thirdly, men of talent and learning, for reasons that need not be enumerated, and fourthly, man of the rights of controls. ted, and fourthly, men of the rising generation who are entirely free from old-time prejudices and who bring to their work all the spirit of modern learning. Not until a party including the above four elements is organized and a Cabinet formed from its members with its support, can there be such a thing as a really strong government in Japan.

The Jifi Shimps has a remarkable article on the subject of the relations between Japan and It will be remembered that the Jim strongly advocates the settlement of Japanese in Korea, being persuaded that no better plan offers for the development of the latter country and the spread of Japanese influence there. Our con temporary now urges the importance of inducing Buddhist priests also to cross to the peniusula and take part in the movement of colonization. This advice is not tendered on religious grounds so much as on account of the humanizing and tranquillizing effect of missionary teaching and example. Very great differences exist between the customs, traditions, language and methods of the Koreans and the Japanese. It is inevitable that these differences should become causes of friction and that all kinds of mis-The inflaence understandings should arise. of Buddhist missionaries would be invaluable under such circumstances. There is considerable similarity between the conditions that may be anticipated in Korea and the conditions that existed in Japan thirty-five years ago. Japanese visiting Kores will be chiefly bent upon the pursuit of gain, and will not be disposed to pay much attention to the sentiments and customs of the Koreaus, or to allow their spirit of enterprise to be controlled by any consideration for the country or the people. That was the case with foreigners in the early days of Japan's intercourse with them, and there can be no doubt that many serious troubles would have occurred had not the Christian missionary acted as a counterbalancing influence. The Christian missionary not only showed to the Japanese the altruistic side of the Occidental character, but also by his teaching and his preaching imparted a new and attractive aspect to intercourse which would otherwise have seemed masterful and repellant. The Japanese can not thank the Christian missionary too much for the admirable leaven that he introduced into their relations with foreigners, nor can they do better than follow the example that he has set in their own intercourse with the Koreaus.

taxation in the session of the Diet which has just opened. The Tokyo Shimpo briefly discusses the project and declates that it must be The Liberal organ admits that inopposed. creased taxation can acarculy be avoided, since the progress of the country and the necessity of carrying out various public works call for larger expenditures. But before the people's burdens are angmented it must be shown that the organization of the government has been thoroughly reformed, that all superfluous outlays have been checked and that no part of the money taken from the labouring classes shall be wasted owing to official incompetence or corruption. It is also essential that the incidence of taxation should be equalized, so that the disproportionately heavy buildens now borne by some sections of the people shall not be accentuated by the new scale. In short, the Tokyo Shimpo applies itself, with some adroiness, m prepare a catalogue of vague and general reasons against a measure which it nevertheless admits to be inevitable,

## FUNERAL OF MR. NAKANO.

The funeral of the late Governor of Kanagawa took place on Tuesday at r p.m. at the Shinto Temple, Aoyama, Tokyo, Pra-viously an Imperial Messenger visited the widow, and conveyed in her an expression of His Majesty's truest sympathy. The coffin was escorted by a Company of Household Troops, and in the procession were Count 1 roops, and in the procession were County Soyejima, the members of the Privy Council, Viscount Yoshikawa, the Minister of State for Home Affairs, many high officials in Tokyo and Kanagawa Kencho, Police Inspectors from Yokohama, and great numbers of private friends from the capital and Yokohama. Among the foreign gentlemen were Count E. Orûni, the Italian Minister, Mr. M. Kirkwood, Marquis Nembrini Gonzaga, and the recresen-tatives of Mr. J. Colomb and Mr. E. Rogers.

#### NEW GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.

Mr. Asada Tokusaku, hitherto Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture, has been appointed Go-vernur of Kanagawa Prefecture, in successing to the late Mr. Nakano Takeakira. Mr. Asada is well known to the people of Yokohams. He filled the same post of Governor from Decemher, 1889, to April, 1891, in succession to Mr. Oki Monkata. Most, if not all, of his previous service had been in the Foreign Office, where, at the time of his first appointment as Governor of Kanagawa, he held the post of Chief of the Bureau of Commerce. Mr. Iwamura Takatoshi, Governor of Fuknoka, succeeds Mr. Asada in Hiroshima, and Mr. Sakabe Michio is gazetted Governor of Fukuoka.

#### THE WEATHER.

The extraordinary cold snap that has visited us during the past few days has been felt with great severity to the north of Tokyo. On the 15th instant, all the hills surrounding Nikko were covered with a white mantle, and twelve inches of snow were measured in the village Tourists visiting the celebrated resort inelf. must have been surprised m find snow and trost instead of axalea blossoms. The proverbial 'oldest resident" also is said m have been surprised, for nothing of the kind had been witnessed during seventy or eighty years,

#### DEATH OF A FAMOUS FRENCHMAN.

Messrs C. and J. Favre-Brandt received a cable yesterday announcing the death on May 19th, of Monsieur Henri Schneider, Regent of the Bank of France, and founder of the well-known ship-building and engineering firm at Creusol.

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# NUDE IN ART.

Apparently the Japanese Government -or, to speak more accurately, the present Japanese Department of State for Home Affairs-, has decided to oppose the introduction of the nude into the pictorial art of this country. Foreign critics of Japanese art have often classed its neglect of "the human form divine" among the facts that establish its inferiority to the art of Europe. There is undoubtedly an exquisite beauty in the curves of the human body, and their skilful representation on canvas gives much pleasure to the eye. But when and how was that beauty discovered and publicly acknowledged? It has been decided by historians that the nude originally found its way into art in connexion with the Grecian games, where athletes appeared often without any clothing whatever; and it has also been decided that, out of those exhibitions, and contemporaneously with the adoption of the nude as a pictorial subject, there grew up a gross form of immorality, typified in the story of Harmo-dius and Aristogeiton. These times in which we live are certainly marked by great liberty of speech, of pen, of brush, and of other things. A ballet, as it is danced now-a-days, would have shocked the good folks of the last generation, and of the Diet. People are accustomed to many a picture now hung in fashionable salons would have been regarded as a gross solecism thirty or forty years ago. We have far outdone the Grecians in their own special line, and since many of our ladies are proud to display as much of their persons as is possible without emerging completely from their frocks, it seems prudish to raise any objection to the nude in pictures, or to the nude with a pretence of drapery on the stage. Yet there is one thing certain, namely, that ladies themselves have not become reconciled to the nude in art. There is not one lady in a thousand that views, without a certain sense of shame, the pictures of unrobed females and males—nearly always females—exhibited in the various salons of Europe and America. Ladies do not look at such pictures with pleasure; they prefer not to look at them at all if they can consult their unbiassed taste. Men constitute the admiring audience, and for one minute that a man gives to contemplating the muscles of a Hercules or the lines of a Mercury, he will devote twenty to gazing at the contours and curves of a Psyche or an Ariadne. These are significant facts. That they are facts, few conscientious persons will be found to deny. The inevitable inference is that the pleasure of looking at a picture of the nude includes a sexual element in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, and it will not be claimed, we presume, by the most "liberal" critic that art has any proper concern with sexual affairs. None the less there have been artists sufficiently great, sufficiently skilful, to idealize the human body so that its beauties alone appear in their representations, every suggestion of the gross or the carnal being eliminated. If

pictures painted by such masters make any appeal to immoral instincts, the fault is purely subjective. To the impure, is purely subjective. To the impure, nothing can be pure. Who then, will undertake to cast an accurate balance between what the world has gained by admitting the mudertake in the world has lost by not excluding it? We, regarding her led to the tragedy.

A Portuguese clerk samed J. M. Ozorio be more prudent in employing it than if it came from the Indemnity. That is a curious between what the world has gained by marderer was shortly to have married his view at the proof. There is contenting very uneconomous world has lost by not excluding it? We, regarding her led to the tragedy.

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND THE at all events, are not so presumptious as to attempt the task. But we think, and frankly say, that the attempts of modern Japanese painters to deal with the nude have been shocking and repellant. Such pictures are absolutely without a redeeming feature. If it is on the nude as represented in the Kyoto exhibition of 1895 and in the Uyeno gallery in the spring of 1897 that the present Minister of Home Affairs has based his hostile decision, there is not a word of protest to be uttered. Japanese painters of the modern school are not yet able to treat this difficult subject in such a manner as to avoid offences against decency. They can not offences against decency. even make pretty pictures of the nude, and though to interdict their essays is not the way to promote the development of their talent in this special line, we certainly think that the public may congratulate itself on being protected against their immodest eyesores.

#### A FOREIGN LOAN.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun surprised and interested the public in no small degree, some days ago, by publishing something like an official statement that the Government had decided to raise a foreign loan of 150 million yen, and that a bill in that sense would be introduced in this session regard all news published by either the Nichi Nichi Shimbun or the Jiji Shimpo as perfectly trustworthy, and considerable astonishment has been caused by the discovery that, in this instance, a misleading assertion was made by the former journal. The Nichi Nichi now enters at great length into an explanation of the facts on The gist which its assertion was based. of what it has to say may be briefly summed up thus:—Some time ago, the "business men" formed an association called the "Finance-Investigation Society" (Keisai Kenkin Doshi kai), and appointed a committee which waited upon the Minister of Finance and obtained an explanation of His Excellency's views. This committee subsequently reported verbally to a meeting of the society the result of the interview with Count Inouye, and the report included intelli-gence that a foreign loan of about 150 millions would be speedily negotiated, the Diet's consent being sought in the session about to open. It would appear that the Minister's statement of that intention was made under the seal of favour of a foreign loan, but its project is confidence, but, of course, so soon as the Committee communicated the news to the meeting, secrecy was at an end, and the Nichi Nichi considered itself justified in publishing the news. Our contemporary now gives the full stenographic record of what took place at the meeting when the Committee's report is said to have been presented in the above sense. There can be no question, we think, that our contemporary has successfully defended itself redeem Bonds. It thinks that the Indemagainst any charge of irresponsible care-nity should not be diverted, even tempo-

A Portuguese clerk named J. M. Ozorio

TOKYO AND OSAKA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND A FOREIGN LOAN.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce was formerly disposed to advocate the policy of redeeming a large quantity of War Bonds with the Indemnity. It has now, however, changed its attitude, chiefly at the instance of Mr. Inouve Kakugoro, and has adopted, for presentation to the Go-vernment through the medium of the Diet, a Representation insisting on the necessity of having recourse to a foreign loan of 200 million yen. This decision was come to at a special meeting held on the 14th instant. The Representation has been published, but it will be sufficient if we state its gist. The Government, it says, is embarrassed financially; and the people are in such need of floating capital that many promising enterprises already inaugurated can not be carried to consummation, and many other inviting in-auguration must be indefinitely deferred, the general result being that the material progress of the country is checked. Earnest endeavours are being made by the Govern ment to obviate any considerable want of equilibrium in the national accounts, and the Chamber recognises the prudence of such procedure, but can not regard it as in any sense a permanent means of correcting the situation. It is absolutely indispensable that the deficiency of floating capital which now prevents even such an essential enterprise as the building of railways should be remedied, and the only course that can be taken is to obtain cheap capital abroad. Therefore a foreign loan of 200 million yen is recommended. The Chamber does not suggest, however, that the loan must be immediately floated. Its recommendation is that the Indemnity should be used at once for redeeming War Bonds, and that expenditures to meet which the Indemnity is already destined, should be defrayed by means of money obtained from abroad. After this Representation had been adopted by a large majority, the Chamber endorsed the resolution recently referred to in these columns—namely, that foreigners are competent to hold shares in Japanese commercial and industrial companies, with certain exceptions— and then ap-pointed a committee to examine and report upon a proposal for the State purchase of private railways.

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce has also memorialized the Government in of smaller dimensions than that of the Tokyo Chamber, the amount of the loan being put at only 60 or 70 million yen. With that sum the Chamber recommends that War Bonds should be redeemed. Thus far the two Chambers take virtually identical views, the difference being one of degree only. But a divergence now The Osaka Chamber does not OCCUES. advise that the Indemnity be employed to Bonds had come from abroad, they would be more prudent in employing it than if it

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

burrow money on which interest would have to be paid while funds were lying idle in the Treasury. It is true that there are uses hereafter for the Indemnity, but, until they actually arise, there is no reason why the money intended to meet them should not be otherwise utilized.

A more interesting point in the memorial of the Osaka Chamber is that it strongly recommends an increase of the Land Tax. The grounds of the recommendation are identical in part with those frequently expressed in these columns, namely, that the price of rice has more than doubled since the assessment of 1873, whereas the rate of taxation has remained unaltered. In short, the Chamber is of opinion that the agricultural class are now taxed so lightly as to be at a great and unfair advantage compared with other sections of the nation.

From time to time rumours have been circulated that a feeling has begun to show itself among Japanese business men in favour of allowing foreigners to become shareholders in all industrial and commercial enterprises from which they are not explicitly excluded by law. That principle is very clearly advocated in the memorial which has just been passed by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce. Reference has already been made to the memorial in these columns, but only in general terms. The document is now published in its entirety, and our readers will doubtless be interested to hear the line taken by the memorialists. Their broad contention is that wherever the ownership of shares by a foreigner is not specifically interdicted by law, it must be held to be permitted. In support of that argument they adduce the fact that in the charters of the National Banks, the Bank charters of the National Banks, the Bank whatever to Mr. Chamberlain in this of Japan, the Specie Bank, the Mining matter nor penned the smallest sugges. Bank and the Exchanges, it is definited the smallest suggestion of a "disparaging expression" with by laid down that only Japanese subjects reference to him. He must be labouring ly laid down that only Japanese subjects may own shares. The plain inference is that the drafters of those charters did not believe in the general illegality of foreign ownership of shares, otherwise they would not have considered it necessary to insert a special interdict in their particular cases. The same consideration paused to inquire. The facts alone Encouragement of Shipbuilding and has now come forward and publicly Chamberlain's attention to the following Navigation, and the direct export of silk. There, also, the bounties granted by the laws are definitively limited to Japanese subjects, which precaution would never have been taken had not the Government judged that without it the eligibility of foreigners would be a matter of course. The memorialists further point out that no treaty or convention to which Japan is a party forbids foreigners to become shareholders in Japanese companies, and then address themselves to the oftenurged contention that, since the ownership of land by aliens is not permitted, a railway company or other association owing land must not have foreign shareholders. The view taken by the Chamber of Commerce is that to be a shareholder in a railway company does not carry with diate all concern with M. Boissonade's it any right of property in the land or other belongings of the company. Such goes on to suggest that "the matter is things are possessed by the company in its corporate capacity, not by the indivible, "writing for the general European allegation. If now appears, from his own dual members. It is scarcely necessary public, whose interest in such humani-to add that the chief reason assigned for tarian progress is always intense—doubly Mr. Mutsu's name with the torture story,

#### THE COLONIAL SECRETARYS SPEECH.

It seems scarcely necessary to say that some of the language attributed by the telegrams of the 11th instant to the British Colonial Secretary can not possibly have been used by him. Mr. Chamberlain certainly never said that "Britain was unable to declare war against Russia without an ally." We venture to affirm that he did not even allude to the subject of war with Russia. Responsible members of a Cabinet do not publicly talk of war with a friendly State if they have any desire to retain its friendship. What the Colonial Secretary did really say has, of course, been officially telegraphed to Tokyo. It was nothing more than that in view of the combinations now existing among foreign Powers, Great Britain would have to abandon her policy of isolation. further made it clear that the ally he had chiefly in view was the United States of America.

#### M. BOISSONADE AND TORTURE.

We publish in our correspondence columns a letter from Mr. B. H. Chamberlain on the above subject. It calls for a few remarks. The last paragraph especially astounds us. Mr. Chamberlain accuses us of "animus" of "a strangely acrid and discourteous tone" towards himself and of "showing heat and scatter-ing disparaging expressions" as freely as if we had been "made the object of some violent personal diatribe." Such an accusation scarcely deserves serious treat? ment. We have never said one single word that justifies it. We have given no thought under some inexplicable hallucination. We have devoted ourselves simply to examining the historical accuracy of a story related in "Things Japanese." Whether the story rested on his evidence or on the Hall Chamberlain, with discourtesy; of showing animus and heat, and of scattering disparaging expressions. We invite him to quote from our writing-not to summarise but to quote verbatim-one single sentence, even one sentence, that justi-fies his charges of "animus," of an "acrid and discourteous tone" towards himself, of "showing beat" and of "scattering disparaging expressions." If he can quote such a sentence, we shall withdraw it and frankly apologise. If he can not quote such a sentence, we call upon him to withdraw his injurious accusations and to apologise for them.

He speaks elsewhere of "the terms in which we so strongly and repeatedly repu-

part of the subject." It seems presumptuous for us to remind a scholar of Mr. Chamberlain's calibre that the thing to be most avoided in writing history is sentiment, and the thing to be most cultivated, accuracy. We admire the rhetorical art of his appeal to the "general European public," to their "intense interest in humanitarian progress," and to their proud consciousness of the progress due to a philanthropist of their own race," but we trust that he will acquit us of animus, or of scattering disparaging expressions, or of any other offence against good manners, if say that this pretty flourish only makes us smile. With his permission, we will pass it by, since we are not debating sentiment but history. When he says, however, that we have "strongly and repeatedly repudiated all concern with M. Boissonade's share in the abolition of torture," he betrays strange inaccuracy, to use no stronger term. We have twice disavowed any knowledge of—not "concern with" but knowledge of—M. Boissonade's share in the abolition of torture, and we made the disavowal, as Mr. Chamberlain well knows, in answer to an erroneous charge advanced by a correspondent "Amicus" to the effect that we "had endeavoured to deprive M. Boissonade of a glory which he prized above all others." We answered that we had done nothing of the kind; that, not knowing anything about M. Boisson-ade's connexion with the matter, it was impossible that we could have attempted to deny his "chief share" in it, and we were careful to add that, although the story told in "Things Japanese" was now proved to be erroneous, it did not by any means "follow that the honour of being mainly instrumental in bringing about the abolition of torture in Japan must be denied to M. Boissonade." Nay, we went further, for we emphatically declared that "we did not dispute M. Boissonade's claim." Yet, in the face of all this, Mr. Chamberlain alleges that we "strongly and repeatedly repudiated all concern with M. Boisson-ade's share in the abolition of torture," and endeavours to depict us as persons testimony of some one else, we never not belonging to the general European public who take an intense interest in engaged our attention. Mr. Chamberlain humanitarian progress. We invite Mr. paragraph written by us on this subject :-

It is very possible that M. Boissonade did become a fortuitous witness of the application of torture to some infortunite Japanese subject, and it is very possible that the pity and indipartion aroused in him by the speciacle prompted him to enter a protest of such vehicules. The story in "Thires Japanese authorities. The story in "Thires Japanese" may contain that much touch influence the Japanese authorities. The story in "Things Japanese" may contain that much truth, We do not dispute M. Boissonade's claim. We dispute simply the evidence adduced in support of it by the author of "Things Japanese,"

With this quotation before him, will Mr. Chamberlain venture to maintain the accuracy of his assertion that we have 'strongly and repeatedly repudiated all concern with M. Boissonade's share in the abolition of torture?" We again invite him to adduce one sentence, even one giving practical recognition to the so when they have the proud consciousprinciple advocated in the memorial is ness of the progress being due to a
the desirability of introducing ordinary principle advocated in the memorial is ness of the progress being due to a
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principle advocated in the memorial is ness of the progress being due to a
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matter will authority he had since capital.

permitted to point out that his story has now been reduced exactly to the dimensions assigned to it by us in the above quotation, and to remind him that in reducing it to those dimensions, we took care to add "we do so without the smallest prejudice to M. Boissonade's claim." As to his plea that the false part of the story was a quantité négligeable, and that the gist of it alone need have been considered, we again beg him to acquit us of heat, or animus, or discourtesy, if we say that such method of appraising evidence seems to find a very apt place in the letter we are

now discussing. Since Mr. Chamberlain deems this subject of such "intense interest" we will now devote a very few words to his main proposition. Mr. Chamberlain's storythe irreducible minimum of his story-is that, "soon after M. Boissonade's arrival in this country in 1873," he witnessed a Japanese prisoner undergoing torture; that he thereupon "plainly told his Japan-ese colleagues that such horrors must crase immediately or he must resign," and that "his firm stand brought about the immediate disuse of a practice so shocking to humanity." That is very plain—a harrowing spectacle; a firm protest; im-mediate success. Now when did these things happen? When was the "immediate disuse" of torture brought about? Was it before August 25th, 1874, or was it after August 25th, 1874? If it was before August 25th, 1874, then there was no "immediate disuse" of torture, for, as we have already shown, the Notification published on that date, while declaring that "it would be an outrage if an innocent person should be made to appear guilty owing to the use of undue severity," and while ordering that "torture should in future be discontinued," nevertheless reserved to the examining judge discretionary power to employ torture. If this Notification was the result of M. Boissonade's representations, then we must still further reduce Mr. Chamberlain's story, and say that M. Boissonade brought about the partial disuse of "a practice so shocking to humanity." If on the other hand, the incident in question occurred subsequently to August 25th, 1874, then M. Boissonade can not receive the credit of having suggested the necessity of abolishing torture, since the Japanese Government had already recognized it in principle. We again invite Mr. Chamberlain to elucidate this point.

In a letter addressed to this journal and published on the 17th instant, Mr. B. H. Chamberlain brought against us a very sweeping accusation of "animus," "discourtesy," and other violations of literary canons and good manners. We invited him to substantiate his accusation by quoting the language upon which he based it. He has done so, as will be seen by a letter published in our correspondence columns. His contention is that we used the expressions "canard", "falsehood" and false story (not to mention others)." Now with regard to the "others" that Mr. Chamberlain refrains from mentioning, we must be permitted to assume that they do not exist. His actual quotations alone concern Relying on those quotations, he leaves the nothing better, and in order that the public may be in a position to judge accurately, we proceed to place, side by It was decided, as in former ye side, the senting accurate of the senting of the sent public to judge between us. We desire

of which Mr. Chamberlain complains and his complaint :-

Mr. Chamberlain's Charge.

In conclusion permit me, Sir, to express some astonishment at the animus, the strangely acrid and discourteous tone with which you have seen fit to treat me on this occasion, be told that, at a time i stracked no one,—not when he held high effice. Count Mutau, least of all he was receiving the treatyourself. Yet had I made ment of a common criviolent personal distribe,

The sentences upon which Mr. Chamberlain bases his charge. It certainly will not be very pleasant for the late Count Mutsu's family and authorises. Its analysis of the late Count Mutsu's family and countered to the counter of the late numerous admirers to read this extraordinary canard about him, and to be told that, at a time when he held high effice, he was receiving the treat-

you the object or some violent personal diatribe, you could hardly have shown more heat and have issue to a strange story scattered disparaging expressions more freely than you have done on the present occasion. Courtesy, in Japan, we made some however, in not a thing statements from memory one can demand. The as to the official position wisest plan doubtless is held by Mr. Mutsu—the not even to expect it. I late Count Mutsu—the not even to expect it. I late Count Mutsu—at can in any case thank you for the continued advertisement which has been supplied gratis to my books by your repeated the record of Count Mutsu's services and are in a position to show conin a position to show con-clusively that the story contained in "Things Japanese must be a mure canatd.

> Does " Amicus " ven-Does "Amicus " ven-ture to affirm, then, that according to the direct testimony of M. Boisson-ade, Mr. Mulsu was sub-jected to torture in 1873 or 1874, and that M. Boissonade was "an ocu-lar witness of the case?" It is wholly impossible that M. Boissonade cab have made any such statehave made any such statement, for the thing never happened. To show that it never happened, and to repudiate a falsehood so injurious to Count Mutsu's was our main object in writing.

It is very possible that M. Boissonade did become a fortuitous witness of the application of torture to application of torture to some unfortunate Japan-ese subject, and it II very possible that the pity and indignation aroused in him by the spectucle prompted him to enter a protest of such vehenence protest of such vehenence is to greatly influence the lapanese authorities. The story in things Japanese may centain that much tuth. But for the rest it is a false story, and "Amicus" only weakens M. Boissonade's claim by levelling singularly influentiniating and unjust criminating and unjus accusations at our beads,

Our readers will now be able to form an exact estimate of what Mr. Chamberlain regards as "a strangely actid and dis-courteous tone"; "astonishing animus"; a display of "heat" and a "free scatter-ing of disparaging expressions" such as might have been expected from a writer who had been "the object of some violent personal diatribe." The disproportion between the accusation and the evidence is quite grotesque.

At the spottal general meeting of the members of the Kobe St. Andrew's Society, Mr. J. C. Abell and Mr. R. Hame Cook were re-elected President and Vice-President respectively, and Messia Crowe. Marshall, Ralston, Cameron, Maidand, and Paton a Committee.

#### IMPERIAL DIET.

The voting for the President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives on the 14th instant resulted in a signal victory for the candidates of the Liberal and National Unionist Parties. It had been understood for some time that an agreement existed between the two parties, in virtue of which the National Unionists pledged themselves to vote for the Liberal candidate, Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, as President, provided that the Liberals, in turn, voted for the National Unionist candidate, Mr. Motoda Hajime, as Vice-President. This coalition secured 127 votes for each candidate, the strength of the Liberals in the House being too and that of the National Unionists 27. number would be insufficient, of course, to bring about the desired result. The issue depended on the action of the so-called "Independents," who recently organized themselves into an association named the Yamash'ta Club, consisting of some 50 members, and, in minor degree, on the attitude of the Doshi-kai, or "fellow-thinkers," who muster about 15. Among the last is included a clique of nine men, known as the Sasshu ha. They are led by Mr. Kono Hironaka, formerly the Parliamentary chief of the Liberal Party. This Satsuma clique is bitterly Party. opposed to the present Cabinet. It would have gladly voted for the candidates put forward by the Progressists had the latter agreed to introduce a motion of want of confidence at the commencement of the session. But the Progressists have apparently decided not to carry their opposition beyond the process of preferring awkward questions. They consequently forfeited the co-operation of the Satsuma section. The Yamash'ta Club injurious to Count Mutsu's also seems to have disappointed the his relatives and friends hopes of the Progressists. They had They had counted on receiving 30 votes from the club and they obtained only 24. Had the forecast of the Progressists been fully justified by the event, their candidate for the Presidency, Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo, who served as President in the last Home, would have polled 150 votes against 152 cast for the Liberal candidate. The latter's election would, therefore, have been assured under any circumstances, but not by such a signal majority as was actually the case. The voting and analyses stand

thus :—	
VOTING FOR THE PRESIDENCY.	
- Mr. Kataoka Keoluchi (Liberal Candi	
Liberal Votes	100
National Unions! Votes	27
Yamash'ta Club Votes	31
Doshi Club	9
Jotal	167
Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo (Pregressist Cans	lulate).
Progressist Votes	95
Pos-Progressist Votes	10
Yamash'la Club Votes	24
Yamash'ia Club Votes	6

Our readers will perceive that 302 votes were cast for these two candidates ,alone, whereas the number of members present and voting was only 297. As a matter of fact, 332 votes were cast in all, for Mr. Kojima Iken obtained 15, Mr. Abei Iwane 9, and Mr. Kono Bironaka 7. The explanation, of course, is that each member votes, not for one candidate, but for three, the latter being the number of names that must be submitted to the Emperor for His It was decided, as in former years, to celebrate Majestyj tommake a nomination. Gene-UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS All the independent members

show their indifference to party claims by including the names of both the Liberal and the Progressist candidates on the same ticket, but, in the present instance, that seems to have been done by five members only. With regard to the Vice-Presidency, Mr. Motoda Hajime, the Presidency, Mr. Motoda Hajime, the National Unionist candidate, obtained 170 votes, and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, the Progressist candidate, 117. At every point, therefore, the Liberal-Unionist combination was successful.

This voting would have much interest were the Liberals supporters of the Government, but it proves absolutely nothing as things stand at present. We do obtain from it, however, a fairly accurate idea of the composition of the House which seems to be as follows :-

Liberals	102
Progressists	
Pro-Progressists	10
Yamash'ta Club	
Doshi Club	15
National Unionists	27
144101141 Distriction Million Hills	-/
Total	300

The Liberals and National Unionists number, between them, 129 votes, so that if, on any occasion, they can secure 22 votes out of the 66 possessed by the Yamash'ta and Dashs Clubs, they will have a plurality of the Whole House.

The Yomiuri Shimbun (Progressist organ) writes in terms of frank regret about the failure of its Party's candidates. It does not attempt to minimize the fact, but explains almost in the terms used by us above. There is something decidedly refreshing about the ingenuousness of the

Yommuri's tone.

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, whose nomina-tion by the Emperor to the post of President may be taken for granted, is a member of the former Tosa clan. In 1868, he associated himself with Mr. (now Count) Itagaki in a crusade against the Tokugawa Regency, and joined the celebrated band of Samuras numbering some six hundred and known as the Seigi-tai. Subsequently he fought in the northern expedition against the remnant of the Tokugawa supporters, and attained the rank of Lieut.-Colonel in the Army. He then travelled to France to make a study of military affars, and on his return to Japan identified himself with the party of statesmen who advocated an expedition against Korea. This led to the resignation of Mr. Itagaki, then a member of the Cabinet, and his retirement to Tosa, whither he was followed by Mr. Kataoka. latter, soon afterwards, organized a political party, the Risshi-sha, and, in 1877, attracted public attention by agitating for Parlia-mentary institutions. Suspicion fell upon him in connection with the Satsuma rebellion, and he was thrown into prison. On recovering his liberty, he renewed his agitation for Parliamentary institutions, and succeeded in attracting so much attention that something like two hundred thousand fellows-thinkers assembled in Osaka in 1880, and organized the celebrated Kokkaigammo Yusht-kai (society for advocating a national assembly), Mr. Kataoka being appointed chairman. In consequence of a resolution adopted by the meeting, Messrs. Kataoka and Kono Hironaka—for several years leader of the Liberal Party in the Lower House, but now a seceder from its ranks—proceeded to Tokyo, presented petition after petition to the Government, but the latter held firmly to its a.m., and performed the opening ceremony own programme, and finally Mr. Kataoka in accordance with the regular routine retired to Tosa, which province council on such occasions. The Speech UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

him for the Diet in 1891 and has voted for him steadily ever since.

Mr. Motoda Hajime, the new Vice-President, is a native of Oita. He graduated from the Imperial University in 1880, obtaining high honours in the course of law. In 1888, he was elected chairman of the Tokyo Barristers' Association, and subsequently distinguished himself by heading the agitation of the Jurists' Association for a revision of the Civil Code. He is a strong debater and has been a prominent figure in the House of Representatives since the opening of the first session.

Although the session of the Diet which has just opened is to last for twenty days only, it seems likely to be a record session in the matter of important measures. Three Government bills of great moment will doubtless be submitted—a bill embodying the remaining portion of the Civil Code; a bill providing for increased taxation; and a bill for amending the Law of Elections. On the passing of the first depends the possibility of giving the notice necessary for the operation of the Revised Treaties. There does not appear to be any probability that this bill will encounter opposition of a serious nature, but it is impossible to be sure that some collision may not occur between the Cabinet and the Lower House such as to lead to the latter's dissolution. Whether the Government would then take the responsibility of bringing the Code into force by means of an urgency ordinance, we do not know, but no other course seems to offer. As to the bill for increased taxation, the Progressists appear inclined to advocate its postponement until the regular session of the Diet at the close of the year; but inasmuch as the necessity for raising a larger revenue will become imperative from April, 1900, by which time the whole of the Indemnity will have been spent, not a day should be lost in obtaining the Diet's consent to the principle of increase, so as to commence the required preparations at once. The bill for amending the Law of Election is, in the main, designed to extend the franchise and change the electoral districts so as to correct abuses connected with the present system. shall not be surprised if it is overtaken by a fate similar to that which attended the new Press Law during several sessionsthat is to say, the Lower House, by refusing to accept any moderate measure of reform, came into hopeless collision with the Peers, and so, by rejecting half a loaf, got no bread at all for a long while.

Apart from the above measures, it appears pretty certain that a vote of want of confidence in the Government's foreign policy will be introduced, as well as a bill for the State purchase of private railways by means of money borrowed abroad. The former will emanate from the Progressists, and be rejected; the latter will be introduced by the Liberals, and will probably pass. But by whatever majority the House of Representatives declares in favour of State purchase in the proposed form, we do not believe that the Government will endorse the idea, even-and this is most unlikely-though the House of Peers should do so.

His Majesty the Emperor proceeded to

delivered by His Majesty from the Throne was as follows :-

We hereby perform the ceremony of opening the Imperial Diet and intimate the fact to the House of Peers and the House of Representatives.

The consummation of Treaty Revision, and work based on the national policy adopted since the opening of the country at the Restoration, is now within sight. It is Our expectation that Our loyal subjects of all classes will unite their efforts to achieve this object, to the enhancement of the national prestige. The operation of the Code was postponed and its careful revision undertaken. A portion of it has already been promulgated, and the remainder, which was subsequently revised, will now be submitted for the Diet's approval.

In accordance with the progress of the times and in order to strengthen the basis of Constitutional Government, We have directed that a Bill for amending the Law of Election of the House of Representatives be submitted to the

The Estimate of Revenue and Expenditure for the 31st year of Meifi (1898-9) had been compiled on the lines of that for the preceding year, but in order to place the national finances on a sound basis, we have directed our Ministers of State to prepare a scheme of increased taxation, which, together with an urgent supplementary budget and other projects of law, will be submitted to the Diet.

We expect that you will exercise the fullest care and examination in discharging your functions of deliberation and consent.

[IMPERIAL SIGN MANUAL] [Great Seal.]

The following officials were nominated on the 12th instant as Government Delegates in the approaching session of the Diet :-

With reference to the Civil Code-Dr. Ume Kenjira, President of the Legislative Bureau; Dr. Hozumi Chinju, Professor of Law College of the Imperial University: Mr. Tabe Hu, conscitlor of the Judicial Department; Mr. Okano Kenjira, Professor of the Law College.

For the Department of:
Fureign Affairs.—Mr. Komma Jutare, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Mitsubashi Nobukata, Secretary.

Nobukata, Secretary.

Home Affaira.—Mr. Matsuoka Koki, Vice-Minister; Mr. Vasuba Hokwa, Governor of Hok-kaido; Mr. Maki Bokushin, President of the Police Bureau; Mr. Arai Kuniza, President of the Prefectural Bureau; Mr. Nomma Scincei, Director of the Formosa Bureau; Mr. Kume Kinya, Superintendent of the Shrines and Templas Bureau; Mr. Gamo Sen, Director of the H.k. kaido Bureau; Mr. Hasegawa Tai, President of the Sanitary Bureau. the Sanitary Bineau.

Finance.—Mr. Tajiri Inajiro, Vice-Minister; Mr. Megata Tanetaro, President of the Taxation Bureau; Mr. Matson Shinzen, President of the Finance Bureau; Mr. Sakatoni Yushiro, Director of the Accountants' Bureau; Mr. Soyeda Juichi, President of the Superintendence Bureau; Messes. Wakatotki Reijiro and Arai Kentaro, Revenue Lungertone. Revenue Inspectors.

War .- Mr. Nakamura Yujiro, Vice Minister; Baron Noda Katsu, Paymaster General of the

Navy.-Baron Ito Shunkichi, Vice-Minister; dr. Murakami Keijiro, Accountant Guneral of Mr. the Navy.

Justice. - Mr. Yokota Kautomi, Vice Minister; Mr. Takagi Toyozo, President of the Civil and Criminal Bureau.

Education.—Mr. Oyama Kenzo, Vice-Minister; Mr. Terada Yakichi, Secretary.

Agriculture and Commerce.—Mr. Fujira Shire, Vice Minister; Mr. Ashibata Seifu, President of the Marine Products Bureau; Mr. Watanabe Yu, Director of the Forestry Bureau; Mr. Watanabe Walaru, Director of the Mining Bureau.

Communications. - Mr. Den Kenjiro, Vice-Minister; Mr. Okoshi Narinori, President of the Inspection Bureau.

#### FINANCE.

Collating the information furnished by vernacular journals—especially the Shogyo Shimpo, which, as might have been expected, is notably accurate on the subject of finance—we gather a pretty clear idea of the Cabinet's economical programme. In the first place, there will be no such illconsidered procedure as the raising of foreign or domestic loans so long as a large sum, the proceeds of the Indemnity, is lying in the Treasury's vaults. money in hand will be employed for present requirements, and when the pur-poses for which it was originally destined call for additional expenditures, special means of procuring funds will be adopted. To make this clearer, we may add that the outlays in connection with the post-belium programme were to have been defrayed partly with the Indemnity and partly by means of a domestic loan. state of the market does not permit of the latter's being floated at present, whereas, on the other hand, the proceeds of the Indemnity have become available at an earlier period than that anticipated originally. Hence recourse to a loan will be deferred until the Indemnity has been entirely spent. When that time comesapparently it will be in 1900- the question between a foreign loan and a dome-stic will have to be again considered. Meanwhile, the Government will seek to alleviate the dearth of floating capital by appropriating a sum of twenty million yen, five millions being placed with the Industrial Bank for the accommodation of manufacturers, and fifteen millions with the Bank of Japan for the redemption of of War Bonds.

Turning now to the ordinary expenditures, it has to be noted, at the outset, that the annual outlays for the maintenance of the Army and Navy will be 51 million yen, instead of 29 millions, the sum expended on the two services before the consummation of the expansion programme. would be very interesting to know how this estimate of 51 millions is reached. The original estimate, at the time of drafting the post-bellum scheme, was 41 millions, which, however, did not include any allowance for maintaining the fleet at its new standard or keeping the ships in repair. We have hitherto supposedbasing our calculations on the co-efficients adopted in England-that 91 millions would be needed for keeping the Navy up to its standard and 4 millions for repairs. Hence the total outlay on account of the Army and Navy would have been 531 millions, whereas the figure now quoted by vernacular newspapers is 51 millions. Moreover, we do not know whether the increase from 41 to 51 millions is on account of the appreciation of commodities, or whether it includes the allowances here spoken of. We pass on, therefore, without attempting to elucidate the point. The next addition to the ordinary expenditures is 16 millions, on account of the national debt, official salaries, and pensions, &c. It is now recognised that the salaries of all officials belonging to the lower classes will have to be raised. Their pay is not only insufficient to support them, but compares also so unfavourably with the emoluments offering in other employments that the Government can not procure the services

inferior capacities. Thus the sums required for the Army and Navy, the service of the public debt, and increased salaries will aggregate 38 million yen more than the total under the ante-bellum system.

Now, as to the means of providing for this extra outlay, it has to be observed, in the first place, that the sources of additional revenue set forth in the Ito Cabinet's scheme of 1896, have not proved as prolific as was expected. The Registration Tax, owing to changes made in the system by the Diet, has had its yield reduced by 2 millions less than the estimate, and the same is true of the Tobacco Monopoly. The Saké Tax alone fulfils the expectations formed of it. Adding the total deficit under these headings-namely 51 millions-to the 38 millions shown above, we have an aggregate sum of 431 millions to be provided, whereas the provision con-templated by the post-bellum programme was only 25 millions. It would appear from this calculation that 18 million yen represents the total addition, allowance for which will have to be made in the accounts, but the Cabinet, owing to various other considerations which are not set forth, is of the opinion that an increase of from 30 to 40 millions of ordinary revenue must be provided. Heavier taxation is, of course, the only way to meet the situation.

The taxes suggesting themselves for alteration are the Land Tax, the Sake Tax, and the Income Tax. As to the Land Tax we need not reproduce the arguments given for its increase. They have been repeatedly urged in these columns. method alone has to be noted, namely, re-assessment, with a view to equalizing the incidence of the tax, and putting an enhanced value on the price of the koku of rice. The following are the estimated increments :-

	Yen.
Wet fields	9,772,465
D y fields	2,027,885
Budding Lands	1,798,347
Total	13,598,697

Turning, now, to the Sake Tax, the idea is to raise the rate to 10 yen per koku, thereby obtaining an additional revenue of 12 millions, proper steps being taken, at the same time, to control the sale of alcohol. Domestic brewing will have to be interdicted, however, and there will be a reduction of 660,000 yen on that account, so that the net increase from the Saké Tax may be put at II millions. Finally, by changing the sliding scale (riushin-ritsn) of the Income Tax and by certain other modifications of minor sources of income, a further increase of from 6 to 7 millions can be obtained. Thus, finally, an additional revenue of over 30 millions is in sight without difficulty.

We fancy that our readers have acquired by this time a pretty clear idea of Japanese finance at present. Our own analysis of the situation, published in the spring of last year, has been exactly confirmed by We showed that when the grants facts. in aid of Formosa and of navigation encouragement were included in the accounts, it would probably be necessary to resort to increased taxation, even on the hitherto proved impossible to raise any hypothesis that the new sources of revenue devised by the Government-namely, tion then arises, must the enterprises be of intelligent men and is obliged to the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) ded on account of which the money entrust importained the County and the Tobacco Monopoly—way of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust importained the County and the Tobacco Monopoly—way of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust important the county and the Tobacco Monopoly—way of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust important the county of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust important the county of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust important the county of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust important the county of the Registration Tax, the Business Tax (signes) account of which the money entrust important the county of the Registration Tax (signes) account of the Registration Tax (signes)

prolific as was anticipated. We also insisted that an increase of the Land Tax and of the Sake Tax would be the best means of obtaining the desired revenue. The above three new taxes have not, however, proved as prolific as the estimate. Their proceeds are nearly five million yen less than the figures originally set down. Moreover, the compulsory contributions from official salaries on account of shipbuilding expenses have been discontinued, resulting in a loss of 21 millions of income, while, on the other hand, the grants for encouraging navigation will have to be increased by 41 million yen at least, and the contribution on account of Formosa will reach 134 millions. Here, then, we have practically an addition of 244 million and for which it becomes necessary to make provision. The service of the national debt is also becoming more onerous, and will be still more so a few years hence, when 220 millions have been spent on railways and other productive public works. Another point to be remembered is that prudent financiers do not content themselves with providing a revenue which leaves no margin above expenditures. The State ought to have a reserve to meet a sudden emergency. The Shogyo Shimpo believes that all these considerations will induce the Government to introduce a bill providing for increased taxation in the present session of the Diet, but there are reasons which make us doubt whether so much celerity will be possible.

#### COUNT INOUTE ON THE FINAN-CIAL OUESTION.

A member of the Shogyo Shimpo's staff has waited on Count Inouge and solicited some statement of the Minister's inten-Count Inouye answered with some semblance of frankness, but a careful perusal of the language attributed to him by the Shogyo leads us to conclude that his object was to avoid giving any definite information. What he said, in effect, was that people were putting their own con-structions on his acts. They watched every movement made by him. If he inclined his head to the left, they cried out that he was going to arrange for the State purchase of private railways; if he bent it to the right, they concluded at once that he had made up his mind to raise a foreign loan. But, in point of fact, he The finances of was simply pondering. a State were not things to be lightly handled. The most profound reflection, the most minute investigation, must precede every step. It did not follow that the completion of inquiries must be at once followed by the inception of a policy. He was determined that nothing should be imperilled by precipitancy. That, in effect, is the gist of what his Excellency said.

The Juji Shimpo also publishes an utterance of the Minister of Finance. It refers to the Public Undertakings Loan. Our readers are aware that of the total expenditures contemplated in the postbellum programme, 135 million yen were to be defrayed out of the proceeds of a domestic loan called the Public Undertakings Loan (Jigyo Kasai). They are also aware that, owing to the unfavour-able state of the money market, it has

the Jiji, replies in the negative. payment of the remaining portion of the Indemnity in a lump sum obviates any inconvenience of that kind. Appropriations can be made from it to meet immediate demands. But the destination of the Indemnity was also settled by the postbellum programme, and if it is temporarily diverted to some other purpose, recourse must ultimately be had to the foreign market for funds. Hence a foreign loan sooner or later seems inevitable. But neither the exact amount, the time loss yet been fixed. nor the time, has yet been fixed. Count Inouve thinks that after the introduction of a certain quantity of foreign money, the domestic market will recover its tone sufficiently to permit the floating of the final portion of the Public Undertakings

#### AMERICA AND SPAIN.

Events point to the correctness of the suggestion made some days ago in these columns, namely, that Spain's strength having been almost exhausted during the past two years by efforts to subdue the rebellions in Cuba and the Philippines, she is quite unprepared to enter upon a naval conflict with a first-class Power like the United States. Twenty days have now elapsed since an American squadron sailed from Key West to blockade Havana, and the Spanish fleet still remains in Cadiz. Such delay on Spain's part can be attributed to one of two reasons only; namely, that she is not ready to fight, or that she has deliberately adopted the policy of leaving to the United States a free hand for the time being. Some ob-servers would see a considerable measure of astuteness in the latter plan. The Americans, they say, do not want Cuba. All that they want is to secure the independence of the Cubans and put an end to Spanish interference in Cuban affairs. But neither of those objects can be fully achieved without Spain's acquiescence. For even supposing that the Spanish troops were driven out of Cuba and that the island was hauded over to the insurgents who have been so long fighting for freedom, it is evident that unless the United States undertook the duty of guardianship, the Cubans would be perpetually exposed to the danger of attack from Spain. That would be a situation very harassing to America. She could not consent to be saddled with the responsibility of protecting Cuba for the Cubans; she would not annex the island herself, and it is more than doubtful whether she could get any State to take it off her hands until Spain's consent was secured. Besides, it is easier to talk of taking Cuba than to take it. American soldiers sent there at the present season would suffer terribly, and America has no forces immediately available for the purpose. From all those points of view Spain may deem it wise to play a waiting game, keeping America in constant alarm of war and leaving her with a difficult problem on her hands. Such a programme, we say, is attributed to Spain by some observers, but for our part we can not believe that she seriously contemplates it In the first place, it is entirely contrary to Spanish character to take buffets from any enemy without returning them. In the second place, if Cuba and

The to retain them while they are still garrisoned by Spanish troops. In fact, the latter consideration seems conclusive. For if the Spanish garrisons are driven out, Spain would either have to abandon the islands altogether or to reconquer them by an effort of which she is hardly capable. She has proved herself unable to hold them against a section of the inhabitants. What possible hope could she have of recovering them from the whole of the inhabitants with America's opposition thrown into the scale? Moreover, to let Cuba pass into America's grasp would be to surrender the prize of the combat. It is about that the United States and Spain have gone to war, and to surrender the island at once on the chance of reconquering it hereafter would be a line of procedure with which the Spanish nation could not be expected to sympathise. We come back, therefore, to the conclusion that unreadiness is the cause of the delay. If the Spanish fleet were pre-pared to go sea, it would have sailed long ago to seek the foe and save Cuba.

It appears that we were mistaken in supposing that the Spanish ships were not ready to put to sea. They seem to have left St. Vincent almost immediately after the declaration of war, and to have crossed the Atlantic slowly, probably saving their coal as much as possible. At Martinique the ships were within from three hundred to four hundred miles of Puertorico, where Admiral Sampson was said to have been bombarding San Juan, on the 13th instant. A collision between the two fleets must very soon occur, if, indeed, it has not occurred already. Meanwhile the telegraph tells us strange The first is that the Americans attempted to land troops at Cienfuegos, on the southern coast of Cuba. We do not for moment believe that any such attempt was made. The United States Government would not think of landing troops until the Spanish fleet is disposed We are also told of a most extraordinary essay made by a torpedo vessel and three gunboats to enter the port of Cardenas. The story is related in such detail that we must not doubt it, but what earth three craft of the kind can have had in view when they exposed themselves to the fire of fortifications at close range, we are unable to conceive. There can not have been intention of bombarding the forts. Gunboats and torpedo vessels do not carry artillery suitable for such a purpose. Still less can there have been any intention of effecting a landing. Possibly there were some merchantmen to be captured, but that, too, is scarcely credible. If the tale be true, the Ameri can officers seem to have engaged in a desperate and useless enterprise. Had there been anything to accomplish, the nature of the risks incurred would have received little consideration from American seamen, but gunboats and a torpedo vessel pitting themselves against forts at point-blank range-it is not war but mere reckless bravado. Some explanation is much to be desired.

A statement which seems to us quite incredible is that Commodore Dewey, when about to take his ships into action at Cavite, ran up the signal, "Remember the *Maine*!" It is not a bit like Com-

#### COUNT OKUMA,

Count Okuma has been talking with his usual frankness to a representative of the Hochi Shimbun on the subject of finance. He believes that the story about a foreign loan of 150 million yen is erroneous. Recourse must ultimately be had to foreign capital to procure the funds which were to have been obtained by the two domestic loans for Public Undertakings and Rail-ways, but that is a thing of the future. The plan attributed to the Government might produce temporary alleviation of the present distress, but would aggravate it ultimately, and there is little probability that any such scheme is contemplated. Concerning the redemption of War Bonds, said to be contemplated to a limited extent, Count Okuma does not, as a general rule, approve of official meddling in the finances of the people; but there are occasions on which the rule should be departed from, and he thinks that the present is such a case. He spoke also of increased taxation, with special reference to the Land Tax, and said that, while appreciating the necessity, he considered that the Government should make every effort to improve its organization and to place things upon a thoroughly economical basis before appealing to the country for more money.

#### THE INDUSTRIAL BANK AND THE COTTON-SPINNING COMPANIES.

Events are justifying the anticipation formed in these columns some time ago, namely, that the difficulties now experienced by the cotton-spinning companies would be productive of benefit by compelling them to introduce greater order into their affairs. Their applications to the Industrial Bank for monetary accommodation have induced the Bank to announce that it can not make loans unless the borrowing company pledges itself, by a resolution adopted at a general meeting, to lay aside 3 per cent. of its profits annually as a reserve to meet the wear and tear of the plant, and  $\frac{2}{11}$  of the profits—after deducting the above sum—as a reserve to meet losses. Apparently many of the companies have hitherto been disregarding these essential precautions.

#### SÖUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

It has already been stated, on the authority of vernacular journals, that the Söul-Chemulpo Railway, for which Mr. J. R. Morse, of the American Trading Company, obtained a fifteen-years concession in the autumn of 1896, had practically passed into the possession of a Japanese syndicate. The facts are again related by the Shogyo Shimpo, but do not differ in any essential respect from those previously published. We do not gather from what our contemporary says that any forward movement has yet been made with regard to the Söul-Fusan line. According to a protocol signed by the Korean Government in 1894, the concessions for the Söul-Chemulpo and the Söul-Fusan roads -the Kyon-in and Kyom-pu as the Japanese call them-should have been given to Japanese subjects, but the Korean Aumodore Dewey to do anything of the kind, thorities thereafter showed considerable Puertorico pass into American possession and neither the officers nor the men reductance to implement their engagement; by force of arms, it will be incomparably under his command would have approved more difficult to recover them. The property displayed by a foreign Power, it is generally supposed.

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#### TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave its second performance for the season on the evening of the 17th instant in the usual building. The piece chosen for the occasion was a farcical comedy in three acts, adapted from the German of Franz von Schönthan, and entitled "Offerings to Folly." Its basis is the eccentric action of a Prince who, seeing in an art gallery an anonymous portrait of a young lady with a magnificent dog by her side, despatches his secretary (Signor Pescatore) to search for the original. The Prince's object is to obtain the dog, but the secretary imagines that his employer's desire points to the lady, and the latter, as well as her mother, fall into the same error. The young lady's father (Mr. Frederick Salmon) a pompous, vain and weak-minded person, who has written verses in the spring of his life, and who, while professing to hate publicity, longs at beart to see his name in print Dr. Pollock, a literary adventurer who makes a livelihood by preying upon the vanity of "unrecognised genius"; Mr. and Mrs. Turbot, son-in-law and daughter of the Salmons; Mr. Herbert Grayling, lover of Miss Rosa Salmon, the original of the portrait; Crab, a postman, and Minna, a maid-servant, complete the cast. The characters were distributed thus :-

The play was very well mounted, the scenery being suitable and the decorations pretty. All this part of the business, in fact virtually the whole of the work connected with the stage and the arrangements behind it, devolved upon Mr. J. Conder, the Honorary Secretary of the Society, whose artistic qualifications are of incalculable value, and whose unflagging energy and remarkable talents contrivance and design cannot be suffici-culty praised. Mr. E. Beart undertook the duties of stage manager, coming all the way from Yokohama for each re-hearsal. It cannot be necessary for us to speak of Mr. Beart in this capacity. His very exceptional qualifications are household word among all the foreign communities of China and Japan. We may, however, add a fact which can be fully attested only by those fortunate enough to have received his instruction, namely, that his good-humour and patience are as inexhaustible as his competence is exceptional. The Tokyo amateurs had never previously enjoyed the benefit of his aid, and they are never likely to be satisfied without it hereafter. Before the rising of the curtain and between the second and third acts the audience had the great pleasure of hearing concerted pieces for piane and violins, the piano being taken by Mrs. Page and Miss Gertrude Page, and the violins being in the hands of Miss K. Page, Miss A. Page, Miss H. Page, and Master N. Page. Miss von Fallot also played solo on the piano, between the first and second acts, with all har worted by linanovard of the

ness, and the musical part of the programme concluded with a vocal duet by Mrs. Page and Miss A. Page, the latter's fresh, limpid voice blending beautifully with her mother's rich contralto notes.

In speaking of the acting we have to record at the outset the great disappointment the Society experienced owing to Madame le Baronne d'Anethan's illness, and her consequent inability to appear as Mrs. Salmon, a rôle which she would certainly have played with signal success. Miss Fanny von Fallot kindly consented, at the eleventh hour, to take the part, and her manner of acting it left nothing to be desired. This young lady possesses his-trionic abilities of which it has been our privilege to speak on previous occasions, and we need only say that as Mrs. Salmon she added another triumph to her list, scarcely less important part was that of Rosa Salmon. It brought upon the stage a débutante (Miss Scherechefsky) who showed much power and versatility, and whose exquisite enunciation greatly enbanced the charm of her acting, Aoki, as Minna, the servant-maid, achieved one of the hits of the evening. Her sweet winsome ways and graceful exceptionally well rendered. Miss Terry, as Mrs. Turbot, and Mr. Conder, as Mr. Turbot, managed to invest insignificant rôles with much character and interest. We expect such successes from Mr. Conder, of course, for he has made his mark more than once in leading parts; but Miss Terry, who had not previously appeared upon the Tokyo stage, deserves special congratulation. Probably the most difficult task of all fell to Mr. Patterson. As Herbert Grayling, he had to undertake the terrible corvee of making love in public. He did it ex-cellently, preserving from first to last m repose of manner and an absence of gesticulation that thoroughly suited the character but are seldom within the range of an amateur's capacity. Signor Pescatore (Mr. Paul May) "captured" the audience from the moment of his appearance before the foot-lights, and went on from success to success. His rendering of the dandified, addle-brained old Italian ballet-master was irresistibly funny, and brought down the house again and again. Dr. Clay MacCauley made an ideal Dr. Pollock. His "get up" and acting as a wily adventurer were truly admirable, and his final exit under the clouds of exposure and disgrace showed dramatic power of a high order. insignificant character-that of Crab, the postman, was kindly undertaken and most capitally represented by Mr. W. F. Page, who also discharged the duties of prompter. Frederick Salmon's rôle is well conceived by the German author and might be made very effective, but it is beyond the capabilities of the gentleman who undertook it on Tuesday evening. After the performance, refreshments were served on the stage to the actresses, the actors, and their friends, and the healths of Messrs. Beart & Conder, Madame la Baronne d'Anethan, Miss von Fallot, and the Page family were enthusiastically drunk.

#### "TSUZURE-NISHIKI"

We observe in the Japan Times an editorial note on the subject of the fabric known as tsuzure-nishiki. Our contemporary says that the textile department of the Mitsui firm, having instituted a search for weavers trained in the art, has found an expert called Soemon Kyowara, and has placed an extensive factory under his charge. This enterprise is further spoken of as a "revival," and altogether the note in the Japan Times conveys the impression that the weaving process called tsusure ori had virtually ceased to be practised, and would have fallen completely into disuse had not the Mitsui firm taken steps to resuscitate it. That is not the case, unless some special variety of tsu-sure-nishiki be alluded to. Probably many of our readers are unfamiliar with the term isusure-ori. We may, therefore, explain that in this kind of fabric the out lines of the decorative design are pierced throughout in tiny holes, so that the pattern seems to be detached at innumerable points from the body of the fabric. A rough illustration of the principle is seen movements won repealed and well in the perforated frame surrounding a deserved rounds of applause. Indeed, it postage stamp. The effect produced by must be said that all the minor parts were this process is delicate and beautiful, though whether there is full compensation for the extra labour involved may be considered doubtful. At all events, the point we wish to make is that the art of tsusureori has never fallen into disuse. Numerous fine specimens have been produced from time to time during the past twenty years, and no exhibition that we can recall during the Meiji era has been without examples.

#### CAPITAL FOR RAILWAYS.

The success achieved by the promoters of the Formosa Railway in borrowing fifteen million yen from Messrs. Peacock and Company, of London, seems to have suggested to several railway companies that the best way of importing cheap money is to have direct recourse to the loreign market without any agitation in favour of the State purchase of private railways, the redemption of War Bonds, or such projects. The Formosa Company was bound by the terms of its original charter to commence work by the 15th of the present month, but it has obtained an extension of sixty days. Its intention is to lodge the 15 million yen in the Bank of Japan at 5 per cent. interest, and to draw it out by degrees as required for construction purposes. Considering that the interest paid to the English capitalists is only 5 per cent., the very favourable nature of the arrangement effected by the Company becomes at once apparent, and other cor porations, which find themselves obliged to abandon contemplated enterprises or suspend works already commenced, since they can not afford to procure money in the domestic market at to per cent. interest, are now planning to follow the Formosa Company's example. We read in vernacular journals that nine companies are planning a combination for the purpose of obtaining 20 million yes abroad. The names of the companies are the Kiwa (Kishiu-Yamato), the Toyokawa (Owari), the Zuso (Izu-Sagami), the Kyoto, the Chiugoku, the Boso (Awa-Boshiu), the Ota (Shimosa), the Hokuyetsu (Echigo) and the Hankaku (Osaka). UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### COUNT ORUMA ON SHASHI.

Count Okuma has been interviewed with regard to the Shashi outrage and the Hochi Shimbun publishes his opinions. He says that the incident is most unfortunate for China and that she deserves commiseration. It is not impossible that some Japanese may welcome the event as constituting a pretext for preferring demands, according to the precedent es-blished by Germany. But the heart of the nation would oppose anything of that kind. Japan never forgets that she is the pioneer of civilized progress in the East, and that it is her duty to set an example of moderation and justice in her dealings with foreign Powers. She ought to be able to appreciate China's difficulties. The anti-foreign spirit pervading the population of Hupeh finds its parallel in the spirit that animated a considerable section of the Japanese nation thirty years ago, and, just as the Tokyo Government was then unable to prevent the burning of legations, the assassination of foreigners, and other disgraceful outrages, so the Peking authorities are now unable to provide full security for the lives and properties of foreigners in the provinces. The states-men now in office in Japan, Marquis Ito and Count Inouye, were themselves Soshi in pre-Restoration days, and will have no difficulty in understanding the difficulties against which China has now to contend. All those that have access to the public ear should endeavour, at this juncture, to inculcate the duty of showing moderation and tolerance towards the neighbouring empire. It will doubtless be found that Great Britain's action in the matter is just and forbearing, but, even should such not be the case, Japan must show herself fair-minded and sympathetic.

#### THE FORMOSA RAILWAY COMPANY AND ITS FOREIGN LOAN.

It has been affirmed confidently in several quarters that the Formosa Railway Company have concluded an agreement with Messrs. Peacock and Company, of London, to borrow a sum of fifteen million yen, in round numbers, at 6 per cent. in-terest. Doubts were suggested, however, as to the feasibility of such a transaction. in view of the facts that the Company's charter does not sanction the borrowing of a sum of money greater than fifty per cent. of the paid up capital, and that, as yet, there is no paid-up capital, for, though ten million yen have been subscribed, no call has been made. We now learn, however, from vernacular journals that this restrictive clause has been removed from the Company's charter, and that permission has been given for borrowing the whole the district where the alleged crime was capital, if necessary. On the other hand, committed can not possibly have been the Government will exercise closer superpenned with reference to the Tokyo vision than ever of the Company's affairs, district alone. However, the matter is and will insist, among other things, that of trifling importance except as showing the money borrowed in England shall be deposited with the Bank of Japan. It is report compiled by the President and evident that the Company will not need other members of the Yokohama Chamber more than a small part of the money at the of Commerce, the Kobe journal might at outset, and if the directors are tempted, by least have endeavoured to master the an offer of high interest, to lodge the money salient facts of the question. Not the in some less careful bank, it may find smallest inconvenience would be involved its way into the hands of speculators, and in making the Kajibashi prison a place contribute to still further dislocate the share market. The Bank of Japan will therefore receive it on deposit at 5 brought up for trial in Tokyo under any per cent.

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(5) Domestic and foreign conditions render in most important that the proceedings of the Diet should be tarmoniously conducted, that the legistration with regard to the Codes should be completed, and that the proceedings of the Diet should be tarmoniously conducted, that the legistration with regard to the Codes should be completed, and that the proceedings of the Diet should be tarmoniously conducted, that the legistration with regard to the Codes should be completed, and that the proceedings of the Diet should be tarmoniously conducted, that the legistration with regard to the Codes should be completed, and that the proceedings of the Diet should be tarmoniously conducted, that the legistration with regard to the Codes should be completed, and that the proceedings of the Diet should be tarmoniously conducted, that the legistration with regard to the Codes should be completed.

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#### THE RUSSO-JAPANESE PROTOCOL.

Since our last reference to Japanese journalistic opinion about the Russo-Japanese Protocol, some further com-ments have appeared in the Tokyo press. The Shoggo Shimpo, for example, regards the Protocol as an emphatic success, and thinks that, taken in conjunction with the promise obtained from China about Fulkien, it may well be considered creditable to Japanese diplomacy. Russia has been induced to declare in the most emphatic terms her recognition of Korea's complete independence. It was to secure that independence that Japan fought China, and no one can deny that, six months ago, Russia's action in the peninsula constituted a serious menace to Korea's sovereignty and permanent integrity. Similarly Russia has been persuaded to give a pledge that she will not supply financial or military advisers to Korea, even though the latter ask for them, without Japan's acquiescence. Such an engagement is a radical departure from the course recently pursued by her. Then, finally, there is her promise not to place any obstacle in the path of Japanese commercial and industrial development in the peninsula. Altogether, if the prospect of concluding such an agreement had presented itself last year, it would have been regarded with incredulity by one half of the public and welcomed heartily, by the other. Party politicians alone will view it with disfavour.

#### THE "KOBE CHRONICLE'S" CORRECTION.

It is now explained by the Kobe Chronicle that when it wrote "foreigners suspected of crime are to undergo punishment in Sugamo Prison," it intended to say "convicted of crime," but that its "subsequent remarks as to foreigners under detention had reference to the Kajibashi prison, which, the Mail states, is to be used for foreigners arrested in the Tokyo district and detained awaiting trial." Now the "subsequent remarks" were these:-

Are foreigners accested in the provinces to be detained in a Tokyo fit prison, and carried back wards and forwards for examination and trial to wards and interaction examination and trial to the district where the alleged crime was commit-ted? It is only reasonable to assume that a fo-reigner arrested in the interior will be detained in the nearest provincial prison during the process of his examination.

We fail altogether to see how these remarks could have been intended to apply to the case of suspects "arrested in the Tokyo district." In fact, the Kobe Chronicle's observations about "foreigners arrested in the provinces being carried backwards and forwards for examination and trial to

proper place for their detention. It follows that the Kobe Chronicle's comments about "carrying backwards and forwards for examination and trial" and about "the provinces" are laughably irrelevant. But, in pointing out these misconceptions, we do not wish to be interpreted as seeking to minimize the importance of the general question. The case of foreigners who may be arrested in the provinces at a distance from any jail suitable for their detention, calls for consideration, and has received full consideration, we understand, at the hands of the Committee charged with the duty of making investigations for the operation of the Revised Treaties.

#### SECRET SERVICE MONEY.

The Nippon writes in very strong terms, urging the necessity of increasing the appropriation of secret-service money for the Foreign Office. Our contemporary quotes the old Chinese proverb, "Long sleeves are good for dancing; many cash make a good buyer," and caps it with Prince Bismarck's saying that, of the three essentials to successful diplomacy, the first is money, the second money, and the third money. The secret-service fund the third money. now allowed for the uses of the Foreign Office is only sixty thousand yen, and when that sum is divided up among the various Legations, the share of amounts to no more than two or three thousand yen, which is about enough to defray the expenses of m single social entertainment. Evidently the most capable official can not possibly discharge his functions satisfactorily under such straitened circumstances, especially when his own salary is so small as to leave no margin whatever after the cost of his living is defrayed. It has therefore been considered necessary in the past to give diplomatic posts to noblemen or persons possessing large private means, and, of course, such a system is not consistent with the employment of the most com-petent men. The Nippon thinks that petent men. The Nippon thinks that the secret-service fund for the Foreign Office should be increased by two or three hundred thousand yen.

#### THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

On the 12th instant, the Parliamentary members of the National Unionists held a meeting to determine the Party's policy in the approaching session of the Diet. Over forty persons attended, and, the chair having been taken by Viscount Shinagawa, the following resolutions were adopted:---

- (1) In order to preserve the peace of the East, the present programme of naval and military ex-pansion must be maintained and carried ... completion.
- (2) In accordance with a policy of progress, the development of commerce and industry must be encouraged, especially with regard to East-Asian mackets
- (3) The policy pursued by the present Cabinet in loreign affairs is regarded by the Party as appropriate to the circumstances of the time.

  (4) In order to place the national finances on a sound fonting, and, promote economical development, it is unavoidable that rates of taxation should be changed and that foreign capital should be introduced,

#### PRISON EXPENDITURES.

MONG the many progressive measures whose consummation has been impeded by the Diet, not the least prominent is the transfer of prison expenditures from the localities to the Central Government. Japan's experience with regard to prisons is identical with the experience of other countries; so long as the outlays incurred in connexion with the punishment of criminals are defrayed by communes which have to tax themselves for the purpose really enlightened treatment of persons undergoing sentence-to say nothing of uniformity of system-can notice hoped for The fact is very strikingly illustrated in Japan's case. Before prison reform became a burning question in Great Britain, there were no object lessons to teach the public what a jail ought to be. Pretty nearly the same dead level of neglect and abuse prevailed everywhere, and it was not until other nations-notably the Americans-built prisons in accordance with n really civilized plan and organized a humane system of administration, that Englishmen's eyes began to be seriously opened to the imperative necessity of progress in this field. In Japan, however, the Government has long appreciated what prisons ought to be, and built at Sugamo, Senju, Miike, and elsewhere jails which, with trifling exceptions, are models of excellence. Side by side with these excellent institutions may be seen provincial and city prisons which present a most striking contrast. Even in the capital, Tokyo, a visit to the Keishicho at Kaji-bashi-the place where suspects are detained awaiting trial-or to the Ichigaya prison, discloses a state of affairs calling urgently for reforms : old wooden buildings with cells of inadequate dimensions, constructed in a manner that must entail great suffering in cold weather, and often very defective as to sanitary arrangements. Nothing could have been more unfortunate than the financial pressure-the necessity of amassing a hard-money reserve for resuming specie payments-which induced the Government, 17 years ago, to transfer the prison expenditures to the charges of the communes, thus abandoning this important branch of administrative responsibilies to men that were certain to neglect it. So soon as the Cabinet found itself in a position to resume control of the prisons, a bill in that sense was submitted to the Diel, but the latter, being obstinately bent upon effecting its pet project, the reduction of the Land Tax, refused again and again to endorse the Cabinet's proposal, since the burden thus imposed upon the Treasury would have constituted a reason for not diminishing the income derived from taxation. Wiser counsels now sway the national assembly, and no doubt is entertained in official quarters that the House of Representatives in its din**o** 

control and management of the prisons to the Central Government. The total expenditure now incurred by the communes on account of prisons is 4,993,909 yen sources is 1,438,500 yen. Hence the net addition to the Treasury's burdens when the proposed transfer is effected will be are kept at their present figure. But it is to be assumed, of course, that great improvements will be effected, involving correspondingly increased expenditures. Assuredly edifices radically different from these now in use will have to be erected. The bill providing for the transfer, if passed by the Diet in its thirteenth session, will become operative from April 1st, 1899, and the Government will then have to consider the advisability of immediately making some special arrangements for the accommodation of foreigners awaiting trial. The present old-fashioned jails and policestations, as maintained by the communes, are, in many cases if not in all, quite unfit for persons not accustomed to the Japanese mode of life. To incarcerate foreigners in such places would be entirely inconsistent with the just and liberal intentions entertained by the Japanese nation towards western people. No one thinks of claiming for an instant that the punishment inflicted on a foreign malefactor in Japan should be lighter than the punishment inflicted on a Japanese. We only ask that each should suffer equally, and that the foreigner should not be condemned to a penalty far in excess of that contemplated by his judges, the penalty of living under circumstances that would be a constant torture to him. Were the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction still two or three of his artistic observation and perseverance years distant, there would be no occasion to are of high merit. His English scenes are mostly in the Lake district or in Surrey—the refer to this question; the Government, having ample time to effect the necessary arrangements, might be confidently trusted to make them. But from April to July the interval is only four months, and in that brief time it will be impossible to accomplish any substantial reforms general character. It seems Ιo us, however, that no segious difficulty stands in the way. The number hills, rising superbly above the misty blue-shot ravines that intervene between it and of foreigners apprehended by the Japanese police-if we except the cases of delinquents summarily disposed ofis quite insignificant: probably not halfa-dozen in the course of myear, if so many. Nothing could be simpler than to erect at the open ports and in three or four of the chief towns a small annexe to the ordinary jails so that suitable accommodation would be available for the incarceration of foreigners. The expense would be quite trifling-twenty thousand yen would probably suffice- and the gain would be Diction and trouble.

#### session, will pass the bill for restoring the THE LAND TAX AND THE REVENUE,

It has been stated in several quarters that the method adopted by the Government to obtain a large revenue from the Land Tax would be to raise the price of annually, and the income derived from the koku of rice for the purposes of the would be that the desired increase of income would be obtained without directly suggesting to the tax-payers that their burdens had been made heavier. Rumour 3,555,409 yen, supposing that the outlays now alleges, however, that the more straightforward plan of augmenthe rate will be resorted to. of augmenting present figure is 21 per cent. of the taxable value of the land. To what point it will be raised we have, as yet, no information, but as the intention is to obtain an additional revenue of some 17 million yen from this source, we presume that the new figure will be 31 per cent. There can not be any doubt, we think, that the Government acts wisely in not basing its method on the price of the koku of rice. Such a course would be, in some sense, a reversion to the old system. One of these days it will certainly become necessary to undertake reassessment of the taxable value of the land so as to equalize the incidence of the impost, but that is a large measure demanding several years' work.

> According to the Jift Shampo, the Government's intention is to seek the Diet's consent to the following augmentations of revenue:--

Land To	X X 6	17	million yen,	
Income	Tax	12	11 24 11 mm	
Total	*	30}	william yen.	

#### PICTURE EXHIBITION IN YOKOHAMA.

Mr. Roberton's picture exhibition on Thursday afternoon proved a very delightful auccess. Nearly a hundred works, ranging from completed pictures in oils to tiny studies in water coloms, displayed the artist's versatility and capabilities in a most striking manner. Mr. Roberton has travelled widely and the fruits two leveliest portions of the old country that an artist could ever wish to deliniate upon canvas, Some particularly rich effects are to be found in the series of oils that deal with the Lakes; thought the quiet, ineffable charm that hange over the Surrey hills and rivers-which Mr. Roberton has so successfully transferred to his canvas—may be found even more attractive to the eye that loves to gaze on Nature in her tenderer moods. A striking picture is that of Kinchinjungs, the monarch of the Indian Darjeeling. The artist has also studies of Ita-han and Sicilian scenery; dainty "bits" from Penang, Singapore and Hongkong in watercolours and also some finished oils of well-known scenes in these colonies that appeal to the Far Eastern hand who has once passed through them. Altogether the exhibition is above the ordinary run and should be visited on Friday by all who failed to see it on Thursday.

Information has reached London that Mr. Allbert Holbrook Hurst, cousin of Mrs. Maybrick, has died at Wellington, New Zealand, and left his fortune of \$22,000 to the convict, very great, for unless some such step be taken, foreigners will have a legitimate be not used to improve her present position or grievance which can not fail to cause makes the stipulation, however, that the trustees are to allow the sum to accumulate, and that it UNIVERSITY OF THE OINDIE ME Apprehension.

#### DEATH OF MR. GLADSTONE.

#### HIS LIFE'S CARRER.

Mr. Gladstone, who was born on December 29th, 1809, was the son of the late Sir John Gladstone, Baronel, of Fasque, Kinc-rdineshire, a well-known Liverpool merchant. He was educated at Eton, and graduated at Christ Church, Oxford. His Patliamantary experience dates from 1832, when he was returned in the Conservative interest for Newark. In the House of Commons he soon attracted the notice of Sit Robert Peel, who, in 1834, made him a junior Lord of the Tieasmy. By 1835 he was Under-Secretary for Colonial Affairs. Peel's retirement from office for a moment checked his official advance, but in 1841, with Peel's return to power, he was sworn in as Vice-Pie sident of the Board of Trade and a member of the Privy Conneil. Since then natil his retire ment in 1894, Mr. Gladstone's life was spent almost entirely in politics. Breaking with his early allies, the Conservatives, to whom his High Church sympathies unturally bound him at the opening of his career, he became a mem-ber of the Coalition Ministry of the Earl of Aberdeen in 1852 as Chancellor of the Exchequer, but separated himself from the Ministry Palmerston in 1855 on account of differences of opinion on questions relating to the Crimeun War. In 1859, however, he resumed the postof Chancellor of the Exchequer under Lord Palmersion, and in this expacity was mainly instrumental in repealing the paper duty, and giving England the benefit, as most people consider it, of a cheap press. After the death of Palmetston he became leader of the House of Commons, but was shortly after thrown into opposition by the victory of Disraelt and the Conservatives. On the resignation of Mr. Disraelt's Ministry in 1868, Gladstone succeeded him as First Lord of the Treasury, and during the next few years he made history fast. The passing of the Irish Church Disestablishment Act (1869), the Irish Land Act (1870), the Elementary Education Act (1870), abolition of Purchase in the Army (1871), and the Bailot Act (1872) were all measures of prime importance. which have had most wide spreading effects on the subsequent history of the nation. On an appeal to the country in 1874, the Liberals sustained a most disastrous deleat, and Disraeli again became Prime Minister. For a time Gladstone almost retired from public life, devoting himself chiefly to pamphleteering on Church questions and commentary and criticism on the poetry of Homer. The Bulgarian atrocities, however, once more stirred him up to vigorous action, and he commenced his famous crusade against the infam ea of Turkish misrule, opposing strenuously in Parliament and out the policy of Disraeli, which ended in the signing of the Anglo-Turkish Convention. Gladstone came back to power on the great Liberal wave of 1880, and had to face the Irish problem which confronted him for the test of his official life. Everyone remembers the dreary events of those days, the dynamite plots, the Caven-dish and Burke murders, the battle over the Coercion Bill, the exasperating obstruction of Parnell and his party. Trouble in Egypt, too, claimed much public attention. The bombardment of Alexandria, General Wolseley's victory at Tel el Kebir, the Sondan revolt, the failure to save Gordon at Khartonm are chief points which present themselves in taking a review of this troubled time. The fate of Gordon in particular exposed Mr. Gladstone to most acrid criticism, much of it quite unjust. The other great work of this ministry was the Franchise and Redistribution Acts, greatly ex-tending the Franchise and giving political power to the agricultural and other labouring classes. At the general election in 1885 the Liberals were returned in numbers almost equal to those of the Conservatives and Parnellites combined. The Parnellites thus held the balance of power, and their leader was a man clever enough to make full use of the opportunity the situation afforded. Whatever the secret history of the matter may have been one thing was plain, and
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that was that Gladstone adopted a volte face policy. His announcement of a Home Rule Bill for Ireland shattered the Liberal party. Marquis of Hartington, and with him most of the great Whig nobles to whom moderate Liberalism was a tradition of centuries, broke away from an alliance with the Irish members; Mr. Chamberiain revolted; the second reading of the Bill was rejected; Gladatone appealed to the country; and as a result the Conservatives and Liberal Unionists were returned in over-whelming majority, and Lord Salisbury became Prime Minister. From that time till his retirement in 1894 Home Rule was the fixed dea with the Liberal leader; but he was sunjected to hitter disappointment. Parnell, having escaped the Scylla of the Times charges investigated by the famous Commission, wrecked his reputation on the Charybdis of the O'Shes divorce snit; and Gladstone's demand for his retirement from the leadership of the Itish party caused a split in the Home Rule faction, and rendered the realisation of the "Union of Hearts" still more problematical, Parnell's death did not remove the cause of division, and ever since the Parnellites and Anti-Pamellites have hated each other rather more than the Saxon oppressor! The election of 1892 brought Mr. Gladstone back to the Premiership for the fourth time, but it was a futile and beartbreaking task to which he was committed. After scenes of obstruction culminating in a free fight in the House of Commons, the Home Rule Bill was passed, but only to be rejected by the Upper House. This was the supreme effort. In 1894, owing to a failure in hearing and eyesight, the veteran statesman passed into private life. His extraordinary energy did not allow him, in spite of his infirmities, to remain entirely quiescent, and during the Armenian horrors two he made a vigorous and powerful speech directed against the horrors of Abdul Hamil's policy of extermination. He also actively showed bia sympathy with the Greeks in their ill-advised war last spring. Mr. Gladstone was one of the few great orators of the latter end of the nineteenth century; his speeches always had the magnetism of genius; and no one could hear him without being moved by the power of his language, if not by the force of his arguments. As a writer his style was ornate, polished, and vigorous and his varied mental gifts, immense energy and solendid character stamp him as undoubtedly one of the most remarkable men of the age,

#### THE SHASHI OUIRAGE.

The Japan Times publishes the following official account of the Shashi affair, as telegraphically furnished by the Japanese Consul, Mr. Eitaki:—

In the evening of 8th inst., a Chinaman, a resident of Human province, committed a muisance in front of the premises of the China Traders Steam Navigation Company. An employe of the Company reprimanded him, struck him, and slightly wounded him. Next moroing the Chinama called at the company's premises with a number of villagers and demanded a large sum of money as compensation for his injunies. The request, however, heing declined by the office, the dispute grew very fierce and attracted a large mob. The local officials despatched some 60 or 70 soldiers to the spot to provide against emergency. At about 7 o'clock in the evening of that day, the 9th inst, a gang of rioters (Human people) suddenly made their appearance in front of the company's premises publied down the gate and walls, and set fice to the premises. The soldiers stationed on the spot informately not only did not do their duty in dispersing the rioters but even aided and abetted them. When the news reached the Tao-tai at abour 9 o'clock, he basiened to the scene and made every effort to pacify the mob, ordering another party of Kingchaw soldiers to protect the Christian Churches. The Governor General of the Hu and Kwang provinces sent a Chief Commissioner of police and two inspectors, and a troop of soldiers is expected to a river hom lebrang. The number of rioters arrested up to the present is only about ten, the remainder are still wandering about to an excited and turbulent state. Grave apprehensions are entertained for the foreigness.

# MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANES & CURRENT LITERATURE.

A recent number of the Shakai Zasshi has an article on "The Causes of the Immorality of Students," by Yamagata Tokon, which enters minutely into the characteristics of the mass of modern students and describes the kind of life they lead. The following is a short epitome of the article:-In an address on this subject delivered by Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto a short time ago, the following facts were stated. The munber of students attending Government and other schools in Tokyo alone is about 37,680. Allowing that each of these students spends 12 yen per month, the sum would teach 452,160 ren per mouth, or 5,425,920 yen per year. proportion of these students who actually graduate is 20 per cent. Gambling and other vices are most common among them. In Hongo and Kanda alone during October last no less than 80 students were arrested for gambling. The causes of the general degeneration of students given by Mr. Yamagata are ten in number. (1) A change in the subjects of study. In ancient times the minds of students were centred on morality, and the development of the intellect was a very secondary consideration; now intellectual sharpness is at a premium and ethical studies are at a discount. (2) A change in the class of youths attending school. In ancient times students consisted of high class samural and young men of still higher rank. From about 1877 all classes of shizoku entered the ranks of students. From about 1887 the number of heimin or plebeians attending school reached half the total number of scholars. Ten years later the shisoku element had become a very insignificant and uninfluentisl element, so much so that the students of the present day may, speaking generally, be said to be plebeians. (3) All the faults and defects of the age, all the fashions of society, affect the studeut. The general levity, artificiality, and want of seriousness of purpose reflected in the lives of older men exercise a powerful influence over the mind of youth. (4) A change in the relation of teacher and pupil, which in former days was like that of a parent to his child, but now is more like that of a buyer to a seller.

(5) Laxity of discipline in schools and the means of enforcing it. (6) General prevalence of sordidness. The subservience of all things to pecuniary considerations. (7) Students of the present day have in a large number of cases ceased to expect that their studies will yield satisfactory results in future life. Twenty years ago to be versed to a fair extent in modern learning meant immediate incrative employ-ment. But in recent times comperition has become keener and for the most part only high class students are sure of receiving appointments, and employers show a marked preference for the graduates of Government schools. There exists at the present moment a kind of learn-ed clauniam which pronounces against the student trained at a private institution. Things go more by name than by merit in Government and even in business circles. This produces indifference and carelessness in the minds of numerous students; despairing of final success, they give way to the inclinations of the moment and live dissolute lives. Outside of a favoured circle of students, the battle is not to the strong nor the race to the swift. Hence what is the use of labouring to be strong or swift? So argues the class of students referred to. (8) The numerous enticements and snares of the metropolis are responsible for much of the laxity of morals that exists. Many are the students who go astray mawares when exposed to temptations that are quite new and of a most insidious type. (9) The lack of principle and virtue in the leaders of modern society, and bence the want of good examples for students to follow, (10) There would seem to be something in the principal branches of knowledge to which a student gives special attention that exercises au influence over his morals. It is a known fact that in immorality medical students rank first and law lokkents hours; the former going wrong

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN with women and the latter lapsing into various the office of the magazine; and three monthlies: forms of dishonesty and falsehood.

After giving abundant proofs of the universa lity of existing degeneration among students in the provinces as well as in the metropolis, Mr. Yamagata discusses possible remedies for the state of things described, among which a new class of lodging-houses and boarding establishments occupies a prominent place.

The Shakai Zasshi publishes an interesting account of the history of the study of Social Science in Japan during the year 1897, from which we call the following items :- The chief event of the year was the increased attention given to Vincent's Sociology, which now has quite a number of learned exponents in this country. The subject of mental science treated from a sociological standpoint has attracted little notice in this country, Dr. Motora being almost the only writer who has paid any attention to it. The number of schools where regular lectures are given on social science is comparatively few. The following are the chief with the names of the lecturers:—At the Imperial University, Professors Takagi Masayoshi and Tatebe Tongo. At the Waseds Semmon Gakkō, Professor Tatebe. At the Keiögijuku, Professor Droppers. At the Senshingaku-in (Unitarian), Professor Kishimoto Nobuta, At the Rikkyō-gakkō (Episcopalian), Professor Motoda Sakunoshin. Among the Japanese lecturers Professor Takagi has had special training for his tack, having studied Political Economy and Sociology in both Germany and America. As a study the subject of Sociology cannot be said to have passed the initiatory stage in this country. present what is known in the Chicago School, of which Mr. Vincent is the chief representative, may be pronounced the most popular, Mr. Spencer's teaching having lost favour with the Japanese leaders of thought on this topic,

. . The deficiencies and immorality of the modern student from month to month furnish topics to numerous magazine writers. There is considerable vagueness about the charges brought against the student class. One cannot help feeling that the standards of the writers as far as students are concerned are impossible standards. With not a few old-fashioned folks who ventilate their opinions on this subject transgression of what they consider the raise of propriety is regarded as an unpardonable fault. The action of the Niigata Normal School Studente and teachers in performing the Taikoki jū-damme, for instance, has been almost universally condemned by newspapers and magazines and quoted as an instance of the degeneration of school teachers. The Nihom Shugi and the Taiyo are, we think, the only The Wilton magazines which have pointed out that the playchosen is very high class and that there is no harm whatever in school teachers' taking part in private theatricals. The Kjöiku-firon, the Hansei Zasshi, and other organs throw the whole bame of existing looseness of morals among the students on school systems and school leachers, but Dr. Kaio Hiroyuki in No. 68 of his "Hundred Essays" points out that diaregard of old moral standards and the rejection of the authority of the three creeds is incident to the adoption of Western civilization. School teachers cannot alter the spirit of the age, which places more value on the development of the intellect and the acquirement of knowledge than on moral recti-Some of the political gentlemen, says Dr. Kato, who are so fond of denouncing school systems and school teachers are living lives that The students are a will not bear scrutiny, reflection of the general state of modern society, which is suffering from all the imperfections and inconveniences characteristic of a transitional stage.

The Taivo, in an instructive note, discusses Women's Magazines, of which there are six that are fairly well-known: three fortnightlies,

the Nihon-no-Katei (宋 庭), published by the office bearing this name; the Katei Zazehi (The Home), published by the Min-yūsha, and the Uranishiki, issued by the Shokeisha. The Jokan. a conservative organ, opposed to foreign ways and to Christianity, strongly objects to such schemes as the establishment of a Women's University. (2) The Joshi-no-Tomo is also conservative. Miss Shimoda Utako writes a good deal for this organ. Women have always been more conservative than men in Japan, says the Taiye. Back in the time when Japanese books were neglected in favour of works imported from Chins, it was by women that such works as the Makura no-Soshi and the Genji monogatari were written. This love of native institutions and customs permeates the pages of the Joshi-no-Tomo. The subjects discussed by this organ include female deportment, food, household life, and the like. The biographies of noble women in Japanese history are also constantly given.

(3) The Yogaku Zasshi advocates Christian ucation. Mr. Iwamoto Zenji is the editor. education. The line taken by the magazine in the nude female controversy was unconventional. It saw no objection whatever to such paintings if done for art purposes. There is nothing im-moral in the exhibition of such figures as that painted by Honda, says the *Fogaku Zasshi*. As a literary organ it is well supplied with reading matter, but its tone is decidedly pessimistic and as such can hardly be considered

the scient can hardy be considered beneficial to society generally.

(4) The Nihon no Katei has no religious flavour of any kind and no pet theories. It is quiet and unobtrusive in tone.

(5) The Katei Zasshi is an organ of the Min-yû sha and is a kind of Kokumin-no-Tomo adapted to the capacity of femule readers.

(6) The Uranishiki is a Greek Church organ. and as such an advocate of everything Occidental and Christian. It publishes the lives of Old Testament women and emphasises the orthodox view of the sinfulness of human nature and the consequent troubles to which human beings are heirs.

The Teikeka Bungaku has two long articles on the subject of "Hymna." The first is by Mr. Shima Kwasui and the second by Mr. Ouchi Seirau. After giving an account of the history I hymnology in England, Mr. Shima observes that Buddhist sacred poetry is very poor when compared with Western Christian hymns and recommends modern Buddhists to abandon the stilted 7.5 verses and invent a style of their own. Mr. Ouchi's article covers 37 pages of the Magazine. It speaks favourably of the japanese Christian hymns now in use and says that Buddhists have much to learn

from Christians on this subject.

Commenting on the above, the Taiyo says that for some time past there has been a marked alling off in the amount of attention given to foreign literature. This no doubt partly arises foreign intrature. This no doubt party arises from the nationalistic spirit that has been making itself felt in all quarters, but is also attributable to the fact that there are very few Japanese writers who are thoroughly competent to treat questions connected with foreign literature. Among young men only those who have graduated at the Literary College connected with the Imperial University or have made a specialty of foreign literature at the Semmon-gakkō, the Keiögijuku, the Doshisha, or the Aoyama Gakuin possess the necessary knowledge for this class of study. The total number of literary graduates every year is very small, and most of these accept posts m teachers of languages in provincial schools where their time is very much occupied.

Writing on what is called Shakai no Shō zetsu (Novels on Social Topics), the Waseda Bungaku says that books of this class are as a rule nothing more than a reflection of the lives

describing the work of the benefactors of man-kind in Japan would be of extreme interest. But such works are not forthcoming. Such topics as the extent to which society affects the individual and the individual affects society; the influences being brought to bear on modern society; the thought-moulding that is going on; and the effects of commerce, industry, and the like, on the masses are full of interest and might be taken up with profit by the modern novelist.

Under the heading, " New Magazines," the Waseda Bungahu gives the following :- Poetry : -(1) Kokoro-no-hana; (2) Imbun(龍文) Geku; (3) 花香月影 Kwakô getsuei. (1) This publication is devoted to Yamato-uta and other forms of Pamate-ketoba. It is the organ of the Imperial Household party. (2) The Imbungaku publishes various classes of verse: Yamato uta, haikai, Chinese verses, and New Style poems. (3) This magazine is edited by Mr. Oc Keikō, a writer of Chinese verses. As the title indicates, the chief topics touched on are flowers and the

Under other headings various new magazines are alluded to, but they have all been noticed by us in previous summaries. Ongaku (Music), we observe, is to be enlarged. There seems to be a growing demand for this periodical.

A subject on which it is desirable to collect full information is provincial customs, says the Waseda Bungain. The Füsoku-gwaho only aims at giving an account of peculiar customs, likely to create antonishment among readers. The Fogaku Zasshi last September appealed to the public for information on female provincial customs and habits, under 20 heads. Nihon-no-katei asked its readers for information on household affairs under 6 heads.

In reference to the above, it is important to observe that hitherto all attempts to collect information and statistics by addressing letters of inquiry to persons residing in provincial towns have signally failed. The Nihon Shukyo, the Taiyo, and other periodicals have attempted this but to no purpose. It is plain that to trust to unpaid correspondents to furnish full information on any given topic shows ignorance of the world and of the difficulty of obtaining reliable intelligence from persons who are oblivious to the necessity of classifying and testing facts.

Another number of the Hakubun-kan Series of Miscellaneous Works, called Hyakka Zensho, has appeared, the title being Toro, Seiyo, Rineigaku thi, a History of Eastern and Western Ethics, Mr. Kimura Takataso, who has made a special study of Ethics, being the author. The work covers 320 pages and sella m 35 sen per copy. An account of all the principal Schools of Ethics, Eastern and Western, is given, with the views of the author as to the merits and demerits of each system. A work of this kind is very much needed as a text-book in High Class Schools. Mr. Kimura's volume may serve this ригрозе.

A history of the early relations between Europeans and Japaness entitled Nichiō Kötsü Kigen Shi (日歐交通起源史) has been published. The author is Mr. Kun Kikutarō. The work is for sale III Maruya's at 1 yen 50 ses per copy. The Shigaku Zasshi reviews the book at some length. From this notice we extract the following account of the views of the author, observing the headings given by the Shigake Zasshi—(1) The Japanese are an Aryan race. Nothing like conclusive proof of this assertion is given, however. (2) The comparative slowness of Japan's progress in civilisation is to be attributed to three circumstances. (a) She was a fishing and not a hunting nation. She had no good harbours on her Western Coast. (c) Asiatic civilisation as known on the continent had no life in it in the early days of Japanese history. (3) On the early inter-course of the Chinese and Koreans with the that are fairly well-known: three fortnightlies, of students and the authors are ignorant of Japanese the author has nothing new to say. (4) the Fokan (大星) published by the Kokio the real state of society. Tales giving accounted Militan pages that the Japanese were skilled sha; the Ribing crossed to America, but no proof of this stateTojosha; and the Fogata Lasthi, published at women of purpose in their upward paid of crossed to America, but no proof of this state-

ment is given. (5) The replies of the author to those writers who deny that Marco Polo re-ferred to Japan is very full. (6) Chap. VI. gives a detailed account of the first arrival of Europeans in this country. Chaps. VII.-X. are the most valuable part of the book, entering as they do into the whole history of Japan's intercourse with Western nations and the results

upon her national life and policy.

A review published in the Rikugo Zasshi says that the conclusions arrived at by the author are not warranted by the facts given, but that the work is valuable as an account of a period of history that lias never been fully writ-

ten up in the same way before.

. . A lexicon of considerable value which for nome time has been out of print, the 经訓菜 Wahun Shiori, originally compiled by Mr. Tankawa Shisei, is now being revised by Mr. Ban Nobutono and is to be issued in a new form some time this year. The Köten Kökyü jö, Iidamachi, 5 chome, Tokyo, are the publishers, the subscription price being 5 ven 50 sen.

Another edition of the same work is being published in Gifu at the Seibido by Miura Gensuke. The subscription list for this edition is now open at the Tökyō Seibido, Tori, 3 choine, the subscription price for the whole work being 8 yen. The 82 volumes of which the Wakun Shiori consists are to be bound together in 2 volumes. The original Compiler, Tanikawa Shisei, did not live to see the work completed. Divided into three parts, only the first and second appeared during the author's life-time. The materials for the third part were collected by Tanikawa, however, and are now given to the public for the first time. The Seibido, having purchased the copyright of Part III, and having the right in publish Parts I. and II., they alone, it is said, can supply copies of the complete Wakun Shiori. It is serted that Mr. Ban's edition will only include Parts I. and II.

The Teitoku Bungaku calls attention to the literary earnestness of L'Abbé François Ligneul. Another work of his has recently appeared, which is a translation from the French, bearing the Japanese title *Keisei jiron* (A Word of Awa-kening Suited to the Times). The translator is Mr. Maeda Chōtaiō. The style and contents of M. Ligneul's little volumes are highly praised by the Teikoku Bungaku. It is just these kind of works that are needed, says this organ, to defend Christianity against rationalists and to convey to the minds of poorly educated readers a correct impression of the many good qualities of the Christian faith.

An account of Mr. Tamai Kisaku's travels and investigations in Siberia, it will be remembered, was read at the Oriental Congress last year, and awakened so much interest that Mr. Tamai was induced to embody the results of his researches in a small volume published in Berlin, the title of which is Karawanen Reise Von Kisaku Lamai: Mit auhaug; Weltreise Mehreres Japaner über Sibirien vor 100 Jahren.

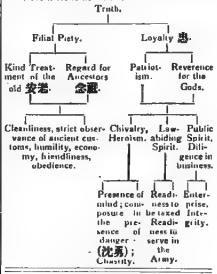
The following items are published by the Ryōiku Kōhō, being culled from various sources: -Marquis Ito is credited with the following Statement: There are two things which as a nation we must seek to avoid. (1) We must beware of trying to establish a form of government for which our history has not fitted us and hence which may be pronounced unnatural. (2) We must see to it that we are not content ith anything short of first-class civilisation. We must take our position among the most eulightened nations of the world. To these prolightened nations of the world. To these pro-positions as theories few reople object, but in practice they are constantly departed from. Neither in legislation, education, nor in the general intercourse of men with each other is

Kinoshita, calls attention to the neglect of ethics as a subject of study in Government schools. In middle schools as a rule not more than one hour a week is devoted to the subject, and the study is regarded with aversion by many school authorities. Asian excuse for this state of things it is often said that ethical theories do little good and that the teachers can do more towards reforming wicked students by leading exemplary lives than by preaching morality in the class room. This is true enough, observes Mr. Kinoshita, nevertheless the banishment of ethics as a subject from the curriculum of a school is calculated to have a bad effect on the minds of students, in that it leads them in think it is unimportant.

The money at the disposal of the Mombusho for the maintenance of young men carrying on study in Europe or America is said to be quite inadequate. Other Departments are better off in this respect. In the case of the Rikugunshō, the Kaigunshō, and the Gwaimusho those who are sent abroad for study are allowed to retain their rank and draw pay as officials while receiving special allowances as students. In the Mombusho this practice is not followed. It will be remembered by some of our readers that a short time ago the Fifi Shimpo called attention to the disproportion between the number of inventors pro-duced by high-class education in Japan and the time and money spent in imparting high-class knowledge. The Imperial University was shown not to be suitable soil for the growth of the class of men known as inventors. The reason of this is now said to be that, unlike English students, Japanese University graduates go out into the world with no practical knowledge of the subjects attidied. A gentleman's son in England, in order to master the details of a trade or industry, will work as a common mechanic for a while. there is no such spirit here. The inventions of University students have often been very costly affairs and have lacked that applicability to special everyday purposes which distinguishes the invention of a man versed in practical details.

A writer in the Fogaku Zasshi compares Japan with China in regard to conservatism, and comes to the conclusion that, though in appearance Japan seems to be the more forward of the two nations, in reality China is the most advanced. It is maintained that the mass of the people in China are more industrious and more business-like than the majority of Japanese. Despite the fact that this country has new laws, new modes of locomotion, and new systems of education, the conservative spirit is very strong thoughout the country. Methods of business are still old methods. In no country does there exist so many mushroom companies. In few countries have so many enterprises failed from want of business insight on the part of their chief promoters or from want of perseverance under the stress of difficulties. What is started in the business line in China is for the most part carried through. And although they are supposed to be very anti-foreign, the Chinese habitually use foreign capital and, as for trade with foreigners, they are far keener to engage in it than the Japanese. Though they have made no fuss about Treaty Revision and have even quietly submitted to foreign occupation of their soil, yet in the material profits to be derived from international trade, the Chinese undoubtedly get the lion's share. Though seemingly used by the Occidental resident, they are in reality employing him for their own ends. In all things the Chinese are utilitarians and their traders possess the knack of turning to their own advantage the blandering or weak policies of their Government. In Japan the Government is progressive, but the mass of the people are conservative. In China the Government is con-servative, but the mass of the people are progressive.

fucianism as shown in the history of Education in Japan"; the other for the best essay on "The Methods of teaching Morality in Primary Mesers Miyake Yonekichi and Hat-Schools." tori Unokichi were the awarders in the case of the first subject, and Messrs, Tanimoto Tomi and Shimoda Toshihide in that of the second. Prize No. 2 was won by Mr. Ozaki Sei, of Aichi Ken. The essay is too long for reproduction here. The theory which he elaborates is that in the Japanese system of ethics there are certain cardinal virtues from which other virtues are derived. He has drawn up an elaborate genealogical table showing the origin of the lines of conduct men have agreed to call virtuous. Parts of this table seem to us highly fanciful, but it is nevertheless interesting as a Japanese conception of the relation borne by the virtues to each other. It will be seen that the progenitor of the whole race of Japanese virtues is what the Japanese call Matoto many omissions the table is as follows:—



#### REVIEW.

Professor Chamberlain's "Handbook Colloquial Japanese" has reached its third edition. There can never be a very rapid sale for such works, and the profits attached to them cannot be large. The number of foreigners who aim at a scholarly acquaimance with Japanese are very limited. As we have often pointed out to our Japanese friends, though designed to teach foreigners how mapeak Japanese, the "Colloquial Handbook" serves the purpose of teaching [apanese how to render Japanese phrases into English in an accurate and graceful manner—an art that is acquired by very few Japanese. But its price is prohibitive to the mass of Japanese students, Fifty sen per volume is about the limit that a student expects in have to pay for a phrasebook; and to the Japanese student Mr. Cham-berlain's work would only seem to be valuable as a phrase-book. All things considered, the fact that the Handbook has taken ten years to reach its third edition is no cause for surprise,

As is stated in the Preface, the third edition of the Collequial Handbook differs little from its forerunners. Mr. Chamberlain has very wisely made the numbering of the paragraphs uniform with former editions. Thus in each edition ¶ 27 treats of Accent. This is a great convenience to classes where the members are neing different editions. As far as we have compared the second and third editions, the principal difference between them is at the end of the Practical Part, where an extract from the proceedings of the Imperial Diet (March 3rd,

\* " A Handbook of Collequial Japanese, by general intercourse of men with each other is progressive.

our ultimate object kept sufficiently in view.

In education especially is it important never to lose sight of the ideal which we hope to reach the composition prizes:—One for the best Vokohama. Sampson Low, Maiston & Co., Lon-The President of the Kyolo Dalgara, Mr. cassy of the "Merits and Demerits of Condition of Condi

1897) takes the place of "A Warning against Fashionable Mania.

Professor Chamberlain's Handbook is undoubtedly the best work on Colloquial Japanese that exists, and to us it seems that its chief excellence lies in the way in which every rule of grammar is exemplified. To the careful marking of the long vowels and the use of the certain short vowels we attach great importance. Much of the incorrect pronunciation of Japanese beard from the lips of missionaries and others, resulting in the most ridiculous mistakes, such me describing a Higher School as a harp school, a strange school, a language school, or some other kind of school by saying Koto-Gakko, instead of Koto Gakko. a mistake we have ourselves heard made scores of times, would be avoided by reading carefully marked Romanised Japanese only.

There are a few points on which we find ourselves unable to agree with Mr. Chamber-The paragraph on Accent we think to laio. be misleading. Mr. Chamberlain does not seem to be quite sure of his ground when treating this subject. After asserting that "there is little or no tonic accent, and only a very alight rhetorical accent," and that "all the syllables of a word and all the words of a sentence are pronounced equally, or nearly so," Mr. Chamberlain says in a note, "the statement made in the above paragraph concerning the absence of accent in Japanese is intended rather for purposes of practical instruction than of scientific accuracy. There is a slight tonic accent in Japanese. But so extremely alight is it that it has never been marked in any dictionary, whether native or foreign, it has no influence on prosody, it varies from province to province, and in habitants of the same province contradict, not only each other, but themselves in their usage and in the explanations which they give con-cerning it." Thus we see that Mr. Chamberlain admits that there is a tonic accent, but finds it necessary to qualify the admission. In one opinion there is a most distinct accent in Japanese. This accent struck we so forcibly when we commenced the study of the language some twenty-five years ago that we invariably marked the accentuated syllable in every new word dotted down in our note-book. The fact that this accent has not been marked in native dictionaries goes for nothing, as they are compiled for lapanese who in most cases do not need such aids. As for the works prepared by foreigners, this absence of accent marks has often been deplored by scholars making use of these lexicons. The accent does not vary from province to province my far as educated Japanese are concerned. That Japanese residing in the provinces should, when consulted, differ on the matter of accent is easily accounted for on the ground of prevailgeneral slipshodness inaccuracy and in articulation prevalent among semi-edu-cated people whose attention has never been seriously called to the importance of distinct pronunciation. Whether the accent in Japanese is important or not can easily be tested by dropping it or changing it. Pronounce Watakushi as Watakuslif, Otatu, - Otniu, at we have heard done, and Japanese ears will at once be tortured. Whether the accent heard should be called a tonic or a thetorical accent it is not important to discuss. That in the case of all three or more syllable words there is at any rate one accent and there are sometimes two distinct accents is to our mind indisputable. To instruct a student of Japanese to pronounce each syllable of Hakone, Miyanoshita, and Ashinoyu alike is, it seems to us, to tell him to do what no Japanese ever does. In all such words the voice rests in a most distinct manner on one syllable. To our ears the Japanese always say Hakons, Miyanoshita and Ashinoya, us they any masureta, Kokoro, Bliydko. That it is possible for foreigners to make this accent too heavy we readily admit. The weight to be given to an accent can be perfectly learnt only by persons whose ears are exceptionally keen, and when least included by any archite manner the fift says

But no amount of difficulty attaching to the acquirement of the exact degree of emphasis laid on certain syllables in the pronunciation of Japanese warrants the assertion that every syllable is pronounced alike or nearly alike. venture to think that Mr. Chamberlain's attention has not been called to this subject in a special manner, or he would certainly have modified the statements in former editions in the one we are now reviewing.

Another subject on which we differ from Mr. Chamberlain is the alleged absence of personification in Japanese. It will be membered by some of our readers that Mr. Ehmann, in his introduction to a collection of proverbs published by him, goes into this subject in a very thorough manner. We entirely agree with the conclusion Mr. Ehmann has reached on this subject. He asserts that personification is quite as frequent in Japanese as in any European language. He affirms that the Japanese objects of worship are personifications of nature. He points out that sex is attributed to a number of inanimate objects, and that legendary tales and folk lore abound with personification. He correctly, as it seems to us, alleges that instances of personification occur by the hundred in the Japanese longuage. The following are a few examples quoted at random from Mr. Ehmann's list. Akire ga rel nt kuru. Akuit sen ri wo hathiru; Köji mon wo idenu. Ari no Kwannon mairi. Ari no omoi mo ten made todoku. Ashila no koto wo iu to tenjo de nesumi ga warau. Daikai wa chiri wo yerabasu. Demono, haremono tokoro kirawasu. We might add a number of similar sayings from our own collection of proverbs and wise sayings, but these suffice to show that Professor Chamberlain's assertion in \$\, 440 that "Inanimate objects are rarely, il ever, personified " needs considerable modification,

In treating of tentwoha Mr. Chamberlain does not, It seems to us, bring out fully the use of wa in such sentences as waruku wa yoshimasho, "If it is bad we will give it up"; and the difference between this form and yoroshikereba voshi-As we understand these expressions the difference between the two forms is that of certainty and uncertainty, or that of condition-ality and unconditionality. For instance kashikokereba wakaru means, since he is clever he (certainly) understands, or, being'clever be understands. But k shikoku wa wakarimasho means:--If, or in the event of his being clever, he will understand Tras touches on the aubject, but the explanation is not sufficiently full and explicit.

"Colloquial Handbook" being on the whole such a perfect book, with which a scholar of the most fastidious taste even could find little fault, we think the author would do well before bringing out another edition to reconsider the points to which we have drawn attention.

One word more. In reading through the volume there are places where it has struck us that the translation is a little too free, as, for instance, " But, do please, Sir, give me the chance of recouping this alarming sacrifice by buying of me again" as the equivalent of sehi o umeaware wo. But such examples are very rare. W.D.

#### JAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENTS.

There is, says the Yomiuri, a split in the sanks of the Opposition. A vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet was originally agreed upon by the Satsuma clique, with the support of the Doshi Club; but the Club is now divided into two parties, who differ as to the plan of attack, and reconciliation is not yet effected. Even supposing that they may ultimately come 17. which, together with the "strong foreign policy" clique—in which are included to a compromise, their number does not exceed policy" clique—in which are included Messrs. Komuchi and Abei—constitutes a total of 25 only. Unless either the Liberals or Progresaists approve the resolution, it will produce no

carried on by the Government the wheat crop this year is estimated to be larger by 20 per cent. than that of ordinary years, but tea and silk are expected to decrease by 30 per cent. This reduction, however, does not imply a failure in tea and mulberry crops; it will be the result of the augmentation of expenses and the want of capital. The appreciation of commodities and wages is everywhere the same, and the exorbitant interest on loans reduces profits to vanishing point. Even Shinshin and Joshin, the two most renowned provinces for sericulture, are reported to have reduced their rearing this year by 30 per cent. In the tea-producing districts of Shizuoka and Miye raw leaves are offered for sale. The Jiji mournfully adds that these two important branches of industry can hardly escape the tendency to decline.

The demand for fine qualities of tea remains firm, and competition among two or three firms in Yokohama has enhanced the value by one or two yes. Owing, however, to the purchasing spirit having slackened large stocks are rapidly accumulating. The Nitto Trading Company has, in view of orders for 300,000 cattles from New York and 20,000 cattles from San Fran-New York and 20,000 cattles at prices ranging cisco, hought 51,500 cattles at prices ranging from 26 wen to 41.50 yen. The following comparative figures show the sales, &c., for the last two years :---

Sales from beginning	May 9, 1898. Catties,	May 9, 1897. Catties.
of season,	1,485 000 405,300 347,100	1,372,000 280,000 66,500
Maximum quotation	73 yen	70 yen

The Porosu reports that a draft of the revised law of election recently presented to the Premier by the Chief Secretary of the Lower House was submitted on the 9th instant to the Cabinet. Though vehemently opposed by Count Incuye, it was passed by the majority and subsequently transmitted to the Legislative Bureau, some verbal alterations were made. The principal points appear to be as follows:—Each Fu or Ken is to form an electoral district, cities, however, to constitute in themselves separate districts for election. (2) The basis of representation is to be one member per 80,000 of population, exception being made for cities possessing a population below this limit. (3) Payment of at least five yen in land tax or three yen in income tax, and residence in the electoral district for a certain number of years, are necessary qualifications for voting. (4) The aggregate number of members will be 517. We (Japan Mail) do not attach the least credit to the Yorozu Choho's account of what passes at Cabinet meetings.

It is highly satisfactory, says the Chuo, that a special office has lately been established to carry out the new plan for street reform in The Manicipal Council has recently decided to set apart 20 million yen for ten years, and in order to meet this a special tax is to be collected every year to the amount of one and half a million yen, instead of from 300,000 to 500,000 yen as heretofore. The schenie, however, is so gigantic in to warrant application to the Government for a subsidy of a million yes a year and communications have been made on the subject to the Home and Finance Department. Never has Tokyo displayed more enthusiastic forvour in the cause of reform.

A number of newspaper and magazine writers, strong in their views m to the necessity of pre-serving the balance of power in the Far East, assembled some time ago at the Manyasu Restaurant, at Shimbashi, Tokyo, and passed resolutions in favour of maintaining the national prestige of Japan. They have since been pur-aning their object, and a second conference in which over 100 writers from all parts of the Empire took part was held on the 9th instant at the Saba Maple Club. They were all in-The Jiji says that according in investigations Powers and the cowardice of the Japanese URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

After much deliberation it was un-Cahinet. animously resolved, on the motion of Mr. Takata Sanaye, that steps should be taken in censure of the Government's diplomacy, and with a view to restoring the balance of power in the Orient. Three points were also determined as the mesns of carrying out these objects. The first is to maintain an Allied Writers' Club in Tokyo; the second, to effect a combination with provincial institutions; the third relates in the appointment of a committee. Mr. Ozaki Yukio spoke m follows:—"There are three ways for restoring the balance of power in The first is to cause the Powers the East. to resign all the territorial privileges exacted from China. The second consists in forcing them to change the avowed object of the leases should they refuse to surrender their reases should they refuse to surrender their pivileges,—in other words, to open the territory to the world's commerce it it has been leased for military purposes. The third is to obtain from China such places of military importance as may enable Japan to cope with other Powers if they will not listen to either of these propositions." positions."

In Shizuoka a loss on the tea crop is anticipated on account of the appreciation of commo-dities and rise in wages. The output for last dities and rise in wages. The output for last year amounted to 2.547,640 kwamme; and that of this year is estimated at 2.541,271 kwamme. Shiga is geographically unfavourably situated with regard to the tea industry. The leaf a rule commands the highest price in the beninning of the second by ginning of the season, but suffers serious depreciation towards the close. Although Shizuoka and Miye may count upon more or less profit from their manufactures, Shiga, with the tea season much later than in other districts, can scarcely hope to be free from losses. A of tea land there yields from 116 to 145 kwan of the leaf, valued at 13.34 yes on the average, whereas expenses for fertilizers, cultivation, and plucking are no less than 16.70 yen.

The Shashi affair is sincerely to be regret-ted, for the sake of China, remarks the Nevertheless it must be observed Yomiuri. that the incident is the result of the procrastination and conservatism characterising the Middle Kingdom in its intercourse with western nations. In addition to claims which ought to be advanced against China in strict conformity with the principles of justice, Japan must urge that some thirty councillors, civil and military, be engaged from her by the Chinese Government to effect radical reforms in the internal administration of the Empire. China's permanent amelioration can only be effected by devoting her entire energies to the reform of her administrative machinery. Her obstinacy is the root of the evil; she will not keep pace with the general progress of the world. Now is the time for Japan to come to her asgistance.

The Hochi says :-- A Major in the Russian Army, accompanied by a number of non-commissioned officers, has been engaged in a topographical survey of Ham gyong and Kang-won, Korea. His party lately arrived in Won-san, and they are reported to have committed gross outrages on women and others along the road which they had to pass. Some of them recently repaired to the local Administrative Office in Won-san, forced its officials to provide them with wine, broke furniture and goods, and indeed indulged in indiscribable violence. left the office, but came again at night and finding the gate closed, attempted to break it with their swords. A Korean about fifty years of age happened to pass and was cruelly murdered; the Russian afterwards proceeded to the police station and killed one of the servants. After this they carried their attack to the church, where a French missionary lived, were repulsed by the latter, who fired a pistol at them.

"The necessity for establishing a foreign bank in Japan-an impression made on the consul during his tour there a few years agoforgotten. But since the Japanese law does not allow foreigners to hold landed property or in deal in shares in their own names, it is altogether impossible to expect that they will ever be induced as private individuals to invest their capital in Japan except to the extent of a million European Bankers in general are yen or two. European Bankers in general are of opinion that there in no hope of success in the introduction of capital to Japan. The rates of interest are exceedingly low in Europe, yet the market in its present condition guarantees the possibility of realizing as much profit on money was secured in Japan. Capitalists as a rule are therefore deterred from investing their funds in such a distant and (as they think) unsubstantial country, though different opinions are entertained on the subject by some English and French bankers. A certain class of Germans and Americans appear to regard the Japanese as formidable rivals in industry and Japanese as formidable rivals in industry and commerce, and are accordingly disposed to condemn the farnishing of fands to them as giving provisions to the enemy. While Japanese industry may be expected to secure considerable progress and development by the appropriations of foreign capital, it is to be regretted that Japan has shown a spirit, of intolerance against foreigners in regard to the supervision of her domestic enterprises." Finally the consul expresses his intention of coming to Japan next year for the purpose of organising a Japanese German bank.

The Finance Department has published the national accounts for the past two years as follows :-

brought over ......

contributions ... Special War fund......

Total ......112.617,110

Total .....217.676,201

Grand total ......217.437.377 Expenditures.

follows :—			
REVEN			
Ordinary. 30th	Fiscal Year.	29th Year.	١.
	Yen.	Pen.	٤l
	83,221,608	72,088,758	0
Land	31,269,006	33,819,892	P
	28,059,993	19,455 549	ti
Inland	15,889,179	12,089 995	p
Customs	8,003,429	6.723.321	w
Stamps	5,482,613	5 314 413	V
Receipts from Govern-			ı,
ment undertakings &		_	٦,
property	14,270,972	12,967.935	ľ
Post and Telegraphs	12,160,204	10,340,045	4
Other receipts	2,110.768	2,627.890	fi
Miscellaneous	1,845.071	996,400	81
Interest on deposits	_	1 021,803	m
Formosan Revenue	_	1,415,013	ti
			8
Total1	04,820,267	93,804 054	F
			a
Extraor	DINARY.		ľ
Sales of Government			1 "
property	838,873	1,020,349	ļ:
Miscellaneous	3.768.492	8.389,836	
Funds for the issue of		- 40.	1
Public Loan Bonds	1,074	1,684	þ
Supplements for the cou-	0		s
struction of vessels	813,159	1,730,452	a
Compensation for the	0		li
Wei-hai-wei garrison	822,524	741.430	Ίà
Special local contribu-		68,000	1.
_ tjuns	324 400		
Public Loans raised	36,480,084	2 976,600	1]]
Sum brought from the	.00		ıl a
previous account	18,158,395	33.115,446	'lı
Appropriations of In-		0	٦
_ demnity	51,000,000	32,178,313	T
Central Relief Fund	450 105	1 420 700	J

According to vernacular papers, the northeastern territory of Japan seems to have recently sustained considerable injury from frost. Two prefectures, Fukushima, and Nagano, were the greatest sufferers. In Fukushima

410,105

1,439,790

27.411,909

102,093 489

195,897.544

92.941.915 61,197,682

154,139,597

hama, under date the 14th instant, announces injury from frost throughout Nagano prefecture. Another telegram from the 19th National Bank in Uyeda reports 90 per cent. of the district to have sustained damage. Similar reports have also been received from sericulturists in Matsushiro, while news from silk factories in Ogata represent the mulberry leaves there to have been entirely destroyed. A reduction of at least five per cent, on the output of silk must be expected this year. [These reports appear regularly every year and are mostly manufactured for "market use."]

The tea growers in Omi district have sustained in ordinary years lately a loss of 33.6 yen per tan; they have this year to expect a loss of 5 10 yen owing to the appreciation of rice and fuel and the depreciation of tea. Immense tracts of land in which irrigation is possible have from these circumstances been converted into rice fields, while others have been changed into mulberry plantations. The area of tea land has diminished on the whole by 20 per cent., the reduction in the output through want of fertilizers being estimated II 50 per cent. In Formosa the ten growers are remarkably successful this year on account of the settled condition of weather throughout the season. The quality of the leaf is even superior to that of last year. But the market remains in a state of extreme depression, the amount of business done in Twatutia being half that of last year. Arrivals from the beginning of the season up to the present amount only to 6,800 cattles. Quotations now stand at 32 yen, which figure shows a depreciation of 3 or 4 yen as compared with the Spring tea of last year and of 12 or 13 yen as compared with the Autumn leaf.

The Kokumin reports that a private undertanding has been arrived at between the leaders of the Doshi Club and those of the Progressiat erry, with the object of demanding an explanaion from the Government with regard to its diplomacy. The points on which information is wanted may be summarised as follows:—(1) When the retrocession of Liaotung peninsula was acceded to a few years ago III the instance of the three Powers, was not a solemn declaraion exacted from China pledging her to refrain rom leasing to any other Power the territory so restored? If no pledge or promise was taken, why? (2) What were the detailed reports ob-tained by the Government in regard to circumstances attending the claims advanced by Russia for leasing Port Arthur and Talien and securing profits connected with mines and rail-ways? (3) How far was the Government enabled to ascertain the facts to the land changed by England, France, and Germany from China? (4) While the various Powers were competing with each other to obtain land and secure advantages in China, what schemes were adopted by Japan towards maintaining her in-terests as well the general peace of the Orient?

The Pomiuri expresses satisfaction at the Russo-Japanese Protocol recently concluded. As the Protocol constitutes a guarantee against the obstruction of Japanese commerce and industry in Korea, enterprising men will be attracted to the little Empire. The resources of Korea are now in the hands of the Japanese. To cultivate her wealth to the fullest extent, however, a satisfactory financial system is necessary, and no scheme can answer the purpose better than the establishment of a Japan-Korean bank. The first problem which pre-sents itself in regard to the development of various enterprises in Korea is that of currency. The Korean currency consists of three classes—the old native pure coins, of low denomination; the new ailver pieces of the same weight and value as the Japanese yes and subsidiaries; the Japanese silver yen and convertible notes. Of the above mentioned media of exchange, the Japanese yen pieces have acquired the Jargest credit. Despite the yen The Nippon publishes the following reply received from Mr. M. Burfield, the Japanese Honorary Consul at Hamburg. Generally Nihoumstan 40 per cent. of the multiple layer the greatest sufferers. In Fukushims being prohibited from circulation at the time of Nihoumstan 40 per cent. of the multiple layer consultant in the coinage system, their made by the Kyoth Chamber lay Computer in the crop seems to have been destroyed. A will have a trom the market proved a matter of regard to the introduction of foreign capital:— The gram received by the Maki Shoten in Young Land assumpted coins were sub-

stituted for them; the task of substitution being undertaken by the Soul branch of the 1st Na-tional Bank. The independence of the Empire was recognised by the late Imperial Rescript issued at the time of the declaration of war against China, and also by the recent Russo-Japanese Protocol; but the circulation of stamped coins of any other nation in Kores may, to a certain extent, impair her diguity as a Sovereign state. At the same time the want of convertible notes necessitates the carrying on of all transactions in cash, to the serious inconvenience of the people. The promotion of either commerce or industry can, in such a state of affairs, be hardly expected. Korea ought, by issuing a uniform coinage, to show the reality of her independence, and at the same time she should afford facilities to the economic market by the issue of convertible notes, organisation of the proposed Japanese-Korean bank will secure all these advantages; the minting of coins, as well as the issue of notes, may be undertaken as a measure falling properly within the sphere of its business. The foundations of a coinage system may thus be laid. To hold specie in reserve is of course necessary for the issue of convertible notes, but supposing so million yen to be floated in notes, 10 million yen in specie would be sufficient. The Korean Government is not rich enough to provide this amount, but Japan could supply the funds for the time being either in yen pieces or silver bullion. The silver yen in the vaults of the Japanese Treasury now amount to 50 millions. Some of these are to be reminted into anbaidiary coins, and some will be circulated in Formosa, but the remainder are to be offered for sale in Hongkong or Shanghai. The latter amount might be utilized as a loan to Korea to constitute the reserve for the issue of convertible notes.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is now believed that the P. & O. steamer China can be floated off Azalea Rock, Perim.

The shares in the Japan Brewery Company sold at public suction by Mr. Jno. W. Hall on Tuesday fetched pen 495 each.

Commodore Dewey, U.S.N., has been promoted to the rank of Admiral and has received hundreds of congratulatory telegrams.

The vote of thanks passed by the U.S. Congress to Admiral Dewey adds ten years to his age limit of retirement, and will make him at the end of the present year the Senior Admiral in the U.S. Navy. -

More instances of coolie violence are given in the Kobe papers, the latest being an attack last Sunday upon a party of foreign ladies and one gentleman. The gentleman was bady hurt about the left arm in the course of the affray.

The plague has claimed another European wictim in Hongkong in the person of Miss Ruchwaldy, aged filteen years, who resided with her mother at No. 4, Blue Buildings. Like the rest of her family, the deceased young lady was an accomplished musician.

We understand that the Yokohama Waterworks Loan has been almost twice covered. The sum of 400,000 yen was required but when the tenders were opened on May 15th, it was found that 338 applications had been sent in, their total subscription amounting to yen 723,300.

Many people in Yokohama will be interested in the following paragraph, which is taken from the N.-C. Daily News of May 13th :- The steamer stranded in Shihtao Bay on the South-East Promontery, is the Amarapoora, which left Yokohama on the 2nd inst. for Taku with a cargo of lumber, Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., being her agents. She cancer Co., being her agents. She appears to have stranded in a fog and is likely in be a total loss, for a steamer to take away her crew. It is strange and moving spectacle—a Bishop seated, roam, at will and propagate. These pigs are stated that with fine weather part of her cases not exactly on a ass, but behind one in a hard hard will have and fatten on little.

may be saved. The Amarapoora is a vessel of 1,619 ions net and 2,444 gross, of 300 nominal horse-power, built at Greenock by Scott and Co. in 1874.

A recent issue of the Cape Argus would de light the soul of Sir Buyle Roche. In asking questions regarding the opinious of the lawyers or Johannesburg respecting the Katze scandal, Oom Paul "thought be would catch a weasel asleep in the person of Mr. Lindsay; but in vain was the net spread in the sight of this bird,"

The Government of Natal has offered to supply free of cost 12,000 tons of steam cost annually to ships of Her Majesty's Navy calling at the port of Durban. In accepting this gift, Mr. Chamberlain has intimated that the English Government are very much gratified at generous proposal, and highly appreciate the spirit which dictates it.

They seem to be puzzled in England over the pronunciation of Wei-hai wei. The Globe asks plaintively :

WHICH WAY! AND WHY! O. Whyshigh-why, as uthers swear? Will one familiar with Chinese
Decide 'twist whys and ways and wees?
It should not be in English powers
To mispronunce a port that's ours.

A very sad occurrence took place at Christ Church, Yokohama, on Sunday morning. During the service a young-looking man was seen atagger in one of the pews and on temoval outside he was found to be totally unconscious. Dr. Eldridge and Dr. Wheeler were sent for, but life was almost extinct when they arrived, and death ensued within ten minutes of the seizure. The cause of death was found, on post-mortem examination, to be due to excessive heart disease. The deceased was Mr. Robert J. Strinton, chief officer on the reserve of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

A steel gun-boat built to the order of the order of the Siamese Government by the Hougkong and Whampos Dock Company, Limited, was successfully launched at Kowloon on Tuesday, May 10th, the " christening " being performed by Mrs. G. II Dodwell. The vessel, which is intended to be fitted with a four-inch Armstrong gun and four small quick filers, is 148 feet in length, beam 23 feet, depth 11 ft. 3 The engines are triple expansion, direct acting, surface condensing. Cylinders 13 inches, 21 inches, and 85 inches; length of stroke 24 inches. There are two hollers of mild steel of the multitubular cylindrical type, nine feet in length and eight feet three diameter, the working pressure being 170 lbs.

In connection with the manning of the British Navy, and the proposed increase of the number of binejackets for the coming year by 5,140, 8 good deal has been said from time to time an to the resources of the Colonies and the possibility of utilising them as recruiting grounds. The hardy fishermen of Newfoundland, if they could be induced to join, would make ideal seamen when trained to the work of a man-ofwar, and both British North America and Australia ought to furnish a numerous Reserve of properly trained men. That they will do so when the Colonies fully recognise their responsibilities and the Imperial character of the cuties of the British Navy is more than probable. In the meantime, an incident which recently oc-curred suggests the advisability of an effort to obtain recruits from Colonial sources. In one day the Consul-General of the United States at Montreal received twenty five applications from men desirous of entering the Navy of the United States. The whole of the twenty five men were British subjects, and nearly the whole of them are stated to have been well qualified for the

costermonger's donkey cart. The Bishop of Mailborough was due to hold a confirmation service at St. Lawrence's Church, Brentford, but when his lordship arrived m Gunnershury Railway Station in time, as he thought, to take a cab to the place of appointment, he found, to his great chagrin, that vehicles for hire were conspicuous by their absence. The distance was too great for walking in the few minutes to space, and the Bishop had almost made up his to be late for the ceremony, suddenly there came on the scene a humble coster with his "moke" and cart, the man having apparently been turning an honest penny by providing the locality with oranges and apples. The aproned ecclesiastic explained to the coater in a moment his dilemma, and asked for a "lift." The kindly owner of the ass at once consented-the Bishop scrambled into the cast—and the donkey, entering into the humour of the situation, used its four hoots with such despatch that his lordship's ride through the principal street of the town was like a triumphal procession. Thanks to the donkey the Bishop arrived at St. Lawrence's in good time.

The King of the Belgians is sending a special mission to China, and he has entrusted it to Count Charles d'Ursel, formerly Belgian Minister at Buchaicat and Governor of Hainault, Count d'Ursel lest Brussels for the Far East on 24th April.

The famous lime-tree, which since 1813 has been one of the currosities of the bettlefield of Leipsic, is no more. It has been uprooted by a hurricane. It stood on elevated ground, and was known as Murat's lime-tree, for the reason that it is said to have served the "King of Naples" as an observatory on the morning of October 14. Legend has it that Napoleon himself watched the course of the battle from this tree. Its trank was 30 metres in height, and nearly two metres in diameter,

In the course of a well-informed article in the Naval and Military Magazine on Hong-kong, which is termed "Our Gibraltar of the Far East," the writer, Lieutenant-Colonel Le Mesurier, says:—The defences of this distant possession are hardly commensurate with the important position it now occupies, nor are they commensurate with the position this colony is destined to ocupy in the not very distant inture. As China and Japan develop, the importance of the colony will become enhanced. At the moment Honkong depends mainly upon the fleet to prevent the landing of a hostile force upon her almost defenceless southern and eastern shores. The garrison is something less than 3,000 men, which would, of course, render some assistance, in repelling an attack : but it is perfectly certain that, if an enemy could succeed in confining our fleet to the harbour, very little opposition could be offered to the landing of a large force, if sup-ported by the guns of a fleet. There are some ported by the guns of a fleet. small batteries erected on the southern side of the island, but these would be of no use against heavy ships' guns. Moreover, I believe that the town and harbour could be shelled by ships lying off the south coast. What is needed render that fortress impregnable is a properly constructed set of works for the protection of that part of the island. Until something of the kind is done, Hongkong will be liable to be carried by a coup de main. Another important question is the supply of food. The supply of the quarter of a million inhabitants of the colony has to be brought from the mainland. Apart from the danger of having so large an alien population at one's door, it would become impossible to feed such large numbers in time of war, as the ordinary methods of supply would assuredly be dislocated by such a convulsion. Col. Le Mesurier advocates British-born Chinese as militis, and those who did not desire to leave to also thus serve. In regard to food supply, he suggests that the Tytam and a d'Aguilar peninanlas should be fenced off as pig runs,

#### JAPAN AND THE PARIS EX-POSITION.

On the 13th instant a notification was issued over the signature of Mr. Kaneko, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, embodying the regulations for the collection and inspection of fine att productions for the Paris Exposition of 1900. The chief regulations are as follow:—

Of the acticles selected those which are considered most excellent shall be bought by the Government or subsidies shall be granted for the same. The articles shall be placed on exhibition at No. 5 room of the former Exhibition Building in Uyeno Park, Tokyo, between the 1st and 5th of August of the 32nd year of Meiji (1899).

Articles brought later than this can not be entered in the list prepared in French for presentation to the French Commissioners? Office, and none will therefore be allowed to be exhibited.

Any person desiring this goods to be imspected

Any person desiring his goods to be inspected is required to prepare a register of exhibits in conformity with the revised form, and to present it to the special Exhibition Commissioners' Office, through a Municipal or Prefectural Office, before

through a Minicipal or Prefectival Office, before July first of the 3 and year of Meiji.

The form to be used to preparing the list may be obtained on application by postal card to the Commissioners' Office.

No picture or drawing is to be inspected unless it is presented in the form of a tablet, and it must not be of excessive dimensions.

The number of activities necessited by each applications are presented by each applications.

The number of articles presented by each applicant for examination must not exceed five, but this provision does not apply to cases where several

The expenses to be incurred in packing and transporting the articles submitted to examinated shall be borne by the owners.

#### ENGLISH "MADE IN GERMANY."

#### (CONTRIBUTED.)

Max O'Rell, whose nousense often contains some good sense, once wrote :--" The English have a way of using the adjective 'German' as synonymous with 'bad.' 'German' sausages, 'German' bands, and 'German' silver are atticles I would not recommend to my bitterest enemy." This might have been so at one time, but of late years English politicians and newspapers have taken an entirely different ground, have lauded everything German to the skies, and have decried everything English in the most ununerciful fashion. "Germans only need apply" has been the merchant's motio; no musician whose name does not end in "z" or "un" is tolerated on a concert platform; even the great national patron saint of England John Barleycom himself, has been deposed in favour of the Pilsener and Lager of German beerswillers. Few, indeed, except our own people, can complain of the manner in which we have regarded our German "cousins" during the last few years.

Export Trade, however, has discovered that we regard the Kaiser's subjects with hatred: German commerce is, itsays, the victim of "false statements made by the Englishmen, who can see their star sinking." Export Trade is a journal published in Germany, and, we should say, written by Germans, though it is printed in something that purports to be English. English as made in Germany is a funny product, an inferior product, by any means—we are an-xious to throw no slight on any Teutonic output—on the contrary, it contains elements of humour farin excess of ordinary, commonplace English. Witness the prospectus :- " This German Journal purposes to make known the German industry to the world's market abroad, and to prove the capacity of the German industry, contrary to the false statements made by the Englishmen, who can see their star sinking. The German industry stands in every way as high as the times demand, and is capable to compete with the industry of any other civilized country. The subscription price of the journal is payable in advance. For payments we take money from all countries at day course. We correspond in English, French, German,

thropic publishers of Export Trade will be adding to the gaiety of at least four nations.

The leading article is written in a style worthy of Fleet Street. The writer, for once in his life free of the haunting dread of six months for lèse majesté, has let himself go. He trounces the poor English well. "They are in a very uneasy mood; they are annoyed, and not without reason that the German commerce and the German industry have taken an unprecedented step ahead, and they show this ill-humour in the haughty and superior manner which they have shown as far back as the history reaches. Then follows much about the coming Germani-sation of the Universe, from Peking to Peru, and total humiliation of the effete Anglo Saxon. China is to be to Germany what India is to England; and we are told, in all the solemnity of italics, that, "the star of Great Britain seems to be going down rapidly." "We could easily tell," adds the editor "some characteristic examples of the British actions, but we think this is enough for the present, and we hape that our neighbours across the channel will profit by this lesson."

The editor waxes enthusiastic over the growth of German shipping. The English "bave had to come to the conclusions, that the German nation does not only understand to write books and to fight battles, but also is master in technical matters. Germany does not only own the greatest number of the largest ships, but they are also mostly built in Germany. Repeatedly it has been proposed, to arrange a swimming German exhibition, to sail from port to port, throughout the whole world, for the purpose of bringing the capabilities of the German Industry before the eyes of other nations in a penetrating manner. It is hardly possible to show the creative power of the German Trade more expressively, as by a colossal mail steamer, built at a German ship building yard.

"It would be shown by this, that the ship building and construction of machinery as well as the electro-technics in Germany in up to date, and would also show to the visitors in the arrangements of the cabins and saloons the development of the different arts. They could the admire tastily executed metal, timber, porcelain, glass- and decorative works, and harmoniously agreeing arrangements.

"A better recommendation than this for all parts of the German industry could not be imagined, a steamer, well finished, with shapeful lines, and good appearance, combined with the best qualifications for sea service! With such a ship of graceful shape, and besides of enormous size, the same as the newest steamers of the North German Lloyd, one can easily understand why they created such wonder everywhere, at their first appearances in foreign ports. In every port thousands of persons have awaited their arrival, and they have been visited and inspected during the days of their stays in port by an enormous number of speciators, al most to be compared with a migration of nations, and this is a point, opening the eye of even the simplest minded, and showing him the importance of the German industry and the German arts."

The general articles do not come up to the same high level of eloquence. One writer, however, waxes poetical over an object which the dull Anglo-Sazon mind would have considered prosaic, a cable car in an American silver mine:—"The new works are viewed by a large number of visitors, and still visitors are coming to see the plant. It is an undeniable fact, that such a plant is very picturesque and one is strangly impressed by the strong and nevertheless elegant from constructions, the long spans of rope, on which the trucks move along high above our heads, the automatically gripping and releasing of the trucks in a most enigmatical manner, and the rugged mountains around. This is especially noted where the valleys are spanned, some of the spans being up to 372 yaids long and some of the iron supports reaching a height of 92 feet." Spanish, and Portuguese."

If the French, Spanish, and Portuguese are strong, elegant and enigmatical" (like the wriof the same quality as the English, the philanter's English), "but it makes itself paid."

Digitized by

The following concerning the "Polyphone Music Works" (whatever they may be) is in-(whatever they may be) is interesting :-

"They are mostly manufactured to play automatically by clock-work, and one size, the smallest one for children, only is made without clock work, and arranged for hand-turning, as the self-producing of music offers a greater

charm to children."

The heading, "A Very Important Invention on the Domain of the Dying Industry" made us think at first that it was a puff of some German patent medicine, but it has merely reference to some new colouring process.

The advertisements are as interesting as the articles. Here are some specimens :-

"Novelty! The weeping maiden; most original, and highly seasoned joke article m.6.00 Other most interesting joke articles m.2.50."
"The greatest wonder of industrie! The most

sensational article for wholesale Novelty!! Self-running elephant of massive metalconsequence of his four pendulumlegs he runs on every oblique flat. Highly amusing and comical. 9 cm in the length, 6 cm high. Add to this cheuille monkeys with plume of the helmet; dealers put them as riders on the elephant, increasing thus the fun. Per dozen 35 Pfg. gross 4 mark,"

"A Wonder of the World. German Patent No. 80,650. Patented in America, England, France, Austria, &c. Spinning top for running on the Ceiling! A spinning top which does not only run on the floor or in the sir, but really on the ceiling, without causing damage. The most interesting invention of the century. Whoever sees this top spinning on the ceiling, must admit that is hard to believe this before seeing it. Hardly any other invention has effected a greater sensation than this spinning top."

"Piquant! Novel! Amusing! Charming instantaneous Photographs, about 30 different subjects. Kinetographs in magnificant attistic coloured finished with effectful and colour changing illumination."

"For all kind of beasts of pray," (we do not know whether this is a hidden sarcasm on the clerical profession) "birds, rodentia and ine ciencal procession outds, rodenia and fishes we furnish the best generally acknow-ledged and surely catching traps. Besides projecting engines for clay-pigeons and glass-globes, as well a every kind of decoy whistles."

"Umbrellas elegant handles, durable with bells for Ladies and Gentlemen." "Papyrolith, the latest and most distin-

guished invention in Building line is insect proof, fireproof, lessens the sound and has no From 1898 this substance will be also

made in slabs pressed hydraulical."

"Of great interest! for every European abroad, Skin-cream! Most excellent preparation for caring of the skin,

We could multiply our extracts, but refrain from taking up more space.

#### KOREAN JOTTINGS.

A successful police gambling raid was recently made upon the house of Imperial Private Secre-tary So Wansun, the result being the arrest of five prominent officials, who was caught in Regrante delicto. Remarks the Independent:—
It is the first time in the history of the Korean
Police Dep't that such a high toned gambling
den has been successfully raided.

The carcase of an ox that had died from rinderpest was recently exposed for sale in Soul, whereupon a policeman stepped up and interfered, quoting is his authority the municipal sanitary law. Since this law was enacted Soul has seen several changes in Heads of Police. The owner of the diseased animal, working upon his knowledge, appealed against the policeman's decision, urging that the law was passed by traitors. The Chief Commissioner fell in with the suggestion and reprimanded the constable for attempting to enforce the law!

The Korean tri-weekly journal has a naïve way of describing things at times. A 'smasher's outfit was 34 pently discovered at Soul and the

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

men were arrested. The Independent goes into the affair in this manner:—Ye Pyengku and Choi Haknai of this city have established private mint in Munomi village entside the Northeast gate for the purpose of counterfeiting nickel and copper coins. A cousin of Choi suspected the enterprise and demanded some money from them, but they refused him. He went to the Police Department and informed the authorities of his suspicion. A number of detectives were despatched to the house and watched the men. Last Wednesday the detectives raided the house and discovered a sub-terranean chamber of about eight kas in which all sorts of mining apparatus were placed and where some two thousand pounds of copper and nickel were stored. The two proprietors were immediately arrested and the machiners and the metal have been confiscated.

The police inspectors of Soul are having a hard time of it just now. It appears that the Governor of Soul notified that the Improvement Company would engage all unemployed men to clean the city drains provided they came with proper certificates from the police. Hundreds of men applied for these certificates, which the police granted freely. But upon the bearers presenting themselves at the Company's office, the Improvement Company declined to recognise the certificates and sent the men away. The poor deluded folk are now clamouring for redress at the police offices.

A rumour was current in Soul on the 7th inst. that Mr. Shibusawa Elichi intended presenting ren 1,000 to be distributed in the form of relief doles to the distressed people of the city,

The newly appointed Kamni of Fusan, Mr. Kim Kakhen, held at one time the position of Chief of Diplomatic Bureau in the Foreign Office. He is considered -- says our Soul contemporary—as one of the most promising officials in the government and is thoroughly progressive in his ideas. We believe that he will fill his new post with satisfaction to both the natives and foreigners residing at that port,

#### CHINESE NOTES.

We notice in the Shanghai papers that Madame de Uriarte, wife of the Spanish Consul at Shanghai, is asking assistance to procure old linen for making bandages for the wounded in the Spanish-American war, and also old under-clothing from ladies and gentlemen.

The N.-C. Daily News remarks that a private letter just received from Yatung in Tibet says that the Tibetans declare that they have heard nothing of the capture and maltreatment of Mr. H. Savage Landor, and say he must have fallen into the hands of a wandering tribe.

By an order of the Russian Miniater of War, confirmed by the Emperor, the fortress artillery troops on the Pacific coast are increased by the formation of a new and complete force of this character at Possiet Bay of the same strength as the force at Nikolaievsk, and an additional company, numbered six, of 300 men for the existing detachment at Vladivostock.

Mr. Gervase Cook arrived at Wahu on the ist May to obtain assistance, the Kulingsan mines having been attacked on the previous night by a mob of some 200 men. The rioters took possession of some of the shafts, and on the following morning attacked the works. Mr. Cook defended them for some time, but eventually had to evacuate, and go to Ningkufu for help.

A report was current in Shanghal on the rath inst. that the Nanking Viceroy had issued an inst, that the Nanking Viceroy had issued an order that no cocoons were to be sold to foreigners this season, and that the Italian Go-that either torture must cease, or he must resign his post, and codification be left in statu quo, was to be sent to enforce this protest. What has really occurred is, the N.C. Daily News has really occurred is, the N.C. Daily News best believes, that the magistrate at Wisiab has really of the magistrate at Wisiab has really of the magistrate at Wisiab has seen to show that the magistrate at Wisiab has seen to show that the matter is not one capable of the color of

the various filature firms from employing foreign capital and from insuring, and the order has naturally been protested against,

Kiangnan Arsenal, which has always had two Commissioners of Taotai's rank as Chief and Vice Directors of the works, is now, according to recent instructions of Viceroy, Liu, to have only one; the Chief Director Chiang Taotai having been ordered to hand over the direction to the sole authority of the Vice-Director, Lin Taotat. Chiang Taotai has gone to Manking " to await further appointment."

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Str.-When two good men fall out on questions of fact it is sometimes in the power of onlookers

of lact it is sometimes in the power of outcokers to clear away miscapprehensions.

The ordinary reader turns away from the perusal of the new edition of "Things Japanese" under the impression, first, that you deep that Count Mutsowas ever imprisoned and treated as a criminal, and, secondly, that you make Mr. Chamberlain assett that the event narrated by him occurred in 1822.

1873. Leel sure that you never intended to convey A careful examinaeither of these impressions. A careful examinagives 1873 as the date of the arrival in Japan of Monsiem Boissonade de Pontarahie, and that ou date is assigned to the incident itself. Moreover, you, with your extensive knowledge of Japanese you, with your extensive knowledge of Japanese affairs, must be well aware that Count Mutsu was imprisoned, in connection (if my memory serves me right) with the Satsuma rebellion of Saigo Takamoni. If, therefore, you will extend your investigation of the record of the deceased statesman for a few years subsequent to 1875, you will be able to confirm the statement that Mutsu suffered invisional and the immediate suffered in the statement that Mutsu su fered imprisonment, and the issue will then he narrowed down to the question whether or not he also suffered tosture.

I am, sir, yours, &c., Tokyo, 12th May.

Tokyo, 12th May.

(The date of the incident as given in "Things Ispanese" is "sho tly after M. Boissonade's arrival in 1873." If that does not mean if yo or 1874, what does it mean? But certainly we did not for a moment intend to regrest that Mr. All-bu was not criminally condemned. In 1878 he was sentenced to years' inp isonment which was altimately traduced to 3. We speak from m-mory only. The question is by no means narrowed, however, but he simple issue whether or no Mr. Mutan wastoriered in 1878—Ep. J.M.)

#### MONSIEUR BOISSONADE AND TORTURE IN JAPAN,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—A few days before leaving Japan, Monsieur Boissonade de Fontarabie told me there was one thing, and one only, in looking back over a long career, which gave him unalloyed satisfaction,—his successful intervention on behalf of the abolition of torture in Japan,—and there inpon he related the detoils substantially as given in the last edition of "Things Japanese," with the exception of the mention of the name of Mr. Mistin, which was obtained from another source and seems, from your collation of dates, to have been erroneous. You have seen fit to sneer at the anecdote, and you ask contemptionally "why M. Boissonade should have carried on the work of codification in a jail, as must have been the case if the chamber adjoining the scene of his study was a torture room." I cannot answer this question; I was not there, and do not know. But that tion; I was not there, and do not know. But that Monsieur Boisonnade should either have tempora-Monsieur Boisonnade should either have temporarily resided, or else have had his study—perhaps for convenience in consulting his Japanese,
colleagues—in some apartment attached to the
Department or Control Justice, seems no very improbable supposition. At any cate, his assertion
to me was that it was while busied over the preliminaries of codification that he heard the groaus
or screems in an adjoining chamber; and then he
went on to relate his horrifled surprise at the incident the avanious of the officials his indignant redent, the evasions of the officials, his indignant re-monstrances, and the consequent diseas of so bar-

European public, whose interest in such humanitarian progress in always intense—doubly so when they have the proud consciousness of the progress they have the proud consciousness in the progression of their own race—
I was naturally led to lay most stress on that part
of the subject. Indeed, the whole point of the story of the subject. Indeed, the whole point of the story was there; as you may see by the context, the test a quantité negligeable. The precise date, and the name of one Japanese sufferer among so many hundreds whom, during our own life-time, the tottore-clasmber has claimed for its own, sink into insignificance, in the minds of most of us, compared with say glorious a victory, so momentous a social and moral change. Nevertheless, I am truly sorry that even no minor points I should have been—nifedd and the accessary alterations shall be made in the next edition. Meanwhile I venture to think that the injury done to Count Mutsu's memory can be but slight, seeing that if he was not (to quote your injury done to Count Maisu's memory can be but slight, seeing that if he was not (to quote your words) "receiving the treatment of a common criminal" in 1873-4, he was most notoriously dragged about the country from gad to gad a few years later, receiving from his sufferings (as his medical attendants will testify) such permanent injury to his health as to being on the disease which resulted in his outinely death. After all, the ignorminy in all such cases rests, not with him who undergoes barbarous punishment, but with those who inflict it.

In conclusion permit me, Sic, to express some astonishment at the animis, the strangely acrid and discounteous tone with which you have seen fit to treat me on this preasion. Lattacked no one, not Count Matsu, least of all yourself. Yet had I made you the object of some violent personal distribe, you could tradly have shown more heat and have scattered disparaging expressions more freely than you have done on the present orgasion.

freely than you have done on the present occasion. Coursesy, however, is not a thing one can demand. The wheet plan doubless is not ven to expect it. I can in any case thank you for the continued advertisement which has been supplied gratis to my books by your repeated attacks.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN. Tokyo, May 15th.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Siz.—If you do not consider such expressions "canard," "falsehood," and "false story" as "canard," "falselroud," and "false story" (not to mention others) disparaging and discourteous, your standard of the language suitable to literary criticism and to social intercourse must be peculiar. Under such circumstances, all discussions sion becomes impossible. I leave it to the public to judge between us.

Your obedient servant,

BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN. Tekye, May 17th, 1898.

#### THE SPINNERS' DIFFICULTIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mall."

Sir,—In an article which appears in the Japan Mail of May toll the statement is made that the cotton spinners' difficulties may be attributed to two causes, viz., over production and want of working capital. It seems strange that the editor of the Mail did not suggest another and probably the time cause of these difficulties, namely the gold standard of Japan. It is a well-known peculiarity of the gold standard that it has the power of masking its effects. When producers cannot self their products in competition with other producers, it is the easiest thing in the world to suggest overproducts in competition with other producers, it is the easiest thing in the world to suggest overproduction and want of capital as the cavic of impending embarrassments. And it is probably true that less production and more working capital might have saved the manufacturers. Manchester cotton spinners have been complaining for two decades. Had they cuttailed production twenty years ago and reserved more for working capital fifty years ago, no doubt they too would have weathered the storing of the past twenty years better than they have. But is in not a point of importance that the Japanese cotton spinners have never experienced the danger of overproduction, or of competition with Chinese producers, until a rise in experienced. that the Japanese cotton spinners have never ex-perienced the danger of overproduction, or of com-petition with Chinese producers, until a rise in ex-change occurred between Japan and China? Is-it not cut ions that Japanese spinners never left the need of more working capital until they found the silver standard of China giving the Chinese spin-ners on advantage? I venture to say that the gold standard is the true solution of the difficulties of the cotton spinners in Osaka and elsewhere in Japan.

as it was before 1897. The Government has had to encounter the constant menace of an export of gold-an ever-present incubus to the trade of the gold—an ever-present incubits to the trade of the country; it has had to meet the question of a separate standard for Formosa; it is trying now to work off the silver yen upon Kneea (a very suspicious experiment); it is forcing subsidiary silver upon the community in excessive amounts; it permits one of the chief industries of the country to suffer, but it encounters all these self-imposed difficulties with the greatest willinguess and zeal. because they are done in behalf of that paragon,

the gold standard.

A hundred incidents connected with the intro-A hundred incidents connected with the intro-duction of the gold standard only confirm what Ernest Sayd said so prophetically in 1871, 6 The strong doctrinism existing . . . as regards the gold standard is so bind that when the time of depression sets in, there will be this special feature: the economical authorities of the country will refuse to listen to the cause here foreshadowed; every possible attempt will be made to prove that the decline of commerce is due to all sorts of causes and irreconcilable matters. The workman and and irreconcilable matters. The workman and his strikes will be the first convenient target, then speculation and overtrading will have their turn. Later on when foreign nations, mable to pay in silver, have recourse to protection, when a number of secondary causes develop themselves, then many would-be wise men will have the opportunity of pointing to specific reasons which in their eyes will account for the falling off in trade. Many other allegations will be made, totally irrelevant to the real issue but satisfactory to the moralising tendency of the age."

totally irrelevant to the real issue but satisfactory to the moralising tendency of the age."
The cotton spinners will no doubt gradually work out of their present condition, but not before they have encountered a heavier amount of suffering than they have so far had. And all this might have been avoided; but it is worth while perhaps to be disciplined by untoward circumstances, even if sell imposed. The Osaka cutton epinners ought to regard their financial difficulties as some of the old martyrs did the sconges which they inflicted upon themselves.

they inflicted upon themselves. May 17th.

(The article to which our correspondent refers was not a statement of our own ideas but a résumé of facts adduced by vernacular journals,—ED. J.M.)

#### THE MEIJI GAKUIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL,"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 17th inst, under the "Monthly Summary of the Religious Press" occurs the following as taken from the Shakas Zasshi,—"Have not such institutious as the Auyama Gakuin, the Azahu Ewagakko, the Rikkya Gakko, the Nihon Gakuin, the Meri Gakuin, and the Nara Chugakko all recently stated that they are prepared to give up teaching the Bible as a part of the school curriculum in return for recognition as Ordinary Middle Schools?"

Having no commission to speak for the other

Schools?"
Having no commission to speak for the other schools mentioned, I would simply state that the Meiji Gakuin has certainly not made such a state ment, and that all its authorities whether in Japan or in America are emphatically on record as against such a statement. The Meiji Gakuin teaches the Bible as heretofore, having made no alteration as to time or obligation of students to attend or teachers who impart the instruction. Moreover the fixed authorities have been airent to understand distinctly that the teaching of the Bible is not to be discarded. Should the local authorities ever demand that it be discarded as m condition of its recognition of the school as doing work of the Ordinary Middle School grade, there is no doobt

Ordinary Middle School grade, there is no doubt as to what position the school would take. Its past history and its present professions are premises which admit of only one lugical conclusion. It may be pointed out also that the conditions imposed for recognition as well as the advantages to be enjoyed are of quite a different order from those contained in the "Doshisha Affair." The writer in the Neckle Zareké lands a chiefficial in the Neckle Zareké lands a contained in the Control of the State Sareké lands a chief. writer in the Shashi Zasshi should certainly inform himself as to tacts before drawing such remarkable

conclusions from them.

If "misery loves company," the "Dushisha Affair," must cast about elsewhere for comfort. Thanking you for inserting this correction.

I am, yours very respectfully,
H. M. LANDIS

Meiji Gaknie, 18th May, 1898.

#### WHERE "BEYOND THESE VOICES THERE IS PEACE!

The following letter, which originally appeared in the Times of India, setting forth the advantages of residence in the island of Capit has since been copied into other Iudia papers. Although written with the object of calling the attention of Anglo-Indians to Capri as a place of residence, it may possibly interest others, and perhaps some of our readers, who, when travelling in Italy, may be tempted to see for them-selves whether Capri justifies the writer's very glowing description. It is, at all events, a matter of some importance that folks in the Far East, whose "ships" have not arrived with the desired punctuality, should know where pleasant retreats are to found beyond the sound of the soroban and the sight of ledgers :-

A correspondent writes from Capri: - I have lately received several letters from Anglo Indians lately received several letters from Angin Indians in reference to a letter descriptive of the I-land of Capri, which I wrote to the Field and which was published on July 4th of this year. These letters have indicated an interest in this fascineting island which I had no idea existed and have contained innumerable questions of every conceivable character. It has therefore occurred to me that that there existing a think indianation which lained innumerable questions of every conceivable character. It has therefore occurred to me that a short letter containing the information which is likely to be most useful to Anglo Indians may not be unacceptable to readers of the Times of India. It seems to me that Capri is peculiarly adapted as a residence for a more or less lengthened period to those who desire an ideal climate, economical living, and most exquisite scenery; in addition to which it is very acceptible, and, though out of the world, is in the world. Capri is a small island 64 miles long by 24 broad in the widest part, and rising to an elevation of 2,000 feet. It is situated in the Bay of Naples, due South from Naples about 20 miles. The population is about 5,000. It is very easily reached by those returning from India, as the P. and O., British India, and Orient steamers touch at Naples. From this point there are small steamers twice a day which reach Capri in 34 hours. The first question always asked is, what is the climate like? My answer to this is that it has fewer drawbarks and more pleasant months than any climate in the world. Capri is very beneficial for people in the early stages of wery beneficial for people in the early stages of consumption or sufficiers from bronchial or threat adments, on account of the dryness of the atmosphere, the absence of duss, and its immunity from sinden and capid changes of temperature which are so trying. Malarious diseases are inknown, and I cannot imagine a botter place to get cid of the seeds of jungle fever than Capit. The air is singularly bracing and exhibitating except during the prevalence of the Succo (S.E. Wind). The average mean temperature for the year is 50°. The average mean temperature for the three spring months is 55°; for the three summer months 7.°; for the three animon months 62 and for the three winter months 48°. The prevalent winds in the summer are from the N.N.W., which greatly tends to mitigate the heat. The rainfall is slight, the water supply is entirely from disterns.

To turn next to the subject of economy, which I fear in these days of the depreciated uppers is not an sudden and rapid changes of temperature which are so trying. Malarious diseases are unknown,

fear in these days of the depreciated inpec is not au-unimportant matter, there are few cheaper places to be found than Capri, this of course partly because, as every body more or less studies economy, people do not put on much "style," there in very little entertaining and so form and ceremony, and everyone "does what is right in his own eyes." Pension can be obtained at all the smaller Hotels, of which there are several, at from 6 to 7 live per of which there are several, at from 6 to 7 line per day, including wine. One pound stelling to-day is worth 27 line. Pleasant furnished villas, supplied with plate, linen, and glass, can be rented for 100 to 150 line per month; the wages of servants are 25 to 30 line per month. Finit, olive oil and the wine of the island (which is famous) are clean; milk is easily obtained by cheap; milk is easily obtainable; other provisions are about the same price as in Bughand. There are several shops in Capit which supply all ordinary waits; in Naples, which is a city of 500,000 inhabitants, the shops are excellent and the most exacting wants can be supplied. Capit is a great resort for artists of all nationalities and is a most 

dear and variety of Vesuvius, which by day and night, summer and winter is ever full of colour changes and surprises, the quaint ald twisting lanes and rugged roughbewn stairways of the little town, with the picturesque Capri girl poising on her head a wine jac or loaded panier of luscious figs, of these charming studies for the artist and photographer there is no end. Capri is an excellent centre for interesting exemisions, Pompeii, Vestivius, Soneoto, Amalfi, and Paestuma, can be visited in the day; while Sicily, Ischia, and Stromboli are longer but no less interesting expeditions.

ed in the day; while Sicily, Ischia, and Stromboli are longer but no less interesting expeditions. In conclusion, that I may divest this letter or any semblance of self-interest, I will say that I have "no axe to grind," that I have no pecuniary interest whatever in Capri, only I am fully assured that many a man seeking; a haven of rest would find in Capri the very land of his dreams, and that not to give others the benefit of my fortunate experience would be selfish and churthsh. Should this letter prove of sufficient interest to any reader of the Times of India to lead him to wish for any further details about Capri, I shall be pleased to finither details about Capri, 1 shall be pleased to answer his enquiries, and a letter addressed to me as below will reach me.

" H. E. T. Casa Castiglione, Capci,

#### THE NEVIUS METHOD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

-Many of the missionaries in Japan have ecently turned with renewed interest to the onestion of self-support among the Japanese churches, and their attention has been especially directed to what is known as the Nevius me had. This method has been in operation for a number of years in Shantung; and it occurred to me that some account of its actual working there would be of value. I therefore regressed one of our mission-aries in China to give me the names of several who could speak with knowledge and also from different points of view. At his suggestion, I wrote to Dis. Mateer and Corbett and in Messas. the that and Langhlin. From Dr. Matter I have not yet received a reply; but, as appears below, an article on the subject from his pen may shortly be expected in the Missionary Recorder. I shall esteem it a favour if you will kindly grant a place in the Fapan Mail for the answers from the other three, together with my own letter of inquiry. Readers of "Methods of Mission Work" will remember its repeated references to Dr. Corbett. temember its repeated references to Dr. Gorbett. It is of interest also to observe that in that sketch, written in 1885, Dr. Nevius says of him, "On the main points of mission policy we are happily nearly of one miod." Speaking of Mr. Langhlin, lee says, "The Rev. J. H. Langhlin is now assisting me in my country work; and will, I tenst, soon take entire charge of it." Dr. Corbeit and Mr. Langhlin have thus an exceptional knowledge of the best and also have the say that a the method and the best and also have the say that a the method and the best and also have a say that the method and the say the say the method and the say the say the method and the say the litstory and working of the method, and their letters are therefore of peculiar value.

I am, sir, etc., WILLIAM IMBRIE.

Dear Doctor — Last summer our Conn-cil of Missions met at Karnizawa. A considerable port of the time was given to the question of self-support, and several resolutions were adopted. Among other things the several missions were re-commended, as far as practicable, to make trigl of the Nevius method.

I have read the little book giving an account of that method. But as the book is made up of actithat method. But as the book is made up of acticles written by Dr. Nevius some ten or twelve years ago, and before the plan had been easily tested, I should be glad to bear something of its actual working in Stanting. Such questions as the following have occurred to me:

1. Does the theory work out substantially as Dr. Nevius hoped that it would?

2. Is the plan still carried out on its might nethod of work?

3. Is the plan still carried out on its original lices, or have important modifications been intro-duced? To particular, has it been necessary to employ a considerable force of educated men; or,

employ a considerable force of educated men; or, has the success of the plan been such as to render educational work relatively unimportant?

4. Are the leaders of the groups of Christians able to maintain their leadership; or do they soon teach themselves out? How are they able to give up their daily work for a month or six weeks at a time, in order to go to Chefoo or elsewhere for special instruction? Do many among them become men of marked spiritual power?

5. As a tible, do the groups of Christians retain

churches? Does the plan lead to real self-support—i.e. to chinches with pastors, places of worship, etcetera; or, are the groups self-supporting rather because the plan dispenses with the various side to Christian life that call for Christian giving? Do the Christians manifest an evangelistic spirit?

evangeistic spirit?
In some cases, no doubt, the answers to these questions can be only incomplete; and it would be quite unreasonable to expect perfection from any plan; but I shall be greatly obliged to you for a brief statement of the actual experience in Chesting. Shanting. Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM IMBRIE.

Chefoo, Feb. 2nd, 1898. Dear Dr. Imbie, In reply to your letter of January 3rd, in regard to the outcome of Dr. Nevins' musting methods.

When Dr. Nevius resigned all connection with the country work in 1887, Presbytery appointed me to the oversight of three of his organized churches in the Ichoufu District. Those churches churches in the Ichoufu District. Those churches were once described as the crown jewels of all Dr. Nevius' work. During the four years that I had change of that work, I visited it twice a year and did all I could to carry it along on Dr. Nevius' lives. The leaders soon reached the limits of their attainments. The members soon came to think that they knew as much as their leaders. Contentious sprang up. Some apostazied; others became members or adherents of the Roman Catholic Church. When I left that part of the field, the Rev. C. C. Kittle and his wife took charge of these churches and did much faithful work there. Last November I visited these churches again; and to my sorrow found them far from flumishing and to my sorrow found them far from flumishing and to my sorrow found them far from flourishing or self-supporting.

The Rev. Low Yor, a faithful and successful worker, had charge of a group of Dr. Nevins' churches for five years. I subsequently asked him, churches for five years. I subsequently asked him, in view of his experience, what he thought of the method, on which Dr. Nevius organized his work. He instantly replied, "It is entirely too economical of time, money, and Isbour; and, in the end, the complete destruction of the work." He said also that when he began the work there he found the members, as a rule, cold and lifeless. He did all he could to get them to study the Bible; and to teach them and build them up in the faith. But at the end of five years all he could say was that the work was not wholly dead. He added also that, in his judgment, had there been no famine or extensive distribution of famine relief, Dr. Nevins would not have had the opportunity to organize work as he did.

To expect men just coming into the light, trained as they have been in all the heathen customs from childhood, to become great Bible students and able to instruct and build up others who shall expand into strong and self-supporting churches, seems to me to expect a stopendous

who shall expand into strong and self-supporting churches, seems to me to expect a stupendous miracle. Even if the leaders would give one or two months yearly to attend Bible classes—a thing which I have never known to continue heyond a year or two—could they possibly do the work expected of pastors?

The self-supporting churches connected with our work in Shanting are chirfly those on which now no maney of the Board is spent; but neither do the people themselves contribute to any extent to pay men to take pastonal oversight of them.

do the people themselves contribute to any extent to pay men to take pastural oversight of them. They struggle along, and some keep alive; but little growth as a cute follows. These are left to themselves, not from choice, but simply because we do not as yet have a sufficient number of trained men to take charge of the work. I know of no one in our mission who is trying to carry on work as D. Newing allocated.

of no one in our mission who is trying to carry on work as Dr. Nevius' paper on "Seminaties for Native Agents" printed in the Life of Dr. Nevius by his wife. This surely means education which Dr. Nevius' system does not provide. In the Records of the Missionary Conference, held at Shanghai in 1890, pages 444 and 566, Dr. Nevius

speaks to the point,

I had the highest regard for Dr. Nevius as an ite and wise man. We were colleagues for I had the highest regard for Dr. Avevan as an able and wise man. We were colleagues for thirty years and fived at peace with one another, although we differed radically on some points. I urged him at the time to delay the printing of his new plans until they had been tested by time and results. I am sure that if the plan were now rewritten there would be many modifications in the Dr. Mateer shares my views largely.

Cincercle water. it. Dr. Maice, ... Sincerely yours,

HUNTER CORBETT.

tung Province, China. It is also very embarrassing that we cannot always answer our friends' inquities as clearly as they desire,

inquities as clearly as they desire,
The teason of this is the utter inability to differentiate between consequences and sequences in
traing to trace out the effect of a given man's
methods of Gospel propagation. Every attempt I
have yet made to uneave the tangle of cause and
effect in Dr. Nevins' field has been a failure.
This is not saying that his work was a failure.
Far from it. The trouble lies in the fact that
after Dr. Nevins handed over his work to younger
colleagues, there arese the necessity of a redistribution of the field. This happened when our Wei
Hien Station was opened in 1883,

bution of the field. This happened when our Wei Hien Station was opened in 1883.

Prior to that date, all mission work by our Church east of Chinanfu was under the management of the Cheloo Station. As you doubtless know, the work had progressed for years under two systems denominated respectively the "Corbett" and "Ne vius" systems. The former was characterized by a free use of foreign money and the latter by a limited use of it. When the redistribution of the field took place, the new lines of control struck at tandom through the existing churches and out stations founded by our honoured pioneers; and we younger men (I include myself, though I did not come on the field till 1887) found ourselves in charge of a mixture of material which in a few years efferienced and united chemically so as not even to give a precipitate upon mically so as not even to give a precipitate upor the addition of new substances, in the shape of chinches and stations organized by ourselves, who assumed charge of the field. It was not until 1890 that any definite scheme for self-support took shape, and then there were such supprising phenomena exhibited as to readiness and unreadiness to support their own ministry, that I have given up trying to draw any inferences which would seem consistent with the original principles upon which the two methods of the work were based. Since the coalition of the two original fields, the work has been carried on upon a sort of composite hat wear the extreme or injustice present the mise between the extremes originally represented by Dis. Nevius and Corbett. I shall not attempt to answer your questions serialing for I an integnal to the task. Dr. C. W. Mateer is now working upon this problem, and hopes to publish the results of his investigation in the coming spring, probably in the Missionary Recorder.

I had the pleasure of personal acquaintance with I had the pleasure of personal acquaintance with Dr. Nevius, and am a great admirer of the man and missionary. To be candid, however, I must confess that the Ductor's practice did not always agree with his theory. For instance, he would often make large subscriptions to church buildings contrary to the explicit advice in his own manual, and I am of the opinion that had he adhered to his own rule as laid down, to wit, I o give but sparingly towards church erection, we should but spacingly towards church erection, we should have been saved some embarrassing trou-bles. Every instance of this kind of aid from lites. Every instance of this kind of aid from Dr. Nevius, to my personal knowledge, has resulted in a subsequent squabble for the use of the property so erected. Just now I have on my hands no fewer than five property troubles of which two and possibly three are directly baceable to these over-large contributions to clutical construction. We are now rapidly coming to a new phase when the churches around Wei Hierare growing more and more independent of foreign funds, and are showing some pride in paying their own evangelists, pastors, and a large part of their school expenses. But we are not yet out of the woods, and so shall refrain from shouting. The unspeakable poverty of Shanting makes the financial problem a most difficult one to solve.

We are now holding a series of revival meetings.

We are now holding a series of revival meetings all over our Wei Hien field. Some of these have been entirely planned and managed by the Chinese without any aid from the mission aries even in the way of preaching. None of them cost the mission area of the mission area of the mission area of the mission area of the mission area. The people come from considerable distances to attend the services, and all provide their own food. Petty the services, and all provide their own lood. Petty persecution continually harasses the Christians in China. It has never yet been fashionable to profess Christianity in this land. I sometimes wonder if Japan did not suffer from a once excessive popularity of Christianity. This is of little or no value to you as a reply to your questions, but please accept it for what it is worth until I am able to apply to your the the point. speak more to the point.

With hest wishes for the further success of your work in Japan, fraternally yours,
FRANK H. CHALFANT.

Wei Hien, Feb. 3rd, 1898.

Rav. Wm. Imbrie, D.D., Tokyo, Japan.

Drak Brother,—Your inquity of the 3rd ult.

just to hand. It is flattering to furd so wide an interest in the missigner yearseinlents in Suage interest in the missigner yearseinlents in Suage interest in the missigner yearseinlents in Suage in the successions.

Chi-ning, China, Mar. 4th, 1898.

Drak Bro. Imbrie, China, Mar. 4th, 1898.

Drak

be apportunity for mutual questions and replies almost ad infinitum. I will, however, try to answer each of your questions as they come, and put in my qualifications where I can.

- T. The theory can hardly be said to have worked out as Dr. Nevius hoped it would; though it has dons so, in the main, fairly well,
- 2. It has not, in detail, been accepted by our missions in China as the right method , though its general principles are pretty fully approved.
- 3. In no part of Shantung even is the plan cor-

A considerable force of educated men—graduates of Tangchow Collage—is working in Shantung; some of them in the territory which was once under Dr. Nevius' control, and some of them placed there by himself. The success of the plan has not proved educational work to be unimportant, though to many of us a very high education does not, in this stage of our work, seem important. A considerable force of educated men-

- 4. Leaders of stations can maintain their posi-4. Leaders of stations can maintain their positions only, as a rule, by being themselves taught, from time to time, by the missionary. Jealousies sometimes arise which dethrone a reasonably well-qualified leader. Leaders are able to go to Chestoo for a course of instruction by having their coad expenses one way, and their food white there, provided by the mission. Such was Dr. Nevius' custom. Some—not many—have become men of considerable spiritual power.
- 5. The groups of Christians do, as a rule, retain their interest in Christianity, and continue year after year to assemble on Sundays for study and worship. Very few of our stations have absolutely passed out of existence. In many, however, there has been a tendency to fall into a kind of crystallized, growthless condition, adding no new members from outside. No single station has developed into a church; but several churches have been formed out of groups of stations, and are now paying their pastors' salaries. Their churches or meeting houses have always been provided by themselves, with some personal contribution from missionary pockets. Usually the buildings are inexpensive—often part of a dwelling house. The groups exhibit something of an evangelistic spirit; but not very fervent. Now let me add some explanatory comments.

  1. The plan is good, but much depends on the 5. The groups of Christians do, as a rule, retain
- 1. The plan is good, but much depends on the man behind the plan. The plan itself will not lead to great results without the constant stimulus of the missionary's exhortation, instruction, and example.
- 2. Dr. Nevius himself did not conform to the plan in all its details. Experience taught him the necessity of modifications. For example, the following:-
- (a) The necessity of enough helpers to frequently visit the stations who should be paid from mission funds. He tried to have them paid by the stations; but gave it up, partly because after the first year or two the stations failed in contribute adequately, and partly because the helpers so paid failed as his representatives, becoming, instead, the one-sided agents of those who paid them. Thus Dr. Nevius found it much more difficult to escape being imposed upon with law suits and other projects which the Chinese desired him to and other projects which the Chinese desired him to push.
- (b) The necessity of some evangelists among the heathen. He tried having the stations contribute and send out men from their own number, during the idle months of the year. But he found it more or less of a failure; because the Christians it more or less of a failure; because the Christians were almost one to select the poor and weak individuals who needed the money, tather than those who were mentally and spiritually qualified to do the work. These and other modifications show that a certain amount of study, growth, and spiritual experience on the part of the Christians are pre-requisites to the complete working out of the plan. Dr. Nevius' great merit was, that he catted attention to these things and taught us, in several, to aim at a welfarms, and taught us, in catted attention to these things and taught us, in general, to aim at a minimum, rather than a maximum, use of foreign money. Along that general line we Shantung missionaries are working; though we every one have a reasonable number—three or four—of paid belpers. We are, also, doing more towards the education of Christian children than Dr. Nevius did. If I have failed to answer your questions send me another list and I will the again. I will try again.

With kind regards, sincerely yours,

J. H. LAUGHLIN.

#### YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE.

The annual meeting of subscribers to the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held on Tuesday afternoon at the headquarters of the Brigade. There were present Messis. J. Walter (in the chair), E. Flint Kilby, J. P. Maltison, C. K. M. Martin, J. D. Hutchison, and J. Dodds.

The Chairman presented the report as follows: The contributions received from the Insurance Offices for the year amounted to \$2,955.00 and the policy fees paid in to the H. & S. Bank by the various Agents during the twelve months form a total of \$2,177.50. These figures compared with the previous year show a falling off of \$158 50 in the amount of the fees, while the subscriptions from the Insurance Companies show no change.

The ordinary disbursements amount to \$4,790,20.

covering wages and other usual necessary ex-penses, but the outlay for the iron tower on the Brigade Compound and a new hose-reel shed bring the total expenditure up to \$5,645,90 for the whole

year,
The regular bell-tower look-out and the usual patrol during the winter months have been kep np, and in addition to these extra men with hose reel and standpipe are now stationed on Let No. 107 Settlement, which should be found of valuable assistance on an outbreak of fire at the south end of the Settlement

From the full particulars given below the Brigade appear to have answered 18 calls during the twelve months under review. The water supply from the Water-works mains has been fairly good all through the year, but the B igade have in the case of larger fires always found it necessary to fall back upon their fire wells for working the steam fire engines.

Superintendent Morgin's Report is as follows,

Yokoliama Fire Brigade, Yukohama, Jan. ist, 1898.

To the Fire Brigade Committee,

To the Fire Brigade Committee,

Gentlemen,—I have the bonour to present the following report of the work of the Yokohama Fire Brigade during the year 1897.

The number of calls for fires, or supposed fires, has amounted during the year to 18. Of these in the Settlement 3 ended in total destruction, 5 were slight, 1 no damage, and 2 chimneys on fire.

On Bluff—2 chimney alaums.

In Native Town—3 ended in total destruction, and in one case the damage was slight; altogether 40 houses were totally and 18 houses partially destroyed.

The causes, as reported, were as follows, viz :-

SETTLEMENT.	
Unknown	4
Chimney on fice	2
Doubtful	ı
Explosion of Sulphucic Acid	I
Fusion of electric wires	1
Incense burner	1
Hibachi	1
Overheating of fire-grate	1
BLUFF.	
Chimney alacus	2
BATIYE TOWN,	
Unknown	2
Lamp upset	1
Accidental	I
_	_
Thank	. 0

The figures above only refer to calls which in-volved the turning out of the firemen, five engines, hose reels, &c., belonging to the Y.F.B.

I beg to place on record that the Bue Brigade

have worked most amicably with the Police and

Waterworks authorities.

I think it but right to mention the Inspectors of Settlement Police, for their urbanity at all times, and their endeavours to have their lorge work in

naity with ours.
I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

N. MORGIN, Superintendent, Yokohama Fire Brigade,

LIST OF CALLS AND FIRES FOR THE YEAR 1897. SETTLEMENT

January 5th-No. 5. Bund, Yekohama United Club, chimoey alarm. January 20th-No. 88, Dwelling House,

slight

February 8th-No. 108, Dwelling House, very slight.

slight damage estimated at Digitized by

August 3rd—No. 28, Oatside compound, Goods, slight damage estimated at ...... \$ December 28th—No. 118, Livery Stables, BLUFF CONCRSSION.

February 8th-No. 62, Dwelling House, chimney alaim

February 27th-No. 63-A, Dwelling House, chimney alarm.

JAPANESE TOWN.

February 20th-Yoshihamacho, 34 Houses totally destroyed, and 9 houses damaged.

April 13 h - Motomachi, t House slightly

damaged. November 3sd - Minaminakadori, 3 Houses des-troyed and damaged.

November 16th-Motomachi, 9 Houses destroyed

and damaged. December 22nd-Yokohama Railway Station,

Sheds and goods waiting transit,

COMMITTEE. The present Committee, consisting of Messrs, J. D. Hutchison, B. Flint Kilby, C. K. Marshall-Martin, J. P. Mollison, W. J. S. Shand, James Walter and W. B. Walter, beg respectfully to trade their residential.

tender their resignation, Yokohama, 25th April, 1898.

#### ACCOUNTS.

#### WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR. Dec. 2181, 2897.-- Da. To Supt, Mergin, Wages, 12 months at

ı	To Supt, Morgin, Wages, 12 months at	
ı	\$115 European Engineer, Wages, 12 months	
l	at Bros	
l	AT \$10	
ı	" Japanese Engineer, Wages for m	
l	Japanese Assistant Engineers (3),	
l	Wages for to months 379 00	
ı	" Japanese Coolie Foreman, Wages for	
l	, Japanese Tower Watchmen (s), Wages	
l	for 12 months	
l	Bluff Station, a Foreman and a Fore-	
ŀ	men, and Gil at \$25,00 jer month, for	
Į	the is months	
l	Wages, Foreman and a men, 12 days 10 00	
l	. Clothing and Uniforms for Engineer,	\$4,178.0
l	Foremen and Coolies # #45.01	
l	b) e and Sundries	
l		395.5
l	Repairs to Bluff Engine, Canvas-hose,	50.0
l	To Ground Rent, Lot No. 338, Settle-	30.0
ľ	ment	
ŀ	Waterworks Account, Water for xe	
i	months	
ı	Advertising and Printing	
ı	Med cal Attendance, etc	#76.6
ŀ	pound,	1,780 2
ŀ	at test i Hose-reel Shed, Lot No. 107,	
l	Settlement	75 9
l		\$6,645.0
ì	a8g7,—CR.	
ļ	Jan. 7th. By Bal nee from 1896	\$1,102.8
ŀ	Offices for the year 97	*#955 G
ł	Nov. 30th. Proceeds of old wood sold	25 0
	Bank during the year	4,177.5
۱	interest on it & S, Bank a utrent Ac-	31 9
١	Malance due H. & S. Bank	813.0
۱		£6,630 Q
۱	E. & O. E.	p-,-3- 3

E. FLINT KILRY, Auditor.

Vohohama, surd, April, 18.8.

Hon, Sec. and Treasurer,

exception of Messrs. W. B. Walter and W. J. S. Shand, who are away from Yokohama, Mr. Dodds and Mr. Bashr being selected to

A vote of thanks to Mr. J. D. Hutchison for his services as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer concluded the meeting.

#### BICYCLE RACES AT YOKOHAMA.

The Bicyle Meet of the Yokobama Cricket and Athletic Club was held on the Cricket Ground on Addictic Club was held in the Cicket Ground on Saturday alternoon. Unfortunately the weather was not altogether propitions; a cold wind was blowing during the early part of the afternoon, and during the last big race a smart shower descending, making the umbrella-less cush helterskelter for places of shelter. In this connection it may be noted that the proprietors of the Japanese Club by the side of the ground very kindly offered the near of the proprietors and the proprietors of the Can by the side of the ground very kindly offered the use of the pavilion to ladies inconvenienced by the bad weather. In spite of the climatic conditions the gate was fairly large, and a good number of hadies graced the proceedings with their presence. From a sportsman's standpoint the meeting was entirely successful. The times were pretty good on the whole, and the finishes were close, those in the two great races of the day—the mile and the five miles championships—being extremely exciting. The arrangements were under the management of The arrangements were under the management of the following officials:

Referee and Statter:—Mr. Kay Smith; Judge:
—Messis, Mollison, Jackson and Duff; Timers:
—Messis, Mendelson, Stone and Dyer; Scorers:
—Messis, Blake and Lias; Umpires:—Messis,
Elliott and Thwaires; Clerk of the Course:—Mr.
E. J. Libeand; Asst. Clerks of the Course:—Mr.

Manuel Course:—Mr. Messis. Gowey and Adet; Handicapper:-Mr. C. H. Bain,

One MILE Novice.—Prize, The "Columbia" Medal, presented by Mr. E. H. Tanka.

B. H. Icwine ...... 2 L. E. McChesney ...... 0
Time, 3 min, 462 secs.

Morse quickly assumed the lead, closely followed by Eyton, and I wine, with McChesney several lengths behind. In the second lap the positions were mechanged, except that McChesney had dropped further into the rear. In the next round I wine crept ahead, and, increasing his lead by several lengths in the last lap, finished an easy winner. Morse was a bad third.

A profest was raised against I wine on the ground that he was not a nevice, and the objection was upheld the prize being awarded to Eyton.

HALP MILE, HANDICAP - First Prize, The "Cleveland" Prize, prevented by Messis, Andrews & Gorge,

Mendelson led, almost all the first lap, but was passed just at the end by Kingdon. In the second round Roberts dropped out, and Dommond with a fire sport drew ahead, passing Kingdonnear the tape and winning by several lengths,

ONB MILE CHAMPIONSHIP .- Post Entries re-ceived. Prize, "The Reliance Cup," presented by the "Reliance Wheelmen," Present Japan Japan Record, 2 min. 30} sec., held by C. H. Bain.

1. M. Scott ...... 1 H. Balin ...... 2 Examined and compared with the vonchers and found correct. 

Time, 3 min, 331 secs.

The Chairman remarked that the apparent falling off in the amount of policy fees was in reality using to the fact that the agents of the different companies did not pay them at exactly regular intervals: in future they would be asked to make the payments baff-yearly. There had been a heavy outlay for the new tower, but it was an absolutely necessary expense. With the exception of the three large fires the destruction had not been very very very wery wery wery.

MR. Mollison remarked that the expenses would probably have a tendency to increase would probably have a tendency to increase to of wages and water—and more support would be wanted.

The report and accounts were passed.

COMMITTEE.

The rething committee were re-elected, with the receiption of the rock appeared to the rock appeared to the rock appeared to fine race, however, resulted on the found the rock appeared to the rock appeared.

#### ONE MILE BOYS' RACE. HANDICAP .- (For boy) under 16 years old). Prize presented by Mr. A. H. Date.

Okuua ...... 1 

Two Mile, HANDICAP. First Prize, " The Watson Dundee Cup," presented by Messes, James Watson & Co., Distillers, Dundee, Emanuel & Co., Agents.

M. Mendelson, 200 yards.....

Time, 5 min. 363. secs.

At the end of the first lap Morse was leading, with Kingdon second and Drammond third. In the second round the positions were Morse, Mendelson, Kingdon, and Drammond. In third Morse was still leading, but Drammond third Norse was still leading, but Drammond had drawn ahead, and was on terms with Mendelson, as they passed the tape, Kingdon being behind. In the next two taps Drummond made up a great deal of ground, and at the commencement of the fifth he was leading, with Morse second, Kingdon third, and Mendelson last. In the sixth lap Mendelson fell out, and the cross was given by the cross was given by the cross was given by the cross was given by the cross of the cross second. the race was simply between Drummond and Morse. The latter made a splendid bid in the last tew hundred yards, but Drummond responded gamely to the spurt and won by two yards.

### CHINAMEN'S RACE,-2 MILES. HANDICAP. All Fore La Tung Goat Tsang Tut San Cockeye \_\_\_\_\_\_ Chan Teze Kai

This was an amusing race—for the spectators, though the Chinese themselves took it quite seriously, and with reason, for, if gossip can be credited, there was quite a lot of money on it. All the Celestials turned up in racing garb, and they rode with the dignified slowness which characterises every movement of these majestic heathen. The race was somewhat spoiled owing to the fact that two competitors—Cock Eye and Chan Taze Kai—came to grief over a bank, and scores of spectators crossed the track to ascertain the extent of the damage; a semanted up bicycle and hadly of the damage; a smashed up bicycle and badly cut faces and hands. Interest in the race then fizzled out, the leader winning almost at a crawl.

Five Mile Championship. Post Entries re-ceived. First Prize, a Dayton "Special" Racer, presented by Messes, Bagoall & Hilles. Present Japan Record, 13 min. 50 sec., held by

C. H. Bain	,
J. M. P. Collaco	3
E. H. Irwine	o l
K. Tsuruta	n I
I. D. Mason	2
A. L. J. Dewette	21
and the Tax marra	21

Time, 13 mio. 58 secs.

The cace was cidden in a smart shower. The competitors were in a cluster for the first few laps, Onodera leading for the first round, after which Tsurata went alread, with Scott and Collaco second and third. Onodera soon found the pace too warm, and fell behind. By the fifth lap Irwine had worked his way noto third place, but he was afterwards passed by Bain and Dewette, and at the twelvth round the positions were Scott, Bain, Dewette, and Irwine. Collaco also passed Irwine, and in the thirteenth round, Tsurata, who rode pluckily throughout, made a spurt and came to the front, but the Buglishmen soon left him betoned for the beginning of the section and competitors were in a cluster for the first few laps hind again. At the beginning of the 15th round Scott was leading, Bain was close on him, and Dewette and Colaco were behind. So they rode till the bell rang. The finish was very exciting. Bain, put on a splendid sport, got on terms with Scott, and was leading by a little just before the huish. Scott humans, made a grand effort and Scott, and was reading by a fitting just before the hundred a grand effort and the two raced side by side, their machines almost touching, till the finish. After passing the mark, indeed, their machines collided, and Scott was thrown. The judges ruled it a dead heat, though a good many private observers thought the ad vantage, if any, was with Scott.

A protest was made by Scott, who offered to ride the race again, but the condition of the track as considered too dangerous to allow done in safety. Digitized by

#### FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The China Mail contains further details of the operations at Manila. Colonel Lond, who was on a pleasure trip on the Hugh McCulloch at the time of the outbreak of hostilities, and who witnessed the bombardment, describes it thus:

A TREMENDOUS CANNONADE.

A TREMENDOUS CANNONADE.

The ships and batteries at Cavite kept up a tremendous fire at the American ships as they advanced, but Commodute Dewey did not give the order to commence firing until the fleet were within about 4,000 yards of the enemy. The ships then turned in line at the upper end of the Bay, so as to pour full broadsides into the Spanish fleet, and at 5 are more flags, the Committee Carlot. and at 5.35 a.m. the flagship Olympia fired a broad-side from her large guns. The other ships followed side from her large guns. The other ships followed the flagship at four or live ships' lengths, and fired broadside into the Spanish fleet. Commodore Dewey mancenvied his fleet in splendid style, steaming his ships slowly across and across the Spanish line of fire, the guns on each occasion belching forth death and destruction. The American fleet by this mancenviewere able to maintain a continuous rain of shell on the Spaniards. The cannonade of the Spaniards from the shore and the ships was, however, as vigorous. There was no breeze blowing the smoke from the guns and the ships was, however, as vigorous. There was no breeze blowing, the smoke from the guns concealed the ships, and it was difficult to tell how the fight was going.

SPANISH ADMIRAL'S PLUCK.

SPANISH ADMIRAL'S PLUCK.
An incident happened during this series of manchives of the American fleet which shows indomitable plack and heroism on the part of the Spanish Admiral Patricio Montojo Y. Pasaron. The flagship Reina Cristina having got up steam she advanced out of line to attack the U.S. flagship Olympia. On the inducent being observed, all the guns of the American fleet were signalled to concentrate upon the Spanish flagship, and this signal was observed with telling effect before the signal was obeyed with telling effect before the Reing Cristing had reached anywhere near the Reina Cristina had reached anywhere near the Olympia. The Spanish flagship was forced to retire, and as she did so she gave the Olympia a grand opportunity for a raking shot. The Olympia sent a huge eight-inch shell through the stern of the Reina Cristina, raking her the entire length, exploding her boiler. As she drifted helplessly away she was discovered to be on fire. This single shell killed the Captain and sixty other men, and altogether this vessel had 140 men killed and as many wounded. The Spanish Admiral and as many wounded. The Spanish Admiral then transferred his flag to the Castilla, and she was afterwards sunk with a regular storm of shot

BIREAKPAST AFTER HARD WORK.

At 7.45 a.m. the Olympia withdrew from the action, and signafled the remainder of the fleet to ollow. The intense heat had told hard upon the follow. The intense heat had told hard upon the men working the guns. By this time two of the Spanish ships lying together were on fire, and at some distance off another was burning. The men on the American fleet had up to this time had no refreshment, and were greatly lagged in working the gous in the intense heat. The commanders of the different vessels were summoned on board the fleething of a reconference. different vessels were summoned on hosted the flagship for m conference, when it was learned that not one of the crews or officers of the fleet had been killed. Five or six men were slightly wounded by splinters from the deck on the Baltimore. No damage worth recording had been sustained by

damage worth recording had been sustained by any of the fleet. Breakfast was hastly served, and the men, who were in the best of spirits, were relieved of the tension for a time, and recounted their different versions of the fight.

THE "BALTIMORR" IN ACTION.

At eleven o'clock, the U.S. quadron renewed the attack, the Baltimore having the credit of starting the engagement, being ordered in to silence the sand forts at Cavite. She disappeared in a cloud of smoke, and immediately alterwards. in a cloud of smoke, and immediately afterwards in a cloud of smoke, and immediately afterwards the rapid fire of her guns was heard replying to the focts. A storm of shot was heard from the Bailimore's guns, and a few desultory ahots afterwards indicated that her work was about completed. The other ships, following the Battimore, took up their positions at a good range off the batteries, and worked their guns with the codness and necision of larget precise, we have a surface of the state o and precision of larget practice, nearly every shot taking effect. The little gunbont Pelyel, with her light draught, can in closer than any other ship, taking up her position within 1200 yards of the beach, and did her part to the admiration of all who saw her.

A TORPEDO ATTACK FAILS.

Two torpedo launches, which lay in wait off Cavite, attempted to run in with torpedoes against cavie, attempted to run in with torpedoes against the Olympia, and there were some trying moments of Spaniards to provide for the task is not an easy of the crew of that ship. The shells from the big guns were unable to reach such small objects at they rapidly approached. When within 800 wards of the flagship, the second hatteries of the track this belis, this belis, this belis, and with several thousands of the reach such small objects at the second that the Spaniards to provide them within 800 wards of the flagship, the second hatteries of the with supplies or take them out of the country.

Original Corrience with several thousands of provide them with supplies or take them out of the country.

Original Corrience of the task is not an easy one. It is thought that the Spaniards to provide for the task is not an easy one. It is thought that the Spaniards to provide or the task is not an easy one. It is thought that the Spaniards to provide or the task is not an easy one. It is thought that the Spaniards to provide or the task is not an easy one. It is thought that the Spaniards to provide or the task is not an easy one.

board, and driving the second lancel back on the beach with twelve shot-holes through her. This hoat was afterwards found covered with blood. The Petrel and Concord, being of lighter draught than the remainder of the fleet, sailed into the shallow water and sunk or destroyed all the small guiboats which remained of the Spanish fleet. There were eleven Spanish war vessels and two topeds-boats sunk or destroyed at Cavite, and the loss of life is variously stated. As far as can be learned, however, a fair estimate puts the Spanish losses at 400 dead and about 600 wounded.

APPER THE BATTLE. AFTER THE BATTLE

The lighter draught vessels and pinnades of the American fleet, and a large number of tug-boats and launches captured in the harbour steamed ino Cavite harbour shortly after the surrender the wounded men who were left behind in the ships and others picked up out of the water were mon-veyed to hospitals at Cavite and also to Manila city. The Spaniards had taken away most of their dead, and buried some of them, but next day white parties were searching around the naval arsenal at Cavite their attention was drawn by a dreadful stench to a large heap of putrefying bodies, some of which had been horribly mangled by the American shells.

SPANISH ADMIRAL WOUNDED. SPANISH ADMIRAL WOUNDED.
The Spanish Admiral, Patricio Montojo y Pasaron, who was very slightly wounded in action, with his two sons, Montojo y Martinez de Valdivielso and P Montojo y Martinez de Valdivielso, who acted as his aides, fled to the City of Manila.

and P Montop y Martinez de Valdivielso, who acted as his aides, fled to the City of Manila,

THE "OLYMPIA'S" NARROW ESCAPE.

The aim of the Spaniards' smaller guns was more within range than the guns of heavier calible. The flagship Olympia was pierced by numerous 7-lb. projectiles. Had the firing of the big guns been as accurate, the U.S. ships, which are not aimoured vessels, would have fared eather hadly. The ward room of the Olympia was turned into the sick bay, and the chaptain and some others who were on duty there had narrow escapes, They were watching the progress of the fight through a large porthole, when a 7-lb, shell, fired at 3,000 yards' range, exploded against the side of the ship. The chaptain received a few scratches. At a range of 2,000 yards this shell would have exploded in the ward room and done tremendous damage. dous damage. A SAD INCIDENT.

A SAD INCIDENT.

A sad incident occurred on board the revenue cruiser Hugh McCulloch as the U.S. squadron were making their way through the Southern channel between Corregidor Island and the maintain into Manila Bay. The ships were steeming in line up the channel. Every light was out, when the Hugh McCulloch signalled that the chief engineer was seriously ill, and asked for a consultation of dectors. This was of course impossible, and the warships proceeded on their voyage through the channel. A signal was given from the McCulloch shortly afterwards that the chief through the channel. A signal was given from the McCulloch shortly afterwards that the chief engineer of the vessel had died from apoplexy.

THE POSITION OF NEUTRAL VESSELS. The steamer Esmeralda and about half a dozen The steamer Esmeralds and about half a dozen sailing ships were lying about two and a half miles off the viver's mouth. On the day after the destruction of the fleet, Commodore Dewey sent instructions to these vessels not mload or discharge cargo mittl further notice. This was part of Commodore Dewey's plan for the submission of the town. He did not like the idea of bombarding the town, but by cutting off their supplies hoped to force the Spaniards to treat with him for terms, if the Spaniards dogmatically refuse to do so, the fleet will shall the city. The terms of President McKindey's proclamation that blockades to be hinding must be effective renders the condition of neutral ships in Manila harbour somewhat embarasing. The Esmeralda will probably remain till tasing. The Emerada will probably remain till the capitulation of the city has been effected, when it is expected that she will make a very profitable voyage. A commonication from Manila states the Spaniards are very arrogant, and are not likely to surrender until the city is shown to pieces. At present business is completely stopped.

WILL THE SPANIARDS SURRENDER ? WILL THE SPANIARDS SURRENDER?
President McKinley has been pleased to make
Commodore Dewey a Rear-Admiral, and instructions were given that he should raise his flag immediately. He was also given a free hand to take
what course he thinks proper. Admiral Dewey
has no wish to take over Manita on his own remountailing. The sumplies have hear writely sponsibility. The supplies have been entirely supposed by the rebels, and with several thousands of Spaniards to provide for the task is not an easy one. It is thought that the Spaniards will be

by the American Admiral, because of two things by the American Admiral, because of two things—viz, that the Spanish authorities had been sending misleading telegrams, and that they had declined to regard the Tetegraph Co.'s operations as neutral. The cable was cut about fifteen miles from the head of Manila Bay, both ends having been carefully broyed. The tope is expressed that communication will be restored shortly.

The position of affairs in the city of Manila was not very re assuring until the arrival of the French and of war Braix and H.M.S. Immortaliti in Manila Bay. The city is supposed to be surrounded by rebels, whose camp fires were seen distinctly by the American fleet. Should the lasurgents attempt a raid on the town the whole of the inhabitants will be placed in jeopardy. It is aid the Spanish troops will fight to the death. THE INSURGENT DANGER. the inhabitants will be placed in jeopardy. It is said the Spanish troops will fight to the death. Should an invasion take place, men will be sent ashore from H.M.S. Immortalité and the French man of war Braix to guard the British and French Consulates.

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE M JAPAN TIMES.") THE WAR.

AMERICAN ARMY CORPS FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

London, May 13.

General Merritt has been given the command of an Army Corps for the Philippines consisting of 2,500 regulars, the remainder being volunteers from the Western States.

SECRECY OF SPANISH MOVEMENTS.

Although it was announced from Washington on official authority that the Spanish Fleet remained at Cadiz, it now appears that the report emanated from a doubtful source. Spain keeps her movements absolutely secret.

SPAIN WILL FIGHT TO THE BITTER END.

Senor Sagasta has declared in the Cortes that the present or any future govern-ment will prosecute the war to the bitter

> SPANISH FLEET AT MARTINIQUE. GREAT BATTLE IMMINENT.

London, May 14.

The Spanish Fleet under Admiral Cervera has arrived at Martinique from Cape Verde Islands. A great naval action appears inevitable.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON BOMBARDS SAN JUAN. Admiral Sampson, with nine men-of-war, has bombarded San Juan, Porto Rico.

AMERICANS REPULSED AT CUBA.

The Americans made a simultaneous attack on Cienfuegos, where they attempted to land troops, and on Cardenas, and were repulsed at both places.

DESPERATE ENGAGEMENT.

AMERICAN GUNBOATS DISABLED. COMMANDER KILLED.

The Cardenas engagement was perate one. The torpedo boat Winslow, supported by three gunboats, entered the port under a heavy Spanish fire which smashed her boilers and disabled her. The gunboat Hudson attempted to tow her off when a Spanish shell exploded her magazine, killing her lieutenant and six men, and wounding all the rest of the crew but three.

THE BRITISH OCCUPATION OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

Mr. Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, denies that either the Highland Infantry or the Yorkshire Regiment are to be despatched to Wei-hai-wei,

"GALTEE MORE" BOUGHT BY RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has bought the English race-horse Galtee More for £25,000. Digitized by

THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST. ENGLAND'S POSITION.

IMPORTANT DECLARATION BY THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

London, May 16. Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham, said that the foreign situation was serious and critical. The time was perhaps not far distant when an appeal would have to be made to the patriotism of the people.

RUSSIA NOT TO BE TACKLED SINGLE-HANDED.

The situation in China was extremely unsatisfactory, but Britain was unable to declare war against Russia without an ally. The interests involved in China were so enormous that no more vital question had ever presented itself to Her Majesty's Government.

BRITAIN STANDS ALONE AND MUST NOT REJECT ALLIANCES.

The British people, the Colonial Secretary continued, stood alone, and it was their duty to aid in drawing closer the upion with the whole of the Empire.

AN ANGLO-SAXON ALLIANCE.

The next duty was to draw closer to their American kinsmen. Any war would be cheaply purchased if it ended in an Anglo-Saxon alliance. Unless the fate of China was to be decided without England, the latter must not reject alliances.

THE PROPOSED ANGLO-SAXON ALLIANCE.

HAILED WITH WARM APPROVAL IN AMERICA.

London, May 17. The American press generally warmly

approves Mr. Chamberlain's speech and welcomes the prospective alliance.

INDIGNATION IN SPAIN.

In Spain the speech has aroused indignation.

FRENCH AND GERMAN PRESS DEPLORE IT. The Berlin and Paris papers deplore the language as being calculated to irritate instead of allaying the present difficulties. UNITED STATES' TROOPS FOR MANILA.

INCREASED TO FIFTEEN THOUSAND. London, May 18.

The United States has decided to send 15,000 instead of 5,000 men to Manila. CABINET CHANGE IN SPAIN.

STRUGGLE A L'OUTRANCE. Senor Sagasta is reforming his Cabinet with men resolved to conduct the war a l'outrance.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH. STRONG COMMENTS ON THE CONTINENT.

EFFECT ON THE MONEY MARKETS. Mr. Chamberlain's incidental references in his speech at Birmingham as to Russia's disregard of her promises made concerning the Chinese negotiations, are strongly commented upon on the continent, and have caused a fall on the bourses.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

LORD SALISBURY DECLINES TO EXPLAIN. May 19.

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Kimberley asked for an explanation of Mr. Chamberlain's speech. Lord Salisbury declined to discuss the subject, without having the speech before him.

BRITAIN'S POLICY UNCHANGED. Britain's policy, the Premier continued, remained unchanged.

Empire, developing commerce and preserving friendly relations with all nations.

WHY WEI-HAI-WEI IS TO BE OCCUPIED.
The occupation of Wei-hai-wei was intended to encourage China to resist the dominion of one Power.

DOES NOT BELIEVE IN CHINA'S COLLAPSE. He was unable to believe in the collapse of a nation of 400 millions of brave people.

DEATH OF MR. GLADSTONE. Mr. Gladstone is lying in extremis.

Mr. Gladstone died this afternoon.

(Official Telegram received in Tokyo.) PRINCE HENRY LEAVES FOR TAKU.

Chefoo, May 12. Three German warships, the Gefion, with Prince Henry of Prussia on board, the Deutschland, and the Kaiserin Augusta, arrived here from Kiao-chou yesterday, and after staying for some hours they left for Taku immediately. They will proceed thence to Peking via Tientsin.

> (Received by the 3tji Shampo.) PRINCE HENRY AT PEKING.

Peking, May 13. Prince Henry of Prussia arrived here

to-day. THE "NANIWA'S" DEPARTURE FROM

HONGKONG. Hongkong, May 14. The Naniwa left here to-day.

THE LATE TAI WÖN-KUN AND PRINCESS TAI WÖN-KUN.

Soul, May 14. The funeral ceremony of his late Highness the Tai Wön-kun, and Princess Tai Wön-kun will be held to-morrow.

PURCHASE OF LAND DESIRED BY RUSSIA.

Soul, May 15.

The Russian Minister has applied to the Korean Government for the purchase of land to the extent of to miles in the vicinity of the Russian settlement at Mokpho.

FRENCH DEMAND ON KOREA,

Söul, May 15. The French Minister has addressed a demand to the Korean Government for sanction to engage in coal mining in Phyong-yang.

THE SPANIARDS AT MANILA STILL HOLDING OUT.

Hongkong, May 17. The Spanish Authorities at Manila have refused to surrender. Commodore Dewey will not bombard the town until the arrival of troops from America.

> BRITISH MERCHANTS' RAILWAY CONTRACT.

Peking, May 17. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. secured last evening a contract to construct with a capital of 21 million pounds sterling the truck railway between Ningpo, Hangkow, and Shanghai.

(FROM TONORIN PAPARE,)

DEAR BREAD IN FRANCE.

Paris, April 30.

In consequence of the excitement caused by the dearness of bread M. Méline has summoned the Council of Agriculture to consider the question of the corn duties.

MAY-DAY IN FRANCE.

TO MAINTAIN THE CHINESE EMPIRE.

The day passed quietly both in Paris and the provinces.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS Engrou.

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Clubs are closed during the summer months.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 368.

t-B to Kt a

2-R takes Kt

2-B takes I mate

2-Kt to B 6 mate

I-Kt takes Rot moves

2-B to B 5 mate

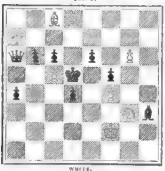
I-Q takes B or P [advances t-R to KB2 or KKt 2

2-R takes R mate

1-B to Kt 6

2-O takes Kt mate Correct solution received from W.H.S.

> PROBLEM No. 371. By P. F. BLAKE. CLAP &



White to play and mate in three moves,

GAME No. 388. PILLSBURY V. SHOWALTER.

TENTH GAME PLAYED AT NEW YORK, MARCH 25
White—Showalter.
WHITE, BLACK.
PK4 PK4 18 Kt R7 KixKt White—Showalter,
WHITE. BLACK.
1 P K4 P K4
2 KK1 B3 QK1 B3
3 B K15 K1 B3
4 P Q4 PxP 18 Kt R7
19 Baktch
20 B K4
21 Q K/3
22 Q xP(h)
23 Kt K5(h)
24 Kt B6
25 KtxQ
26 P Q K3
27 Q K Q S
27 Q K Q S
28 K R-q
28 K R-q
29 P Q R4
30 B Q S
31 B x B
31 B x B
32 R K B-q
4 Kt XP K) Rsq 3 B Kis 4 P Q4 5 Castles B Q<sub>2</sub> P QB<sub>4</sub> Ki Ki<sub>4</sub> 5 Castles P QR3
6 II QB4(a)B B4
7 P B3(b) K1xP
8 PxP B K2 9 P Q5(c) 10 R Ksq Kt R2 Kt Q3(d) 11 B Q3 Casties 12 Kt B3(e) Kt Ksq B K7 KR Ksq 13 Q K2(f) B B3 14 Kt K4 P Q3 15 B KK15(g) B x B 16 Q K1 x B Kt B3 17 Q B2 P R3 32 R KB-q KixP Resigns.

(a) It is more in the spirit of this opening to play 6-B to R4; otherwise why play I to Kt5 at all?

(b) P to K 5 would produce the Max Lange

variation.

(c) White must anticipate P to Q 4.

(d) If Kt to K B 3, then II—P to Q 6 follows.

(e) 12—B to K B 4 might be played here in connection with a future possible Q to II 2.

(f) A waste move. 12—Q to B 2 was preferable.

(g) 15—Kt takes II ch, Kt takes Kt; I6—B to K Kt t was promising.

K Kt 5 was promising.

(h) To take the Q Kt P in the middle game and of play is always more or less bring the queen out of play is always more or less a precarious expedient; in this instance it loses

e game. (i) The only move to save the queen.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CABLE MATCH.



www.s-Burn (England )

One of the best bits of play was contributed by Showalter in his game against Buro. From the above position the game was concluded in the fallowing interesting manner :-

White-Burn,		Bleck-Showalter.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE. B	LACK.
27 28 P K4 29 R Q4 30 BxF 31 R Q-q 32 PxKt 33 Kt B3	P R6 K( B3 P K(6 PxP K(xPch BxP B K(3	35 K K3 R 36 K R3 Rx	R Queens Ki Q3

The English players played very well on the whole, and there is no doubt that taken all round we had the stronger team. Contously enough, on the first five boards England did not win a game; whereas on the second five boards America did not win a game. This clearly proves that the American tail was not wisely selected.—St James' Budget.

#### GAMB No. 389.

The chess editor of the Weekly Mercury says:— This is the game, played at the Metropolitan Club, New York, which, according to the Ameri-can Chess Magasine, compelled Steinitz to admir that henceforth his gambit is unplayable :-

#### STEINITZ GAMBIT.

White—Steinitz		Black-Dr. 1	Honegger ai d
(Unseeing.)		Mr. Rus	ublischeck.
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4 K1 QB3 P#P Q R5ch P Q4 B K15ch Castles	8 P×K1	B QB4
2 Ki QB3		9 PxPch	K Kisq
3 P B4		10 Kt Kt5	Ki H3
4 P Q4		11 K Q3	Q R4
5 K K2		12 K B3	F QR3
6 PxP		13 K Kt3	PxKi
7 Kt B3		14 P B3	RxP

This tremendous move was suggested by Mr. Raubitscheck. Up to this point Stembz is thought to have played the best moves. But who could stand up against a Honegger and a Raubitscheck? Rather would be play our gentle friend Jasungstodsky himself, or our other friend fought at Cobtenz in 1876, the gentle Gumpelzheimer, to whom we gave a Rook. It was in 1876 that Riesenschmantze was in London looking on at the Steiniz-Blackburne match, and affering to wages Steinitz-Blackburne match, and offering to wages that Blackburne would not win a game-which prophecy came out true. Riesenschiantze was then teckoned something of an analyst, but no-body quotes him nowadays, and were it not for his name we might have forgotten him too. We never played him, but we have played with Jasno grodsky and Gumpelzheimer, which is enough glary for one person of medium stature. Poor Jasnogradsky went to the States because England as too small for his name, which he had to keep curled up to preserve it from the salt water that surrounds this skimpy, pinched up little island. In America it can expand and stretch its legs.
We had a tendenness for Jasong odsky, and could have wished that he had emigrated the name and remained with us timeelt. A wonderful country is America to find room in its vast prairies not only for the name of Jasnegrodsky, but also for Honegger and Raubitscheck.

15 PxR 16 K B2 Q Queh B Bach 18 K K2 Kt Kt5 Resigns. 17 K Q2 B Kisch

Concerning the componer of No. 371 problem, the Times Weekly tenants that Mr. Blake "may safely be regarded as the foremost British may safety be regarded as the foremost Ditish two-move problemist, if indeed we might not put it even stronger. This young composer began in 1890; some who started composing at the same time have already turned out about 400 problems. But Mr. Blake has resisted the temptation to be prolific, and his work is solid and full of points He informs us incidentally that the three-move problem given in this issue took him three months off and on. Our own solvers are generally greatly puzzled over Mr. Blake's compositions, and we always find his problems prove fatal to about nine out of ten, even though only in two moves. Per haps this gentle hint may serve to warn our correspondents to look and look again in the present case."

The St. James's Budget remarks:—Certain problem solvers, somewhat after the fashion of some people's love for flowers, admire the compositions which engage the attention for the time. They like a good problem, solve it, and after it is the checked its interest fades away rapidly and problem. They give little thought to aught but the difficulty of solution, and the manner of the time of the solution of the solution, and the manner of the solution, and the manner of the solution, and the manner of the solution, and the manner of the solution of the solut

which the mate is effected. There are, however, which the mate is effected. There me, however, other adminers of problems who judge each production from the point of view of problem art. These appreciate a fine creation, and look for the imaginativeness, originality of teatment, symmetry, and purity of construction with a critical eye, and with the same devotron, attention, and interest which loves of art bestow on the objects interest which lovers of art bestow on the objects engaging their attention.

It was on the trip of the last Australian eleven to the old country that a great English chess-player came on at Colombo, and Harry Trott was quite unhappy until he had an opportunity of challeng-ing the champion to a game. The Englishman ing the champion to a game. The Englishman was willing, the Australian lamentably weak—indeed, he could hardly be called a chessplayer at all, seeing that he was ignorant of even a single move. But he sat down with the champion, a crowd gathered to see the game, and for nearly half an hour the Australian captain followed his opponent's lead, faithfully spending long intervals between each move in a profound study of the board, with such suggestive and apparently unconscious comments as "No, that would never do, he'd have me in three. Let me are!" and so on. Finally, there was bursied whisper among the on-lookers, as the captain, after much caremony, made an obviously bad move, and the expert, taking advantage of it, promptly announced "check." "Check to you." holdly retorted the captain, moving something out at random. The chess champion looked hard at the smiling, trust-ful face of the man in front of him, but it beamed in face of the man in front of him, but it beaused innocently, and with never a suggestion of guile. "My dear sit," he said quietly, "you don't understand the game." "Oh, no," said the captain simply. "I never played it before, but I thought it a fine chance to pick it up from a good man." The good man didn't see it in that way. man." The good man didn't see it in that way, and left hurriedly and in a huff, while the passengers laughed, and the crickelers told one an-other that the captain must have been born with that particular talent--no man at his age could have acquired it .- Riverine Grazi r.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

	1 (115	TA125/CT 10	IATE IS DOI	in the second
Ì	From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
	America	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de J'ro, s	Sn. May sı
	Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China a	M. May 23
	Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rehilia 3	To. May #4
	Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Jap in 4	Th. May 16
	America	O. & O. Co.	Venus 5	Th. May 26
	Hoogkong	P. M. Co.	Peru 6	Su. May 19
	America	O. & O. Co.	Gualic 7	Su. May 29
	Tacome, Wash	N. P. Co.	Columbia 8	61. May 30
	Hongkong	M. N. Co.	—	W. June 1
	Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Th. June .
	Hoogkong	Q, & O. Cu.	Captic	Tu. June 7
	Europe	N. D. Llayd	Hohensollern	W. June 8

- z Left San Pravelses on the 30th April-
- r Left Vancouver on the noth inst.
- a Left Hongkong on the 16th inst. 4 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
- 5 Left 8an Francisco on the 5th inst
- 6 Left Hongkong on the roth inut.
- 1 Left San Francisco on the 10th last. A Left Victoria on the 15th inst.

#### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

		230111 6 124	_
For	Line.	Steamer.	Date,
America	O. & O. Co.	Pelgic	So. May at
Tucoma, Wash	N P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. May at
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Cool R. de J'roc.	Su. May 10
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Km. of China	M. May su
Europe, via 5'hal.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. May 25
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Nagato Maru -	W. May m
Canada, &c	C.P.R.Co.	Em. of Japan "	F. May 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. May 30
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla	To. May 31
America	P. M. Co.	Peru	To. May 31
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Cotumbia	Tu, May 31
Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohanzollern	F. June 10

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, G. Shimazu, 13th May, -Shanghai via ports, 7th May, Mails and General - Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

May,-Takow, 8th May, Sugar.-Butter field &

Swire.
Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorensen, 15th May,—Hongkong, 7th May, Rice and Sugar.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Kashing, British steamer, 1,158. H. Hopkins, 15th May.—Saigon, Rice.—Butterfield & Swire.
Pyrshus, British steamer, 2,299, H. Batt, 15th May,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe 14th May, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Afriki, British steamer, 2,354. Thos. Golding, 16th May,—London via ports, Kobe, 14th May, General.—Dodwell, Cacibil & Co.
Obi. British steamer, 1,051, Richard Pinkham,

General.—Dodwell, Cardill & Co.

Obi, British steamer, 1,951, Richard Pinkham,
16th May,—Bassein via Kobe, 15th May, Rice.
Mitsui Bussan Keislia.

Foothow, British steamer, 1,253, S. C. Small, 17th
May,—Takow, 11th May, Sugar and Rice.—
Butterfield & Swire.

May,—Takow, 11th May, Sugar and Rice.—
Butterfield & Swire.

Donar, German steemer, 1,201, Hermes, 17th
May,—Hongkong, Rice.—Chinese.
Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, Trotter, 17th May,
—Mobite and New Orleans via Suez Canal and
Labuan, 6th May, Cotton and Pig Iron.—
China and Japan Trading Co.

Yerra, French steamer, 2,084, Le Coispellier,
19th May,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe 18th
May, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, E. R. Dowell,
19th May,—London via ports, Kobe, 18th May,
General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hyson, British steamer, 2,889, J. S. Hogg, 20th
May,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 19th May,
General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 20th
May,—Hongkong via ports, 10th May, Mails
and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Truebridge,
21st May,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 6th
May, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill &
Co.

Seachteen, British steamer, 1,428, G. H. Penner.

Soschusen, British steamer, 1,158, G. H. Penny-father, 21st May,—Cheloo, 15th May, Rice.— Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Ingraban, German steamer, 864, Ed. Piper, 14th May,—Moji, Baltast.—Captain.

Hugeh, British steamer, 1,846, Quadh, 14th May,—Ito Ito, Baltast.—Butterfield & Swice.

Whampao, British steamer, 1,109, A. W. Saies, 15th May,—Otaru, Bullast.—Butterfield and Swice.

Oceana, German steamer

Oceana, German steamer, 1,629, Formes, 16th May, - Havre and Hamburg via ports, General. -Simon, Evers & Co.

Glenturret, British steamer, 3,086, R. Webster, 17th May,-Moji, Ballast.-Jardine, Matheson R Co.

R. Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. B. Bishop, 17th
May,—Hongkong via Koba and Nagasaki,
Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Utysses, British steamer, 2,281, R. J. Brown, 18th
May,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield
& Swire.

at Source.

Dagmar, Norwegian steamer, 921, E. Amundsen, 18th May, .-- Moji, Ballast. -- Captain.

Niabe, German steamer, 1,379, Piaff, 91th May, .-- Havre and Hamburg via ports, General .--

Simon, Evers & Co.

Palinurus, British steamer, 1,536, Jas. Sawyers

20th May, Kobe, Ballast. Butterfield and

Swire, Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorensen, 20th May,-Moji, Ballast,-Captain.

#### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per French steamer Yarra, from Marseilles via ponts:—Mr. Chaffanjon, Captain de Labry and valet, Mr. Gysin, Mr. Sharpt, Mr. Cotte Ladislas, Mr. Lefancteur, Mr. Abzagoff and servant, Mr. Stanford, Mr. Thomas, Mohamed-Boir, Agill, Abdulah Lavawec and servant, Mr. Bordeneuve, Mr. Vinson, Mrs. Asa, Miss Asa, Mr. A. Veill, Mr. King, Mr. Vertel, Mr. Hechter, Mr. Delanev, Mr. Hu, Mr. Harris, Mr. A. C. Read, Mr. McGlew, Mr. H. Lishoa, Mrs. Lisboa, Miss Lisboa, Mr. Kintol, Mr. Gielen, Mr. Cartew, and Mr. MacArthur, in cabin.

Per British steamer Malacca, from London via

Arthur, in cabin.

Per British steamer Malacca, from London via posts:—The Rt. Hon. Earl of Orford, Countess Orford, Mr. Francis Taylor, Mrs. Francis Taylor, Mrs. A. S. Knights, Miss. Dening, Miss Finch, Mr. Malony, and Mr. Carozat, in tablin.

Per British steamer Belgia, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. E. T. Osborn, Lieut, Commander J. B. Briggs, U.S. N., Mrs. E. L. Beach, Mrs. N. E. Irwin, Mr. F. S. Molyneux, Mr. W. A. Paeirs, Mr. O. Voigt, Mr. S. Schaff, Mr. Brith, Mr. N. F. Smith, Mr. Specificant blancher Art. F. O. F.

mann, Mr. Briggs, Mr. J. M. Shotwell, Mrs. T. S. Freeman, Mrs. S. Robison, Mme. de Kerbettz, Miss Pepper, Mr. W. G. Middleton, Miss Oakley, Mrs. Birch, child and amah, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Mr. T. B. Packlington, Rev. H. Lounis, Mr. J. B. Neal, Miss Neal, and Mr. H. E. Tuck, in cabin. For Honoluln:—Mrs. L. A. Choy and child, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. E. S. Joseph, Mr. W. Frange, Mr. G. A. Loud, Mrs. F. Wildes, Mr. Graves, Mrs. C. Coltman, Miss C. M. Flood, Mr. W. S. Fritz, Mr. Tumpkins, Mrs. R. Gore, Dr. Kindleberger, U.S.N., Mr. J. C. Evans, U.S.N., Miss Wildes, Mrs. C. Denby, Mr. J. R. Flood and valet, and Miss Neal, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Nogato Marn, from Shanghai via posts:—Mrs. H. Ikeda, and Mrs. H. W. Rehlerg, in cabin; Mr. F. Nishiyama, Mr. K. Hoke, Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura, and Mr. K. Nakahara, in second class; 19 Japanese, and 15 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Satsuma Marn, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. S. Mito, Mr. F. Truscott, Mr. and Mrs. Dent and child, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hertz, in cabin; Mr. Lyons, Mr. Knolles, Mr. Breumers, Mr. Yates, Mrs. K. Sakata, Mr. R. Fujisawa, Mr. N. Wada, Mr. N. Iwasaki, Mr. Nakayama, and Mrs. M. Ishii, in second class; 29 Japanese, I European, and I Chinese, in steerage. steerage.

#### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Canton, for London via ports: - Mr. J. Gardner, Mr. Thomas Davenport, Major Bent, and Mrs. C. le B. Rickman and daughter, in cabin.

daughter, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Kanagawa Maru, for London via ports:—Capt. S. Dewa, I.J.N., Colonel K. Suga, Colonel G. Sushi, Lieut. M. Watanabe, Mrs. Mattino, Master Mattino. Mr. G. Seo, Sub-Inspector of machinery J. Watanabe, Capt. S. Kabaca, Com. G. Arimori, Com. M. Hanabusa, Sub-Lieut. E. Yamada, Chief-Eug. W. Waraya, Comut K. Mimasu, Mr. Sillius, Mr. H. A. Morrison, and Mr. M. Maeda, in cabin; Mr. K. Takaki, Mr. G. Fukuchi, Mr. S. Yamanoto, Mr. S. Gunjikake, Mr. H. Hinano, Mr. M. Nisher, Mr. N. Ikeda, Mr. T. Uyeda, Mr. Maschride, Mr. M. M. T. Yamazaki, and Mr. T. Matsunura, in second class; 15 Japanese, in steerage. mura, in second class; 15 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer Rosetta, for Hongkong via ports: -Lt.-Cel. Preston, Major D. W. Pordon, Col. Ross, Capt. Lock, Mr. Marcus, Mr. and Mrs. Bungo, Mr. A. Woolley, Mr. Wong Mon Lem, and Miss Meadon, in cabin; t Chinese, in steer-

#### CARGO.

Per British steamer Rosetta, for Hongkong via Silk for Europe, 29 bales.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

For yarns and greys shirtings the market is as dull as last week and except for a stray sale or two in shirtings no business has been done. In fancy cottons and woollens there is no change.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Prints-Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches, 2.00 to 3.75
Cotton-Ralians and Satteens Black, res range
38 Inches
WOOLLENS
Flannels
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches bent a.38 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches
Mudium 0 30 ta 0.334
ltalian Cloth, jo yanda, 32 inches
Common a.25 to 0,275
Managadine da Luina-Chapa, aj yarda,
31 inches u.15 in u.32
Cluths-Pilots, 51 @ 54 inches 0.35 to 0.50
Clothe-Prasidents, 51 @ 55 inches 0.60 to 0.729
Cloths-Union, 52 of 56 inches 0.50 to 0.729
Blankets-Scattet and Green, 3 to 5h,
ee• № 0.50 ts o 60
FER FIREM.
Velveta-Illack, 35 yands, az inches 7.75 to 9.30
Victoria Launa, in yards, 12-3 inchas, o.00 to 1.00
TurkeyReds-2.0 to 3 olb, 24/25 yards,
50 inches
Turkey Reds-1,8 to alls, sa/as yards.
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4th, 14/15 yards,
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4th, 14/15 yards, 32 inches
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4b, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches common and account size to 3.45\$ C.CH LOW YARRIS, PAR 1980.
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4b, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches common and account size to 3.45\$ C.CH LOW YARRIS, PAR 1980.
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 475, 84/85 yards, 32 inches
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 475, 14/15 yards, 250 to 3.650 (1.650 (
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4th, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches 2.30 to 3.85  C.014 078 YARTIS, par rum, 405. 07.24, Singles 39.00 to 41.50 Nor. 38/42, Singles 43.50 Nor. 38/42, Singles 42.50 to 43.50 Nor. 3.1 Doubles 42.50 to 43.50
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4b, s4/s5 yards, 2,50 to 3,65 to 3,
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4th, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 47b, 24/25 yards, 32 inches 25, 25 to 3.85 (4.11 total YARIIS), 1405. 16, 24, Singles 3, 35, 50 to 41, 50 Nor. 38/4z, Singles 43, 50 to 45, 50 Nor. 38/4z, Singles 43, 50 to 45, 50 Nor. 38/4z, Singles 43, 50 to 45, 50 Nor. 42, Doubles 42, 00 to 50, 50 Nor. 42, Doubles 50, 50 Nor. 260, Plain 51, 60 to 75, 50 Nor. 28/60, Plain 75, 50 to 75, 50
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 476, 24/25 yards, 250 to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ inches 42.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 i
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 476, 24/25 yards, 250 to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ inches 42.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 inches 2.50 to 4.50 inches 2.50 i
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 47b, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 475, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches 2.50 to 3.65 to
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 476, s4/s5 yards, 32 o to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 2.11 \$\text{Eff1 YAR148}, 2.50 to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 2.11 \$\text{Eff1 YAR148}, 2.50 to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 3.5 to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 3.5 to 3.6 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 3.5 to 4.5 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 43.5 to 41.5 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ as inches 43.5 to 43.5 t
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 47b, 24/25 yards, 32 inches 25 inches
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 4b, s4/s5 yards, 32 inches 2.50 to 3.65 3.65 3.65 3.65 3.65 3.65 3.65 3.65
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 47b, 24/25 yards, 32 inches 25 inches

#### MINIALS.

Nothing is during in any class of goods; quota-

		FAUNTL.
Ranad and square i inch. and upward.		
tron Plates, sesorted		
Sheet Iron		
Galvanized Iron sheets		
Wire Naits, asserted		
Tin Plates, per bes	5 90 L	0 6.00
Pig Iran, No. 4		
Items from (4 to 14 inch)	3.00 b	0 5.25
KEROSENE,		

Market quite without change,

	F1CER		
Run	sia m.,,,		1.95 to 1.05
Lan	glat	********	- 1,85
	47.61	41.0.41	

Arrivals 27,423 piculs, inclusive of 14,158 piculs of Manila from Hongkong. Sales have been effected to the extent of 17,000 piculs at prices showing an advance of 25 to 50 set per picul. In Formosan sugar quotations are 40 to 45 set higher, Arrivals 22,000 piculs; sales 22,500 piculs, Market for White refined is steady; fair demand,

Brown Takan	### ##604. #5.00 to 6.00
Brown Manilanian	5.95 to 6.50
Brown Dailong	4.8a to 4.9a
Brown Canton	
White lava and Penang	7.00 to 7.70
White Refined	7-10 In Q-40

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

The demand both from Europe and America has increased, but the high prices do not encourage business. Rull-sized filatures have advanced at least 30 year per picul. The stock is 5,330 piculs, compared with 3,740 niculs last season. The "visible supply" is 59,840 piculs against 51,340



# GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS. &c.

# **GEO.** COURTICE'S CONCENTRATED EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century.

It is NOT A DYE, but the colouring principle of the Not Gall in a concentrated form, perfectly harmless, and will positively restore the colour true to nature in two norms.

NOTE.—Thirty years Professor of Hair Specifies to the Honourodde B-nebers of the Inner Temple.

#### GEO. COURTICE & CO.,

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# Kapedas-Na. at ..................

#### WASTE SHIK.

These have been no transmoders directly the week; holders are still firm. The stock at presented in estimated at 4,860 picels; Noshi, 1,700; Kibio, 1,850; others 550. Quotations nominal,

#### QUOTATIONS.

Nouhis-Filature, Best	leasty.	to	120
Nenti-Fifrine, Good	105		
Nonti-Oshu, Best.,	2011	to	115
Northing Court	100	ta:	101
Numbis-Office, Madison			95
Nathi-Chinakus, Heut	70	io	75
Northi-Shinghu, Good	Ø4	to	674
Northi-Buning, Boue	115		
	100	to	011
Noghi-Bushua Medium	QB <sup>2</sup>	to:	05
Noshit-Pushin, Ghost	6o	ta	65
Nonhi-Justin, Fair	5.5	to.	571
Kiliiso-Filature, Best			100
Kibiso-Pilutura, Seconds	85	to	go
Kibiso-loshu, Good	25	to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	10	to	224
TRA.			

The business done continues extensive. Pur-The business done continues extensive. Purchases since May 9th amount to 31,000 piculo, prices showing a tendency to decline. The quality of the leaf is fairly satisfactory. Stocks in hand are very large, and the market shows signs of weakness. Recent shipment to Canada and the United States have considerably exceeded half a million pounds.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choiceat	7 & upward:
Choice	
Finest	\$32 to 33
Fine	\$10 to 31 \$17 to 18
Medium	\$25 to 26
Good Common	Numinal.
Common	Nominal.

#### EXCHANGE.

Rates continue unchanged but very firm, silver from London being unaltered.

Sterling-Bank T.T	
- Bills on demand	2/0 <del>1</del>
— 4 months' sight	20
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight</li> </ul>	2 013
- 6 mouths' night	1/Old
On Parti-Bank night	2 55
On Paris-Private 4 months' sight	2.59
On America-Bank Bills on demand.	49
<ul> <li>Private 4 months aight</li> </ul>	503
On Germany-Bank sight	1.06
- Private 4 months' right	2.11}
On Hongkong-Bank sight 7	l°/,die.
- Privata todaya' sight 8	4º/odiu.
On Shanghai-Bank eight	804
- Private 10 days' sight	814
On India-Bank night	150
- Private 30 days' sight	155
Res Silver (London)	26 7



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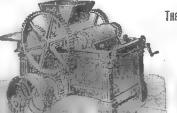
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# The Jayan Meekly Itlail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 22.]

REGISTERED AT THE 6,P.6, AS A NEWSPAYER.

YOKOHAMA, MAY 28TH, 1898.

月三年五十二鈴駒 Voi.. XXIX.

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## The Japan Weekly Mail.

" PAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CONKESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAK WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 28TH, 1898.

#### SUM HARY OF NEWS.

THE Silk (direct-export) Bounty Law has been repealed.

Tax Imperial Shinto shrines at Ise have auffered through fire this week.

Queen's Birthday in Yokohama, Tokyo, and Kobe was apoiled by rain.

SEVERAL shocks of earthquake have been felt in Yokohama this two days week.

THE proposed Naturalisation Law has caused some discussion in the House of Peers.

THE Emperor and Empress proceed to Kyoto immediately upon the rising of the Diet.

A NEW design, it is stated, is to be used for postage stamps of five see and smaller value.

THE Japan (Kirin) Brewery, Yokohama, have declared a dividend for the year of 30 per cent.

Mr. Lappin's yacht Mary, as usual, carried off the British Minister's Cup in the Birthday sailing race.

A Fraz that broke out in a paper-dealer's shop in Kyoto spread to the famous Hongwan temple and did enormous damage.

MR. GLADSTONE'S remains are to have a state funeral. They were lying in state at Westminister Abbey this week.

THE Premier announced in the this week that the Government Digitized by

THE evacuation of Wei-hai-wei by Japanese troops having been concluded on the 23rd inst.,
a British force entered there,

THE Japanese warship Tokiwa, which is now under construction at the Armstrong Works, will be launched in a few weeks.

ALL is quiet at Manila, where Admiral Dewey is waiting the arrival of troops from San Francisco before he bombards the city.

THE Rt. Rev. Bishop Awdry preaches at St. Andrews Church, Shiba, to-morrow (Whit Andrew's Church, Shiba, to-mo Sanday), I the 11 o'clock service.

IT is announced the Dr. Schmidt-Leda, German Consul General at Yokohama, has been appointed Minister-Resident at Caracas.

THE P.M. steamer Peru has been quarantined at Kobe for seven days and her departure from Yokohama is therefore postponed until further notice.

Four million bags of tice were imported at Kobe and sold from 1st January to 15th May. Putting the price at yea 5 per bag this represenis war 20,000,000.

THE Temma Cotton Spinning Company, Osaka, will hold an extraordinary general meeting on the 26th inst, to consider the raising of debentures amounting to yen 450,000.

A DRUGGIST named Takahashi Toragoro, living at Hirowo-cho, Azabu, Tokyo, has been fined 20 yes for manufacturing and selling hydrochloric acid of bad quality.

On the 22nd inst., intelligence from Peking reached the authorities that travellers to Port Arthur and Liaotung must obtain passports endorsed by the Russian authorities.

Mr. John Harrington Gubbins, Japanese Secretary of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

VISCOUNT HIGASHIZONO, of the Imperial Household, was despatched on the 24th to Ise Province to investigate the damage caused by the recent fire at the great Shinto temple.

WAR news from the Atlantic seaboard is very meagre, the whereabouts of the Spanish squadron being unknown, though rumour says the American squadrons have bemmed it in,

THE railway between Nagao and Kitsu is now completed, and on the 24th inst. a trial trip took place. After Government inspection, the railway will be opened for traffic on 1st June.

On the 19th inst., about 10 p.m., a man was run over by a train near Yokohama Station. He is supposed to have committed suicide. His age seemed to be about 27 years, and he looked like a merchant.

THE Prince of Wales, the Duke of York the Marquis of Salisbury, Earls Rosebery and Kimberley, the Archbishop of Canterbury Mr. Arthur Balfour, and Sir William Harcourt are to be the pall-beaters III Mr. Gladatone's funeral.

On the 23rd inst. a telegram from Shanghai reached the Government that the warship Atago arrived there the previous day. After taking in coal and provisions she will leave for Hankow in connection with the Shashi affair.

extended franchise bill and new taxation huge garden parties. He intends founding a measures. and has donated 500,000 yes as a foundation fund.

> Ow the 20th inst, #1 10.30 p.m., Sir Charles Mitchell, Governor of the Straits Settlements, proceeded to the Palace with Sir E. Satow, British Minister, and had audience of His Majesty. Lady Mitchell was presented to the Empress.

> The Niger question has attained the point of settlement. It is understood that Great Britain retains Bussa and France retains Hikki, and two ports on the Middle Niger, also a large extent of territory, including the whole hinterland of Dahomey.

> In reply to the French claims the Chinese Government has accepted the conditions that a sum of 30,000 yen is to be paid to be distributed among the families of the murdered missionartes, and that a church be established at Peh Hai port, Canton province. The claim for the right of laying down a railway between Peh Hai port and Kwangsi is still under consideration,

THE P. and O. Company, says a porary, has sold the Ravenna, built at Dumbarton in 1880. She is a fine old craft of steel, 38oft. zin. long, 4oft, 5in. beam, and 25ft. 9in. depth of hold, with a net tonnage of 2.046 and a gross toninge of 3.385. Her horse-power is 700, and she makes at ordinary immersion something like 14 to 14½ knots. By the hurried way in which she was to leave the Thames it is believed she has been purchased for either the United States or Spain—the latter for choice.

A CARPENTERS' strike has been in progress at Shaughai, and riots took place on the new Chinese Bund resulting in the serious injury of Major Liu, the officer commanding the little party of "braves," which tried to stem the onrush of nearly 1,000 infuriated and riotous carpenters intent upon awing non-strikers into joining their ranks. An increase of wages will be granted next month and most of the strikers have returned to their work. A proclamation has been issued that the beaviest penalty will be imposed on all guilty of assaulting the police and rioting. Should the men again give trouble they will be fired upon and given no quarter.

THE continued stagnation in the import trade is causing a very large accumulation of woollens and cottons in importers godowns. Native merchants profess themselves willing to take up the goods but complain that money is so scarce and difficult to obtain that business for the present is out of the question, medial measures proposed by the Minister for Figure are expected to relieve the tension shortly and then a revival of rade is confidently expected. Under present circumstances, therefore, the import market remains without change and rates are nominal. There is a very large stock of kerosene now on hand but little or no business is doing. The same tale has to be told in regard to metals. The sugar market continues brisk, with quotations nominally at last week's figures. Business has been fairly brisk in the principal staple of export, the Belgic, Victoria and Yarra taking away 1,137 picula; but prices remain very firm, holders refusing to meet the views of buyers for America. In waste silk only a trifling amount changed hands, shipmen's for the week totalling 276 picula. Present stock is estimated at 7.340 boxes, and prices are therefore numinal. Fea continues brisk, and during the week shipments have been heavy, over 1,262,882 pounds being the total to MIN OKURA, the famous merchant, celebrated date. Stocks are large and prices easy. Copplication of the week by giving three is distributed the same may be said of fish oil.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Fift Shimpo published an article permeated with its usual liberal spirit, urging the Government to remove all restrictions upon the acquisition of shares in Japanese companies or the ownership of land by foreigners. The immediate text of the article in the transaction recently completed by the directors of the Formosa Railway Company in horrowing a sum of a million and a half pounds sterling from British capitalists at five per cent. In operations of that nature the Jifi discerns the safest and easiest method of importing foreign capital without disturbing the money market or pledging the national credit. At present it is not permitted that foreigners should become shareholders in the Bank of Japan, or the Specie Bank, or in any mining enverprise, and there is a doubt whether they may acquire the shares of any association owning real property outside the settlements. Such limitations and such doubts should be removed at once. The country wants cheap money above all things, and every avenue for its inflow ought to be thrown widely open. Nothing can be more extravagant or pusillanimous than the ideas entertained by some Conservatives about the contingencies connected with foreign ownership of land and shares. If foreigners find their account in investing their money in Japan, the gain is at least as much on Japan's side as on theirs. It is a mere chimera to imagine that there could be danger in letting them enjoy the special privileges granted by the Government to certain industrial and commercial enterprises. The foreigner will have to pay the full value, from a Japanese point of view, of everything he acquires in Japan, and if the Japanese make sales to him whether of land or of shares, it will be because they can reap benefit by doing so.

Chinese affairs are discussed by the Nichi Nicht Shimbun, but we can not find anything specially worthy of note in our contemporary's writing. The theory that China can be drawn away from conservatism by the interference of foreign States is condemued as quite unpractical. China is too huge to be perceptibly influenced in that way. Even the Central Go-vernment is beyond the effective range of alien advice or suggestion, and moreover, if the Central Government were induced to take a new view of its duties and responsibilities, it could not produce any practical seffection of its mond in the provincial districts. After this uncompromising dismissal of the ordinarily accepted theories about China's regeneration, one is disposed to expect some an nonneement of a special programme devised by the Nichi Nichi itself But no such programme is set forth in our contemporary's columns. It hints that it has a programme of its own, but, funtend of formulating it, talls back upon the hackneyed plan of dealing with every event strictly upon its merits and in accordance with the requirements of the time. In short, the article seems to have us purpose except to condemn the notion that international attempts should be made to lead China into the path of progress, and to show that, even if they were made, they could not be successful. . . .

The article nummarized above from the Nichi Nichi Sh mbun finds its justification in the writing of the Mainichi Shimbun, which contends that the only hope of regenerating China consists in subjecting her to foreign pressure. Analyzing the factors that operated to rouse a progressive spirit in Japan, the Mainichi concludes that incomparably the most potent was the display and even the use of armed force. The hombardment of Kagoshims and the expedition against Choshiu did more to open Japau's eyes than anything else. The same levers must be used to prize Chiun out of the conservative rut. She will want a great deal more consing than Japan did

perhaps ten times as much, her population

yen would suffice for the foundry, it is
being ten times as large and her prejudices being ten times as large and her prejudices that the Public Undertakings Loan

more deeply ingrained it that highers are found to now become 141,474,101 yen. UNIVERSITED LINOIS AT want a great deal more rousing than Japan did

her incapable of quick sensation, and it is probably correct to say that an influence which produced certain results in Japan in the course of a decade, must work throughout a century to produce the same results in China. The war of 1894 5 achieved something. The ac-quisition of Kiso chon by Germany, of Liso-lung by Russis, and of Wei-hai-wei by England will also have their effect. By such means alone can the big empire be roused from its lethargy. The impulse will never come from within; it must be applied from without. It is against this doctrine of the Manichi's that the Nichi Nichi Shimbun enters its protest in general terms. There would have been some interest in learning how the Mainichi proposes to exert the pressure on which it relies for China's regeneration, but nothing explicit is said on that point.

The advisability of establishing a legation in Turkey is urged by the Mainichi Shimbun. It is not easy to discover any solid grounds for the recommendation, but the chief idea seems to be that Turkey, owing to the peculiar conditions of its existence, is a species of batometer for obtaining indications of the state of the political atmosphere in Europe, and that Western countries consequently take care in he represented there by their best men. Japan ought, therefore, to have diplomatic machinery in Constantinople. Such is the Mainichi's latest fancy-very unpractical and far-fetched it seems to us.

Mr. Chamberlain's speech at Birmingham forms the subject of an article in the Pomiuri Shimbun. The inference which our contemporary draws from the language of the Colonial Secretary is that the time is fast approaching for an Anglo Japanese alliance, with a view to exercising a really potent influence on the dis-posal of Chinese affairs. Very heartily does the Pomiuri welcome the prospect. It calls upon the Diet to take some step calculated to promote the alliance, and finds much satisfaction in the fact that a consummation so often and so persistently urged in its own columns should now have entered the field of practical politics. The article would be more interesting did its writer show more discrimination. But his failure to perceive the utter impossibility of the language attributed by Reuter to Mr. Chamberlain—namely, that Great Britain could not without affice enter the lists against Russia-deprives his comments of much of their value.

#### THE IRON FOUNDRY.

Apparently the Government's programme for the establishment of an iron foundry has undergone considerable expansion. The sum originally appropriated for the purpose was only 4,095,793 yen, but, according to a supplementary budget submitted to the Diet this session, the total expenditure is to be 10,569,894 yen, distributed as follows :-

	yen
Expenditure up to March 31st, 1898.	2,321,383
Expenditure in 1898-9	1,189 415
Expenditure in 1899 o	2,345.168
Expenditure in 1900	2,122 863
Expenditure in 1901 3	2 <b>5</b> 91,065

10.560.804

As yet we have no particulars of the reasons underlying this extensive change of plan. It may be added that the outlay connected with the establishment of an iron foundry is to be defrayed with the proceeds of the Public Undertakings Loan, and as the latter was estimated at 135 million yen on the hypothesis that 4,045,793

ENGLAND, AMERICA, AND JAPAN.

Mr. Oishi Masami, ex-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, gave a speech at a grand social gathering held on the 20th instant at the Nakamura Restaurant, Tokyo, by the strong foreign policy party. He said:

Mr. Chamberlain's speech is virtually a declaration of war against Russia. The tone used by such an influential Minister is more than aufficient to show the real motive of Eng-land. That part of his address in which he remarks that he is ready to co-operate with any nation holding the same views is too significant to be forgotten. The Hispano-American war is now III its height and, together with the Minister's speech, is destined to produce no small effect upon politics in the Orient. If Japan, the most influential country in Eastern Asia, would take the trouble of indicating that she could in no way acknowledge the justice of the operations of Germany and Russia towards the East, Europe, too, might be brought to condemu the proceedings of those two Powers. England has secured the reputation of a chivalrons country by affording protection to China, and it is only under the most imperative circumstances that America has entered upon a war with Spain. It may confidently be asserted that England and America will, after the triumphant issue of the Spanish war, be employed in the settlement of complications now prevailing in the Far East. If Japan would make it known to the world that she too has motives for maintaining the peace of the Orient, co-operation with England and America for the settlement of the present difficulty might be recuted. An alliance between Japan and England may be said to have been secured in the abstract; in order m carry it into practice public sentiment—the only reliable support of the government must be roused. If fortunately an alliance between the three Powers-Japan, England, and America-be concluded, the Chinese question, the centre of the present complications, may be solved without a single drop of blood.

#### COST OF THE WAR.

Among the documents submitted by the Government to the Diet this nession is said to be one relating to the expenditures incurred on account of the War. The figures stand thus :--

Excess of income over expenditure 24.754,619 The expenditures extend over a period of 22 months, namely, from June 1st, 1894, to March 31st, 1896. With regard to the surplus revenue of 24% million yen, it was drafted into the Budget for 1896 7 to meet extraordinary war expenditures-Formosan, &c.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Another indication of the wide-apread interest felt in the development of Japan may be seen in the fact that the University of Chicago has decided to hold entrance examinations in Tokyo. This move is made, not merely for the benefit of Occidental youths or maidens who may be resident in this empire, but also for the sake of Japanese who may wish in complete their education in America. The examinations of the University of Chicago will be in Charge of Mr. Ernest W. Clement, M.A., of the Tokyo Chu Gakuin, and Mr. Eiji Asana, Ph.D., of the Aoyama Gakuin; both of these gentlemen are alumni of that institution. It is rather an interesting coincidence that the only American universities in hold entrance examinations in Japan are Harvard University, the oldest, and the University of Chicago, the youngest, of the great institutions of learning in America.

#### COUNT INOUYE AND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

House held its first sitting on the 23rd details given in various vernacular journals.

The bill itself has not yet been actually instant, in the presence of the Minister of State for Finance, the Vice-Minister of the same Department, and other officials. The subject of investigation was the Supplementary Budget submitted by the Government for the current fiscal year. Invited to offer some explanations of his financial policy, Count Inouye made a an exceedingly small impost. We enter-long and explicit statement, lasting nearly ed into this subject fully last year, and two hours. Unfortunately these speeches delivered before Standing and Special Committees are not reported in the Official Gasette, and our knowledge of them is consequently limited to the contents of brief resumes given by vernacular journals. is that the tax actually levied upon each The Count seems to have laid before the The Count seems to have laid before the acre of urban land is 5.15 yen, and that Committee a detailed and lucid account levied on each acre of rural land, 3.28 of the various items in the Supplementary Budget, of the programme of finance mapped out by him for the five years ending March 31st, 19c3, of the considerations underlying the system of increased taxation, and of many other points. On the whole, however, readers of these columns would learn nothing new from his remarks. It is already known that his Excellency intends to devote 20 million yen from the Indemnity to the redemption of War Bonds and to supply working funds for industrial enterprises. It is also known that, with regard to railways and other works the expenses of which were to have been defrayed by means of domestic loans, his plan is to employ the Indemnity as far as it goes, and subsequently to devise other sources of supply-the home market or the foreign market ac-cording to circumstances. He is revolving other projects also, but they have not yet matured sufficiently to be made public. One member of the Budget Committee, Mr. Taketomi, showed a disposition to be captious. He reminded the Count that public securities had undergone unprecedented depreciation since the present Cabinet came into office, and he averred that the Government's financial credit was at a low ebb. To that the Minister replied that the responsibility did not rest with him alone, and that he had not failed to adopt whatever remedial measures were within the Government's power. He added that, if the Diet adopted the system of increased taxation now before the House, the annual redemption of public bonds would be larger by 5 or 6 million yen than it is at present.

Questions were asked, of course, about a foreign loan. One member wanted to know how it happened that the Nichi Nichi Shimbun had announced the Government's intention of going abroad for 150 million yes. The news, regarded by the public as trustworthy in view of the source from which it emanated, had been telegraphed to London by The Times correspondent, and had caused considerexcitement in financial circles. Count Inouve replied that the Nichi Nichi had been mistaken. He himself was not opposed to the introduction of foreign capital, and did not deny that it might have to be relied on by and by. But the Government had no such heroic intentions as those attributed to it. The state of the foreign market and the necessities of the about the wisdom of forbidding the manu-

#### POLITICAL REFLECTIONS.

With regard to the Government's pro-The Budget Committee of the Lower ject for increased taxation we now find published, but its main features appear to be known. Our readers are aware that the Land Tax is levied on a uniform basis of 21 per cent. of the officially assessed value of the land, no difference being made between agricultural land and building sites. One result of that system is that the urban building lands escape with ed into this subject fully last year, and showed that while owners of land outside the urban districts pay a tax of a little more than I yen per capita, the inhabitants of the urban districts pay less than 19 sen each. Otherwise stated, the case yen, a ratio which evidently varies greatly from the relative market value of such lands. Taken all round, urban build-ing lands in Japan are probably worth seven or eight times as much as provincial farm lands, whereas the assessment for taxation purposes does not make the former even twice as valuable as the latter. Some attempt is now about to be made to remedy this injustice, for we find that the rates fixed by the new scheme are

> Agricultural and Forest Lands, 3.7 per cent. of r assessed value.
> Royal Building Lands, 3 per cent. of the as-

> used value.
> Ushon Building Lands, 5 per cent. of the as-

It follows that the tax levied upon urban building lands will henceforth average to 30 yen per acre; and the tax upon farm lands, 4.85 yen. The figures may appear high if considered merely as taxes. But they are not mere taxes: They include the rent paid by the holders of the land to its original owner, the Sovereign. The additional revenue obtained from the Tax when these rates are enforced is estimated to be 17 million yen, and, of course, there is no room for an error of calculation in such a matter.

With regard to the Sake Tax, the rate at present levied is 7 yen per koku on clear sake. According to the programme now contemplated, the private brewing of sake for domestic use-which has hitherto been permitted under certain conditions-and the brewing of what is called "mixed sake" (Konsei-shu) will be interdicted, the rates on the other kinds of alcoholic beverages being raised to the following :-

			koku.
Alcohol (shochiu)	. 1	ı,	yen
Clear sake (seishu)		10	- 0
White sake (shiro nake)		8	*1
Muddy sake (dakushu)		7	2.0

The last two varieties, white sake and muddy sake-i.e. unrefined-are manufactured entirely for the use of the lower middle and lower orders. Hence the smaller rate of tax in their case. Cleari.e. refined—sake is the beverage of the upper classes. It could afford to pay a tax far higher than 10 yen, which, after all, is only a little more than 64d. per gallon. The additional revenue expected to accrue from these changes is 124 million yen.

There can be little doubt, we think,

person not engaged in the liquor trade, and not keeping a public house of entertainment, may brew, for family use, any kind of sake except the refined variety (seishu), in quantities varying from 39.7 gallons to i.e. a tax—not less than one penny and not more than two pence per gallon. Writing on this subject a year ago, we said :- "It is difficult to discover any sound reason for such a system, or to doubt that the private brewing of sake will ultimately be interdicted, with marked benefit to the revenue of the State." Our forecast is now, apparently, on the verge of fulfilment.

Concerning the increment of revenue-123 million yen-expected to accrue under the new system of sake tax, the Government certainly does not seem to have formed an excessive estimate. The quantity of refined sake consumed at present is 31 million koku, in round numbers, and by raising the tax upon that variety from 7 to 10 yen, an addition of 10 million yen is obtained. Further, the probability is that a large part of the white sake and unrefined sake drunk by the lower orders has hitherto been brewed under the domestic consumption rule, and consequently paid only from 2 yen to 4 yen per koku, whereas the new rates are from 7 yen to 8 yen. It will be safe to assume, therefore, that the Government's expectation of an increment of revenue amounting to 124 million yen is rather under than over the mark.

The alterations contemplated in the Income Tax Law seem to be directed against the wealthy classes only. Hitherto the minimum income upon which a tax is levied has been 300 yen. A man with 300 yen a year has to pay 3 yes or I per cent., in the form of income tax. The new Law puts the minimum income at 500 yen, and provides that for the purposes of the tax that income shall be reduced by 200 yen, the remainder only being liable to an impost of a per cent. When we get to large incomes of twenty, thirty, and forty thousand yen, however, we find a material increase of rates. The exact figures shall be published so soon as the bill is submitted to the

Another modification of the Income Tax Law is that whereas individuals alone have hitherto been taxed," legal persons" will henceforth become liable-in other words, companies, corporations, and all associations having a legal status. The taxable income of such associations will be the profits from their business after deducting expenses and appropriations on account of reserve funds as fixed by law. Shareholders, however, in such companies will not be taxed in respect of their shares, since to levy an impost on them as well as on the earnings of the association would be to duplicate the tax. It is expected that these various changes will give an additional income of 13 million ven.

Another project of law relates to silver one-yen coins. The period for their exchange, originally fixed at 5 years from April 1st, 1898—when they ceased to be legal tender-is to be shortened to four months, so that any of such coins not presented for exchange before July 31st, 1898, will not be exchangeable. reasons assigned for this measure need foreign market and the necessities of the about the state of the state

briefly, the Government thinks it expedient to eliminate from Japan's currency that the Minister's consent shall be consystem the element of uncertainty presented by a number of silver coins which ded a full year continuously in Japan and may at any moment be presented for upon exchange against gold at a rate highly duct. unfavourable to the country; and is fur-ther of the opinion, founded on close observation, that no inconvenience will be caused either at home or abroad by shortening the exchange period as above stated.

Another source of increased revenue will be found under the heading of State Industries. The railway tariff of charges will be slightly raised—g rin per mile is the lips of a majority of the members was the figure spoken of—and senders of that the Land Tax must be reduced and telegrams will be obliged to pay for the official salaries out down. There two soname and address of the sendee, hitherto called "reforms" were avowedly based not charged for. The changes are expected to produce an increment of 4 millions. Thus the whole scheme stands thus :-

1449 .		
Increased Revenue from the		
Land Tex	17	millious.
Increased Revenue from the		
Sake Tax	12	46
Increased Revenue from the		
Income Tax	Ιį	11
Increased Revenue from the		
State Industries	4	27
•	_	

Tetal ...... 35 million yen. It will be understood that we have not here epitomized the actual bill submitted, or to be submitted, to the Diet, but have only collected the outlines of it as set forth in various vernacular newspapers.

With regard to bills already sent to the Diet by the Government, the following are the most important :-

1. A hill providing that Government bank notes shall cease to circulate from the 30th of December, 1899. This measure does not signify, of course, that there is to be any change in the present floancial system. It is a step dictated solely by mecoal system. It is a step dictated solely by me-chanical convenience. Of the paper money issued by the Government in 1886 only 7,140,000 yea now remain in circulation, and the notes have become so delaced and dirty that their withdrawal is much to be desired. Any person into whose possession such notes come, with after the enactment of this law, take steps to exchange them for convertible notes of the Bank of Japan.

A third bill provides for the abolition of the Law for Encouraging the Direct Export of Silk; the recission to become effective from the day of the bill's promulgation. This measure has been anticipated. It was known that such a bill would have been submitted to the Diet last session had not the House of Representatives been dissolved. The law in question was enacted in 1897, the date of its operation being fixed for April 1st, 1898, and the period of its remaining in force being put at 5 years. We learn from the statement of reasons annexed to the rescinding bill that, whereas the object of the Law was to improve the quality of Japanese silk and to promote its export, foreign countries considered it so obnoxious that they took steps to impose increased import duties upon Japanese silk, and thus the Law threatened to produce results exactly the converse of those contemplated. Hence the necessity for repealing it as speedily as possible. We suppose that the Government could scarcely have been expected to furnish any reason more fundamental than the above, but such reasons undoubtedly exist.

Yet another bill relates to the adoption

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Affairs must be obtained beforehand; (2) ditional upon the foreigner's having resiupon his being a person of correct con-

#### THE NEW TAXATION SCHIMES.

It is very interesting to observe how completely the domestic policy of Japan, as mapped out by the Diet, has failed to be comformable with the march of events. When the House of Representatives assembled for the first time, the cry upon on independent considerations. advocates maintained that officials were overpaid in glaring proportion to the emoluments obtainable by such men in other professions, and that their excessive rewards constituted one of the abuses of the era. At the same time, they insisted that the agricultural classes were groaming under burdens far heavier than those borne by other sections of the nation. In point of fact, however, the two projects were indissolubly connected. It was to obtain funds for reducing the Land Tax that official salaries, were to be cut down. Everybody understood that perfectly well, and though the Government found itself thrust into the invidious position of seeming to reject a scheme of popular relief for the sake of clinging to its own emoluments, it held its ground stoutly. Events have fully justified it. It is now almost universally recognised that the agricultural classes-or, to speak more accurately, the land-owners—pay a disproportionately small amount to the national exchequer, and that the insignificance of the emoluments received by junior-grade officials renders it impossible for the Government to obtain the services of good men; one inevitable consequence being that all public functions-especially those connected with posts and telegraphs—are inefficienty discharged. Thus we see the country disposed now to adopt a policy the exact converse of that advocated by the people's representatives seven years ago; advocollisions between the Government and the Diet were precipitated, and the progress of reform was distinctly checked.

It is not to be supposed that the Government's new scheme of taxation will escape opposition. Many objections will be found, though there will scarcely be any possibility of denying the broad fact that additional revenue must be raised by some method. Our readers will be surprised to learn, however, that the Fiji Shimpo has ranged itself on the side of the objectors. As to the imperative necessity of increasing the taxes, the Fin raises no upon simple and straightforward question, but it condemns the idea of like the land tax and the sake tax. recourse to the Land Tax or the Income Tax so long as the capabilities of the Sake

made it 14 or 15 yen, thus obtaining an additional revenue of about 30 million yen from this one source alone. The augumentation of the Land Tax and of the Income Tax will be very unpopular, according to our contemporary, whereas the sake-brewers and the sake-consuming classes are quite prepared to have their burdens materially increased. What makes this contention curious is that the Fiff does not think of denying the justice of increasing the Land Tax, neither does it dispute the ability of the land-owners to pay more than they do at present, Indeed it could neither deny the former nor dispute the latter in view of its own previous utterances. But it objects to the income tax on general grounds-and we are strongly disposed to endorse its arguments-and it considers that expediency should have indicated the sake tax as a source of revenue preferable to the Land Так.

We are strongly disposed to endorse the Jiji Shimpo's contention that the Government acts unwisely in proposing to increase the Income Tax at this juncture. Of all imposts a tax upon incomes is, perhaps, the most objectionable. Not only does it involve official scrutiny into matters which every individual has a natural right to conceal; but it also exercises a distinctly demoralizing effect by putting a pre-mium upon dishonesty. Such a tax must appear particularly irksome in Japan, where it has been the people's habit from time immemorial to observe the utmost privacy with regard to their pecuniary affairs, and where plutocracy has happily been unknown. The merchant or manufacturer pays income tax on the profits derived from his business after all expenses have been defrayed. It is thus within his power to reduce his liability almost to any point permitted by his conscience or his want of conscience. The more upright and straightforward he is, the heavier his payment. In short, income tax is a device for penalizing the exercise of qualities which it ought to be the prime object of all legislators to educate and encourage. The official, on the other hand, the man who serves his country in the army or the navy, and the man who has retired upon a well earned pension, caled so persistently, too, that frequent are required to pay the impost to the last sen: for them there is no loophole of escape. This is one of the taxes which the Government now proposes to augment. Of course, if a large increment of income were expected to accrue, the project would be more defensible. But the anticipated figure is only 13 million yen, a mere bagatelle. The 7iji thinks that the only wise policy for statesmen to pursue is to abandon all petty sources of revenue, especially those that can not be collected without vexations inquisitions and those that tend to put a premium upon dishonesty, and to fall back entirely upon simple and straightforward assets

We have written a great deal about the Tax are not fully exploited. The present Land Tax, and have long contended that impost upon refined sake is 7 yen per it might legitimately be augmented so as koku, and the bill now before the Diet to afford a considerable increment of provides that the figure shall be len yen, revenue. The measure presently to be or sixpence a gallon, approximately, submitted by the Government to the Diet This change, together with other modifica-provides, as already explained, that the tions, will bring an increase of revenue to tax on farm lands shall be raised from 21 of foreigners into Japanese families by the extent of some 12 million yen. Now marriage. The bill provides (1) that the the #iji thinks that instead of raising the consent of the Minister of State for Home rate to 10 yen, the Government might have original from

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ed without any difficulty. Thus, the assessed value of agricultural land throughout the empire averages, at present, 40 yen per tan-or 160 yen per acre-and the tax paid is, consequently, 1 yen per tan. This will now become 1.48 yen. In other words, the land-owner will have to pay 48 per cent, more than he has hitherto ing to the necessities of the time; and (2) paid. Thus stated, the increase sounds that, in order to place the finances on a considerable. But we have to note that sound basis, the Land Tax must be inthe price at which the koku of rice was creased. At their first meeting (21st assessed when the rate of the Land Tax was fixed twenty-five years ago was 4.18 yen. Hence, in order to pay the tax on one tan, the farmer had to sell 2389 koku of rice. But the average price of the cereal from 1888 to 1895 was 6.93 yen, so that by disposing of 1442 koku, the tax could be defrayed. Finally, the market price of rice now is some 13 yen per koku, and, consequently, the tax can be paid by selling 107692 koku. Rice may depreciate by and by, but it is never likely to fall to anything like its old price, and unless it sells for less than 6.19 yen per woku, the new rate of tax, namely, 3.7 per cent., will not press more heavily upon the agriculturist than did the old tax of 2.5 per cent. when rice sold for 4.18 yen.

The Tokyo Asahi attributes the present inequality of foreign commerce to the over-issue of convertible notes by the Government on the security of the Indemnity received. The reckless introduction of foreign capital is not to be tolerated, but increased taxation is absolutely indispensable. Increased taxation however, may be attended with some trouble. There is a great difficulty in fixing the standard of taxation for income, and any attempt to procure a large amount of revenue from this source will lead to a collision between the government and the people. As regards the sake tax, this species of impost is least open to complaint, as each payer contributes but a small quota on account of the taste in which he indulges. But there must be a limit to the increase, and to levy ten yen on a commodity the marketable value of which scarcely exceeds that figure is madness. It will stimulate illicit distilling among the people and the extensive import of foreign spirits. The increased taxation of land does not admit of any opposition except on the part of owners. But, though the augmentation of the land tax is absolutely indispensa le, it cann d he successfully carried into p actice in the present state of affairs.

The Kokumin in more logical in its views. insists that the financial embarrassment under which Japan is now labouring can not be overcome except by a scheme of increased taxation. Count Inouve's plan to augment the revenue by 35 million ven from land, sake, and income taxes, cannot but be admired. The proposed scheme for taxation is far from being acceptable to the great mass of land-owners who are directly affected, but they may find their consolation in the advantages finally to be attained, namely, the progress of industry and commerce. The Kokumin concludes its article by stating that any opposition in Parliament may justly be regarded as unpatriotic and destined to expose the country to incumerable perica.

#### UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

Representatives from seven Chambers of Commerce - Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Toyohashi, Shizuoka, and Yokohama-met, a few days ago, in Yokohama to discuss the economical situation. Their proceedings were watched with considerable interest, but to the disappointment of the public they decided to carry on their debates with closed doors. It proved impossible, however, to preserve secrecy. Vernacular newspapers report the production and the procedure of the Government at this matter is not adapted to the capturement of a conjuncture involving such grave changes and pends; therefore they condemn that procedure.

Therefore the people of this empire desire that deliberate and clear address to the Throne or a deliberate and clear address to the Throne or a ceedings quite fully enough for all pur-Digitized by Google

poses. The main subject of debate was a memorandum from the Osaka Chamber, consisting of two articles; namely, (1) that the Indemnity should be employed to relieve the present dearth of floating capital, and that recourse should subsequently be had to foreign money accordinstant) the Chambers appointed a committee of 7 to report upon this memorandum, and the Committee presented its report on the 23rd. Whether the report was altogether favourable we can not discover, but there appears to be no doubt that, in the resulting debate, the first proposition, as to the Indemnity and foreign capital, was strongly endorsed, whereas the second proposition, as to the Land Tax, was tabled. It was easy to find pretexts for shirking the Land Tax The Chambers, having voted question. in 1897 for the total repeal of the Business Tax, would be acting invidiously if they favoured an increase of the farmer' burden in 1898. A bill on the subject being already before the Diet, no occasion existed for the Chambers to take action. To raise the rate of the tax without re-assessing the value of the land would be to increase the present inequalities of incidence, and so forth and so on. Thus this branch of the subject was left untouched. The merchants are determined to have more money for the purposes of their own business, but are not to provide any more funds for the administration.

#### FOREIGN POLICY.

The politicians whose dissatisfaction on the subject of foreign affairs has been so vehemently expressed of late, seem determined to pursue their course to the bitter end. They have now formed a new association, calling itself the Doshi Daikonshin-kai, or grand union of friends and fellow-thinkers. The first meeting of this new body was held on the 20th inst., Baron Kusumoto being in the chair. Speeches were delivered by Mr. Suzuki Shigeto, Mr. Oishi Masami, Mr. Abe Iwane, and other men of note. We refrain from reproducing their utterances. The same argument runs through the whole, namely, that Japan has been hopelessly hoodwinked and flouted in the matter of the Liaotung Peninsula, and that Germany in Shantung, and Russia in Manchuria have, deliberately and without any show of necessity, taken the very steps which they forbade Japan to take in the assertion of her lawful rights as a conqueror. The same defect, also, characterizes all cate any remedy; declare that an evil state of affairs exists, but fail to tell how it may be corrected. We therefore confine ourselves to reproducing the resolution adopted by the meeting

The people of this empire consider that the pro-The people of this empire consider that the pro-cedure of Russia and Germany towards Clima disturbs the tranquility of the Orient and is cal-culated to expose this empire to danger and loss; therefore they condemn that procedure. Further, the people of this empire consider that the procedure of the Government in this matter is not adopted to the requirements of a confunctore.

resolution, suitable in the occasion, be presented.

#### THE FINANCIAL CHANGES.

So far as can be ascertained from information hitherto published, the increments of revenue anticipated to accrue under the Government's new system of taxation, and the purposes to which these moneys are to be applied, may be succinctly stated as follows :-

ADDITIONAL INCOME.	yen.
Increase from Land Tax	17,550,000
Increase from Sake Tax	12,410,000
Increase from Income Tax	1,640,000
Increase from Telegraphs	340,000
Increase from Railways	3.240,000
Total	
ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE.	yen.
Grant in aid of Formora Administration	
Grant in aid of Navigation	4.870,000
Redemption of Bonds	7,000,000
Prison Expenditures (transferred from	
communes)	3,550,000
Natural Calamities Relief Fund	500,000
Interest on Restored Pension Bonds,	460,000
Additional Administrative Expenses	
incurred in consequence of the sp- preciation of commodities, &c Works in connexion with the operation	6,860,000
of the Revised Treaties	2,500,000
	-
Total	35,980,000

If from the latter sum we subtract the regularly accruing increment of the ordinary revenue, namely, 2 million yen approximately, the result is that an additional income of 35 millions has to be provided. Hence the increments of taxation indicated above.

#### ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

The Japan Times contains the following paragraph :—

A London telegram received in Tokyo on the 21st, states that Lord Salisbury, British Premier, in his speech in the House of Lords, disclosed the particulars of the Anglos-Japanese alliance in regard to the Chinese question, and the policy to be adopted in future, and that the Transa in an adjuvent angeling a parents appropried the Premier's Diodoeditorial greatly approved the Premier's Diplo-

The paragraph, as it stands, is calculated to mislead, we think. According to our information, Lord Salisbury did not speak of an "Anglo-Japanese alliance." He could hardly have spoken of what does not exist. What happened, we believe, was this. Interrogated by Lord Kimberley as to whether Mr. Chamberlain's utterances in Birmingham might be regarded as expressing the views entertained by the Cabinet, the Marquis of Salisbury declined to express a definite opinion until he had the full speech before him. He went on to say, however, that he entirely approved of the policy of the previous Cabinet in declining to join the Powers which combined to deprive of the fruits of her victory a country whose in-terests in the East were identical with these utterances: they are unpractical. those of Great Britain. It was a very The speakers complain, but do not indi-emphatic utterance, the most emphatic hitherto made by the Prime Minister; but it did not amount to any declaration of an alliance.

> Mr. T. R. Hubback succeeded in shooting a big maker, the other day, at Damansara, says the Malay Mail. It stood nine feet high at the shoulder; one of its tusks measured over five feet in length, while the other was about four feet six inches. The weight of the tusks was about forty-nine pounds. A enrious feature about the elephant was that he had not a vestige of a tail. Mr. Hubback killed him with a front shot and found, upon examination of the carcase, three old bullet wounds, and when he took the tusks he came across a suider bullet embedded in the beant's head.

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#### MR. OKURA'S GARDEN PARTY

A MUNIPICENT GIFT TO THE NATION. A garden party on an exceptionally extensive scale was given by Mr. and Mrs. Okura at their town residence, Reinanzaka, Tokyo, on the 23rd, 24th and 25th instant, to celebrate their silver wedding. The invitations are said to have numbered some two thousand, but owing to the plan of dividing the guests into three parties on consecutive days, all the difficulties incidental to over-crowding were avoided. Of course, such division has its own disadvantages. It necessarily amounts to differentiation, and however tactfully the line be drawn, some persons are always persuaded that they have been placed on the wrong side. Letters in vernacular journals bear witness to that fact in the present case, and show also that their writers were properly relegated to the position of which they complain. Among the guests on the first day were Marquis Ito, Marquis Saigo, Count Inouye, Count Okuma, Baron Iwasaki, Baron Ito, Viscount Enomoto, the Italian Minister, the British Minister, the Brazilian Minister, Marquis Oyama, Marquis Fokudaiji, Marquis Oyama, Marquis Tokudaiji, Hachisuka, Viscount Watanabe, and many other Japanese of note, as well as the leading foreign residents of Tokyo. The guests were received, just within the vestibule, by Mr. and Mrs. Okura, Mr. and Mrs. Takashima, and Mr. and Mrs. Okura (Junior). Thence they passed upstairs to a suite of rooms where the presents received in connexion with the ceremony were set forth. It was a very imposing and beautiful display. All the articles had some affinity with the occasion. Quite a mountain composed of boxes of dried bonito was, perhaps, the least æsthetic object in the collection, but the katsuboshi has its own place in the category of Japanese congratulatory offerings. There were, of course, innumerable bundles of red and white silk, daintity swathed in ornamental wrappers; and scores of huge carp per-plexed persons unacquainted with the pretty Japanese custom of disguising a gift of silk crepe by folding it into the form of the fish of perseverance. Pines, storks and bamboos were naturally much en evidence, and in truth it was perplexing to speculate how so many interesting mementos could be worthily preserved unless a special museum were erected to contain them. The assemblage of silver objects attracted, perhaps, the most attention, so far as the foreign guests were concerned. It included numerous specimens of the finest Japanese work, excellent alike in design, in modelling and in chisel-Very noticeable were busts of Mr. and Mrs. Ókura in solid silver, nearly life size. The artist had caught the likenesses with great success, and the details of the drapery showed much care and skill. From the main building to the garden, which stands on a considerably lower level, a covered corridor had been constructed, giving acess at its further end to spacious galleries facing a theatre with an extensive stage. All these buildings had been specially erected for the occasion, and were prettily decorated, the lines and curves of the roofs and gables picked out with greenery and the interiors draped in cuisine were served with all sorts of deli-

delivered the following address:--

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deem it a very great bonour out only to myself and my family but also to the merchant class in general that you all-friends of loveign nationalities as well as my own countrymen—have so gracious ly responded to my invitation to meet and celetrate the silver wedding of my wife and myself, and also my own entry upon my sixty-first year.
May I be permitted to say that I have formed a May I be permitted to say that I have formed a little plan to serve as a memento of this dual occasion, and that I have entirested the task of carrying it out to my friends Messis. Suffurawa Erichi, Ishigmo Tadaoori and Watanabe Roki, who will explain it to you. It has been my good fortune to preserve my health and steength up to the present, and should I bappily be blessed with the present, and should I happily be ble freedom from illness during the remaining years of my life, it is my extuest purpose to show my gratifule to beaven, however unworthily, by de gramme to neaven, inserver on working, by te-working myself to promoting the interests of my country. They your approval of my very humble efforts and your assistance in directing them. Pecmit me also to appologise for the poor hospita-lity that I am able to offer you, and to wish you then most health and happiness while repeating my sincere thanks for your condescension.

Baron Ishiguro, formerly Medical Inspector General of the Army, then stepped forward, and in a brief but gracefully worded address informed the company that Mr. Okura, in order to commemorate the occasion, had decided to devote a sum of five hundred thousand yen for the purpose of building and endowing a commercial school. This aunouncement was received with lond applause, and Viscount Enomoto, formerly Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, an active promoter of the cause of education in Japan, ascended to the verandah of the theatre, and spoke in terms of high appreciation of the munificent act just announced. There were two classes of charitable people in the world, he said,-those that succoured misery when it came under their immediate observation, and those that laid plans for and still fewer among them were those that contributed to the cause of education, which was of all things most essential to the welfare of m nation. Mr. Okura had set a noble example, and it was much to be desired that men like him would become frequent figures in society. There was an ancient saying that fortune loved to visit the home of the virtuous. Experience had proved its truth in Mr. Okura's case.

After these addresses the curtain rose and two dances were performed by the celebrated actors Kakitsu and Kikugoro, assisted by a troupe of experts. It is needless to say that these dances exhibited extraordinary skill. The crispness, grace and rythmic accuracy of all the motions could not but appeal even to the least initiated observers. Then followed it was rendered specially attractive by the dancing of a troupe of geisha, fifteen in number, who were picturesque coiffures glittering with silver ornaments and wings of the same metal. Refreshments were served from the commencement of the party, but at half-past five the rooms of the foreign building were thrown open, tion in Occidental style. In other parts and there those that fancied the Japanese

peach-colour, and its face decorated with storks in black silver and red soaring above a silver sea. The programme, though imposingly large, was perfectly simple, its only adornment being two embossed storks carrying sprays of pine. Happily the weather proved propitions on the first and third days, though the second was very inclement. The fete was certainly one of the most beautiful and successful ever organized in Tokyo.

#### GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

On the 16th instant a large garden party was given in Tokyo at the villa of Mr. Fukuzawa in the Kiu-Mamiyana suburb of Tokyo. The object of the enter-tainment was to introduce to the friends of the renowed host Mr. Kamada Eikichi, who has just been appointed Principal of the Keiogijuku, and Mr. Perry, who arrived recently in Japan to take the chair of English Literature in that college. The weather was fine; the azaleas were in full bloom; the garden looked very pretty; excellent music was discoursed by a military band; refreshments were provided on a sumptuous scale—in short, everything combined to make the affair a thorough success. The party was honoured by the presence of quite a number of distinguished personages-Marquis Ito, Marquis Saigo, Count Inouye, Count Okuma, Viscount Katsura, Mr. Kaneko, Dr. Toyama, Baron Iwasaki, Viscount Tanaka, Viscount Ito, Baron Yasuba and others. The foreigners present did not number more than twelve, and the great majority were Americans. It is certainly a most graceful act on the part of Mr. the future benefit of their race. To the Fukuzawa to pay such honour to a foreign latter really belonged the title of philanemployé as was paid to Mr. Perry on this thropists. They were comparatively few, occasion. The fact that treatment of the employé as was paid to Mr. Perry on this occasion. The fact that treatment of the kind is unfortunately somewhat excep-tional invests it with additional value, especially when it owes its initiative to a leader of thought like Mr. Fukuzawa.

#### FIRES IN GREAT RELIGIOUS EDIFICES.

It is remarkable that a fire should have occurred at the chief Shinto shrine of Japan on the 23rd instant, and at the great Buddhist temple of Higashi Hongwan in Kyoto on the 26th. The Ise sanctuary does not appear to have suffered much. A shed, the business office of the shrine, a meeting hall, and a storehouse were destroyed, but the chief shrine escaped with only some injury to the roof. Still the shrine will have to be removed pending repairs. As to the Higashi Hona "Silver Wedding Anniversary Play," gwan-ji, we do not know at this moment in which Eisaburo and Kakitsu took part. of writing how much destruction has been it was rendered specially attractive by the dancing of a troupe of gersha, fifteen on the afternoon of the 26th said that the conflagration was then raging. If the temple has been burned, it is almost a national calamity. The splendid building was completed in 1893, if we remember rightly, at a total cost of about nine million yen. Its proportions were grand, and and the guests found a sumptuous colla- the materials used in constructing it were of the finest kind Many believe that of the grounds booths had been erected, these burnings of religious edifices are contrived by persons who expect to make a profit in connexion with the re-building cleverly assorted colours. After the guests cacies prepared in loco by the most cele-had taken their seats in the galleries, Mr. brated culinary artists of Tokyo. It need and Mrs. Okura appeared upon the hardly be said that a band was in attend-from devout folks. Whether the suspiand the handling of the munificent converandah of the theatre, and Mr. Okura ance, and that the conventional fan was cion be well founded or not, there is no Pour Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,—I a black-ribbed ogi, its reverse a deep gwan has been conspicuously unfortunate.

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#### THE TORIURE QUENTION.

The letter addressed by Mr. B. H. Chamberlain to this journal containing injurious and unfounded charges of "animus," of a "strangely acrid and discourteous tone," of "heat" and so forth, is reproduced by the Kobe Chronicle, but our reply, of course, finds no place in the columns of that journal. One side of a question appears to satisfy the Kobe newspaper, an interesting illustration of fair play. However, that is a matter of small concern. We recur to the subject because of the following criticism :-

It is noteworthy, however, that the editor of the

This is an amusingly clumsy attempt to draw a red herring across the trail. The whole point is that M. Boissonade was represented as having witnessed the torturing of Mr. Mutsu in 1873 or 1874, and as having been moved by the sight to lodge a protest which had the effect of causing the abolition of torture. If Mr. Mutsu was not subjected to torture in 1873 or 1874, then a material part of the story is erroneous, and the degree of credit attaching to the remainder is greatly impaired. It does not matter in the most infinitesimal degree whether Mr. Mutsu was or was not imprisoned years later. Everybody knows that, in 1878, he got into trouble in connexion with a foolish plot to overthrow the cabinet, and suffered three years' imprisonment. But the fact is totally irreletorture. The Government's condemnation of the principle of torture was publicly announced by a Notification dated Aug. 25th, 1874. Mr. Mutsu's imprisonment four years later in connexion with a political intrigue had no more to do with the matter than any other judicial occurrence of a subsequent era has to do with it. The petty issue raised by the Kobe Chronicle is that, inasumch as Mr. Mutsu was unquestionably sentenced to imprisonment in 1878, there is no occasion to repudiate the incorrect assertion that he was subjected to torture by a criminal tribunal in 1873 or 1874, and that, in view of the former fact, his friends and relatives need not be pained by the latter canard. That is a quaint contention. It does not matter then, does it, whether Mr. Mutsu is re-presented as having been a frequent offender against the law of the land and a frequent figure in the criminal's dock, or whether his true record is quoted, namely that once only did he allow himself to be betrayed into political excesses? Chamberlain makes the naïve point that it would be no disgrace to a man to have been subjected to torture in connexion with the procedure of a criminal court, since the obloquy rests with the torturers, not with the tortured! There was a time when highwaymen were hanged in England. It was a disgrace to English

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of the principle of torture was publicly announced in August 1874, and the imprisonment of Mr. Mutsu, or any one else, in 1878 can not have had the slightest connexion with the motive prompting an announcement made in 1874. Passing on to the true question under discussion, we desire to add a word to what we have already written. An attempt has been made to show that the abolition of torture in Japan was entirely due to the resolute intervention of M. Boissonade. Never mind the nature of the attempt: it is with the fact, not the fashion, that we wish to deal. Now it is quite unnecessary to premise, we trust, that if the credit of such At is noteworthy, however, that the editor of the Max still avoids any telerence in the column and a memorable contribution to the cause of more devoted to the article concerning (sic) the imprisonment of Mr. Mutsu in connection with the Satsuma rebellion, though great stress was laid at first upon the injustice done to the late Count Mutsu and his family by the suggestion that he was treated as a common criminal in that Japan's foreign employe's receive only agreed. a fraction of the credit really due to them. But there can be no more ineffective and injudicious method of correcting such an injustice than to claim for the foreigner credit which can not be proved to belong to him. Is conclusive proof adducible in support of this particular claim? Is it not perfectly plain that the mere fact of the Japanese Government's employing a French jurisconsult to compile a code based on the principles of European law indicated the acceptance of these principles and, consequently, the ultimate abolition of torture? It seems to us that the answer to this question must be affirmative. Torture was doomed in Japan from the moment that the remodelling of the laws on European lines became an official purpose. There remains the possibility, however, that M. Boissonade's protest greatly accelerated the adoption of this much-to-be-desired reform. Tα that the issue narrows itself, and that alone is a sufficient crown of glory for any man to wear with pride and thankful-

#### JAPANESE ASSAULTS UPON FOREIGNERS.

Our attention has been called to a letter signed "Foreigner" which appeared in the Japan Times of the 20th inst. The writer, accompanied by his wife, was about to return to Yokohama by the last train leaving Shimbashi on the 17th inst. As he walked along the railway platform in Tokyo, he was struck on the back hy one of a party of some six low-class Japanese, and threatened with a stick when he remonstrated. Subsequently his wife, as she entered the railway carriage, was patted on the shoulder by the same Japanese. The assault does not appear to have been at all serious, and it is possible that the man was more or less in-ebriated. We do not desire to attach undue importance to such affairs. They may happen in any country, and to notice them over-much in public prints is calculated to do more harm than good. But there is one feature of this particular in-cident that calls for a word of comment. The Japan Times, in a foot-note appended to "Foreigner's" letter, says:—

in England. It was a disgrate to describe the civilization that they were hanged, but it was also some disgrace to have been a highwayman, was it not?

However, as we have already said, all this talk about Mr. Mutsu's imprisonment in 1878 is wholly irrelevant to the real issue. The Government's condemnation out the most stringent measures against them give the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the relation was in the place.

The Government's condemnation out the most stringent measures against them ginal from

whenever they deserve. At the same time we think that his hint as to the possibility of Europeans taking the law into their bands is out of place and beside the question.—Ed, J.T.

It appears to us that our contemporary has not rightly apprehended "Foreigner's" meaning. In Western countries it is the habit to employ vigorous means for resenting assault, above all when a lady is to be defended. The vast majority of Englishmen would not have hesitated for an instant about knocking down the Japan-ese who laid his hand on "Foreigner's" wife. But the gentleman's code is to avoid all displays of physical violence in the presence of a lady, and "Foreigner" showed his appreciation of that code as well as his self-possession when he suffered the insult to pass unchastised. In saying, however, that something should be done to avert the ultimate danger of Europeans' taking the law into their own hand if the laws of the country do not sufficiently protect them, he gives expression to a fear which many foreigners entertain and which does not, in our opinion, call for an expression of condemnation from the Japan Times, or any other organ of Japanese public opinion. "Foreigner's" language is entirely misinterpreted when a threat is read into it. His meaning is that if these cases of rudeness on the part of Japanese do not lead to serious disturbances, it is because the foreigner exercises a degree of forbearance which he certainly would not display were the same provocation offered in a European country. It would certainly be most unfortunate for Japanese reputation if the foreign resident, whenever assaulted by a coolie or a student, retaliated in kind. We do not intend to suggest that the physical victory would rest with the foreigner. Very likely he would suffer badly. What we mean is that affairs which now attract comparatively little attention would then become magnified into matters of general interest, and it need scarcely be pointed out that the loss would be entirely on Japan's side. That is what the correspondent of the Japan Times intended to say, unless we greatly mistake the spirit of his letter.

#### CHINKSE SERVANIS.

If we may credit the Peking and Tientsin Times a strange state of affairs must exist among foreigners visiting the summer resort at Pei-tai-ho. They appear to bid over each other's heads for domestic servants, so that Ahoy or Awhat may be serving in Mrs. A's household to-day and waiting upon her at the table of her neighbour and friend Mrs. B. to-morrow. That can scarcely be what our contemporary means, but its writing suggests that and nothing else when it says:

If the wages of cooks, house boys, house coolies, ricksha coolies, and amahs were classified rather more strictly, there would be less tendency perhaps among servants to migrate from one house to another in search of an extra dollar. It house to another in search of an extra dollar. It would not reduce individual qualification to any dead level, but it would at least obysite A being left at a moment's notice without a boy because Bowst door offers a dollar more; or B being forced to pay an extra dollar to keep his boy because X, who is a comparative millionaire, pays his boy from sheer love of the thing a higher wage.

The relations between master and servant must be of a very superficial character in Tientsin if such be the real record of

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#### 2HE DIET & THE GOVERNMENT'S of international dealings such as those very fallacious, however, to make any FOREIGN POLICY.

T appears that the programme now mapped out for themselves by the Extremists in the House of Representatives is to address a series of Questions to the Government on the subject of its foreign policy. This particular kind of parliamentary procedure in Japan presents much convenience from the point of view of the Cabinet's opponents. The political coterie-it must number at least thirtypresenting a Question chooses the most eloquent or the most intemperate among its leaders, and entrusts to him the duty of explaining the Question to the House. That means, of course, that the member upon whom this duty devolves can ascend the rostrum, and deliver an impassioned attack upon the Cabinet. He is supposed to keep within the lines mapped out in the Question, but, for the rest, there is nothing to restrain him. He may talk to his heart's content, and since the etiquette of parliament forbids any members to reply on the other side, or any representative of the Government to immediately rebut the accusations thus publicly preferred, it results that the Cabinet's assailants have the "floor," as the saying goes. Not until the Government's formal answer is received can anything be heard on the other side, and as the answer is invariably documentary, it must always seem weak and ineffectual compared with the robust vigour of a verbal assault. The reading of the Government's answer by a Secretary of the House affords another opportunity for an oratorical display by one of the propounders of the Question, and thus, one way or another, the malcontents get two chances of airing their accusations. They would apparently have preferred the more direct and potential method of a vote of want-of-confidence on the present occasion, but their numerical weakness deprives such a course of any chance of being either successful or striking, so they are obliged to fall back on the device of Questions. The gist of the four queries which they intend to present is this :-

1. When Japao, in deference to the representations of the three Powers, Russia, Germany and France, retrocated the Lianting Peninsula and the other territorial acquisitions in Manchinia, was any engagement obtained from the three Powers that they would neither seeze not acquire by lease any part of the distinct concerned?

2. In connexion with the fact that Russia loss not only leased Port A. Lin and Talten from China. But has ables of boundary or proposed in the concerned of the concerned of the control of the

Ction, but has also obtained various other con-cessions with regard to military matters, railways and mines, what steps have been taken by the Jananess Givenment?

3. In connexion with the fact that Germany, France and England have obtained numerous

concessions hum China and are weeking to obtain other, what has the Japanese Government done?

4. With reference to the relations that have some netween Western Powers and China, what procedure has the Japanese Government adopted In maintain the status que in the Orient, to pre-serve Japan's prestige and to premote ber interests?

tions embody plenty of material for dis- and that in connexion with the best Gersatisfaction. History contains few instances man prisons at 12,000 marks. It may be

prietor; but the difference in this case is word with one another, and must never of such an insignificant character that the allow their attention to wander from their belongs to the past, however: it is irremediable. None the less we can well ap-kicked. Only a thin strip of matting preciate and sympathise with the feelings separates them from the boards, so that that such a record must excite in the long-continued squatting probably bebreast of any Japanese patriot. It would comes very painful. Similarly in their have been remarkably astute had the Japanese Cabinet of the time obtained for bed, a hard pillow and one wadded from Russia, Germany and France some pledge as to the future of Mancharia, but we greatly doubt whether, even had such doubts whether the full allowance can a pledge been given, the leasing of Port Arthur and Talien by Russia, and the arrangement for continuing her Trans-Asian line of railway to the coast of Liaotung would have been considered a violation of the promise.

#### PRISONS IN JAPAN.

R. KAMEYAMA, a graduate of the M Law College in the Imperial University, who appears to have made a special study of prison administration, recently inspected the Sugamo Prison under the guidance of Mr. OGAWA, Vice-President of the Prisons Bureau in the Home Department, whose name has already been mentioned more than once in these columns. He publishes the result of his inspection in the columns of the Nichi Nichi Shimbun, It is not at all a favourable account, though the standard of comparison adopted by Mr. KAMEYAMA seems to us to be fallacious in one respect. He notes that whereas the expense incurred in erecting the Sugamo prison averaged 224 yen per head of the number of criminals that can be accommodated, and the corresponding figure in the case of the Senju (Kosoge) prison was 484 yen, the outlay in connexion with one of the first-class French It is not to be denied that these ques- prisons is put at 6,000 marks per head,

connected with the Liaotung Peninsula. comparison on such lines, for a building Japan acquired the Peninsula and the that would cost a hundred thousand yen southern littoral of Shinking by force of in France or Germany might be erected arms after costly and protracted efforts on at one half or one third of that cost in land and on sea. Three European Powers Japan. We learn, however, from Mr. at once interfered, and compelled her to KAMEYAMA'S reseaches that the expendisurrender the fruits of her victories, on ture on account of the Osaka prison buildthe plea that a foreign State's tenure of ing was only 71 yen and that on account the districts in question would not only of the Tottori and Hyogo buildings only menace the integrity of the Chinese em- 30 yen-figures which can not possibly be pire, but also render illusory the independ-reconciled with any theory of sufficient ence of Korea for which the war between accommodation. Indeed, there can be no Japan and China had been waged. Before question that the provincial jails of Japan two years had elapsed, one of those very call loudly for reform. Mr. KAMEYAMA Powers, and that, too, the leader of the insists, further, that the method of treatcoalition, came forward, and obtained pos- [ing the prisoners presents great abuses, session of these territories that had been The places where they work are well thus wrested from Japan. Of course there lighted and ventilated, but they are kept is a technical difference between taking sitting for hour after hour upon their territory by force of arms and renting it knees and heels, are not allowed to look with the nominal consent of its pro- away from their work or to exchange a Japanese sense of having been duped task. If they violate any of these rules must be all the keener. The incident they are scolded by the wardens, and even-so Mr. KAMRYAMA says-cuffed or cells they have merely a strip of matting quilt. Their food, too, is coarse, and, in Mr. KAMEYAMA'S opinion, insufficient. He satisfy the cravings of a strong man's stomach, and certainly when rations are reduced by way of punishment, the prisoner must be in a sorry plight. Naturally the appreciation of commodities during recent years has not been without its influence upon prison fare. In 1896 the cost of a prisoner's ration was 6.7 sen daily; in 1897. it became 7.8 sen, and in 1895 it is 8.7 sen. Altogether the convict's lot is so miserable that he soon breaks down physically. Out of 1,976 men incarcerated at Sugamo, 116 are in hospital and 391, though not actually in hospital, are ailing, more or less. Such figures indicate that something must be decidedly wrong. And if convicts do not break down while undergoing punishment, their constitutions are so impaired that, on emerging from prison, a great number of them become invalids. Another specially evil consequence of this too rigorous system is that recidivism is rife. To illustrate this point, Mr. KAMEYAMA gives the following statistics with reference to the prisoners now confined at Sugamo:-

Fast offences	678
S-cond off-nees	358
Third offences	251
Fon th offences	240
Fifth effences	140
Seath offences	148
Seventh offences	70
Eighth offences	36
Ninth effences	26
Tenth offences and upwards	31
· ·	

Total \_\_\_\_\_ 1938 Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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It will be perceived that nearly two-thirds voice promises to be a contralto of fine of the whole number are recidivists, a quality, sang "The Interfering Parrot" ratio far in excess of that recorded in most delightfully. She was assisted by ratio far in excess of that recorded in countries like France or Germany, and plainly condemnatory of the system purplainly condemnatory of the system pur-song was much enhanced by the acting of sued in Japan. It is not clear how Mr-the two little mites who, seated in the KAMEYAMA reconciles his assertions about middle of the stage, represented the excessive severity of treatment with this tendency of malefactors to find their way to jail again and again, but his theory seems to be that the prisoners' morale is destroyed, and that, instead of being the castinet dance by Miss Margot von educated to turn over a new leaf, they are more than ever prone to crime when they leave prison. The whole report—which of Miss Margot's motions was supplement-we have greatly summarized here—ed by a really pretty costume. The over-conveys the impression of being written ture and the interact piece were played conveys the impression of being written from a very pessimistic point of view, but if the abuses referred to exist in any degree, too much publicity can not be given to the fact.

#### VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT BY CHILDREN IN TOKYO.

A really beautiful entertainment was held at the Shoreikai in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 19th instant, the whole performance, with the exception of the instrumental part, being by children. Now that we see what charming results can be achieved in this line, it becomes quite surprising that nothing of the kind has been attempted before in Tokyo. Probably the explanation is to be sought in the fact that ladies are seldom found so accomplished and so energetic as to undertake the task of organizing an affair of such difficulty. The trouble must have been immense, but the results justified it, and the community of the capital, both foreign and Japanese, have to thank the Misses von Fallot for a most delightful display. The programme was this :-

> PART I. Overture.

By Misses Hilda Page, Dorothy Page, Gestrade Page, Carmen de Carcer, Margeret Hall, Kathleen Hall, Iné Brinkler, Teresa Brinktneier, Ernestine Gardiner, Margot von Falkot, Tessa Lloyd, Doro-thea Shaw, Nellie McKim, Anna Dooman, Mas-ters Willie Kirby and Kenneth Page.

3. Character Song By Miss Hilda Page and Master W. Kirby.

Skirt Dance By Miss Margot von Fallot.

Piano Sole.

Nigger Song By Miss Teresa Brinkmeier and Master Kail von Fallot,

7. The Interfering Pareot
By Misses Gertinde Page, Einestine Gardiner,
Tessa Lloyd, Master Kichy and Chorus.

PART II. A Gypsy Camp. The hall was crowded in every part by an enthusiastic audience, and the charities on account of which the entertainment was account of which the entertainment was got up must have profited considerably. Every item on the programme elicited rounds of applause. Perhaps the most picturesque was the skirt dance by Miss Margot von Fallot, but the grouping and costumes in the Kindergarten Game and the Gypsy Camp were quite charming, teptesented the character of Nothing in Parti-cular, and, like the House of Lords, did it very well. And there were others who went in for well, and there were others who went in for boldly original designs. Such, for example, Kirby achieved a notable success in their character song, and the nigger ditty with appropriate dance, by Mr. Karl von Fallot and Miss Teresa Brinkmeier, was very effective. Miss Gertrude, Page, whose Digitized by Old Stevensor State of the dress, so that there should be included Duff, Clayton, Healing, Garfit, H.

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an admirably drilled chorus with a highly artistic "shriek," and the effect of the crusty couple, now engaging in vigorous warfare, now lapsing into "icy isolation."
In the "Gipsy Camp" the great features
were the singing of Miss Dorothy Page
in the character of a fortune-teller and Fallot. Miss Dorothy's pretty soprano notes were scarcely more delightful than her smiling artlessness, and the grace by Mrs. Page (piano) and the Misses Kate and Adelie Page (violins) with all their accustomed skill. Altogether the performance was a brilliant success, and we trust that it is only the forerunner of many similar entertainments.

#### CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS BALL.

A very pretty scene was witnessed at the Public Hall, Yokohama, on Wednesday when a Children's Fancy Dress Ball took place in aid of the funds of Christ Church. The affair was a very happy conception, and an unqualified success, both socially and from a financial standpoint. The hall was charmingly decorated with flags, flowers, foliage, and the back of the platform and the flower stall at the entrance of the hall were rendered exceedingly attractive through the taste of Mr. F. Coghill Jackson, who was responsible for the whole of this part of the undertaking; Mrs. Manley, it should be noted, giving the flowers used in decoration. The ladies most actively interesting themselves in the affair were Mrs. W. K. Wilson, Mrs. Averill, Mrs. Irwine, Mrs. James, Mrs. Bevis, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Bavne, Mrs. Frazar, Mrs. James, Mrs. C. K. M. Martin, Mrs. John Stiven, Mrs. Strome, Mrs. Wheeler, Mlss F. H. Eld. ridge, Mrs. J. Martin, Madame de Micheaux, Miss Lloyd Thomas, Miss Tripler, and Mrs. Kirkland Wilson,

The programme commenced with an excellent tea for the children and at six p.m. the ball opened with a processional polonaise in fancy dress. This was followed by an Irish jig by Miss Vera and Master Gerald Irwine, to the piano accompaniment of Miss Leach, the performers having been instructed by Mrs. Courtney Johnson, Then followed a Spanish dance by Miss Nita Strome, and a castanet dance, also labelled Spanish. Miss Mollison, dressed as the Queen in her childish years, did a very pretty dance. Other children's dances followed, schottishe, barn dances, the Washington Post, singing lancers, &c.; and later in the evening dancing among the older folks became It would be impossible to degeneral. scribe all the elegant and original dresses to be seen; the mere male mind beggles over such a task. There were Red Riding Hoods; fairies with wands and impossible wings, such as all self respecting fairies must have; diesses suggestive of a giddy Gaiety dameuse; a Japanese lady; gipsies with spang-les and coins jingling all over their dresses, which is well-known to be the everyday walking costume of this class of girl; court ladies who, if they did not bring back to mind the autons of the Georges, at any rate recalled Dorothy and Chanticleer Hall. There were many who represented the character of Nothing in Parti-

absolutely no excuse for taking her for some-thing else. The boys, too, had some capital costumes among them. A Chinese magnate and a jinrikisha man were on terms of easy friendship, with a Sikh policeman from Hongkong looking benevolently on. Cowboys and Mounted Rifles (dismounted for this occasion of course), mingled with jockeys in gay silks and cords; there were Perrots that poor silks and cords; there were Pierrots that poor Aubry Beardsley would have made pictures of; Highlanders, courtiers (Ancient and Modern) and scores of others. It was, in short, quite a brilliant scene. Nearly all Yokohama society was present, among the company, besides those already mentioned being, His Honour Judge Wilkinson, M. Ratard (French Consul) and Madame Ratard, Dr. Eldridge and Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. Mollison, Dr. and Mrs. Tripler, Mr. and Mrs. Bevis, Dr. & Mrs. Wheelet, the Rev. & Mrs. F. Champneys Irwine, members of various Consular staffs, &c. Irwine, members of various Consular staffs, &c.

#### THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

Unfortunately the weather on the afternoon of the Queen's Birthday turned out most inclement-cold and wet-and the brilliancy of the celebration at the British Legation was much marred. A great number of people assembled, however, in honour of the occasion and to have the pleasure of greeting Sir Ernest Salow. Preparations had been made on an extensive scale, but as the Legation building is quite unfitted to accommodate any considerable party of guests, it was found necessary to erect refreshment booths in the garden, and the rain had thus full opportunity to make itself felt. Various amusements had been provided, but the weather reduced them finally to music by the band of the Imperial Guards. Under the circumstances it is not surprising that the Yokohama community did not send a large contingent, but the Tokyo people were not at all deterred by the rain, and all nationalities were fully represented.

The public celebration of the Queen's Bothday in Yokohama was not very extensive, though the day was widely observed in a holiday. Main Street and the Settlement generally made a good display of hunting, and there was a general cracking of fireworks and playing of "God save the Queen." The unfavourable weather, however—theatening in the morning and miserably rainy in the afternoon—negatived all chance of a successful holiday, and the few events that had been arranged fell under the dispiriting influence of the day, and were not

altogether joyous gatherings,
The Yokohama Cricket Club opened its season by a match President's team v. Captain's. The President's team won the toss and com-menced batting about 11 a.m. Several good scores were made, P. B. Clarke's 68 including one six, 5 fours, 3 threes, and nine twos, while Crawford's 49 embraced 5 fours, 2 threes, and 6 twos. Unfortunately soon after the interval to be abandoned at an interesting stage. Score :

PRESIDENT'S TEAM.

1	Mr. P. H. Clarke, b. Sutter	68
ij	Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Satter	20
1	Mr. Murdech, b. Bugh rd	14
	Mr. Powys, c. Sutter, b. Johnson,	7
1	Mr. Moss, b. Inhuson	2
t	Mr. Fradgeley, c. Bugbird, b. Sutter	
, '		
	Mr. Stewart, c. Bugbied, b. Libraud	
•	Mr. Mollison	4
,	Extra	23
3	_	_
,	Total (for 8 wickets)	217
	Mr. Watt	
	Mr. Lins	
ř	Mr. Easton	
	Mr. Cast	
	Mr. Bent I did not bat.	
ķ	Mr. White	
ľ	Mr. Eddison	
,		
	Mr. Itwine J	
ĺ	CAPTAIN'S TRAM.	
f	Massa Sutter Townsed E I Bushird I	in.

#### YACHT RACES.

The yacht races attracted a few speciators. The first contest, that for 39 raters, ended in Mary (handicap) winning the prize presented by the British Minister and two record points, Spray (club time) taking the Club's prize and gaining one record point. In the 26 rater race the winners were: Albatrots (handicap) prize presented by the British Minister and one record point; Molly Baron, prise presented by the Club and two record points.

Rain fell at Kobe on Tuesday morning and spoiled the All-day cricket match. The Chro nicle says that in the course of the afternoon Mrs. J. Carey Hall, the wife of H.B.M.'s Con-sul, assisted by the Misses Hall, entertained a very large company with strawberries and cream and other refreshments, the reception being held in the Gymnasium, which had been gaily adorned with flags. Most of the Consuls were present and a number of the leading Japanese officials of the port. During the afternoon fireworks were let off. A dance followed the reception, Mr. Rizetti's band providing the music; and notwithstanding the gloomy pro-spects of the morning, her Majesty's birthday vas celebrated in Kobe this year with more éclat than naugi.

At Hakodate on the Queen's Birthday a garden party was given by Mr. and Mrs. R. de B. Layard at the British Consulate to which all the British and American residents were invited. A Japanese conjurer enlivened the early portion of the afternoon, to the intense delight and amusement of the children. He was as sisted by his daughter-a veritable Salamander her principle trick being the devouring of a pan-full of are. After tea-Queen's weather prevailing—games were played in the open and a pleasant afternoon was brought to a close with the singing of "God Save the Queen." Later in the evening, most of the principal Japanese Government officials were present at the Consulate at a dinner given in honour of the occa-The Queen's health was most warmly Mion. responded to.

#### IMPERIAL DIET.

BEGINNING THE SESSION'S WORK.

The Imperial Japanese Diet gets to work very deliberately. There is a routine that can not be dispensed with or departed from. One day is devoted to dividing the Houses into sections and choosing section leaders. Another day is given to the election of the President and Vice-President of the Lower House-these officials are Imperial nominees in the Upper House; a third, to the ceremony of official opening; a fourth, to the election of standing committees and chairmen of committees, and not until the fifth day does the business of legislation really begin. On the present occasion a day intervened between the choice of presiding officers and the official opening, so that the real work of the session did not commence until the 21st instant.

#### HOUSE OF PEERS. BLECTION OF PRESIDENT.

In the House of Peers, on the 20th instant, Prince Tokugawa (Katatsu) was elected Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House, by 137 votes, the other candidate, Viscount Tani, who held the position last session, polling only 71 votes. In the House of Representatives, on the same day, two elections had to be held, no candidate having obtained a plurality of the members present at the first ballot. Mr. Kume Taminosuke, a politician who has not yet achieved any reputation, obtained 130 votes in the first section, 114 being cast for Mr. Kudo Kokan, a well-known Progressist, member for the second electoral district of Aomori Prefecture. Scattering votes for two

Tennant, Kilby, D. H. Biake, F. J. Hall, W. N. Kume's 129. The former was, therefore, electthe Liberals nor the National Unionists put forward any candidate for this post.

#### NEW BILLS.

Under ordinary circumstances the House of Peers would have risen after the election of the Chairman of the Whole, and of the various standing committees; but in consideration of the shortness of the session and quantity of business to be discharged, the first readings of saveral bills were at once proceeded with. They were :-

A Bill embodying the remaining portion of the amended Commercial Code :-The Minister of State for Justice introduced this Bill, explaining that the Code had been under revision since 1893, and that it would have been sub-mitted to the Diet last session had not the House of Representatives been dissolved.

A Bill relating to the Registration of Immovable Property :-The Government Delegate, Mr. Takagi, explained that this Bill was connected with the parts of the Civil Code which had been revised and submitted to the Lower House.

A Bill embodying the Law of Naturalization (Kokuseki ho):—There has not hitherto been any law regulating the general question of naturalization in Japan, but in view of the opening of the whole country and the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, it becomes necessary that legislation should be directed to this sub-ject. The Government Delegate, Mr. Ume Kenjiro, explained these facts, and the Bill, which is a somewhat lengthy measure of 28 articles, was handed to a special committee, ma were the two preceding bills.

On the sist May both Houses met for legislative work.

#### HOUSE OF PEERS.

#### COMMERCIAL CODE.

In the House of Peers two Bills relating to banks were read for the first time and handed to the Special Committee already appointed for the purpose of investigating and reporting on the revised Commercial Code. The first of these Bills was for amending a portion of the Bank Regulations so as to bring them into accord with the provisions of the Commercial Code; the second was for abolishing the Law for the Amalgamation of Banks. This Law was enacted originally for the purpose of improving the credit of banks by enabling them to combine so as to command larger capital, but inasmuch as provisions in that sense are contained in the revised Commercial Code, the Law becomes necessary.

#### NATURALIZATION LAW.

The third Bill on the Order was a measure for amending the regulations (Notification No. to3 of 1873) with reference to marriages between foreigners and Japanese so as to bring them into accord with the new Naturalization Law, which had been submitted to the House the preceding day. The Bill was therefore handed to the Special Committee already appointed to report on the Naturalization Law.

#### INDUSTRIAL BANK.

A Government Bill was then read and handed to a Special Committee, entitled "Law for amending the Industrial Bank Regulations." Its purpose was to enable the directors of the Industrial Bank to deposit the Bank's reserve lunds in any other bank offering a good rate of interest, and not necessarily in the Bank of Japan, as has hitherto been the rule; the approval of the Minister of Finance to be obtained prior to such deposit. The Law further provided that the face value of the Industrial Bank's shares might be reduced from 50 yen to 30 yen, the object of the reduction being to bring the shares within reach of the lower orders, so as to collect and render serviceable for the purposes of productive enterprise money now circulating among the consuming classes.

21, issued on February 20th of the current year, forbidding the carrying of lethal weapons of any kind by persons engaged in canvassing in elections. The Minister of State for Home in elections. The Minister of State for Home Affairs introduced the Bill in a speech of some length. He explained that experience had proved the necessity of such a measure. He had been found impossible to efficiently protect life and limb during the passion and excitement of electioneering campaigns if people were allowed to carry weapons. The police records of the various elections showed very conclusive. ly that hy issuing the above Notification on the eve of the last elections, a considerable diminution in crimes of violence had been effected, For example :-

No. of No. of Violent Killed, Wounded, Acts. Elections of Frbouary 1892 Elections of March 1894 ... 380 .25 271 252 85 Elections of September 1894 Elections of March 1898 ... 34 71 The figures seemed to justify the Government's recourse to such a veto, and the Minister invited the House to endorse it. handed to a Special Committee, The Bill was

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives, having assembled at a few minutes past 1 o'clock on 2 Tet in., was obliged, before commencing legislative work, to listen to long speeches by members presenting Questions to the Government, There were two sets of Onestions, both relating to foreign affairs. One set emanated from the Liberal Party, and carried the signatures of 42 members; the other came from the Progressists and had 107 names.

#### QUESTIONS.

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro acted as spokesman for the 42 Liberal questioners. He delivered a long and wearisome oration, the Questions propounded being five, namely :-

1. Did the Government take any diplomatic action with regard to the leasing of Kiao-chou by Germany or of Talien and Port Arthur by Russia? If so, what was that action? If not, why

ot?
2. Had the Government held any pourparlers, nened any negotiations, or arrived at any underopened any negotiations, or arrived at any under-standing with Great Britain concerning the latter's

standing with Great Britain concerning the latter's leasing of Wei-hai-wei.

3. What policy did the Government intend to pursue towards China with a view of maintaining tranquillity and the balance of Power in the Orient?

What measures were to be adopted with egard to the Shashi affair?

5. In what condition are the negotiations on the subject of the Hawaiian complication?

JAPAN'S POLICY TOWARDS CHINA.

Mr. Shigeoks, explaining these Questions, disavowed all desire to import party politics into the discussion, and declared that the sole purpose contemplated by himself and his colleagues was to unite the nation on intelligent lines so that its support might be extended to the Government. Summarized into the briefest possible compass, his points were that Germany's action in Shantung had differed essentially from the precedents famished by other civilized Powers under similar circumstances in dealing with China, and that the latter, recognising the unwarrantable character of the procedure adopted towards her, had held out for three months before reluciantly agreeing to grant the concessions asked for. England, too, had plainly evinced her dislike of Germany's doings. any attempt been made by Japan to utilize the mood of the two Powers? It was difficult to avoid the conclusion that some secret understanding had existed between Germany and Russia on that occasion. (This point was elaborated at some length, but nothing worthy of reproduction was said). Had Germany given any notice to Japan of her intentions in Shantung, and of the opening of Kiaochou to trade, and had Japan made any reply? Passing on to the action of Russia in Lisotung, the speaker insisted that there had been no mystery about the great Northern Power's intentions; that her eyes had evidently been fixed for some time on Port Arthur, and that no one used have been of Aomori Prefecture. Scattering votes for the conditates rendered the result abortive, and on a second ballot being taken, Mr. Kudo obtained 141 votes against Mr. seeking post-facto approval for Ordinance No.

CARRYING OF LETHAL WEAPONS.

The last measure on the Order was a Bill taken by surprise when she finally laid hands on Liaotung. It was true that she had nominally Original from

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leased the places in question, but the difference between such a method of acquisition and actual annexation was infinitesimal. Government would have been perfectly justified in pointing out to Russia that she was following in Liaotung the very course which she had denounced, when followed by Japan, as fatal to the maintenance of peace in the East. Had any representation been made in that sense? There was no desire to press unduly for information, but the Government could accarcely leave the country ignorant upon all these points. Concerning Wei-hai-wei, the people wanted to know whether any understanding had been arrived at with Great Britain, or whether the place had been evacusted without any consideration for the Another subject of great importance was the policy to be adopted towards China. Was it to be a policy pointing to the preservation of the Middle Kingdom's integrity or independence, or was it to be a policy, based on the assumption of China's disruption it With regard to Shashi, the speaker explained that, while sympathising with China and deprecating any harsh attitude towards her, it was felt that fitting reparation must be sought; and with regard to Hawaii, he insisted that the country had not lost sight of the affair of last year, though it seemed to have passed out of the field of practical politics.

THE POWERS AND JAPAN.

The second series of Questions, presented by the Progressiats, were these :-

1. When Japan, in deference to the represent-1. When Japan, in deference to the representations of the three Powers, Russia, Germany, and France, retroceded the Lianting Perforsula and her other territorial acquisitions in Manchoria, was any engagement obtained from the three Powers that they would active seize not acquire by leave any part of the districts concerned?

2. In connexion with the fact that Russia has any part of the districts of the Russia has a content of the series of the districts.

not only leased Port Arthur and Talien from China, but has also obtained various other concessions with regard to military matters, railways and mines, what steps have been taken by the Japanese Government?

Japanese Government?

3. In connexion with the fact that Germany, France, and England have obtained numerous concessions from China and are seeking to obtain others, what has the Japanese Government done?

4. With reference to the relations that have

4. With reference to the relations that have arisen between Western Powers and China, what procedure has the Japanese Government adopted to maintain the status quo in the Orient, to preserve Japan's prestige, and to promote her interests?

Mr. Ozaki Yukio introduced these Onestions in a speech moderate in tone and very different from his habitually fervid utterances. He professed to be merely seeking information, and he referred at some length to the statements made from time to time by the British Government as showing that the accrecy observed by the Iapanese Government was excessive. In view of the brief duration of the present session, he expressed a hope that the usual delay would not intervene before a reply was given to the Questions.

Various Government Bills were then read for the first time,

NEW SILK BOUNTY REPBAL BILL

The first was a Bill for rescinding the Law for Encouraging the Direct Export of Silk. Concerning this, the Government Delegate ex plained that experience had shown the measure to be more likely to defeat than to promote the purpose for which it had been enacted, namely, the development of the silk-export trade, since it had provoked foreign states to impose additional duties on the Japanese staple.

This explanation called up Mr. Kudo Kokan. He made no effort to oppose the Bill on its merits, but he contended that, while foreign Powers resisted strenuously any attempt on Japan's part to tax their manufactures or productions, they did not hesitate themselves to impose what duties they pleased on her productions and manufactures, and he wished to know whether any representation in that sense had been made to them.

A Progressist member asked how it happened that the present Minister and Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce who had been for the Colleges of the Imperial University were Digitized by GOOSIC UNIVER

Government Delegates when the Law was enacted, were now in favour of reacinding a measure which they had then advocated.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, replied that the House itself was largely responsible for the measure. It had been brought forward time and again, and the Government had finally adopted it, not fore-seeing the injurious retaliation that it would pro-He did not wish to lay the whole blame on the House; the Government must bear its share. But it was just to recall the fact that the "business men" and the High Industrial Council had approved the Law at the time of ts ensciment

After a brief discussion, the House dispensed with the Regular routine of procedure and rescinded the Law at once.

NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were then read and handed to special committees :-

A Bill for amending the Rules of Legal Pro-

A Bill relating to the Operation of the Civil Cles) of the revised Civil Code. A Bill relating to the Operation of the Civil

A Bill relating to Census Registration, A Bill for reducing the exchange period of silver year coins to July 31st, 1898.

A Bill for limiting to the end of 1899 the period of circulation of Exchangeable notes.

Various minor measures.

MONDAY, MAY 23RD.

HOUSE OF PENES.

The House of Peers met at 10.10 a.m., and after some business of a personal character, proceeded to the first reading of various Bills.

NEW BILLS.

A Bill relating to the operation of the Com mercial Code and a Bill for the better regulation of the management of securities in connexion with law-suits were entrusted to a Special Committee.

PROMOTION OF ATHLETICS.

Viscount Okabe, Governor of Tokyo, and other members, introduced a Representation relating to the promotion of athletics and physical development in general. Mr. Kubota Yazara introduced the Representation in an eloquent address of some length. After dwelling on the general advantages of m good physique, and its importance to persons engaged in the keen competition of modern times, he proceeded to show that, whatever progress the people of Japan might be making scientifically and morally, they were actually retrograding in point of phys que. In support of this statement he produced several tables. One embodied the result of investigations into the weight of recruits joining the Colours. An examination of 568 men made in 1883 showed that their average weight was 15 kwan 687 me, whereas an examination of 4.114 made in 1892 gave an average of 15 kwan 172 me. There was a diminution of 515 me in 25 years. One result of that kind could not, of course, be adduced as conclusive proof. But the figures relating to the various schools left no room whatever for It was bad enough to know that when the youths of the country presented themselves yearly for conscription, only 20 per cent, were found fit to be placed in the first class and only 12 in the second, the remainder all falling into the third grade, that is to say, the grade of the nesound. Not one-third of the rising gene-ration fit to bear arms was a record alarming enough. Turning to the schools, however, still greater cause for uneasiness presented itself.
Everybody recognised the characteristic appearance of the Japanese atudent, a thin, pigeon breasted, spectacled, pallid youth, without any preased, speciation, painty young, symptom of vigour or energy. They would be prepared to learn, therefore, that among the lads in the Middle Schools only 31 per cent. were in a really sound state of health. Thirtysix per cent, were more or less siling, and 23 per cent, were absolutely unhealthy. No less per cont. were absolutely unhealthy. than 54 per cent, were short-sighted, and this last figure became still worse when the returns

consulted, as it was thus found that 63 per cent. of the students had defective vision. duced a table embodying the results of investigations into the condition of the youths in these colleges-youths from 24 to 25 years of age, who ought to be in rude health, putting up strength and muscle daily. The table showed that whereas the weight of these young men at the time of entering college averaged 13 kwan 942 me. three years later it averaged only 13 bwan 726 me. During that interval they increased in height from an average of 5.25 ft. to 5.29 ft. Other figures relating to their physical condition were equally unfavourable. Their strength of grip (akuryoku) on entering College was measured by 9.576, and three years later it was shown to have fallen to 8.592. Their chest measurement, which on entering was 27.7 inches, averaged only 27.5 three years afterwards, the corresponding figures for their lung capacity were 128,151 and 127,397. With girls the case was still worse. It health was the normal condition of the Japanese school going girl. Her feet were perpetually cold. She became round-shouldered, lost all energy, grew nervons, and gradually developed short sight. It was all very well to talk of an army of five hundred thousand men, s fleet of two hundred thousand tops, and an educational system including twenty-five thouattended by over four million students. What was the use of such things if the physique of the nation was gradually de-teriorating? What was the use of schools that made weaklings of the lads who were to man the army and navy, and invalids of the girls who were to be the mothers of the next generation? The speaker pointed to England, where physical exercise occupied such a large share of the national attention, and asked whether there could be any doubt that the place won by Englishmen in the world was due in great part to the moral vigour and elasticity resulting from the aplendid physique of British men and British women. He spoke of the horse-races, the bost-races, the base-ball, the foot-ball, the cricket, the lawn tennis, and so on in England, and he described the keen national interest aroused by an event like the Oxford and Cambridge boatrace, when all London flocked to the banks of the Thames and the streets of the great city became deserted. Contrast that with the apathetic mood of Tokyo when University or high-school hoat-races took place on the Sumida. Truly in Japan men went about athletic exercises by stealth, as if there was something to be ashamed of, and he doubted much whether more than half-a-dozen of the members he was addressing had ever visited a regatta on the Sumida. Having then met and fully refuted the apprehensions expressed in some quarters that to pay large attention to physical development meant the growth of rough manners and the gradual preponderance of the brute element of human nature, he passed on to speak of the magnificent athletic organizations in Germany and the United States, and then gave a detailed account of the Physical Training Society of Japan, which is under the Presidency of Prince Arisugawa, has many eminent names among its promoters, and musters 15,000 members. His contention was that the readiest and simplest way to further the purpose contemplated by bimself and his fellow-thinkers was for the Government to make a substantial grant in aid of the Society, and he put the figure at 150 000 or 200,000 yen yearly. O.her measures also should be adopted, but the Society might be the first.

The Minister of State for Education, incited by Baron Date to express his opinion, spoke briefly in favour of the Representation. himself had always attached the greatest importance to physical development, and he entirely agreed with Mr. Kubota that games like base-ball, tennis, and so forth were far better for lads than such pastimes as cards and go. In answer to Dr. Takagi, he said that the step taken by the Department of Education some years ago in abolishing the gymnasium supported by it had not been approved by him.

Surgeon-General Takagi spoke at some

length in favour of the Representation. admitted that statistics were not fully trust-worthy, but they were all that investigators had to guide them at present. He learned from statistics that in the interval between 1887 and 1893, the death rate had increased by 6.8 per thousand, and it appeared that the increase was almost entirely among school children. The reason was undoubtedly to be sought in the fact that physical development was relegated to a wholly inferior place, and paramount attention was given to brain culture. He learned from the records that only 3 hours a week were allotted to gymnastic exercises, whereas the hours of study were 36, and he had no hesitation in saying that the lowest ratio should be t to 6, namely, 6 hours' gymnastics and 36 hours' study, or 5 hours' gymnastics and 30 hours' study. Of equal importance, however, was the question of diet. Mr. Kubota had showed from the returns that the weight of the country's soldiers was diminishing. The very opposite was true of the sailors. There must be some discoverable cause of difference. He helieved it to be the superior diet given to men in the Navy. Turning to the schools, he found that the majority of deaths among graduates took place within the ten months immediately after leaving school. If they survived that in terval, they gradually grew strong. In fact, it might truly be said that schools were nurseries of disease, and that to send a lad to school was like writing his name on the death-roll of a temple. He therefore supported the Representation most heartily. Apart from the steps proposed by the introducer, measures should be taken to establish gymnasia where lads could attend after they left school. Farther, the present method of constructing public parks should be radically changed. Nothing except the pleasure of the eye seemed to have been thought of in laying them. There were artificial mounds, crooked little paths, patches of scales, rockeries, and ponds, but if lads came to look for a place where they could play foot ball, base-ball, or tennis, they searched in vain. The public parks should be useful as well as ornamental. An extensive area remained available at Hibiya, but it was gradually being encreach-ed upon. He hoped that it would be laid out in the sense indicated by him, before its dimensions had become too small. He concluded with an eloquent appeal in behalf of a reform which really concerned the best interests of the

Mr. Kubota desired to correct a misapprehen sion. Dr. Takagi had spoken of the men in the Navy, and had said that they increased in weight during service, whereas, according to the speaker—Mr. Kubota—men in the Army lost weight. He (Mr. Kubota) had not said so. He had spoken of the comparative weights of recruits joining the Army. It was a well-known fact that after recruits joined the Colours, the good food they received and the regular lives they led had the effect of greatly increasing their weight.

After some further debate the Representation was adopted.

REPEAL OF THE SILK BOUNTY LAW

The Bill for Rescinding the Law for Encouraging the Direct Export of Silk, sent up from the Lower House, was then taken as an urgency measure.

Mr. Kaneko Kentsro, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, appreciated that the House must experience some surprise with reference to this Bill. The measure had been introduced by the Government in the session of 1896-7; had been passed by both. Houses, and had been put into operation from April 1st; yet now, in May, they were invited, as a matter of urgency, to reacind it. The fact was that the principle of providing public aid in the manner provided by the Law had been advocated in session after session of the Diet ; had been made the subject of petitious and memorials to the Government, and had been endorsed by the great majority of sericulturists. The Government contemplate for obtaining finids?

3. To what purposes dues the Government intend to apply the portions of the Chinese Indem-

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Commerce, and consulted the views of experts familiar with the conditions of the foreign markets. Finding unanimity of approval, the Authorities had finally drafted the I sw and submitted it for the Diet's approval. But it appeared that one result of the war with China had been to greatly accentuate the attention paid to Japan's affairs by foreign countries and to the possibilities of her competition in industrial and commercial fields. No sooner did news of the new Law reach France and America than steps were taken to counterbalance the advantage which the bounty might confer on Japanese silk by imposing corresponding, or more than corresponding, import duties. That meant, of course, that the bounties paid out of taxes collected from the people of Japan would go into the pockets of foreign Governments, and no encouragement whatever would be given to the improvement of sericulture in Japan or the development of the staple's export. Hence the bounty Law became a wasteful and mischievous measure, and the Government had no choice but to ask for its immediate abolition.

Mr. Kubota disclaimed any competence to discuss a matter connected with sericulture or the silk trade, but it seemed to him that where the chief staple of Japanese export was concerned, the Government must have exercised the atmost care before embarking upon legisla-Had it not been foreseen that the effect of the Law upon foreign Administrations would be what it had proved to be? Again, while be fully understood that in framing the I aw the Cabinet had acted in accordance with Representations from the Lower House, with petitions from sericulturists, and with the advice of experts m well as of the High Council of Agriculture and Commerce, he desired to know whe ther the opinion of the Council had been sought before introducing this proposal to rescind the

Mr. Kaneko replied that no means had been neglected to ascertain the probable effect of the Law, Expert opinion had been consulted wherever available, and the Japanese Consuls in Europe and America had been asked to express an opinion. In fact, the matter had been upon the tapis since 1890, and not only had the project received general approval, but, though frequently mentioned in the columns of the press, it had failed to elicit any hostile criticism or indications of dissent in foreign coun-There had, therefore, been no reason to anticipate the opposition ultimately evoked by the Law, nor was it likely that such opposition would have been experienced had not Japan's position in the world been so greatly altered by the war of 1894-5. Concerning Mr. Kubota's second question, the High Council had not been consulted, m it had not yet commenced its sittings this year.

Some discussion ensued, but the Bill was finally carried through all its readings and the House rose at 1 42 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The House of Representatives met at 1.09

AUSSTIONS OF FINANCE, ATC. Before proceeding to the Order of the Day. Mr. Kato Masanosuke (Progressist) presented the following Questions :-

t. In consequence of the post-bellum programme adopted by the Government, involving large ex-pansion of the public finances and encouragement of industrial enterprise, the money market was much disturbed, and the capacity of the nation for productive undertakings threatens to be greatly impaired. What remedial measures are contemplated by the Government?

templated by the Government?

2. Among the works included in the post-bellum programme were included the construction of railways, the extension of teleplones and telegraphs, the improvement of barbones, and other undertakings, all of an argently necessary character. The expenditures involved in carrying out these works were to have been defrayed by means of domestic bans which can not be floated under existing circumstances. What steps does the Government contemplate for obtaining famils?

pledging itself to any course, had sought the hity that have not set been appropriated for advice of the High Council of Agriculture and special objects?

4. It was no decistion that the Government had adopted a fixed programme of post bellum expen

adopted a fixed programme of post bellum expenditures spread over a period of 10 years. But apparently the programme has been charged in the sense of greatly reducing the sum to be expended in the present year. A detailed explanation of this point is desired.

5. It is stated that the Government has subscribed for two million pounds sterling of the Chinese loan. How was that effected, and what security was obtained? Does the Government consider that under existing financial circumstances the country is in a position to take such a step?

Another Question was presented by Mr. Otake Kwamichi (Progressiat).-

The former Cabinet considered that the privilege guaranteed to the Judiciary by the second clause of the 58th acticle of the Constitution does not apply to Formosa. Is that view maintained by the present Cabinet also?

Mr. Ebara Soroku (Liberal) presented the following Question :-

The investigation of the national resources is of The investigation of the national resources is or prime importance and constitutes a public duty. It is understood that many Western countries have made arrangements in carry out such a work in the year 1900. Moreover, Representations riging its necessity were presented to the Government by the Diet in its tenth session. Has the Government adopted any measure to that end?

Mr. Kato spoke at length in explanation of his Questions. His argument amounted to a contention that with interest at its present rate not only were new enterprises out of the question, but also many of those already started must be abandoned; that the fault lay primarily with the Government for encouraging the spirit which had produced this state of affairs; that the introduction of foreign capital was the only feasible remedy; that the must either help the people to obtain foreign capital by pledging the credit of the state on their behalf or by taking steps to raise a foreign loan, and that no reason whatever existed to shrink from the introduction of foreign capital, since the resulting development of the country's resources would provide ample means for discharging the debt in a very short time.

Mr. Otake explained his Question. It refer-red, of course, to the case of Judge Takano, who had been arbitrarily removed from the bench in Formosa. The explanation, though of considerable length, amounted simply to an accusation that the Matsukata Cabinet had failed to recognise the binding nature of the Constitution. It was not to be supposed that a Cabinet headed by Marquia Ito, the framer of the Constitution, would endorse such procedure.

#### NEW BULLS.

The following Bills were then read for the first time and handed to Special Committees :-

Bill relating to commodities shipped at special ports of export. The object of this measure is to empower the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to permit the shipment of articles from special ports in addition to the commodities already fixed by regulation.

Bill for adding 6,500,000 yen to the Public Undertakings Loan (135 millions) in con-sequence of enlarging the programme of the Iron Foundry.

Bill for permitting the temporary appropriaof the Indemnity to purposes of railway con-struction and public undertakings for which, according to the original programme, funds would have been obtained by floating domestic loans.

Bills relating to procedure in certain classes of civil suits, and a Bill providing that lands devastated by the floods of 1897 shall be exempted from taxes for one year.

Bill for amending the Law of Registration. Bills relating to the system of City Government.

#### PROMOTION OF ATRLETICS.

The House adopted a Representation in favour of subsidizing the Physical Training Society, after listening to a speech of some length from its introducer, Mr. Komuro, who employed arguments similar to those used by Mr. Kubota in the Upper House. Original from

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TUESDAY, 24TH MAY, HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE NATURALIZATION LAW.

The House met at 10.12 a.m. and took the Special Committee's Report on the Naturalization Law.

Viscount Tani, Chairman of the Special Committee, said that he could not venture to offer any explicit report on the Bill, his legal knowledge not being sufficient. The Committee, however, had addressed many questions to the Government Delegate and had decided to recommend the Bill for adoption as it stood. He begged the House also to refer for information to the Government Delegate.

Various questions having been asked and answered, the Second Reading was voted

unanimously.

INDUSTRIAL BANK REGULATIONS.

The Bill for amending a part of the Industrial Bank Regulations was then passed through its Second and Third Readings, and the House rose at 11.50 a.m.

> WEDNESDAY, 25TH MAY. THE NATURALIZATION LAW.

The House of Peers met al 10.15 a.m. and proceeded at once with the Second Reading of the Naturalization Law. Several members, however, expressed dissatisfaction with the Law as it stood, and after a somewhat noisy discuszion, it was decided to re-commit the Law for further examination by the Special Committee.

NEW BILLS.

A Government Bill (Sempaku-ho) was then read defining the term "Japanese ship" and setting forth the rights and privileges enjoyed exclusively by such a vessel; as was also another Bill (Sen-in-ho) relating to the personnel of "Japanese ships," and both were handed to of " Japanese ships," the same Special Committee,

CARRYING LETHAL WEAPONS.

The Bill seeking post facto approval for Imperial Ordinance No. 25—forbidding the carrying of weapons by persons canvassing m elections-was then passed through its Second and Third Rendings.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House did not meet on the 24th instant, and assembled at 1 p.m. on the 25th;

FOREIGN POLITICS.

The President announced the receipt of answers from the Government to Questions presented on the 2 tet instant with respect to foreign politics. politics. For the sake of convenience, we re-print the Questions and append the answers:—

QUESTIONS PROPOUNDED BY 42 LIBERALS.

1. Did the Government take any diplomatic action with regard to the leasing of Kiao-chou by Germany or of Talien and Port Arthur by Rus sia? If so, what was that action? If not why not ?

2. Had the Government held any pourparlers, opened any negotiations, or arrived at any under-standing with Great Britain concerning the latter's leasing of Wei-hai wei.

3. What policy did the Government intend to pursue towards China with a view of maintaining tranquillity and the balance of Power in the

Orient?
4. What measures were to be adopted with

regard to the Shakhi agair ;

5. In what condition are the negotiations on the subject of the Hawaiian complication?

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWERS TO THE ABOV 1. The Government considers that the time has

not arrived for giving an explicit answer to this Question.

Japanese Government aninquity whether the latter had any objection to Great Bittain's leasing Weihai-wei from China after the evacuation of the place by the Japanese forces, and the Japanese replied that it had no objection,

3. The Government considers that every effort should be made to assist China to maintain her

tranquility and integrity.

4. The Government is now negotiating with the

4. The Government is now negotiating with the Chinese on this subject.

5. The Governments of Hawaii and Japan having agreed to submit the matter to the arbitra-tion of a friendly Power, steps are post being taken to determine the conditions to be placed by on the substitution of the Bill now before the House Atter transacting some for an entermine the conditions to be placed by the substitution.

Digitized by the placed by the substitution of the Bill now before the House Atter transacting some for an entermine the conditions. Our working State of the law of Elections.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY 107 PROGRESSISTS. I. When Japan, in deference to the representations of the three Powers, Russia, Germany, and France, retroceded the Liaoung Peninsula and her other territorial acquisitions in Manchutis, was any engagement obtained from the three Powers that they would neither seize not acquire by lease any part of the districts concerned?

In comparior with the dept that Power her

2. In connexion with the fact that Russia has not only leased Port Arthur and Talien from China, but has also obtained various other concessions with regard to military matters, railways and mineral processions. and mines, what information has been received by the Japanese Government?

3. In connexion with the fact that Germany, France, and England have obtained numerous concessions from China and are seeking to obtain others, what has the Japanese Government learned?

4. With reference to the relations that hav arisen between Western Powers and China, what procedure has the Japanese Government adopted meintains the status quo in the Orient, to preserve Japan's prestige, and to promote her interests?

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE.

1. There was no engagement. The reason of no engagements being obtained was that the ciscumstances of the time did not permit it.

2. The Government was informed by the Russian Government that the latter had leased Port

Arthur, Talien, and the adjacent territory from China, and that Talien would be opened to foreign trade. It has further been learned that Russia has obtained the privilege of constructing a branch of her Trans-Asian Railway to a suitable place in

the Liantung Peninsula.
3. The information obtained by the Govern ment on these points does not differ materially from what has been published by newspapers and news agencies. There are still some points not

yet clearly ascertained.

4. The Government can not at present state openly the policy that it deems suitable with regard to domestic and foreign conditions and the interest of the empire.

Contrary to expectation, these replies were received without any protest.

PORMOSA AND THE PHILIPPINE Further Questions were then submitted with regard to the Formosan garrison and the Philippines. Their import will be given in our next issue.

NEW BILL

The Special Committee's Report on the Bill for exempting from taxation the lands used as sites for contagious diseases hospitals was then received, and the Bill was rapidly passed.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

Meanwhile the Prime Minister, accompanied by Marquis Saigo, Count Inouye, Viscount Katsura, Viscount Yoshikawa, Mr. Sone, Mr. Kaneko, and Baron Suyematsu, entered the House, and the eight Ministers of State took their seats on the Ministerial benches.

The House then took the Bill for amending the Law of Elections, whereupon Marquis Ito ascended the restrum and spoke as follows:

GENTLEMEN, I desire to make a few remarks about the Government's views with regard to the Bill now lying before you for the amendment of the Law of Elections. The former House of Representatives having unfortunately been dis-solved, the cabinet now in office was suddenly alled on to succeed the former Cabinet, and found that many measures of great importance had been interrupted, to the great disadvantage of the State. On entering upon my functions, I employed all diligence to investigate administrative affairs, and the results having been sub-mitted to the Diet you are no doubt fully aware of the importance and organicy of the business before you. It is unnecessary to remind you that the passing of the Civil Code is imperatively essential to the operation of the Revised Treaties which have been an object of desire to all classes of the nation since the Restorato all classes of the nation since the Kestora-tion. Faither, with regard to financial affairs, it is impossible to definy the administrative ex-penditures with the income hitherto accraing to the Treasury, and for that reason there has been no choice but to el-borate a scheme of increased taxation for which your consent is sought. The details of the scheme will be fully explained to your House and your Committee by the Minister of State for Furance and the officials of that Department,

The views of the Government have been sought

without experience of parliamentary systems, great caution was exercised to the original organization of constitutional institutions. Only a lew zation of constitutional institutions. years have passed since that time, but it is already apparent that the present Law of Elections does apparent that the present Law of Elections does not satisfactorily provide for the full representation of the electors views. Hence an amended Law has been submitted to you. It provides for a considerable increase of the number of electors and a large extension of the franchise. The Government believes these changes to be in accord with the spirit of the nation. At present, there are only, some four hundred thousand franchise-holders among the forty millions of our countrymen. The Bill now before you will confer the franchise on about two millions, a five-fold increase. We are persuaded that this reform is united to the condition of the people. The Bill further abolishes all qualifications for candidates, to the end that the electorates may be able to electorates may be able to exercise a wide choice in selecting their represen-tatives. The Government regards these revisions as progressive steps in the Constitutional system talives. and a just increment of popular privileges. We further believe that simultaneously with the acquisition of these increased privileges there devolves upon the people the responsibility of paying larger taxes, and we trust that the two Bills, that for revising the Law of Elections and that for augmenting the taxes will be passed simultaneously.

The Premier's speech occupied some 15 minutes in delivery and was listened to in

profound silence.

Mr. Ichijima asked why such important measures had been submitted to the Diet in a short extraordinary session.

Marquis Ito replied that their speedy adoption was regarded as a matter of great importance.

Mr. Haseba Tanko desired to take advantage of the Premier's presence to ask questions about important national affairs. The President ruled him out of order and the Liberal members showed a disposition to oppose him, but he insisted that as Marquis Ito had referred to foreign affairs, he was entitled to ask about them. His question was whother it was true that when Russia intimated her intention last March about Korea and the Lizotung Peninsula, Marquis Ito had signified his assent,

Marquis Ito smilingly replied :-- " There was

nothing of the kind, I think."

Mr. Haseba said that he should make a statement to the House on the subject by and

Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi gathered from the Premier's speech that the Bills for increasing the taxes and amending the Law of Elections were correlated. Was the House to understand that unless it passed the Taxation Bill, the

Election Bill would be withdrawn?

Mr. Otake Kunichi said that the last Ito Cabinet, pretexting post-bellum works, had submitted to the Diet in its ninth session a measure for increased taxation, and now within the brief space of three years, another Ito Cabinet presented another proposal for increased taxation. These proceedings seemed most irresponsible. Did the Government recognise that its original calculations had proved defective?

Marquis Ito replied that the financial situation would be fully explained by the officials concerned, but Mr. Ouke declined to accept that reply, and demanded to be informed whether, in the event of the House's passing the Taxation Bill, the Government would undertake not to propose any further increase of taxation in the future.

Marquis Ito replied that no engagement could be given about the future.

wo or three other questions were asked by Progressist members and answered, after which

the Ministers withdrew from the House. HANDING TO COMMITTEES.

The Bill for amending the Law of Elections was then handed to a Special Committee of 27,

nominated by the President, The House then handed to a Special Committee the Bill relating to Public Sales; voted for the Second Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kudo Kokan for amending the Law of

Public Meeting and Political Associations; and passed a Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations and a Representation orging the shalition of the Law of Premonition.

After transacting some further business the

# JAPANESE WOMEN.

REPORT ON THEIR CONDITION AND PRO-GRESS DURING THE PAST FOUR HUNDRED YEARS.

# INTRODUCTION.

It is asserted as a fact and with some probability that when Columbus started out in search of new lands, and was nearing the great continent whose four handredth birthday is being celebrated, he had in mind not America, but a countrylying to the East of Asia, whose fame had reached him from Marco Polo. This land Jipangu, for so it was then called, undiscovered by Columbus, remained hidden for nearly the whole four hundred years with its long sleep undisturbed. It is barely forty years since it awakened to find itself, like the Rip Van Winkle of old, is a world changed beyond recognition, and it has been with hewildered eyes that it has observed the progress of Western nations.

It is needless to repeat here what every one well knows, the story of the opening of Japan by Commodors Perry in 1854. The incoming of the foreign element and the political compli-cations it caused hastened on an inevitable revolution which took place in 1868, one of the greatest that has ever occurred in Japan or in any country, and the more famous since it was almost without bloodshed. Then it was that the true Mikado, the blood descendant of one hundred and twenty-two Emperors, took up his perogatives, and, regaining the real as well in the nominal power of sovereignty, assumed the actual away of the government which had fallen into the hands of powerful nobles, and for two hundred and seventy years had been held by the great Tokugawa Shoguns (Tycoons). The world is well aware that since that time it has been with a blind haste and hurried steps that Japan has atriven to catch up in the progress of civilization. That she has done so with fair success, I think can not be denied. The changes which have shown themselves in every quarter of our country the past forty years have by no means been limited to one sex. The women of Japan, though not so rapidly nor in the same degree as the men, have nevertheless passed out from the middle ages to modern life and civilization during these few years. This has been a necessary effect of the change of surrounding circumstances, but it s ill remains to be seen how far our women will go on beyond the mere outward progress hitherto made, and will themselves pave the way for further advancement intellectually and morally. It is not possible that an age that has seen so much advance will end as it is at present.

In giving an account of women for the past four hundred years in Japan, it will be necessary first to briefly sketch the women of Old Japan, whose condition barely changed, much less progressed, during the past centuries, and then to compare them with the very different women of modern times. It is my task to touch on a revolution, not of government, but of society, a sudden appropriate of old ideas, prejudices, and customs, many of which yet remain to be replaced,—an upheaval which has not actifed down to show as exactly what the women of our country are capable of, what they will desire to do, or what they will be permitted by the men to do. It is therefore no easy task to give a true estimate of the present condition of women in Japan and of the place they occupy, since every year and month brings important changes, and customs varying with almost each family give no clue to the state of things that have been, or to those that are to be.

The women of old Japan at the worst, how-

\* This eport was prepared for the Columbian Exposition of 1891 by Miss Tsuda Sen, a Japan ese lady well known in educational circles. It was not published, however, owing to a change of programme, and we are pleased to be able to lay it before our leaders, for it is the only essay, we be ever, hither or published about Japanese women by a Japanese women. It is entirely from Miss Tsuba's hand. The English is that own; the ideas are her own to the country of the countr

ever, always enjoyed freedom and respectimmeasurably above their Asiatic sisters, and always held a position unique in the East. History, as far back as it goes, has given an honourable place to women. The wives and mothers of the Emperors are carefully mentioned in the records, and they played no unimportant part in the old life. Even passing backward into the age of myths, we read that at the beginning there were two beings who sprang into existence, a God and a Goddess, equal in power and distinction. They represented the male and female elements, and rom them it is believed came the Japanese rulers, In those early ages, strange to say, there seems to have been no feeling making the male the respected, and the female the despised sex—an idea which is entirely foreign to Japanese soil It is very clear how widely this differs from the attitude of other Asiatic countries toward womau. The old ideas regarding woman were enlightened ones, and outside influences have only tended to lower the old standard. Buddhism from Iudia, and still more the precepts of Confucius from China, and the introduction of Chinese manners have caused the subjection of women, and yet in spite of all these foreign innovations, the Japanese women have never at anytime become degraded nor despised, but have time and again risen above the in-ferior position assigned them by custom and the teaching of the philosophers. women of aucient Japan, before this foreign influence was strongly left, presented an almost unprecedented example to the whole world, Nine Empresses have ruled in their own right, A woman was the first historian. ists of rare skill and scholarship may be counted among the sex, and, atrange as it may sound, the greatest of the classic writings are from their hands. In administration, as reigning Empresses, as Regents, as Dowager empresses; as court ladies in political intrigues; as religious devotees, even on the battlefield, women have played a conspicuous part in the ancient life as it comes down to us in history, literature, and tradition. In the tenth and eleventh centuries, in the Imperial court of Kyoto, and amid the laxuries and splendours of those days, we may picture women playing an important part in the life of the times, and often with a secret and unseen hand they have been the movers in intrigues and conspiracies that have sometimes sliaken the throne.

Later on, the spread of Buddhism, the intro duction of Chinese literature, and above all the atrong influence of the Confucian acholars, especially in the sixteenth century, together with the political changes which brought on long civil wars and revolutions in the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries tended to lower the condition of women. Literature and learning were rapidly replaced by the military arts, and skill with the sword ranked bigher than skill with the pen. At the time the new world was presenting its wonders to the nations of Europe, the Japanese woman had snuk down from her former position of respect and equality, and her life, based on Chinese teachings, became nar rowed, her opportunity for displaying talent and skill in those branches which suited her became lessened, and we find the power and influence of the Japanese woman at its lowest ebb. It is unfortunate that at this period we must take up the record.

History has left us but little account of women for the four hundred years which followed. They seem to have played a most insignificant part in the outer world. We hear of few not-ab'e names even in connection with great men. The home was a scaled one hidden from outside gaze. Here in quiet and seclusion the young girl grew up under the strict ductrine of the great Chinese suges, instilled in her by father and mo her. Implicitly obedient to her pasents in childhood, when married she served her bushand as her master, looking to him as her only heaven, and in old age, leaning on sons, who took their father's place, she taught the

† Hiyeta-no-Are (who lived about the year 670 A.D.) is suppused to be the writer of the Kojiki, at ancient history now existing.

same ductrines to her daughters that she had held all her life, impressing on them her standard of duty and right, of gentleness, sacrifice, and self-abnegation. She believed and taught and self-abnegation. She believed and taught that in her limband's life she must live, her personality was merged into his, his home was hers solely by his permission and will, and in all cases, she must yield, adapt, and sacrifice herself. No monuments or records tell of the self-devotion, love and faithful service of these generations of women, and we know not what aspirations or struggles they may have had. But smong the many hidden lives thus hemmed in by social barriers, there were some that arose above their parrow aurroundings and proved themselves real factors in the world, not mere playthings and conveniences for men. Outwardly without the slightest power or influence, we know women to have been the secret agents in political intrigues, even official messengers of the feudal lords in cases when woman's wit, mingled with woman's reserve, served better than man's boldness and bravery. A wife's wise foresight and action helped to win the battle of Sekigahara, one of the greatest battles lought on Japanese soil. In times of danger they have scorned to desert their homes, but have welcomed death for their bushand's sake. Mothers have urged their sons to battle or to revenge, or by judicious counsel have prevented rash deeds. It must be added that physical courage and loyalty were not accidental traits among women. The daughters of the fendal retainers (samurai) un well as the sons, were brought up in bravery. Loyalty to country and la lord and a fearless meeting of death were the first principles under the old feudal system of thirty years ago. Romance and history teem with examples which prove that the women, fully as much as the men, lived up to the ideals held out to them, and dearer than life it was to guard the family honour, and to bring renown on the family name. Thus during the quiet of centuries, life in Japan passed on with but little excitement or change for the men, still less for the women, until the sudden awakening which has taken place within the memory of the present generation of men and women. With this general introduction, I will now pass on in the more special points.

# BDUCATION.

The women of old Japan had few educational advantages. They were, however, not without some training, and except in the lowest classes received instruction in the written language. As the aphere of woman was limited to the domestic circle, it was not supposed to be necessary for bor to receive instruction in matters which coucerned the outside world. Even in the case of a husband's public life, the wife was supposed to have no concern in the matter. As implicit obedience was her lot, it was considered aseless for her reason or judgment to be enlightened; indeed the was hardly thought capable of it. Her education consisted chiefly in moral discipline as embodied in the Onna Daigaku Woman's Great Learning), written by Kalbara Ekken, a great Confucian scholar of the seventeenth century, in which are given the moral duties of woman founded on the teachings of the Chinese sages. In this, as has been before mentioned, a woman was taught subjection, obedience, self-sacrifice, and filial obedience. The Onna Daigadu says—"In childhood, a woman must obey her father, when married her called "The Three Obediences."

The daughters of the sobility were instructed in reading, writing, poetry, and Japanese literature, and in some cases Chinese. These were taught them by masters who came for the purpose to the home. In addition they learned music, the tea ceremony, etiquette, flower arrangement, and incense burning, the last two being branches of etiquette and supposes

the the general under Tokugawa Lyeyasu, finding out the enemy's plans for battle, informed her huse Kojiki, band Dyightskight of them, and her prompt action greatly after the victory of Sekigahara,

to teach calmages and repose. The tea ceremony also was a series of forms and ceremonies, attendant on making a peculiar kind of tea. In some parts of the country the young girls of the nobility were taught to ride horses and to fence (naginata).

In the middle classes among the daughters of retainers (samuras) very much the same course of study with the addition of more Chinese was pursued, but usually in the case of poorer families, the young girls went to the teacher's home for their lessons. This was nearly always either at a temple, where instruction was given by priests, or at the house of a doctor, for priests and doctors were the learned men of the period, and in the interval of other duties would spend their time in giving instruction to the young. There were also writing musters, who gave lessons in penmanship. Sometimes a woman who had spent most of her life in some noble's palace and had never married, would, on leaving service, receive a few young girls for instruction. These may be said to have been the beginning of schools for girls. The pupils were rarely more than thirteen or fourteen years of-age, for it was considered unnecessary for a woman to have more than an elementary knowledge of books, and if she could write a letter and keep the household accounts, nothing more was expected of her. A knowledge of sewing, and household work was indispensable and often comprised the greater part of the training Etiquette was acquired by service in the family of the fendal lord, to enter which was thought a great honour. Dancing and music were also essential accomplishments.

Under these circumstances, it was not easy for women to acquire much learning. Never theless, some young girls of this class gained a far better education than could have been expected. Through the indulgence of father or mother, or by that talent which can not be repressed, it was not such a rare thing for a Japanese women to get a good knowledge of Japanese literature and Chinese classics. Some of the letters and writings left by such women are vigorous in style, clear in thought, and indicate a wide acquaintance with literature.

The daughters of the lower classes (mer chants, farmers, attizans) were far less educated. In the cities they gained the base rudiments of reading and writing, but sometimes spent much time on accomplishments, music and dancing. and often became teachers of them. In the country, the days were too filled with labour in the various occupations with work in the field or at the loom that little time was left for study of any bort.

It will be seen that this limited education was in keeping with the narrow life of those The special stiention paid to etiquette and moral training, the keen sense of duty, loyalty, and honour early instilled into the mind; tended to produce women, who though not intellectually trained, were not without moral responsibility and dignity, mingled with gentleness and sweetness of disposition. In the educational problems of the present day for women, none is more perplexing than the difficulty of keeping the beauty and refinement of the old system, with the broader and new ideas, and the freedom of thought and action, which come from the culture of the intellectual powers Such was the condition of women and the state of education at the time of the revolution in

The changes that have followed each other in rapid succession since then will here be briefly noted. The Government early saw the need of broadening the basis of woman's education, and of giving her opportunities of fitting herself for someting above the mere dally routine in the home. Schools for girls were established and are now on a firm basis, having passed beyond the experimental period. The twenty years which have elapsed since the first schools were The twenty years started show amply the wisdom of this movement and the results have produced great changes in woman's life

The first official step was the establishment of public primary schools for boys and girls all established in 1886 by several well-known women the average polynomen to many injustices that his over Japan in 1869. There are accepted as a matter of course.

This school gives instruction in the literio they have accepted as a matter of course.

pire 25.374 common schools open to both girls essentials of an ordinary education and also and boys, and in 1891 the number of girl students was estimated at 964,194. These schools give instruction in reading, writing, history, arithmetic, geography, and the elements of science. The pupils enter at six years of age and the conrae covers nine years,

In 1871 a small school for Eurasian girls was established in Yokohama. From this beginning the school now known as the Kyo-ritsu Girl's School has grown. Another school in Yokohams, now the Ferris Seminary, was started the same year. It received the aid of the Governor of the Prefecture, and was afterward endowed by Isaac Ferris. These were among the first be-ginnings of girls' education in Japan. In 1872, the Educational Department established the Tokyo Girls School, the first Government school for girls. A preparatory department was added to this for pupils from eight years of age to fifteen. Owing to financial difficulties, the school was closed in 1877.

In 1874 was established by the Government the Higher Normal School for girls. In 1876 a Preparatory Department was attached and in the same year also a Kindergarten was added. In 1882 in place of the Preparatory Department a Girls High School was established. Higher Normal School at present gives the highest course of study as a whole that is offered in any school in Japan. Its purpose is to train teachers for the country Normal and High Schools and the students are selected from graduates of these schools. These are chosen by nomination of the Governors of the different Prefectures all over Japan. All the expenses are paid by the Government.

The only drawback to this institution is that the instruction is open to only a few, and these are only women who can promise to teach a certain term of years. An institution of similar grade opened freely to all who desire higher courses of study is needed.

In 1872, a public high school was established for girls in Kyoto. In 1879, other schools began in the different; rovinces. In 1886 there were nine public and Government high schools, and many private schools were started at this time also. Among them may be mentioned the Atomi Jo Gakko, Toyo Eiwa Jo Gakko, Sakurai Jo Gakko, Meiji Jo Gakko in Tokyo, the Kobe Jo Gakko in Kobe, sud the Baikwa Jo Gakko in Osaka. The standard of instruction is in most of them supposed to be that of a High School course, though each school has its own special features. In many cases, great importance in attached to English. In 1886 was established by H.I.M. the Empress, the Peeresses' school for the daughters of the nobility—the first girls' school for the higher classes. Previous to this there had been a girls' department of the school for the sons of Nobles, established in 1878, and this department was made the nucleus for the new school. It opened with 143 students and twentyfive teachers. At present there are over 400 students and about fifty teachers of whom more than half are women. The course in the lower department covers six years, beginning with pupils at six or seven years of age; the higher department is also for six years. Instruction is given in morals, reading and writing, history, mathematics, natural history; music, drawing and painting, sewing and caleathenics. To Chinese and Japanese literature, sciences, etiquette, English and French, and domestic The Empress visits and inspects the school from time to time and watches the progress of the pupils. She has attended nearly

interest in the welfare and success of the school. The largest private school is the Atomi Girls' School, established about 1876 by Miss Atomi Kwakei. It has sent out 3,000 graduates from its different departments This school modelled on the old system of education for women.

every commencement, and shows the greatest

Corporate Industrial School for Girls in Tokyo, system, and in the fact that education will open

trains them in the industrial arts, which include sewing, knitting, painting, drawing, flower making, embroidery, etc. There are two making, embroidery, etc. There are two courses of study, one for three and one for four years. Seven hours of work are done each day under thirty-two teachers. More than 400 graduates have been sent out, and over 300 pupils are now in the institution. The school has been honoured by a visit from the Empress and a gift of 200 yen, beside the purchase by the Imperial party of many articles made by the pupils.

The Girls High Schools usually give instruction for three or four years beyond the primary schools in ethics, Japanese and Chinese literature, English, history, (native and foreign), geography, mathematics, sciences, drawing, domestic economy and sewing. In the missionary schools, the course in English is long and full, and covers a knowledge of Euglish literature.

It is estimated that almost 6,000 women are engaged in teaching all over the Empire, and the number of girls attending schools is over a million. From 1881-1889 there were 354,892 graduates from different primary and High Schools.

In addition to the educational work in the schools above mentioned, there has been Educational Society." It was started by thirty women in 1888 for the purpose of self-improvement and the spread of knowledge among women. It has a membership of about 400 at the present day, and the members meet once a month for the purpose of listening to lectures given by specialists on differents subjects that pertain to education and the questions of the day. The lectures are printed in a magazine, menaged and edited by a board of women, and published monthly to be distributed to all members. The society also supports, by voluntary contributions, a free primary achool and an industrial school, where young girls are given an elementary education, and are then trained in some industry. This school has at present about fifty pupilis.

No institution offers a higher course to women than is offered in the Normal and High Schools. There are no colleges open to them, and though two women with apecial permission have worked in the Imperial University they are not per-mitted to do so now. Higher education can only be obtained by private study under special masters. Co-education has never been tried, the girls departments of Normal Schools being

entirely separated from the boys,

About the year 1886 there was a great tide in favour of better education for women. At that time many of the girls achools were established and the press and public opinion were almost unanimous in urging that women should have better advantages than they had possessed hi-therto. The girls' schools were well attended, and the standard of instruction was raised in all of them; since then there has come a decided Whether the experiment was conreaction. sidered a failure, or whether there has been dissatisfaction at the methods tried, the tide of public opinion rose against the higher educa-tion for women. Hence it became very difficult to make new openings for women in advanced work. Even the high school course has not been generally attended, and the number of high

schools is exceedingly small.

Many of the educators of the present day, however, feel that this is only a temporary reaction. The women themselves are too anxious for better education, to be kept back long. The rapid advance made hitherto will not, it is believed, end here. There are some that dare hope for educational advantages for women not inferior to those of men before many years have passed. The ardent desire of many women for education is an earnest of success in the future should the opportunity be given for the

odelled on the old system of education for higher development of woman's mind, omen.

The chief danger in going too rapidly in this matter lies in the faults of the present social

When women have the education and the same intellectual training as men, they will not be willing to accept their husbands as their masters, nor can they be all their lives merely passively obedient. Their social status and posi-tion must be raised, or else education will only make them unfitted for and discontented with the life that they must lead. The laws of Japan concerning women have been greatly modified, but a greater reform than that of mere laws must take place in the minds of men, and prejudice and custom must give way to more enlightened ideas of woman's place in the home and in society.

advance to the position of woman in society, but already education has gone further ahead, and the clash between the newly educated girl of the past ten years and the social system under which they live has already produced results that the conservatives are only too ready to lay at the door of educated. No one can deny there has been a decided are only too ready to lay at the door of education. No doubt our educational experiment has been faulty in many ways, for the problem of engrafting western ideas and education on to an old Eastern civilization in many points highly advanced is a difficult one to grapple with.

The best methods have not yet been worked ont for even the present system of education for women, low an the standard is. We have still to come to the question of the higher education, When the time comes for that, there will be many grave difficulties and problems peculiar to our national ideas and customs which will confront the pioneers, and which will need more than ordinary wisdom, strength and perseverance to overcome.

# THE " JIJI" ON ELECTION REFORM.

The Government, says the Jiji, has at last determined to submit the revised Election Law to the Diot. The most important points of revision contemplated are the extension of electoral districts, the independence of cities, and the increase in the number of members. The project may produce no extraordinary benefit, but it represents a certain degree of progress. According to the existing regulations no person is entitled to vote unless he pays over fifteen yen yearly in the form of direct national taxes, and the number of voters throughout the empire does not exceed 460,000, or one-nineleeth of the entire population. The representative system of Japan is thus but nominal; in no western country can such a restrictive system of representative government be found. Qualifications of voters as to the payment of tax are to be reduced to five or even three ven. was feared that the lowering of the tax paying limits would tend to increase the number of uneducated people among the voters, but surely the intellect of a man does not depend upon the amount of taxes he pays. The increase of persons eligible for voting throws a considerable difficulty in the path of bribery and intimidation. The extension of districts is commendable. In a limited area of election those who have the largest connection with the soil invariably win the victory, and many eminent politicians have hitherto failed to win through the influence of some petty common school teacher or village headman. As regards the independence of cities, there can be no objection whatever. A greater importance ought of course to be attached to cities in consideration of their wealth and refinement, but the existing law gives the rustics overwhelming numerical superiority. The interests of merchants and manufacturers in flourishing cities have, under these circumstances, been grievous-ly disregarded in Parliament. It one member is returned by a city for every 50,000 of its population and by tural districts for every 80,000, the whole number of representatives throughout the emp re will be a little over 470, an increase which will strengthen the foundations of Parliament. Tifi, be removed. Digitized by

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Five thousand Spanish soldiers hold the road leading from Manila to Cavite.

The May number of McClure's Magazine contains a very interesting article (illustrated) by Cleveland Moffet on "John Milne: Observer of Earthquakes."

Admiral Dewey, according to a Hongkong telegram that appears in the Shanghai Mersupplied with arms and ammunition from Cavite Arsenal.

Food is getting very scarce in Manila, m the rebels are stopping all supplies coming in from the land, and U.S. Squadron are seeing that supplies do not reach the Spaniards by sea. The troops and others are now eating horse

The British ships Altanta (Captain McBridge) and Beeswing (Captain Griffith), which cleared from New York on April 6th, are racing to their destination, Shanghai, for a bet, the stakes being \$500 gold. The Atlanta is 1,630 tons and was secured at Glasgow in 1885. The Beeswing is 1.354 tons and was launched at Newcastleon-Tyne in 1889.

An auction of freehold property, belonging to the estate of the late Mr. H. St. John Browne, was held on the 17th inst, on the premises by Mr. R. H. Powers, at 23-a, and 24, Oura, Naga-The lot of ground known as 23-A Ours, with buildings thereon, realized 9, 100 year, whilst 24, Oura, a piece of vacant ground, was purchased for 2,600 yen.

Dr. T. C. Thornicraft has written a letter to the Committee of the Kobe Lawn Tennis Club in which he offers a prize to be called "The Thornicraft Handicap and Cup," to be competed for by the lady members under certain

The Echo states that a good deal of uneasy feeling was rife among the natives at Foochow about the prolonged stay of the French ships Descartes and Fean Bart. It has again been rumoured among the Chinese that an attempt would be made by the French to land men at the Arsenal.

Among those who left Hongkong for Manila in the Hugh McCulloch on May 17th was Emilio Aquinaldo, who had been ying perdu in the Colony since his arrival in the Malacca from Singapore at the beginning of the month. He was accompanied by Colonel Marcelo H. del Pilar, his A.D.C., Mr. J. Leyba, his private secretary, and filteen others who form his Council.

From the returns compiled by Llayd's Register of Shipping, it appears that, excluding warships, there were 606 vessels of 1,185 ta tons gross under construction in the United Kingdom at the close of the quarter ended 31st March. During the quarter 160 steam vessels of 229,687 gross tonuage and 5 sailing vessels of 602 gross tonnage were launched. There were 16 war vessels of 104 810 tons displacement under construction at Royal dockyards, and 49 vessels of 133 695 tons displacement at private yards. At private yards there were 30 war vessels of 117.429 tons displacement for foreign powers.

A pretty story is told of the home life of the Czar. Alexander III, was said to be an auto-Czar. Alexander III, was said to be an crat even in the bosom of his family. Nicholas however, is the very reverse. He regards however, is the very reverse. He regards his consort as a good comrade, and when, in urgent cuses, Ministers seek an audience late in the evening, he is invariably to be found in

embroidery work. Immediately a Minister enters she rises as if to retire, but more often than otherwise the Czar informs her that she is not one loo many.

The Tokyo Literary and Musical Society held its last meeting for the season on Monday even-ing. The following was the programme:-

g Piano Duet	
	Miss Gertrude Page.
2,-Recitation	Mr. Fage,
	Mr. McKim,
4 -Song	Mrs. Page.
5 Piano Solo	
6Piano Solo	Mrs. Clement,
7.—Song	Mrs. Acnold,
8 -Story	The Rev. Mr. Lloyd-
o -Violins	The Misses Page

Various figures relating to the Supplementary Budgets submitted by the Government to the Diet this session are given by the vernacular press. They are incomplete, however, and we therefore refrain from reproducing them until a full and accurate account can be rendered. It will be of interest to note, however, that the sum which has to be appropriated from the Indemnity on account of purposes not originally in-cluded among the items to be defrayed from that source, appears to be 12,884,163 yen.

There can be no second opinion as to the justice of the Queen's action in conferring upon Mr. J. H. Gubbins the cross of St. Michael and St. George. Mr. Gubbins has rendered distinguished service to his country. As a Japanese scholar he ranks with the brilliant little band of British sinologues composed of Satow, Aston. and Chamberlain, and me an official he has displayed not only high ability, but also remark-able qualities of diligence and assiduity. We trust that this well-merited honour may prove the prelude to the still more desirable reward of an independent post, opening a wider prospect of promotion and distinction than the Consular Service can give,

The following general orders were issued by Rear-Admiral Dewey on the 11th inst. to the officers and men of the U.S. squadron now at

1.—The following telegram from the Secretary of the Navy is published for the information of the

Squadron: — Washington, May 7th, 1808

Dewey, care American Consul, Hongkong. The President in the name of the American people thanks you and your officers and men for your splendid achievement and ove whelming victory. I recognition he has appointed you by Congress as a foundation for further promistion."

Long, Secretary."

-lo accordance with the above I have this day hoisted my flag as Reas-Admiral on board the Fragship Olympia.

Ex-Postmaster-General John Wanamaker on April, 5th sent this telegram to the U.S. Secretary of War :-

Though opposed to war unless honorably un-avoidable, in the event of its coming I will, under your instructions, raise a regiment of Pennsylva-sians for military duty and go with them for service.

After sending his offer Mr. Wanamaker posted in his store a notice as follows :-

In order that our men may have easy minds in considering and arranging their affairs in the event of being called upon for military service, this

notice is posted to say;
First—That all the positions thus vacated will be reopened to return to when the military service

is over.

Second—That all salaries will continue in full in such absence for actual service, and be paid to the authorized representatives of the respective families of employs.

Third—An insurance to the amount of \$1,000 will be paid by the firm in case of each death while any of our people are actually engaged in

A most conspicuous object in Hongkong harbour at present, says the China Mail, is the steamer Arizona, which has come out from home as an addition to the fleet of the Northern Pacific Company, of which Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co. are the local agents. The Arisona is the freeze white with strengthen the foundations of the freeze white restrictions with her company, chatting and laughing without & Co. are the local agents. The Arisons is regard to age also should, in the opinions of the restriction. The Car is generally occupied at well known a strength of the freeze with the restriction. The Car is generally occupied at well known as trength of the freeze which the freeze while the Czarina busies herself with the principle of the freeze was applied,

at which time she was one of the Guion line of steamers running between Liverpool and New York. A big change has been effected in the internal arrangements of the vessel, and she has been specially fitted to do the long trip across the Pacific. She is fitted with entirely new engines and five of the latest pattern of There is accommodation for forty boilers. first-class passengers, and she has very large and siry staterooms, each containing two berths and neatly furnished. A spacious dining saloon is placed on the upper deck, and on the promenade deck are situated the ladies' room, library, and smoking room. The vessel is lighted by electricity, and she has also refrige-rating machinery. Her tonnage is 5,305. On the trip up from Singapore, with only three boilers in use and going easily, the run was made in four days eight hours.

Mr. Reid, of the China Mail, interviewed Admiral Montojo, commander of the Spanish fleet at Manila, and asked him if he wished to comment on the conditions that contributed to the disastrous defeat of the Spanish squadion. The Admiral thought for a moment or two, and then said :-- "I wish to say that the responsibility lies with the Government in Madrid. There were no proper vessels here. Ever since I assumed command of the naval station here, I have been requisitioning the Government for ships and torpedoes; and nothing came. I had no torpedoes whatever. I constructed some for myself, but we did not have proper material and the torpedoes were very bad. original intention was to go to Subic Bay, Subic being a military port 65 miles north of Manils, and to offer battle there to the American We went there several days ago, and I fleet. would have remained had the port been protected adequately with cannon and torpedoes, but as the Subic fortifications offered no protection I brought my ships back to Manile Bay. I went to Subic believing it to be protected, but, seeing it would have taken more than a month to make it even passably capable of defence I had no remedy, the American squadron being on its way to the Philippines, but to abandon Subic and rely upon the shelter of Cavite, We left Manila for Subic on the #5th of April and returned on the afternoon on the 30th, the day before the arrival of the American fleet, The Minister of Marine promised to send supplies, but they never came. I knew from the first that my squadron would be completely destroyed; I knew the Americans had men-ofwar whereas my ships were incapable of fighting with any chance of success. The Americans had at least 150 guns, modern and all of superior pattern. Ours were interior in number and calibre."

Every woman of Spain, Spanish or American, that I have met [on the Franco-Spanish border], says Katherine de Forest in Harper's Bazaar, has a special shrine in her heart for the queen, of whom they speak with the same adoration with which the average English woman mentions Queen Victoria, or the average Dutchwoman Queen Emma. My American Spanish friends tell me she has to the most extraordinary degree the royal endowments of tact and good sense. Many of the grandees of Spain are of far older birth and family than the Austrian princess whom Alfonso XII. chose to take the place of his gentle little cousin Mercedes after her death. Think of Marie Antoinette and the French, and then of this young Anatrian going a land whose language even she had scarcely ever heard, and where she must win not only her people's, but her husband's heart; for we all remember that in the beginning all the young king's tenderness was buried in the grave of his child-wife. Marie Christine conquered first her husband's love, closed his eyes in his last sleep, and then bravely and nobly waited alone until the time of her trial was ended and the posthumous heir to the throne was born. By far the hardest part of her task lay before her then-to reconcile the various Spanish parties, to praise for liberal-ism without alignating the reaction (7) 181. (1) the monarchy, and to take her prace as a queen

without offending the pride of those haughty grandees who we know so well through our own Motley, are on the lookout for the least oppor-tunity to criticise "the Austrian," and, above all, to be jealous of her influence over the young king. Has ever any woman in modern times more bravely and successfully accomplished a more herculeau task? It is only through her wonderful care that the little king is alive. is a remarkably delicate child, but not the imperious and baughty little person that legend represents him, I am told. On the contrary, he has naturally a very sweet disposition, and is tractable and kind. His health improves constantly as he grows older.

# CORRESPONDENCE.

# RIPPA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL." Six.—The word Rappa is defined by B inkley as meaning "magnificent, fine"; may I give an illustrative example of what Rappa means to some Јарапече ?

Ten years or so ago two missionary families took op their residence in Kumamato for Christian work in connection with a boys' school which had been organized by some Christian Japanese. Their purpose was, it is true, not limited to teaching in the school, but their work in the school was no merely nominal affair, but was genuine teaching to which a substantial amount of time was given in fact for a time une man gave all his time to work in the school. In order to obtain a wholesome place of residence, fand was bought and two houses were finally erected with loreign money, the pro-perty being held at first by one brend of the school, and afterwards by its trustees, with the agreement that when the foreigners withdrew from Kumamoto, the trustees should sell the property and pay back the proceeds to the union Board Inasmuch as the missionaries were giving their services to the school free of charge, it does not appear that this was asking an excessive service of the trustees. Thus the property was for the benefit of the school as providing homes for the terest of the scroot as providing somes for the foreigners who taught in it free of charge, and it was legally held by the trustee, but only on the understanding that they would return the proceeds of it to the union Board whenever it ceased to be available for missionary residence.

In time the management and character of the achool were changed, and the trustees terminated their connection with the missionaries and refused them further use of the houses, though assuring them that they would do the honorable thing in regaid to the property.

Some time passed without any thing being done by the trustees, and in the meantime the boys' school was discontinued, a girls' school being still maintained. At length matters were brought to a head by the Government's taking the land for military purposes. The proceeds of the property minitary purposes. The proceeds of the property amounted to almost exactly 4 000 year. Accordingly the Treasurer of the Mission went to Kumanioto to receive the proceeds according to the agreement. (It should be mentioned that the present trustees-only one of whom even claims to be a Christian—ne a different set of men from those who made the agreement, but have succeeded to the property and obligations of their predecessors). As the money had not yet been actually paid by the Government, the business could not then be completed, and the trustees expressed a desire that out of the proceeds a present might be made to them for their gible's chool but they emphatically declared that they would Rippa no return the proceeds of the property to the intestion; they fully admitted their duty to do this, and assured the Treasurer that they would do this Rippa ni. Eighteen months passed without anything being heard teen mentus passed without anything being heard from them, although it was known that they had the 4,000 yen in bank, but a few days ago the Treasurer received a letter from one of them saying that he remitted the proceeds of that property, and enclosing a draft for—one thousand pen. Rippa na Koto!

I am, Sir, etc., D. W. LEARNED. Kyeto, May 20th, 1898.

THE RIVAL FLEETS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I don't want to bere you with tables of war ships but I hate to see you in error so he original Fairly and a single war ships but I hate to see you in error so he original Fairly and a single war ships but I hate to see you in error so he original Fairly and a single war ships but I hate to see you in error so he original Fairly and a single war ships but I hate to see you in error so he original Fairly and a single war ships but I hate to see you in error so he original Fairly and a single war ships but I have made a few tables, which is the same of the original Fairly and the same of the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and the original fairly and t

I have kept exceful track of the war ships of both Spain and the U.S. for several mountles past and these tables are based on information then obtained these tables are based on information then obtained and noted. I notice that nearly all the papers out there seem to think the Spanish Navy superior to that of the U.S. This is a curious error to me, for amborities during the part year, like Cowler for example, make the U.S. Navy superior to the Spanish in the ratio of 6 to 4. Of course that counts ships building. But even so, the Spanish are in very bad shape having so many ships undergoing senairs. No less that four ships were at St. going repairs. No less that four ships were at St. Seyne, France, and were burried to Cadiz a few weeks before the war opened for fear they might be caught there; two ships are building, leaving a possible fleet of announced vessels of six ships. In answer to this, the Americans have eleven ships and a sam, all in commission in the Atlantic. In reply to the three effective Spanish cruisers the Americans have nine. Not only so, but ship for ship the Americans are superior in almost ever case, In the case of the 1st class battleships the superiority it overwhelming. If the telegram is correct which minens us that the Spanish fleet has concentrated informs in that the Spanish fleet has concentrated at Martinique, it probably consists of six acmoired ships abd three cruivers—which is all they have, so that as I can see. Admiral Sampson is reported to have the same number of ships—nine—so the number are apparently the same. His ships are probably: Iowa, Indiana, Puritan, Terror, Amphitrite, Detroit, Montgomery and New York (flag ship). This fleet in stronger than the Spanish. I notice that you have confounded the double-qurietted monitors of the U.S. Navy with the old single-turretted monitors built during the civil war. There are 12 of these old ships and they are There are 13 of these old ships and they are being used as harbour defence boats. The doublefurefied monitor is a new boat, sea-going, armonied with Hacveyed steel and carries the best American guns. They have been building them slowly for about 10 years. Yours faithfully

1.W.D.

steel

the old veyed 8

U.S. EFFECTIVE FLEET. Battle. etad with Harě uble turi m papado ::: Dumble armented 4 F. Rapid 12111161 2 4440 11 | OO | OO OO 111113 | | | 4 | | 5 ; 12 them r commission. The commission of the commission of the consider the commission of the 15-5 17 8-6 15-6 17 8-6 15-6 17 8-6 15-6 17 8-6 15-6 17 8-7 15-6 17 8-7 15-6 17 8-7 15-6 17 8-7 15-6 17 8-7 These ships are all in the Adautic and in com-monitors—relies of the Civil War —but are new steel and the best Americans of 3 5 4 4 5 21 4,000 4,000 4,000 6,000 2,155 Total 1 ! ! !

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	13
	SPANISH FLEET.
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# YOKOHAMA PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of Shareholders called for the 23rd was not held, owing to the absence of a quorum.

In accordance with the Rules, the meeting is postponed one week, to the 30th instant, at 5 o'clock p.m. May 24th. A. O. GAY. Chairman

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30тн, 1898.

Dr.		
Working account, wages, &c	-	899 99
Insurance on building and furniture Interest on mostgage \$9,500, at 6 per		164.75
CG111		570 90
Repairs		101.75
Ground rent		97 56
Improvements		272.14
Farniture, Chair-, &cc.		186.72
Balance	\$2	,001.57
	\$4	294 48
CR.		

\$4.294.48 6 months interest on loan due May 23rd. \$ 285 00 1,200.00

97.56 Balance, estimated ..... 169 ot \$2,001 57

Yokohama, May 14th, 1898. Compared with vouchers and found correct. Tom Thomas, Hon, Treasurer, (Signed)

Yokohania, May 19th, 1898. (Signed) Aug, Eggi.

# JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY.

The twelfth ordinary general meeting of this Company was held at the Brewery on Wednesday. Mr. James Dodds presided, and there were also present Mr. W. R. Bennett, Mr. O. Haynemann (representing Carl Rohde and Company) Dr. Divers, Mr. M. Kirkwood, Mr. R. Wylie, Dr. Riess, Mr. H. Heckert, Mr. J. Stewart, Mr. J. D. Hutchison, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. A. B. Walford, Mr. H. Z. Wheeler, Captain Weston, Mr. Y. Duer, Mr. C. W. Ure, Mr. Rosenthal, Mr. W. Sutter, Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Jas. Stewart (Secretary).

THE INCREASE OF CAPITAL.

A special meeting was first held for the purpose of confirming the resolutions passed at the recent extraordinary meeting increasing the capital and making sundry alterations in the shares.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that these resolutions

be passed en bloc.

Mr. Duer seconded, and it was carried.

With reference to the resolution for the conversion of capital from dollars to you, the CHAIRMAN mentioned that he had been advised since the last mentioned that this might not be practicable, and that this authorities in Hongkong might not sanction the alteration, for which there was no precedent. In that case they would have to retain the capital as it was.

THE REPORT.

The general meeting was then held. The report was taken as read; it was as fol-

The Directors have the pleasure to present here

with the Accounts of the Company for the business year ended 31st March, 1893.

The Sales of the past year again show a considerable increase, and there is reason to believe that such increase will be maintained during the year new commenced.

An additional fermentation cellar, required to cope to some extent with the cularged business, has been constructed and fitted during the year,

has been constructed and fitted during the year, and is now in use with good results.

The Working Account for the year shows a profit of \$97,084 45, which, added to the sum of \$9,801.99 brought forward from last year, makes the Profit and Loss Account amount to \$106,886.44.

From this sum an interim Dividend of 10 per cent, paid in November, 1897, together with part Bonus paid to Chief Brewer, amounting to \$15,750 00, has to be deducted.

This feaves a balance of \$91,136.14 for distribution, which the I)irectors propose to dispose of as follows:

Digitized by

To payment of a final dividend for the 22,524.24 4.440.00 14,172 00

\$91,136.44 The Board of Directors now consists of the following gentlemen, viz.: "Messes. J. Dodds, J. D. Hutchison, W. R. Bennett, and O. Haynemann, The re-appointment of Mr. Dodds requires confirmation; and Messes. Bennett and Haynemann region by rotation. Rath are alignible for respection. retire by rotation. Both are eligible for re-election but Mr. Bennett, only, offers himself.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

JAMES STEWART, Yokoliama, 20th May, 1898. Secretary. GENERAL BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH, 1898. Dr. LIABILITIES.

To 1,500 Shares at \$100 each fully count ..... 91,136.44

> Cc. ASSETS.

\$486,627 58

By Landed property and Buildings By Machinery in operation 48,105.27
By Plant, Casks and Vats, Corking By Working Stores, Malt, Hops,
Stock of Beer and Bottles
By Office and other Forcione
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank 48,804.56 177,285 83 765 81 Account
By Petry Cash
By Coal 22,696.59 10.78

Coal Fire Insurance Policies Current ... 175 00 920 79 By Sundry Debtors..... 72,674 93 \$486,627.58

WORKING ACCOUNT. Dr.

31st March, 1898. 6,827.09 11,541.40 411.15 To Fire Insurance To Fire Insurance
To Salaries and Wages..... 3.105 51 31,420.19 18,092 39 13,025 19 To Discounts, Commission and Ad-92,867.43 1,500 00

97,084.45 \$275,874.80 Cr.

31st March, 1898. By Profit on Brewing Account....... By Waste Grains ..... 946.00 \$275,874.80

PROPIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT. 1808. Dr.

ist March. 31st March, To Interim Dividend and Bayus paid 

\$106,886 44 1898. 31st March. By Balance from year 1896/7 ....... By Working Account for year 1897/8 9.801 90 97,084.45

JANES STHWART, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books, Vouchers and Securities in the possession of the Company and find them to be correct.

R. S. SCRWABE, Auditors.

for, as you know, I have heen absent from Volcohama for a year. I feel that I am more or lease
out of tonich with the business of the Company,
and, my cetum having been so recent, I have not
yet been able to pick up completely the lost threads.
I will therefore ask your indulgence it my remarks
on the position of the Company has continued
to prosper, that the demand for the beer has
lease them usual. I am glad to find that during the
term of my absence the Company has continued
to prosper, that the demand for the beer has
largely increased, and that the sources of the
Company have heen taxed to the utmost to
meet that demand. But with the increase
of business have come increased expenses,
an advance in salaries in consideration of
lengthened service, an advance in wages to
Japanese Staff, an increase in the cost of coal,
an increase in the price of all commodities and
almost everything that comes into use at the
Brewery. Even, however, with all this taken into
consideration the Ducctors have to admit that
they are disappointed with the result of the busiiness of the year, muse especially with the working of the last six months. This has only been
ascertained recently in making up the accounts
for the year and requires further investigation
than the Baard have as yet had time to devite to
the subject. But it is still receiving their attention. They have already gone very fully into the
while question of beer production and of cost of
the working and in spite of the increased expenses already mentioned they think the unsatisfactory
result is capable of further explanation. Meanwhile they are of opinion that should sales this
year remain the same as least, even if there is no
uncrease, of which there is every prospect, the
Profit and Loss Account should make a much better
showing by some \$25,000. Everyl increased
has since the 31st March had a very full examination and valuation made of buildings and of
machinery and path of plant by Wesser. Diack
and Patterson respectively. The former has
valued the prosperity. Arrangements are now being made with his successor for the carrying on of the Direc-J. MacLean, Additors.

If or distri
of dispose of

The Chairman said:—I feel a certain amount

The Chairman said:—I feel a certain amount

of dispose of the Company feel that not only Owiginal staff have an additional s

holder will, in the sphere of his influence, lend them all the support and assistance in their power to promote the Company's business by way of to promote the Company's business by way of suggestions and information which will always be acceptable to the Board and meet with every stantion. Mr. Diack's and Mr. Patterson's valuations are to be put on the table for inspection of shareholders wishing to see them.

MR. Ura asked what was the discrepancy which arose this year. He supposed the chairman was referring to the building account.

The Chairman: More especially to the building account.

MR. URE: Is this to be explained in any way? The CHAIRMAN: It cannot be at present. The account has been gone into thoroughly by the auditors and the office staff. It is perfectly plain as to figures. It has been explained by the rise in expenses, but not to the full satisfaction of the directors.

Mr. URE: The directors do not think the accounts are correct?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, they have been passed by the auditors and appear to be entirely correct. We can explain away many items of increase, but we at present are unable to explain the absence of profit which we see.

Mr. URE, proceeding, said there seemed to be a MR. URE: Is this to be explained in any way?

ansence of profit which we see.

Mr. URB, proceeding, said there seemed to be a
discrepancy of about \$27,000.

The CHAIRMAN said there had been an increase
in the price of malt and hops, but not sufficient to
account for so large a difference between this year
and last. and last.

Mr. URE: The difference is so enormous that I think it calls for some explanation, before the

BCCounts are passed.
The CHARMAN said the matter rested with the

shareholders.

Mr. URB then referred to the charges account

Mr. URB then referred to the charges account. He said in ordinary years it amounted to about 6,000 dollars; last year it was allout 11,000; this year it was 18,000 odd.

The CHARMAN: That is not quite correct. Last year the figures were \$13,805. The Chairman added that the heavy increase of freights, especially to Kohr, and the advance of prices and expenses generally, partly accounted for the increase in the account. One item of \$1,000 was accounted for by the amount voted to the company's agents in order to protect their labels against fraudulent imitation.

Mr. URB called attention to the total of 13,025

Mr. URE called attention to the total of 13,025 dollars under wear and tear account, compared

with 6,802 dollars hat year.

The Chairman said in maintaining the various parts of the Brewery in thoroughly efficient condition more money had been spent last year proportionately than ever before. As the machinery and plant grew older the larger became the sum required year by year to maintain them in a proper state. That that had been done hey would see by the valuations to which he referred in his

marks.
Mr. Where called attention to the item of the Admira "sundry creditors."
He considered 72,674 dollars " sundry creditors." 72,074 dollars "sundry creditors." He considered that a very large sum, and he asked if the Chairman could explain a tumour he (Mr. Wheeler) had heard to the effect that the Brewery "stood to lose "110,000 dollars by outstanding accounts.

The CHAIRMAN said it was certainly out of his power to explain a monoir which Mr. Wheeler might happen to have heard. As the business and they had necessarily large outstandings, as their agents handled the built of the beer. He did not think it was desirable that they should divide the nature of the company's business at the meeting, but if any shareholder wished for information as to any of those debts he could have it privately.

MR. WHEREER; The amount shown there is

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, I think we can say that. Of course most firms must give a certain credit, but it is our aim to minimise this as far as possible.

Mr. WHEELER then seconded the adoption of the report, and it was carried.

# PLECTION ON DIRECTORS

The next business was the election of directors. On this Mr. WHEELER said that he had no in-On this Mr. Whenler said that he had no intention of being offensive, but he believed in what he was about to say he voiced the opinion of a great many shareholders. He believed Messers. Call Rohde and Co. were funishers of supplies to the Company, and he did not think it suictly good form for a man representing a firm supplying the company to have a seat on the board. A gentleman in such a position must either be loyal to his house or loyal to the company, and he was much house or loyal to the company, and he was much

Mr. Kirkwood, with some emphasis, said no director had ever served the company's interest more faithfully Doughte Boy

The CHAIRMAN said he could endorse that statement. Both Mr. Bachr and Mr. Robble across to the opposite shore, while the Japanese before him had been perfectly loyal to both interest, and on any question affecting their own firm the might say that Mr. Bachr and also Mr. Hayne-be might say that Mr. Bachr and also Mr. Hayne-back as the firm discussion.

The Kuling now set out to find the refugees, and

he might say that Mr. Baehr and also Mr. Hayne-mann had stood aside from discussion.

Mr. WYLE proposed that the new board should consist of Mr. Dodds, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Hutchison, Mr. T. B. Glover, and Mr. James.

Mr. Ure moved as an amendment that the toard should consist of six members and that the name of Mr. Gordon should be added.

Mr. Wareten moved that the discussion be

Mr. WHEELER moved that the directors be elected singly instead of collectively.

Captain Weston seconded.

Mr. Wheeler said his object was to raise a protest against Mr. Baehr, who had been nominated. If, however, Mr. Baehr's nomination was not submitted be (Mr. Wheeler) would withdraw his amendment.

It was explained that Mr. Bachr's nomination was not before the meeting, and this amendment

was therefore withdrawn.

Mr. GLOVER said if the directors were to be limited to five he would propose that Mr. Gordon's name be substituted for his own (Mr. Glover's). He (Mr. Glover) was a resident in Tokyo, and could not be so useful a director as Mr. Gurdon.

Mr. Gurwoon said it was yery much to the

Could not be so useful a director as Mr. Gurdon.
Mr. KIRKWOOD said it was very much to the interest of the company to have Mr. Glover on the board. It was important to have at least one of the management living in Tokyo, and Mr. Glover had done most useful work on behalf of the Com-

Mr. GORDON strongly recommended that Mr.

Giover should be among the directors.

Mr. Ung made a number of modifications to his amendment in the attempt to meet the wishes of various sections of the meeting until the Chara-MAN, in a state of bewilderment, said so many alterations had been made that he did not exactly know where the matter stood. At length, however, the issue was simplified, and Mr. Use sub-

mitted his amendment—as follows :
That the Board consist of Mr. Dodds as Chair man, Messis, Bennett, Hutchison, Glover, James,

and Gordon. Mr. WHEBLER seconded.

The amendment on being put to the meeting was declared lost.
Thereupon Mr. URE demanded a ballot, and on

this being taken it appeared that 212 votes were against the amendment (and in favour of a direcorate of five) and that 140 votes were in favour of the amendment and a directorate of six.

Mr. WYLIE's proposition was then put and

# AUDITORS.

Messes, Schwabe und Maclean were re-elected auditors, on the proposition of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. WYLIB.

# THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Une raised a point as to the acticles of association of the company. He did not think they at all represented the wister of the Stratcholders, and they should be thoroughly revised.

The CHAIRMAN said the directors had long the LHAIRMAN Said the directors had long been of the same opinion, and he thought a fitting opportunity presented itself to revise the rules when the new capital was duly sanctioned. He thought be could promise on behalf of the directors

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors.

# THE SHASHI RIOTS.

A representative of the N. C. Daily News, who A representative of the N.-C. Daily News, who has visited Shashi on board the Kuling, given the following account of the recent riots:—As we counted the bend preparatory to hauling up to the China Merchants' hulk, moored below the own near the new Customs buildings, no trace of bulk nor of the houseboats in which were objected the British Corent and the Customs utidoor staff was visible; mathing but a column consided the British Consul and the Customs outdoor staff was visible; nothing but a column of smoke rising above the glassy surface of the river marked the spot where the hulk once lay; and an shore the charted mins of the newly erected, imposing Custom buildings and of the Japanese Consulate and the China Merchants' and the China Merchants' and the China Merchants' and the china Merchants' late offices, showed but too truly that another Yangtze riot had taken place. A dense blue-coated mob lined the river banks, but the water at this spot alive usually with traffic was a desolate waste. As soon as Captain Grayson had brought his vestel's head up-stream a boat put off from the

were said to have escaped in Chinese dress and taken refuge in the Taora's yaméa.

The Kuling now set out to find the refugees, and steamed neroes to the south shore and thence down tiver. We soon noticed a sumpain from which a white kerchief was being waved, and from it picked up the Swedish missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Ryden and Mrs. Tgellström, with two children, and "boys." They had passed the night in the sampain crowded up with five bostnen. They told us that on seeing the flames of the burning buildings (their mission is on the river bank, half a mile higher up), the neighbours came and niged them to flee and helped them to carry down to their boat a supply of most nreded clothing and food. They thus got away totally unmolested. The mission buildings were not set fire to; indeed, they do not appear to have been touched at all by the Hunanese, who seem to have marked out for vengeance solely the Customs and steamer establishments. We next picked up a boat crowded with the crew of the China Merchant's lintk, Ningpo men and Cantonese, who seem to be particularly obnoxions to the Shashi mob and so had field in terror of their lives.

As we went up the river in search of Neumann and the Customs Staff a Chinese gunboat was discorned putting out into the stream, and as we

As we went up the river in search of Neumann and the Customs Staff a Chinese gunboat was discerned putting out into the stream, and as we tapidly steamed towards it, we descried a white speck in the crowd of blue-coated outives in which we soon recognised the familiar white waistcoat covering the portly form of the commissioner. With him were Messes, Sharples and Jobst, and from them we learnt how sudden and mexpected was the attack made upon them and in how determined a manner the rioters had carried it out. ed a manner the cloters had carried it out. mined a manner the roters and carried it min-They unshed the house, axes and spears in hand, goings heating, and drums rolling, and with shouts of "Sha yang ièn" (Slay the foreigners) broke in the doors and windows and proceeded to look the rooms and fire the building. The three Europeans, the doors and windows and pheened the properties of the three Europeans, armed with two revolvers, literally backed step by step holding the crowd at bay from the house down the bank to the boat in which they ultimately

escaped.

The ostensible origin of the ript was a quarrel, on the preceding day, between the watchman on board the China Merchants' hulk and a Hunan boalman who had misconducted himself on board. This man summoned his comrades to avenge him, and on the following day the agent of the China Merchants' Company endeavoured to compromise the matter, but all offers of movey compensation the matter, but all offers of money compensation were loudly refused, and the meb, called together by a gong, immediately set about destroying the hulk by saturating it with kerosene and then setting fire to it. The luth, one of the old Foochow teak-loudit gumboats, burnt slowly, and thus we were able to witness its smouldering remains twelve hours after it had been set fire to. Another detachment of the sinters proceeded to the premises on the shore opposite occupied by the Company, thence to the Japanese Consulate adjoining, and from there to the Customs' buildings, who close by. At the same time the large louseboat in which resided the outdoor staff was burnt: the houseboat in the occupation of the British Consul, which resided the outdoor start was mint: the home-boat in the occupation of the British Consul, which was moned alongside, escaped by the prompt action of the Consul's boy and crew, who cut the boat adulft and slipped down stream before the moters had time to board her. Mr. Ciennell himself was fortunately away.

The new Cusion house was a large handsome building dominating the town by its height and size and was just completed. Mr. Neumann had moved in from the junk upon which he had been living since the opening of the port (a year or more ago) only nive days before; harely time to congratula e himself on the acquisition of the comparison, where residence, so soon to be a givent. modious share residence, so soon to be a prey to the flames, which he had so painstakingly erected. As the mob arrived and having scaled the versudal, commenced to hatter in the doors and windows, Mr. Neumann, alone and unarmed, was in a most perilous position. Fortunately, Messra-Sharples and Jobst came quickly to his rescue, revolvers in hand, and the three succeeded in revolvery in hand, and the three succeeded in beating a retreat before the mobinal time to pluck up courage to proceed to further violence than yells and brickbats. They all describe it as an extremely narrow escape and a terrible experience. They all have nothing but the clothes they stand in, and, as they purpose remaining affort near the spot, under the protection of the Taotai's gunboats, they were glad to be temporarily fired out with such articles of clothing, etc., as the Kuling's passengers could spare them. The Taotai immediappears to have been seriously alarmed about the fate of the Foreign Custams officials: he set out at 3 a.m. this morning to come down tiver and As soon as Captain Grayson had brought his vesself appears to have been seriously alarmed about phlasis, said no shore, and we learnt that at dusk yesterday a Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mobilized sacked the place, the Company's interests and the Hunanese mob

ing the cioters; some fifty men put in an appearance when it was too late, but had they been on the spot at the beginning those Hunan " traves" would have been equally ineffective; no one seems to possess authority to order them to fice on a mob. even supposing they would obey such an order.

The mob at Shashi have always been a terror to Europeans ever since the port of Ichang was opened and the passing steamers called there for passengers. In January of last year, Mr. Neumann with two members of the Lyons mission, while walking in the adjoining country were severely pelted; Mr. Neumann was badly cut severely pelted; Mr. Neumann was badly cut about and narrowly escaped serious injury.

As to the remoter causes of the riot, these

As to the remater causes of the not, these doubtless are to be found in the prospective opening of Yochon and Human generally to foreign trade, and in the taking over of the likin by the Foreign Customs. But the root of all trouble in the Yangize Valley are the Humanese. These people foodly imagine that they have succeeded and can still succeed in keeping the detested foreigner at have.

reigner at bay. A pleasing feature in this riot, and one noticeable in other riots, is the faithful conduct of the able in other riots, is the faithful conduct of the Chinese servants towards their employer. Mr. Neumann's clerk, a young Foothow man named Kuo, at the perit of his life rescued \$200 and the Customs seal from the safe while the rioters were breaking into the building and while his own house adjoining was being burnt and his wife and child were flying. The servants of the Swedish mission succeeded in carrying off some clothing and timed milk for the children while the moth were looting the house, and bravely assisted their were looting the house, and bravely assisted their mistresses in flee to the boat.

# THE LATE MR. GLADSTONE,

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

### HIS LIPE S STORY.

The Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, M.P., whose death has just been aunounced, was the fourth son of Sie John Gladstone. Bart, of Fasque, county Kincardine, N.B. He was born at Fasque on December 20th, 1800, and received his education at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, of which he was nominated a student in 1820, and graduated, taking a double first-class in Michaelmas term 1831. On the 13th December, 1832, Mr. Gladstone made his entrance into political life, being

Mr. Gladstone made his entrance into political life, being

ELECTED MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
for the borough of Newark, in Nortinghamshire, the was then within a fortwight of completing the 23-d year of his age. He was returned for Newark (in the Conservative interest), defeating a powerful candidate, Mr. Serjeant Wilde (who was afterwards Lord Chancellor with the litle of Lord Tomo). Mr. Gladstone took his seat in the first Reformed Parliament before the great majority of the present members of Parliament were born. He was in Parliament five years before his great rival, Mr. Disraeli, and eleven years before his great rival, Mr. Disraeli, and eleven years before his great rival, Mr. Disraeli, and eleven years before his great rival, Mr. Disraeli, and eleven years hefore his great rival. Mr. Disraeli, and eleven years hefore his great rival. Mr. Disraeli, who, bon in 1811, did not enter the House till 1843. His long Parliamentary exteer embraced the Premierships of Earl Grey, Viscount Methourner, Sn. Robert Peel, Lord John Russeli, the Ent of Dirby, Lord Aberdeen, Lord Palmerston, Lord Beaconsfield, the Marquis of Salisbury, and Lord Hosebery. He had seen the Eachequer in charge of Althorp, Peel, Rice, Barring, Goodburn, Disraeli, Cornewall Lewis, Ward Hunt, Goschen, Sir W. Harcourt, and Sn. Michael Hicks-Beach. And he sor vived, not only most of these but a host of other political notahillities—Right Romotam. Lundhust Macentan most of these but a host of other political nota-bilities.—Bright, Brongham, Lyndhuest, Macanlay, Graham, all the leading figures, in short, of nearly three generations. Mr. Gladstone

this time with Lord John Manners as a colleague. The election resulting adversely to the Whige, Sir Robert Peel formed a Government in September, and in that Government Mr. Gladstone became Vice-President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint. In May, 1843, he became President of the Board, retaining the post of Master of the Mint, but resigned both offices in February, 1845, owing to a difference with his coffeagues in the Government as to their intentions with regard to Maytooth College. During the period—over three years—of his service at the Board of Trade, the was largely instrumental in framing the revised is largely instrumental in framing the revised the was targely instrumental in framing the revised Tariff and securing its passage through Parliament (it bring recorded of him that during the session of 1842 he spoke no fewer than 129 times); and he also secured the passing of an important Railway Bill. In December, 1845, he rejoined the Peel Government, becoming Colonial Secretary, and a member of the Cabinet. The session of 1846 saw the repeal of the Con Laws, but the very day that winessed the passing of that Act in the House of Locds—25th June, 1846—saw the defeat of the Ministry in the House of Commons on a bill for the suppression of outrage in Jeland, on a bill for the suppression of outrage in Ireland, Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues resigned, and a Whig Ministry was formed by Lord John Russell. Mr. Gladstone, on accepting office as Colonial Secretary, had to vacate his seat for Newark. He declined to stand again, as the "paison" of the borough (the Duke of New-Russell castle, a Protectionist) had resolved to put forward another candidate, and he remained without a seat in Parliament white the measure repealing a seat in Parliament while the measure repealing the Corn Laws, to which he was a party, passed the House, Parliament having been dissolved in July, 1847, Gladstone stood for Oxford University, and was elected in conjunction with Sir Robert, Inglis over Mr. Round an ultra-Protestant and ultra-Tory candidate. He now began to assume high position as a Parliamentary debater, but the discussions of the time more and more developed his Liberal instincts. In the memorable debate on the Pacifico case in the session of 1850, he powerfully contested Lord Palmerston's Civit Romanus sum doctrine, case in the session of 1850, he powerfully contested Lord Palmerston's Civis Romanus sum dactine, and a few days later he delivered an elequent eulogium on Sir Robert Peel whose sudden death had just occurred. With the latter event began the disintegration of the party known by his name—the "Peelites." Several of its members formally joined the Conservative ranks, but others had.

ALOOF FROM BOTH WHIGH AND TORIES.

ALOOF FROM BOTE WHIGS AND TORIES, prominent among such "middle-mer" being Sin James Gaham, Mr. Sidney Herbert, and Mr. Gladstone. The Russell Ministry fell in February, 1852, and was succeeded by Lord Derby's first Conservative Administration. Mr. Disraeti, as Chanceller of the Exchequer, produced a Budget which Mr. Gladstone tore to pieces in a brilliant speech. From that time is said to have dated that actual and formal political antagonism between Lord Besconsfield and Mr. Gladstone, whose record then extended over their generation. Defeated on their Budget proposals, Lord Derby's Ministry resign. field and Mr. Gladstone, whose record then extended over their generation. Defeated on their Budget proposals, Lord Derby's Ministry resigned, and the famous "Coalition Cabinet," headed by the Earl of Aberdeen, was formed. There was but one possible Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone, and he held that office from December, 1852, till February, 1855, It is not the purpose of this untice to manager in detail the proposals of Mr. Gladstone's successive Budgets on to distance the manager of the successive Budgets on to distance the manager of the successive Budgets of to distance the manager of the successive Budgets of to distance on the manager. rate in detail the proposals of Mr. Gladstone's successive Budgets or to dilate upon the marvellous speeches in which they were enunciated; nor is it at all necessary to go over the somewhat intricate narrative of the Crimean war policy, so conspicuous a feature of the history of the Aberdeen Cabinet. Mr. Roebeck's hostile unction in regard to what was once well known as the "Sebastopol inquiry" led to the downfall of the Cabinet in 1855. Lord Palmerston formed a new Ministry, retaining a member of the Aberdeen. Graham, all the leading figures, in short, of nearly three generations. Mr. Gladstone and the Grand of the Treasury, in the Administration of Sir Robert Peel, and was relected for Newark without opposition. Shortly after the assembling of Parliament in Rebriary, 1835, he was promoted to the office of Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and in March he introduced a bill for the better regulation of the carriage of passengers in merchant-tesses to the Continent and islands of North America—a bill that contained many lumane provisions and was most favourably received. The Perl Ministry came to an end on 10th June, 1850, on a March test of Grand and the contined many lumane provisions and was most favourably received. The Perl Ministry came to an end on 10th June, 1850, on a holid for the continent and islands of North April, 1835, for a considerable period Mr. Gladstone was in Opposition. He was reselected for Newark at the general election of 1837 consequent on the accession of Queen Victoria to the Throne, and was also put forward (against his personnal desire) as a candidate for Manchester, but came out at the bottom of the poll. The next general election—that of July, 1841,—again found him returned for Newark, and him returned for Newark at the general election of the poll. The next general election—that of July, 1841,—again found him returned for Newark, and him returned for Newark at the general election of the poll. The next general election—that of July, and the Ministry came to defend the series of the continuence of the Conspiracy of Manchester, but came out at the bottom of the poll. The next general election—that of July, and the Ministry came to defend the series of the continuence of the Conspiracy of Manchester, but came out at the bottom of the poll. The next general election—that of July, and the Ministry certain provided the care's functional policy may be infer summarised. The next general election—that of July, and the Ministry certain provided the policy and the Ministry certain provide

to Mr. Gladstone to carry on the work of knocking away their fetters." The

EFFECT OF THE FREE TRADE CHANGES introduced in 1860 was, roundly speaking, to take some 370 articles off the tariff list, and to reduce and readjust more equitably the impost upon those that remained. Between 1850-60 and 1866-67 Mr. Gladstone repealed and reduced taxes to the net that remained. Between 1859 60 and 1866-67 Mr. Gladstone repealed and reduced taxes to the net amount of more than £12,200,000; and, at the same time, he carried out large reductions of the debt. The earlier period of Mr. Gladstone's financial career, however, is more noticeable for the conclusion (in 1860) of the Commercial Treaty with France, negotiated on Free Trade principles, and the abolition of the excise duty on paper, effected in 1861. The question of Parliamentary Reform was now coming rapidly to the front, and ig a speech on Mr. Baines's bill in 1864 Mr. Gladstone created some alarm in smudy political circles by enunciating the doctrine "that every man who is not presumably incapacitated by some consideration of personal unfitness or of political danger is morally entitled to come within the pale of the Constitution." The declaration foreshadowed a Reform Bill just as clearly as another declaration in the following session—that the rish Church, as she then stood, was in a false position—forefold the doom of that institution. These and other indications of growing Liberalism rendered Mr. Gladstone a. "suspect" with his old constituents, and thus it came about that at the general election of July, 1865 (consequent upon the expiration of Parliament's natural term and not because of any party conflict) the University of Oxford preferred as its representative Mr. Gathorne-Hardy (then a comparatively unknown man but afterwards Viscount Crambrook) by 1,904 votes to 1,724 cast for Mr. Gladstone. The latter was at once comparatively unknown man but afterwards Viscount Cranbrook) by 1,904 votes to 1,724 cast for Mr. Gladstone. The latter was at once put forward for South Lancashire, and began his first address to the electors in the Manhis first address to the electors among your and I am come, to use an expression which has become very famous, and is not likely to be fore and I am come, to use an expression which has become very famous, and is not likely to be forgotten, I am come among you unmuzzled." Mr. Gladstone was elected; and from the day that, as the himself phrased it, he was "driven" from his seat for Oxford University may be dated his

FORMAL ALLIANCE WITH THE LIBERAL PARTY, FORMAL ALLIANCE WITH THE LIBERAL PARTY, although he had practically belonged to it for years. Lord Palmerston died in the antumn of 1864, and the Government was slightly reconstructed, Earl Russell becoming Prime Minister and Mr. Gladstone, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, leading the House of Commons. Then followed the illisted Reform Bill of 1866 and the remarkable series of speeches in which Mr. Gladstone advocated and defended it, including the "crowning oration of the memorable debate on the second reading." in which, replying to Mr. Disraeh's taunts, he defined his position to the Liberal party:—"I came among you an outcast from those with which was associated, driven from them, I admit, by no I was associated, driven from them. I admit, by no arbitrary act, but by the slow and resistless force arottrary act, but by the slow and resistless force of conviction. I came among you, to make use of legal phraseology, in formal paspers. I had nothing to offer you but faithful and honourable service. You received me with kindness, indulgence, generosity, and I may even say with some measure of confidence. And the relation between us has assumed such a form that you can never be now delivered by the Lieuwer delivered and the relation between is has assumed such a form that you can never be my debtors, but that I must for ever remain in your debt." The speech was (and yet remains) a masterpiece of impassioned eloquence, and Mr. Tevelyan, in his "Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay," says that "when it had come to its close amidst a tempest of applause, one or two veterans of the lobby pronounced, amidst the willing assent of a younger generation, that there had been nothing like it since Plunket." The Ministry resigned: Lord Derby for the third time

country. The Liberal party returned to Parinament with a majority of 115-2 party majority such as had never been known since 1832. Mr. Dissaeli (who had become Prime Minister in 1962) on the resignation of Lord February 1868, on the resignation of Lord Derby through failing health) at once resigned, Derby through failing health) at once resignen, without meeting Parliament; and on 4th December, 1808, Mr. Gladstone was summoned by the Queen to form a Ministry. The history of Mr. Gladstone's first Administration has, in respect of the great legislative work that was accomplished, been characterised as

# "THE GOLDEN AGE OF LIBERALISM."

"THE GOLDEN AGE OF LIBERALISM."
In the first session, that of 1869, the Lists Church was disestablished and disendowed, and in 1870 an Lish Land Bill was passed—both measures being personally managed by Mr. Gladstone, who in their direction and discussion exhibited a knowledge of details and an amount of patience, perseverance, tact, and temper that surprised both friends and fues. The session of 1870 also witnessed the passing of the English Education Act, and towards its close, consequent on the outbreak nessed the passing of the English Education Act, and towards its close, consequent on the outbreak of war between France and Prussia, the Government secured the conclusion of a new Treaty with these Powers maintaining the independence and neutrality of Belgium. Of minor administrative changes the following may be noticed:—Appointments in the Civil Service were thrown open to public competition; the Commander-in-Chief was reduced from being a direct of the Crown to being a subordinate of the agent of the Crown to being a subordinate of the Minister of War; a new Foreign Bulistment Act was passed (to deal with such cases as the Alabama); the halfpenny pustage for newspapers was instituted, and

### POSTAL CARDS WERE INTRODUCED.

The session of 1871 was mainly occupied with the discussion of one question, the abolition of purchase in the Army—finally effected by Order in Council, the Lords having rejected the bill for the purpose (the Army Regulation Bill)—but the Balpurpose (the Army Regulation Bill)—But the Bal-lot Bill was also discussed, and a measure sweeping away the remaining University Tests was passed. In this year also the Treaty of Washington for the adjustment of the Alabama claims was concluded, the neutralisation of the Black Sea was abrogated at a Conference of the Powers held in London, and the San Juan boundary question was submit-ted to the Emperor of Germany. In 1872 the Ballot Bill become law, and the other legislation of the session included several important measures—the Scotch Education Act, the Mines Regulation of the session included several important measures,—the Scotch Education Act, the Mines Regulation Act, a Licensing Act, and a Public Health Act. In 1872, Mr. Gladstone addressed bimself to the task of settling the perplexing Irish University question, and introduced a bill for that purpose. The second reading of the bill, however, was defeated by a majority of three. Mr. Gladstone resigned; Mr. Distaeli refused to take office with a majority against him, and Mr. Gladstone had—very telutrantly—to remain in power. The Ministry by this time was considerably weakened by numerous causes, and the Liberal party was slightly disintegrated owing to Noncoolormist defections arising out of the "Chutch" tendencies of the Education Bill. By-slection after by-election went against the Government. At last, on 23rd January, 1874, Mr. Gladstone literally startled the country by announcing that the existing Parliament would be dissolver, and a new one summoned to meet without delay. A very keen electoral campaign ensued, but the Conservatives were victorious, securing a majority of keen electoral campaign ensued, but the Conservatives were victorious, securing a majority of 46 votes, the net loss of the Literals being 56 seats. Mr. Gladstone (who since August, 1873, had been Chancellor of the Excliquer as well as First Lord of the Treasury, and who bequested to his successors the fine simplies of six millions) at once resigned, and Mr. Disraeli formed a Ministry. Shortly after the merting of Parliament, Mr. Gladstone amounced to his followers that he reserved entire freedom to divest himself of all the responsibilities of leadership at no distant time. Early in January, 1865, he

# FORMALLY RESIGNED THE LEADERSHIP

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shall apply all its vigour to concur with the other States of Europe in obtaining the extinction of the Turkish executive power in Bulgaria. Let the Turkish executive power in Bulgaria. Let the Turks now carry away their abuses in the only possible manner, namely, by carrying off themselves. Their Zaptishs and their Mudics, their Bimbashis and their Yunbachis, their Kaimakams and their Pashas, one, and all, bag and baggage, shall, I hope, clear out from the prevince they have desolated and profaned." A survey of the fiece political and polemical conflict that of the flerce political and profaned." A survey of the flerce political and polemical conflict that ensued, and the really personal contest between Mr. Gladstone and Lord Beaconsfield (Mr. Dis-Mr. Gladstone and Lord Beacousfield (Mr. Dis-real had been raised to the pectage in August, 1876), is impossible in this sketch. Similarly, there is no space to pass in review the Afghanistan and South African policy of the Government of the day, and the position taken up by Mr. Glad-stone on these subjects. Suffice it to say that the contest concluded in the great political campaign of April, 1820. In the previous autuma Mr. Glad-stone tevolved upon contesting Midlothian, and in the end of November made a remarkable "progress" thinker and delivered a series of ora-tions in the country that have since become alike tions in the country that have since become alike famous and historical as

# "THE MIDLOTHIAN SPRECHES

At the election Mr. Gladstone was returned At the election Mr. Gladstone was returned over the Earl of Dalkeith by 1,479 votes to 1,368. He was also elected for Leeds, but preferred to sit for the Scotch Metropolitan county. The general election resulted in a Liberal majority of 111 over the Conservatives, and a majority of 59 over the Convervatives and Home Rulers combined. Lord Beaconsfield at once resigned; Lord Granville and Lord Hartington were auccessively summoned by the Queen, but Mr. Gladstone—who had all through the election been designated for the office by the Liberal party throughout the country—was eventually appointed Prime Minister, taking who the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. The work that Mr. Gladstone accomplished after he took office hardly requires recital. The short session of 1880 was practically wasted in useless and obstructive discussions and in the passing by the Commons of the Irish Compensation for Disturbance Bill, only to be rejected by the Upper House, Mr. Gladstone, however, introduced a part to the compensation for the property of the property of the compensation of the property of the House, Mr. Gladstone, however, introduced a very noticealtle supplementary Budget, in which he abolished the mait tax and established a new scale of wine duties; and the Government managed to pass the Ground Game Bill and the Employers' Liability Bill. Then followed the noted conflict with the Land League, and the passing of the Irish Protection against Crimes Bill. The history of Mr. Gladstone's second Ministry may be summed up in three words—Ireland, Egypt, Franchise—though of course a large number of other matters (such as Mr. Chamberlain's Bankinptcy Bill and Merchant Shipping Bill) were long under consideration. Ireland was the great question during the sessions of 1880 (May—August), 1881, 1882, and the deof t880 (May-August), t881, 1882, and the debates on the Compensation for Disturbance Bill,

# MR. FOSTER'S COERCION BILL.

and (after the number of Lord Brederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke, May 6, 1882) on the Crimes Bill, occupied the greater part of the time and attention of the country. What prolonged and exasperated the discussions was the method of obstruction inthe discussions was the method of obstruction invanted and practised not only by the followers of Mr. Parnell, but also by some members of the Tory party. After the passing of the Crimes Act, which closed a period of almost onexampled Parliamentary and administrative difficulty, Egypt began to occupy the mind of Parliament. The struggle with Arabi Pasha came to a head in July, when Sir B-auchamp Seymour, now Lord Alchester, bombar ded the forts of Alexandrin; and was ended on Sent. 12, when Sir Gamet Wolselev was ended on Sept. 13, when Sit Garnet Wolseley won the battle of Tel-el-Kebu. But Mr. Gladstone's difficulties were only just beginning. The revolt of the Arab tithes of the Soudan, the destruction of Hicks Pasha's Egyptian army, the two Strakin expeditions the Snakio expeditions, the

and Tory leaders resulted in settling the lines of a Redistribution Bill. After this both Bills passed in due course (1885), but soon afterwards, on June 9th, Mr. Gladstone was overthrown by a vote on the Budget, and Lard Salisbury came into power. At the general election of November, 1885, the Liberals were returned with number, 1885, the Liberals were returned with number. bers almost exactly equal to those of the Tories and Parnellites combined. Soon afterwards, Mr. Gladstone returned to office, and at the same time caused it to be known that he was prepared to introduce a

### HOME RULE

House RULE

measure. This broke up the Liberal party. Lord
Hartington and others refused office, and Mr.
Chamberlain and Sir George Trevelyan accepted
only on grounds which were soon afterwards
shown to be untenable. Mr. Gladstone introduced his Home Rule Bill in a long and powerful
speech on April 8 (the scene in the House before,
during, and after the speech being one that will
never be forgotten), and on June 9 the second reading was rejected by a majority of 30. He appealed to the country, and as a result an overwhelming
majority of Conservatives and Unionist Liberals majority of Conservatives and Unionist Liberals was returned. He resigned without meeting Parliament, and Lord Salisbury became for the second time Prime Minister, Aug. 3, 1886.

From 1886 to 1892 the Liberals were in opposition; the first year or two were spect in mere ob-struction of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Ballour's Iriab policy. Then came the Parnell Commisstruction of Lord Sansbury and Mr. Bandur's levish policy. Then came the Parnell Commission and its dramatic conclusion, the momentary celubilitation of Parnell, and his final downfall over the O'Stea divorce case. The division in the Irish tanks owing to Mr. Gladstone's demand for the retirement of Mr. Parnell from the leaderfor the retirement of Mr. Parnell from the leadership of the party sensibly weakened it. Parnell
was a man of such commanding personality, and
of such ability as a leader, that it was hardly possible that all his followers would leave him in the
moment of his disgrace. Even with his death the
cause of division was not removed; the tradition
of Parnellism survived the man himself; and
when in 1892 Mr. Gladstone found himself in
power again it was with a body of supporters of
all kinds of different opinions and sympathies,
English Liberals and Radicals were but half-hearted over Home Rule; they simply wanted a Bill English Liberals and Radicals were bul half-heart-ed over Home Rule; they simply wanted a Bill passed in order to clear the way for their own particular pet lads; the Anti-Parnellites desired Home Rule, but desired still more the extinction Home Rule, but desired still more the extinction of the Parnellites; the Parnellites, while acknowledging an academic regard for Ireland's self-government, chiefly desired the political scalps of the Anti-Parnellites. It was a hopeless enterprise. After many uproanious debates, cultimating in the famous free fight—after which ties, collars, and false teeth of members were found loosely scattered on the floor of the House of Commons—the Home Rule Bill passed through the Lower House, only to be thrown out by the House of Loods. It was the last word for Home Rule—at any rate under the old leaders. Mr. Gladstone resigned in 1894, and passed into private life. His extraordinary energy however did not allow him, in spite of 1894, and passed into private life. His extraordin-ary energy however did not allow him, in spite of his infranties, to remain entirely quiescent, and during the Armenian horrors two years ago he made a vigorous and powerful speech directed against the horrors of Abdul Hamid's policy of extermina-tion. He also actively showed his sympathy with the G eaks in their ill-advised war last spring.

# HIS ORATORY AND WRITINGS.

Mr. Gladstone was one of the finest mators of Mi. Gladisione was one of the finest orators of the century; a man of marvellous command of language, and of peculiar powers of persuasion. As an author he possessed a polished and vigorous style, and had he not devoted himself to politics there is no question but that he would have been a great light of literature. His books include: Studies on Homer and the Homeric Age, 1858; Rece Homo, 1868; Juventus Mundi: The Gods and Men of the Heroic Age, 1868; Received Age, 1888; Received Supplies Supplied Received Age, 1888; Received Supplied Received Age, 1888; Received Supplied Received Age, 1888; Received Supplied Received Rece Heroic Age, 1868; Hameic Syachtonism: An luquity into the Time and Prace of Homer, 1876; Landmarks of Homeric Study, 1890; The Impegnable Rock of Holy Scriptores, 1890-2; A Translation of Horace, 1894; Butler's Works, 1896.

T U	hiited	States.	Spain
Battleships	****	5	1
Aimouled Cruisers	****	2	6
Citisers over 17 knots	I	6	2
Cruisers 14 to 17 knots	I	3	8
Coast defence ships	****	6	0
Torpeda gunboats	*****	I	10
Destroyers and tornedo, ho	ate	8	**

The five American battleships are, with one ex ception, modern, well-designed, and heavily-armed. Three, the Indiana, Rissachusetts, and Oregon are of the Indiana class, and of these the Oregon was stationed on the Pacific coast, but is now on her way round Cape Horn, to join the Atlantic fleet; the fourth is the recently-con-pleted Iowa, an improvement on the Indiana; and the fifth is the ill-fated Texas, which, after a uniformly unsuccessful career, distinguished hera uniformly unsuccessful career, distinguished herself by sinking in dock last year. The first four ships are similar in many respects to our Royal Sovereigns, of which they are evident copies. They are excellent vessels in fair weather, but, according to an American officer, have "too much superstructure, and carry too much metal," and are weak in anything of a seaway. Many of their defects have been removed, or will be removed, by fitting them with bilgekeels. The solitary Spanish battleship, Pelayo, is of a much older type, Piench in style, and brill in France in the later eighties. She has neither the Indiana's armament no armour, and would be quite mable to meet any of this a uniformly unsuccessful career, distinguished her one has bettier the Indune's armament not armour, and would be quite mable to meet any of this class in battle, though she has been recently reconstructed at Toulon and equipped with water tube boilers and quick-firing guns. Her speed is 16½ knots, about the same as that of the American thing. The details of the two times. The details of the two types are as follows:

Tourage, Date, Armour, Indians. 10,300 1893 17-18" 4 13" 8 8" 4 6" Pelayo... 8,500 1887 16.1 18" 2 12.8" 2 11 9 5.5"

The United States have five battleships and Spain one in hand, but, owing to financial difficulties with the armost plate makers, the American ships are in a very backward state. The Spanish ship is buil-ding at Blawick, and cannot be ready for mouths. The two American armouned cruisers, New York

and Brooklyn, are very formidable ships, having steamed 21 and 22 knots on trial. They carry heavy batteries and good armore protection, and should be able to make short work of ordinary protected cruisers. The Spanish armorred cruisers of these transactions the Critical Carry are of three types-one, the Cristabal Colon, purchased from Italy two years ago, is a remarkpurchased from that two years ago, is a remark-able ship, and, though a good deal smaller than the New York, should be a match for her, being well protected and well armed. She is almost com-pletely encased in 6-in, steel armour. She has just exchanged her heavy gans, which were of Armstrong type and had given trouble, for wea-pons made by Canet. She now carries two 94-in, ten 6 in and six A sim gams. A similar ship, and poins made by Canel. She now carries two 9 4-in, ten 6 in and six 4 7-in gains. A similar ship, the Garabaldi, is said to have been purchased from Italy, but the roport, though probable, has not been confirmed. The second Spanish cuites in this group is the Carlos V, which is just ready. She is of the same size as the Brooklyn, but is much inferior in amament and speed, and is a She is of the same size as the Brooklyn, but is much inferior in annament and speed, and is a very anomalous vessel, a moured with 2 in, plate, which seems too thin. Lastly come the Viscaya, which represented Spain at the Naval Review, Infanta Maria Theresa, and Almirante Oquendo, nister ships and copies on an enlarged scale of our Australia class. They are armed each with two 11-in. and ten 55-in. guns, a battery which is not very well chosen for a coniser. The heavy guns are in 10-in. turrers, but the lighter enus have only shields. There is a rain. beavy gins are in 10-in thirty, and the igni-er gins have only shields. There is a 12 in. armour helt on the water line. The speed of all the five Spanish armoured cruisers is 20 knots on the five Spanish aumoured cruisers is 20 knots on paper; they are unquestionably the finest liens in the Spanish fleet. A third cruiser similar to the Cristobal Color is building in Italy, and is to be delivered this year. The United States have no ships in this class under construction.

Their inferiority in armoured cruisers is to some Their inferiority in armouned cruisers is to some extent compensated by their superiority in fast protected cruisers. Here they have thirteen vessels of the following types: two the Columbia and Minneapolis, are known as commerce-destroyers, steam nominally 22 or 23 knots, but are very lightly armed. The Olympia is a 21 knot ship, with a heavy battery, and is stationed in the Pacific. She is perhaps the most successful of the American unauthoused cruisers. The Baltimore, Philadelpia, San Francisco, Charleston, Cincianati, Raleigh. Detroit, Marblehead, Montgomery, and Bennington range from 4400 tons to 1,700 tons, and in conformity with American practice are very heavily armed. It is the sim of the United States that they should outmatch ships of their size, but they are so crammed with guns that nati, Kaleigh, Detroit, Marblehead, Montgomery, and Besington range from 4400 tons to 1,700 tons, and in conformity with American practice are very heavily armed. It is the min of the United States that they should outmatch ships of their size, but they are so crammed with guist that they should outmatch ships of the their size, but they are so crammed with guist that they toll heavily. The Raleigh is on her way to the Indian Ocean, and the Sam Francisco is an interest of the Canacies. As America has 3,160 merchant.

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Porto Rico without sending their ships far afield; whereas Spain has distance against her. That fact alone would determine the issue in favour of the United States. Spain is not likely to risk anything in pitched battles; her strategy would rather be an article of the United States. Spain is not likely to risk anything in pitched battles; her strategy would rather be an article of the United States. Spain is not likely to risk anything in pitched battles; her strategy would rather be an article of the United States. Spain is not likely to risk anything in pitched battles; her strategy would rather be an article, and for this she has useful bases in her West Lodain Islands, so long as she can keep them, in the Philippines, and Michael and St. George.

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in the Mediterraneau. Two good cruisers, the Amasonas and the Abreu, have just been bought from Brazil. They are Elswick built, steam 201 from Brazil. They are Elswick built, steam 202 knots, and carry each six II-in, and four 4 7-in, quick-firers. Another smaller cruiser, name unknown, has been secured in England. She steams 16 knots. Attempts have been made by the United States, as by Spain, to buy two small battleships, the Marschiallo Deodero and Ploriano, building for Brazil in France. Whether these ships have been purchased, and by which Power, remains uncertain, Against these vessels Spain has only the Alphonso XIII. and Lepanto, sister ships of the ill-stanted Reina Regente, which disappeared at tea some years ago. They share her defect of instability Reina Regente, which disappeared at sea some years ago. They share her defect of instability, owing wexcessive armament. Of smaller and slower cruisers the United States have twelve, against the Spanish eight, and the American vessels are the newer and better. The American vessels are the newer and better. The American have six very powerful turnet-ships for coast defence, the Monterey, Puritan, Amphitrite. Monadnock, Terror, and Minatonomok. The first is on the Pacific coast, but the other five are on the Atlantic. They are quite useless in rough weather, and have too little coal to go far from their base, but for the defence of the great harbours they would prove invaluable. There is one armoured cam, the Katadin, a failure in point of speed. The would prove invaluable. There is one amoused ram, the Katadin, a failure in point of speed. The torpeds flutilla of the United States is inferior to that of Spain; the latter, besides her flutilla of torpedo gunboats, has six new and two old destroyers. Of the American boats the Winstew, Dupont, Cushing, Ericsson, and Porter, all of them new and good boats, are at Key West of Tampa on the Flurida coast. Spain has further two old battleships which have been reflitted and arearmed, and another which is of no februing value. She has a very large number of small gamboats, eighty-two in all, built mainly for police purposes on the coast of Cuba and the Philippines. They on the coast of Cuba and the Phuppines. I noy are of not the slightest value for work at sea. The United States have thirteen old monitors, of the civil war period, armed with 15-inch smoothbores, which are now about as formidable as populns.

which are now about as formidable as popguna.

In personnel Spain is somewhat the stronger. The United States have 1,662 officers, 11,750 seamen, and 2,000 marines. Spain has 1,727 officers, 14,000 seamen, and 9,000 marines; but of the latter many could not be embarked. Want of men is as chonic a difficulty in the American Navy as in the Boglish, nor is it obvious how all the ships are to be sent to sea. Available as a reserve is the Naval Militia, with a total of 2,550 men. Spain has large reserves, inaxmuch as she employs short service to man her navy, much as de France and Germany. The quality of the Spanish personnel, Judged by the figure her seamen cut at Kiel and Spithead, is high, but it is said that the target practice in her fleet is very inadequate, whereas the Americans, as in the past, are known to attach great importance to this inadequate, whereas the Americans, as in the past, are known to attach great importance to this point to-day. The American crews are of varied races and colours. It is said that in one United States warship on the China station fifteen languages were spoken, and in the Maine there were Englishmen, Germans, and Japanese—the last, however, only in the capacity of stewards. The deserters in 1894 numbered 700 men, which, as the pay is very high, argues that the men are not wholly to be trusted. Though the public spirit and partiotism of the American are undoubted, he is, like the Englishman, prone to undervalue the is, like the Englishman, prone to undervalue the need of preparation and training, and he is by no means fond of discipling.

Spain is reported to have purchased of Chili the O'Higgis and Esmeralda, two fine armoured cruisers, but here again there is no confirmation; if there has been a sale it has been accomplished in silence and secrecy. The Americans are not very likely to be able to buy any more useful cuities, as the market is exhausted. But they are cutieses, as the market is exhausted. But they are quite strong enough, as Spain lacks what the United States pussess, last auxiliary cruisers. The Americans have the Atlantic liners St. Louis, St. Paul, Paris and New York at their service and twenty-eight slower ships. For most of these armaments are provided, but to find trained crews armaments are provided, but to find trained crews would be difficult. Each country has submarine toppedo boats, the American Holland and Plunger being it may be supposed, a match for the Spanish Peral, which performed with fair success some year ago.

Strategically, the United States have a great advantage in that they can threaten Cuba and Porto Rico without sending their ships far affeld;

thips of 2,320,000 tous, against 723 Spanish ships of simps of 2,320,000 tons, against 723 Spanish ships of 587,000 tons, it is obvious that America risks much. This commerce cannot well be protected owing to the want of American couling stations. Neutrals could not permit United States ships to coal and dock in their ports, as the precedent of the Alabama has shown, and therefore the United States warships would be tethered to their own waters. Under these circumstances American ships along must vanish, temporarily along rate from the waters. Under these circumstances american sing-ping must vanish, temporarily at any rate, from the sea, unless England, as she well might, opens her coaling stations to both sides. This would help the United States without gross injustice to Spain. Sympathy in this country must, whatever hapthe United States without gross injustice to Spain. Sympathy in this country must, whatever happens, be with our cousins. The bombardment of the American sea coast towns, most of which are quite improtected, might be attempted by Spain, but here the risks would be very great. Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston are the places most exposed. Bombardments are not really formidable and it would be dangerous to exasperate so strong a State. New York and Weshington may now be considered perfectly safe from serious attack, and in a very short space of time the other leading American cities will be. The United States are weakened by the fact that lantic, but they none the less have ample force to their fieet is divided between the Facine and At-lautic, but they note the less have ample force to command their local seas on the Atlantic coast. Neither Power having accepted the Declaration of Paris, serious difficulties and complications are likely to arise with neutrals. It is a lin boped that both sides will act according to the spirit of that declaration, none the less, as England and Germany must in any case suffer considerably. The net result of a struggle, which in the interest of both Powers ought to be avoided, would be that Spain would lose Cuba and the United States their shipping trade. This knowledge and reluctance to attack a weak Power have infused praises the moderation into American councils. Pall worthy moderation into American councils. - Pall

# LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(PAOM THE "JAPAN TIMES.") THE WAR

POWERFUL SPANISH SQUADRON GETTING READY FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

TO SAIL AT END OF MONTH.

ALLEGED AMERICAN UNPREPAREDNESS.

London, May 20.

In view of the rigorous American censorship it is difficult to obtain reliable war news. A Spanish squadron has been organized at Cadiz, and consists of one battleship, seven cruisers, and three torpedo vessels. The squadron is expected to sail for the Philippines at the end of the month with 11,000 troops. The American volunteers and militia are stated to be utterly unprepared for a campaign.

SPANISH SQUADRON AT CUBA. AMERICAN SHIPS WITHDRAW.

London, May 21.

It is announced from Madrid that Admiral Cerveras' squadron succeeded in eluding the Americans and reached Santiago de Cuba, where it found two American warships, which speedily withdraw.

SPANISH WARSHIPS ALLEGED TO BE OFF NOVA SCOTIA.

Nine ships, supposed to be Spanish, are passing down the Nova Scotian coast.

AMERICAN FLEET MASSING AT KEY WEST.

London, May 23. Admirals Schley and Sampson's squadrons are both at Key West actively preparing. The whereabouts of Admiral Cerveras' squadron continue uncertain.

# THE LATE MR. GLADSTONE. STATE FUNERAL VOTED.

The Houses of Lords and Commons have voted a State funeral for the late Mr. Gladstone, and a monument in Westminster Abbey. The funeral will probably not take place for three weeks.

# ENGLAND AND FRANCE ON THE NIGER.

# MUTUAL CONCESSIONS.

The Niger question has attained the point of settlement. It is understood that Great Britain retains Baussa and France retains Hikki, and two ports on the Middle Niger, also a large extent of territory, including the whole hinterland of Dahomey.

# SPANISH FLEET.

# REPORTED SHORT OF COAL AND RATIONS.

London, May 24.

It is reported that the Spanish fleet is short of coal and rations. It has left Santiago de Cuba, but its present whereabouts are uncertain.

# AMERICAN TROOPS EMBARK FOR MANILA. FRANCE AND THE PHILIPPINES.

London, May 25.

Two transports have embarked troops at San Francisco for Manila. It is rumoured that Spain is negotiating with France for the sale of the Philippines.

# III SEARCH OF THE SPANIARDS.

Admirals Sampson and Schley's Squad rons have left Key West in search of Ad-miral Cerveras' Squadron.

# SPANISH SQUADRON SAID TO BE ENTRAPPED.

London, May 26. It is stated that Admiral Cerveras Squadron is hemmed in by the American ships at Santiago de Cuba.

# GLADSTONE'S REMAINS.

# LYING IN STATE.

Mr. Gladstone's remains are to lie in state at Westminster for two days prior to interment, which will take place on

# BETTING ON THE DERBY.

London, May 24.

Distaeli, Dieudonné, and Batt (?) are the first three horses in the Derby betting. RESULT OF THE DERBY.

The following is the result of the Derby: 1 Jeddas, 2 Batt, 3 Dunlop.

# MR. GLAUSTONE'S FUNERAL.

# THE PALL-BEARERS.

The Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Marquis of Salisbury, Earls Rosebery and Kimberley, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr. Arthur Balfour, and Sir William Harcourt are to be the pall-bearers at Mr. Gladstone's funeral.

# (Received by the Fift)

# LATEST SITUATION AT MANILA.

Hongkong, May 24. The blockade of the city of Manila and consequent interruption of communications has caused a great rise in the price of provisions, which were quoted at one time at treble the ordinary rates. But prices have now begun to decline.

Manila city has not yet been bom-barded. Persons who had fled to other places to avoid the danger, believing that the bombardment was inevitable, are returning. The only hope is that the bombardment will not take place in consideration of the number of subjects of Neutral Powers resident there.

Digitized by

The inhabitants of the city continue peaceful and calm, and there is no sign of

Rear-Admiral G. Dewey, Commander of the American Navy, occupied the magazine at Cavite, and is awaiting instructions from his Government as to the course to be adopted.

# REPLY TO FRENCH CLAIMS.

Peking, May 23.

In reply to the French claims the Chinese Government has accepted the conditions that a sum of 30,000 yen be paid to be distributed among the families of the murdered missionaries, and that a church be established at Peh Hai port, Canton province. The claim for the right of laying down a railway between Peh Hai port and Kwangsi is still under consideration.

# BRITISH FORCES ENTER WE-IHAI-WEI.

Pekin, May 25.

The evacuation of Wei-hai-wei by Japanese troops having been concluded on the 23rd inst., a British force has entered there.

### PRINCE HENRY.

Peking, May 25.

Prince Henry of Prussia left here for Port Arthur to-day.

DEPARTURE OF JAPANESE CONSUL FOR MANILA.

Hongkong, May 26. Owing to the interrupted mail steamer service, Mr. Mimasu, Japanese Consul at Manila, left here for his destination on board the warship Akitsushima.

# I ROM THE " NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS." THE WAR IN THE EAST.

Hongkong, May, 15 The U. S. dispatch-vessel Hugh McCulloch arrived from Manila to-day and auchored off Kowloon in Chinese waters. All was quiet at Manila when she left.

A Spanish revenue cruiser coming in from the South, unaware of war having broken out, came into the bay and was captured by the Americans, her crew being liberated on parole.

Mr. Williams, ex U.S. Consul at Manila, was enthusiastically received by the insurgents on landing at Cavite.

The U.S.S. Charleston is coming out to join

the squadron.

There is an international deadlock on the question of repairing the cable between Manila and Hongkong.

# (Page THE " CRINA MAIL ")

# THE FORGED BANK NOTES,

Singapore, May 18, 11.5 a.m., At the Supreme Court, in Criminal Sessions, Heinrich Grosse and George Schultz, who were arrested on the 27th April in connection with the extensive forgery of Hougkong and Shang hai Bank notes, were found guilty of uttering and forging the notes. Grosse was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and Schultz to eight years' imprisonment.

[Altogether the face value of the sham notes amount to \$221.015.]

### (FRUM THE TORKIN PAPERS,) DISORDER IN SPAIN.

Paris, May 10.

Disorder continues in several towns of Spain. AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

Paris, May 10.

The Italian Parliament is protogued. Trouble has brok a out in Tuscany Naples, and a state of siege has been established. Another riot has occurred at Milan, Paris, May 12.

wow quiet in Italy.

ABOLITION OF THE CORN DUTIES IN FRANCE.

Paris, May 4.

The corn duties are to be suppressed from the 1st July.

BREAD RIOTS IN SPAIN.

Riots have taken place in several towns of Spain on account of the dearness of bread.

# THE ITALIAN RIOTS.

Paris, May 8.

Riots attended with great bloodshed have taken place m Milan, Divourne, and Florence. Parin, May 9.

There were three hundred killed and a thousand wounded in the riot at Milan.

# THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

Paris, May 9.

The elections passed off quietly and have given the following results:—561 candidates have been elected, namely, 179 republicans, 112 radicals, 24 socialists, 32 ununists, and 36 reactionaries. Second ballots are required for

The Ministers have all been re-elected with the exception of M. Andié Lebon, who goes to a second hallot with 10.76z votes against 10 487 polled for M. Maussabié, conservative.

The strength of parties remains almost un-

M. M. Jaurés and Deloncie were defeated. Edouard Deumont, Paul Deroulede, and Admiral Rieunier were elected.

# (FROM JAPANESS PARESS.)

# PLAGUE AT AMOY.

Taipeb, May 25.

Plague is now prevalent at Amoy; between 10 and 20 persons are dying daily. THE HONGWAN-II FIRE: ENORMOUS

# DAMAGE.

Kyoto, May 26. Yesterday at 5 p.m. fire broke out in the house of the waste-paper broker, Kajimachi, and the flames spread to the buildings in the compound of the Buddhist Temple, Higashi Honganji, The buildings were burned down, the temple itself escaped destruction though 12 godowns and 3 buildings of the Kyoto Godown Association were consumed with the merchan-disc in them. The value of merchandise destroyed is estimated at about yes 250,000 and

# MAIL STEAMERS.

the godowns at about yes 150,000, both being

insured in Tokyo. The damage in the Temple

compound is estimated at yes 180,000.

# THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

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America	U. & O. Co.	Gaelle 3	Sc. May so
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rtengkong	O, & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. June g
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	ttohenzollern	W. June 8
Canada, Ac	C. P. R. Co	Km, of India	M. June an
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Rm. of China	Th. June 26
America	P. M. Co.	China	M. June sy

- z Left San Francisco on the 4th Inst. s Left Nagasaki on the 25th Inst.
- g Left San Francisco on the soth inst.
- Left Victoria on the agth Inst,
- 5 Left Shanghai on the agth Inst. 6 Lef. Houghong on the ayed May,

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# THE NEVE MAIL CRANGE

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lished.	Europe, via E'hai.	M. M. Co.	Sydney	W. June &
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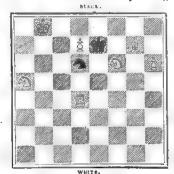
All Communications to be addressed to the Cares Envisor.

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Chibs are closed during the summer months.

CONCERNING PROBLEM No. 369.
It seems that Pradignat's Prize-Winner, No. 369, has two solutions. Solvers will be credited with either solution, although we would bke them to send us both of them.

> PROBLEM No. 372. By J. P. TAYLOR. From The Times, Philadelphia.

(Herr Reichelm calls this "A Study in Knights.")



White mates in two moves.

# GAME No. 390.

THE UNITED STATES CHAMPIO-SHIP MATCH.

Oneen's Pawn's Opening.				
	White-Sho	walter.	Black-P	lisbury.
	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK
1	P Q4	PQ4	16 RxB	Q K(3(f)
2	P R <sub>3</sub>	Kt KB3	17 R QB3	QtK P
3	B Q3	Kt B3	18 Q Bsq	QxQ
4	P KB4(a)	Kt QK15	19 KRxQ	RR"B-q
5	Ki KB3	K(xBch	20 K B2	K B·g
	PxKı -	PK <sub>3</sub>	21 K K2	K Ksq
2	Cayles	B K2	22 R B7 -	RxR
8	Kı B3	Castles	23 RxR	B KI4
q	B Q3(p)	P QK(3(c)	24 B K14	B Q2
10	R B-q	P B4	25 B B8(g)	K Q-q
11	PxP '	PxP	26 R B5(h)	P Ki3
12	Kt QR4		27 B Q6	P QR <sub>3</sub>
	(4)	Kt Q2	28 B B7ch	K Ksq
13	Kt K5	KxKı	29 K Q2 -	R Bsq
14	PaKt	B R3(e)	30 P Q4	B Kt4(i)
15	KexP	BxKt !	31 Drawn gr	me
_		TT 14 00		

Notes by Emil Kemeny, in The Ledger, Philadelphia.

Philadelphia.

(a) Showalter's favorite move in the Queen's Pawn's opening. The play is not generally adopted on account of the weakening of the E P, but it certainly has the advantage of preventing the adversary from P to R 4.

(b) Better perhaps was P to Q R 3, followed by P to Q Kt 4, B to Kt 2 and R to B cq.

(c) In the fourth game of the match P to B 4 was played at once. The text play it seems is an improvement.

(d) This move in connection with Kt to K 5 does not prove satisfactory. B to K sq it seems

was better.

(e) Better than P to II 5, in which case White could answer P takes P and R takes P.

(i) Of course Black had this move in view when he played 14—B to R 3. He could not play II takes P, for B to R 5 would be the reply, and Black would lose the Bishop. The play selected could be the selected and the selected selected.

Black would lose the Bishop. The play selected equalizes the game.

(g) The Bishops being of opposite colours, nothing but a draw could be anticipated.

(h) Better perhaps was B to Q 6, but even then White had no winning chance.

(i) After this move a draw was agreed upon. Black with K to Q 2 will force the exchange of Rooks, and the Bishops being of opposite colours. there is hardly any possibility for either side to win.

> GAME No. 391. A VIBNNA BRILLIANT.

	(Friom)	Cannon. J		ľ
White-L	. Fried.	Black-C.	Schlechter.	0
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE	BLACK.	ŀ
r P KB4	P K4	1 8 B B 3	Kt Ks	ь
2 PaP	KI QB3	9 P K3	P K-5	l١
3 Kt KB3	P Q3	to B Ra	Px Ki	lı
4 PrP	BxP	III BxQ	P Bych	į
	Kt KB3	12 K K2	B Kisch	li
5 P Q4 6 B KK15	P KR3	13 K Q3	Rt Kigeh	ľ
7 B R4	P KK4	14 KxKi	P B4 mate	
1 114	7 27.00.00	1 14 1231	1 114 11610	
		. ( )		3
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	_			pa.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CABLE MATCH.



Mr. E. M. Jackson distinguished himself doubly by scoring the first victory for England, in this match, and thereby also winning his third victory in the cable contests. In the above position Mr. Jackson won as follows: -

White-Jackson.	Black-Young.		
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE, BLACK.		
21 Q Q2 R R4	26 B K4 QR Rsq		
22 P KK14 K1xP	27 BxB P K:5		
23 RxPch OxR	28 Kt Ka R R8ch		
24 KixO KxKt	20 K Bz KrxKich		
21 Q Q2 R R4 22 P KK14 K1xP 23 RxPch QxR 24 K1xQ KxKt 25 N Bsq ch Kt B3	30 BxK & White won		
all or mad on the mal	13		

# GAMR No. 392. CHESS IN RUSSIA.

CHESS IN RUSSIA.	M. D. A. J. Mar. C. and C. and S.
The following, from the Illustrated London	May,-Rangoon, 2nd May, Samuel Samuel & Co.
News, is the score of an interesting game played	Braemar, British stramer, 2,316, Edward Porter,
at Riga between Messrs. C. Behting and S.	23rd May,-Portland Oregon 3rd May, Mails
Mikutowisch:	ami General Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
PETROFY DEFENCE.	Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry
White-S. Mikutowisch. Black-C, Behting,	Pybus, 23rd May,-Vancouver, B.C., Mails
WHITE, BLACK, WHITE, BLACK,	Inth May, and General C. P. R. Cu.
1 P K4 P K4 12 Q Q3 P Q4	Reiemhild, German steamer, 1,622, Jacger, 23rd
2 Kt KBa Kt KBa I 13 B K 3 P KRa	May,-Hamburg via posts, Hongkong, 16th
3 KixP PQ3 14 BQ2(b) BQ3	May, General Simon, Evers & Co.
4 Kt KB3 KtxP 15 Kt K2 Kt K5	Deponshire, Bestish steamer, 2,359 Coull, 23rd
5 P Q3 K1 KB3 116 K1 KK13 P KB4(c)	May,-Tacoma, Washington, 29 h April, Gene-
6 P Q4(a) B K2 17 KixKi BPxKi	eal, - Dartwell, Carlett & Co.
7 K QB3 QK1 Q2   18 QxP B KB4	Robilla, Berrish steamer, 2,216, L. de B Lockyer,
8 B QB4 R K K B sq   19 Q K2 B K K i 5	24th May, - Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe,
g Casiles Kt Kig 20 P B3 Rx Ki (d)	23rd May, Mails & General P. M O. S.N. Co.
10 B KK15 Castles 21 PxR Q R5	Pectan, British steamer, 3.123, Holliday, 25th
IIR Koq PQB3   22 Resigns	May,-Batoum via ports, Kobe, 23rd May, Oil.
NOTES.	-Sangel Samuel & Co.
(a) The variation here adopted seems to lead to	Bjorg, Norwegian steamer, 483, R. Nelson, 25th
an even game : but more interesting lines of play	May Newchwang via Kobe, 17th May, Beans
have been disclosed in some recent matches-	and Bean Cake,-Chinese.
notably in the games Showalter v. Pillsbury.	Sir Robert Farnie, British ship, 2,410, P. F. Can-
(b) A loss of time, but he cannot well allow	non, 26th May,-New York, 24th November,
Black's Kt to B S.	Kerosene OdStandard Oil Co.
(c) A clever offer of a pawn in order to open	Adria, German steamer, 3,501, Renter, 26th May,
the game for a strong counter attack. White is	Hamburg via ports, Shanghai, 21st May, Gene-

(a) The variation here adopted seems to fead to an even game: but more interesting lines of play have been disclosed in some recent matches—notably in the games Shawalter v. Pillsbury.
(b) A loss of time, but he cannot well allow Black's Kt to B S.
(c) A clever offer of a pawn in order to open the games for a strong counter attack. White is almost forced to accept the offer, too.
(d) The collapse is sudden and unexpected after this fine move.

this fine move.

Notes, The Vienna International Tournament we learn, will not attract nearly as many good players as were gathered together at Hastings, the reason being that most players consider a two-round toninament too long.

A list of the various local chess champions would be a valuable document, but it is essential that it should be accurate. Lasker for England, Pilisbury for the United States, Janowski for France, Tarrasch for Germany, Ichigorin for Russia, Marin for Spain, are among the names that immediately suggest themselves. I shall be greatly obliged if secretaries of the various Clubs in Japan, the Coast Ports, Burma, the Straits and Ceylon will favour me with the names of the champions of their Clubs and districts, with the numbers of their membership and officials with the view to the compilation of something like a Chess Directory for the Far East. I am sure that with their kind cooperation such a list will have a value of its own, sufficient to justify its preparation.—China Mail. A list of the various local chess champions would sufficient to justify its preparation .- China Mail.

One of our most prominent club members is very One of our most prominent club members is very fend of correspondence chess, and has four or five games going constantly. He is also the possessor of a pocket chess-board. At the post-office one day recently he received a move from one of his opponents. He immediately pulled out his pocket board, set up the game, and to the atter bewilderment of the onlookers, commenced muttering lo himself, "Pawn to Queen's four. He goes there; I go there. He must go there, and I win a Pawn," &c. Having decided on his next move, he stepped up to the wicket, and having to wait, was taking p to the wicket, and having to wait, was taking last look at the move when he was asked by the a last look at the move when he wanted. He briskly Empress of Condinating what he wanted. Original from

replied, "Give me a Pawn to Queen's lour, please," - Orillia Packel.

You may give a million games to the world without a word from those for whom you cater from
year's end to year's end, unless, indeed, a B should
be printed for a P. Then, like infurtated Choctaws, recking of run and the red riot of the warpath, will the gamesters rush in to point out your
shortcomings. But the solvers and problemists
are always warm in their support, ever ready to
give pealse to metit, and conscious, by long experience, of the extreme difficulty of getting chess
manhematically correct. — Birmingham Weekly
Mercury. Mercury.

# LATEST SHIPPING.

# ARRIVALS.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 21st
May,—London via ports, Kobe, 20th May,
General.—Comes & Co.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, P.
H. Going, 22nd May,—Seattle, Washington,
4 h May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 22nd - San Francisco via Honolida, 30th April, Mails and General. - P. M. S.S. Co.

Baring Brothers, American ship 2,091, E. S. Smalleg, 22nd May,—New York, 12th Dec., Kerosene Ol.—Standard Od Co.

Dunblane, British steamer, 2,402, Brothers, 23rd May,-Rangoon, 2nd May, Samuel Samuel &

non, 20th May,—New York, 24th November, Kerosene Od.—Standard Od Co.
Adria, Greman steamer, 3,501, Renter, 26th May, Hamburg via ports, Shanghai, 21st May, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Idnami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, R. Nunone, 25th May,—Bombay via ports, Kobe, 24th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. L.e., 26th May,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe 25th May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,750, James Rorison, 26th May,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 25th May, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 12th May,—Shaughai via ports, 21st May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Undaunted, British steamer, 2,026, Elcoate, 28th May,—New York via Snez Canal and way ports, Kobe, 26th May, General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

# DEPARTURES.

Belgis, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 21st May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Bowhead, Argentine Steam Whaler, 24x, J. Cook, 21st May,—Arctic Ocean, Stores and Whaling Gear.—American Trading Co.

Saint Winian, British steamer, 1,938, Haynes, 22nd May,—Kobe, General—Frazar & Co.

Donar, German steamer, 1,20t, Heimes, 22nd May,—Moji, Ballast.—Captain.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Truebridge,

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Tinebridge, and May, — Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

& Co.

City of Rio de Fanciro, American steamer, 2,275,

Wm. Ward, 23 d May,—Hongkong via ports,

Mails and Genetal.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, J. S. Hugg, 23rd

May,—Calcutta and Singapore, Ballast.—W.

M. Shachan & Co.

Retirib steamer, 2,007, Hanny

Retirib steamer, 2,007, Hanny

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT **URBANA-CHAMPAIGN** 

Pybus, 23rd May—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co. Obi, British steamer, 1,951, Richard Pinkham, 23rd May,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Braemer, British steamer, 2.316, Edward Porter, 24th May, Hoogkong via ports, Mails, and General, Dodwell Carlill & Co.

24th May,—Houghous Carlill & Co. Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, P. H. Going, 24th May,—Houghong via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aucenis, British barque, 1,699, E. R. Robbins, 24th May,—Manila, Philippine Islands, Ballast.—I', M. Laffin.

Kashing, British steamer, 1,157, H. Hopkins, 24th May,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire,

Ransu, British steamer, 1,158, Sommervale, 24th Rasu. British steamer, 1,158, Sommervale, 24th May, Moji, Ballast. Butterfield & Swire, Ransu, British steamer, 1,158, Sommervale, 24th May, Moji, Ballast. Butterfield & Swire. Hounslow, British steamer, 1,799, Le Templier, 25th May, Iloito via Moji, Battast. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Carlill & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, Le Coispellier, 25th
May,—Marsoilles via ports, Mails and General.
—M. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Tsuji.
25th May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Foochow, British steamer, 1,253, S. C. Small, 26th
May,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swice.
Emeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison,
26th May,—Gnam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

son & Co Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, E. R. Dowell, 26th May,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

ran-r. & O. S.N. Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299. H. Batt, 26th
May,-London via ports, General.—Butterfield
& Swire.

Oueen Olga, British steamer, 2,147, G n. R. Harris, 26th May, - Moji via Robe, General. -- Butterfield & Swire.

Benlawers, Butish steamer, 1,483, Webster, 27th May, London via ports, General, Cornes &

Co.

Saschnen, British steamer, 1,158, G. H. Pennyfather, 27th May,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield
& Swire.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A.
Lee, 27th May,—Vanconver, B.C., Mails and
General.—C. P. R. Co.

Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, T. Trotter, 27th May, Kobe, Cotton and Pig Iron, China and Japan Trading Co.

# PASSENGERS.

# ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Victoria, from Hongkong

Per British steamer Victoria, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. King, Mrs. Thwaites, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Burnett, and Mr. Spink, in cabin. For Tacoma:—Mr, F. Dodwell, Mrs. F. Dodwell and 2 children, Capt. Bishee, Mrs. Price and infant, Mrs. A. B. Ross, Rev. Mr. Price, Mr. J. Mur, and Mr. Angrove, in cabin; Mr. R. Wottak and Mr. E. Kochan, in second class; 33 Japaneer, and 142 Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Fanéiro, Iron San Francisco via Honotulo:—Mr. M. H. Griesenback and wife, Prince Ene Wha, Mr. Auguste Fischer, Engineer Nicholles, Mr. C. Clark and wife, Mr. A. E. Katsch, Mr. H. Letsurman, Mr. Quan Ytten and wife, Mr. J. R. Eliott, Mr. C. Saito, Mr. M. Chiya, Mrs. R. Feietman, and Mrss M. Frietman, in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of China, from Vanconver, B.C.:—Mons. Jules Arranger, Mr. B. H. Bruce, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Gerald Fowke, Rev. S. Gale and Mrs. Gale, Mr. W. Greig, Major M. Honjio, Miss S. Herron, Miss J. Herron, Mr. F. Jacques, Mr. J. de Witt Jansen, Mr. F. Jacques, Mr. J. de Witt Jansen, Mr. Rose, Mr. A. Scott, Mrs. Underwood, Mr. Athert Unger, Mr. J. T. Williams, and Mr. J. S. Williams, in cabin; 8, in second class; 65, in steerage.

Per British steamer Rohilla, from Hangkong via ports.—Mr. J. A. Pinnmer, Mr. Mackay, Miss Ennall, Mr. Lowder's 3 children, Mr. Buckland, Capt. Mureay, Capt. Simmonds, Mr. Husselmer, Mr. M. Canby, in cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hanilton, Mr. K. Katshima, Miss Togo, and Miss Monplew, in cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hanilton, Mr. K. Katshima, Miss Togo, and Miss Monplew, in cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hanilton, Mr. K. Katshima, Miss Togo, and Miss Monplew, in cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hanilton, Mr. K. Katshima, Miss Togo, and Miss Monplew, in cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hanilton, Mr. K. Katshima, Miss Togo, and Miss Monplew, in cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hanilton, Mr. E. Mr. M. Bunkong via ports.—Consul and Miss. C. M.

In Transit:—Mr. W. H. Grant, R. N., Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Biton, Mr. J. Duckle, Capt. R. F. Gransmore, Col. Gorges, Mr. and Mrs. Orr. Ewing, Miss C. J. Smith, Mrs. and 2 Misses and Master Nobsby, Mr. J. Stoddard, Mr. and Mrs. D. Marr Henderson, child and amah, Miss Pownall, Mr. J. H. Bustwick, Mr. O. J. Saunders, Mr. J. M. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. N. Ede, Mr. T. B. Deacon, Mr. Granville Sharp, Miss Turner, Miss Casswell, Miss Gardilin, Miss Authony, and Mr. R. Little, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Duff, and Mr. J. Meikle, in second class; 272 Chinese, and 42 Hapanese in steerage. In Transit:-Mr. W. H. Grant, R.N., Rev. and and 43 Japanese in steerage.

### DEPARTED.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Belgio, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mr. Paul Balas, Mr. E. J. Bates, Miss A. E. Bates, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Mr. Edward N. Botts, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Mr. Edward N. Botts, Mr. and Mrs. I. O'Callaghan, Miss A. Cerle, Mrs. L. A. Choy and child, Miss M. C. Clark, Miss Coltman, Miss Charles McCreary, Mrs. C. Denby, Colonel and Mrs. A. G. Dickinson, Mr. G. Bliacombe, Mr. J. C. Evans, U.S.N., Mr. J. R. Flood and valet, Miss Gonstance M. Flood, Mr. Walter Fritz, Miss M. Fritz, Miss II. Gore, Mr. B. H. Graves, Captain A. Hamilton, Miss Hewett, Mr. J. H. Hewson, Mrs. E. S. Juseph, Dr. Chas, P. Kindleberger, U.S.N., Mr. Paul Lindenburg, Colonel G. A. Loud, Miss McMinn, Mr. S. W. Mitchell, Mr. H. Mutsu, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. McNear, Mr. Adolf Ohst, Mr. A. de Peufeilhoux, Mr. W. Peange, Miss J. A. Pease, Mr. Ralph Phelps, J., U.S. N., Mrs. W. R. Sewell, Mis. C. H. Shattuck, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Sewell, Mis. C. H. Shattuck, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Swayne, Mr. H. E. Tompkins, Dr. Banzo Tomatsuri, Miss E. Verbeck, Miss Watson, Mr. B. Kemp Welch, Mr. L. Wettenhall, Mis. F. Wildes, Miss Wildes, Lt. Col. W. D. Walverton, U.S.N., Miss Wolverton, Mr. Geo, A. Young, and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Young, in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of China, for

hall, Mis. F. Wildes, Miss Wildes, Lt.-Col. W.
D. Wolverton, U.S.N., Miss Wolveston, Mr.
Geo, A. Young, and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Young,
incabin.

Per British steamer Empress of China, for
Hongkeng via ports, ...Mis. B. Layton, Major
and Mrs. Doffin, Mr. T. H. Hayes, Mr. D. W.
Deshler, Mr. C. B. Harris, Ll. van Eckstaedt,
Mr. R. S. Folsom, Mr. M. Purs, Mr. W. Crichton, Mr. A. E. MtGlew, Mr. F. G. Stone, Mr. K.
S. Wallbank, Mr. Thus. Jackson, Dr. and Mis.
J. Sangen, Messes Tangye and Dearden, Mr. R.
Trevithir, Mr. A. M. L. Agateg, Mr. C. N.
Cosse, Mr. F. Danckevertz, Mr. C. Gibbens, Mr.
W. G. MacVicar, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. J. R.
Morse, Mr. C. G. von Trentler, Mr. A. L. Welms,
and Mr. Jas. Hardy, in cabin.

Per French steamer Yarra, for Marseillea via
ports:—Mr. K. Midzumachi, Mr. F. Pauly,
Lient. C. C. Kalmberg, Mr. Girand, Mr. U.
Durand, Mr. Henri Horwitz, Mr. C.éuthine,
Mr. Balmis, Mrs. and Miss Balmis and infant,
Mrs. Ester Tenemboy, Miss Barlmis and infant,
Mrs. Ester Tenemboy, Miss Kartalinsky. Mishader, Mr. E. Handreep, Mr. Weill, Mr. O. P.
Thomas, Mr. I. Murayama, Mr. L. Ogawa, Mr.
Eugene Pignatel, Mr. Cham Foong Chow, and
Mr. Ah Chin, in cabin.

Per British steamer Mulacca, for London via
ports:—Mr. G. Gracewood, Mr. and Mrs. Guy
C. Hardy, and Miss Low, in cabin.

Per British steamer Empress of Japan, for
Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. L. Aird, Mr. W. J.
Allem. Miss Anthony, Mr. George W. Banks,
Mrs. George W. Banks, Mrs. Banks, Mr. R.
Bathelt, Mr. George Bergmann, Mrs. George W. Banks,
Mrs. George W. Banks, Miss Banks, Mr. R.
Bathelt, Mr. George Bergmann, Mrs. George W. Banks,
Mr. R. Bidgert, Miss Casswell, Mr. W.
N. Craine, Miss W. N. Craine, Miss E. M.
Combie, Ms. R. B. Deacon, Mr. J. Dickie, Mr. N.
Ede, Mrs. N. Ede, Mr. Elder, Mr. J. G. Illiot,
Rev. W. H. Elton, Mrs. W. H. Elton, Miss Fainton, Miss Fainpton, Rev. G. W. Fulton, Miss G. Honjio, Miss S. Herron, Miss J. Herron, Mr. F.
R. Jacques, Mr. J. de Witt Jansen, Major K.
R. Kurayama, Mr. K. Leebe, Miss A. Lee, Miss E.
L. Ler, Dr. Loufer, Mr. A. L. Nelms, Mrs. Rose,
Mr. A. Scott, Mrs. Underwood, Mr. Athert Uoger, Mr. J. T. Williams, and Mr. J. S. Williams,
in cabin 38, in second class; 65, in steerage.
Per British steamer Rohilla, from Hangkong
via ports.—Mr. J. A. Primmer, Mr. Mackay,
Miss Ernall, Mr. Lowder's 3 children, Mr.
Hassemer, Mr. W. H. Gill, and Mr. Camby, in
cabin; Mrs. L. Lee, Mr. A. Hamilton, Mr. R.
Katishima, Miss Togo, and Miss Morphew, in
aecond class.
Per British steamer Empress of Japan, from
Hingkong via ports:—Consul and Mrs. C. M.
Rott, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Loxley, Mrs. Sydney
Jones, Hon, and Mrs. W. K. Loxley, Mrs. Sydney
Jones, Hon, and Mrs. Reguson, Mr. O. Volchers,
Mr. and Mrs. Datey Anderson, Miss Cunleft,
Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mrs. Schilching, Mr.
Howle, Mr. S. D. Mine and 3 children, Miss
Perguson, Gapit. A. Fillett, Mr. and Mrs. AshHowie, Mr. A. M. Gale, Mr. G. Peli, Mr. W. Bottwick, Mr. Schilching, Mr.
Gebbardt, Mr. M. Haynemann, Mr. C. Maocini,
Mr. W. Braess, and Mr. R. D. Robison, in cabin,
Mr. W. Braess, and Mr. R. D. Robison, in cabin,
Mr. W. Braess, and Mr. R. D. Robison, in cabin,
Mr. W. Braess, and Mr. R. D. Robison, in cabin,
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Mr. W. Braess, and Mr. R. D. Robison, in cabin,
Mr. W. Braess, and Mr. R. D. Robison, in cabin,
Mr. M. H. H. Eltin, Mr. Bett, Mr. B. Ede, Mr. B. Ede, Mr. S. C. Gall

Mr. H. M. Phipson, Mrs. H. M. Phipson, Mr. W. H. Pott, Mr. G. Poullett Osier, Miss Pownall, Col. E. Rice, Mrs. E. Rice, Mr. George H. Rhodes, Mrss Genrge H. Rhodes, Miss Satow, Dr. R. H. Stavell, Mrs. Seager, Mr. Granville Shap, Mrs. E. H. Shay, Mr. W. H. Shaw, Mr. Smart, Miss Smith, Miss J. Smith, Miss Smith, son, Mr. A. E. Stiven, Mr. Stoddard, Mr. J. W. Thomson, Mrs. J. W. Thomson, Mr. W. Thomson, Mr. A. Tocher, Miss Thronball, Miss Sydney Turner, Mr. Tweedle, Mrs. Underhill, Miss Ure, and Mr. R. H. Wright, in cabin.

# LATEST COMMERCIAL.

# IMPORTS.

Stocks of cottons and woollens continue to accomulate, dealers probably having in view the new tariff. Business, however, is still very dull. Quotations nominal at last week's rates.

### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	the Britan is a server for a
Grey Shirtings-8[ h, 38] yds. Spincher	
Grey Shirtings-olb, 384 yds. 45 inches	4.85 🖮 3.35
f. Cloth-7 lb, 2   yards, 32 inches	t.8+ to a.co
Indigo Shirtings-12 yands, 44 inches,.	1.75 to 2.60
Prints-Assected, a4 yards, 30 raches,	a oo to 3.75
Cotton-Italians and Satteens Illack,	PER TARR.
39 inches	0.15 to 0.25
WOOLLENS.	PRE TABLE
Flannels	\$0.30 to 0/50
Ralian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.18 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yands, 37 inches	
Medima	0 30 to 0.32
Italian Clath so was been as inches	

n 25 to 0,271

11 inches 0.5 to 22

Cluths—Filish, 5; ib 55 inches 0.5 to 0.57

Cloths—Fenikents, 5; ib 55 inches 0.50 to 0.74

Cloths—Unim, 5; ib 55 inches 0.50 to 0.74

Cloths—Unim, 5; ib 55 inches 0.50 to 0.85

Resulted Scatter and Green, 3 to 5 inches

32 inches ..... 4.50 to 3.254

business is doing.

# .EXPORTS.

# RAW SILK.

Shipments of silk to Europe and America, by the Belgic, Victoria, and Varra, from May 21st amount to 1,137 piculs. The amount now in stock 

8,240 boxes, and the visible supply is 59,840 piculs against 51,340 last year. Quotations nominally at last week's figures.

### Tilatures ##

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Re-resis No. s, sy/sg, s//so dens,	d d d d ds.
Kanadas-No. aj	
WASTE SILK.	
Shipments during the past week have b	een
imited to 276 piculs. The stock at presenter	l is
estimated at 7,340 boxes. Quotations nominal	١,
AUGTATIONS.	

	in a second	All Parties		
	QUOTATE	ons.		
Noshi-	Filature, Best		\$115 to	110
	Filature, Good			
Noshi-	Oshu, Best		He to	115
Noshi-	Oghu, Good		100 to	103
Noshi-	Oshu, Medium	>** *** *** ***	go to	95
Noshi-	Shinaku, Bost		70 to	75
Noshi-	Shinaku, Good		65 to	Oy à
Noshi-	Bushu, Hest		115 to	120
Noshi-	Bushu, tiond.,	,,,	roo to	110
Noshi	Bushu, Mediam		go to	95
Nushi-	oshu, Good		€ø to	65
Noshi	loshu, Fair		55 to	57t
Kibigo-	Pilature, Best		95 to	100
Kibisa-	Filature, Seconds		By to	90
Kibiso-	Joshu, Good	4	25 to	30
	Bushe, Fair		20 to	224
	TEA.			

The market continues active. Shipments to America and Europe have amounted to 1,262,882 pounds. The stock at present is very large, no less than 753 000 lbs.

Choicest \$3	7 & upwards
Choice	#34 tm 35
Finest	\$32 to 33
	\$29 to 31
Chinary Lat Continues and but not despet and and and and and and and and and and	\$27 to 28
	\$25 to 25
Good Common	Nominal.
Common	Nominal.

### EXCHANGE.

Rates well maintained and silver from London

higher.
Sterling - Bank T.T 2/02
— Bills on demand 2/0 f6
- 4 months' night 2/0}
- Private 4 months' eight 2/01/8tof
- 6 months' sight 1/0} atol
On Paris-Bank night 2551
On Paris -Private 4 months sight 1.594
On America-Bank Hills on demand. 491
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight 50\(\frac{1}{2}\) to \(\frac{1}{2}\)</li> </ul>
On Gurmany-Bank sight 4.064
- Private 4 months sight 2.111
On Hongkong-Bank sight 7º/odis.
- Private 10 days sight 89/odis.
On Shanghai-Bank aight 81
- Private to days' night 814
On India-Bank night 150
- Private 30 days' sight 155
Bur Silvar (London) 16#

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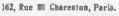
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delightful bloom to the completion,

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A WHITE ROSE "PERFUME

"ACKNOWNING SCARL"—H. R. H. The Duckers of You'.

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# The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 23.]

KROISTERED AT THE G.F.O. AS A NEWSPAPER,

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 4TH, 1898. 月三年五十二分間 可配合位置日賦十 Vol. XXIX。

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# The Japan Meekly Mail.

" FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WERKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that ill letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable III same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YORGHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 47H, 1898.

# SUM WARY OF NEWS.

THE Lower House has finally passed the revis-

BISHOP AWDRY preached at S. Andrew's Tokyo. on Whiteunday.

Ir is officially denied that France, as was rumoured, is to acquire the Philippines.

PRESIDENT KRUGER, replying to Mr. Chamber lain, has repudiated British suzerainty.

THE American troops for the Philippines have left San Francisco with a year's supplies.

THE European Bourses are anticipating speedy close to the Hispano-American war.

YOKOHAMA won three out of the four Interport events at the Regatta held last Saturday.

INSPECTOR ORADA, of Tabe, is the new superintendent of the Bluff police district.

COMPLICTING NEWS CONTINUES to Arrive concerning the movements of the Spanish squadron.

THE Opposition, it is said, are gathering strength in their resistance to the new taxation schemes.

MR. ASADA, the new Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, arrived at Yokohama on the 1st inst.

Japan on his way to Europe. He is accompained by his wife.

ALL the differences between the United States and Canada are reported in have been amicably settled.

THE Spanish Admiral at Manila is reported to have been tried by Court-martial and condemned to be shot.

Opposition journals are busy spreading stories that the Government is buying votes in the Lower House.

Tax police-force in Yokohama have adopted a new head-gear, approximately in the style of the Japanese military cap.

THE Governor of Manila has telegraphed Madrid that a general revolt has broken out in the Caroline islands.

NEARLY 1,000 yen was netted by the Children's Fancy Dress Ball, the proceeds going towards the funds of Christ Church,

PRESIDENT McKINLEY has called out 7,000 more volunteers, making the total force of the army 280,000.

On the 28th ult, a capital concert was given at the Uyeno Musical Academy. The foreign diplomate and Government officials were present.

Tax plague is said to be rapidly decreasing in Hongkong, though the weather continues day, From Bombay and Calcutta come similarly natisfactory reports.

THE British India Company's steamship Mecca has collided with and sunk the steamer Sandhead, her captain, two engineers, and fifty passengers being drowned.

It is expected that the session of the Diet will have to be prolonged in order that the new taxation measures and other necessary legislation can be enacted ere the Diet rises.

THE U.S. Consul in Yokohama Mr. J. F. Gowey, has appealed to the Japanese Court against Mr. Asano Soichiro, whom he charges with infringing a patent kerosine oil trade mark.

On the 26th ult. at 9.30 p.m. a pickpocket robbed a passenger of 30 ren on the Sobu Railway near Honjo Station, Tokyo, and escaped while the train was running at a high rate of speed.

On the 27th ult., two tea-firing coolles, named Kaisaburo, 19, and Harukichi, 26, of Messre. Smith, Baker, & Co., No. 178, Yokobama, quarrelled, and the latter was killed with a knife.

Ma-san-pho in Kyong-san-do, Kun-san-pho in Cho-la-do, and Söng-jin-pho in Ham-gyöng-do have been opened mi Freaty ports and Phyong-yang in Phyong-an-do as a special market for foreign trade.

REUTER wires a brief account of an engagement between Commodore Schley's fleet and the forts at Santiago de Cuba, in which the Americans are reported to have had the worst of it. This was afterwards contradicted.

On the night of the 29th ult., about 11,30 o'clock, Sakamoto Taunematsu, 21, attempted suicide by taking some sulphuric acid and then jumping into the sea in front of the Club Hotel, Yokohams. He was rescued by policemen.

AT a conference held between President Mc-Kinley, the Secretaries of State, and the Adagainst Puertorico, Cuba, and the Philippines, if it proves that Admiral Cerveras is hemmed in at Santiago.

On the 30th ultimo, at 2.30 p.m., two goods trains on the Kynshu Railway collided and both engines and cars fell over a bridge. Fortunately no one was seriously hurt,

The Government, it is reported, has already instructed Mr. Yano, Minister at Peking, to claim damages from the Chinese Government for the Shashi affair. The claims, which are most moderate, will probably be readily agreed to

On the 27th ult. Mr. Takehayashi Tetsuma, Superintendent of the Bluff Police Station, Yokohama, died at the Juzen Hospital, Noge, where he has been under medical supervision. The funeral took place on the 29th at Kubeyama cemetery.

According to information brought by the steamer Yoshino Maru, which arrived M Hakodate from Kitami on the 26th ult., a great gaile prevailed on the 7th ult. off the Kitami coast, and many fishing boats were wrecked, ever 60 fishermen being drowned.

THE American mission III Tongchou, near Wuchow, on the West River, has been looted and burnt by a mob. It is believed the Mis-sionaries escaped. The U.S. Consul III Canton has requested the Viceroy to send troops to the scene of the outrage.

On the 28th ultimo fire broke ont in a godown of the famous Buddhiat Temple Yenkyoji, Shosazan, Harima province, and destroyed the building and some valuable relics of ancient times. Some thief appears to have tried to break the lock of the door, and to have after-wards entered from the roof. It is supposed the intruder set fire to the place to conceal

A CHEFOO dispatch, dated the 30th ult., from the commander of the warship Akagi, says that H.I.H. Prince Henry of Prussia, on board the Deutscheland, arrived at Chefoo on the 29th ultimo with the Gefon and Kaiserin Augusta. The three warships were in leave there on the 30th for Wei-hai-wei, where the Prince will give audience to Vice-Admiral Seymour, of the Britich squadron;

THE near approach of the time when the new tariff will come into force has much to do these days with the filling of godowns with all sorts and conditions of merchandise, more in fact than most people think. Business prospects are duli and the past week's turn over it very small, though perhaps no worse than some that have just gone by. Quotations are nominal, but we hear that Yarın are offering in Tokyo III prices much below the market. Metals have seen another quiet week, a few inquiries for malls and tin-plates being the only things worth mentioning. Very little is doing in kerosene, immediate requirements alone being filled. Sugar, as usual, is brisk, supplies being about equal to demand, about 800 bales of raw silk have been shipped this week, principally for America, where demand continues steady. In waste silk little is doing and stock is accumulating. The week has been a busy one for the tea-men, as much as 338,000 cattles changing hands alone in Yokobama in one day. Kobe advices tell the news that business is very satisfactory there also. MR. ROLIN DE JACQUEMYNS, advicer to the finish and Generals, it is understood to have qualities are vising. Copper is very quiet and Siamese Government of the prices are on the decline for best tess, but lower qualities are vising. Copper is very quiet and commence speedy operations.

# SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Of course the Government's scheme of in creased taxation attracts a great deal of attention and provokes considerable opposition. opponents have no very definite ground for their objections. If they were in a position to de monstrate that additional revenue is not needed by the State, their argument would be intelligible, but when they fall back on mere pretexts, such as that a question of the kind must not be sprung upon the nation suddenly and is there-fore unsuitable for discussion in the bitef period at the disposal of the Diet in an extraordinary session; or that no augmentation of the people's hurdens is permissible until every sen of super fluous administrative expenditure is cut off; or that re-organization of Departments is an essential preliminary to entrusting them with the expenditure or larger sums of public money when they have recourse to assertions which are so obviously excuses, not honest arguments, there is no possibility of sympathising with The Nichi Nichi Shimbun writes very strongly in this strain. It calls attention to the fact that the Emperor bimself, in his speech from the Throne at the opening of the Diet, recommended the Bills for increased taxation to the favourable consideration of the Houses, and it defies any thoughtful person to conscientiously deny that some plan for obtaining increased revenue is inevitable, or to show that any other plan offers except the one proposed the Government. An examination of the purposes to which the proceeds of the increased taxes are to be applied shows that the State has absolute need of the money, and that no patriotic person can oppose the Bills now before the Diet.

An Anglo-Japanese alliance is again advocated by the Fiji Shimpo, which journal has for many months been a conspicuous supporter of that policy. The editor asserts that Great Britain's friendly attitude towards Japan has been clearly demonstrated during recent years, first, by the British Government's taking the lead in revising the Treaties, and secondly, by its refinal to join the league of Powers formed to deprive Japan of the fruits of her victories. A further bond of union has now been developed by the declaration that the policy of England and Japan towards China is identical, both aiming simply at commercial development, both being without any designs of territorial aggrandisement, and both desiring to preserve the integrity of the Middle King-dom Considering England's immense strength at sea, it may seem superfluous to talk of her alliance with any other Power. But if several Western States combine to carve up the Chinese empire in defiance of British interests. it would be difficult for England to oppose them single handed. In such an event, the cooperation of Japan would be most valuable. Besides, Japan has an army unrivalled in the East, and would not besitate to place it at the disposal of any State allied with her. A combination of Auglo-Saxon race for purposes of world policy, and a combination of England and Japan for the ends of Oriental politics-that is a programme that would ensure peace and progress. The Fifi earnestly desires it, but is not in favour of any attempt to force such a consummation. It thinks rather that Japan should quietly devote herself to developing her material resources and perfecting her armements. so as to become constantly a more and more desirable ably.

A writer signing himself "Kotoku" tells the readers of the Foresu Chohe a great deal that is not calculated to reconcile them to the ides of an alliance with England. He draws a con-temptuous contrast between the "magnificent isolation" upon which Great Britain prided herself two years ago, and the craving for alliances that she shows to-day. During the past tew years, her policy in the Orient has been one

tolded hands. She no longer counts for anything in Russia's eyes; the very foundations of her flag-staff are loosened; she has shown herself at one moment pusillanimous, at another. vacillating; in one thing only is she true to her traditions, namely, selfish grasping after gain. If we examine the true import of her desire for an alliance in the East, it is simply that she wants to secure herself against Russia's advance. Vulnerable at a dozen points, she hopes to obtain protection at one by this device of an alliance. Were she to challenge a contest in the Far East, she would immediately have Russia on her hands in India, France attacking her in Egypt, and Germany working against her in Africa. In truth she can not move, There is a great deal more in the same strain, but we refrain from reproducing it. "Kotoku" is a gentleman with a fad. He seems to have taken his one from some of the pessimists of the English local press in China and Japan. We wonder how they like this Japanese reflection of their doctrines.

The future of the Philippines is the subject of an article in the Mainichi Shimbun. little progress is observable in the Hispano-American war, nor is it to be supposed that the conflict will be decided by a desultory fight here and there. But no one can doubt for a moment that victory will ultimately sest with the United States. Now the Government and United States. Now the Government and people of the United States claim that they have taken up arms solely in the cause of humanity. They could not endure to witness the sufferings of the Cubans, and they have no purpose beyond rescning the latter and securing their independence. That accomplished, they will ask from Spain nothing except an indemnity to cover the costs of the war. But the Spanish treasury is already exhausted. Hence America has conceived the plan of taking the Philippines and selling them to recoup her military outlay. Concerning that programme England has announced that while she would have no objection to seeing the Philippines in American occupation, she could not consent to their transfer to France, Russia or Germany. On the other hand, these three Powers would doubtless object to the acquisition of the islands by Great Britain, Japan, again, has the same teason to oppose a British occupation that Great Britain nas to oppose a French, a German or a Russian In fact, Japan's case rests on even more solid grounds; for the Philippines lie nearer to her southern boundaries in Formoss, than they do to Great Britain's most easterly possession, Hongkong. The solution of the difficulty is to make the islands independent. Japan would welcome that result, and should take the initial content of the con ative in proposing it. The Mainichi does not attempt to explain how America could be compensaied were such an arrangement made, or by what means her consent could be secured.

The Foniuri urges the Diet to pass the remaining portious of the Codes so that no batacle may be placed in the path of Trenty Revision. That is so old ples, and would scarcely be worth noticing but for its context, namely, that when the Codes have made their way safely through both Houses, the members with he free to at ack the cabinet's foreign policy and its finance. The *Pomiuri* seems to regard it as settled that the Ministry has blundered in foreign affairs. Since the facts about Russia's acquisition of Talien and Part Arthur have become known, there can no longer be any doubt about the Government's shortcomings, says the Progressist journal. The Progressists never entertained any doubt about the matter, and that the Liberals have now had their eyes opened is proved by their recent action in presenting a series of Questions in the Lower House. All parties, therefore, can combine to present an Address to the Throne or Representation with regard to foreign politics. Concerning finance, the Fomiuri has recourse to the pretext that before any increase of taxation is permitted the Ministry must be reorgan-

is careful not to explain. It simply rests its case upon the worn out platitudes of gyosei kaikaku and saisel seiri. "Do your duty to the country by passing the Codes, and then proceed with a clear conscience to take your pleasure by attacking the Cabinet "-such, in effect, is its delightfully irresponsible advice to the Representatives.

The atterances of other journals are scarcely worthy of independent notice. The Niepon, which seemed at one time to have abandoned its violently chauvinistic tone, has again plunged into the fray with all its old vigour and uncompremising recklessness. It denounces Marquis Ito in terms which, however extravagant, are conceived with sufficient shrewdness to appeal to many people. It was the Marquis that shandoned the truits of Japan's victories under pretence of preserving the peace of the Orient. Marquis that has uncomplainingly allowed Russia to acquire possession of the territory which [apan had to surrender. It was the Marquis that promised to make the country invincible if his plan of armaments expansion was adopted. It is the same Marquis that now pro-poses to change the plan. It was the Marquis that mapped out a financial scheme which was to hold good for ten years. It is the same Marquis that has now to ask for increased taxes in save his scheme from failure. Such an impre-vident, inconsistent statesman can not be entrusted with the duty of spending the proceeds of augmented taxes. The Tokyo Shimbun, which is the Liberal organ, finds different reasons for opposing the taxation bill. It alleges that the Diet can not intelligently discuss such a measure unless it has the Budget before it, and since that condition can not be satisfied until the regular session at the close of the year, the Taxation Bill must be rejected at present. If, mmny reasonably be assumed, the Tokyo Shimbun represents the views of the Liberal Party, the Taxation Bill seems doomed, since it will encounter the opposition of the Liberals and Progressists simultaneously.

# THE MITSUI BANK.

The Mitsni Bank, owing to the steady increase of its business both in size and importance, was compelled last year to remove its temporary head office to Nos. 15-17 Shinyemoucho, Nihon-bashiku, Tokyo, and it was decided by the house of Mitsui to erect associated offices on the same site in Surugacho where the old Mitsui buildings stood; and thus to group all the offices in Tokyo, except the Mitsui Dry Goods Company, under one roof. The new building, which is now only at its commencement, will be not less costly, when completed, than the new and magnificent edifice occupied by the Bank of lanan, Arrangements are also in progress, in the hands of a committee on buildings of the House of Mitsui, for the erection of a new joint office for the branches of the Bank and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha in Osaka. The Yokohama Branch of the Bank, also, finding its office at the corner of the second square of Honcho too small to transact its business with convenience, which is increasing considerably in bulk day by day, is going in double the accommodation by adding a new building exactly similar in size and other respects to the present one. The manager, Mr. M. Kobayashi, who is very zealous in his endeavours to promote the convenience of the Bank's customers, promises to introduce every possible improvement in the conduct of business at the completion of the new building with the view of especially meeting the requirements of for-eign customers. We have been told that he intends, if the space will allow, either to allot a part of the new building to the management of the foreign business only or to that of savings The separation of the foreign from the home department will be found by foreign customers to be a most desirable improvement, years, her policy in the Orient has been one from is permitted and the finances put in order. What is only be convenient to customers, but has become ments. She has been besten by Russia at meant by administrative reorganization and quite necessary for dealing with the business of every point and has accepted the Digitized by Cathur Willy financial adjustment, our contemporary the Branch of UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT At any rate, the erection of a new office will not

# THE NEW LAW OF ELECTION.

According to the present Law of Election, which forms an appendix of the Constitution issued in 1889, the qualifications of an elector are that he must be a Japanese male subject of at least 25 years of age; that he must have resided for more than a year, and be still actually residing, in the city or prefecture where he exercises the franchise; and that he must be still paying direct national taxes to the minimum amount of 15 yes. If income tax be in question, it must have been paid during at least 3 years. The qualifications for caudidates are the same, except that their minimum age must be 30 years. These qualifications are so high that, speaking approximately, there are only four hundred thousand franchiseholders in the empire. The new Law, now before the Diet, makes radical changes. In the first place, all property qualifications are dispensed with in the case of candidates. The principle underlying that reform has long been recognised in England and need not be discussed here. In the second place, the property qualification for electors is reduced from 15 yen to 5 yen in the case of Land Tax, and from 15 yes to 3 yen in the cases of income tax, business tax, or both combined -the period during which the latter has been paid being also reduced from 3 to 2 The number of franchise-holders will thus be increased from four hundred thousand to two millions. In the third place, the number of representatives is to be 472 instead of 300, as at present, the distribution being as follows:

		Present nu Represen		Proposed number,
Tokyo City	*******		12	34
Kyota "	********		7	13
Osaka			10	21
Kanagawa P	helectis		to of	10
H) ogo	-	******	12	19
Nagasaki	pa	*********	7	10
Niigala	84	*********	13	18
Saitama	14	**********	8	11
Gumma	11	*********	5	8
Chiba	+#	********	9	12
Ibaraki	11	1141444444		11
Tachigi	p3	*********	5	8
Nais	98	*********	4	5
Miye	alt	*********	7	11
Aichi	83	***************************************	II	18
Shizuoka	3-30	**********	8	12
Yamanashi	pt		3	5
Shiga	p b		5	0
Gila	26.5	*********	7	10
Nagano	13			13
Miyagi	9.0	*********	5	9
Fukushima	20	*********	7	10
Iwate	p+	**********	5	7
Aomori	10	*********	4	7
Yamagata	99	**********	6	9 8 6
Akita	94	**********	5	0
Fukei	48 .	*********	6	8
Ishikawa	8.8	**********		
Toyama	10	********	5	9
Tuttori	10	*********	3	4
Shimane	**	**********	б	8
Okayama	37	*********	8	13
Huashima	93		10	16
Yamaguchi	*1	*********	7	10
Waknyama	12	*********	5	7
Tokushima	3-1	*******	5	8
Kagawa	p+	**********	5	. 7
Elume	91	*********	7	10
Kochi	<b>P3</b>	*********	4	6
Foluoka ;	10	440.00.00.01	9 6	15
Oita	11	**********		8
Saga	19	*********	4	6
Kumamoto	41		8	12
Miyasaki		*********	3	4
Kagoshima	**	*********	7	11
			_	

Tutal ...... 300

force up to March 15th, 1899, and that the all, the electors vote for three or four new system shall become operative for the purposes of the first general election subsequent to the latter date. The constitutional life of a House of Representatives being four years, and the present House having been elected on March 15th, 1898, it follows that, failing dissolution, there need not be any election under the new rules before March 15th, 1902, and that, under any circumstances, there will be no change in the electorates before March next year. It may be noted that by increasing the number of numbers from will be 137,000 yes annually.

The changes proposed by the Government in the Law of Election seem to meet with universal approbation, but opinions are divided as to one point. It is evident that the main object contemplated by the framers of the new Law is to remove, as far as possible, every opportunity for corrupt practices. Hitherto each city and prefecture has been divided into a Hitherto each city number of electoral districts, and each district returned one member, or two in rare cases. The property qualification for franchise-holders being very high, and the number of voters correspondingly small, it followed that some districts contained only a few hundreds, or, in extreme instances, only a few scores, voters. The smaller the constituency the more easily it can be mainpulated-a fact which is said to have been very inconveniently demonstrated by Japanese experience. The new Law sweeps away these petty electoral limits, and provides that each city and each prefecture shall be regarded as one district for election purposes. There are 42 prefectures and 3 cities in Japan, and since the number of voters under the proposed system will be two millions, in round numbers, it follows that the number of voters in each district will average fortyfive thousand, approximately. It will be a matter of extreme difficulty, if not of impossibility, for any candidaté to control the result in such a constituency by dishonest methods.

But here arises the question, how are votes to be recorded. The present system is that of signed ballots? Each elector, having repaired to the polling place, and identified himself with his name in the electoral list, receives a stamped voting paper, upon which he inscribes the name of the person for whom he wishes to vote as well as his own name and residence. In a district returning two or more candidates, he inscribes the corresponding number of names. There is, consequently, no secrecy, a defect which the new Law proposes to remedy by abolishing signatures. In fact, the projected system, so far as concerns the method of recording votes, is identical with that introduced in England by Mr. Forster's Bill of 1871.

The next point, the point about which much discussion has naturally arisen, is that, according to the new Law, each candidate only. So, at least, the Law reads, and so its text is interpreted by persons qualified for the task. But it will

among the cadidates, and thus, when the results are counted, only three or four men will have been returned instead of thirty-four. Plainly there must be some provision against accidents of that kind. Connected with this part of the subject is the problem of the representation of minorities-a problem partially solved in England by Lord Cairns' amendment of the Disraeli Reform Bill of 1847, in the sense that in places returning three members no elector should vote for more than two. It would obviously be impossible to apply 300 to 472, the additional expense imposed such a principle in Japan, where the numon the State for payment of salaries ber of representatives to be returned varies from 4-in Tottori and Miyazaki Prefectures—to 34 in Tokyo. In fact, when the limits of electoral districts are extended sufficiently to place the constituencies beyond the reach of corruption, the question of voting becomes invested with great difficulties. It will be very interesting to see-how the Diet deals with the matter.

In the new system, the three cities—Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka—return 68 members out of a total 472, a ratio of about 1 to 7. Their total population, however, is only 2½ milmillions, which stands in the ratio of 1 to 17 to the population of the whole empire, It thus appears that, from the point of view of population alone, the three cities are very largely over-represented. Again, while the population of Tokyo City-i.e. all the urban districts-is 1,628,000, that of Kyoto and Osaka combined is only 782,000, yet the two latter cities are to return the same number (34) of members as Tokyo. We do not understand the principle adopted. Turning to the urban districts throughout the whole empire, we find that, with a total population of of millions, they return 113 members, so that the ratio between their population and that of the whole empire is approximately the same as the ratio between their representatives and those of the whole empire---namely, a ratio of 1 to 4.
As to the extent of the franchise, the calculation is that, with the revised qualifications, there will be 47 voters to every 1,000 inhabitants of the empire. The corresponding figures for England, France, Italy, and Germany are 170, 270, 70, and 210 respectively.

# THE INCOME TAX.

According to the Government's estimate, the income tax, it increased as proposed by the bill now before the Diet, will yield an annual revenue of 31 million yen, approximately. The same tax in Great Britain yields a revenue of £17,250,000, or about 170 million yen. The ratio is nearly 1 to 49. That is very remarkable. Are we to conclude that the people of Great Britain can afford to pay forty-nine times as much in the form of income tax as the people of Japan? Looking at the matter from another point of view, we find that in the revised scheme of taxation the lowest income liable to elector votes for one candidate and one be taxed is 500 yen-or £50-and that the payment on account of such an income is 3 yen annually, or I per cent. after deducting 200 yen. Now the lowest taxbe at once evident that such a system can able income at present in Great Britain The passage of such a law in England not work satisfactorily in practice. Take is £400, or 4,000 yen, and the tax paid on would mean a new election; but the bill the case of Tokyo, for example. The city has to return 34 members. It may very that the present provides half may be that the present provides that the present provides half may be that the present provides that the present provides half may be that the present provides that the present provides that the present provides that the present provides that the present provides that the present provides the present provides that the present provides the present provides that the present provides the ie, the income is reduced by £100 before taxation, £160 being, under any circumstances, the lowest taxable income; so that the total payment is £5, or about 50 yen. Thus our final result is that the smallest payment of income tax in Japan is 3 yen, the corresponding income being 500 yen a year, and the smallest payment in Great Britain is 50 yen, the corresponding income being 4,000 yen. The incomes are in the ratio of 1 to 8, and the taxes in the ratio of 1 to 17. What the future of the income tax in Japan may be we can not foresee, but at present it is certainly a failure. No tax is more irksome and vexations. People hate to have their incomes scrutinized, and that is especially true of the Japanese people. There is a curious mixture of reticence and bluntness in the present character of the Japanese, the former quality inherited, the latter educated by contact with Western "cividreams of discussing monetary affairs, and to speak of incomes, even in the absence of their owners, would be regarded live to his age if I could serve my soas an unpardonable solecism. Yet the newspapers do not hesitate to publish, from time to time, accurate lists showing the yearly revenues of the principal income-tax payers. We have often thought that the old custom of paying taxes in kind and using a weight of precious metal instead of m coin as the unit of currency, was much better adapted to the disposition of the upper classes in Japan, than the present system, which reduces everything to a yen. Such refinements apart, however, a return of £350,000 is surely no justification for an income tax. We grant that a million yen to Japanese financiers is almost as much as a million pounds sterling to the Chaucellor of the British Exchequer, but still three hundred and fifty thousand pounds seems m paltry excuse for exposing a nation to the vexations, humiliations and demoralizing influences of an income tax. How magnificent the single-tax theory looks by the side of such methods!

# THE NAGASAKI HOTEL.

The debentures offered by the projectors of the Nagasaki Hotel ought to prove # good investment. Their amount is only 170,000 yen; they are secured by property worth nearly double that sum, and they carry 7 per cent, interest. The hotel may look forward to a monopoly during several years in Nagasaki, for although the number of persons visiting the place should be amply sufficient to bring prosperity to one large inn, they are not enough to tempt competition. Nagasaki has hitherto been conspicuous for the badness of its hotel accommodation. Our own exprience of the port is that it does not possess a hotel worthy of the name. Yet there seems no reason why, if good accommodation were procurable, numerous residents of Chinese settlements should not run over for a spell during the summer. Railway communications also will soon make the place easily accessible from all parts of Kiushiu, and now that Liaotung, Wei-hai-wei, and Kiao-chou are becoming centres of naval interest, Nagasaki is likely to be more frequented than ever by men-of-war. The debenture list closes, we observe, on June 1st.

SPEECH DELIVERED BY MARQUIS that to preserve the barriers separating ITO AT THE OKURA FETE.

During the fête in honour of the Silver Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Okura Kihachiro, His Excellency Marquis Ito, who was among the guests, having been invited to address the assembly, spoke as follows:—
"Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemeu-The fête to-day being intended to celebrate our host's entry upon his sixtyfirst year and the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Okura, I am asked to say a word in honour of the occasion. Unfortunately I have no gift of eloquence that justifies me in addressing you, neither am I furnished with materials to construct a speech. This title of Prime Minister that I hold seems, however, to impose upon me the necessity of saying a few words, and so I will crave your attention for a moment. Our host has reached his sixty-first year, vereign and my country in the interval. None the less I do not pretend to think that a man's usefulness to society depends on his length of years. There are many that have lived to be seventy, eighty, or even a hundred, without doing anything for their country, and there are others who, while still youths of twenty or thirty, have made themselves benefactors of the State and the people. Age has nothing to do with a mau's merits, whatever the popular idea on the subject may be. As for the successes that we may individually achieve, it is our innate desire, whatever vague speculations be framed by mere theorists, to work for and among races of our own There was a time, indeed, in pretype. historic days, when animate beings were divided into only two classes, men on one side, beasts on the other, and when a fierce struggle for existence absorbed the attention of the former. But, after victory had been assured to men, they gradually organized themselves into societies which became more and more differentiated from each other in the course of centuries, and which, by their rivalry, benefited each other and contributed to the cause of general progress. Out of that state of affairs grew the separation and competition among the yellow, white, and black races. As for us Japanese, if we consider our circumstances to-day, we find that the policy adopted at the time of the Restoration, the policy of opening the country and breaking down racial barriers, remains still unchanged. Reviewing my own experience, I remember that when I returned from Europe thirty-five years ago, the anti-foreign mania was at its height, and the only course open to thoughtful men was, on the one hand, to combat the uncivilized opinions prevailing at the time, and, on the other, to devise means of curtailing the power of the feudal chiefs and clan leaders and admitting the people at large to the councils of the State. I myself appreciated that the nation's aims should be to assimilate whatever knowledge the world had to offer, and with the strength thus obtained from without and within, to push resolutely forward to-wards intellectual enlightenment and material development. The measure of success that has attended the country's efforts to attain those aims is more than could have been anticipated, nor need I

natives and aliens at the present juncture would be wholly inconsistent with the liberal policy originally adopted, and that such a procedure has nothing whatever to recommend it. Apart from matters connected with the political autonomy of the State, every discrimination between native and foreign should, in my opinion, be removed, so that the widest possible cooperation may be secured in the in-terests of civilized development. Unless we seek to profit by the lessons of other's experience what can we hope to learn or to achieve? The progress of the world depends chiefly upon the liberal adoption of the knowledge and civilization of pre-decessors and of aliens. Nevertheless, history abounds with examples of nations which, ignorant of this fundamental principle, showed repugnance to foreign civilization, and sought to develop their administration and their systems by their own unaided strength. Ruin and decay have been the invariable fate of such nations. There is no difficulty in collecting practical illustrations of this truth even at the present day. We can find them readily. The statesman that ignores the principle I have here defined, and takes pride in standing aloof from the civilization achieved by others, violates the basic rules of society and the genuine obligations of humanity. Such a man is not qualified to play any part in modern politics, and I venture to assert that, so far from conferring benefits upon his country or his countrymen, he will involve both in innumerable perils. Concerning commercial and industrial affairs, I have but little experience and no knowledge to warrant me in speaking. Neither do I pretend to be versed in politics. Circumstances beyond my own control have placed me in the position I now occupy, and I am chiefly anxious to follow the example set by my predecessors, so as to avoid errors in carrying out the policy of the State. My ardent desire is to consummate the task entrusted to me by the Sovereign and to satisfy the wishes of the people. Even though I could count apon many remaining years of life, I should not value the prospect greatly, except as strengthening my great hope that I may live to see the rise of some man of extraordinary competence and wisdom to manage the affairs of the State and lead the nation to fuller progress and higher prestige. Were that hope realized, I would be content to die to-morrow. Meanwhile, finding myself in the post of Prime Minister, and being, as I have said, little conversant with commercial and industrial affairs, it is my object to rely upon the views of experienced persons, and adopt measures based on the actual condition of affairs and the tendency that they seem likely to assume hereafter. It is among the legitimate functions of an administration to formulate a policy with regard to trade and manufactures, or to legislate about them, in accordance with the views of the business community. Mr. Okura has amassed considerable wealth by the steady pursuit of various enterprises, and is entertaining us in this sumptuous manner to celebrate his advancing years and his silver wedding. In commemoration of the occasion, he has announced his intention of giving a sum of five hundred thousand yen for the endowment of a commercial college. I am glad to add my Digitized by Google. What I desire to emphasise is plauded such minificence. When Mr.

Okura first consulted me on the subject, he contemplated the establishment of a school for the children of the poor, but during my recent tour through Europe I had an opportunity of inspecting a com-mercial school in Spain and of studying the programme of its organization. Convinced of the advantages that must accrue from such an institution, I persuaded Mr. Okura to change his project as to a school for the poor. Had I entertained any political ambition in connexion with the school, I could easily have turned Mr. Okura's offer to account, so as to organize an educational institution suited for the manufacture of a political party. But I had no such ambition. So the final resolution was in favour of a commercial college. Mr. Okura's generosity in contributing a large sum for the public good is, of course, to be admired. But such acts are not very difficult for rich men. The difficulty consists rather in maintaining the spirit as well as the purpose of the proposed institution so that solid success shall be achieved. Viscount Enomoto, in the speech just delivered by him, said that he should like to see Mr. Okura's example followed by many others. For my own part I entertain little doubt that the brilliant results likely to attend Mr. Okura's design will encourage others to make similar philanthropic efforts, and it is therefore to be sincerely hoped that educationists as well as the business community at large will spare no pains to assist Mr. Okura in attaining his aim. I beg, in conclusion, to offer my congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Okura on the blessings that they already enjoy, and to hope that these blessings may be still further augmented for their posterity through the results of the good work which they now contemplate."

# THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

The Irish members in the present House of Commons seem to be more reckless in their statements than any of their predecessors. In a debate on the distress now prevailing in the west of Ireland and the measures of relief adopted by the Government, Mr. Dillon called upon the English to "clear out of Ireland altogether," a request which was loudly cheered by his fellow-patriots; Mr. W. Redmond declared that "the Irish in America could not dislike and distrust England, the English Government and everything connected with England more than the Irish in Ireland do;" Mr. Macneill remarked that the Chief Secretary for Ireland "had no trust and no mandate from the people of Ireland;" that he " was there as a foreigner. representative of a Government supported by the two pillars of violence and fraud," that the Irish were asking for relief "as only one drop out of the ocean of all the benefits the English Government had abstracted from them by deliberate robbery and plunder for a century," and that "English rule was the great difficulty in Ireland; the bane and curse of the country," and Dr. Ambrose called the members of the Ministry "bloated gentlean epithet which he has of course to recall. It is a difficult question to deterwhether such reckless agitators should be allowed to foment disaffection the corpus vile of the Minister's experiand discontent, or whether they ought not

# THE NUDE IN ART. On the 25th ult. the publisher, Mr. Shibata Shiro, and the editor, Mr. Goto

Terunosuke, of a magazine called the Shincho Gekkan were arraigned in the

Tokyo Local Court for violating the Press Law by inserting in that magazine a picture of a nude female. Reference has already been made to this suit in our columns. If attracts much interest as inprevent the introduction of the nude into Japanese pictorial art. The question first came upon the tapis in 1895, when Mr. Kuroda, a well known artist whose paintings had received favourable notice in Paris, sent a study of a female figure to the Kyoto Exhibition. If was a disgusting picture, unredeemed by any merit technical or æsthetic, and it created unbounded astonishment among the Japanese, who found much difficulty in appreciating this new phase of Occidental civilization. Some of our readers probably remember the discussions evoked by the incident in the vernacular press, and remember, also, the brochure written by Mr. Ganesco, en-titled "Shocking au Japon." Many critics blamed Baron Kuki—the Vice-President of the Exhibition-for allowing such a picture to be shown, and others defended him, on the ground that the problem had long ago been finally solved in Europe, and that the "human form divine" had just as legitimate a place in high art as has a landscape or a seascape. Official-dom remained silent, however. But it was learned, by and by, that Mr. Kuroda, the pioneer painter of the nude, had been appointed to a professorship in the Tokyo School of Art, and whispers went abroad that not only did he teach figure painting, but that the habits of the Occidental studio as to models for the ensemble had been introduced by him at the Uyeno School. In the spring of 1896, the question seemed to have been definitely settled, for at the regular exhibition of the Meiji Fine Arts Society, more than one drawing of the nude was accorded a place of honour. We ourselves had not the pleasure, or the pain, of seeing these "maiden" essays, but we are assured by competent judges that they displayed all the faults without any of the saving features of such paintings. The Authorities did not interfere, however, and in the natural order of things reproductions of the pictures appeared in the magazine spoken of above. We are inclined to think that they appeared, also, in the pictorial catalogue of the Society, but upon that point we can not speak with assurance. In short, had we been asked at the close of last year to say whether the nude had been regularly admitted to a place in Japanese art, we should have unhesitatingly answered in the affirmative. But we should have been wrong. The present Minister of Home Affairs regards the question in a different light, and has determined to take a test case into court in order to determine whether the Judiciary will sanction the new departure. Fortunately, perhaps, for the Shincho Gekkan, since the incident will give to the magazine a degree of prominence that it could scarcely have hoped to attain otherwise, it was selected to be ment, and the case against and for it was

contended that pictures of the nude were emphatically injurious to good morals, and he declared that this must be specially true in Japan, where to expose the body or any part of it except the hands and face had been regarded as indecorous from time immemorial. Many foreigners will find this dictum of Mr. Toshima's difficult to reconcile with their experience of Japanese customs-the calid coolie, the lady at the spa, and the peasants' al-fresco tub. But the Procurator spoke truly, as we dicating a resolve on the part of the pre-tub. But the Procurator spoke truly, as we sent Minister of State for Home Affairs to think we could demonstrate if we had another column at our disposal. At all events he invited the judge to pronounce pictures of the nude a violation of the Press Law. For the defence it was urged, with much show of justice, that similar illustrations had appeared frequently in other magazines, and in the same magazine, without evoking official censure; that drawings of the nude had been hung in galleries under official control; that the study of the nude from living models was taught at the Fine Arts School, which is a State institution, and that the editor and publisher of the Shincho Gekkan were constructively warranted in reproducing, on a reduced scale, pictures which had been publicly displayed for weeks under the eyes of the police. Counsel for the defence also asked to have Baron Kuki, President of the Imperial Museum, Professor Takamine, Head of the Fine Arts School, and Mr. Kuroda, the artist, cited as witnesses, and several Professors of the Imperial University summoned as experts. The Court refused the application, but whether that meant that the Judge had already made up his mind by examining the picture or from independent reasoning, we can not divine. The case was concluded in one day, so far as the arguments were concerned, judgment was not be delivered until the 31st ult., when the Judge found for the defendants.

# STATE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has at length elaborated its bill for the State purchase of private railways, and will take immediate steps to have it submitted to the Diet. It consists of ten articles, and contains a carefully elaborated scheme for the proposed operation. A very few words, however, will suffice to convey to our readers an idea of the measure. The value of a railway is to be estimated by taking its average annual net profits during the past three years and capitalizing them at from 4 to 5 per cent. As for the total purchase money, it is put by the chamber at 200 million yen, and the nominal idea is to raise it by a domestic or foreign loan, but of course the framers of the bill can have little hope of the money's being obtained at home. They also speak of floating the loan by degrees, a method of procedure which would be exceedingly difficult to adopt in practice. The interest on the loan is to be 3 per cent., and the bonds are to remain un-redeemed for 50 years. Thus, if the property purchased gives a return of from 4 to 5 per cent., and the money with which it is purchased is obtained at 3 per cent., the transaction would be decidedly proto be safely lodged in fail. All their utter-largued very fully before the Tokyo Local profit of the Stafe. We do not im-ances evoke of high agine that there is much chance of the from the Ministerial benches.

We do not im-URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# JAPAN AND FOREIGN CAPITAL.

The Bill presented to the Lower House by the Government on the subject of foreign loans contains no direct information about the Ministry's intentions. Its provisions are these :-

In the event of raising in foreign markets any of the loans referred to in the Railway Construction Law, No. 4, of 1892, the Industrial Bonds Regulations, No. 59, of 1896, and the Hokkaido Railway Construction Law, No. 93, of 1896, the Government shall be competent to determine by Notification, first, whether the amount of the loan shall be inscribed in foreign coin; secondly, the period for which the bonds shall run pending the first redemption; and thirdly the time of redemption, as well as all other essential points relating to redemption. Provided that the date of complete redemption shall not be more than 55 years after the date of issue of the bonds.

There is here no direct authorization to float the above loans in foreign countries. Probably no such authorization is necessary. The Laws and Regulations relating to the loans do not contain any provision limiting the sale of the bonds to the domestic market, and in the absence of such provision the Government doubtless considers itself entitled to sell the bonds wherever buyers can be found. Thus the object of the Bill is not to provide for a foreign loan, but to enable the Minister of Finance to model his procedure in such a manner as to suit foreign capitalists, should recourse to them be found necessary. In other words, the Minister of Finance will have discretion to determine whether the loans should be floated at home or abroad, and, in the event of his deciding to float them abroad, he will modify the conditions of issue and redemption accordingly.

It has often been pointed out in these columns that there are three objections to Japanese bonds from the foreign investor's point of view. The first, and by far the most important, is uncertainty as to the stability of Japan's monetary system. She has adopted gold monometallism, and her unit of value, the yen, is a coin containing 2 fun (0.75 grammes) of pure gold and worth 23 d. If it were certain that and worth 23 d. If it were certain that the same unit will be used 55 years hence, the foreign purchasers of a Japanese bond would be quite content to have its facevalue expressed in yen. Not being certain, however, he wants some guarantee, and Count Incure proposes the simple plan of converting the yen into its equivalent in the coinage system of the country where the bond is sold, and inscribing the converted amount on the face of the bond. The second objection is that the period pending the commence-ment of redemption, namely, 5 years, is too short for a foreign investor. He does not care to run the risk of having his money thrown back upon his hands so quickly. Count Inouye proposes to quickly. Count Inouye proposes to change the period, probably to 20 or 25 years, with the limitation, however, that the maximum time-55 years-for completing the operation of redemption shall not be exceeded. It is also essential that the process of redemption should be regular, the quantity of bonds to be annually redeemed being definitely fixed, and not allowed to vary according to the convenience of the Treasury. No re-ference to this is made in the Bill, but it is probably included in the phrase "all other essential points relating to redemption." The third objection is the danger of taxation. An investor receives interest at a fixed rate, but page not be sufficient force bet squadron at St. Vincent, the Americans will have a fairly free hand to prosecute their blockade undisturbed except in so far as they may be harassed by the small craft in colonial waters. To considerations then present themselves, at a fixed rate, but page not be sufficient for an investor receives interest at a fixed rate, but page not be sufficient for an investor receives interest. The considerations then present themselves, at a fixed rate, but page not be sufficient for an investor receives interest. The considerations of Cuba standard for miles for midable squadron of ten other essential points relating to redemption." The third objection is the danger

the bonds may not be brought within the pale of taxation some fine morning. do not know whether that question has been taken into consideration by the framers of the Bill.

### AMERICA AND SPAIN.

The Times of April 23rd publishes the following estimate of the strategic situation :-

The implure of diplomatic relations between Spain and the United States has been followed by Spain and the United States has been followed by prompt action in the part of the latter Government. The larger portion of the reinforced North Atlantic squadron, under the command of Captain William T. Sampson, has left Key West in order to enforce a blockade of the Cuban ports, and it is stated that the remainder of the vessels of the United States navy which are ready for sea will leave port with the same object almost immediately. This is a development of the situation which was indicated in a previous article (The Times. was indicated in a previous article (The Times, April 14) as probable, since, if the supplies of her colonies are cut off by the American Consens, Spain must almost necessarily attempt their reflec-

Spain must almost necessarily attempt their relief-The force at Captain Sampson's disposal con-sists of the armonied cruiser New York, carrying his flag, the battleships Iowa and Indiana, the "monitors" Puritan, Amphitrita, Miantonomoh, and Terror, with the cruisers Cincinnati, Detroit, Marblehead, Montgomery, Nashville, Wilmington, and Helena, besides a tongeto fluilla consisting of the Dupont, Cushing, Ericsson, Foole, Porter, Rodgers, Winslow, Gwyn, and Talbot, with several small yachts and despatch vessels. Remembering the large extent and indented character of the the large extent and indented character of the Cuban coast line, the President appears to have decided wisely not to attempt a blockade of the whole island. Until Captain Sampson is supplied with further reinforcements in the shape of the armed yachts and merchant vessels which are aparmed yachts and merchant vessels which are apparently being prepared for the purpose, he will confine this efforts to sealing up the larger ports, from Cardenas on the north round by the west to Chenfuegos on the south, and including Havana and Matanzas. For this purpose he will probably subdivide his force in such a manner as to have nearest the ports blockaded a line of torpedo-boats and other small craft, with, outside these, a second line of cruisers, the battleships remaining as a reserve on a third fine beyond the probable radius of any action which might be taken by improvised to pedocraft.

The naval forces of Spain in the islands now the havar forces of Spani in the thands now consist entirely of small croisers, guidoats, and the like—vessels which may, indeed, harrass the blackaders after nightfall, but which could not libre to stand up against the American cruisers in the daytime, when they will probably keep well within the shelter of the fortified ports.

At present, although it has been stated that the flying squadron at Hamptor. Roads is to carry out a similar blockade at Puertorico, the force under the command of Comminder Winfield S. under the command of Commander Winfield S. Schley has not left port. Nor does the constitu-tion of this squadron seem to fit it for that pur-pose, consisting, as it does, of but five vessels, the battleship Massachussetts, the aumonied crui-sers Brooklyn and Texas, and the commerce-des-troyers Columbia and Minniapolis. It would seem more likely that this force would be kept in seem more likely that this force would be kept in hand as a squadion of observation to act in response to any movements made by the Spanish squadion at St. Vincent, Cape Vetd. This last named force represents virtually the only one Spain has ready for use. It now consists of the four belted cruisers, the Viscays, Almirante Oquendo, Infanta Maris Teresa, and the Cristobal Colon, with six to pedo-vessels. It is obvious bal Colon, with six to pedo-vessels. It is obvious that a squadron so constituted could not hope by itself to effect the relief of the colonies if it were likely to meet the combined squadrons of the United States, or even the flying squadron, if reinforced by the batteships from the North Atlantic squadron, ships that might well be spared for such a purpose from the blockading operation. Unless, therefore, Spain is desirous of throwing away these vessels it is unlikely that they will leave their present anchorage immediately. that they wimmediately.

The situation then, as it now stands, indicates that for a time at least, and notil Spain can rein-force ber squadion at St. Vincent, the Americans blockade, with consequent stoppage of supplies from outside, and how soon can Spain augment the strength of her effective squadron to a point at which she may hope to attempt successfully to raise the blockade? If the Spanish reports are trustworthy, the garrison can hold out for six months, and in less than two they will be able to add to their effective fleet six vessels, two of which at least are of the first class. These six vessels are the hattleshing Petaga and the reconstruction. of which at least are of the first class. These six vessels are the battleships Pelayo and the reconstructed Victoria, the betted cruisers Carlos V. and Cardinal Cieneros, and the first-class protected cruisers Alfonso XIII. and Lepanto, all of which ships are now in various stages of preparation in Spanish ports, where is also preparing for sea a second torpedo flotilla.

The United States

second to pedo flotilla.

The United States have also several vessels which should soon take their places in the different lines. Two of these are the cruivers San Francisco and New Orleans, which recently arrived from England at New York, while a third is the Oregon, battleship, which, with a gun-vessel in on her way to Key West from the Pacific. The Oregon is not expected to arrive before the second week in May. She made a capital passage from San Francisco to Callao in to days, and after teaving that place was expected to reach Sandy Point in the Straits of Magellan about April 17. There, and again at Montevideo, and at Santa Lucia in the West Indies, she was expected to coal, and, her itinerary having beau published, the Spaniards are reported to have sent expected to coal, and, her itine ary having been published, the Spaniards are reported to have sent a torpedo-boat to the south-east coast of America on purpose to watch for her. Whether this he so or no, the Spanish torpedo-gunboat Temerario was reported at Buenos Ayres on April 6, and as she will probably receive the news of war white the Oregon is still at sea, she may endeavour to disable the battleship by a night surprise. The only other vessel which the United States has in a near state of readiness is the cuiser Newser's but near state of readiness is the coniser Newark, but she is not expected to be fit for sea before the end of May.

site is not expected to the fit for sea before the end of May.

A further factor in the situation is the military force now concentrating in the United States. On April 14 an army order was issued directing eight regiments of infantry to proceed to New Orleans, seven to Mobile, and seven to Tampa, while in addition six regiments of cavalry and all the light batteries and artiflery regiments except the 6th and 7th, organized for coast defence, were ordered to Chickamauga. All these are regular troops, and it has been estimated that they will take six weeks to mobilize. Altogether, the force thus placed in readiness will amount to about 20,000 men. The passenger steamers St. Paul, St. Louis, New Yerk, and Paris, whose services have been called for under the terms of the contract between the Government and the company to which they belong, may be intended for transport duty, with other vessels which are being purchased. But there have been in indications of fitting these steamers for that purpose, and this will at least take some time to accomplish. It does not appear, therefore, that there is any immediate intention on the part of the Government to send troops to Cuba, where, moreover, there is a gard-on reported to conthere is any immediate intention on the part of the Gavernment to send traops to Cuba, where, moreover, there is a garrison reported to consist of 28,000 regulars, and 15,000 trained volunteers, and where the rainy season, soon is begin, will render military operations with immeasoned troops very costly in life. It is turight to mention that, according to a telegram from Washington, the concentration on the Allamic seaboard of a force sufficient to make an effective campaign in Cuba will only take ten days, but as it is also said that this force will consist of 80,000 out of 100,000 volunteers to be called out by the Army Bill now helpre Congress, in addition to the regular army, the value of this estimate appears to be doubtful.

It will be seen from the above that Spain did not expect to be in a position to enter the lists until some two months had elapsed from April 23rd. By that time she hoped to have the following squadron in the vicinity of Cuba:-

j	Battle-ship	Pelaya(9,900)
	do	Victoria
	Belted craiser	Carlos V(9,235)
1	do '	Cardinal Chneras (7,000)
		Viscoya(7,000)
	do	Almirante Oquendo(7,000)
		Infanta Maria Teresa. (7,000)
I	do	Cristobal Colon (6,840)
	First-class Protected	
	cruiser	Alfanso XIII(5,000)
	Second class Protec-	
	ted cruiser	Lebanto(4.286)

United States would oppose :-

	· ·
Baitle-ship	owa(11,410)
do /	ndiana(10,288)
ifo	Oregon(10,288)
do	lfassachusetts(10,288)
Monitor A	Puritan(6,060)
	1mphitrite(3,990)
do	Wiantonomoh(3 990)
do	Terrer(3.990)
Armoured cruiser I	Brooklyn(9,250)
	Cexas(6,315)
	Columbia(7.475)
do A	finmeapolis(7.475)
do S	an Francisco (4,083)
da (?) ?	Vew Orleans (?)
Deck protected	
citiser manner	Sincinnati(3,183)
do Z	Detroit(2,000)
	farblehead(2,000)
	Montgomery(2,000)
da A	Vashville(1,371)
do l	Wilmington(1,392)
do /	Helena(1,392)
Torpedo Craft E	
Coniser	lewark(4.083)

We include the Newark, because she was expected to be ready by the end of May, and doubtless every effort has been made to expedite her completion. Giving Spain two months from the time when The two months from the time when Times' estimate was prepared, it will be the end of June before any naval engagement on m large scale can take place. Evidently the Spanish squadron available at the moment of the outbreak of hostilities was wholly inadequate to risk an encounter, and our conjecture made at the time appears to have been correct, namely, that Spain had been caught unprepared, and that a considerable interval must elapse before she would be ready to fight. At a cursory glance, the American squadron looks much stronger than the Spanish, but if we consider only the ships of first-class power, there is not a very marked discrepancy. Thus, while the Spaniards have nine vessels ranging from 9,900 tons to 5,000 tons, and including two line-of-battle ships, the Americans also have nine, ranging from 11,410 tons to 6,060 tons, and including four battleships. It is in the matter of second-class and third-class cruisers that the Americans possess overwhelming strength.
They have no less than thirteen vessels -including three monitors-ranging from 4,083 to 1,392 tons, against Spain's one second-class cruiser of 4,286 tons. It is within the range of possibility that Admiral Sampson or Commodore Schley may come into touch with the Spanish St. Vincent squadron of four belted cruisers and six torpedo vessels before it can be joined by the ships from Cadiz. But that is a very remote contingency. Despite of all the rumours to the contrary, we do not believe that the St Vincent squadron has ventured anywhere into the neighbourhood of either Cuba and Puertorico. Its destruction would be inevitable if it encountered the Americans, and it has no choice but to lie perdu until the six ships from Cadiz join it. Even suppoing that the whole available naval force of Spain is assembled in good fighting trim, would the officer commanding it be justified in risking an engagement? Would the Spanish Government be justified in authorizing him to risk it? Two line-of-battle ships and eight cruisers against four much more powerful line-of-battle ships and eighteen cruisers-squadrons differing so greatly in power could not be pitted against one another with the least chance of success or even escape for the smaller. If we turn to armanient, and remarked, are fatally handicapped for the omit all small guns, we find that the purposes of any programme of surprise.

Spaniards would remarked, are fatally handicapped for the purposes of any programme of surprise. Original from they could employ Puerto Ricolay MERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT.

fighting ships and a torpedo flotilla, the piercing guns, ranging from 12.5 in. to of operations, their case would be much 7.8-in. and 58 quick firers, ranging from (10,288) piercing guns, ranging from 13-in. (10,288) to 8-in., and 97 quick-firers, ranging wastrs. (10,288) to 8-in., and 97 quick-firers, ranging from 6-iu. to 4-in. on the American side. We do not see how two such squadrons can be expected to engage. It would be simple self-immolation on the part of the Spaniards. No wonder that they hesitate. What they are to do, however, is a puzzling question. Time will not better their position. If they could hope to take Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley independently, there might be some faint chance of success but nothing of that kind can be attempted without the most rapid steaming, and forced-draught speed is out of the question for a squadron working at a great distance from its only available source of coal supply. Spain's plight is certainly most unhappy.

> The Spanish Reserve Squadron has again left Cadiz. So the telegraph says. It is a remarkable squadron. We have been hearing of it time and again for several weeks, now here, now there, and what to believe about it at last, no one can venture to affirm. The latest detailed news, published by the London *Times* at the end of April, informed us that the squadron would not be ready before the middle of June, at soonest. Great exertions have doubtless been put forth to forestall that date, and it is just possible that the ships did leave Cadiz at the close of May. But we doubt it. The telegram announcing the event is plainly from a Spanish source. "The destination of the Squadron," we are told, "is either Cuba, the Philippines, or America, as the Government may deem expedient." That is surely a little "thin." With regard to the Philippines, if the Squadron were going thither, it would, of course, take the Suez Canal route, and its movements would thus be under the world's observation from start to finish. Besides, nothing conceivable could be more suicidal for Spain than to divide a force already far too weak even when combined, and to despatch one section of it to the Far East, keeping the other hidden away in the Atlantic. No step of that kind will be taken, we may be absolutely confident. Spain's one hope-a slender hope at best —is to unite her St. Vincent and Cadiz squadrons, and with the whole fleet strike some strong blow at her enemy. She naturally wants to persuade the Americans that their entire coast line is threatened, for if, acting upon that idea, they dispersed their naval forces throughout the area of danger, there might be a chance for the Spaniards to take them in detail. But who can imagine that America will fall into that trap? Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley will not attempt the impossible. The whole Atlantic coast of Commodore Schley will not attempt the (6.315), and the protected cruisers Columimpossible. The whole Atlantic coast of bia (7,475) and Minneapolis (7,475). The United States can not be guarded. That is certain. To attempt to guard it with twenty-two fighting ships would be to court disaster by m ridiculous dissipation of effective strength. The American commanders may endeavour to post as videttes throughout the menaced area a number of the armed yachts and merchantmen at their disposal, but their fighting squadrons will be kept always in touch. The Spaniards, as we have before

improved; but any attempt to use Puerto Rico will bring them at once within the range of American observation. There is nothing for it, so far as we can see, but a good square fight. To bombard one or two American seaboard towns would not advance Spain's cause in any degree, and would prepare for her a much worse

All intelligence with reference to Spanish naval movements has to be received with extreme caution, for it is evident that the Government at Madrid is making every effort to keep its belligerent affairs beyond the range of public observation. Still the reiterated telegrams lately received about Admiral Cervera's squadron seem too circumstantial to be altogether doubted. Santiago de Cuba is a town on the southern coast of the island. and its harbour, where Admiral Cervera's ships are said to be lying, is called Puerto de Cuba. The Admiral's squadron is doubtless the same as that said to have been at St. Vincent in the Cape Verd Islands at the outbreak of the War. It consists of the four belted cruisers Viscaya (7,000), Almirante Oquendo (7,000), Infanta Maria Teresa (7,000) and Cristobal Colon (6,840), together with six tor-pedo vessels. Of course it is the very worst possible strategy that this Squadron should have allowed itself to have been entrapped in such a manner. The one thing to be avoided before everything was an encounter with the American fleet before all Spain's available ships had been collected and united, and the sole hope for the Spaniards was that they should manœuvre so as to engage Sampson and Schley's squadrons independently. But it is one thing to lay down a principle of that kind and another to act upon it. What was the St. Vincent squadron to do? It could not remain for weeks in the harbour of a neutral state. It had therefore to choose between three courses—re-maining at sea until the reserve ships from Cadiz joined it; putting back to Cadiz temporarily, or making its way quietly into some harbour of Cuba or Puertorico, there to lie perdu until the Cadiz reinforcements arrived. The first plan was rendered difficult by the question of coal; the second could probably have been the wisest in the long run, but had many obvious disadvantages. We infer that the third was chosen, and that, contrary to Spanish expectation, the presence of the ships in Puerto de Cuba-a likely enough place for escaping observation—has been discovered. Commodore Schley's squadron, which is said to be blockading the Spaniards in Puerto de Cuba, consists of the battle-ship Massachussetts (10,288), the armoured cruisers Brooklyn (9,250) and Texas if the torpedo vessels be taken into account. But the Spanish admiral is at a terrible disadvantage if he has to emerge from harbour in the face of a squadron that can concentrate its fire. Disaster could scarcely fail to be the result of such a manceuvre. On the other hand, if he chooses to lie quiet, it will be almost impossible for the Americans to get at him.

# THE NATURALIZATION LAW.

We publish to-day a translation of the new Naturalization Law now in the hands of the House of Peers. It had not been our intention to publish the Law until its final passage through the two Houses, as there are indications that it will undergo various amendments. But, judging from the comments of a local contemporary, the provisions of the Law seem to be already misinterpreted. It is alleged, for example, that no alien obtaining naturalization in Japan will be entitled to sit in the Japanese Diet or to vote for a member of the House of Representatives. That is a mistake resulting from the not uncommon failure of Far-Eastern journals to read the document which they undertake to discuss, or summarize. is true that aliens becoming naturalized in Japan are not immediately entitled to sit in the Diet, exercise the franchise, or rise to certain high effices. But the restriction holds for ten years only, or for five years in the case of a person obtaining naturalization for meritorious services rendered to Japan. In other words, any alien who has become naturalized in Japan will, after ten years have elapsed from the time of his naturalization, be entitled to enjoy all the privileges of I Japanese subject without restriction of any kind. It follows, therefore, that everyone born in Japan (vide Art. IX.) and residing there, will enjoy the full status of a Japanese subject at ten years of age, and any one who lives in the country for fifteen consecutive years will be similarly privileged, since at the end of five years (vide Art. VII.) he can obtain naturalization, and at the end of ten more years he is freed from all disabilities attaching to an alien. These provisions are in accord with the usage of Occidental countries. It is a mistake resulting from mere ignorance to say that the new Law is "remarkable for illiberality."

The new Law of Naturalization, or rather the project of law now before the Imperial Diet, has attracted attention among foreigners and provoked some comment. It is characterized as illiberal, and one courteous writer charges us with "mendacious and wilful distortion of facts" because we said that "any alien who has become naturalized in Japan, will, after ten years have elapsed from the time of his naturalization, be entitled to enjoy all the privileges af a Japanese sub-ject without restriction of any kind." This latter critic bases his accusation on a supposed literal rendering of the text of the Law, which, according to him, provides that the disabilities under which an alien labours at the time of naturalization " may be removed (with the permission of the Emperor) by the Minister of the Interior." Well, that is not how we inter-Well, that is not how we interpret the Law. The Japanese words "Zenjo ni sadametaru seigen wa \* The Japanese words are: Naimudaijin chokusai wo hete kore wo kaijo suru koto wo u;" which, trans. lated literally, means :- " As for the restrictions determined by the preceding Article, the Minister of State for Home Affairs, with the Imperial Sanction, is competent to remove them." We understand that provision to be simply an indication of the procedure appropriate

whom the application is made has power to refuse it, although the prescribed conditions as to residence, &c., have been satisfied? Surely not. Similarly, in the case of the new Japanese Law, we interpret it to mean nothing more than that the Minister of State for Home Affairs is the duly constituted authority for removing the disabilities of newly naturalized persons, and that he has no competence whatever to reject their applications provided that the prescribed condition as to residence has been satisfied. Therefore, even at the risk of being again charged with "wilful and mendacious distortion of the facts" we repeat our statement that an alien who has become naturalized in Japan will, after ten years have elapsed from the time of his naturalization, be entitled to enjoy all the privileges of a Japanese subject." The Minister of State for Home Affairs will have no more competence to deny his title to such privileges than British Secretary of State has to withheld a certificate of naturalization when the conditions essential to its receipt of Occidental countries." have been fulfilled.

There is another very interesting point to be noted with regard to this Law of Nationality. We have hitherto spoken of the Law in very general terms. in view of the issues that have been raised it is necessary to be more explicit. Passing to details, then, we have to note that the Law does not warrant any of the criticisms levelled against it. It does not impose any disabilities upon persons naturalized in the ordinary way. The two articles bearing on this question are :-

XVI - Kiha-jin no bo ni shite Nihon no kokuseli wo shutoku shitaru mono oyobi Nihon jin no yoshi mata wa niufu to naritaru mono wa sa ni kakagetaru kenri wo yu sezu. etc.

wo yu sezu.

etc.

XVII.—Zenjo ni sadame.
taru seigesi wa dai-juichijo no kitei ni yorile kiha
wa byaha shitaru mono ni
tsuite ma kohuseki shutoku
no toki yori go nen no nochi
sono ta no mono ni tsuite
ma junen no nochi Nainudaijin chokusai wo hete
kore wo kaijo suru koto wo
u.

Anyone who has acquired Japanese nationality as the child of a naturalized person or through being dopted by, or married to, a Japanese, shall not possess the following sights:

With regard to the limitations prescribed is the preceding Atticle, the Minister of State for Home Affairs, with the Imperial Sanction, has competence to remove

with the Imperial Sanction, has competence to remove them in the case of a person who has obtained naturalization under the provisions of Art. XI.s five years subsequently to the date of obtaining naturalization, and in the case of any other person, ten years subsequently.

It will be observed that the disabilities in question refer to three classes of persons only; namely:-

a. Any one who has obtained naturalization through being the child of a naturalized person. b. Any one who has obtained naturalization through being adopted by a Japanese.

c. Any one who has obtained naturalization through being married to a Japanese.

Thus no disabilities whatever are imposed upon persons who acquire Japanese nationality under the ordinary condition, that is to say, after five years' residence in Japan. The children of such persons, however, do not acquire the full rights and privileges of Japanese subjects until a certain probationary interval has elapsed hypocrisy now preferred against him by Let us take a case. A Frenchman, having the Japan Herald in singularly acrimoniresided five years in Japan, applies for and receives a certificate of Japanese nationality. He thereupon immediately becomes entitled to all the rights and against such an attack. Still, we may point

years \* \* \* may apply to one of Her to all the rights and privileges of Japanese Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State subjects. They labour under certain disform a certificate of naturalization." Does abilities which are not fully removed until it follow that the Secretary of State to five years have elapsed, if their father has acquired Japanese nationality in recognition of meritorious service, or ten years if he has acquired it in the ordinary way. Again, if an alien is adopted or married into a Japanese family, and thus acquires
Japanese nationality, he does not immediately become entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Japanese subject, but is excluded from a certain portion of them until ten years have elapsed from the time of his adoption or marriage. These customs of adoption (yoshi) and marriage (ninfu) present some peculiar features in Japan, and are, therefore, specially treated in the Law. But the broad fact stands out that an alien securious Leaves out that an alien acquiring Japanese nationality by satisfying the ordinary qualification of five years' residence, is not discriminated against in any way, but becomes entitled forthwith to enjoy and exercise all the rights and privileges of a Japanese subject. No other interpretation of the Law seems possible, and we therefore repeat our assertion that "its provisions are in accord with the usage

> Our local contemporaries have probably been misled in this instauce by an apparently erroneous translation in the Japan Times. That journal renders the sixteenth article as follows :-

> A naturalized subject or his or her children who have become naturalized, or an alien adopted into a Japanese family, or who has become its member in the capacity of ninfn, is not entitled, &c.

> But the original does not contain the words "a naturalized subject." It speaks only of the child of a naturalized person, and of persons naturalized by adoption or marriage. It is possible also that our own failure to enter into a detailed explanation of these distinctions may have helped to confirm the wrong impression, but we venture to observe that a careful examination of the original text of the Law should have preceded the very sweeping criticisms penned by our local contemporaries and their correspondents with reference to the project and our comments on it.

# MARQUIS ITO.

Marquis Ito, we perceive, is the object of a somewhat severe attack at the hands of a local English contemporary, which contrasts his liberal utterances at Mr. Okura's silver-wedding party with the supposed illiberal character of the new Law of Nationality, and with the restriction imposed by the Revised Treaties on foreign ownership of land in Japan. Marquis Ito has invariably shown himself a thoroughly sincere friend of foreigners, and considering that of all living Japanese statesmen-indeed, we may fairly say, of all modern japanese statesmen-he can claim to have contributed by far the largest share to Japan's progress, the accusations of narrow-mindedness, self-seeking and ous terms will be unreservedly condemned by every thoughtful foreigner. It seems almost an insult to defend him to such occasions. The law of England, privileges of a Japanese subject. But out that, with regard to the question of for example, says that "An alien who his children, if he has any, though they land ownership it is well known that Mar-acquire Japanese nationality, is so do not less than five parts do not become immediately entitled unposing any restriction upon foreigners. out that, with regard to the question of

Neither Marquis Ito, however, nor any sentiment of the nation. Marquis Ito was Prime Minister of the Cabinet by which the Treaty of 1886 was negotiated, and in that Treaty the privilege of owning land was granted without reservation to foreigners. Marquis Ito was President of the Privy Council with a seat in the cabinet when Count Okuma's Treaty of 1880 was negotiated, and in that Treaty the privilege of owning land was granted without reservation to foreigners. As for the Law of Nationality, we have shown elsewhere that the charges brought against it by the Japan Herald, the Japan Gasette, the Kobe Chronicle, and other writers, are based on a mis-conception. A false translation has betrayed them into supposing that the privileges acquired by an alien in Occi-dental countries upon naturalization, are to be withheld in Japan until a period of ten years shall have elapsed, whereas that probationary interval applies only to the cases of a naturalized person's child, or of a person naturalized by the special processes of adoption or marriage, and does not apply to the case of a person obtaining naturalization by the ordinary method of five years' residence. In the interests of foreigners and in the course of justice, we do not think that such an attack as that made upon Marquis Ito by the Japan Herald can be too strongly denounced.

# THE CODES.

On the 2nd instant the House of Representatives passed the remaining portions of the Revised Code. The Bill embodying these important laws was sent to the House by the Government on the 18th ultimo, and was entrusted to a special committee on the 21st (Saturday). the various operations connected with its passage through the Lower House oc-cupied exactly ten days. The period originally fixed for the duration of the session was twenty days, and as these expire on the 6th (Monday), counting from the 18th May when the official opening took place, it is evident that only 3 working days—Friday, Saturday, and Monday—remain for the House of Peers to examine, discuss, and pass a project of law containing 1,146 articles. That is plainly an impossible feat, however anxious the House may be to dispose of the matter expeditiously. We presume, therefore, that the Government will extend the duration of the session, especially as the Bills for increased taxation have not yet emerged from the Lower House. It is possible that these latter Bills will come up for discussion to day (3rd), since they were submitted with a request for quick consideration. But even if they reach the hands of the Upper House by the 4th instant, a week must be allowed for their examination and discussion.

We imagine, therefore, that the session will be prolonged until the 10th, or per-haps the 11th. There is work enough to occupy both Houses for two months longer, but the catalogue of measures dealt with if the session is extended until the 10th Civil Code Bill is extremely brief, though far more than it is in other countries. I in fact the speeches and motions occupied visited the prison in Taipeh a few days if that comparison hold good, the Japanese more than three hours. But with the expect, without notice, and found it most of the large file already three times overception of Mr. Wick and Journal of the conducted. Even the wife and of the large file already three times overception of Mr. Wick and Journal of the conducted. Even the wife and of the large file already three times overception of Mr. Wick and Journal of the large file and the lar

other statesman, can afford to ignore the Dr. Hatoyama represented the Progressists. His support of the Bill, supplemented by the fact that its opponents could not even obtain a quorum to qualify any of their amendments for discussion, leads us to infer that when a show of hands, was called for, not more than 23 members voted against the measure. The Code may therefore be said to have passed with flying colours.

# NOTES FROM FORMOSA.

A correspondent whose competence to pronounce an opinion on the subjects he discusses is beyond question, writes as follows from Formosa :- "The entente between Japanese and foreigners in Formosa is vastly better than it used to be. There has been a marked improvement within the past few months, and it is probably attributable to two causes. The first is that the foreigners are coming to understand the Japanese a good deal better than they did originally. That is undoubtedly due in great measure to the influence of the late Governor-General, Baron Nogi, and to that of Mr. Hashi-guchi, the late Prefect. The second is that the Japanese, on their side, are finding out that they have not to deal with a mixed foreign community such as generally exists in an open-port settlement, a community including every grade from the beach-comber to the merchant prince. The foreigners here, that is to say the non-official part, consist of one class only, the best type of mercan-tile men. They have their prejudicesa feature specially noticeable, perhaps, in the case of the English-but they are "gentlemen." Pardon the term. It is in some respects detestable, as having an odour of snobbism, and being, moreover, without definite meaning, as well as slightly ridiculous ever since a witness in a Scotch police court, having refer-red to the prisoner as a "gentleman" and being asked to explain the word, replied "any man that's no a woman." However, there is no better term, and it is used in the present instance in a high sense. These men have strong prejudices and are not in every way saints as to their manner of life, but they are upright and honourable, never doing a mean thing or willingly committing a wrong act. It should also be noted that the class of Japanese coming to the island, the north at any rate, is greatly improving.

The same correspondent, writing about prisons in Japan in general," says :--In the course of my professional work I have seen many prisons. I have several times taken then "at a rush"—that is to say, entered at a time when it could not have been expected that any foreigner, or visitor of any kind, would apply for admission. There are matters of detail that could be criticised. Presumably that would be true of any prison in the world. But, on the whole, I have been astonished at their excellence, their cleanliness, and the great attention paid to sanitation. In fact, it seems to me that, as a rule, Japan-

yama Kazuo no one of any note spoke. ing, though described as only temporary, is solid for a wooden structure, and well arranged from a sanitary point of viewnot perfectly arranged, of course, but well arranged. The prisoners seem to be in good health. Those of Japanese and Chinese race are treated alike. In connexion with the prisoners, however, there is one thing that calls for strong notice. I found among them a graduate of the College of Engineering with whom I was personally acquainted, and I was told that he had been there for more than a year. without trial. No date has yet been fixed for his trial; he is dressed in prison garb; eats prison food; is in a cell-not bad as a cell-with a number of other prisoners, mostly Chinese, and he has to bow down, placing his head on his hands on the floor, every time an official appears upon the scene. He is accused of taking a bribe. I do not in the least know whether he is guilty or not. If he is, there is excuse enough in the miserable salary he-like all others of his standing-was paid, and moreover he has had more than enough punishment already. When I asked why he was detained, I was told with amusing naïveté that he was kept in prison because evidence had not yet been obtained against This sort of thing ought surely to be stopped. I am told that there are hundreds of similar cases, and that among the untried prisoners there are some Chinese who were arrested when the Japanese first came to the island."

> We publish the above, because we hold it to be an editor's duty never to suppress such statements when they come from a bona-fide source. But we would remind our correspondent that the remanding of prisoners month after month in order that the police may have time to collect evidence against them is common in every country. Nevertheless complaints of this nature have been so frequently formulated with regard to the Japanese judicial system that it is impossible to believe them to be entirely groundless, and we earnestly commend the matter to the attention of the Authorities.

# THE " SAKE" TAX.

If the Diet sanctions the new scheme of taxation, the income obtained from the saké tax will be 42 million gen annually, omitting fractions. The same tax yielded 161 millions in 1893-4-i.e. the year before the war. It has consequently been increased in the ratio of 5 to 2, approxi-The income derived by Great mately. Britain from excise duties is twenty-eight millions sterling, or 280 million yen. Thus the ratio between the yield of the tax in Japan and the yield in England is nearly I to 7. It is not easy to determine the proper conditions of comparison. A tax of 10 yen per koku mean sixpence per gallon, approximately. Now, since 1860, it has been a virtually accepted principle in England that ten shillings a gallon is the proper tax upon spirituous liquors, If we class sake in that category, it evidently escapes on very easy terms in Japan, since it pays twenty times less than the British rate. But many people claim ese male prisoners have little to complain that sake is to the Japanese what beer is or the 11th already promises to be very of. Their life is not amusing, indeed, but to the English, and since the duty on each large. Our report of the debate on the a prison in Japan is a place of instruction gallon of ale brewed in Great Britain is something less than two pence per gallon,

beer of Japan. Tea seems to us to occupy in Japan nearly the same place as beer in England. Certainly ninety per cent. of Japanese labourers do not think of touching saké, whether refined, mixed, or muddy, at their mid-day meal, and manyprobably a majority—do not regard it in any sense as a necessary article of diet. Would the nation fare better physically if sake were abolished? That is a question that we should like to see discussed by experts. In the meanwhile, the Government, has, of course, to adopt the policy of favouring the milder fermented liquors with the view of promoting temperance. A great difficulty is that to tax saké in anything like the same proportion as spirits and wines are taxed in Europe might lead to its displacement by imported liquors far more intoxicating and deleterious. If Japan could confine her people to saké and tax the beverage sufficiently to reduce its consumption to a minimum, she would be conspicuously fortunate among the nations.

# TOBACCO.

We hoped that the Government's new fiscal scheme would provide for a radical reform in the system of imposing and and Mrs. Ogashima. Our readers will collecting the tobacco tax. At present, naturally want to know what these Wo- in Japan, yet it may be doubted whether as our readers are aware, there is an men's Clubs are and when they had their any country exists where such clubs are official monopoly of leaf tobacco. All the leaf grown in the empire is bought up by the Government and re-sold to the manufacturers. The outlay incurred in estaapproximately, and the net yield was estimated at 74 millions. Experience shows, however, that the monopoly gives only 61 million yen, a very poor result compared with the magnitude of the undertaking and the risks involved. English method of simply levying a tax upon the leaf in transit seems far simpler and safer, and would give incomparably better results. The quantity of leaf grown in Japan is 90 million lbs. in round numbers, and in order to obtain a revenue of has included women as well as men, and 61 million yen, the Government imposes a tax of about 12 sen, or something less than 3 pence per pound. Why the cost of collecting the tax should absorb such them by old-time conventionalities, began a large proportion of the takings is not difficult to understand. As for the figure -3d, per lb.-it is remarkably small. In England, according to the latest financial statement, the tax upon unmanufactured tobacco is from 3 shillings to 2s. 8d. per Ib., that is to say, ten or twelve times as large as the Japanese tax. Is it necessary that there should be such a great discre-pancy? Of course people in Japan can not afford to pay as much for a pipe as people in England, but if the British tax be three shillings, the Japanese might surely be a sixth of that amount, namely, sixpence, or the double of what it is. Sixpence a pound on 90 million lbs. gives a gross income of 221 million yen annually, and if the British method of collecting were substituted for the monopoly system, the net income would be at least 20 millions, instead of 61 millions as at present, calendars not merely educational suband the working capital-at least four million yen-now involved in carrying out the monopoly system, would be released. on. Probably not many of our readers We regard Count Inouye as one of the have any idea of the dimensions that We regard Count Inouye as one of the have any idea of the dimensions that agreed the date of his resignation of somewhat surprised that a system especially of late. Here are some start-which to ordinary in the specially of late. Here are some start-which to ordinary in the special system of the date of his resignation of women's clubs in an in a printer view with the tive should meet with his endorsement.

We regard Count Inouye as one of the have any idea of the dimensions that this modern development has assumed, he entertained at the date of his resignation of comparisons that the control of the date of his resignation of women's clubs in a control of the date of his resignation of the control of the date of his resignation of the control of the date of his resignation of the control of the date of his resignation of the control of the control of the control of the date of his resignation of the control o

FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUBS.

Miss Ume Tsuda and Mrs. Ogashima have been appointed delegates to the biennial meeting of the Federated Women's Clubs, which is to take place in Denver, Colorado, on the 22nd of June. The two ladies leave Yokohama by the Pacific Mail steamer on the 3rd inst. Their journey was inspired, we presume, by Mrs. Alice Ives Breed, Vice-President of the Federation, who recently paid a visit to Japan. Mrs. Breed has been a prominent figure for many years in ladies' auxiliaries, emergency associations, women's clubs, committees on social and moral reform; a leader, in short, of all movements tending to the improvement of woman's status and the fuller recognition of her rights. There is not much disposition on the part of the stern sex to sympathise with the fin-de-skicle agitation for women's rights, but not many thoughtful men will be found to deny that there is ample room as well as urgent reason for extending woman's intellectual field and developing her interests in life. Certainly that is true of the women of Japan, and it is fortunate for them that they are in a position to send such representatives to America as Miss Tsuda origin. As to that, we may say that the more needed. The woman of Japan is a founders of the clubs are themselves disposed to seek their beginnings in the salons where the Marquise de Ramboiullet, Mademoiselle de Scudéry, Madame de Sévigné, Madame de Lafayette, and Madame de Stael shone as particular stars, and to find their more modern prototypes in the sewing societies of New England. These latter they call "the earliest and simplest expression of the instructive desire for social and benevolent association which seems to be at the root of the club movement." Briefly stated, however, the fact seems to be that the great intelfectual expansion of the last half century that the former, growing restless under a growing sense of their educational inferiority and of the limits imposed upon to meet for the purpose of studying literature and discussing topics of general interest. It is said that, in America's case, the Civil War had much to do with the promotion of the movement by banding women together for humanitarian purposes. At all events, it was not likely that a country offering to the fair sex such educational opportunities as are furnished by the colleges of Vassar, Wellesley, Smith, and so on, would remain long without the women's club, which seems to be a natural outgrowth of female colleges. We may say, therefore, that self-culture gave the first impulse to the movement, and that it received large expansion from a desire to grapple with the industrial conditions of modern times and to mitigate the evils that accompany them. Thus it is that we find included in the new club jects, but also civic, social and household economy, sociology, literature, and so

as to the justice of regarding saké as the JAPANESE DELEGATES TO THE the United States was organized, about fifty clubs enrolled their names. At the first biennial, held in Chicago in 1892, the number increased to two hundred. At the third biennial, 478 clubs and 20 state federations were reported, and it is now on record that there is an aggregate of about 1,000 clubs. The General Federation confines itself to educational work, eschewing everything that savours of polities. That, however, is a somewhat vague definition. If we want to know more in-timately what a club does and how it occupies itself, we can not do better than refer to an account given by Mrs. L. P. Smith in an essay read before the Alumnae Association of Lake Erie Seminary :- "The clubs of smaller places are usually study clubs, beginning, as a rule, with purely literary topics, but very soon taking up the questions and problems of the day, social, civie, economic, &c. In one of the clubs to which I belong, which may be considered fairly representative, we have, during the seventeen years of our existence, spent three years in the study of art, as many more on English literature and general history, one on the events of the niheteenth century, one on the history of education, one on civic and social economics, and the year we have just finished on household economics." There is not, so far as we know, one club of the kind any country exists where such clubs are charming personage in many ways-gracious, refined, womanly before everything, sweet-tempered, unselfish, virtuous, a splendid mother and an ideal wife from the point of view of man the master. But she is virtually excluded from the whole intellectual life of the nation, Politics, art, literature, science are closed books to her. She can not think logically about any of these subjects, express herself clearly with reference to them, or take an intelligent part in conversations relating to them. She is, in fact, totally disqualified to be her husband's intellectual companion, and the inevitable result is that he despises her. We do not think that she occupies herself more fully with trivial scandals and petty gossip than her Western sister does, but certainly her intellectual and educational reasons for avoiding such miserable topics are greatly inferior to those of the American woman, and as a means of equipping her to take a higher place not merely in society but also in the household, we can think of nothing better than the organization of clubs after the American type. If the mission of Miss Tsuda and Mrs. Ogashima has to that result, they will have rendered a great service to their countrywomen. It is said that they have the sympathy and support of Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. We can well believe it.

# THE CABINET AND THE TAXATION MEASURES.

It is alleged that in the event of the Diet's rejection of the bills for increasing the taxes, the Government will not hesitate to dissolve the Lower House. would depend, we imagine, on the grounds of the rejection. Count Okuma, for ex-ample, unless he has changed the views columns at the time-does not approve of the heroic measures adopted by the Japanese Treasury for redeeming the na-tional debt, and condemns the expenditure of large sums upon Formosan development. His idea is that Japan ought to adopt the procedure of Western States with regard to her debts; that is to say, reduce their amount when she has a genuine surplus of revenue available for the purpose, and content herself with the payment of interest when her circumstances do not permit the luxury of amortization. Count Okuma further thinks that if a country like England has never shown any particular haste in developing her colonies, nor ever appropriated any large sums from the home country's resources for the sake of improving a newly acquired ter-ritory beyond the sea, Japan need ritory beyond the sea, Japan need not distress herself to be more liberal. He would therefore refrain from allotting any big amounts from the Treasury in aid of Formosan development, On the other hand, the present Cabinet propose to devote 11 million yen annually to Formosa, and to increase by 7 millions the amount (71 million yen) already set aside for the amortization of the public debt. Hence, under these two headings alone, there is a difference of 25 million yen between the policy of Count Okuma and the policy of the present Cabinet. Probably the greater part, if not the whole, of the Progressist Party entertain the same views as Count Okuma, and should those views prevail in the Diet so as to cause the rejection of the Government's Taxation Bills, it would be a delicate problem to decide whether an appeal should be made to the country. A Ministry which asked the constituencies to support it in imposing larger burdens on them could scarcely hope to secure their endorsement. It is possible, however, that prominence may be given by the opponents of the bills to the absurd argument that the present Cabinet is not competent to be entrusted with the spending of increased taxes, or that, pending Administrative reorganization, the re-venue must remain unaltered. In that case the dissolution of the Lower House could scarcely be avoided.

Our forecast, of 125 votes in favour of the Address to the Throne and 152 against it proves to have been even too favourable to the advocates of the measure. They obtained only 116 votes and 171 were cast on the other side, the Address being thus rejected by a majority of \$5. such majority has ever before recorded its disapproval of an anti-Government measure in the Japanese House of Representatives. It means, of course, that the Liberals are not disposed to raise any objections to the Cabinet's foreign policy. The complaisance of the National Union ists was always a foregone conclusion, but the attitude of the Liberals was uncertain prior to this division.

Among the 171 members voting against the Address, the Liberals and National Unionists can not have totalled more than 117 or 118, so that fully 53 Independents declared in favour of the Cabinet's policy. It is certainly re-assuring to find the House taking this sober view of foreign affairs, though, at the same time, we can not close our eyes to the fact that 116 members condemn the moderation shown by the Ministry in connexion with recent com-plications. The debate was flar and dis-appointing. The advocates to the Address

seemed to feel that they were fighting a lost battle, and the consciousness deprived them of all verve and fire.

# ORIENT MARK LODGE.

The annual installation meeting of the Orient Mark Lodge, No. 304. E.C., was held at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, on Tuesday evening, when Wor. Bro. Stan. E. Unite was reinstalled as W.M. The ceremony was ably performed by Wor. Bro. Geo. Hodges, who acted as Installing Master. The Worshipful Master's list of officers is as follows :-

AA 61 - 10 43 - 12 - 12 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 14	T. E. M.
Bio. A. B. Brown	S.W.
B o. John McDorold	I.W.
Wor. Bio. Geo. Hodges	
B. o. F. W. Thomas	
Bio. L. Pu, win Hemert	M.O.
B o Rev. J. W. Winte	S.O.
Boo. F. C. Herb	J.O.
Bee. Augus McDonald	
Bio. C. T. Benney	].D.
Bie. Th. Rühen	I.G.

A banquet followed the ceremony, about thirty Brethren sitting down with the Worshipful Master to a well-served banquet supplied by Bro. Clausen. The toast list was very sensibly abbreviated to the smallest limits, five toasts only finding place upon the card, and a very pleasant evening resulted.

# BICYCLE RACES AT YOKOHAMA.

On Tuesday afternoon two bicycle races arranged by the Y.C. & A.C. took place on the Cricket Ground rack, before a large audience.

The first event, the Consolation Race, postponed from the recent Bicycle Meet, resolved tself into a match between Dewette and Collaco. Callaco led half way round; the second lap was begun on equal terms and finished with Dewette leading by a couple of yards. In the third lap both iders slowed down till, towards the finish, when Collaco led by half a yard. From that on to the 9th round Collaco led by from two to half a dozen yards, but in the ninth and final lap he easily came away from his opponent and finished nearly half a lap altead. Collaco's time was I min. 371 secs. and the points scored by were him 25. Dewette finished in 8 min. 481 secs. and scored 3 points.

# CHINAMEN'S RACE.

This event brought out six starters. Ab Fung, Man Fak, Ah Fore, Cockeye, Ah Fong and Ah Him, who all statted at scratch. One of the riders fell during the first lap, leaving five in the race. Cockeye snon took the lead and, gradually drawing away from the others, eveninally won by half a lap, in 9 min. 46 secs.; Ah Him being second (10 min. 10 secs.) and Ah Fung third. The race o casioned a good deal of merriment which the riders took in excellent part.

After the races the prizes, a brorze vase for the Consolation Race, and two gold watches for the Chinamen's Race, were presented to the winners by Mr. J. P. Mollison, President of the Y. C. & A. C.

# THE CHINA KAILWAY.

The N.-C. Daily News has the best authority for stating that there is no truth whatever in the reports of successful opposition to the railway concessions acquired by Messra. Jardine Matheson & Co. Within the last twenty-four hours the most satisfactory t elegrams have been received from Peking, and Mr. G. J. Morrison, with a staff of engineers, started last night (May 26th) to begin the necessary survey of the new

# TRADITIONAL MOODS.

It is interesting to observe how faithfully the traditional reverence felt by all Japanese for everything connected with the Imperial House is reflected in the The recent fire at the Ise Shrines Diet. was altogether a paltry affair, reaching only to the roof of one of the principal buildings, and involving destruction of thousand yen. Yet the House of Representatives thought it necessary to instruct its President to convey expressions of condolence to the Emperor. The House of Peers did not adopt any step of the kind, but a Bill providing funds for purposes of repair was passed through both Houses in less than half an hour-the most rapid example of legislation on record, we imagine.

# MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for April last showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month :-

1897. Hlenk yky.	ABOB. SILVER YEN,
Exports	10,665,850,540
Imports18,163,524,940	30,085,593.590
Total exports and imports	40,751,444 130
Excess of imports	19,419,743-050
Exports	82,498,321
Imports	478,110.425
MISCELLARICOUS INCOME.	20,201,327
Total	588 810 073
TOTAL VALUE OF EXPOSTS TO AND IMPORTS PROD	VARIOUS FOREIGH

Exports, Imports, Idal.
Silver Yen, Silver 

8,768,481,800 \$10,531,600 23,703 510 00,584,220 4,800,123 556,931-51 556,931-51 14,701,850 14,701,850 14,701,850 16,905,500 16, Korea
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Philippine Islanda
Ruseina Asia
Dutch India
Germany
France
France
Belgium
Switzerland
Anstria
Italy
Holland
Spain 058.447.100 299.470.070 58.596.090 21.937.940 21.913.320 20.154.500 15.516.340 19.722.000 1,086.750 1,068.750 weden and Norway... Turkey
Denmark
United States of Ame-66,276.023 3,586,900 640,950 334,81 ,360 43,558 070 90,477,730 33,215 610 94,625,520 45.003 2,48.800 £40.940 125.680,020 69.360 18,601.881 66,330,600 3,138,300 tish amo Mexico
Peril
Australia
Hawail
Eaypt
Other Cuuntries 909,743.340 41,588 810 2,886.440

11,730 558 8,133.708 Total 10,306,885.30 30,4 10,306,885.30 30,4 10,30 10,3 ### PROM AND TO EACH FORM:

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Specie and Bullion Exports...... 6,192,849.650 

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPOSIED AND IMPORTED SACE MONTH
DURING THE CORRENT Y-As, 

# IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, MAY 27TH.

The House of Peers met at 10.10 a.m. THE NATURALIZATION LAW.

Viscount Tani asked permission to resign the Chairmanship of the Special Committee appointed to report upon the Naturalization Law. The Committee's report had been condemned by the House as perfunctory, and the Law had been handed back for further examination and a fresh report. Viscount Tani, resenting this procedure, desired to resign, but the House refused to grant permission.

### QUESTIONS.

Viscount Tani then ascended the rostrum, and explained certain Questions presented by himself and other members to the Government with reference to a subject much discussed in 1806, namely, the compulsory retirement of four members of the Board of Audit. An Addiess to the Throne had been voted by the House of Peers in the session of 1896-7, but there had been no result, and Viscount Tani sought information as to the Government's intentions.

REGISTRATION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY.

The Second Reading of the Law of Registra tion of Immovable Property was then taken, but, after thirteen articles had been passed, the House was counted out at 12.30 p.m. On reassembling at 1 p.m., the remaining articles were passed, and the Third Reading was voted at once, the Law thus receiving the House's endersement without any change whatever.

SALT.

A Representation on the subject of salt was then introduced and explained by Mr. Murata Tamotsu. The object of the Representation was to arge the establishment of salt-inspecting stations and the organization of a sali guild. The salt fields of Japan measure over seventeen thousand acres (7,000 cho); the production is 36 million bushels (7 million koku); and the number of persons engaged in the industry in over 200,000, living in 70,000 houses. Hence the importance of the industry from an economical point of view is beyond question. But the methods of manufacture have never undergone any improvement. The salt is far inferior to the foreign article and very much dearer. Formerly a koku (5 13 bushels) of Japanese salt used to cost 1.30 yen, but within the past two or three years the price has gone up to 2 yen. On the other hand, in England, Germany, France, Italy, and the United States, salt coats only 30 sen a koku. The actual cost of production in Japan is 1.20 ven per koku, whereas sea-salt is obtained on the northern coasts of China at a cost of 0 9 ren per koku. Nothing has hitherto prevented the displacement of Japan-ese salt by Chinese or European except the prohibition that exists against the export of the former, and the expense of shipping the latter, combined with the fact that the Japanese people have not fully learned the superiority of the foreign article. There are signs now, however, that home-made salt will be driven out of the market. In 1896, the salt imported from abroad amounted in value to 55,000 yen, and in 1897 the figure was 110,000 yen. The significance of such a record can not be mistaken. Unless some intelligent steps be taken to improve the processes of production, this great industry must inevitably perish.

The House adopted the Representation by a large majority.

DISBASES OF CEREALS.

A Representation was similarly treated, relating to the establishment of stations for investigating diseases of cereals and other crops, The Representation declared that the annual loss caused by the ravages of noxious insects averaged some 20 million yen in the case of rice and barley alone; and if all crops were includ-ed, the figure would probably reach 30 millions. Last year the injury done by the insect called Ed, the figure would probably reach 30 millions.

Last year the injury done by the insect called unka had caused great distress to the rice-farm longerial Ordinance No. 21 of 1889, forbidding ers throughout the whole empire the crop the carrying of weapons by canvassers in elections in some capacity best by . It will be the carrying of weapons by canvassers in elections.

seemed most desirable that the attention of scientific men should be directed to the matter with the view of finding some remedy.

The House rose at 2.05 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.10

THE NEW TAXES-LIVELY DISCUSSION.

The President announced that, in accordance with the wish of the Government, the Bill for Augmenting the Taxes would be presented as an urgency measure and discussed at once, the usual procedure of entrusting it to a special committee being dispensed with, in accordance with the provisions of Art. XXVII. and XXVIII. of the Constitution. The former Art, says that "the process of three readings may be omitted, when such a course is de-manded by the Government;" and the latter provides that Bills brought in by the Government need not be submitted to a committee " when it is so demanded by the Government, in cases of argent necessity.

Mr. Kono Hironaka strongly protested against such a ruling. He contended that this questions of increased taxation could not possibly be considered as a matter of "argent necessity" in the sense of the Constitution, and he moved that, the Government's action being sulawful, the House should condemn it.

A warm discussion ensued, opinion being divided on party lines. Messis, Kaizuka, Haseba, Tanaka, and Kudo Kokan supported Mr. Kono, and Mr. Ooka Iknzo opposed him,

The Minister of State for Communications, Baron Suyematan, entered the rostrum, and explained that the only object aimed by the Government was expedition. He pointed out that the Constitution undoubtedly gave the Government the power it now sought to exercise, and that several precedents were on record.

On Mr. Kono's motion being put to the House, the President declared that the show of hands was against it, but, his decision being challenged, a ballot was taken, when 133 voted for the motion and 143 against.

Mr. Haseba Junko then moved that, although the House had recognised the Government's right to adopt the proposed course, still, in view of the great importance of the Bill, the Government be invited to withdraw its request for urgency, so that the Bill might remain in the members' hands for 48 hours before being read

THE GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS

Before this motion could be discussed, the Minister of State for Communications ascended the rostrum, and announced, in the name of the Government, that the request for argency was withdrawn. His statement was received with loud applause, and the Order of the Day was reverted to.

NEW BILLS.

The following three Bills were thus reported upon by the Special Committees, and passed through their Second and Third Readings :-

Bill to limiting the Period of Exchangeability the silver one-yea coin to July 31st, 1898. Bill for limiting the Period of Cuculation of Garagement Bank Notes to December 31st, 1898.

Bill empowering the Government to prescribe the Articles that may be shipped from Special Ports of Export.

The following Bills were then handed to Spe cial Committees nominated by the President :-

Government Bill for increasing from 850,000 to 250,000 yen the annual grant in aid of Technical Education, and also for including invigation among the subjects of such education. The statement of reasons attached to the Bill explained that already 130 schools for technical education (jäingyo kioiku) had been established throughout the country, and many others would be stated were the Government in a position to assist them; also that a great need of competent navigating officers was felt and that there to another the country of the states of the st

was felt, and that steps to supply it must be taken.
Government Bill for giving greater latitude of choice to the Industrial Bank in the matter of de-

A private Bill for amending the Law of Public Meeting and Political Association was then read. It consisted of 30 articles, and was opposed by the Government Delegate, but the House passed it

through all its Readings by a large majority.

A private Bill for abolishing the Special System of City Government in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, was also passed through all its Readings after a brief discussion.

A few other Bills of minor importance having been handed to Special Committees, the House tose at 5 p.m.

> SATURDAY, 28TH MAY. HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.12 a.m., and received the Special Committee's report on the remaining portions of the revised Commercial

THE COMMERCIAL CODE Marquis Kuroda, Chairman of the Com-ittee, explained that a part of the Committee, mercial Code had been put into operation in 1894, and the sections now to be considered were the remaining chapters which, since that time, had been undergoing careful revision. The Committee had received the Code on the 20th instant, and had devoted many hours, by day and by night, to its examination, but had decided to recommend it for adoption in its entirety, with a triffing verbal alteration. important bearing of such laws on commercial and industrial enterprises was not overlooked. It appeared to the Committee, however, that no points inviting hostile criticism presented themselves. He begged to remind the House of the importance of passing this Bill, from the point of view of Treaty Revision, and he desired that questions of detail should be addressed to the Government Delegate.

Numerous questions were propounded by members and answered patiently and skilfully by Mr. Okano Keijiro, the Government Delegate. Fully three hours were thus occupied, and an attempt was then made by Mr. Isobe Kaneyoshi to have the Bill handed back to the Committee for fuller investigation, House negatived this proposition, and voted for the Second Reading, deciding further, in spite of some opposition, that the Reading should be

taken at once.

Mr. Okanchi Shigetoshi called attention to the fact that the 50th Article embodied a departure from the method of signing documents hitherto adopted in Japan and prescribed by the laws of the country. It provided that, in the case of partnership documents, the signatures of the respective partners should be ap-pended, but said nothing about seals or stamps (choin, natsuin), though the usage of the nation was in favour of these. He wished to know the reason of the omission, and he pointed out that it effected Arts, 150, 120, and 237.

The Government Delegate replied that only once in the Civil Code, or in the part of the Commercial Code already operative, was the use of a seal or stamp prescribed. It could not be said that the new laws of the land endorsed that method of atteating a document. The fact was that this question of seals and stamps had again and again come up for discussion at the meetings of the Revisory Committee, but the debates had invariably shown that personal prejudice rather than reason influenced the views of the revisors. Finally the matter had been fully investigated by the Committee as a whole, and the majority had decided that, while not prohibiting the employment of stamps or seals, the laws should be so framed as to attach paramount importance to signatures. There had been no idea of preferring signatures to seals and stamps merely because such preference existed in the Occident,

The Bill was finally passed through its Second and Third Readings without amend-

BILLS PASSED. The following Bills were then finally passed:-Bill relating to Application of the Commercial

Bill for amending the Bank Regulations.
Bill for amending the Bank Regulations.
Bill for amending the Law for the Amatgama-

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills, sent up from the House of Representatives, were read for the first time and handed to Special Committees:—

Bill relating to the Hokkaido State Railways

Bill for amending the Formosan Bank Law. Bill for exempting from Taxation the Sites of Epidemic Hospitals,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at I.II D.M.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. Kumada Ugenda presented a Question with regard to the San-in and Ko-hiu railways. These had been originally regarded as purely commercial lines, but the former was now recognized as esential for strategical purposes also, and its immediate construction became, therefore, a matter of necessity. What course did the Government think of adopting with regard to it?

Mr. Tsunematsu Rinkei presented a Question with regard to harbour improvement. Sakai, in Tottori, and Hamada, in Shimane, had already been declared ports of export, but the trade from them was insignificant, owing in the inferiority of the facilities. Similarly, Saigo and Urago in Oki; Miyogaacki, Yugi and Yasuke in Izumo; and Onsen-ten in Iwane, were all places of great commercial prospects if only the harbours were improved. Did the Government contemplate taking any measures in that sense?

Another Question was presented by the same members seeking information as to whether the Guvernment intended to subsidise a steam-ship service to Okl island. The service was at present aided from the local taxes, but that source of assistance proved quite inadequate.

A third Question from the same source related tu light-houses at Hinomisaki in Izumo; On-sentsu in Iwane; Kuroshima and Ohakajima Were no official measure to be taken for establishing light-houses at these places?

A fourth Question asked for information about posts and telegraphs in Shimane Prefec-The arrangements for these services were very defective, and the presenters of the Ques tion asked whether no improvement was in view, The same was true of registration offices, the number of those already established in Shimane being altogether inadequate for the requirements that would arise under the new laws, Other Questions were preferred about the same Drefecture.

NEW LEGISLATION.

The House then passed the following Bills :-Bill relating to local boundaries in Kagawa. Bill relating to local boundaries in Hiroshima. Bill for amending the Procedure in relation to the Application of Laws.

Bill for amending the Registration Law. The following measures were handed to Special Committees:-

Three Bills relating to the Board of Audit.

THE SALT INDUSTRY.

Representation relating to the Manufacture of Salt. (This Representation was virtually identical with that previously adopted by the House of Peers).

INCULCATING PARLIAMENTARY PRINCIPLES.

Mr. Toshimitsu Tsurumatsu introduced a Representation urging that precepts relating to the conduct of electors and candidates for election ought to be included in the text books to primary schools; many of the abuses incidental to elections might be corrected by well-enforced laws, but bribery, the chief abuse of all, could scarcely be reached by legislation. The only way to prevent it was to educate a moral sense opposed to such dishonesty, and for that purpose the text books of primary achools ought to contain instruction of such a kind that lads, as they grew up, would learn to regard corrupt practices with genuine aversion.

The Representation was handed to a Special Committee, and the House rose # 3 30 p.m.

The following answer to a Question was

STATISTICAL INQUIRIES

Question,-Having regard to the fact that to inquire into the national resources is a duty devolinquire into the national resources is a duly devol-ving upon the State, and that all the principal European Powers are making arrangements to conduct such an inquiry in the year 1900, the House of Peers presented to the Government a Representation using the importance of adopting a similar course in this country. It does not appear, however, that the Government has taken any step in the desired direction. What purpose does the Government entertain?

(Signed) BEARA SOROKU and others. Answer .- The practical value attaching to an investigation of the kind referred to depends chiefly upon the processes adopted. The Govern-ment is, therefore, considering carefully the pro-cedure that should be followed, and, by way of preliminary, is endeavouring to bring the statistical system to a thoroughly satisfactory condition. Thereafter a decision will be taken as to the expediency of adopting the suggestion embodied in the Representation. An appropriation to defray outlays in connexion with improving the statistical methods of the country was embodied in the Budget for the current year; but as that document did not come into existence, it will be neces-sary to obtain the required funds through the medium of next year's Budget.

> MONDAY, MAY 31ST. HOUSE OF PEERS. HANDED TO COMMITTEE.

The House of Peers met II to a.m., and proceeding to the Order of the Day, handed he following Bills im Special Committees :-

Bill for Exempting from Taxation Lands de-castated by Earthquakes (sent up from the Lower

House.)
Bill for repealing the Peace Preservation Re guintions (sent up from the Lower House.)
Bill for amending Local Boundaries.

AN ELECTION DUESTION.

The House then proceeded to discuss the question of the legality of Mr. Kume Tadaji's election, and after considerable debate endorsed. by 145 votes to 45, the report of the Special Committee declaring the election void,

The House rose a 2.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.05

THE ADDRESS TO THE THRONE

On the motion of Mr. Numata Ugenda, the House decided by a large majority to change the Order of the Day for the purpose of immediately debating, as a matter of urgency, an Address to the Throne with reference to foreign policy. Count Inouye had ascended the restrum to speak about the Bills for Increased Taxation which stood first upon the Order, but, in deference to the evident wish of the House, he returned to the Ministerial Benches without speaking, and the Government gave permission for the changing of the Order.

The Address to the Throne ran as follows :-

To assist China to preserve her independence (we unit the conventionalities of the document) is a means of securing the tranquillity of the Orient, and thus enabling the various States to can the full adventages of mutually friendly intercourse. That result in a prime object of this empire's national policy, and it was in pursuance of it that Your Majesty retroceded the Liantung Peninsula, in compliance with the counsels of Russia, Germany, and Rusne. The Imperial Rescript, issued on the recasion of the retrocession, gave clear expression to the fact, which, for the rest, was miverally recognised both at home and abroad. But the Ministry now in office, satisfied to drill with the times, looked on idly while the very Power that had urged this Empire to retroceed the Peninsula, was taking steps to establish itself there. No effect was made to devise any means of preserving the balance of power or maintaining peace in the Far East, and this inaction on the part of the Government seems to have been conpartially at variance with the gracious purpose entertained by Your Majesty in retroceding the Peninsula. Nothing is faither from the desire of this House than to take any step inconsistent with the spirit of barmonious co-operation between the Cabinet and the Legislature at a time

in rapid succession. But to keep silence in the presence of such incidents as the above would be incompatible with the duty of the prople's repre-sentatives. Actuated by that conviction, Your Majesty's servants solicit Your Majesty's august judgment.

THE DESATE.

Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune explained the Address, but his remarks were merely a repetition of the gist of the Address couched in some-what vehement language.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro inquired what "Government" the speaker alluded to, and, being answered, "the present Ito Cabinet," reminded Mr. Komuchi that he bimself had been President of the Legislative Bureau in the last Cabinet when Germany seized Kiao-chou and Russia applied for a lease of Talien and Port Arthur. Why had not Mr. Komuchi then insisted on the course which he now blamed the present Cabinet for not taking? It appeared that he had stood up before the House and inadvertently brought an accusation against himself. This remark provoked much laught-er, and Mr. Komuchi declined to answer the question, alleging that Mr. Inouye's only object had been to move the House to merriment.

REJECTED.

In the debate that followed Messrs. Sassa, Sameshima, Koizuka, Shimada, Komura, Nakamura, and Ooka Ikuzo took part, after which the closure was put and carried. A closed ballot was then taken, when 116 voted for the Address and 171 against it.

THE NEW TAXATION SCHEMES.

Count Inquive then addressed the House briefly. He said that the revenue now collected by the State did not suffice to cover the expenditures, and in view of that fact the previous Cabinet had submitted a measure for increasing the taxes. Unfortunately the dissolution of the Lower House had prevented the discussion of the Bill and had also obliged the Government to work with the Budget for the preceding year. Under the circumstances there was no recourse except m make good the deficiency by a draft upon the Indemnity. But that plan, temporizing and defective under any circumstances, would not be available next year, an no surplus would remain from the Indemnity. Hence it had become absolutely necessary to place the finances on a sound basis by providing for increased taxation. There was certainly some ground for objecting to the introduction of such a measure in an extraordinary session, but if the Bill were deferred until the regular session at the close of the year; none of the funds accruing from the augmented taxes would be available in the fiscal year 1899-1900, and the finances would present a condition of disorder. With regard to the domestic loans contemplated under the bost-bellum programme, a sum of about 160 million yes remained to be floated, and recourse would be had to the foreign money market for a part of that amount. A Bill in that sense had been submitted to the House.

NOISY SCRNES.

Numerous questions were addressed to the Minister, and the House became exceedingly noisy, the President showing no capacity whatever to preserve order. After replying to many queries, Count Inouye left the House, but an argency motion was at once carried to suspend the consideration of the Taxation Bills until the Minister was present. Count Inouve then returned and replied to several further questions. Finally, the whole of the Taxation Bills were handed to a Special Committee, and the House гове∎ібр.ші.

> TUESDAY, MAY 31ST. HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE NATURALIZATION LAW PASSES.

The House of Peers met at 10,15 a.m., and proceeded to take the Special Committee's report on the Naturalization Law. Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Committee, stated that, in accordance with the House's direction, the Committee had re-examined the Bill, and now received from the Government and read to the when so many important problems of domestic again recommended it for adoption with a slight House by a Secretary:

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posed, but failed to obtain the approval of the House, and the Second and Third Readings of the Bill were passed.

### COMMITTER WORK.

The following Bills were then handed to Special Committees :-

Bill relating to the Exchange of Silver yen. Bill relating to the Circulation of Government

### THE ISE PIRE.

A Bill sent up from the Lower House, approprinting a sum of money for the repair of the Ise Shrine, recently injured by fire, was then taken a matter of argency, and passed.

# NEW BILLS.

The following Bills were entrusted to Special Committees :-

Bill empowering the Government to determine the commodities exportable from Special Ports (sent up from Lower House).

Bill for amending the Law of Public Meeting

and Political Associations. (Sent up from Lower

Bill for abolishing the Special System of City Government. (Sent up from Lower House).
Bill for amending the City Government System.

# QUESTIONS.

Margnis Ito anoke briefly with reference to Questions previously submitted by members on the subject of the Board of Audit. His Excellency explained that the Board was practically me independent of the Administration as the Judiciary, and that the only way to enable the Administration to exercise any supervision would be to enact a disciplinary law. A draft of such a law would be submitted to the Diet. The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

# DISCIPLINE OF THE HOUSE.

The House of Representatives met at 1.10

Attention was called by Mr. Matsuoka Choko to the tumultuous scene of the preceding day, and a hope was expressed that the President would hereafter exercise his authority more firmly. Mr. Matsuoka's remarks did not, how-ever, take the form of a motion, and the House, which seemed disposed to behave with sobriety very unlike its previous mood, passed quietly to the Order of the Day.

# FLOATING FOREIGN LOAMS.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, spoke with reference to the Bill for empowering the Government to adopt special procedure in cases where the floating of foreign loans became necessary. He said that War Bonds to the extent of some fifty million yen had already been sold abroad, and there seemed every reason to expect that further recourse to foreign capital would be desirable in the future. The Bill had special reference to Railway Bonds and Industrial Undertakings Bonds. It was not the Government's intention to take any immediate steps for raising money abroad. The domestic market would be relied on as far as possible, but in the event of recourse to the foreign market becoming unavoidable, it was advisable that the Government should be anthorized to adapt the conditions of the loan to the requirements of foreign countries.

Mr. Suzuki Sobel said that, according to rumour, the Government, when making a sale of bonds to Messis. Samuel Samuel and Company last year, had promised that, for the space of twelve months, all further transactions of that nature should be entrusted to the same firm. Was such the case?

The Government Delegate answered in the affirmative, but explained that the promise had been supplemented by a provision that, in the event of more favourable terms being offered by other parties, the Treasury would not be bound to give the preference to Mesers. Samuel Samuel and Company.

Mr. Ebara Soroku, on behalf of the Budget Committee, presented an urgency estimate appropriating a sum of 6,880 yen for repairing the Ine Shrine, recently injured by fire, and the House passed the Bill musnimously

### STAMP TAX.

The Bill relating to the Stamp Tax was then handed to a Special Committee, as was also the Bill (sent down from the Upper House) relating to the registration of immovable property.

### FINANCE.

Four Bills seeking approval of disbursements made in the fiscal year 1896-7 were then re-ported on by the Budget Committee and passed. THE CODES.

Three Bills sent down from the Upper House with reference to the Revised Commercial Code and the Law of Trusts were handed to a Special Committee.

EXPRESSION OF CONDOLENCE.

Two Bills for amending a Law and a Notification were next passed, and on the motion of Mr. Kitajima Denshiro the House instructed the President to proceed to the Palace, and convey to the Emperor the House's condolences in connection with the fire m the Ise Shrine.

The House rose at 2.30 p.m.

# WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1ST. HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.15 a.m. THE BOARD OF AUDIT.

Viscount Tani said that, with reference to the Question submitted by him concerning the conduct of the President of the Board of Audit, it had been his intention to take other steps had the Government endorsed the President's action. But inasmuch as the Government had announced its intention of introducing a project of disciplinary law for the better control of the Board, he concluded that the Government disapproved of the conduct which had formed the subject of his Question, and he was therefore p.m. content to leave the matter there.

# NEW LAWS.

The following bills were then passed through all their readings :-

Bill relating to Shipping Law, Bill relating to the Hokkaido Railway's Financial Accounts.

# NEW BILLS.

A Government Bill was then read for the first time, providing penalties for any violation of military secrets; visiting of factories, magazines, arsenals, etc., without permission; copying of military plans; surveying fortifications, and so on. The Government Delegate explained that, in view of the large expansion of arma-ments, it seemed advisable to reduce all these matters to legal form. The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Two Bills (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Registration Tax Law, were then handed to Special Committees, and the

House rose at 12 10 p.m.

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The House of Representatives met at 1.10

# TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The Bill for amending the Law relating to subsidising Technical Education was favorably reported on by the Special Committee and passed through all its readings. This Bill had been sent down from the House of Peers. Its principal provision is that the monetary support granted by the State to technical education shall be increased from 150 000 to 250,000 year.

INDUSTRIAL BANK.

The Bill for amending the Industrial Bank Regulations (sent down from the House of Peers) was also passed with slight changes recommended by the Committee. empowers the Bank to exercise wider discretion as to the management of its reserves.

Two Bills sent down from the Upper House, one for amending a part of the Bank Regulations, the other for reachiding the Bank Amalgation Law, were handed to special Committees,

NEW BILLS AND REPRESENTATIONS. A Bill for changing the boundary between Chiba and Ibaraki prefectures evoked some discussion. The Second Reading was finally votet, but the House refused to proceed with

A private Bill referring to the taxation of land which has suffered from the ravages of of noxious insects was thrown out.

The Special Committee reported favourably on a Representation arging the necessity of official investigation into the salt-manufactur-ing industry, and the House endorsed the Re-presentation. (A similar Representation had already been adopted by the House of Peers).

The Representation relating to certain amendments of the Railway Construction Law was then adopted by the House on the recommendation of the Special Committee; but the Representation urging that instruction on the subect of the franchise and elections should be included in the Common School Text Books, was thrown out.

The House rose at 5.10 p.m.

# THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND. HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.15 a.m., and proceeded to the Order of the Day after a few reports had been read.

# NEW LEGISLATION.

The Bill relating to the Law of Seamen was passed through its second and third readings, with a few amendments.

Four Bills (sent up from the Lower-House) embodying supplementary budgets for the fiscal year 1896-7 were handed to a Special Committee.

A private Bill for supplementing Law No. 39 of 1897 was entrusted to a Special Committee, and the House rose at 11.10 a.m.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.05

# PRTITIONS.

Mr. Komuro asked why no report had been presented this session by the Petitions Comthere ought to be a report from this Committee once a week II least. He requested the President to arrange for the presenting of such a report the following day.

# THE NEW CODE.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill embodying the remaining portions of the Revised Code, and recommended two slight amendmente.

Mr. Yamada Kinosuke made a long speech, condemning the idea that the operation of the Code should be hastened for the sake of Treaty Revision, and urging that fuller consideration should be given to the Sections on consunguinlty and succession.

Mr. Nozawa supported the Bill, and Mr. Hiraoku opposed it on the ground that, if it became law in its present form, it would have the effect of interfering with several time-honoured

customs of [apan.

Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo spoke at some length in opposition to the views of Messrs. Yamada and Nozawa. He explained that it was out of the question to separate the Laws of Consangninity and Succession from the rest of the Code, and urged the House to pass the Bill as

On the motion of Mr. Tsunematsu, the House voted to carry the Bill at once to its Second Reading. Various amendments were proposed but failed to find supporters.

On proceeding to the Third Reading, Mr. Numuda Ugenda strongly or posed the new laws, alleging that they could not be reconciled with the customs of Japan, and Mr. Odake Kanichi moved that, in order to perpetuate the disgrace of members who voted for the passing of a whole body of laws after a debate of less than three hours' duration, a closed ballot should be taken. But this motion, not being endorsed by a sufficient number of members, was not carried to a division, and the House finally passed the Bill by an overwhelming show of

# OTHER MEASURES,

The Billitor innending the Registration Law was then favourably reported by the Special

Committee, with certain amendments, and all the readings were passed.

the readings were passed.

On the motion of Mr. Tsunematsu the House decided to suspend its sitting at this point, and to take the Revised Law of Election at the commencement of the following day's session.

The House rose at 4.50 p.m.

# THE RIOT AT WENCHOW.

On the 26th May the N.-C, Daily News published the following telegram from Ning-po:—There has been a rice not at Wenchow and all the official yaméns have been wiccked. The foreigness were not molested.

Dispatches received at Shanghai from Peking on May 26th state that the Emperor, acting on the advice of independent counsellors, has repealed the obnoxious house-tax, to which the riots at Amoy, Wênchow, and other places were partly due, and the extra tax on opinm which was being levied even in Shanghai. Another dispatch states that the Emperor has also cancelled the so-called National Loan. From this and other steps we gather, says a Shanghai contemporary, that the Emperor is anxious to make himself personally popular with his necole.

A Wuhu official despatch in the local mandarins reports that the ringleaders of the recent attempt by villagers near Wuhu to plunder some riceboats have been summarily decapitated, under instructions from Viceroy Liu of Nanking; and that two of the villagers who headed a band of malcontents in Luchon and plundered a riceboat recently have also been summarily believated.

# THE CONSULS AND THE COOLIES AT KOBE.

On Tuesday afternoon, says the Chronicle, a deputation of the Kobe International Committee, formed some time ago to take steps with a view to safeguarding as far an possible the interests of this community, attended a meeting of the Consular Body for the purpose of drawing stention to the lawless acts of the coolies in the district and urging the necessity of steps being taken without delay to deal with the serious disturbances.

The Consuls present were M. de Lucy-Fossieu, French Consul (the Doyen); Mr. J. Carey Hall, British Consul; Mr. Threl, Acting German Consul; Mr. S. S. Lyon, U.S. Consul; Mr. T. Wasslieff, Russian Consul; and Mr. W. F. K. Fearon, Belgien Consul.

The deputation consisted of Mr. A. H. Groom (Chairman of the Committee), Dr. T. C. Thornicraft, Messra: H. E. Reynell, C. N. Crosse, A. G. M. Weale, T. W. Hellyer, R. Young, G. J. Melhuish, C. R. Morse, J. Sturkë, J. S. Happer (Hon. Secretary), J. W. Crowe, and H. Pitteri.

The Press representatives put in an appearance, but the Consuls regarded the meeting mof a private nature, it being one of the ordinary meetings of the Consular body, and, while they did not object to the reporters remaining, they objected to the publication of the proceedings. The press representatives thereupon withdrew.

The Kobe papers of the same date contain reports of further coolie assaults upon foreigners.

# CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS BALL

The Ladies of the Committee of the above dance desire to express their cordial thanks to all who kindly assisted to make the Ball so great a success. After deducting expenses, yes 922 50 will be handed to the Hou. Treasurer of Christ Church. Thanks are specially accorded to Mrs. H. M. Bevis, Mrs. Manley, Mrs. Courtney Johnson, Dr. Hoskyn, R.N., Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. F. S. James, Mr. Cogbill Jackson, Mr. Melville Ellis, Mr. F. J. Hall, the Editors of the local journals, Mr. Sioen, of the Club Hotel, Mr. Juo. W. Hall, Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co. Messrs. North and Rae, Messrs. Curnow and Co.. Messrs. Eyton and Pratt, and particularly Mr. Thomas Jackson, of Hongkong, for his most generous domation to the Ball Fund.

# MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Two months ago we epitomised an article contributed by Mr. Izawa Shūji to the Taiyō on the status and control of Christian schools and the steps that should be taken by the Government in the direction of recognising Christianity as one of the religions of the country. The subject is further discussed in the pages of the Taiyo by the same writer. Mr. Izawa has devoted considerable attention to this topic and has arrived at definite conclusions, as will be seen by the resume of his article which we now furnish. Up to 1884 both Buddbist and Shinto priests received the title of Kyodoshoku, but subsequent to that what are called 管長. Kwanchō, or Heads of Sects, were appointed, and to them was entrusted the management of the various sects. The choice of persons to act as heads rests with the sects, subject in each case to the approval of the Home Department. To these heads is left the settlement of will disputes and the preservation of ecclesiastical property of every kind. This property, whether in the form of land or buildings, is exempt from taxation. Disputes which cannot be setled by the Heads of Sects are referred in the Home Department for settlement. Now there should be no difficulty whatever in applying this system to Christianity. The system may be described as self-government on the part of the sects under the general control of the State. There ought in be no delay the State. in granting to Christianity the legal recognition which Buddhism and Shintoism enjoy. There should be no difference in the eyes of the law between Buddhist or Shinto temples and Christian Churches. All property belonging to religious bodies should be treated alike by the To the sects themselves should be left the settling of all religious disputes, but in all secular affairs ecclesiantics should be treated like ordinary citizens and should be liable to be sued before existing courts. The present practice of referring religious disputes to the Home Department for final settlement should be abandoned. The sects should be encouraged to create among themselves high class courts. whose decision on all religious questions should be final. As to the number of adherents required to constitute a sect and other qualifications necessary for receiving status as a separate body special regulations should be drawn up.

To come to the subject of Christian Schools, the Government has hitherto treated these schools with indifference. As long as Christianity has no legal status the Government can take no notice of these institutions. As a preparation for the altered situation incident to the carrying out of the revised treaties, investigations respecting the character and number of attendants, etc., at these schools have been made, but since many of them enjoy extraterritorial privileges, the inquiry has been necessarily limited. There are two questions connected with them which call for attention. One concerns the real owners of mission property, who in many cases are foreigners; the other has to do with the character of the education imparted by these institutions. The following table gives the results of our inquiry in to this class of schools:—

	Stan dards.	Kinds of School	Protes-	Greek Church.	K. Catho-	Total,
Rd. e-tion,	Middle Schools.	Boarding Schools Boys' Schools N of papils Girls' Schools No. of students	21 2,500 47 0,509	33 1 27	9 206 3	:8 2,719 51 2,724
General B	Primary Schools	Day Schools	105 6,131	a do	41 2,983 20 9,901	148 9,88e 20
tion, varied.	Unfixed	Sunday School:	8 <sub>37</sub> 30,6a <sub>6</sub>		mp Dest	837 30,264 90 628
Special Siduce- tion.	Spec #	Schools of divinity	17	£ \$1	E 49	#9 #76

These statistics show that the State can no longer afford to regard Christian schools with indifference. It will have to adopt a fixed policy, and the question arises as to how far it should be permissible to mix religious teaching with instruction on secular subjects. It is my opinion that in the case of both primary and middle schools which profess to impart a general education the teaching of religion should be forbidden. It is certainly inconsistent with the article in the constitution that grants perfect liberty to the subject to choose what religion he pleases, to allow any school whose qualifications for imparting a general education are recognised by the Mombusho to include the teaching of religion in its curriculum. If pupils are compelled to listen in religious teaching whether they will or no, where is the liberty of choice promised to all Japanese subjects? The only alternative for religious primary or middle schools is to become secular institutions or schools of divinity. I am no enemy of religion. In its own place I believe it to be an aid to morality, but to make the reception of Christian instruction the price to be paid for education on secular subjects is not a measure that the Government can allow to be continued.

The Taiyō has a note on the part that festivals play in spreading religion and on the fondness of the Japanese for any kind of show. The Roman Catholics, like the Buddhists, have made great use of this tendency of the Japanese mind. The love of hero-worship is so strong in this country that there is no difficulty in attracting a crowd by singing the praises of some departed saint or warrior. In most cases the benefit that is to be obtained by hero-worship, namely, imitation of the good qualities of the person worshipped, is missed and the result of a big festival is sense-gratification. It is a mere worshipping of the form without any knowledge of the reality which it should symbolise. Amid all the other artificialities of the age, this love of holding of festivals, which is mistaken by some for religious feeling, still retains im power over the Japanese mind. What is to be desired in that it should be utilised in a profitable manner.

The Taiyô represents Mr. Griffis, the author of "The Mikado's Empire" and other works, as advocating the withdrawal of foreign missionaries from Japan. A German writer, whose name is not given, is referred to by the Taiyô as recommending the same course. The title of the pamphlet in which this view is stated is Bilder aux Japan. Mr. Knapp is represented as holding the same opinion. This, says the Taiyô, is the conclusion reached by most impartial observers. Bigoted orthodoox missionaries only lead the Japanese astray and the sooner they leave ministerial work to be carried on by more enlightened men the better it will be for the country. The advice which the Taiyô gives native Christians is, "Lose no time in getting rid of foreign control and influence altogether."

The Kirisuto kyō Shimban publishes a paper by President Yoko: Tokiwo entitled "The Past and the Future of the Döshisha," which we reproduce in an epitomised form :- Looking back over the past history of the Doshisha extending over 20 years, we find that its development has depended on two distinct forces. These forces worked together. The one consisted of the Japanese promoters of the scheme and their influence; the other of the Missionaries American Board of Missions and their influence. Now these two elements were essential to each other. Had the foreign element been wanting, then the school's history would probably have been like that of Nakamura Kein's Döninsha in Tokyo. On the other hand had the Japanese element been lacking the Doshisha would have been nothing more than an ordinary Mission school such as exists all over Japan, Drifting aber com elements blended harmoni-UNIVER STATE OF ALLIN COSON Frew prosperous it

became evident that there was discordance between the views of the Japanese and the foreigners. The Japanese wished above all else to make the institution succeed m an educational agency, the foreigners sime dat making it a proselytising agency. The chief points on which there was disagreement were three: (1) As to who possessed the governing power (主權 Shuken). (2) As to [the interpretation of what is known as "Christianity."
(3) As to the rank that religion should hold in the educational system of the Doshisha.

(1) Now as to the supreme power, legally there can be no question that it rested with the Japanese. As the American Board gave us so much help we constantly consulted them before deciding on measures to be adopted, but by doing this we did not in any way renounce our right to have the final voice in all decisions. This fact became evident in 1883. In February of that year Messrs. Niijima and Yamamoto chose 3 other trustees and the 5 trustees together drew up an agreement (Kiyaku) con-In 1886 Mr. Niijima sisting of 4 articles. brought forward his scheme for the founding of a Doshisha University, and in 1888 money was collected for the purpose, Japanese sympathisers subscribing largely. At that time it was that members of the Doshisha drew up the set of rules which have been in force ever since.

(2) In the year 1876, on the occasion of certain young Christians from Kumamoto connecting themselves with the Doshisha, Mr. Niijima was asked in writing whether religious thought in the ranks of the Doshisha was free or whether the institution was to be regarded an representing the views of a special sect of Christendom. To this Mr. Niijima replied, in writing, in the most unequivocal manner, that the Doshisha was not a sectarian establishment, and on this understanding the batch of Kumamoto Christians joined the movement. At that time the Missionaries of the Board connected with the Doshisha treated the young men in question with great liberality. When, then, in the year 1895 the American Board demanded that the Doshisha should declare its acceptance of certain articles of faith and the Doshisha resolutely refused to do so, it was only acting on the principle that had guided it all along.

(3) On the question of what amount of religion and what kind of religious teaching should be allowed in the schools there was great difference of opinion between the foreign professors and the Japanese. The foreigners were auxious to keep up the forms of Christianity, the Japan age only cared about the spirit that lies beneath the outward symbols, and were in favour of allow ing great liberty in the matter of forms. But in cases where certain state regulations had to be considered, the Missionaries conceded a great deal. For instance, they did not object to the exculum of the Ordinary Middle Schools established by the Doshisha. Now, to come to the subject which has caused so much excitement, the exemption of the Doshisha students from liability to conscription during their years of study, this privilege was first asked for in 1888. Ten years clapsed before the permission was granted. In the measure other institutions not otherwise circumstanced than the Dochisha were allowed the benefit of the exemption. The reason of the delay in our case was, not that we were different from other schools, but that the Mombushō put a meaning into our tules which they did not bear. In order to satisfy the Mombusho the wording had to be changed. It in quite evident that it was a matter of great importance to us whether we enjoyed the exemption from military service that had been granted to similar institutions or not, and so the meeting of Trustees held in February decided that the rule to which the Department objected should be altered. But since the endication of the element represented by the foreign Christian missionaries hitherto connected with the institution would be unfair when the history of its founding and development be considered, we propose to retain this element in a separate school of Divinity to be connect. unlesirable foreign entanglements, are unsuited placing and freeing it from all the restrictions

will be the training of Evangelists and the investigation of Christianity. In the conduct of this School of Divinity there is no reason why we should subject ourselves to the regulations which control ordinary Middle Schools and High Schools.

The Tenchijin publishes some comments of Count Okuma on the Doshisha episode which are worth transcribing. There is no doubt, the Count is represented m saying, that Mr. Yokoi and his fellow-thinkers were not actuated by bad motives in deciding on the course they have followed. But their action is out of all proportion to the requirements of the case. For the sake of some minor alteration, builders do not remove the main support of a house. What has taken place cannot be regarded in any other light than as an indication of national character. There are persons professing religion whose want of steadfastness of purpose and moral strength is autonishing. There are Christians whose dealings with foreigners seem to be based on the principle of that Japanese saying, tabi no haji wa kaki sule ni su. matters how a man disgraces himself on a journey. He leaves it all behind him when he returns to his friends. There are men whose transactions with foreigners are not merely a breach of religious principles, but a violation of the simplest canons of morality, and yet these acts are committed with the greatest com-The action of the Döshisha is to be placency. reckneed in this category. It is an undoubted breach of contract and a cruel business in the bargain, considering that the men who have been driven from the Institution had left homes thousands of miles away in order to serve the Doshisha. The atrocities at Port Arthur, the murder of the Korean Queen, the misgovernment in Formosa, and now this Doshisha affair are not only casting doubt upon the genuineness of Japanese Christianity, but, what is more serious, are creating a bad impression as to our national character (kokumin hinkaku), and this at a time when we are on the very verge of mixed residence.

Dr. Inonye Yenryô a short time ago read a paper before the Tôjôletsagaku Kai on the policy to be adopted by the Japanese Government in reference to Christianity when the revised treaties come into force—a subject that is attracting a good deal of attention at the present time. Dr. Inouye agrees with Mr. zawa in thinking that the settlement of this question can no longer he postponed. article of the Constitution referring to religion will have to be interpreted in a fixed and intelligible manner. In what sense are the words Kokka no Annei two samatagesaru kagiri to be understood? To what "dis-turbance of the public peace" do these words refer? History records numerous instances of religious disputes that have led to violence and even bloodshed, and when this has occurred the Sinte has had to interfere. In Western countries religious are either established or acknowledged. It would no doubt be better for Japan to have one religion only, but as this cannot be, in order to avoid trouble, the State will have to regulate the introduction of foreign forms of faith. There are forms of Christianity which require a certain amount of allegiance to foreign rulers. Roman Catholica are subject to the Pope of Rome and the Emperor of Russia is the Head of the Greek Church. In these cases religious allegiance and political allegiance cannot well be separated, and hence there is a danger that Christians belonging to these hodies may not act loyally to their own Government. There are, too, a large number of Christians who are dependent on foreign money for support. The above forms of faith we do not think should be considered 公認數 Köninkrö (Publicly Acknowledged Religious). Certain conditions of State recognition should be required. There are forms of religion which, though they may not involve their converts in

character, and hence whose propagation and success in this country might lead to trouble at a later date. We think then that the polic granting full liberty for the propagation of We think then that the policy of and every form of faith is a mistaken policy, concludes Mr. Inoue Yenryo.

On April 8th the Kumisi Churches held their Thirteenth Annual Meeting. The subject of the action of the Doshisha trustees was discussed and a resolution passed condemning that action as lawless. Seven delegates of Churches were chosen to confer with the Trustees and to urge them to restore the cancelled rules.

On April 9th the Kirisuto Dendo Knisha held its 20th Anniversary Meeting in the Hall of the Young Men's Association. The Fukuin Shimpo, referring to the progress of the Society, says that it began 20 years ago with an income of 120 yen, but that now it collects 3,000 yen per annum. Up to 2 or 3 years ago it received support from the American Board, but now it is entirely independent. Though Christianity in this country has much that is defective, yet when its position now be compared with what it was 20 years ago there is much room for encouragement.

A long and well-written article appears in the Shin Sciki from the pen of the editor, Mr. Kosaki Hiromichi, entitled Nikon Kirisutokyō kai ni okeru Shingaku-shisō no Hensen, "Changes in the Theological Views of Japan-ese Christians." We have for a long time been of opinion that few missionaries have any conception of the extent to which rationalism has made intonds on the territory of orthodox Christendom, Mr. Kosaki is a well known writer and may be implicitly trusted to tell us what has really happened. The following is what has really happened. The following is the gist of Mr. Kosaki's article: -There is no denying that the theological notions entertained by Japanese are minutely connected with their Christian life and that lack of Christian zeal is in many cases to be traced to an entire change of belief as to the real nature of Christianity. In accounting for the revolution in thought that has taken place, the first factor that calls for notice is the publication of Mr. Kanamori Taŭ rin's Treatise in 1891, entitled Nihon genkon no Kirisutokyō narabi ni Shōrai no Kirisutokyō. "The Japanese Christianity of the Present and the Christianity of the Future." This book stripped Christianity of its supernaturalism. It denied miracles, denied Divinity of Christ, and the atonement. Before the date of the appearance of this declaration there were doubtless members of the Christian Church who held these views, but most of them had not the courage of their convictions and were not equal to the task of preparing such a clear enunciation of the new tenets an Mr. Kanamori's essay contains. The book called forth replies, and among those who traversed Mr. Kanamori's views was Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo, who three years later championed much more extreme views than those defended by Mr. Kanamori, Mr. Yokoi's Waga Kunt no Kirisutohyō Mondas cut away all the dogmatic doc-trinal foundation of Christianity and reduced the creed to a system of ethics. The reason that these attacks on the orthodox faith produced so wide-spread an effect was that thenlogical notions entertained by the majority of Japanese Christians were of the vaguest kind. Intellectually their faith had no foundation, and hence it was easily overthrown. The orthodox belief as received and understood by the mass of Japanese Christians was bound to be undermined by science and criticism. The missions hat figured in the application of the undermining process were the German Protestants and the Unitarians. The former commenced work in Japan in 1885. Their organ, the Shinri, was started in 1890. The Unitarians commenced started in 1890. The Unitarians commenced work here in 1889, and their magazine, the Shūkyō, was started in 1891.

The national movement of which so much has

been heard of late has all been in favour of

placed on it by foreign creeds and formularies. and hence has incidentally helped the cause of free thought. In my opinion it is quite natural that the types of theology found in various countries should differ, that theology should be moulded to a certain extent so as to suit national customs and peculiarities. But what I regret is that in Japan hitherto it has been all destruction and little or no construction. The free thought teaching has undoubtedly weakened the faith and cooled the zeal of a large numher of professing Christians. The self-assertion of the rationalists has made itself felt in all directions, in some cases resulting to the extinction of all Christian belief. In some quarters orthodox teaching is not even tolerated. To give an example, in 1888 I was one of those who expounded Christianity at the Dô-hisha Summer School. When I taught that the Bible was inspired I was informed that such a doctrine robbed the Bible of its glory (Bible no iko wo otoshi) and destroyed the foundation of faith. My discourse on this subject was omitted from the record of the Proceedings of the school. Mr. Kanamori was in opposition to my views on this topic.

Theological study having led to such results. not a few Christians in Japan bave deprecated investigation in this line. But it is quite plain that faith which rests on no definite theological ideas cannot thrive for any length of time. I am a believer in progressive theology, in such teaching is represented by the American Andover Review, where Professor Ladd has of Into been ventilating his views. From very early times I was never a strong believer in the infallibility of the Bible. Hence when that doctrine was shown to be no longer tenable, my belief in Christianity was not seriously affected thereby. Though I sympathize with those who show the irrationality of some parts of the old orthodox creed, I differ from the free-thinking party in the Christian Church in that I still retain my faith in the personality of God, in a special revelation, in the Divinity of Christ, and the reality of His salvation. In teaching I follow the lead of the progressive theologians, believing that in both ethics and religion a process of evolution is ever at work. My faith, my Christian consciousness, is at the root of my theology. Modern Christiaus may be divided into two parties, the Pro Gospel party and the Anti-Gospel party: the Shinseiki is the organ of the former, the new Rikugo Zasski that of the latter. \* \*

In addition to the above the Shinselki has a goodly array of articles. Under the able editorable of Mr. Kosaki the magazine may be relied on to maintain a high level among orthodox Christian journals of the liberal type.

\* \* \*

In addition to an article on " Easter," by the Rev. E. Schiller; an article on "History and Tradition concerning the life of Buddha," by Dr. Christlieb; and an article an the " Tübingen School and the New Testament Criticism of to-day," by Professor Holtzmann, the Rev. H. Minami has an essay on "The influence of Christianity in Japan at the present time," of which we furnish a short summary :- In outward appearance it cannot be said that Christianity makes a great show in Japan. What stately buildings there are to attract the eye were erected with foreign money and hence reflect no credit on Japanese Christians. The number of Christians throughout the country is comparatively small. When we come to consider inner Christian life und belief there is wide discrepancy between Christians belonging to one sect and those belonging to another. Just m water takes the shape of the vessel that contains it, so do those Christians who belong to the various parties assume a specific character that is in some respects unlike that of their fellows. What is desirable is that our Japanese Christianity should be blended with original native virtues, such as loyalty and filial piety, and that our theological notions as

Christianity has received a great impetus from its association with art. If it were so associated in this country, it would doubtless make more rapid progress than it does; for the Japanese has an innate love of the artistic. One of the conditions of the success of Christianity in this country is its thorough nationalisation. In all important respects it must accord with Japanese prevailing sentiment. But unfortunately this truth is not generally realised and forms of worship that are essentially foreign are constantly adhered to: The hymns in use in churches are mostly literal translations of foreign hymns and the singing of them is accompanied by organ music that is strange and unattractive to Japanese ears. A few years ago the Fukuin Shimpö, in order to Interest its readers in the birth of Christ, represented him as born in a Japanese house surrounded by the familiar subjects to be seen in our homes. The picture was a success. People became interested in the event to which it was desired to call attention. Of the power of a thoroughly assimilated and nationalised Christianity few people have any conception. There is too much appealing to the intellect and too little appealing to the feelings and the inner consciousness of Christianity to day.

The Seikyo Shimpo (Greek Church) says some very severe things about a certain class of evangelists of the writer's acquintance. Unsuitable evangelists he divides into 3 porters). No. 1 class preach the gospel for the sake of a living. They are not men of sufficient education, industry and morality to get a living in any other way. They begin by hangers-on at some mission, go becoming through all the forms of religion scrupulously and are sent forth as gospel messengers to preach to their fellow-countrymen. When in preach to their renow-countryment.
their cups now and again, they may be beard to
have in a mandlin fashion that "they have sacrificed themselves to the cause of Christianity," but in reality there has been no sacrifice of any kind.

(a) This class use Christianity as a traveller uses a wayside bench. When out of employment, in order to make a little money they take to preaching, only to relinquish it when they find more lucrative employment.

(3) There are a large number of evangelists who are absolute deceivers of the public, their only object being to report to their employers a large number of baptisms, they lower the Christian standard to suit the applicants and thus swell the roll of members.

The number of Greek Christians to day is put down at 23,500, says the Ne ko Shimpo. We have our doubts as to whether one third of

this number are real Christians?

The Yui-itsu, the organ of the Shinto Jikko ha, has an interesting comparison of the life of Socrates with that of Kakugyo, the founder of the Jikko-ha or "Practical Virtue party." Without resorting to any of the popular methods of founding a sect or a party, these two men created an impression in the world that has lasted till to-day. There is nothing to be compared to strength of character. Away in his lonely cave on the side of Fuji Kakugyō lifted up his head in prayer to the gods for the whole of Japan, and when Ieyssu, appropriating the answer to that prayer to himself as the one who had given to Japan universal peace, sought to make some return to Kakugyo for the benefit he had conferred upon his (the Shogun's) house, the old man spurned the proferred gift with the words, "It was not for the house of any Buddhist scruples as to the propriety of a hermit entangling himself with worldly affairs, but because he said he was too much engaged with natural concerns to find time for household

from our ancestors. In various constries ful than any book he could write. Kakugyô simply lived a life of virine, the writing of moral treatises he left to men of less moral calibre.

> The total number of Buddhist priests in Főkyő is said to be 1,287. Among these 307 reside in the Asakusa district, 196 in Shiha, and 151 in Shitaya. The other districts are comparatively poorly supplied, Nihonbashi with only 4, Köjimachi, 3, and Kanda not even 1. Divided according to sects, the Jodoshu leads the way with 377 temples, followed by the Shinshu, with 252, and the Nichiren with 203. The smallest sect is the Jishū (時景), which has 2 temples.

## FAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENTS.

The Tokyo Shimbun, organ of the Liberals, says: Even a man of great ability can do no-thing without sufficient capital. There are many excellent enterprises now to attend to; there are many eminent personages worthy of credit; but there is no money to start with. Steps must be taken to impart a new atimulant in the shape of foreign capital, the introduction of which is absolutely indispensable. Any anxiety on the ground of industrial mania need scarcely be entertained.

The Foniuri opposes the above views. It is neither in favour of a voting for single candidates nor does it wholly approve the system advocated by the Tokyo Shimbun. It favours, Unsuitable evangelists he divides into 3 advocated by the 10Ayo Saimoun. At layous, classes. (1) Pan-dendōiha (Bread Evangelists) however, the latter form with certain restriction. (2) Koshikake-dendōiha (Seat-evangelists). (3) tions. The system of voting for conjoint Manchaku-dendōsha (Evangelists that are Imnanes, adopted in France some ten years porters). No. I class preach the gospel for ago, has threatened to overthrow the Republic. The safest way would be to impose restrictions upon the number of names to be placed on voting papers. Supposing the number of candidates in a single electoral district to be Supposing the number of ten, then each elector should be allowed to vote for only three or five of them.

> The Nippon laughs at the Pomiuri as a bigoted promoter of an Anglo-Japanese alliance. The latter recently remarked on Russia's project of constructing an eastern squadron of 360,000 tons and amassing a fund of 360 million roubles, measures which it regarded as certainly destined to increase the sources of danger in the Orient. An Anglo-Japanese alliance could alone frustrate these plans. On this the Nippon replies that the Anglo-Japanese convention with regard to Weihai-wei is simply a convention between the two Governments; an alliance such as desired by the Yomturi is an alliance between the two empires. For an alliance of this kind not only must the policy of the respective Governments be identical, but there must also be unity of public upinion in the two countries. And this the Nippon evidently does not believe to be the case.

The Fill remarks that no money market is so constantly liable to fluctuations as that of London. It was supposed at the conclusion of the financial year in April that there might be a slackening in the tightness of the market. But, the Bank of England having a heavy call for specie in consequence of the tightening of the money market in New York, resulting from the Hispano-American war, the rate of discount was raised to 4 per cent. It is difficult to predict the future state of the market, but unless serious emergencies occur, the demand for money should, immediately after the close of the war, inevitably decrease, the result being the import of specie into London and the consequent relaxation of the market. At that time the sale of Japanese bonds might be undertaken with great facility, and as the Government appears to be inclined to present a bill for revising the Public Bonds Regula-Tokugawa, but for the whole of Japan that ions with a view to taking advantage of the I prayed." Kakugyō never married, not from unique opportunity, the Diet should give its unique opportunity, the Diet should give its approval without opposition.

As a result of the concession made in the matter of taxation at the time of negotiations Christians should be harmonized with those duties. The life that a man of this kind actually in regard to commercial stipulations between conceptions of Godfleed white we have also says the Vaiitsu, is infinitely more nower. I appear and China, land for the exclusive use of UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Japanese settlements was allotted in Tientsin, Shanghai, Hankow, and Amoy. Subsequently fresh negotiations were opened, and in December last year Mr. Yano, the Minister to China, approached the Tanng-li Yamên on the subject of the Tientsin concession. It was arranged that the affair should be settled between the Japanese Consul and the Tientsin Taotai as chief commissioners, and an understanding, says the Tokyo Asahi, was finally arrived at on the 10th instant, when the Japanese settlement was defined in include territory along the upper part of the Peiko on the north of the French settlement. The territories along the Peiho constitute the German, English, and French settlements, while the Japanese settlement occupies a tract of land far up the stream. Japan had originally demanded a settlement between the French settlement and the Tientsin Arsenal.

With regard to the proposed revision in the Law of Elections, the Tokyo Shimbun, apparently representing the views of the Liberal party, of which it is the organ, says the scheme for revision is endorsed both by Government and people, the chief difference of opinion being whether the voting paper shall contain the name of one candidate only or the names of all the candidates, and whether the voter shall sign his name or not. Our contemporary advocates, in most emphatic terms, the plan of putting all the names of candidates on the paper, but ex-cluding the signature of the voter. The advantage of constitutional government can in no way be realized except through the operation of party Cabinets. Voting for single candidates has an obnoxious tendency in the formation of local cliques. A district or village headman or a mill-owner though ill-qualified for a Parliamentary career, may nevertheless come upon the scene with good prospects of success. Bribery may become rife. It would be far better to secure the election of eminent men in a large electoral district than to hinder the constitutional machinery by the choice of local personages of no great ability.

The tea market, says the Nichi Nichi, has improved considerably of late on account of favourable telegrams from abroad. Shipments of leaf already made appear to have proved exceedingly successful. The foreign firms in Yokohama, which for a time almost auspended their purchases in consequence of the extravagant demands of sellers, are resuming operations with vigour, and as much as 338,000 catties changed hands in a single day. On the whole, tens below 30 yen quality are steadily rising while those above 35 yen are falling. Leaf quoted at from 27 to 32 yen has risen by 50 sen to I ven. Below are the comparative figures for the two years :-

	May 27, 1898 cettics.	May 27, 1897
Sales	338,900	406.900
Sales from beginning		
of season		7,864,900
Attivals	300,000	272,400
Remaining stock	795,600	836,400
Maximum price	160 yen	65 <i>yen</i>
Minimum price	23 ,,	19

The Nippon devotes a long article to the discussion of questions connected with foreign diplomacy, post be 'lum undertakings, and increased mxation. The arguments elaborated by our contemporary may be summarized as follows:--Thereputation that Japan has acquired at an immense sacrifice of lives and property is fast fading in connection with the Linotang affair. The only consolation which the people could find in the midst of humiliations lay in the Imperial Edict signed by the Ministers of State, in which it was amounted that postbellum measures should be undertaken ficiently effective to meet any conjuncture prejudicial to the peace of the Far East, The same Ministers now grasp the reins of government, and have the responsibility of carrying out the foreign policy and the financial programme which they formulated but three years agn. They appear to have become different from falls for more money, for many children of mode of implication of the persons. They have have have become different from falls for more money, for many children of mode of implication of the persons. They have have have have have been any objection of the head that

tion whatever. They have foresken their postbellum project, pretending that a change of circumstances necessitates a corresponding change in financial schemes. The original programme has been lost sight of. In order to conceal this serious bungling on the part of the Government, a scheme for increased taxation is now submitted to the Diet. But the Imperial Edict connected with the retrocession of Lixotung justifies opposition to the Government's procedure in regard to increased taxation. In financial as well as in diplomatic policy the Government proves itself temporising. The Diet, the Nippon adds, ought to oppose this policy to the atmost. Our (Fapan Mail's) seaders know, of course, that the Government has not changed the post-belinm programme at all, and that the project of increased taxes has nothing to do with that programme.

The progress of reclamation in Hokkaido is indeed surprising. A delegate lately arrived in the capital with a petition to be presented to the Government for a grant of 60 million yen in all as continuing expenses for ten years, this aum to be entirely appropriated for water works, construction of roads, aquedue s, bridges, and embankments. The request is to be submitted to the Diet for discussion. The Governor of Hokkaido seems to maintain that the whole work under contemplation can be completed with 50 millions instead of 60, as originally estimated. The number of immigrants to the North during last year totalled 48,573, of whom the largest contingent-9,138 -fixed their above in the jurisdiction of the Hakndate Branch of the Hokkaido Office, while the smallest, 133, settled in Sanashiro. following are the comparative figures for immigrants during the past five years:-1892, 42,708; 1893, 49,047; 1894, 55,259; 1895, 99,671; 1896, 50,396; 1897, 48,573. From these figures it will be seen that the number of emigrants in 1897 decreased by 3,000, m compared with the average of the preceeding five rears, and by 2,000 as compared with 1896, No elaborate investigation has yet been made, either by Government or private individuals as to the cause of this decrease. But it is supposed that the rate of immigration must have diminished for a while in consequence of the regu lations for allotting land being altered so as to prevent the influx of unsuitable immigrants. Now that the high, but vain, hopes entertained by the people after the war are gradually vanishing with the steady appreciation of commodities. the ratio of manigration may be expected to increase considerably this year and next. A scheme is on foot to reserve a portion of the agricultural produce as a fund for maintaining the new immigrants, who have hitherto been obliged to support themselves with their own resources until the fruits of their labour fall due.

A representative of the Zokyo Asahi recently watted upon Count Okuma to obtain the latter's views regarding the scheme for increased laxation. The Count is said to have made the following observations :- The recent introduction into the Diet of a measure for increased taxation can not be regarded as a step free from censure or criticism. Under whatever pressure of circumstances Count Inouye may have been induced to present the Bill, it will only have the effect of exasperating the members, and bringing serious censure upon the Government. The proposal ought to be opposed in every way. The price of rice has indeed trebled since the time when the system of inxation was revised, and it is argued from these premises that the incresse of taxes on land is not likely to be an additional burden. But other taxes have considerably increased in proportion to the development of local administration; and the total is augmented year by year. The house tax, from which funds for local administration are chiefly derived, is scarcely sufficient to meet the expansion of the administrative machinery of the prefectures. Besides, natural calamities occurannually; and educa-

expenditure, therefore, is likely to steadily increase. With regard to the disbursement of prison expenses from the Treasury I see no reason for objection; but I am strongly opposed to the increased redemption of public bonds. Japan is rather under the necessity of raising a large amount of loans than in a position to redeem the bonds she had already issued. A loan of 500 million yen should be raised; it is absolutely necessary for the adjustment of public bonds. Japanese bonds bear over five per cent interest, but it is hardly necessary to pay such a high rate of interest if the loan is raised abroad. The rate might be 3.5 per cent. Should there be any difficulty in saising the loan at that rate, the 100 yes bond might be sold at 95 yen, and if this discount proves still insufficient, it might be reduced to 90 yen. This extreme reduction, however, would not cause the interest to exceed 4.5 per cent. If houds are redeemed with loans bearing only 4.5 per cent, a profit of 0.5 per cent may still be secured to the Government. No difficulty exists in relation to financial matters; the difficulty lies really in forming a substantial cabinet.

# ROREAN AFFAIRS

Korean sympathizers have anbscribed \$400 towards the Sports fund of the Government

The members of the Independence Club and their friends have raised some \$900 for the relief of the Korean students in Japan.

The mausoleum of the late Empress was so badly "scamped," that it has become necessary to rebuild it. All concerned in the scandal are to be punished, some with imprisonment and fines, others with banishment.

The Russian Secretary of Legation at Soul, M. Paul de Kehrberg, has been dispatched to Wonsan to enquire into the deaths of two Koreans who are alleged to have been murdered by a Russian military officer.

Thirty-two dollars have been solemuly appropriated by the Korean Council of Sixie where-with to "rig out" in new uniforms the chair coolies of the Emperor. Evidently the Privy Purse is not allowed to keep a petty cash

The Korean Independent will continue to appear. Dr. Philip Jaisohn, its originator, on the eve of his departure for the United States, has turned over the affair to the " Independent Newspaper Company," of which he is a member and in which he retains an interest, The Company will print the paper in English and Korean, and carry it on as beretolore. The new editor is Mr. T. H. Ynn. He is said to be well-known among both foreigners and Koreans, was educated in America, travelled in Europe, has held high official positions in the Korean government, and speaks, in addition to his own Isuguage, English, Japanese, Chinese, and French.

According to an official report received from the Chief of Police at Chemulpo by the Korean Home Department, the recent row between a number of Japanese sailors and Koreaus began from a very insignificant cause. It appears that about seven Japanese sailors were drinking in a wine shop. Attracted by their boisterous noise a young Korean went to see what was the Upon this one of the drunken sailors pushed the Korean violently and he fell to the ground. This provoked a general fray between the Japanese and Koreans, during which the sailors made rather free use of their cutlasses. The affair resulted in seven Koreans (some women among them) being fatally wounded. Thirteen were slightly injured. Three Korean buts were demolished by the Japanese.

The new editor of the Korean Independent is

made me to consent (to take over the editorship). This is the extent of 'the very head and front of my offending' in the matter. Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.' may be so; but I am not sure of that, for the simple reason that I have never worn a crown nor likely to. But for ought I know now, I can say without any shadow of doubt, that a crown would be a softer pillow to me than six editorials in Korean and English-proof reading to boot-in a week. Hard or easy I have to do it until an able hand shall take the paper to the satisfaction of all, especially of myself. In the meanwhile I shall endeavour to keep up, if not the standard, at least the principles of the journal, avoiding partiality and devoting as much space as possible to Korean news, remembering that it is for things Korean and that alone, that most of our foreign readers turn to the Independent.

The following paragraphs, taken from the Independent, explain some recent Ministerial changes in Sout :-

Last Friday when His Majesty and the Crown Prince were calling at the Imperial ancestral temple, the Wai Office issued a special order to the troops not to let any one pass or cross the streets where the Imperial procession was passing. The spectatora were very roughly handled by the soldiers and many people were burt with the butts of the guns which the soldiers carried. After His Majesty's chair entered the main entrance of the temple, the guard closed the gate before the Crown Prince, and the Prince was stopped there for a few seconds before he was able to enter the front gate. The Crown Prince was very indignant over the action of the guard and immediately complained to its Imperial father. His Majesty ordered the Minister of War to be dismissed and the captain of the guard to be banished. Ex-Minister of War Ye Jongkenn has been appointed acting Minister of War.

# Three days later :-

Our readers may remember that, when His Majesty and the Grown Prince were visiting the Imperial Ancestral Temple two weeks ago, the Prince was stopped for a few seconds at the gate by the Imperial Guard, and that several officers of the Guard were opisiquently handed over to proper authorities for investigation and punishment. The Minister of War, Min Yongki, who was dismissed on the spot, was some re-appointed to the post. The Commander of the Battalion, Rim Chaine, and Yi Sukhum, Commander of the Corps, were, a few days ago, pardoned. Two officers of lower ranks only, so far as we know, were made sort of scapegoats for the sins of their auperior. No wonder Koreans worship influence.

The Independent thus describes the funeral procession of Prince and Princess Tal Won:-

From early hours, on the 15th instant, the main streets of Soul were crowded with people. Among them was noticed a large number of country dames going about in group, with their veils folded and tied on the heads. It appears they realized that their advanced age made it quite ununcessary to "blush moseen," (if they ever blush) under m piece of green silk. At any rate, we were glad to see these folks enjoy themselves "doing" Soul with its wonders they never saw before, among which we may suggest the tall I-gation buildings, Japanese monkey shows, Chioese jugglers, and Koreans on bicycles.

But primarily it was none of these novel sights that people came to see from the surrounding villages. It was the lineral procession of T. R. H. the Prince Tai Won and the Princess Yeu Hung, that attracted so large a crowd of spectators. Starting from the One-Hyen Palace, the old residence of the Prince and Princess, the procession began to move at 6 p.m. It was preceded by three pairs of maskers on ponies to scare away evil spirits. This was followed by sacrificial furniture and utensils. Two chairs supposed to contain the spirits of the departed came next, horne by ten men each, escorted by a large number of palace guards and of policemen. Two more chairs carrying the personal belongings of the dead followed. A small portable shrine painted black, and richly carved, was the next in program, carrying the wooden tablets for the Prince and Princess to be hereafter worshipped as the representatives of the departed souls. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Princess Rites and the princes of Burgan of Princess Rites and the princes of Burgan of Princess Rites and the princes of Burgan of Princess.

closely veiled and mounted on horses, surrounded by a sort of moving tent to keep the fair cavatcade from the gaze of the multimde. Four builded or more streamers on which were written the eulogies composed for the occasion was a sight in itself. Two empty cartafaques, borne by thirty men each, was followed by two pairs of "Cloud lans" so called, a partof long banners of crimson silk blazing forth in letters of gold the high-sounding titles of the Princes and of the Princess. A big unbrella of green silk preceded the most important item of the program, viz, the two real catafalques containing the remains of the singust dead escorted by mourners, officials of government, and et cetera.

All the wards and trade guilds in the city and

All the wards and trade guilds in the city and its submits, as well as the monks from different temples, sent delegations to attend the procession. They all carried banterns, red or white, and, when lit, the illumination added brilliancy and gayness to the otherwise solemn scene.

The interment took place at 2 p.m. on the 16th itst, with elaborate ceremonies. All the expenses connected with the funeral obsequies were borne by His Majesty.

# CHINESE NEWS.

Mr. Islay F. Dryadale writes to the Shanghai papers denying emphatically that he has had any trouble at his coal fields near Wuhu.

General Sung, formerly Commandant at Port Arthur, and now encamped with his troops at Newchwang, intends to fortify the port by erecting two modern forts there armed with rifled guns of large calibre. On the landward side are to be fortified encampments garrisoned by his troops who number at present nearly 20,000 men. The sanction of the Throne has been asked by General Sung.

From the N.C. Daily News we learn that an Englishman named Nicoll (?) in charge of the attillery forces is the Chinkiang forts has been recommended to the Viceroy Liu for memorialisation to the Throne for the decoration of the 4th class of the Double Dragon, owing to the former's "valuable instructions, energy, and ability." Strange to say Mr. Nicoll's warmost friend and strongest supporter to General Ch'ên, commanding the Hunanese Brigade at Chinkiang and a Hunanese himself.

A Haugehow dispatch to the Daily Chinese Progress—published in Shanghai—reports that Governor Liao of Chêkiang has arranged, through the assistance of the Japanese Consult of that city, to send a number of students to Japan to study Western sciences and military tactics in the Japanese Government institutions. Four of each class have already been selected for that purpose under the charge of a special deputy, and the party is expected to be ready to start for Japan by the middle of June next.

A Chinese correspondent at Peking of a Shanghai paper, states that the Emperor has, of late, taken quite a pleasure in attending the military drills and manœuvres of the Imperial Guards and the Peking Field Force now going on in the Southern Hunting Parks, and so interested has his Majesty been in them that he recently persuaded the Empress-Dowager to join him in one of his tours of inspection. This her Majesty did on the roth instant, and it is reported of her Majesty that she also was so greatly interested in the sham fights and reviews that she commanded them to be continued for two days more, at the end of which her Majesty presented the soldiers with three dollars each as a mark of her Imperial approbation.

A report comes from Nauking that the Viceroy Liu recently received from the Tsungli
Yamên a copy of a special decree from the
Throne changing entirely the ancient modes of
examining military candidates for degrees where
archery on foot and horseback, acrobatic contortions and the lifting of heavy weights were
thought sufficient to fit a man to command the
Imperial armies. Candidates are henceforth to
be examined in rifle shooting and in the science
bettillery firing, those passing and obtaining

lientenants in the new disciplined forces. Military licentiates who have taken their degree are to be eligible as sergeants, promotion to lieutenancles being conditional on their passing in the chujin examinations. The innovations will be made more difficult for candidates as each year passes, thereby gradually bringing them to a high state of efficiency.

A dispatch received by the Shanghai mandarine from Shashi states that of the rioters in the recent disturbances at that port nine were captured the day after the riots, and twelve more were subsequently arrested.

In acknowledgment of the kind and courteous treatment received by Chinese officials sent to witness the recent grand manæuvres of troops in Japan, the Imperial Government has decorated several Japanese officers with the order of the Double Dragon.

A native correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News, writing from Wuchang, states that before H.E. Chang Chih-tung left that city for Peking he settled the details of the establishment of an Agricultural and Mechanical College, under foreign superintendence and tutorship, at Hanyang. It now transpires that a date has been fixed for the opening of the institution, the scholars being admitted by competitive examination. The College is to be maintained from the funds of the Provincial Reserve Treasury.

The Hu Pao states that on the 15th May Prince Henry of Pinasia was ushered into the Summer Palace by the Ministers of the Tsungli Yamên. The Prince kissed the hands of the Empress Dowager in salutation, and shook bands with the Emperor. The next day the Prince, accompanied by Baroness von Heyking, visited the Temple of Heaven, which caused deal of discussion among the Chinese officials and gentry, as, according to an ancient rule, no woman had ever been admitted into this shrine.

The area of the new treaty port at Woosung has been settled—so native official report has it, remarks the N.-C. Daily New. It is to have a length of four miles along the river bank and a depth of one mile inland, and the site of the present Woosung forts is to be included in the new settlements for foreign occupation. It is further reported from the same sources that an expectant Taotai named Ln has been appointed by Vicery Liu to act as Commissioner of Public Works, with an Englishman, a civil engineer of experience, as Assistant Commissioner. Two more foreigners are to be engaged; one as a surveyor, and the other as superintendent of a proposed disciplined police force. The Naval headquarters of the Nanyang squadron, situated inside the forts, are to be the temporary quarters of the new Woosung Bureau of Works.

The International Cotton Mill on the Pootung side, says a Shanghai contemporary, is now working to its full capacity and turning out 100 bales of yarn a day in the working-day of 21 hours, which is the output guaranteed by the makers of the machinery. It is quite a pleasure to go over the Company's establishment, which is on the most complete scale, and includes a village with some 3,600 inhabitants, kept in the most apple-pie order, and policed by a private force of Sikha and natives. The grounds The grounds adjoin the Seamen's Cemetery at Pooting, and the pretty Seamen's Church is now used by the Company's operatives, who are practically all Roman Catholics, the worthy Father who has them in spiritual charge holding two services there every Sunday. Some 800 women and 600 men and boys are employed in the Mill itself, and it may be noted that nearly all the women employed in the Mill have natural feet.

From the N. C. Daily News :-

tricity carved, was the dext in program, carry ing the wooden tablets for the Prince and Princess to be hereafter worshipped as the representatives of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of the officers of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process and the officers of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process of the departed souts. This was followed by the officers of Burgan of Process of the officers of t

soldiers. We were saluted in passing by a reveille played by the Amanukes, which echoed finely from played by the Annanikes, which echoed finely from the mighty cliffs of the Great River. Mr. Bavin is the Resident of Tongking and apparently on the way to claim his hinterland amidst the impending break-up of the miserable Chinese Government; the Yangtze valley, as far as the Britain's sphere of influence is concerned, if admitted at all, not being admitted to extend above Ichang. The Count de Vaulserre in a welt-known character in high Parisian circles, as well as a traveller of some distinction. This invasion of Szechnan will probably be accepted meekly enough by the Viceroy, who has no armed force worthy the name, and, so far, has not dared to ariest the well-known leaders of the late riots in Kiangpeh. We were told that the objectif of the expedition is the independent Lolo connery, the Riangpeli. We were told that the objectif of the expedition is the independent Lolo conouty, the wild monotainous district that fills the great bend in the Yangtze River, west of Sufu (Süchon in Cretschurider's map)—nous verrons (

So far our Ichang correspondent: a native cor-respondent informs us on the other hand that Yanyangchon is the destination of the French Yanyangchon is the destination of the French expedition, and that their object is to avenge the murder of two priests which took place at a riot there in 1868. Any stick is good enough to beat a dog with, and an unavenged outrage of thirty years back may be a useful handle if, as seems likely, the French desire to follow up the precedent afforded them by the Germans in Shantung.

Youyangchou is a wild mining district situated at a spot where the boundaries of the three provinces, Szechnan, Hunan, and Kucichou meet; its rough population have always been a source of trouble to the weak native officials, and the mines have more than once been closed in consequence. It now remains to be seen whether the presence of a French force will lead to the establishment of order and, what is believed to be their intention, the working of the minerals on a large scale,

The Wel-lini-wei correspondent of the Shanghai Mercury thus describes the handing over of that port by the Japanese :--

Vesterday (May 20th) about twenty braves came here very quietly, and to-day at 11 o'clock the Taotai and suite came over and were duly received at the landing by the Japanese General. The Tantai, howing low, simply said in Chinese. Thank you." The Japanese General returned the salute very stiffly, and then the company moved off to head-quarters. Here the Japanese General hayded over to the Taotai—not the keys of the fortiess—but a rough plan of each of the forts now being handed back. being handed back.

The whole proceedings were conducted in a remarkably silent manner, a nod of thanks as each plan was produced, and that was all. The time occupied in this business was at the most half-au-hour, and then the few remaining Japanese thok to their boats and left! In the meantime, however, the Narcissus, which arrived here yesterday, had not been idle, for we presently saw boats landing at the West Fort, and soon a body of marines (forty-five in all) marched up and took possession of the now vacant Japanese head-quarters! The Chinese had miraculously disappeared, and I found later that they had retired to The whole proceedings were conducted in a repeared, and I found later that they had retired to the east end of the island. We now heard fring in the harlmur, and on looking out saw the Nar-cissus with the Japanese flag at the foremast fring a salute of 13 gins for the Japanese General who had been visiting the ship and who was now just

leaving,
In the afternoon another boat came from the Narcissus, bringing two flag-staffs which have been erected at the West Fort, but no flags have been loisted as yet. However, to all intents and purposes the British are in full possession and at the chief point of landing you will meet an English (beg pardon, British) sentry. The marines lost no time in getting to work cleaning out their temporary barracks before night-fall, during which occupation Tommy expressed his opinion of the place in not very choice language.

The place itself is in ruins; the Japanese must have been short of coals during the cold weather, for all the floors, doors, and windows of the houses not occupied by them have been torn down for

There are very few Chinese on the island and no business is going on whatever, and to meander through the ruins, and deserted houses is enough to give one the blues.

The guns from the forts have of course all been temoved, but the forts have not been damaged

There was once a fine iron jetty here, which the

# NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The owners of the steamer Exmeralda do not propose to send her back to Manila. Like the Yuensang and Sunkiang she will be taken off the run, and will probably make her next voyage to Japan.

By a curious coincidence, says a home paper, no fewer than three Russian "scientific expeditions" are being simultaneously organised. By a still more curious coincidence the destinations of all three are regions which happen to be the centres of political interests in Asia and Africa, Whenever a Russian expedition is more severely "acientific" than usual, you will always find that the bulk of its equipment consists of Maxims, or their equivalent, and its escort of Cossacks. No doubt Cossacks catch butterflies and wash photographic lenses better than civilians.

The Nagasaki Press of May 27th announces the death of Mr. W. B. Russell, Commissioner of Customs at Swatow, which occurred at St. Bernard's Hospital on the 25th ult. The deceased had been ailing for a long time past, and at the time of his arrival at Nagaseki was proceeding to America on sick leave. Mr. Russell's condition, however, was considered too serious to permit of the journey being continued and by the advice of the doctor of the vessel he was sent on shore to hospital. The deceased was buried at Urakami, the funeral being largely attended.

A serious accident occurred on the evening of May 24th on board the German cruiser Arcona, then laying in Nagasaki barbour, During the firing of a salute, a charge exploded owing to the heating of the chamber of the gun, and a gunner close by received the full force of the explosion. The unfortunate man was at once attended to, but the injuries received were of so serious a nature that it was deem ed advisable to send him to St. Bernard's Hospital. On examination at the latter place, it was found that one of the injured man's fingers was completely shattered and that his face was badly burned.

At a meeting of shareholders of the Deutsche Bank, held in Berlin, the president, Mr. George Siemens, said that it was not desirable to establish a branch in Asia; the former branch in Shanghai had been withdrawn because it did not pay. However, it might be desirable to take some proceedings in the West, where ancient civilisation and culture hold out solid prospects to business, more than in Asia, where similar opportunities must first be created. Asia should at present be left rather to private energy. And, beside, the Deutsche Bank is a member of the Deutsche Asiatische Bank, the financial and banking agency of Germany in East Asia.

Probably in no city in the world is so much horse flesh eaten as in Vienna. It was in 1854 that the first communal slaughter house was established in the city, and in the following year 943 horses were slaughtered for consump-tion. Since that time the number has increased by leaps and bounds, and last year no fewer than 12,000 animals were slaughtered. The price per pound of horse flesh has increased, with the number of animals killed. In 1856 it was tid. per pound; in 1875 it rose to 3d.; and it is still rising.

According to MM. Le Dantec and Bayé, the poison used for arrows in the hinterland of Dahomey is prepared from seeds by infusion, and kills in 10 or 13 minutes. Death is accompanied by convulsions, the wounded man lying on the ground, and digging his nails into the earth. They recommend a ligature round the member struck by the arrow to forbid the circulation of the poison, and, after the arrow is withdrawn, washing the wound with a solution of tannic acid, or in default of that a decection of back rich in tannin, or even champagne.

then Bishop of Exeter, that he could convert the whole of Africa to Christianity if only each man might still be allowed to marry four wives. There can be no doubt that the success of Mahomedanism in Africa is very largely due to the permission which that religion gives for restricted polygamy, and one almost regrets episcopal countenance had to be withheld from General Gordon's idea.

Spurgeon's Tabernacle, recently destrayed by fire, is to be rebuilt without delay. been decided on by the pastor and his congregation. The catastrophe has occasioned widespread sympathy, and numerous offers of money for rebuilding have been received from various parts. Among the foremost to express their sympathy have been members of the Church of England, who deplote the destruction of the building, which had for long been a notable factor in South London's religious

A very enjoyable little trip took place on Tuesday afternoon in Tokyo Bay, Mr. W. N. Wright, of Wright's Hotel, taking a small party out in his new steam kunch. The route chosen was to the Quarantine ship and back, a distance sufficient to thoroughly test the qualities of the little craft. Though the sea was a trifle choppy she behaved very well, and proved herself or able of a speed of nine knots an hour. The launch is 35 feet long, about eight beam, and has accommodation for about a dozen passengers in her cabin. She can easily hold her own with similar craft in the harbour

Somerset House officials are taking great interest in an inquiry proceeding at Melbourne. A taxpayer alleges that on calling at the Income Tax Office with regard to some payment, he was told by a clerk to "keep his hair on." This, he holds, in not the sort of language that should be used. But there are, says a home paper, applicants at Somerset House who, to beguile the tedium of waiting, and divert their thoughts from the whitening of their locks, would be glad to be noticed by the clerk even in an insult. The same, we might add, applies to some of the haughty youths in Far Eastern offices.

The directors of the Beabody Museum have published an interesting report on explorations in Yucatan and Honduras, from which it ap-pears that the earliest inhabitants of the country came to it in recent geological times, bringing their culture with them, and becoming the ancestors of the present Maya Indians. Some of their ruined cities and terra cotta work bespeak a comparatively high civilisation. Rivers being scarce in the country, they obtained water from pools in caves, or kept it in underground cis-terns, or "chaltunes," of a jar shape. The origin of the Mayas is a mystery. Dr. Knox hinted that they might be descendants of the Guanches of the Canaries and the Copis of Egypt; others regard them as akin to the Au-cient Pernvians and Polynesians.

When letters are delayed the postal authorities like to know why, in India just as much as in this country. Sometimes they learn. Sometimes they are told, but do not learn, as in a case quoted in St. Martin's le Grand, the G.P.O. magazine. The Baboo letter-cartier reported the situation in a long letter to his superintendent. These are extracts:-

"As I was to pass the river or water through my cart for absence of any boat some alligators ran on my oxen bence the oxen getting fear for-cibly took away my cart in an abys, below the water of 12 feet which the cartman failed to ob-struct. . . The cart with mysels was drown ed. . . I am much nawell the voice of my speech is fallen low and out of order from the suffocation."

Could anything be plainer?

A feature of the last cruise of the English Channel Squadron was a detailed plan of preparation for battle, and for 24 hours the ships were steered and worked from the conting The Archbishop of Canterbury recently gave towers, all signals being made and answered towers that being made and answered towers that ball of this hap been will be the consisted in such The Japanese say by the Concess and answered to the lapton of this hap been will be consisted in such The Japanese say by the Concess and place of the consisted in such The Japanese say by the Concess and place of the consisted in such The Japanese say by the Concess and place of the consisted in such The Japanese say by the Concess and place of the consisted in such that the constant of the constant necessary if the fleet were actually III was and with a hostile fleet in the immediate vicinity. Useful information was gained, and in one matter all were agreed, namely, that engine-room telegraphs must be fitted in the conning tower, as communication by voice-tubes was quite un trustworthy. The Jupiter led off the ball by firing into a skeleton target of a battleship. The sight, to a more spectator, was a splendid one, and when the remainder of the battleships steamed past and added their quota of sugarplums, the sight was still finer.

The head of the Rev. J. W. Humphreys, of the C.M.S., has been found impaled on stick near Freetown, Sierra Leone,-A Yorkshire manufacturer, named Marriott, has bequeathed \$500,000 to \$180,000 to the \$ P G. to charities, including

A Chinaman who is serving a sentence of ten years imprisonment for forgery made his second escape from Victoria gaol, Hongkong, on the arst ult. He was eventually recaptured. being found lying on a bale of goods on board the steamer Heungshan, which was just about to proceed to Macno.

Years and years ago, Mr. Bret Harte wrote the poem called "Her Letter."

But know, if you haven't got eichen And are poor, dearest Joe, and all that, That my heart's somewhere there in the ditches, And you've struck it-on Poverty Flat,

So wrote the Lily of Poverty Flat, amid the blaze of New York gaiety, after "Pap" had "struck oil" Then a few years later came "Truthful James' answer to Her Letter," being lamed by several casualties incident to mining camps and Truthful James acting, therefore, as amanuensis : under difficulties, too

Which his blanket he's kicked on his trunk, Miss, And insists on his legs being free;

And his language to me from his bunk, Miss, Is frequent and painful and free.

In this letter the constancy of Joe was put beyond doubt, there the romance broke We have always felt, and doubtless other readers have too, that more was due to us. Did Joe recover? Did the wealthy Lily accept Truthful James' offer of his pile? Was there a marriage after all? These questions have hitherto been asked in vain. But now Mr. Bret Harte com pletes the story. In the Century for April may be found the third part of the trilogy-"Her Last Letter "-wherein everything is concluded as happily as even Darwin could have wished.

The American Press might be trusted to find (or invent) something romantic or interesting about Commodute (now Rear-Admiral) Dewey. Here is a pretty story quite damp from the machine: -Club chatter among the intimates of Commodore Dewey revives the fact of a previous encounter with Spain in which he did not come out first, and causes comment that he probably enjoyed settling a personal score, along the line of duty to his country. Love, not war, was the source of the original trouble. The devotion of Commodore Dewey to Miss Virginia Lowery, the handsome daughter of Archibald Lowery, one of the most prominent and wealthy of the ex-clusive "residential set" in Washington, is known in the Capital. Miss Lowery was beautiful in the grande dame fashion, and a woman of definite views as to what would make up her happiness. When very young she became engaged to the dashing, impecunious secretary of the Spanish Legation, Count "Jack Brunetti. Her father refused to sanction the affair, but, declining all other offers, even that of the present here of the hour, Miss Lowery kept during twenty years her plighted troth. Three seasons ago, however, with the consent of her father, she became the wife of the Duke d'Arcos, her devoted and loyal squire, who not only had inherited title and estates, but represented The adhis country as Minister to Mexico. miral resented bitterly his defeat by a foreign nation, and it is probable sent hot shots with added vim, recalling the horrid day when lack tar Capid set Spain's flag above the start and an expense instinuity does not necessarily become a lapanese. Provided that this rule shall not tar Capid set Spain's flag above the start and an expense nationality.

Art. XIII.—The wife of a person acquiring and art. XIV. and Art. X

#### LAW OF NATURALIZATION.

Ait. I .- If the father of a child be of Japanese nationality at the time of its birth, the child 🖮 a lapanese. This rule applies also to the case of a child born after its father's death.

Art. II .- If the father of a child has been divorced or separated from his wife prior to the child's birth, and has thus lost his Japanese nationality, the child shall nevertheless be a Japanese, provid ed that its conception preceded the time of the divorce or separation. This rule shall not apply, however, if both the parents of the child have lost their domicile prior to the birth of the child, unless the mother has recovered her domicile before its hirth.

Art. III .- A child whose mother is of Japanese nationality but whose father is unknown or has no nationality, is a Japanese.

Art. 1V.—When both the parents of a child born in Japan are unknown or have no recognised nationality, the child is a Japanese.

Art. V .- An alien shall be entitled to Japanese nationality under the following conditions

I. When married to a Japanese hushand.

2. When adopted by marriage (niufu) into = Japanese family,

3. When recognised by a Japanese father or mother,

4. When adopted (as a child) by a person of Japanese nationality

5. By naturalization.

nationality by recognition (ninchi) shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. Must be under age, as fixed by the laws of his or her country.

2. Must not be the wife of a Japanese,

3. The parent (father or mother) first making the recognition must be a Japanese.

4. When both parents make the recognition simultaneously, the father must be a Japanese.

Art. VII.—An alien can acquire Japanese nationality under the following conditions, with the approval of the Minister of State for Home Affairs:

1. After five consecutive years' residence in

Japan.

2. Having been for at least twenty years recognised as compos mentis by the laws of his native country.

3. Being of good character.

Having sufficient property or professional attainments to secure independent sustenance.

5. Not having any nationality, or for leiting his original nationality by becoming a Japanese.

Art. VIII.-The wife of an alien can not acquire apanese nationality except in conjunction with ier husband.

Art. IX.-An alien falling under any of the following classifications may acquire Jepanese nationality even without possessing the qualifications enumerated in Art. VII.:—

(t.) If having a fapanese father w mother,
(2) If the wife of a Japanese,
(3) If born in Japan.

(4.) If having lived for ten years consecutively и Тарап.

Provided that the qualifications (1) (2) and (3) Provided that the quantications (1) (2) and (3) shall not constitute a right to acquire Japanese nationality unless the person has fived for three years consecutively in Japan. Provided, also, that if the father or mother of the person possessing qualification No (3) was born in Japan, this rule as to three years' residence shall not apply.

Art. X .- An alien whose father or mother is Japanese and who is actually residing in Japan, can acquire Japanese nationality without possessing qualifications (1), (2) and (4), as set forth in ing quali

Art. XI.-An alien who has rendered specially meritorious service to Japan, can acquire Japan-ese nationality though nut possessing any of the qualifications enumerated in Art. VII.

Art. XII.—The fact that Japanese nationality has been acquired must be publicly advertised, and pending such advertisement, the rights and privileges of the acquired nationality can not be

month to count from the time of her receiving information that the provisions of this article shall not be applicable if they conflict with the provisions of any law operative in the wife's country.

Art, XIV .- A wife who has not acquired Japanese nationality under the circumstances mentioned in the last Article may acquire it though not possessing the qualifications commerciated in Art, VII.

Art. XV .- The child of a parent, or parents, that have acquired Japanese nationality, may—if not yet of age as defined in the laws of its country -acquire Japanese nationality at the same time with its father or mother. Provided that this rule shall not conflict with the provisions of any law operative in the parent's country.

Art. XVI.—The child of a person who has acquired Japanese nationality, or a person who has acquired such nationality by being adopted or by being married into (ninfu) a Japanese family, shall not be eligible for any of the following positions :-

t. Minister of State, Minister of the Imperial Household or Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal.

2. President, Vice-President or member of the

Privy Council,

3. General officer of the Army or Admiral of the Navy.

4. President of the Supreme Court, President of the Board of Audit, President of the Administration. strative Court.

Court Counciller.

6. Member of the Imperial Diet, or elector.

Art. XVII.-The restrictions enumerated in Art. XVII.—The restrictions enumerated in Art. XVI. may, with the permission of the Sovereign granted through the Minister of State for Home Affairs, be removed in the case of a person who has obtained Japanese nationality according to the provisions of Art. XI. after five years have classed from the time of obtaining it, and in the case of any other person after the and in the case of any other person after the lapse of ten years.

Art, XVIII.—A Japanese, woman loses her Japanese nationality on marriage to an alien.

Art. XIX.—In the case of a person who has acquired Japanese nationality by marriage or adoption, Japanese nationality can not be lost unless foreign nationality is obtained by divorce or severance of relations.

Art. XX.—A person who has voluntarily acquired foreign nationality shall lose his (or her) Japanese nationality.

Art. XXI .-- The wife or child of a man who has lost his Japanese nationality, shall cease to have Japanese nationality so soon as the man acquires foreign nationality,

Act, XXII.—The preceding Article shall not apply to the wife or child of a person who has lost Japanese nationality by divorce or severance of relations. But if a wife has been only separated, not divorced, or if a child has accompanied its father from his domicile, this rule shall not held each. Lold good.

Art. XXIII.—A child possessing Japanese nationality shall lose it on obtaining foreign nationality by recognition. But this rule shall not apply in the case of person who has become the wife, adopted child, or marriage-adopted child of a Japanese.

Art. XXIV.—trrespective of the conditions of Art. V, a lad who has attained the full age of seventeen shall not lose his Japanese nationality if he has already failen under conscription, or if he is not exempt from liability to conscription. is not exempt from hability to conscription. A person actually serving as a Japanese civil or military official shall not lose his Japanese nationality without the consent of head of the office in which he is sarving or of his commanding officer.

Ait. XXV .-- A person that has lost Japanese nationality by marriage, may, if residing in Japan, recover Japanese nationality after dissolution of the maniage, by permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Art. XXVI.—A person that has lost Japanese nationality under the provisions of Art. XX. or Art. XXI., may, it resident in Japan, recover Japanese nationality by permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Art. XXVI.—A person that has lost Japanese ationality under the provisions of Art. XX. or Art. XXVI.—A person man mas non japanese nationality under the provisions of Art. XX. or Art. XXI., may, if resident in Japan, secover Japanese nationality by permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs. But this rule does not apply to persons ennumerated in Ait, XVI, who have lost Japanese nationality.

# CORRESPONDENCE. EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL" SIR,—In the columns of the Fapan Daily Mail of March 25th, 1898, I have been reading the views of the new Minister of Education Marquis Saionji, and Mr. Ueda Mannen's proposed reform of the Japanese language. It is with great pleasure that we people of the West have observed Japan's marked and spid progress of late years. In her is easily recorded the highest position among the nations of the East.

Japan is now considering that question of the very greatest importance to every nation, the ques-tion of education. We read with pleasure the boad, intelligent views of his Excellency, Marquis problem with deep admiration the effec-tual reform proposed by Mr. Urda Mannen. We prophesy with such men in the Empire Japan will make gigantic strides in educational progress.

make gigantic strates in educational progress.

From history we know the state of Greece in tre
greatest glory. We know also that sie attained
that perfection by looking abroad upon the nations of the earth and adopting thereform whatever she saw would be most beneficial to herself.
New Japan desire a system of education; she, in
doubt desires the hear system of education. If doubt, desires the best system of education. If the advice he not considered presumptions, let her look out upon the other nations of the earth and ther took on apparties other taches of the earth and study carefully the different educational systems, Then she can choose from them the system she considers the best, and make it, as it is or with nuprovements, the educational system of Japan. The high honor of having the best educational system in the world is conceded by all nations to the province of Ontario in the Dominion of Canada. Alight we suggest then that Japan make a most thorough study of Ontario's systems of education before making any permanent decision upon her own. We are assured that she will find it the most beneficial and satisfactory to the Empire. A. S. W.

Canada, April 27th, 1898.

#### WAR.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—It is a matter worthy of note that, although so much has been written against the evils of drink, abuses of Government, the social evils of Grink, abuses of Government, the social evil, slavery and kindled evils, very little, com-paratively, has been written against one of the greatest of all evils, war. This will appear all the more apparent on a casual examination of our current literature. Other evils are condemned in inequalified terms, but was is spoken of as a virtue, apologized for, or passed over lightly.

Was usually acises from some one of the follow

ing :-(1) worldly ambition; (2) acquisition of territory; (3) to keep the peace at home; (4), to save the national human; (5) redress for injuries; (6) to protect the helpless; (7) self-defense; (8),

to maintain national rights.

In this age of advanced civilization I need In this age of advanced civilization I need hardly dwell upon the first three points mentioned as not being just causes for war. No one would attempt to defend the plunging of a whole nation into war just to gratily the ambitious desires of a Napoleon or an Alexander. Nor, I am persuaded, would the mere desire for more territory be defended as a just ground for war. The third reason for which war is sometimes waged is no less unwarranted than the first two. For who can conceive of the sometimes waged is no less unwarranted than the first two. For who can conceive of the justice of one nation invading the territory of another innocent of any off-ner, destroying property, butchesing the people and taking possession of the country in order to stop some internal broil and to furnish "an outlet for the disaponinted and dangerous rlements." at home? Whatever, therefore, may be anged in favour of other country in the state of others. reacons that give rise to war, this one also, I drink would not be defended as being just.

is considered a To save the national honour just cause for war rather than suffer an indignity from another nation. But since war is confessed to a most dreadful thing may it not be well asked all international trumbles might not be settled by more humans and rational mesus. Since nations are composed of individuals, we may illustrate the case by supposing a difference to soive between two individuals. A and B are two neighbours living side by side; a cross fence separates their faims. Bencroaches on A's territory by putting his fence several feet over the line. A remonstrates but B declines to correct his mistake, still holding A's land to possession. As all of A's family are interested parties to the disagreement.

harreled shot gun, tells his two boys, Frank and James, to put butcher knives in their boots and commands his wife to go along as a spy. They force the door and cush in upon the family white seated at breakfast, James and Frank, knives in hand, spring upon B's three sons and their former school-mates with murderous intent; their father levels his goo at B, shoots him dead in his seat, then lets go the other save her sons.. other barrel at Mrs. B who is trying to sons.. The entire family, except two

the next day they, with the help of some of the neighbours, proceed to bury the dead. A expresses deep regret that he had to resort to such severity but as a man of honour he could not let such an encroachment upon his rights pass with out redress. He insists further upon the right to B's farm, only allowing the two little girls a

competency.

Who is there, kind reader, that would not be perfectly horified at such conduct, and pronounce one of the darkest deeds of which man is capa le? Yet all who appeal to war to maintain the neer yet all wind appear to war to manufact man attendar honour act upon the same principle as is represented here. The only reason why it does not always seem so is that large bodies of men destrey in a measure individuality. The soldier shouts at a mass of strangers not my individual acquistance.

It is an entirely false view of true honour, either national ar individual, to suppose that it must be upheld by doing more injury to others than they have done to you, J. M. McCALEB. ave done to you,

Tokyo, May 2011, 1898.

#### THE SPANISH FLEET'S MANŒUVRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL,"

Sir,-We can hardly realize how well the Spanish have succeeded in mobilizing their fleet spanish have succeeded in mountains and until we review the account of the evolutions performed within a few days. To bring these evoluformed within a few days. To bring these evolu-tions before the eye at a glance, I append, in an abbreviated, but essentially unaftered, form Renter's telegrams for the past tweive days.

"May 10. The American cruiser Montgowery was chased by a Spanish cruiser off Hayri. It is believed that the fleets are approaching and a battle is imminent.

May 11. The American to pedo boat Winslow tackled three groboats off Cardenas, disabled one and came out unscatched.

May 12. The Spanish Squadron remains at

Cadiz.

May 13. Spain keeps her movements absolutely

May 14 The Spanish fleets have arrived at Marthingne. A great naval action appears inevitable. In the action at Cardenas the Wission was supported by three gui-boats. She was disabled and also one of the gui-boats.

A private telegram received by a business firm

addsmaterially to our information about this ac-tion. It reports that on the Spanish side a tom cat was severely wounded but it is thought that his wounds will not prove fatal.

After this there is no news for several days, After this there is no news for several days, This silence is fully explained by the following telegram. It is evident that there is an error in transmission. It, instead of "rigorous American consorship," we read "rigorous Turkish censorship," we will be a state of the way we have no more news of the wandering Spanish fleet. Such an entendation also accounts for the infimate knowledge of the condition of the American volumers.

an emeroacion and accounts for the internal enterledge of the condition of the American volunteers,

"May 20. In view of the rigorous American
cersorship it is difficult to obtain refishele war
news. The Spanish squadron has been organized
at Cadiz. It is expected to sail for the Philippines at the end of the month. The Americ outcors are said to be atterly unprepared. The American vol-

The above news seems to have been gotten in spite of the rigorous censorship but if it he no-

satisfactory we may choose the following:-May 21. It is announced from Madrid that
Admiral Cerveras' squadron has reached Santiago de Cuba. Nine ships, supposed to be Spanish, are passing down the Nova Scotian Coast."

On the supposition that Admiral Cerveras com-

mands the squadron of one battleship and seven armoneed cruisess which are the only effective armoneed ships that Spain has, the Nova Scotian squadron must consist of manimum of cruisers, or small vessels. Then position may be unbealthy,

No news has been given of the Spanish to pede No news has been given of the Spatish to pedo failla which was blown out of its course and had to put in at the Cape Verde Islands before the beginning of the War. Nor has any report been sent about movements of the American flying squadron which started out on the commencement pare, they are expected to help setted he difficult phostilities. This is unfortunate; we are in not to hand a sale Ruglish custom. culty. As milder methods have been tried and discloss here while we have a dazzling flood of Am I not right in stating that doctors agree failed, A, one fine mediately long lows in the souther the movement of the Spanish squid to the mount of the spanish squid to the spanish squid

We are taught" What can't be cured should be endured," but this is the counsel of an inactive, not to say lazy, man. Such counsel is obviously unsuited to a purveyor of news whose motto should

WHAT CAN'T BE PROCURED SHOULD BE MANUFACTURED.

Yours obedient servant, May 30th, 1808.

M.

#### CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL." Sir,-In reading your account of the United Chambers of Commerce in Friday's number, I noticed two grave mistakes, and I wish you would correct them at the earliest date possible.

1. Instead of being a meeting of seven Chambers of Commerce, we held the seventh annual congress of Chambers of Commerce in the empire.

It is true that we have chiefly spent our time in debating the two questions contained in a memorandum drafted by the Osaka Chamber, These two questions are the importation of foreign capital, and the increase of the land tax.

capital, and the increase of the land tax.

Although you state that the memorandum proposes that the indemnity money should be employed to relieve the present dearth of floating capital, and that recourse should subsequently like had to foreign money according to the necessities of the time, on the contrary the memorandum does not in the least make the above suggestion. It simply emphasizes the present for the importation of foreign capital. Really, it was after a load foreign capital. foreign capital. Really, it was after a long debate that we all came to a mulual understanding that it was not a good time to raise a foreign loan, that the indemnity should be employed to mitigate the present stringency, and that if neces-sary a foreign loan should be so gradually raised that an expansion of the convency should not exceed our capacity of absorbing money, that market prices should not be disturbed any further, and that no speculative mania should again be stirred up. Therefore, what we have gained from the culturation debate in the congress are (1) our moderstanding concerning the difficulnes (1) our understanding concerning the difficul-ties of raising a foreign loan, (2) dangers con-nected with the sapid importation of foreign gold in a large quantity. Thus it was a question of in a large quantity. Thos it was a question of means that we have discussed fully in the congression in regard to the purpose every one knew such was necessary at present. And it was this purpose only that has been openly proposed by the Osaka Chamber.

Vous truly.

[Of course our report was taken from vernacular journals. If was a most circumstantial report. The names of the seven chambers were given, and the resolutions adopted were reported verbatim. However, our correspondent is thoroughly qualified to speak as to the facts, and our readers will, of course, substitute his statements for our previous precis.—En. J.M.

#### PHYSICAL TRAINING IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,-I have read with much interest Mr. Kus bota's speech on physical training. May I be permitted to offer a few remarks on the subject as

reen from a woman's point of view?
The Japanese appear to be breaking down phy-The Japanese speed to be breaking down physically under he severe pressure of modern requirements. Mr. Kubota thinks to remedy this by the introduction of regattas, baseball, etc. These things are excellent to their way, but they do not touch the root of the evil. Japanese boys do not crave for exercise as our boys lin, they have no superabundant energy to work off, and they never will have full physical energy until the charged life of Japanese wanten is different to what physical life of Japanese women is different to what

It in now.
The really important question is, not how to introduce games, but how to give children the energy which demands exercise, and this they must receive from their parents. The school authorities in bom their parents. The School authorities in Japan are considering this question of the physique of women, but in some cases where they faucy they are introducing reforms it seems to me they are really making serious mistakes, because they do not thoroughly understand the customs they

are introducing.

Take such a very simple illustration

Take such a very simple illustration The guls attending the Kazoku Jo-Gakko wear hoots instead of geta. Now in every English girls' school (except those attended by the very poor) the pupils are made to change their hoots for house shippers before sitting down to work. I remember that in my school days it was considered a serious 1 remember offence to go into a class room with boots on, Ia America the custom is rather different, girls on subbers over their boots on wet days, but this is

young girls as sitting with damp boots on? Yet here is a school with a handreds of girls of good class who go through the Tokyo streets in winter and sit down to hours of work in the same boots that they walked in. Are they not deliberately and sit down to hours of work in the same boots that they walked in. Are they not deliberately sowing the seeds of that consumption which is fatally common in Japan? I merely instance this as a simple case in which the advice of a sensible woman understanding hygiene should be followed. Will the Mainhusho never throw away prejudice and ask the advice of foreign women on the subject of the physical training of women? Even such a supraguity to fillow those as that I have inan apparently trifling thing as that I have in-

It is not enough to send a Japanese person to foreign countries for a couple of years to study the subject—it is at once too big and too minute to be disposed of in this way.

There are in Japan many highly educated Eng-lish women who have the welface of the Japanese at heart; yet, because they are mostly missionaries, they are treated as introders who must be carefully out of all educational questions.

when out of all educational questions.

We hear a great deal of talk about the AugloJapanese alligace. There could no better way of
celebrating such an alliance than by acknowledging the physical superiority of the women of the
Buglish-speaking races and asking the benefit of
their experience for Japanese women.

And when the physique of the women has improved, the Government will find that the young
many sill need little belt rowned a games beyond flat

men will need little help towards games beyond flat spaces of ground to play in and permission to use their lungs.

Yours truly, May 26th, 1898. ENGLISH-WOMAN.

#### POKOHAMA CEMETERY.

The annual meeting of those interested in the The annual meeting of those interested in the Yokuhama Cemetery was held on Monday afternoon, at Keil's Building. His Honour Judge Wilkonson presided, and the Marquis C. Nembrini de Gonzaga, the Rev. E. Champneys Lowine, Messis, J. P. Mollism, J. F. Lowder, C. D. Moss, A. M. Chalmers, J. Dondo, A. O. Gay, J. Alkonck, N. F. Smith, A. J. Wilkin, H. Grauert, and B. Gillett (Him. Secretary) were also present.

REPORT. The report was rend by the Hon. Secretary

as follows:--- The Committee of the Yokohama General Commercy beg to place before the community the Annual Report of the Cometery, together with the Treasurer's statement of account for the year which

ended on the 31st Q-cember, 1897.
The interments during the year have numbered 53 and have been made from the following nationatities.

British	21 a	a again	st 30 in	1896	
American	19	41	13	3 =	
French	2	61	6	29	
German	3	19	3	11	
Russian	L	31	1	31	
Portuguese	3	81	1	11	
Swiss		11	3		
Austrian	2	3.6	0	20	
Danish	1	99	0	**	
Mexican	0	91	1	44	
Ladian	1	19	3	11	
Swedish	0	11	II.	16	

Total .......53 as against 62 in 1896 Said 53 Interments include 

33	ps	Seamen serving on board Ships			
		temporarily ly- ing in the Bar-			
		bour	10	24	Ph
U	**	Interments	8+	4	10
23	**	Basafide Yoko-			
		hama residents	13	21	89
_				-	

The 22 interments from the resident foreign community of Yokohama have been of

British	13	85	against	7 is	i 1869 -	
American	4		II 9	5	99	
French	٥,		81	2	0.0	
German	I			1	19	
Swiss	0		40	3	90	
Partuguese	2		19	1	2+	
Indian	0		15	1	91	
Swedish	0		11	1	22	
Austrian	1		12	O		
Russian	1		81	0		

the comber of registered and non-registered for reign residents in Yokohama at the end of Decem-ber last as nearly as can be ascertained (exclusive of Chinese) as 2,200; taking these figures as correct, and 22 interments as representing the num-ber of deaths, it will appear that the Yokohama death rate in 1897 amounted to 10 per mille, as against 10 per mille in 1896 and 11 per mille in

From the Treasurer's statement of Account an-nexed to this Report it will be seen that at the close of the year 1897 there existed a credit bal close of the year 1897 there existed a credit ball ance of yen 8,078.44. In connection with which the Committee would suggest, that at the next Annual meeting, a resolution should be passed authorising the incoming Committee for the year 1898 to deal with said balance, together with any funds while may subsequently accuse to the credit of the Cemetery account at the end of each year, to be exclusively used for the purpose of Reeniuse in order the present Cemetery. nose of keeping in order the present Cemelery after it has been closed for interments. It may be well, to place on record, that 8,000 year of the above-named balance is placed on fixed deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank bearing interest at the rate of five per cent, per annum.

The amount spent in keeping up the Cemetery

in 1897 exceeded that of 1896 by about 360 yen; this is accounted for by the sums of about 300 year. requi ed for necessary repairs after the heavy storms which took place in September last and the remaining 60 yen have been absorbed, by the in-creased cost of labour, materials, &cc.

The present committee, consisting of Messrs, James Dudds; J. A. Fraser; H. Granert; Rev. E. C. Irwine; N. F. Smith, and B. Gillett beg to tender their resignations,

IN ACCOUNT WITH B. GILLETT, HON. TREAS., FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DEC", 1897. DR. Mr. Jaimain for Salary, 12 Yen. To Labour account, 12 months . 343.44 478.44 405.17

58 85 7.04 To Postages and Sundries ..... 4.10 To Fire Insurance premium on Buildings, Yen 1,200 ..... 15.50

amount on fixed deposit with H. & S. Bank at 5 per cent.

Yen 974.18

Yen 9,052.62 CR.
By Balance brought down from Yen. Yen. previous account 31st Dec., 7.342 32 By Fees for certificates ...... By Free for exhuming ........... 45.00 1,430.30

8,772.62 By Hongkoog & Shanghai Bank for 12 months interest an yen 7,000 at 4 per cent. ......... 280 00

9,052.62 January 1st, 1898 By B-lasce brought down ..... E & O. E. Yokohama, January 1-1, 1898. 8,078 44

B. Gilley, Hon. Secretary.
I have examined the above account, together with the vouchers thereto, and have found the same correct.

THOS. S. FORREST.

Mr. WILKIN called attention to the estimate of the number of foreigness in Yokohama. How was it arrived at? He believed last year the estimated number was 1,600.

The Hon. Segretary stated that besides those

whose names were on the consular records of different countries there were others who had neglected to register, or who belonged to nationalities having no trade rights in Japan.

Marquis Newbernet Dr. Gonzaga: There are

many Tucks, Greeks, Armentans, Persians, and

Total District and in the Kanagaw Ires, and gave notice that he would be called to the appointment of the property of the Render

Trustees to be appointed both the balance now standing to the credit of the Cemetery fund, to-gether with any sniplus funds which may be easter accine to the credit of the same account, to be held by them for the purpose of keeping in order the present cometery. He thought it desirable that action should be taken earlier than the committee

Mr. MOLLISON: I think it is very desirable

that some steps should be taken.
On the motion of Mr. CHALMERS, seconded by Rev. E. CHAMPHRYS IRWING, it was decided to

call the meeting.
In reply to Mr. Mollison the Hon SECRETARY said the present centery would be available for two to three years but that was the outside limit.

SLECTION OF COMMITTEE.

Mr. LOWDER proposed that the retiring Committee, Messrs. J. Dodds, J. A. Fraser, H. Granett, N. F. Smith. B. Gillett, and Rev. K. C. Irwine, by re-elected. He expressed the obligation the Committee, and especially to Mr. Gillett, for the management of the Cemetery.

The Mangue C. Namenton of Control

The Marquis C. Nemerini DE GONZAGA seconded, and it was carried.

seconded, and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his pleasure that the retiring Committee were to continue. He felt grateful to the members for asking him to come there so that he could express a sense of his own particular for the attention they paid to the cemetery, in which he (Judge Wilkinson), as well as the rest of them, had a deep interest. He had visited it often and his opinion was that of all the visited it often and his opinion was that of all the institutions of the community this was one which did it the greatest credit. It was well maintained, carefully looked after, and everything that was done was done well. He hoped they would join him in a hearty vote of thanks to the Committee.

This was heartily accorded, and Mr. GILLETT teplied, remarking that all he and the other members could do was treaty at the agrees of the com-

bers could do was freely at the service of the commusity.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

#### CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the Club Hotel, Ltd., was held on Tuesday. Mr. H. C. Litchfield presided and there were also present, Messia. H. C. Pigott, G. Syme Thomson, J. W. Hall, R. Ward, E. B. Jones, M. Russell, Capt. Allen, Messis. T. Abbey, G. Booth, P. Peacock, and Mr. H. C. Fearon, (Secretary).

THE REPORT.

The report and accounts were read as follows:--REPORT.

NEFORT.
Your Directors herewith present their Report of the
Comp-ny, together with the Accounts of the past year.
The vale of the Hotel Metropole has been completed, and this property was transferred to the purchasers on 31st March, 1898.
The new buildings on No. 5-8, which have been opened, have already proved a most convenient addition to the Hotel.

The Company has acquired a new Steam Launch, as the former was not of sufficient capacity to accom-

modate the increasing number of passengers who visit the Hotel.

The net profit for the year is yen 18,938.87, including balance brought down from last. Out of this there has been paid an interim dividend of 4 yen per share, and your Directors now propose to pay a final dividend of 4 yen per share on the original capital, making 8 per cent. for the year; and to place to a reserve for the equalisation of dividends the further sum of two yen per share, equal to yen 3,200; and to carry forward yen 2.135.02 to a new account.

Mr. R. Ward having resigned his seat, the number of your Directors has been reduced to four 1 of these Mr. G. Syne Thomson retires by rotation, but is eligible for re-election.

Mr. G. Syue Thomson retires by rotation, but is eligible for re-election.

HENRY C. LITCHFIELD, Chairman. Yokohama, 3rd.May, 1898.

BALANCE SHEET-31ST MARCH, 1898. WORKING ACCOUNT.

DR. Yes

Τo	Stores and Provisions	28,151.32	
	Less stock in hand	1,637.20	Yen.
			- 26,514.12
	Salaries and Wages		15,490.56
	General Expenses		7,643.95
11	Ficing and Lighting		5,066.48
+1	Washing		1,006.28
91	Ground Rent		215.12
10	Insurance		1,472.89
	Auditors' Fees		200.00
IGI	Paleison		174-59
NA.	Balande I thinhied Num		16,587 54
- (			

Yen 74,371.45

CR.	
By Profit on Wines, Spirits Yen.	
and Cigars	\$F
Add stock in hand 2,346 50	Yen.
f1 A	21,023.82
House Account	53,144.63
Transfer Fees	83.00
Rent	120,00
V	
¥41	74,371-45
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.	¥
Ozah in hand	Yen.
Cash in hand 8. Shanahai Bank	614 65
, Hongkong & Shanghai Bank,	2,656.87
Property Account	182,350 00
Furniture Account	32,788 38
Insurance, Value of current Policies	1,327.56
Steam Launch	1,000 00
Stock Account	3.983 70
Unpaid Calls on New Capital (since	
paid)	5,400.00
Sundry Debtors	3,280.00
4.0	
	240,391.16
CR.	Yen.
Capital Account.	185,000,00
Debentures organic 31st March	5,500,00
Unclaimed Dividend	90.00
Reserve for Fluctuation of Property	30,000.00
Suspense Account (Amounts paid in	3-1
April)	1,808 co
Sundry Creditors'	6,258.14
Sundry Creditors'	11,735 02
Yen	240,391.16
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Dĸ.	Yen.
To Burns paid Directors to	
31st March, 1807	803.85
, Dividend paid for & year	
ending 30th Sept	6,400 00
Balance, yen 11.735 02,	784
to be disposed of as fol-	
lows:—	
Payment of Dividend at Yen.	
4 per cent, for 2 year 6.400.00	
Reserve for Equalisation	
of Dividends 3,200.00	
., Amount carried forward. 2,135.02	11,735.02
Yen	18,938.87
Cn.	Yen,
By Balance from 31st March, 1897	1,017.73
Working Account	16,587,54
B Suspense Account	1.333.60
13	-555

Yen 18,938.87 C. H. Franch, Secretary,

Thave compared the above Statements with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and find the same to be in accordance therewith. P. C. Potts, Auditor, Yokohama, May and, 1898.

The CHAIRMAN, after reading the accounts, said they explained themselves. The reason for the formation of the reserve find would be apparent when they considered the increase lately made in the capital of the company; they wanted a fund from which to supply the large dividend they exected to the company. they expected to pay. The matter had been considered by the directors, who strongly re-commended that this course be adopted. It was a great pleasure to him to bring forward that report, which continued to show the satisfactory condition of the company. It would be difficult to compare the present report with those of previous years, as the working of the Hotel Metropole had Cadiz. Its destination is either Cuba, the years, as the working of the crute? Metropole had bitherto been included in the general out turn of the company. In future they would have the opportunity of comparing the results of one year with those of previous years, and he had every hope at present that the comparison would be a favourable one. On the question of dividend he should like to state that the directors wished to record their satisfaction with the working of the liotel and the maintenance of its character the hotel and the manager. It was to him that the success of the Club Hotel was largely due. He had ably seconded the efforts of the directors and had given them many valuable sug-

Mr. PiGGOT said he would like to supplement the statement of Mr. Litchfield. The sole object of the reserve find was not to enable them to show a good dividend on the moreased capital, as they load no doubt that the rooms added to the as they had no doubt that the nouns added to the hotel would do more than give a good dividend on the new capital, and would in fact increase the dividend on the old capital. The chief reason for the reserve fund was to equalise the dividends. Sometimes in places like Vokulama they had a scare of plague of chiefen which kept visitors awaying himb dobard entities.

versely affected the receipts of the hotels to a very marked degree. In such years the dividend would fall very low unless there was some fund on which to draw. The directors thought it better to have a uniform dividend of, say, eight per cent. than to have one year a dividend of ten per cent.
than to have one year a dividend of ten per cent.
and the next one of five or six.
Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. Jones seconded
that the accounts be passed.
This was carried and the dividend was declared

as recommended.

ELECTION OF DIRECTOR.
The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the Thomson, It was for the shareholders to give their opinion as to the number of directors; during the last year their labours had diminished owing to the transfer of the Hotel Metropole, and it was f to decide whether the directorate should or should

ord remain as before.

Mr. Hall proposed, and Mr. Ward seconded, that Mr. Syme Thomson be re-elected.

This was carried manimously.

Awditon.
With regard to the election of an auditor, the CHAIRMAN pointed out that the auditor was largely the shareholders' representative, and he did not consider it advisable that his nomination

did not consider it advisable that his nomination should be made year after year by the directors. MIR. HALL proposed and Mr. PKACOCK seconded, that Mr. M. Maclean, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, be elected.
Mr. RUSSELL proposed that if he were willing to keep the office Mr. Potts be retained as auditor; but after a few moments' conversation with gentlemen present he withdrew the amendment.

THANKS TO THE MANAGE.

Mr. WARD and before the meeting closed he would like to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Sione for his zeal and ability in catering for the comfort of guests, as well as for the momerous improvements he had made to the hotel by the exercise of his artistic and refined accomplishercise of his artistic and refined accomplishments.—(Hear, Hear.)

The motion was carried by acclamation and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair-

#### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(PROM THE " JAPAN TIMES.")

### THE WAR.

MORE TROUBLE FOR SPAIN. CAROLINE ISLANDS IN REVOLT.

London, May 28. The Governor of Manilahas telegraphed to Madrid that m general revolt has broken

out in the Caroline Islands. Admiral Sampson with seventeen ships was last seen on Wednesday off Northern Cuba.

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS.

At a conference held between President McKinley, the Secretaries of State, and the Admirals and Generals, it is understood to have been decided to commence speedy operations against Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines, if it proves that Admiral Cerveras is hemmed in at Santiago. London, May 30.

The Spanish Reserve Squadron has left Philippines, or America, as the Government may deem expedient.

SPANISH FLEET AT SANTIAGO. SCHLEY BLOCKADES THE PORT. IMPENDING DESCENT ON HAVANA.

London, May 31. The Navy Department at Washington has received a telegram from Commodore Schley confirming the report of the presence of the Spanish Fleet at Santiago de Cuba. Schley's squadron is blockading the port. It is stated that Admiral Sampson's squadron has returned to Key West, and is preparing for a descent on Havana.

THE ENTRAPPED SPANISH SQUADRON. TO BE CAPTURED OR DESTROYED.

IMPENDING BATTLE.

London, June 1. The Standard publishes a telegram from Commodore Schley under no circumstances to permit Admiral Cervera's squadron to escape from Santiago but either to capture or destroy the ships. The New York Herald says that the Government expects a battle within twenty-four hours. BOMBARDMENT OF SANTIAGO.

AMERICANS REPULSED.

London, June 2. Official despatches received Madrid state that Commodore Schley commenced the bombardment of the Santiago forts.

EFFECTIVE FIRE BY SPANIARDS.

The Spanish ironclad Colon, which guarded the entrance to the Harbour, replied to the fire of the Americans, who were repulsed.

AMBRICANS CLAIM SUCCESSPUL BOMBARD-MBNT.

The Americans admit that one auxiliary cruiser was seriously damaged, but claim to have silenced or destroyed the principal fort, besides killing many persons. Nevertheless official despatches have not yet been received.

SPANISH DOMESTIC LOAN.

Spain is arranging for an internal loan of a hundred million pesetas. The Cortes has passed a Bill prohibiting the export of coined or uncoined silver.

IMPROVING THE FORTIFICATIONS. Measures have been commenced to improve the fortifications of Wei-hai-wei. MUTUAL HARMONY: ALL CONTROVERSY ENDED.

The negotiations between Canada and the United States have resulted in agreement on all subjects under controversy.

London, May 27. OVER FIFTY DROWNED.

The British India Company's steamship Mecca has collided with and snuk the steamer Sandhead, her captain, two enand fifty passengers being gineers. drowned.

(Received by the Figs)

PRINCE WI-HWA.

Söul, May 28. Pince Wi-hwa will be re-called shortly by Imperial Order.

FREE IMPORT OF CEREALS.

In order to obviate the rise in price of rice it has been decided that the import duty on cereals shall be exempted for five months.

MR. YU KWI-KWAN.

Soul, May 30. Mr. Yu Kwi-kwan, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Acting Minister.

TREATY PORTS.

Söul, May 31. Ma-san-pho in Kyöng-san-do, Kun-sanpho in Chol-la-do, and Soug-jin-pho in Ham-gyöng-do have been opened as Treaty ports and Phyong-yang in Phyongan-do as a special market for foreign trade.

CHINESE TO PROSECUTE STUDIES IN JAPAN.

Peking, May 31. Our Minister Mr. Yano has consulted with the Isungli Yamen on the Japanese Government's undertaking to educate a large number of Chinese students.

ARRIVAL OF JAPANESE EX-MINISTERS.

Peking, June 1. Mr. Kiyoura, ex-Minister of Justice, and Mr. Seichoku Matsudaira, formerly Viceits Washington correspondent stating that Minis Onignia Hoom Affairs, arrived here

Q Cetary of the Navy has cabled to be day ITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### CHASS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Cause Entron,

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Clubs are closed during the summer months.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 369. WHITE. BLACK. -Ki to B 6 t-K takes ■ 2-K to Q 4 2-K to Q 8 ch 3-Q to Q 4 mate t-P takes R 2-Kt to K 7 ch 2-K takes Kt 3-Q to Q 4 mate if 2-K to K 4 3-Q to R sq mate -P takes Kt (B 3) 2-R to K 4 3-Q to Kt 8 mate 2-P takes I at Ki take if 2-K takes R 3-Q to R sq mate t-P takes Kt (B 5) 2--Ki to Q 8 3--Q to Q 4 mate 2-P takes R if 2-Kt to Kt 4

3-O R sq mate 1-B to K 4 2-K takes Kt (B5) 2-Riakes Birls

3-R to B 5 mate il 2-K takes Kt (B3) 3-Q takes Kt (R8) mate

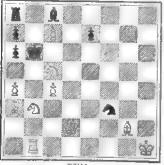
1-B takes P 2-Q to Q 4 ch 2-K takes K 3-Kt to Q 8 mate if 2-K takes Kt

3-Kt takes P (R5) mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S.

This problem, although it was awarded first prize in the competition, has two solutions; the shove, which is the author's solution, and Q to Q

> PROBLEM No. 373. By JACOB ELSON. From The Times, Philadelphia. (Reichelm calls this a "Subtlety.") 8646.0



white. White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 393.

The following brilliant game was recently play-

ecensisting.	
DANISH	GAMBIT.
	Block-S. Durnowe.
	WHITE. BLACK.
P K <sub>4</sub>	13 R Ksq O O2
PxP	LLORS POH2(b)
PxP	13 R Ksq Q Q3 14 Q R5 P Q B3(b) 15 Kt B7(c) P R Kt3
)PxP	16 Q R6 QxKt
	17 HxPch(d) KxB
B Kisch	18 QxRPch K B3
O Ka	19 Q R4ch K K12
P. K.	20 K K7ch R B2
IV. IV.	
	21 Q Q4ch K B-q
	22 Q R8ch KxR
Castles	23 R K-qch K Q3
QxP	24 Q K5 mate
NOT	
	oldstenkof. BLACK. PK4 PXP PXP PXP PXP PXP Kt KB3 B Kt5ctt CK4 K5 KKK BXB BXB QXP

(a) Obviously all the pawns are surrendered to give White an open game with the attack. Black is said to have a better game by declining the third pawn.

(b) A musicusly had move, but not apparently so, until White has replied to it.
(c) The point is White threatens the not very

obvious mate (if Q takes Kt) by Q takes P ch, followed by R to K 8.

(d) A remarkably fipe ending now ensues, all White's moves tending to force the game.

The following lively skin mist, which of the bound by the opening round of the Handicap Tournament Tacons, Wash., N P. Co.

at the Singapore Chess Club, is instructive as showing how not to meet the King's Gambit.

#### KING'S KNICHT'S SAMBIT. White--L. H. Elcum. Black-T, H. St WHITE. B WHITE. BLACK. PK4 BLACK. O K-q B K3 1 P K4 2 P KB4 13 BxB 14 Kt B3 PxP P KK4 3 K: KB3 15 B B6 Q Q2 K: K4P 4 B B4 P Q3 B Kta 16 Q R6! 17 K Kt3ch 5 Castles B Kir 6 P Q4 Kt K 7 BxPchl(b) KxB 8 KtxPch K Kt Kt K2?(a) (d) Ki Ki3 18 Rx Kt PxR K B<sub>2</sub> K Ktsq 19 OxReh K B2 20 K KB-q B B4 21 O K-7ch K K3 22 PxBch PxP 9 Q R5 to K R-q tt RxP(c) BkPch Ki Kis B B3 BxKt 12 R B3 23 R Ksq mate NOTES.

(a) A very had move. P to K R 3, the classical "defence, followed by Q to K 2, would

"classical" deterice, rollowed by Q to K 2, would have given Black a safe game.

(b) Atthough White secures no immediate compensation in material, the attack seems good enough. Rt takes P would also yield a strong

(c) B takes P would probably have been better,
(d) The ending is next enough in its way, but
it is a pity White overlooked the mate in two by B takes Kt. - Singapore Free Fress.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CABLE MATCH. PLACE-Herbert 1-cobs (Fngland.)



wnite-Robinson (America.)

Another pretty termination occurred in the game played by Mr. Herbert Jacobs. From the above position, the game was continued

	Robinson,	Black-	Jacobe.
WRITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
40 Q KB2	■ B <sub>2</sub> g	52 B B3	B K·7
41 B B-q	Q#Qch	53 B Q2	K B₂
42 KxQ	QxQdi B Ki5	54 B H3	K K <sub>3</sub>
43 K B-q	P KR4	55 B Q2	P KKIA
44 B Q2	II B6	56 B B-q	PxP
45 R B2	P R <sub>5</sub>	52 PxP	K B <sub>4</sub>
46 P KK14	RxP	58 B K3	RxPch
47 R×R	BxR	59 RxR	K#B
48 K Kisq	B B6	60 P R4	P Kia
49 R R2	R K 6ch	61 PxP	PxP
50 K B2	R K <sub>15</sub>	62 K King	K B6
51 P K14	P R6	Resigns	20

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

## THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

Ferm	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong		Peru z	Sa. June
Europe	N. D. Lloya	Hohensollern a	M. June
Hongkone	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 3	Ta. June
Mongkong		Coptic 4	Tu. June
Tacoma, Wash,	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	M. June :
Canada, Scenario	C <sub>k</sub> P <sub>r</sub> R <sub>r</sub> C <sub>0</sub> ,	Km. of India	M. June m
Houghong			W. June 1
America		Doric 5	Th. June ri
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.		Th. June a
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Braemar	Th. June 20

r Left Kobe on the 3rd inst.

B Left Hongkong on the 1st lost.

3 Left Nagasaki on the 1st inst.

Left Shanghai on the 1st inst

5 Left San Francisco on the s6th May.

THE	NEXT M	AIL LEAVE	LS.
Hongkong	I.lite. N. P. Co. O. & O. Co. P. M. I. D. M. M. Co.	Steamer, Columbia Venus Peru Sydney	Date, Sa. June 4 Sa. June 4 M. June 6 W. June 8
Shanghai America Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong Hongkong		Sateuma Maru Ceptic Hohenzollern Em, of India Rosetta Em, of China Duric	W. June 1 Th. June 9 F. June 10 M. June 13 W. June 13 F. Juhe 17
Tecoma, Wash	N P. Co.	Braemar	P. Junk dell

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Windsbraut, German barque, 1,253, H. Haase, 28th May,-Antwerp, 3rd Dec., General.-To

Gaelie, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Finch, 28th May, San Francisco, 10th May, and Honolulu, 17th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Marn, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Horton, 28th May, -Otatu via ports, 25th May, General. - Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kubota, 28th May, Shimonoseki, 25th May, General.

28th May, —Shimonoseki, 25th May, General, 28th May, General, Tibballs, 29th May, Kobe, 27th May, General, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,315, F. Brown, 29th May, Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 28th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wm. H. Macy, American ship, 2,092, J. A. Ameshnry, 30th May,—New York, 12th Nov., via Tjitaijapon, 22nd atac., Kerosene Oil.—standard Oil Co.

Egremont Castle, British steamer, 1,834, Conby, 30th May, Antwerp via ports, Hongkong, 22nd May, General. -Sale & Co.

Riogo Marti, Japanese steamer, 88t, H. Walter, 30th May, -Kube, 29th May, General, -Nip-30th May,-Kube, pon Yusen Kuisha.

pon Yusen Kuisha.
Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Auberts, 30th
May,—Marseilles via ports, Kobe, 29th May,
Mails and General,—M. M. S.S. Co,
Ikai Maru, Jananese steamer, 1,007, T. Sakai,
30 May,—Otarn via ports, 26th May, General,
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fayo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 31st
May,—Nagasaki, 28th May, Coal.—Mitsu
Bishi Co.

Bishi Co.

Fava, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellew, 1st June, -London via ports, Robe, 31st May, General, -P. & O. S.N. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771. J. Arakawa, 1st June, - Yokkaichi, 31st May, General. - Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

No. 15 Kwanon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,805, Y. Futukawa, 1st June, Otaru via potts, 28th June, General, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 1st June, -- Kube, 31st May, General, -- Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, T. Oka-

mua, 20d June, -Hakodate, 31st May, General -- Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

mitta, 200 June, Hakudate, 31st May, Genetal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691. T. H. Dubson,
20d June, Hoogkoog via ports, Kube, 31st
May, Mails & General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Eiffel Tower, British steamer, 2,063, A. J. Campbell, 20d June,—Rangoon via Kolie, 31st May,
Rice.—Mitsui Bossan Kaisha.

St. Andrews, Norwegian steamer, 2009, Trivold,
2nd June,—New York via Suez Cacal and way
ports, Kobe, 31st May, General.—Feazat & Co.
Glenearn, British steamer, 1,425, W. Murray, 2nd
June,—Saigon via Hougkong, 25th May, Rice.
—Jaedine, Matheson & Co.

Armenia, Genman steamer, 3,469, Magin, 2nd
June,—Hambing via ports, Stanghai 30th May,
General.—C. Blies & Co.

Paoting, British steamer, 1,088, Jayles, 3 d June,
—Newchwang via Moji, 27th May, Beans and
Bean Cake.—Butte-field & Swire.

Venus, British steamer, 2,312, R. McGregon, 3rd
June,—San Francisco, 7th May, Mails and
General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kaisow, British steamer, 2,520, B. Warrall, 3 d
June,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 2nd June,
General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, Juseph Pulford,
3 d June,—Liverpool via ports, Kobe, 2nd June,
General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, A. Gow, 3rd
June,—Tacoma, Wash, and Victoria, B.C., 15th

General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Columbia, Bittish steamer, 1.689, A. Gow, 3rd
June,—Tacoma, Wash, and Victorie, B.C., 15th
May, Mails & General,—Dodwell Cachil & Co.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.347. S.

Kakani, 3.4 June,—Nugara, 31st May, General,
—Nippon Yusen Karsha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, G. Shi-mazu, 3rd Jone,—Shaoghai vià ports, 28th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Magoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cotter, 3.d June, Otaru via puits, 36th My, General, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Y. Mu-rai, 4th June,—Kobe, 2nd June, General,— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

W. June 18 Bingo Maria, Jupaliere steamer, 3.677, G. E. P. Maria and General. Nippon Yusen Kai-

Bjorg. Norwegian steamer, 483. R. Nelson, 29th May,—Miji, Ballast.—Captain.
Adria, German steamer, 3.50t, Reuter, 29th May,—London, Hamburg and Antwerp via ports, General.—C. Phies & Co.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Umezono, 29th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pectan, British steamer, 3,123, Holliday, 30th May,—Hamburg and Bremen via Calcutta, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Gaetic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Rinch, 30th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F.

ral.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F.
W. Horton, 30th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Heiyen Kan 7), Japanese gunboat, 2,185, Capt.
K. Olinsuka, 30th May,—Tateyama.

Kreimhild, Genman steamer, 1,622, Jaeger, 31st
May,—Havre and Hambing via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Tibballs,
31st May,—Otatu via ports, General.—Nippon
Vicen Kaisha.

315t May, -- Ou Yusen Kaisha.

Vusen Kaisha.

Afridd, British steamer, 2,354, Thos. Golding, 31st May,—New York via ports and Snez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co. •

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, R. Nunome, 31st May,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, L. B. Leckyer, 1st June,—Hongkong via Kohe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, F. Brown, 1st June,—Seattle, Washington, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kohe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain,

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, t,645, R. Swain, 1st June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippou Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 564, Nakajima, 1st June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippou Yusen Kaubis.

Hiogo Maru, Jananese steamer, 881, H. Walter, 2nd June, Kobr, General, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikal Muru, Japanese steamer, 1,007, T. Sakai, 2nd June, - Kobe, General. - Nippon Yusen

Kaisha. Stitsh Steamer, 2,026, Blocate, 2nd June,—Moji, Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Co.
No. 15 Kannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,805,
V. Funkawa, 3rd June,—Kobe via Yukkaichi,
2nd June, General,—Nippon Vinsen Kaisha.
Olympia, British steamer. 1,691, T. H. Dobson,
3rd June,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.,
Mails and General,—Dodwell Carlill, & Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer Gaslic, from San Brancisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. R. Williar, Mrs. W. H. Walker, Mr. Wu. M. Tieglown, Mr. Duncan H Cameron, Mr. W. A. Behrens, Mrs. W. A. Behrens, Mrs. R. Pollak, and Mr. K. Yenometo, in cabin For Shanghai:—D. H. W. Doone, Miss Lizzie Varney, Dr. J. Fryer, Mr. Ed. R. Lymat, Mr. Geo. F. Fryer, and Mrs. F. H. Haskell and child, in cabin. Mr. Martin J. Eagan, Mr. G. H. N. Sexton, Rev. Chas. E. Eckles, and Mrs. E. Eckles and infant, in cabin. and infant, in cabin.

and intent, in cabin.

Per French steamer Sydney, from Marseitles via ports:—Mr. Pereira and boy, Mr. and Mrs. Jame, child and amah, Mr. Benoist, Mr. Lagrange, Mr. Gilanton, Mr. Shigeta, Mr. Jacquemyn and boy, Mr. Kennett, Mr. Clandel, Mrs. Jonbert and amah, Mr. Emmanuel and boy, Mr. M. Hychara, Mr. R. Hyehara, Mrs. Endelin, Mr. Endelin, Mr. Cabin.

Endelin, Mr. da Fonseca, Mr. Raspe, Mr. Pollak, Mrs. Merriman, Mr. Hewitt, and Miss Hewitt, in cabin.

Per British steamer Java, from London via ports:-Mr. J. L. Bagshawe, and Mr. C. Abdoolla, in cabin.

ports:—Mr. J. L. Bagshawe, and Mr. C. Abdeolla, in cabin.

Per British steamer Olympia, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Dudwell, Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Bleby, Rev. G. M. Cutting, and Capt. J. M. Hay, in cabin; 64 Chinese, and 16 Jananese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Sattuma Marn, from Shanghat, via ports:—Staff Surgeon Shuttleworth, Mr. Chin Yon Fon, Mr. F. Truscott, Mr. S. Iwazaki, Mr. and Mrs. Jaisabu and child, Mr. Y. Kawasaki, Mr. and Mrs. J. Watanabe, Col. M. Kawasunta, Lt. and Mrs. N. Minoda, and Mr. Thomas, in cabin; Miss Stimizu Li, Mrs. Wing Sang, Mr. Lo, Loo Dong, Mr. J. Otman, Mr. T. Yamano, Mr. G. Aikawa, Mrs. Aikawa, Mr. and Mrs. T. Tezawa, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mrs. S. Watanabe, Mrs. S. Watanabe, Mrs. S. Watanabe, Mrs. M. Motor in

second class; 38 Japanese, and 8 Chinese, in

Steerage.

Per British steamer Columbia, from Tacoma,
Wash, via Victoria, B.C.;—M. J. W. Aleksief,
and Mr. A. J. Chalfont, in cabin; 2 European, and 24 Chinese, in steerage.

#### DEPARTED.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Gaelic, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss May, Mr. W. T. Rogers, Mr. G. W. Sayer, Mr. S. D. Hepburn, Mr. B. H. Pearson, Mr. A. Carrew, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burd, Mr. H. B. Goodfellow, Mr. C. Mancini, Mr. E. A. Barnby, Mr. H. E. Songge, Mrs. Bertram, child and amah, and Mr. F. B. Pocklington, in cabin. Per British steamer Robilla, for Hongkong via ports:—Capt. F. Murray, Mr. Dauby, Lieute-Col. and Mrs. Whitley, Miss Popper, Mr. and Mrs. Birch, infant and amah, Mr. W. B. Meck, Mr. A. W. Gillingham, and Mr. C. R. G. Bishop, in cabin; 3 Chinese, in steerage.

The following are the shipments of Tea and Silk per N.Y.K.'s steamer Kinshiu Maru, for Seattle, Wash., 1st June:—

		Ta	A.			
	AAN NGIBGD.	WEW YORK.	CAGO.	81. PAUL:	OTHER CITIES,	TOTAL
Shanghai	_		_		_	_
Hiogo	-	713	959	_	_	1,672
Yokohama	396		_	_	_	396
Hongkong	_	-	_	_		
		_				
Total	396	713	959	_	_	2,068
		51	LK.			
В	LN FRANC	18CO. :	NEW YORK	t, HAR	FORD.	TOTAL.

BAN FRANCISCO			ID. YOTAL,
Shanghai —		—	
Hongkong		—	—
Yokohama 185		—	
1 otal 185	—		184
	Ph. 1 (1)	4 87	Acres and the

Per British steamer Robilla, for Hongkong via orts:-Raw Silk for Europe, 133 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 35 bales.

Following are the silk shippers per N.P. steamer Olympia, for Tacoma, Wash, on June 3rd

	Bales.
Sieber Brennwald & Co	100
Bayler & Co	
Middleton & Smith	13
The Dashinsha	13
Total	176

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

## IMPORTS.

With a view probably to the new tariff, importers are still accumulating large stocks of cottons and woollens, but business is still very dull. Following are the quotations (nominal).

#### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

· ·	FER TIEDE.
Grey Statetings-84th, 384 yils, 30 inches	\$2 55 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings-olb, 384 yds. 45 inches	2.85 to 1.35
I. Cloth-7th, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.8a to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings-ta yaola, 14 inches-	1.75 (n. 2.60
Prints-Assorted, 24 yards, joinches,.	# 00 to 3.75
Cotton-Ralians and Sattrens Black,	PER TAILLY
3# Inches	o 13 to 0.15

WOOLLENS. Hainels \$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches less
Medium Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches
Medium 0 30 to 0.42 Itana... Italian Clou Medium

ttalian Cloth, 30 yurds, 32 inches
Common 0.25 to 0.274
Moussetine de Luine-Crape, sa yanda,
gu inches
Cluths-Pilots, 51 ib 56 inches 0.35 to 0.50
Clothe-Pranilante, #1 to 56 inches 0.00 to 0.721
Cloths-Union, 54 of 55 teches 8.50 to 0.85
Blunkate-Scarlat and Green, 3 to 5th.
per la a ça tu a ba
nue rista.
Valvets-Illack, 35 yards, szinchne 7.75 to 9.50
Victoria Lawens, 12 yanila, 12-3 inches, . a.60 in 1.00
TurkeyReds-2.0 to 3.0lb, 24/25 yards,
30 inches 1.25 to 2 30
Turkey Reds-3.8 to 410, 24/45 yards,
32 inches
COLLOTE VARUE. FOR PRIOR
Nun. 15 24, Singles 155.50 to 38.50 Nun. 28/32, Singles 39.00 to 41.50
Nun. 28/32, Singles 39.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38/41, Singles 43.50 to 45.50
Nos. 32, Doubles 42.00 to 43.50
Nos. 42, Doubles 47.00 to 50.50
Hos. 1/60, Plain 61.00 tu 63.00
Nos. 1/80, Plain 75.00 to 70.30
Nos. 2/100, Plain gg.00 to 99:00
Nos. 2/00, Gassed 69.50 to 70.50
Nog. 2 80, Gassed
Nos. 1/100, Gassed
RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.
American Middling \$20.00 to 20.15
Indian Groach
Chinese 21.50 to 22 00
METALS.
Market inactive at about last week's prices.
ran sture.
Round und egenes f inch. and upward. 3.95 to 4.20
fron Plates, nasorted 4.20 to 4.50
Skeet Iron
Galvanized from sheets 8.30 to 10.00
Wire fails, asserted 5.50 to 7.50
l'in l'lates, per bux 5 90 to 6 00
Pig lion, No. 1

ERROSERE.
Little is doing. Quotations nominally as last

week. 

#### Quotations nominally at last week's figures.

		PAR PIGEL.
Brown	Cakao	\$5.00 E 6.00
Brown	Manila	5.95 to 6.50
	Daitong	
Brown	Canton	4.75 to 6.10
	lava and Penang	
	Heliard	

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SH.K.

The amount in stock is 6,641 boxes, and ship-ments to America and Europe during the week have amounted to slightly over 800 bales. Quotations nominally at last week's rates.

QUOINTIONS.	
Filatures-Katro g'es, suita den	Nominal
Filatures-Entra 13/15, 14/16 den	030 to 040
Filatures-No. t. 10/13 deniera	850 to 800
Fifalures-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	São to Bça
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	810 to 810
Silatures-No. 14, 13/16, 14717 den	810 to 810
Filatures-No. 2, 10'15 deniers	810 to 820
Filnturen-140, 2, 11'18 deniers	700 to 800
Re-reels-flo. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	810 to 820
Re-resis-No. 14, 23/16, 11/17 den	Nominal
Re-reals-flo. z. 14/18 deniers	Naminal
Re-rech-No. at , rive deniers	Nominal
Re-reets-Ho. 3, vatan deniers	Nominat
Kakedas-Bulco	Nominal
Kakedas-No. 1	& upwards
Kakedas-Ro. 14	
Kalteifus-No. a	
Kanedas-No. 24	



# GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS. &c. **GEO. COURTICE'S** 

CONCENTRATED EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century,

It is NOT A DYE, but the colorably principle of the Not Gall in a concentrated form, perfectly harmless, and will positively restore the colour true to nature in two notices.

NOTE.—Thirty years Professor of Hair Specifies to the Honourable Benchers of the Inner Temple.

## GEO. COURTICE & CO.,

Laboratory, 8, Bishop's Court, Chancery Lane, London

(Late 234, STRAND).

PRICES: 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5e., 10s. 6d. CI is per BOTTLE.

This EXTRACT is INVALUABLE to LADIES, as it resources the Colour close to the Skins

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### WASTE SILK.

There have been practically no purchases during the week, and the stock at present amounts to 7,858 boxes. Quotations nominal.

#### PROTECTIONS.

Soshi-Filature, Bost	115 to	120
Noshi-Fifature, Good	Tos to	110
Noshi-Ishu, Bost	110 to	115
Noshf-Oshu, Good amarana	Too to	103
Noshi-Oshu, Mediant	go to	95
Noshi-Shinsha, Best	70 to	75
Nashi-Shinghu, Good	65 to	673
Noshi-Bushin, Best	115 to	120
Nogli-Bushie, Good	roo to	110
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	ga ta	95
Noshi-Jushu, Good	do to	55
Noshi-Jusha, Fair	55 to	594
Kibiso-Filature, Uest	95 to	100
Kitano-Filature, Seconds	S <sub>5</sub> to	90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso-Bushu, faie	30 to	22

Very large shipments have been made during the past week, and the market has been extremely hands in a day. Prices of the very best teas show a slight tendency to decline, while the lower priced leaf has an upward tendency.

TEA.

QUOTATIONS.						
Choicest \$3						
Choice						
Finest	\$32 to 13					
	\$29.50 to 31					
Good Medium	\$17.50 to 18					
Medium	\$25 to 26					
Good Common	Nominal.					
Common .,	Nominal.					

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver from Landon & higher and steeling quolations from China & higher have caused rates on China to rule lower, whilst otherwise there is no change, closing quotations for the mail persteamer Olympia being as under.

7	
Stesling-Bank T.T.	2/0}
- Bills on demand	2/05
- 4 months' sight	2,03
- Private 4 months' sight	2/O#
- 6 months sight	2/07
On Paris-Bank sight	2 551
On Paris - Private 4 months sight	7.5910
On America-Bank Bills on demand.,	49 <del>1</del>
- Private 4 months' night 5	0 10 }
On Germany-Bank sight	2.061
- Private 4 months' sight	2,11
On Houghong-Bank night	
- Private rodera signi7	die.
the Shanghat-Bank night	
- Private to days' sight	813
On India-Bank sight	150
- Private 30 days' sight	155
Bar Silver (London)	271

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 24.

BRUISTERED AT THE G.P.O.

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 月三年五十二分明 可配合保護日三十 Vol. XXIX.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No actice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN Warnary MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

VORDHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH, 1898.

On the 7th of June, at 172, Bluff, the wife of Mr. F. STRAHLER, of a daughter.

#### DEATHS.

At Asniéres (France), Mr. EDOUARD CADOL, beloved father of Madaine Paul Colomb. (By telegram),

On June 7th, at Cliff Field, Nagasaki, Kenneth MacEwen, the beloved son of M. and Mis. A. P. MacEwen, of Hongkong. Aged 2 years, 4 months.

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE death has occurred of Mr. Plimsoll, the sailor's friend and practical philamhropist.

THE Agricultural and Commercial Bank for Fuknoka Prefecture opened on the 11th inst.

MOTTU won a start-from-scratch sculling race for members of the Y.A.R.C. on Thursday evening.

THE plague is dying down at Hongkong, Bombay and Calcutta, but is very bad at Amoy.

A SMALL fire occurred in China town, Yokohama on Tuesday evening; the damage was

A FORETONER who has been obtaining goods by false pretences in Yokohama, Kyoto, and che where, was arreight REOut the week in the

been committed for trial by the British Consulat Kobe.

THE Duke of York has left Portsmouth in command of the cruiser Crescent on a three months'

By a fire that broke out in Kobe on Thursday night, Messrs. Averill's tea-firing godowns were completely destroyed.

THE eighth concert of the Yokohama Javenile Tonic Sol-fa Choral Society is announced to take place on July 1st.

Ir is reported that the half-yearly dividend of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will be at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

An Orange riot has occurred at Belfast, the mob driving the police back to barracks. Troops were called out and quiet was eventually restored.

THE U.S. Government has resolved to raise war revenue by taxing tea ten cents, per pound, [apanese merchants are sending in memorials and protests against the tax.

THE latest reports of the Naocism fire states that 1,618 houses were destroyed, one partially damaged, 6 lives lost, 7 persons seriously injured, and 59 slightly injured.

THE N.Y.K.'s steamer Wakanoura Maru arrived at Yokohuma on the 6th instant from Kobe with 130 oxen and cows. Forty died on the voyage from the rolling of the ship.

A very severe storm passed over East Central Japan on Sunday, doing great damage. As a consequence, railway traffic between Kobe and Yokoliama was interrupted until Friday.

THE Lower House was suspended on three days this week, the matter in dispute between it and the Cabinet being the new taxation meatures. It was finally dissolved on the 10th inst.

REPORTS have reached New York that 5,000 Americans have lauded near Santiago de Cuba, their landing being covered by the fire of some of Admiral Sampson's ships, joined by 3,000 insurgento.

The law for encouraging shipbuilding and navigation is about to be revised in the sense of rendering foreign-built ships ineligible for subsidies if placed on the register after the autumn of next year.

CAPT. Gridley, U.S.N., of the U.S. flagship Olympia, died at Kobe on Monday, having been invalided home from Manila. On Thursday an impressive funeral service was held in Yokobama over his remains.

MATTERS remain quiet at Manila pending the arrival of the U.S. troops. Reports are freely current of Spanish defeats by Philippine revolters, and Cavite and Imus are in the hands of either the Americans or the Filippinos.

MR. OKI MORIKATA-so well-known in Yokohama-has been appointed Governor of Osaka, vice Mr. Tokito, appointed to Miyasaki Pre fecture. Baron Senda, the Governor of Miyasaki, was released from office on the 3rd instant,

ADMIRAL SAMPSON telegraphs to the Washington Admiralty that he bombarded the Santiago forts for three hours on Monday, completely silencing them. The Spanish admit that the cruiser Reina Mercedes was struck by a shell, her commander and six men killd, and seventeen wounded. Besides three army officers

"STAGNATION" has become a trite saying nowa-days among commercial folk in Yokohama: but no other word defines the situation. There is absolutely nothing doing in Importsgrey shirtings, fancy cottons, woollens, all tell the same tale—no business passing, no change in prices. The metal market is much over-atocked and the depression seems likely to last for many months. Certainly there have been a few feeble enquiries for light weight tin-plates, but these were all at prices, far below home cost. Kerosene remains weak, which perhaps is only natural at this time of year, and quotations are reported as unchanged. The augar market is much easier, Browns declining some 20 M 40 sen per picul, while Whites have advanced The volume of business done during the weak has been small, dealers being mostly occupied in clearing previous settlements. Turning to exports we note that demand has continued good from the United States for filatures, and sellers being willing to meet buyers a fair to medium business has resulted at a slight decline in prices. Favourable reports are coming in regarding the new crop. A little business has been done in waste without change in prices. A large and ateady business has been done in tea, and prices have steadily advanced for the lower The news of the new duty imposed by the United States has caused some commotion in the market and towards the close of the week little or nothing was done for forward delivery; stocks on offer are very large. lower tendency in the home copper market has not affected the article here, for, as a matter of fact, there is no copper available for delivery in Japan earlier than next year. Fish-oil is stagnant, dealers asking too much to render export profitable.

#### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The re-assembling of the House of Representatives yesterday after its suspen-sion of three days was anticipated with much curiosity. Every available space in the strangers' gallery, the Reporters' Box, the Peers' Box, and the Diplomatic Box was occupied, and the attendance of the members themselves was exceptionally full, no less than 292 being in their places. On the Ministerial Bench were seated the Ministers of State for Foreign Affairs, for the Navy, for War, and for Agriculture and Commerce. In the natural order of procedure the debate on the Bill for increasing the Land Tax should have been resumed immediately after the reading of the various reports that have usually to be made. But it had become known that leave would be asked to introduce a Representation urging the Government to adopt measures for re-assessing the taxable value of the land, and that upon the fate of the Representation would depend the attitude of the House towards the Land-Tax Bill. In other words, a plan of compromise had been elaborated since the 7th instant, when the House's sittings were suspended; the plan being that if the Government, on its side, agreed to undertake re-assessment, the House'should pass the Bill for increasing the Land Tax. It was known, we say, that such a plan had been devised, but it was not known were killed and eighteen soldiers wounded how many supporters it commanded, nor the damage to the batteries is said to be under that with point be tested until a comportant,

UNIVERS VOICE FAIL LARGE SALES House. Hence

very great excitement prevailed in the galleries and lobbies as to the reception that would be accorded to the Repre-sentation. Would permission be given by the House for the introduction of the Representation prior to resuming the debate on the Tax Bill; and if permission were given, would the Representation be adopted? There was no difficulty in perceiving that the members themselves had not been able to obtain any certain knowledge beforehand of the result. They were plainly so excited and anxious that there appeared to be considerable probability of a tumultuous scene. Mr. Bando Kangoro, an Independent member, had undertaken to steer the Representation. But no sooner did he ask that precedence he given to it-in other words, that it should be brought forward for discussion prior to the Land-Tax Bill which stood first on the of the Day-than the tremists raised a question as to the lawfulness of such a proceeding. The Standing Orders provide that after the discussion on a Bill has commenced, it can not be interrupted for the purpose of giving precedence to any other question unless the connexion between the two is so intimate that to continue the discussion of the former without deciding the latter would be inexpedient. Did any such connexion exist between the Reassessment Representation and the Land-Tax Bill? Of course every one knew that the most intimate connexion really existed between them; that, in short, wery large number of members would vote for the Bill it the House endorsed the Representation. But that was exactly what the extremists wanted to prevent, and, under any circumstances, it would have suited their purpose to betray the supporters of the Representation into some admission of their compromising mood. The wonderful Mr. Tanaka Shozo found here an opportunity after his own heart. He is endowed with a temper which renders him scarcely responsible for his acts, and has brought more discredit on the House than any other element in its composition. Scarcely had leave been asked to introduce the Representation than Mr. Tanaka was on his feet, shouting and gesticulating, and the next moment saw him in the rostrum, delivering a red-faced, sputtering rebuke to the President, and shaking off two sergeants who sought to restrain him. Despite his ebullitions of violence Mr. Tanaka is much liked and esteemed, as indeed he deserves to be, and several prominent members of the Progressist Party, to which he belongs, soon led him back to his place. But he had applied the match to the House's smouldering excitement, and soon afterwards, when the President announced that a closed ballot would be taken, not to decide the question of precedence for the Representation, but simply to decide what form the voting about that question should assumenamely, an open ballot or a closed—, about the Land Tax Bill. One was the another tumult arose, Mr. Wada Hikojiro imperturbable and painfully deliberate following Mr. Tanaka's example, and Mr. Sassa Tomofusa. He did not betray undertaking to read the President a face- the least semblance of emotion, but delito-face lecture. Half-a-dozen members made their way to the rostrum at this stage, tences, to the effect that whatever party and one honorable gentleman was seen politicians might say or amateur financiers shoving another down the steps. Order assert, the State must pay its way; that was quickly restored, however, and the money must be found for the purpose; House proceeded to decide by closed ballot that increased taxation was the natural whether its vote about the Representation and proper way of finding it, and that for last year and certain other Bills or should be by open, or by closed ballot, men who denied the people's capacity be passed. That done, the sentence The difference between the two methods to be passed by Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

may not at first sight seem significant. It pension, the question of increasing the Land Tax had greatly disturbed the cohesion of the political parties. A large number of Liberals were believed to have embraced the Government's cause; others were said to be ready to embrace it if they could do so without severing their counexion with the Party; and others, again, were thought to be so influenced again, were thought to be so influenced by the prospect of dissolution that they would gladly support the Land Tax Bill provided that no loss of credit were involved in doing so. An open ballot, that is to say, a ballot in which the voting papers are unsigned, would leave the trimmers free to act as they pleased, whereas a closed ballot would place everybody's signature on record and thus expose him to all the consequences of his opinion. Hence the importance of deciding the fashion of voting. A point of that nature is generally settled by a show of hands, but, as we have said, the President ruled on this occasion that it should by settled by closed ballot. Thus there resulted this curious situtation, namely, that the House proceeded to determine by the method of closed ballot whether its manner of voting with regard to precedence for the Representation should be by open or by closed ballot! A most complicated kind of procedure, in truth, for when a vote by closed ballot is taken, all the members have to file through the rostrum and deliver their voting cards to a secretary, while another secretary reads the roll aloud, and finally the cards have to be sorted, examined, and counted. However, the House seemed quite contented to approach the final result by these leisurely stages, and the members sauntered through the processes of the first ballot with all the nonchalance imaginable. The result was 164 in favour of a closed ballot, 127 against, and 1 invalid vote. The declaration of these numbers was received with some clapping of hands. But a paltry demonstration, though every one understood that the vote settled the fate not only of the Reassessment Representation but also of the Land-Tax Bill. A few moments were suffered to intervene, and then the President announced the taking of another closed ballot to determine whether leave should be given for introducing the Re-assessment Representation in advance of the Land-Tax Bill. The result of this second ballot was a foregone conclusion. The House refused permission by 165 votes to 127, and thus the Representation did not come up for debate. It was all done in the quietest and least demonstrative way. When the Chief Secretary read out the figures of the ballot, half-a-dozen members clapped their hands, and the Order of the Day was reverted to just as though nothing momentous had taken place. Only two members spoke vered himself of a few well-balanced sen-

ance of their own convictions. Mr. Arai is necessary to explain, therefore, that Shogo followed; the glib Mr. Arai during the three days of the House's sus- who, in the first session of the Diet, proved more than once that he could reel off a two hours' speech as easily as a housewife spins cotton, but who, after that early promise of terrible eloquence, subsided into seven years' silence. Mr. Arai ascended the rostrum with an air of placid satisfaction, and in a moment a rain of words began to patter on the ears of the House; words directed to prove that the Government's alleged need of money to meet next year's expenditures was fictitious, since by deferring the transfers of the prison expenditures to the Treasury and abandoning the idea of increasing by 7 millions the fund for annual amortization of the national debt, a saving of Ioa millions could be effected, which, added to 22 millions that would remain from the Indemnity, should suffice to balance the accounts for 1898-9, thus leaving leisure to debate the question of taxation with due care and deliberation. Mr. Arai had not stood in the rostrum for many minutes when the House began to show signs of impatience, and a member called out that he was running the risk of becoming a second Hamaguchi and having his speech cut in half by the dissolution of the Diet. Acting upon that hint, or concluding, perhaps, that there was nothing to be gained by thrashing a dead horse, Mr. Arai returned to his seat. A dead horse the Land-Tax Bill unquestionably was, for when a closed ballot presently came to be taken for its Second Reading, only 27 members out of 278 were found in favour of it. We can not remember that such an overwhelming majority has ever previously been recorded in the annals of the House. Three defective ballots were cast, but, as they were all blue, it may be said that 251 voted against the Bill and only 27 for it. Of course these figures do not represent the opinion of the House as to the advisability or necessity of increasing the Land Tax. They merely show that the Representa-tives were not prepared to pass the mea-sure unless it was accompanied by a scheme for re-assessment, and unless it was submitted in the regular session contemporaneously with the Budget of Expenditures which the proceeds of the tax are in-tended to meet. The result of the ballot provoked some applause and a little merriment. The members understood very well that they had burned their ships behind them, and when the President passed to the next item on the Order of the Day, there was a half-hearted attempt to suspend the proceedings until the Government's course could be declared. But the general sense of the House was in favour of carrying on the business as though nothing special had occurred, and accordingly nearly the whole of the items on the Order, twenty-three in number, were expeditionsly dealt with, the great majority of them being handed to Special Committees. It was easy to see, however, that the House knew itself to be on the verge of dissolution, for it conducted its business in a listless, distraught manner, and was counted out at 3.40 p.m. The expected bolt had not yet fallen, but the delay was merely a question of legislative convenience. The Government desired to keep the Peers in session until the Supplementary Budget for last year and certain other Bills could be passed. That done, the sentence of

#### AMENDMENT OF THE LAW FOR ENCOURAGING NAVIGATION.

In the session of the Diet immediately following the war with China, the Government submitted a Bill covering a project of law for the encouragement of navigation and shipbuilding. The wisdom of the measure was not queried by any political section, and it passed with slight amendments. Last year, when reviewing the condition of Japanese finance, we pointed to the operation of this Law as a probable factor of economical disturbance. estimate was that a sum of six or seven million yen annually would have to be appropriated in connection with the Law, whereas the Government did not seem to anticipate an expenditure greater than one half of that amount. It would ap-pear that experience has indicated the deficiency of the official calculation, for a bill has been now been submitted to the Diet providing extensive altera-tions of the Law. The first Article of the Law enacts that a steel or iron ship of a certain minimum displacement, flying the flag of Japan, owned by a Japanese subject or by a company of which the partners or shareholders are all Japanese and plying between Japan and a foreign country, or between different foreign ports, shall be entitled to encouragement money. From this Article it is now proposed to elide the words we have italicized, namely, "between different foreign ports." That is not a very important alteration. So far as we know, there are no Japanese ships now engaged plying between foreign ports, and, under existing financial circumstances, it seems a little romantic that a bounty should be paid out of public funds for such an enterprise. But the second amendment is very radical. The Law emunerates three kinds of ships as ineligible for encouragement money :

1.—Ships registered as Japanese after the coming into operation of the Law, and being five years old, dating from the time of construction.

2.-Ships of an age of 15 years or opwards. 3.-Ships used on any coute under special order of the Government.

To these three classes it is now proposed to add the following:-

4.-Ships built in foreign countries And registered as Japanese after October 181, 1899.

The addition of such a clause obviously means that after October 1st, 1899, no ships will be added to the list of those receiving encouragement money. Practiyards in the country, and neither of them launched from the Mitsubishi yard, and our Kaisha, and is said to have resulted in a essayed. In short, Japan is not yet able Kaisha have had twelve stips construct Shanghai lines.

Digitized by

ed for their services to foreign countries and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha bave ordered three large vessels for the San Francisco line. After the 1st of October, 1899, any losses occurring in these fleets will have to be replaced by vessels built in Japan, unless the subsidy be foregone, and to forego the subsidy means a losing business. The conclusion is that the Government has determined to limit the bounty system to ships placed upon foreign lines before October of next year. Small steamers which can be constructed in Japan will still be eligible, but small steamers can scarcely hope to compete on over-sea routes. There is another on over-sea routes. There is another amendment: namely, that the period of the Law's operation, originally fixed at 20 years and changed by the House of Representatives to 15, be now altered to That is a minor point.

The Minister of State for Communications has made a statement about the proposed amendment of the Law for Encouraging Navigation and Shipbuilding. His Excellency attended a meeting of the Special Committee entrusted with the duty of reporting upon the projected increase of the Sake Tax, and gave the following information:—After the passing of the Law in 1896, the Government included in the Budget for 1896-7 an appropriation of 292,000 yen as the probable expenditure under the Law, but, in point of fact, no part of that amount was spent. Coming, however, to the year 1897-8, careful investigations indicated that something like 34 vessels were likely to qualify for encouragement money, and an appropriation of 1,720,000 yest was consequently put into the Budget. But the forecast was not verified. Some of the shipowners who had been expected to apply made no move; some vessels that might have been eligible were lost; some that should bave been completed were delayed by the engineers strike in England. In fine, only five qualified, and the sums allotted did not exceed 718,000 yen, or less than one half of the estimated amount. It is now pretty well known what ships are likely to claim the benefits promised by the Law. Their number is calculated at 25, and in addition to the sum of 1,720,000 yes which the Government, working with last year's Budget, becomes entitled to devote to shipping bounties this year (1898-9), a further sum of 3,090,000 yen is asked for. (There is a little obscurity about this point, but we apprehend that the amount included cally speaking, the facilities for ship-in the Supplementary Budget must be building in Japan are almost nil. The Mitsubishi and the Kawasaki are the only estimate, on which hypothesis the total apestimate, on which hypothesis the total appropriation for 1898 9 becomes 4,810,000 can do more than put together materials yen). Judging from the financial condi-furnished from abroad. The first vessel tions existing at present in Japan, it does of any considerable size was recently not appear probable that any new ships will be ordered abroad for some time. readers have some idea of the difficulties. Only two, of 3,000 tons each and 12 knots that beset the enterprise. The work was speed, are likely to be added to the list done to the order of the Nippon Yusen next year. Still the Government thinks it advisable not to pledge the country to loss of seventy or eighty thousand yen to an unlimited programme of expenditure in the dockyard. It is not likely that another connexion with the working of this Law, undertaking of the same kind will be and from that point of view it is proposed to amend it, in the sense that no foreignto build her own ships, and, unless she goes built ships placed on the register after abroad to buy them, she condemns herself October, 1897, shall be eligible. The to work with the mercantile marine now in Minister added that in the total expendiher possession and no more. Nor can she ture of 4,810,000 yen, subsidies were in-even maintain that marine at its present cluded for the Hakodate-Korskovsk, the from the 1st of September next, and that strength. For example, the Nippon Yusen Niigata-Vladivostock, and the Yangtsze- their contracts shall run to August 31st,

#### THE YAX ON TEA.

There is naturally a good deal of uneasiness among tea manufacturers and dealers owing to the determination of the United States Government to impose a tax of ten cents per pound on tea, for the purpose of meeting war expenses. Japan's total export of tea in 1897 was 42,508,988 lbs., valued in the export returns at 7,762,958 yen. Out of that total, the portion sent to the United States aggregated 34,590,770lbs., and was valued at 6,492,220 yes, being an average of something less than 19 sen per pound. A tax of 10 cents, or 20 sen, per pound consequently means that the tea will have to pay an impost greater than its price at the place of export. Such a tax would be very onerous under any circumstances, but it becomes doubly serious in view of the fact that the tax upon coffee is not altered. The Central Tea Guild of Japan has addressed a long memorial on the subject to the Foreign Office in Tokyo, orging that steps be taken to approach the United States Government with the view of inducing it to reconsider the project. The memorialists declare their belief that the tax will kill the trade. They lay much stress on the fact that America was the means of opening Japan to foreign commerce over forty years ago, and that a strong sentiment of gratitude friendliness is entertained by and this nation towards the United States. They think that the sentiment will be greatly impaired if the proposed tax is imposed. Moreover, it can not be called a protective tax, since America has no tea-growing industry to foster. It will, therefore, be regarded in Japan as a measure showing unfriendly want of consideration, especially since the duty on coffee is not raised. The present is a difficult era in Japan's finances. She is carrying on various enterprises of national importance which strain her resources and necessitate the expenditure of large sums in foreign counties. Already the balance of trade is heavily against her, and she can not afford to have the position made worse by the destruction of the tea-export business. The memorialists further point out that this country is steadily becoming a larger purchaser of articles supplied by the United States, and that people of the Great Republic should regard it as a customer deserving friendly treatment. We can well appreciate the feelings of the tea-producers and dealers under the circumstances, but we doubt greatly whether the memorial will do any good.

#### FOREIGN ADVISERS ON PRISON AFFAIKS.

It was stated some time ago that the Government contemplated employing three foreigners in the capacity of advisers on prison affairs, and that their emoluments would be 600 yen monthly, together with an allowance of 50 yen for house rent. We presumed that the consummation of this intention depended on the fate of Government's proposal to transfer the control of the communal jails to the Central Authorities, but, as a matter of fact, application has actually been made to the Diet for an appropriation to engage the three experts. The programme is Orgginatifonption of renewal.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### SUSPENDING THE DIET.

On Tuesday the Government adopted the familiar expedient of suspending the the House's evident resolve to reject the Bill for increasing the Land Tax. The Special Committee, to which the duty of practical unanimity-the minority consisting of only one member-but did not attempt to offer any exhausive statement of the reasons influencing its decision. Marquis Ito, at the close of a brief address, a special measure," and the irrepressible Mr. Tanaka Shozo immediately leaped they awoke to the fact that their tactics to his feet crying "Don't threaten the House." It is supposed that the Prevery materially. Chambers of Commerce mier's assertion helped to render the Bill unpopular, but it would doubtless have been rejected under any circumstances. The Committee's attitude was a clear indication of the House's mood. The item of revenue involved is considerable-14 million yen in 1899-1900, and 171 millions in 1900 I-and the Government seem fully persuaded that the step is unavoidable. We do not see at present what is to be the outcome of the suspension. The House is not likely to change its mind before the 10th instant, when it meets again. It may be mentioned, perhaps, that the suspension of the Lower House does not affect the Upper. The latter continues in session, and, according to present arrangements, will take the second reading of the Civil Code on the 10th instant, the very day when the Representatives re-assemble, perhaps for dissolution.

Many critics appear to think that it would be a high-handed and unwise proit refuses definitely to pass the Bill for House is perfectly entitled to have a voice assume an attitude of wholesale opposition to any and every increase of admit the expediency of increased taxes. Their point is that whatever be done in the case of other taxes, the Land Tax ought not to be augmented until the inequalities resulting from defective assessment are removed. That is a reasonable argument. It is scarcely possible for any candid analyser of Japanese finance to deny that among all potential sources for augmenting the revenue of every district in the empire, there is

be obtained without serious difficulty. But, while bent upon effecting retrench-We presume, too, that the House of Representatives would not place any obstacle in the way of raising the tax in the case of urban districts only; a step which, very brief suspension, to last only two according to the Government's present turn chiefly to the special item which days. The reason of this procedure was proposal, would produce an additional revenue of 14 million yen. It is essentially an occasion for some agreement between the House and the Cabinet. The Treasury's examining and reporting on the Bill had income must be increased, and the Diet, to about one half of the amount oribeen entrusted, voted against it with if it declines to endorse the Cabinet's ginally fixed, that is to say, the market scheme of increase, is bound to suggest price of agricultural products had ap-some alternative. The members of the preciated so largely that the farmer Lower House do not appear to recognise that responsibility at all. They apparently think that their duty is discharged when they have voted against an objectionable said that, if the Bill were thrown out by they have voted against an objectionable the House, the Government would "adopt bill; that, in short, their financial function is purely destructive. It would be well if and other associations talk very glibly of importing foreign capital. Do they ex-pect that foreign capitalists will be ready to lend money to m country where the Government and the Diet are unable to agree upon any plan of balancing the income and expenditure of the State?

The leading vernacular journals occupy themselves discussing the present difficulty between the Government and the Diet to the exclusion of almost all other topics. Did we attempt to lay before our readers an accurate résume of the in-numerable opinions expressed by onr Tokyo contemporaries, the result would be far more wearisome than instructive. After toiling through column after column of argument and counter-argument, we reach one solid conclusion, namely, that whereas all parties are unanimous in admitting the necessity of an increase of the taxes, there is great reluctance to apply the principle to the case of the Land Tax, at any rate until the fullest ceeding on the part of the Cabinet to investigations have been made and the resort to the extreme measure of disresort to the extreme measure of dis-solving the House of Representatives if not appear that anything could be gained by deliberation and investigation. increasing the Land Tax. After all, the facts about the Land Tax are perfectly plain, and have been perfectly plain for in the settlement of such matters. Did several years. But the truth is that to ask the House of Representatives to vote for an increase of the Land Tax, is to the taxes, thereby leaving the Government invite it to abandon a creed which it has in the predicament of having to conduct fervently professed ever since the open-the administration with a revenue manifing day of its existence. The members festly inadequate, there would be good that assembled in 1891 to take their and sufficient reason to appeal to the seats in the first national assembly country. But the majority of members of Japan, came pledged to two meaof Japan, came pledged to two mea-sures which they lost not a moment in attempting to compass, namely, reduc-tion of the Land Tax and re-assessment of the taxable value of the land. Those were the reforms which the people's representatives professed to consider eminently essential, and it was to achieve the platform of the House of Representhem that they set themselves to cut down tatives, from the time when it came the Budget. They were not in a position into existence, has consisted of three to show that the appropriations included planks, viz., reduction of the Land Tax, rethe State, none is juster than an increase in the estimates were excessive, but they assessment of the taxable value of land, of the Land Tax. But until the incidence wanted, by hook or by crook, to reduce and retrenchment of administrative exof the tax is made perfectly equitable for the expenditures of the State sufficiently penditures, especially in the matter of every district in the empire, there is a to warrant a corresponding reduction of official salaries. But what the present natural objection to raising the rate. The taxation; in other words, of the Land Cabinet asks the House to do is to vote easiest exit from the dilemma would pro- Tax. Official salaries became the main bably be to rely upon the sake tax, and, if object of their attack. Constitutionally ing to nearly 50 per cent.; to leave the necessary, on the tobacco tax, for the pre-speaking, they had no right to meddle in question of re-assessment in abeyance, sent at all events. By putting a further such a matter, for the appointment and and to grant an appropriation of over impost of 3 yen a koku on sake, and mak-dismissal of officials and the determination four million yen for the purpose of aug-

ments, they lacked knowledge and ex-perience to make an intelligent scrutiny into the general items of the Budget, and it was therefore natural that they should The Government resisted these tions resolutely. By the year ries. innovations resolutely. By the year 1891 the Land Tax had already fallen could discharge his fiscal obligations with a moiety of the produce required for the same purpose seventeen years previously. The Government perceived that there was no just reason for diminishing this particular tax, and that, from a general point of view, the policy of cutting down the revenues of a State which had just made its début on the world's stage was improvident. The Government further appreciated that the salaries of all junior officials were already too small, and that their augmentation, not their reduction, would soon become a necessity. Finally, with regard to re-assessing the taxable value of the land, it does not appear that any Cabinet ever questioned the desirability of such a measure. But re-assessment, to be really thorough and satisfactory, is a task of large proportions, involving a cadastral survey of the whole empire, which means an outlay of many millions of yen and requires several years for its completion. After two years of conflict, a species of compromise was effected be-tween the Cabinet and the Diet. The latter having extended its obstructive attitude to the appropriations for naval ship-building, the Emperorordered that a special fund for the purpose should be formed by a contribution of ten per cent. of official salaries, and, in deference to that step, the House of Representatives voted the naval appropriation. In effect, His Majesty reduced the emoluments of officials by ten per cent. during a term of five years, which measure constituted a species of concession to the views of the House. But this, it will be observed, was a partial compromise, affecting only a portion of the subject in dispute. The question of the Land Tax, the question of re-assessment, and the question of official salaries remained still in abeyance, and would probably have again entered the field of parliamentary discussion had not the war of 1894 altered the relations between the Cabinet and the Diet. We may add that the official-salary problem soon took the more specious and lawful form of "administrative re-organization," under which title it has remained upon the political

stage all these years.
We have set down the above retrospect in order to clearly bring out the fact that ing the tobacco tax 15 sen per pound, an of their emoluments are among the exmenting the salaries of junior officials, in additional revenue of 20 million yex could plicitly reserved Imperial Prerogatives. consideration of the steady appreciation Digitized by COOSIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

of commodities in recent years. In short, the House in asked to consent to a complete reversal of its traditional policy in two directions and to an abandonment of it in the third. That is a kind of piro-uette that no legislative body could be expected to take without reluctance. It is not surprising that the Representatives should hesitate, or that they should devise various excuses for postponing a final decision. The Land Tax will have to be increased, and so will the salaries of junior officials. The condition of the State's finances renders the former inevitable, and, if the public service is to be efficient, the latter measure is not less essential. All things considered, however, one cannot help thinking that if the House of Representatives has to abandon its old positions so incontinently, some bridge should be built for its retreat.

A promise that the Cabinet will immediately introduce a re-assessment Bill is, perhaps, the readiest exit from the dilemma. Whether such a step would placate the House we do not know, but there appears to be a general impression that it would. Re-assessment, however, is not without its own difficulties. A basis has to be fixed at the outset, and here the usual conflict of opinions presents itself. A few publicists hold that re-assessment should take the form of levelling up. In other words, the taxable value of the most highly assessed lands should be taken as the standard, and the value of the remainder should be raised to that standard, But that is the view of a small minority. A much greater number advocate a levelling-down process. Wherever inequality is found, they would reduce the hills to the level of the valley. Of course the general result would be a heavy loss of revenue; no one seems to know exactly how much, and probably the supporters of this "reform" do not greatly care what the Treasury loses provided that the farmer gains. Moderate people, however, desire to have the level-ling done in an upward and a downward direction simultaneously. But even these economists recommend a slight lowering of the final plane, probably because they think that re-assessment based upon the idea of conserving the general result would be unpopular. By what amount, then, is the plane to be lowered? Here, again, is

beginning to appreciate the strange character of the relations existing between the Cabinet and House of Representatives in Japan. A very pregnant article on the subject appears in the columns of the Fiji Shimpo, apparently from the pen of Mr. Fukuzawa himself. The members of the House of Representatives seem to consider themselves charged with a mission, half earnest, half serious, to forment the Cabinet in every conceivable manner. From the day of the Diet's opening they present question after question, just as if they were engaged in a kind of game of versally approved, but the Fiji thinks that tion of the assessment, and the work was conundrums. Many of the queries that the Treasury officials are too fond of therefore pushed forward with more exthey put with such eagerness can not academical theories, and lose sight of pedition than accuracy. Still, the Gofor knowledge, inasmuch as the information out a very good case, and, even though made in previous years for tax-collection sought is already in every person's its advice fail to be immediately fruitful, ing purposes in the various fiels, so that possession. Many others are of such a there is pleasure in knowing, on the task of surveying and valuing all the nature that the Government can not anstrength of such an authority, that such a land throughout the empire in the course swer them without a violation of its duty prolific source of revenue still remains of a couple of years, did not present such to the country. For instance, members available.

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think nothing of inquiring what course the Cabinet intends to pursue with regard to some point of foreign policy. There is no country in the world where a Government publicly announces its intention with regard to foreign politics. ness of that kind would be fatal to the interests of the State. There is the interests of the State. nothing for it, therefore, but to reply briefly that the questions cannot be answered. A reply of that kind, however, immediately provokes questioners. They complain that information is purposely withheld; that the Cabinet shows a want of consideration for them and so on, The most unedifying spectacle of all is when the Prime Minister, or a Minister of State, enters the rostrum to explain some important matter. The House immediately prepares itself to bait the unfortunate official. It is just as though a strange dog had ventured into some quarter of a city, and all the canine denizens of the place spring forward to bark at him and worry him. Such procedure is not marked by any sense of responsibility, or any consciousness of the dignity attaching to the legislature. The Cabinet, on its side, is open to much criticism. It is often needlessly reticent. When incidents of foreign policy have become past history, why should not the facts relating to them be frankly explained, if members of the Diet seek an explanation? Not infrequently, too, the Ministers take no trouble to conceal their contempt for the Diet and their indifference to its proceedings. For example, when the Address to the Throne was recently introduced, not merely did the Ministers of the Crown who happened to be in the House leave their places, but even the Government Delegates, who are habitually present, took, themselves away. The effect was painful. There is a kind of latent hostility between the Cabinet and the Lower House, and until both parties learn to regard each other in a different light, Parliamentary institutions can not work satisfactarily in

#### TAXES.

The Fiji Shimpo adheres to its familiar contention that instead of increasing the Land Tax and the Income Tax the Governthe plane to be lowered? There, again, is a question inviting endless diversity of views. Altogether, the problem bristles Formerly, agriculture used to be called the basis of the national revenue, but the first thinks that the Saké Tax should now ment should exhaust the capabilities of the be regarded as the true source for maintaining the Army and Navy. Four million koku of refined saké are drunk by the middle and upper classes annually. A duty of 20 yen might be imposed on each koku, giving an income of 80 million yen, instead of the 30 millions now collected. If a leap from 7 yen to 20 yen be deemed too precipitate, the increase might be limited for the present to 15 yen, so as to obtain a revenue of 60 millions. The Government, did it consult directly with business men, would find that the idea of formed the main element in the revenues increasing the Saké Tax is almost unipossibly be dictated by a genuine desire practical facts. Our contemporary makes

THE NUDE IN A JAPANESE COURT OF LAW.

In a recent issue we gave details of a suit instituted by the public procurator against the editor and publisher of a magazine called the Shincho Gekkan, the charge being that an offence against public morality had been committed by the reproduction of certain pictures of the nude. The case was tried in the Tokyo Tokyo Local Court, and judgment has now been pronounced in favour of the defendants. The Judge's point of view is a curious speculation. One aspect of the case probably presented itself to him very strongly, namely, that the defendants were justified by precedent. full-length picture of the nude was allowed to be hung in the Kyoto Exhibition of 1895; an exhibition held under official auspices, and opened and closed by au Imperial Prince. Pictures of the nude have been publicly displayed in the salons of art associations since that time, and have been reproduced in the pages of Tokyo periodicals with impunity. In the face of such facts a prosecu-tion suddenly instituted at this late period has an element of caprice and partakes of the nature of an unfair surprise. The editor and publisher of the Skincho Gekkan probably owed their acquittal to that consideration. But surely precedent does not constitute a radical ustification in such a case. The question, as we think, resolves itself simply into this, are pictures of the nude injurious to public morality in the sense contemplated by the Press Law? The answer must be in the affirmative. We need not go over ground that has often been trodden before. If the nude could be eliminated from Occidental art by a fiat of soberminded critics, it would inevitably be eliminated without a day's delay. Japanese art will suffer by its introduction, and so will Japanese morals. Suppose that the nude was not admitted in Occidental pictures, and that there was a question of such studies being made now for the first time by Japanese artists. There is not a judge or moublic procurator in Japan that would hesitate to condemn the innovation as a violation of the law. Thus the ver-dict of the Tokyo Local Court was to be interpreted in one of two ways, namely, as an admission that everything which has the sauction of Occidental custom must be wrong, or that because a violation of the laws has been permitted once with impunity, they may always be violated.

#### THE LAND QUESTION.

There is a very strong agitation in favour of re-assessing the taxable value of the land throughout the empire. The assessment which forms the basis of the present system of taxation was made in 1873.4. It was necessarily very imperfect, for the collection of the tax which of the State depended on the complevernment had access to the assessments

agined. There has always been a feeling, however, that owing to defects in assess-ment the incidence of the Land Tax is very unequal, and it has been held as an article of public faith that one of the most urgently, needed reforms of the era is reassessment. On the other hand, if reassessment is to be undertaken in such a manner as to furnish a really satisfactory basis of taxation, it will be a labour of many years involving a large outlay of money. It is said that the assessment of 1873-4, although so roughly executed and in spite of the various aids available, cost twenty million yen, and that a general survey made in 1889-90 for the purpose of correcting some of the most flagrant defects of the existing system, proved nearly half as expensive. Probably those figures are largely exaggerated, but it is certain that some thirty million yen would have to be appropriated if a really accurate cadastral survey were now undertaken. Still, as we have said, there seems to be a strong feeling in favour of the measure, and a Representation urging its adoption has been introduced in the Lower House, but does not now seem likely to come up for discussion.

#### WAYS OF THE DIET.

Individual members of the Japanese Diet often provoke a good deal of amusement by their proceedings, but it appears to us that Mr. Odake Kanichi, a member of the Special Committee appointed to investigate and report on the Bills for increased taxation, carries off the palm. The Prime Minister, addressing the Committee on the and instant, made use of words to the effect that though he were cut into pieces he could not change his opinion as to the necessity of increased taxation. Some members of the Committee preferred to detect a veiled threat in this language. Marquis Ito explained that he had used it merely to emphasise the strength of his own convictions, but, as that explanation failed to satisfy his critics, he withdrew the words. Nothing could well have been more trivial and absurd from an Occidental point of view than the objection taken by the Committee-men In England, for example, the language employed by Marquis Ito would not have evoked a protest from the most austere purist. But when we re-member the epithets and accusations hurled at the heads of Cabinets and Ministers of the Throne by members of the House of Representatives without censure from the President or comment by the House, it becomes a veritable comedy that Marquis Ito's words should have wounded the susceptibilities of the Committee-men. What adds to the comicality of the incident is that it was not suffered to rest Mr. Odake Kanichi, on behalf of the Committee, actually reported to the House the terrible breach of decorum perpetrated by the Prime Minister, although, according to all Parliamentary usage, words formally withdrawn and expunged from the official record, can no longer be quoted before the House against their user. Truly the affair resembles children's play rather than an incident in the history of a grave legislative assembly.

Str Alfred Dent has been put on the Currency Commission as representative of the not in Eastern Colonies.

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#### NEW LAW OF NATIONALITY.

We find that we have been betrayed into an error owing to a defective copy of the new Law of Nationality. The sixteenth Article of the Law reads thus in the original:—"Kika-jin kika-jin no ko ni shite, &c." It will be observed that the word Kikka-jin is iterated. By an easily understood omission on the part of the transcriber, the iteration of the word was omitted in our copy, and the Article became "Kika-jin no ko ni shite," &c. It is an apparently trivial blunder, but its effect is serious; for whereas the original article reads, "A nationalized person, the child of a nationalized person, &c." In short, the Law imposes disabilities on all nationalized persons, but our copy limits the disabilities to certain classes of nationalized persons. Whatever apologies are due in connexion with this error, we beg to tender.

As to the general question of disabilities, we can not but endorse the complaint made by several critics that the proposed Law is markedly illiberal. To plead that the nationalization of foreigners in Japan is experimental, and that caution must be observed, is simply to state the view which seems to us objectionable. When the first draft of a Law of Nationality was submitted to the Diet some years ago, it denied to aliens nationalized in Japan a still longer list of rights and privileges than that set forth in the Law now proposed, and it made the disability final, no probationary period nor any other mitigating provision being inserted. Thus the Law shows distinct progress, since the disabilities imposed by it are to hold for 10 years only. Still the fact remains that, under ordinary circumstances, a foreigner will have to reside for at least 15 years in Japan in order to be placed on the same footing as a Japanese subject. What kind of apprehension dictated such an enactment? A foreigner residing in Japan after the Revised Treaties go into operation will have to pay the same taxes as a Japanese subject, and it, five years having elapsed, he chooses to acquire Japanese nationality, we can conceive no tangible reason for denying to him the privilege of the franchise, or closing the higher offices of State to him. Such legislation is essentially mediæval. did not look for it in Japan. It will disappoint all friends of the country and put a weapon into the hands of her enemies.

## THE TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

We are asked again to give publicity to an example of the perfunctoriness shown by the railway authorities at the Yokohama station. Two ladies, travelling in a first-class car to Yokohama, took with them a small wicker-box (yanags-gort) in which was packed an evening dress. It was light enough to be carried with one hand, and the railway officials at Shimbashi offered no objection to its going into the carriage with the ladies. Indeed, it fairly belonged to the category of hand baggage. On their return journey to Tokyo, however, when the ladies attempted to pass the wicket at the Yokohama station, they were forbidden to take the box with them to the platform. They did not insist, of course, but asked that it

swered that time did not suffice, although an interval of seven minutes still remained before the scheduled hour of the train's departure. Thus they had to choose between missing the train and leaving the box to be subsequently forwarded. chose the latter course, and, after having given full directions about the destination of the box, had still ample leisure to proceed slowly to their carriage, where they sat for a considerable time before the train started. This narration of simple facts sufficiently attests the singular want of organization that exists at the Yoko-hama station. We have no wish to be captious, nor do we desire to attach importance to an occurrence essentially trivial. But if the railway authorities have any regard for their own reputation, to say nothing of the convenience of the travelling public, they will endeavour to alter the present system.

#### THE SHASHI AFFAIR.

It is noticeable that, after the first emotion of comparatively faint interest, no notice of the Shashi outrage seems to be taken by the Japanese people. We gather that the negotiations with the Chinese Government on the subject are proceeding smoothly, but the nature of the demands preferred by Japan is kept strictly private, and not even a conjecture as to their details has appeared in print. It is a matter of some curiosity to know how secrecy is so successfully preserved. The incident is certainly not of sufficient importance to attract very close scrutiny, and our ignorance of what Japan is doing extends also to the action of Great Britain. But it must be confessed, we think, that Japanese diplomatists manage to hide their hand very thoroughly. It is not always an advantage to work behind a veil, but, on the other hand, the house-top is often a very inconvenient stage for international discussions. Many people think -and we are disposed to go with themthat had not the purport of the negotiaa an officially guaranteed British Ioan been proclaimed to the world while the matter was still in embryo, a very different result inight have been attained.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The Bristol Mercury tells its readers this about the Japanese press:-

The Japanese Press is one of the most enterprising going. Of daily papers and seviews there are 800. Tokyo alone can boast of 20 newspapers devoted to politics, and 118 periodicals. The circulation of the daily newspaper is, however, eather limited. Even the Times of Japan, which is subsidised by the Government, dues not circulate more than 16,000 a day, and, unlike our Times, the July Shimpo, as it is called, is not more expensive than 18 contemporaties, which can be bought for the equivalent sum of a penny. The most interesting paper in Japan is it e Mishi Nishi Shimbun, or the News of the Day, which is the Radical paper of Japan, and is continually engaged in inkilinging at the Nippon, the organ of the Conservative party. Many of the daily newspapers are illustrated, and fashion plates and ladies' pages are quite the rage.

baggage. On their return journey to Tokyo, however, when the ladies attempted to pass the wicket at the Yokohama station, they were forbidden to take the box with them to the platform. They did not insist, of course, but asked that it sabsidized by the Government; the Nichi Nichi, that it is the Radical organ; and the Nippon that it represents the Conservative hor with them to the platform. They did not insist, of course, but asked that it squivalent of a penny per number, when they should be put in the van. They were an-

#### NEW LAW FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MILITARY SECRETS.

The new law for the better preserva-tion of military secrets which has just been passed by the House of Peers, is a tolerably stringent measure. It provides that any one making unauthorized scrutiny into military or naval matters of a secret character shall be liable to major imprisonment with hard labour; any one divulging information acquired in an official capacity, shall be liable to transporta-tion to Hokkaido; any one divulging information accidentally acquired with reference to such matters, shall be liable to minor imprisonment; and any one preparing unauthorized surveys, sketches, photographs, or descriptions of naval harhours, strategical positions, forts, torpedostations, or any work of national defence, or any one gaining access to such places without permission or by false pretences, shall be subject to major confinement for not less than one month and not more than three years, together with a fine of from 2 yen to 300 yen. There are some minor provisious, but we need not refer to them in detail. Of course it is necessary that Japan should have a law of this character, but we suggest that steps should he taken to publish its provisions very clearly. Strangers may easily expose themselves to a severe penalty by inno-cently making their way into a naval harbour, or a military position.

The Government's project of law for the better preservation of military secrets is provoking some criticism. Already the secrecy observed in Japan with regard to all matters relating to the Army and Navy is very exceptional, and an idea appears to be entertained that if the proposed law becomes operative, people will think themselves excluded from the discussion of the country's defences or warlike forces. We can not discover that any particular provision of the law is condemned, though it might have been supposed that the article fixing minor imprisonment as the punishment for divulging information acthe bands of a special committee in the House of Peers, and some writers predict that it will either undergo radical amendment or be rejected altogether. To us it appears that everything depends on the manner of enforcing such a law. The Authorities have it in their power to make a far milder measure exceedingly obnoxious to peaceful folk, if they are so inclined, and, at the same time, they can mitigate the effect of the projected law so that no one need ever be aware of its existence.

#### THE ELECTRIC PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Richards seems to have had a most unhappy experience at the Kabuki theatre on Thursday evening. His widely advertised seance for the purpose of demonstrating the healing properties of electricity attracted a large audience, among which were included some decidedly self-assertive elements. We have no accurate reports of the proceedings, but, so far as we can gather, what took place was this. Dr. Richards opened the seance did assurance. with a short speech, explaining that he did not profess to work any miracles, but came forward marginate to

electricity, employed according to certain methods of his own invention, was capable of effecting remarkable cures. He therefore invited any sick people among the audience to present themselves for treatment, and he seems to have addressed a kind of challenge to Japanese medical men, defying them to show that his doings were not perfectly straight-forward. did not undertake, he added, to heal people by one effort : several days might be necessary, but improvement would be visible from the outset. After the conclusion of this address, a girl presented herself for treatment. Dr. Richards, having examined her, announced that she had lost one eye, and was threatened with loss of the other, which was already much impaired. He then applied electricity, and subsequently showed the girl some printed matter which she read easily. Among those who had repaired to the stage in answer to Dr. Richards' challenge was the eminent oculist, Dr. Kawakami. He asked permission to look at the girl's eyes, and, having examined them, informed the andience that there had not been any loss of sight or disease of any kind. He and others then began to propound questions to Dr. Richards, and by degrees a tumult arose, in the course of which some students in the gallery diverted themselves by smashing the windows. We do not know exactly how the affair ended, but certainly the seance was a failure from the point of view of Dr. Richards.

#### BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

Naturally there are not wanting people who profess to think that these three days of the Lower House's suspension are being devoted by the Government to the purchasing of recalcitrant members. One or two vernacular journals make that assertion with a great show of conviction. would scarcely be worth while to allude to the allegation did it not display one curious feature. The sole purpose of these journals is to discredit the Government. They denounce the giving of bribes as immoral, degraded and mediæval. But cidentally obtained would have startled they have not a word of condemnation for common-place folk. The Bill is now in the receivers of "consideration." Apparently, according to their moral code, the sin is entirely on the side of the tempter, and no blame whatever attaches to the person that succumbs to tempta-tion. That is a novel kind of ethics. There must be bribery in Japan. There is bribery everywhere, for the matter of that, but whether it really prevails in this country more or less than in others, we certainly hear more of it. One of the perplexing points, however, is that persons generally supposed to have taken bribes sometimes exhibit the most asto-nishing assurance on the subject. There is a member of the present. House of Representatives, a man formerly very prominent, who is commonly believed to have found his account very substantially in connexion with the disruption of the Liberal Party in the session of 1896-7. The other day, this very member ascended the rostrum of the House, and declared himself in favour of voting by scrutin de liste because it presented an impediment to bribery and corruption. If that gentleman be not innocent of the crime laid to his charge, he must be a person of splen-

#### THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL SPSTEM.

Our readers have doubtless noticed that the House of Peers has passed a Bill for abolishing the Special Municipal System under which the three cities of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto are now governed. This question has been before the public for many years. Session after session a bill for abolishing the special system has been introduced in the Lower House of the Legislature and passed, only to be thrown out on reaching the House of Peers. Now, however, both Houses have approved the Bill, and it will doubtless become law. What, then, is the feature which the citizens of the three cities find so objectionable in the special system? It is a very simple point. According to the Law for the Organization of Cities, pro-mulgated in 1888 and enforced from April 1st, 1889, the chief municipal officer in a city is the Mayor (skicho). He is a salaried official, serving for six years, and the manner of his appointment is that the City Assembly-au elective body-proposes three candidates, one of whom is selected and nominated by the Emperor. In short, the Mayor is practically chosen by the citizens themselves. But in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, the Governor of the City-who is selected and appointed by the Government without any reference to the City Assembly-is Mayor ex officio. The difference does not appear particularly important, for it can seldon happen that a man who has qualified in the Cabinet's eyes for the post of Gover-nor of a city, is of inferior competence to the man chosen by the citizens them-selves. There is probably some romance in the objection urged against the system. But there must also have been a tangible reason for its maintenance up to the present. The Government's contention has been that the conditions existing in places like Osaka, Tokyo, and Kyoto, dictate the expediency of exercising a larger measure of official control than that exercised in cities of smaller dimensions and with less heterogeneous populations. The gist of that contention will be better understood if we consider the functions of the Mayor. He directs and superintends all the administrative affairs of the city; he convokes the meetings of the City Council and sits as chairman of it; he prepares the subjects for the Council's deliberations, executes its decisions, and conducts and signs correspondence in its name; he decides and settles, on his own judgment, questions which, though falling properly within the sphere of the Council's deliberations, are too urgent to await submission to it; he wields certain financial powers, and, since the Governor alone in competent to exercise disciplinary authority over him, it follows that when he is himself Governor, his independence can not be questioned except by the Minister of State for Home Affairs. One can easily conceive that while the desir-ability of keeping such functions in the hands of an official of proved capacity may present itself very strongly to the Government, the citizens may be equally: anxious to appoint their own nominee to the post. From the point of view of a foreign observer, it must be confessed that there is something radically wrong in the municipal system hitherto operative in Tokyo. The city is wretchedly backward in everything that represents modern pro-- Origina itheophreets are miserably repaired; UNIVERSITHERE IS NOT a single urban railway; there

are no electric trams and the horse trams, though in some respects a convenience, in others are a suisance; the water works, after years of desultory effort, are still far from completion, and the methods pursued in laying the pipes excite derision; there is nothing that can be called a harbour; the citizens are choked with dust; in short, Tokyo is not worthy to be called the capital of a civilized country. Nearly ten years ago, the Government issued an Ordinance authorizing the appointment of E City Improvements Committee, and the levying of certain taxes for purposes of improvement. So far as we can see, the Committee has achieved nothing in all these years except the widening of a few streets in districts devastated by conflagrations. Where must the root of the obstruction to progress be sought? Not, we think, in the fact that the offices of Governor and Mayor are combined in one person. The records of the Meifi era show that the best impulses of reform have always emanated from officialdom, and it is a fair inference that if the Mayor had been an ordinary citizen he would not have exercised a more wholesome influence than the Governor-Mayor has done.

#### MR. INAGAKI ON SIAM.

We can not tell how accurately the Tokyo journals reproduce the views of Mr. Inagaki Majure with reference to Siam, to which country he is Japan's accredited Representative, but if their hands of the Emperor of that country, but reports are not very wide of the truth, he it does not appear that much was accomis a remarkably outspoken official. He says that the interference of France in Siamese affairs is about on a par with the interference of Russia in Korean affairs, and that the Siamese look to Great Britain as a protector. He further re-Britain as a protector. presents the King of Siam as specially well disposed to Japan, and he is the bearer of some handsome presents sent by His Majesty to the Japanese Courtpresents which, as a matter of course, have evoked reciprocal expression of concrete good will from the Emperor and Empress of Japan. Mr. Inagaki thinks that a considerable opening for trade exists between Siam and Japan, the former offering a good market for the latter's coal and having large stores of rice to give in return. But the Japanese merchants now engaged in the Siamese trade are spoken of by Mr. Inagaki in terms of unmeasured contempte the whole thirty odd being called veritable adventurers (boken-teki shiso ni kareretaru toppiren) or soski transformed into traders.

This talk about coal and rice reminds us how terribly practical the world has become. In the good old times when ambassadors used to pass between the King of Siam and the Tokugawa Shoguns, and when the correspondence on the Siamese side was inscribed upon tablets of gold, the two potentates did not think of exchanging anything more ignoble than a horse or a gun.

#### MARQUIS ITO'S " THREAT."

There has been some uncertainty as to the exact words used by Marquis Ito in the House of Representatives on the 7th are redeemable in a few years. They want instant, when asked to explain what he meant by the words betsudan no shudan for a long period and pay good interest. (a special measure). Speaking with refer-ence to the Land Tax Bill and the propriating an additional sum of seven unfavourable report of the Specia Com Digitized by

mittee, His Excellency said that if the he would even reduce the amounts now in-House followed the example of the Committee and rejected the Bill, the Government would resort to a special measure. A member inquired what was signified by "a special measure," and the Premier replied:-" By a special measure I mean that, however often the House is opened, the Government will present the same bill." As originally reported, this expression seemed to signify that, however long the House was kept in session, the Land Tax Bill would be presented again and again. The Constitution provides, and again. however, that a measure rejected by the Diet can not be submitted a second time during the same session. That fact, combined with the more accurate stenographic record published yesterday (4th instant) in the Official Gasette, shows that Marquis Ito referred to dissolution. He declared, in effect, that however often the Diet had to be dissolved, the same bill would be presented to it on re-assembling. Marquis Ito generally uses tactful and conciliatory language. He must have spoken under a a very strong sense of the character of the situation when he resorted to such words.

#### MR. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI AND THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT.

There have been a great many paragraphs in vernacular newspapers about Mr. Shibusawa's visit to Korea and the distinguished treatment he received at the bands of the Emperor of that country, but plished. The distinguished financier was certainly the object of all becoming courtesy. He had the honour of dining with the Emperor, and was very frankly He had the honour of dining consulted by the members of the Soul Cabinet. Naturally, the advent of such a man suggested a possibility of getting money, and the Koreans mapped out a project for the establishment of a national bank, Japan supplying the capital. Mr. Shibusawa, on his side, urged the advisability of retaining the Japanese silver yen as legal tender in Korea, but neither was his advice definitely accepted, nor the financing of the proposed bank arranged. However, it may be taken for granted that Mr. Shibusawa's visit was not altogether fruitless. He would not have made the journey without some previous assurance of success, great or small.

#### COUNT OKUMA.

Count Okuma has expressed himself very freely to a representative of the Nichi Nichi Shimbun on the subject of increased taxation. His views with regard to one feature of the present Cabinet's financial programme are already known to our readers. He does not believe in straining the nation's capacities for the purpose of paying off its debts. The method in Western States, he says, is to pay off the national debts when surplus funds are available for the purpose, and such a plan may well be pursued in a country where the public debt is so small as it is in Japan. In short, he sees no occasion to be in a hurry. Besides, he notes that foreign capitalists do not like bonds which investments that will engage their money purposes of amortization, but UNI

cluded in the annual Budgets for that object. As to the general question of increased taxation, the Count admitted to the Nuchi Nichi's representative that the measure is unavoidable. But he would not touch the Land Tax. His idea is that the agricultural classes have no money to spare. The funds that they devote to purposes of education and sanitation are quite insufficient, and, instead of drawing money from them for the uses of the Central Government, they should be encouraged to spend more upon these essentially important aims. Count Okuma's conclusion, therefore, is that the funds required by the Administration should be obtained by increasing the taxes on sake and on tobacco. 'I hese are sources of revenue amply capable of large expansion, and no objections could properly be raised to their increment. He indicated the income tax also as a proper source.

#### THE GREAT RAIN-FLOODS AND LANDSI IPS.

The storm of Sunday did no great amount of lamage in Yokohama. A landslip took place at Fudozada bill and another at Inarizaka, and the breakwater at Negishi was damaged by the waves. A bank of earth near the Brewery Company's stables tumbled down, and the wall below No. 9, Bluff, also collapsed. Between 11.40 p.m. on Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday no less than 61 inches of rain full.

#### AN EXCITING JOURNEY.

A local contemporary gives an account of the experiences of a Yokohama party, consisting of Messrs. J. L. Eyton, J. Eyton, and George Kircher, who went to Miyanoshita on Saturday. On the return journey, while waiting at Yumoto for the tramcar, they saw a two-storeyed house, built on the hills side right opposite slip down and fall upon a row of houses just below it. With the assistance of some coolies, the immates were extricated. The party then went on by train car, and half-way between Yumoto and the Tokaido they got off the rails four times. Just as they reached the main road again, a hill right in front of the tram came rolling down, carrying with it a lot of big pine trees, and blocked the line effectually. Everyhody had to get out and walk once more. At Odawara the streets were flooded, the water was three or four feet high, and the train could not tun to Kodzu. They walked there through a small sea, and eventually arrived only to find that the railway line both to Matsuda and Oiso was blocked, one of the bridges having fallen, as also a portion of an embankment. At l'onosawa, they were told that there had been a landslip at that place, which had buried a temple, and an old priest with it, and that he had not yet been rescued.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY DAMAGED. The Tokaido Railway between Washizu and Toyohashi, a little way beyond Shidzuoka, was damaged, and through traffic to Kobe is tem-porarily suspended.

REPORTS PROM THE PROVINCES.

Ussunomiya, June 6 Owing to the heavy rains, all the rivers in this locality have over-flown their banks, but there is no serious damage,

Nagano, June 6. The rivers Narai, Matsusaka, and Tagawa have over-flown their banks and much damage has been done to farms.

Toyokawa, June 6. The river Toyokawa over-flowed the neighbouring country to the depth of over a feet,

Tsu, June 6. Owing to the heavy rains, the rice fields have been damaged greatly.

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#### THE FAR EASTERN QUESTION.

FFICIAL Correspondence specting the Affairs of China" has been published by HER MAJESTY'S Government. It is of such importance that we reproduce it elsewhere in full-or, at any rate, in the fullest accessible form. When we say that it is important, we refer not merely to its historical value, but also to the fact that the incidents it covers have been freely used, and are still used, by English journals in this part of the world to belittle British statesmanship, to bring the QUEEN'S Government into contempt, and to create the impression that Lord SALIS-BURY and his colleagues are not capable of standing in the lists against Russian diplomatists, an impression eminently calculated to impair England's prestige. We ourselves rise from a careful perusal of the correspondence with a very different impression. It is not to be denied that the British Government was deceived. The processes of the deception are set forth with the most perfect lucidity. Neither is it to be denied that since to be successfully deceived is to be humiliated, whatever form the deception take, the British Government has been humiliated. We must go a step farther too. We must add that where one Power has confidence in the determination and ability of another to resent deception, there is little fear of deception's being practised. As between England and Russia, the case seems to be fully summed up in those propositions. With regard to the nature of the deception, our readers can study it themselves in the pages of the Correspondence. But for the sake of any that may desire a brief resumé, we take the synopsis of The Times, glad to avoid the irksome task of setting down the facts in our own language :--

On March 13 one Ambassador at St. Petersburg called upon Count Moravieff and drew his attention to pledges already given to this country both in London and at St. Petersburg. The Russian Energy Minister contended that they applied to Talien-wan and not to Port Arthur. He said that he had received the Emperor's orders to tell Sir Nicholas O'Conor that Talien-wan would be apen to foreign trade, but that Port Arthur would be regarded strictly as a military port. Conor Manavieff could not take it upon himself to say anything inconsistent with these august commandand to promise that both Port Arthur and Talien wan would be open. He asked for time, and pro-mised a definite reply in a few days. On March 15 he had an interview with the Emperor and the same night he told our Ambassador "that his Imperial Majesty had authorised him to give Sin Nicholas O'Conor the assurance that both Post Arthur and Talien was would be opened to foreign trade like other Chinese ports in the event of the Russian Government obtaining a lease of those places from the Chimese Government," On Match 16, Count Muravieff "repeated the assurances" he had given the night before. On March 17 the circular telegram to the Russian representatives appeared in the Official Messenger, and three days later our Ambassador formally naked Count Muraviell for the promised under taking. The value of these commodities was at more made clear. The "ideas" which Count Muravieff "might have expressed very confident ally " "ought never to have been interpreted as Miravieft "might have expressed very confident ally" "ought never to have been interpreted as assurances and could not in reality have had such a signification." That is the fashion the pledges declared to have been explicitly authorized by the Emperor in person melt away more the imperious necessities difficilization of trace the imperious

Muravieff could not bring himself to acknowledge the true reason of his action. He pleads, with a cynicism which would have done credit to Talleyrand, that Russian obligations to China provent her from keeping her word to England. "Respect rand, that Kussian congations to China prevent her from keeping her word to England. "Respect for the sovereign rights of China." Inibids any alteration in the status of Port Arthur—except indelivery to Russia. It will be open to British ships on the same conditions as before, but it is out of the question that "Russia should abuse the lease which had been granted to her by a friendly power to arbitrarily transform a closed and prinpally military port into a commercial port like any other. So much for Russian assurances as a basis of British policy.

Now what is to be said about these revelations? We have heard, within the past few months, much talk about the nervelessness of Great Britain's arm ; about her want of "grit"; about her irresolute and even pusillanimous attitude. The facts are before us to-day. She has certainly been beaten; but with what kind of weapons? Could her statesmen have foreseen the use of such weapons by Russia? Would they have been justified in foreseeing anything of the kind? Above all, could they have acted upon such foresight without forfeiting the respect of the civilized world? Intercourse between Occidental States has to be conducted on principles approximating to those that govern the intercourse of persons moving in polite society. The amenities of everyday life do not permit a man to snap his fingers at another's assurances; to treat could not fight Russia in the Far East withthem ab initio as mere fictions. Diplomatists must be expected to obey the same canons of common courtesy. Certainly every British diplomatist obeys them. When he gives an assurance himself, he presumes that it will be respected, and on his own side he is prepared to respect the assurances given by the responsible statesmen of other Powers. Lord Salis-BURY followed that rule with regard to Russia. Had Russia followed it with regard to England, there would not now be any question of either party's having been deceived or flouted.

It may be urged, however, that although England's diplomatists could not have adopted a different procedure in their dealings with the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, they might have discounted any inconvenient contingencies by resolute action in Peking. In other words, while ostensibly accepting the pledges offered in St. Petersburg, they might have ignored those pledges in Peking. While pretending in Europe to have taken Russia by the band in amicable understanding, they might in China have simulated readiness to take her by the activity and consequently brings them throat in armed protest. Yes, they might have done that. In fact, they are blamed now for not having done it. Well, it is Mr. CHAMBERLAIN was thinking when he not England's way.

With regard to the concrete issues of these incidents, Englishmen need not seriously concern themselves. Great Britain will not be sensibly increased until her being at Wei-hai-wei, Port Arthur of is trans-Asian Railway is carried across very little use to Russia as a naval station. Manchuria to the sea at Liaotung. Of

port, and Russia will not command the Gulf of Pechili or the Yellow Sea so long as England remains at Wei-hai-wei. The really disquieting element in the business is its probable effect on the relations between Russia and England. On what basis is Anglo-Russian diplomatic intercourse to be conducted hereafter? NICHOLAS O'CONOR has been transferred to Constantinople. It would have been difficult for him to remain in St. Petersburg under the circumstances. If there is to be a new standard of trustfulness, it had better be set by a new Representative. Meanwhile neither Great Britain nor China nor Japan can misinterpret or forget what has happened. We fear that it removes to a very remote future the understanding which we have long hoped to see established between St. Petersburg and London, and that it renders dangerously vivid the lines of separation between the "spheres of influence" in the Far East.

#### MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S BIRMINGHAM SPKECH.

E are now in possession of what Mr. CHAMBERLAIN actually did say in his Birmingham speech. REUTER represented him as asserting that Great Britain ont an ally. What he really asserted was that " in China we have now to count with Russia, as in Afghanistan, except that we do not possess an army or defensive frontier in China, and therefore can not injure Russia without an ally." The version that REUTER'S agent gave of this contained a grain of truth, but, on the whole, was about as clumsy and misleading a summary as could well be conceived. REUTER apart, however, we dare say that many readers of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S words will find difficulty in apprehending their exact significance. Why has Great Britain to count with Russia in China now any more than she had to count with her six months ago? Port Arthur does not enter into this question. Its possession strengthens Russia's maritime potentialities by giving her a fine naval basis and a dockyard. But Mr. CHAMBERLAIN could not have had the sea in his mind when he spoke of our inability to injure Russia. We can always get at her by sea. In one respect, indeed, Port Arthur renders her more accessible and therefore more vulnerable, for it extends the area of her ships' within wider range of our squadron's guns. It was of operations by land that alluded to an army and a defensive frontier. But he looked a long way ahead. Russia's military efficiency in the Far East The command of the neighbouring waters course the completion of the railway to is a prime factor in the value of such a Viadivolock would have greatly augment-

ed her strength, but that was a contingency to be reckoned with in any case, experts in China. If, in the face of recent What we want to examine now is the events, Chinese statesmen are so singuchange resulting from her acquisition of larly infatuated as to continue their Liaotung as well as of the privilege of carrying her railway thither, and we venture to affirm that there will be no change of galvanizing them into any vitality of in her offensive capacity until the railway self-defence. Then there is the direct of Roman letters for written Japanese, and is finished, and until she has established a way, namely, that before the time arrives series of depôts forming a serviceable line of which we are speaking. England herof communications with her Caspian territories. It appears to be assumed in some quarters that Manchuria would offer to may be in a position to wield a Chinese Russia a secure basis of operations against army as powerful as her Indian forces. the Middle Kingdom, and even that she There are people who refer with bated could march a great Mauchu corps d'arméé to the reduction of Peking and the overthrow of the TSUNG dynasty. Is that a foregone conclusion? Apply the conditions of the problem to a European State, and consider whether it would be reasonable to conclude that if France, for example, gained a foothold in Prussia, she could organize a Westphalian corps for the assault of Berlin. Patriotism is not counted an important factor in calculations that concern China, yet it is difficult to conceive the Manchu Tartars following the Russian flag to fight against a throne defended by their own countrymen and occupied by a sovereign whom their own ancestors placed there. It seems to us that many a long year must pass before Russia could attempt anything of that kind, or even before she could count upon Manchuria as a safe platform from which to aim a blow at Peking. Decades and cycles bulk very small, however, in the history of nations, and there is no blinking the fact that when Russia has railway communication right through from Europe to Liaotung, and when she has fully utilized all the pretexts that the construction of the railway will furnish for fixing her grasp upon Manchuria, she will stand weritable colossus in the Far East. It must have been to that time that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN was looking forward. And when that time comes will other conditions have undergone no important alteration? Will China be as helpless then as she is now? That, in our opinion, is the crucial question. Great Britain has immense interests in China, and only two ways of safeguarding them present themselves, an indirect way and a direct way. The indirect way is to contrive that China shall organize her land forces so as to be an effective barrier against any foreign assault upon her integrity. There is not the least doubt that her forces could be so organised. It would be necessary that they should be led by foreign officers; but if properly trained, properly equipped, and properly commanded, they could give a Cuvred to put her own people and the Digitized by

posts hitherto ocupied by German military acquiescence in arrangements of that kind, it becomes quite hopeless to think self may be planted in the Yangtsze valley and, perhaps, on the Pelho, and breath to the stupendous and impossible task that would confront England in the East if she essayed to assume administrative control of a hundred millions, or a hundred and fifty millions, of Chinese. Yet these same people find no difficulty in crediting Russia with a digestion vigorous enough to assimilate Manchuria at a mouthful. It is no boast to say that if history proves anything it proves the exceptional capacity of the Anglo-Saxon race to grapple with precisely such big administrative enterprises as that which now excites the apprehension of certain pessimists. When have the Chinese displayed qualities suggesting the impossibility of imposing a foreign yoke upon their necks? It is strange that they should still be invested with any glamour of the ignotum in English eyes. England's interests do not counsel an aggressive policy, but founded on phonetics. The Romaji-Kai unless the Middle Kingdom is to be eaten up by another Power, we appear to be driven to the conclusion that it must be rendered indigestible by one of the above means. There is always Japan's army in the background of course. Japan and England in combination might constitute themselves China's guardians, and very efficient guardians they would be. But the experience of a great many centuries ultimately leads. Already England's protection of her Chinese interests has planted her at Wei-hai-wei, and neither she nor Japan will be content to champion an inert, unprogressive and helpless China without securing the reward of their championship. Thus we come back to our starting point that unless China makes a new departure on her own account, she will be relieved of the responsibility by Great Britain-perhaps by Great Britain and for the generations to come. Japan in combination-, one or other of which contingencies will have occurred long before Russia develops dangerous aggressive potentialities in Manchuria.

The American transports (City of Peking, City of Sydney, and Australia) left San Francisco on the \$4th inst. for Manila, and should good account of themselves as defenders reach their destination about the 20th June. of their frontiers against any enemy. Rus- The roomy old Peking took some 2,400 troops, sia appears to have foreseen that phase of the problem, for she has already man-thousand troops should have been escorted by the Carleston.

#### ADOPTION OF ROMAN LETTERS IN FAPAN.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

WE have it on the best authority that a large number of Mombusho officials and Japanese professors in the Imperial University are in favour of the adoption that various measures are being devised for the carrying out of the scheme. As some of our readers are aware, two leading journals of Tokyo, the Nichi Nichi Shimbun and the Kokumin, have already earnestly advocated the abolition of ideographs except for special purposes. Some there are who predict that this new attempt will fail in attaining the desired end, as the Romaji-Kai and the Kana-no-Kai failed some years ago. We are not of this opinion. The situation has greatly changed and elements conducive to success which were markedly absent from the former movement characterise the present agitation. It is quite evident that nothing but strong official support will suffice to effect a reform so radical as the adoption of Romaji for general literary purposes to the exclusion of all other symbols. The Romaji-Kai enlisted the sympathy of a few Mombusho officials in their private capacity as members of society, but the Department of Education regarded the movement with indifference, if not aversion. No attempt was made to introduce a simpler system of writing into the elementary schools, where all reforms of this kind must begin. But not only did the Romaji-Kai lack official sanction, it failed to win over to its side the type of writers who alone can ensure the success of an alphabetical system of orthography Zasshi was unreadable, because the chief contributors to it were not sufficiently versed in Yamato-kotoba to make it do service for a very large number of the Chinese homonyms now in use. Literary men threw down the paper in disgust, with the remark, "There is no understanding writing of this kind without the ideographs." It is now admitted on all hands that in order to make Romaji succeed the use of homonyms must be restricted to cases of absolute necessity. shows exactly whither such guardship The Romaji text-books which are to form the basis of the new departure will be composed by men who have at their command all the resources of the Yamato-kotoba and who are competent to render modern subjects perfectly intelligible in this lan-guage interspersed with a few words of We have been ideographic origin. assured by those who are in a position to know that the Department of Education is really in earnest over the affair and that the chief officials connected with the Department are determined to legislate

There is no denying that such a reform as the one contemplated cannot be carried out without considerable sacrifice on the part of literary men. For writers like Messrs. Asaina and Tokuromi, both of whom are noted as masters of an extremely polished style, whose force depends largely on the use of words and forms of speech which under the proposed new system it will be impossible to retain, to figure as chief advocates of an innovation so pronounced as the adoption of Romaji is itself a sacrifice of no mean order, and to be ranked with that whole-hearted devotioiOpiginalionalmprogress which many

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years ago led Japan's chief barons to forego most of their privileges and yield up a large part of their property, and at a later date induced the military class to quietly consent to lay aside the sword so dear to the heart of the samurai and to be content to play the rôle of ordinary citizens, when these sweeping changes were the price to be paid for national consolidation and increased prosperity. There is no country that can boast of higher types of altruism or of more earnest public spirit than such acts display. There are, we are told, at the present moment a large number of influential writers and teachers who fully realise that the impediment to Japan's progress involved in the use of the ideographs is not to be got rid of without considerable personal sacrifice on the part of the leaders of the new movement, and they are quite prepared to immolate themselves on the altar of progress. They have reached the conclusion that the retention of the ideographs means certain defeat for Japan in the race of nations; that where competition is so keen her young men cannot afford to be cumbered with a set of symbols which as phonetic signs are as clumsy as could be well imagined and as representatives of ideas are capable of being replaced by infinitely simpler forms.

No one who is acquainted with the manner in which Latin ceased to be the only learned medium of expressing scholarly thought in many parts of Europe will under-estimate the difficulties connected with the reform now proposed. Linguistic prejudices, next to religious, are perhaps the hardest of all prejudices to overcome. The time was when men were reluctant to acknowledge Shakespeare's title to greatness as a writer on the ground that he was not a classical scholar. recent letter in the Times on this subject shows that the notion still prevails to a certain extent. There are those who cannot conceive of thought departing from the channels along which it has been wont to flow. The ideas expressed by Shakespeare must have been suggested by a perusal of classical works, say some, and the philosophical and scholarly Bacon is far more likely to have collected and transmitted to posterity these ideas than the poorly-educated son of a small landowner and trader. The advocates of such a theory excite universal scorn in modern times among enlightened men in Europe or America. But the Japanese to-day have just the same notions on this subject as were entertained in England almost universally at the beginning of the 17th Century. Hard, indeed, was the death that Latin died among the learned of Europe. Though as an organ of general literature it may be said to have expired in the course of the 17th Century, even in the 18th Century Latin was used for works on science and philosophy that appealed to the learned in all countries, Linnæus' Systema Naturæ being published in that language. And as for diplomacy, for a long time the German Empire insisted that all negotiations with it should be conducted in Latin. Joseph II. attempted to make German the official language of Hungary, instead of Latin, but he did not succeed, and it was only in 1825 that Magyar took the place of Latin in the debates of the Hungarian Diet. At the present day in Japan there is no real tion to take the necessary steps for insurthe code and treated independent in the code and treated independent in the should minute knowledge of ideographs and and if our information be correct, will be the foreign that he should and, if our information be correct, will be the foreign the fo

graceful manner by their means. who kept habitually to Kana or used Nichi Shimbun, would be the best form of nothing but Romaji would inevitably for initiating such an important change of a long time and by a very large class of learned men be treated with scorn.

The capabilities of the Japanese lanis perfectly well understood without the not the same language be intelligible when in Romafi and those transcribed in ideomanuscript where we get the meaning tion to as unalterable policy from. It would seem that the majority of With those who argue that too becomes non-existent. The majority of men with whom we have conversed on the subject have no inherent objection the soul." to the Romaji as symbols apart from their are concerned, to serve the same purpose as the ideographs. We have asked them to listen while we read a Romanised parataining entirely new matter, and after stand when you read it, but should not do so were we to read it ourselves." This plainly shows that the whole thing s a matter of practice and habit, and that the chief objection to the use of Romaji, after all, has no other basis than the reluctance with which middle-aged men agree to adopt a new habit. Romajs is founded on ignorance. order to dispel that ignorance the first step it is necessary to take is to train a number of skilful readers in Roman and set them to work to convince the scholars that all the contents of a newspaper, if that paper be written as it ought to be written, can be made perfectly intelligible by the human voice repeating the sentences from a Roma/i version of the paper. We feel inclined, in order to show the absurdity of the objections of the obdurate anti-Romaji magnates, to place reader of Romaji articles out of periodicals and a reader from ideographs behind a screen, and then ask which of the readers has been best understood. The theory that m speech can be listened to and understood, but becomes unintelligible when transcribed in Romaji and read-the stock argument of the pro-ideograph party-seems to as too childish to require further consideration. We think the notion that to adopt foreign letters is unpatriotic is no longer generally entertained.

The whole difficulty of effecting the desired reform is connected with the point we have just been discussing. The majority of Japanese who are approached on the subject don't see how the new system in orthography is going to work. The only way of convincing the nation of its efficiency is for the Department of Educa-

A man perial Ordinance, as suggested by the Nichi initiating such an important change of policy. There is always a danger that, with Ministers and Vice-Ministers constantly shifting, a reform undertaken by guage to adapt itself to a new system of one set of Mombusho officials may not be orthography seem to us to be very earnestly carried out by another set. great. If the language used in an Numerous, indeed, have the changes of elaborate speech delivered in the Diet policy been in the Department during the past fifteen years, all of which have had aid of the written characters, why should their good or bad effects throughout the length and breadth of Japan. There may printed by means of a suitable set of be a kind of despotism about Imperial phonetic symbols? The idea of reading Ordinances to which some Japanese object, the same meaning in words written but in a matter of national concern, on an issue which is so intimately bound up with graphs seems to present serious difficult the future career of the nation, we would to certain Japanese. We have often been even resort to somewhat despotic methods asked when reading rapidly from a Romaji of committing the Department of Educa-

With those who argue that the measure Japanese minds have been accustomed so we have advocated is far too heroic for habitually to associate an idea with the any Department of State to carry through Chinese character which represents it, that in the absence of the characters the idea been more radical than the sweeping changes which the last three decades have witnessed? "Language is the gesture of Is it too much to expect that the newly-formed Yamato-damaapparent utter inadequacy, as far as they shii will invent a language wherewith to express those new emotions of whose presence it is conscious? Nothing moulds language so much as the influx of new ideas graph out of a good-class magazine con- in a nation's life. The periods of rapid growth in the history of the chief langutheir complying with this request have ages of the world have been invariably inquired, "Have you understood it those during which the nations speaking throughout?" They have replied in the those languages have come into contact affirmative, but have added, "We underwith a higher plane of thought than that with a higher plane of thought than that hitherto reached. Having enlarged her language by importation and given additional shades of meaning to the numerous terms already in use, is it to be ex-pected that in the matter of orthography Japan will for ever sit at the feet of the Chinese and the ancient Egyptians, and confess her inability to devise any better way of expressing an idea on paper than by m figure consisting in many instances of at least 25 strokes? The use of ideographs by Japan is an anachronism and is, we feel sure, beginning to be so regarded by her leading men.

#### IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10.15 a.m., and passed the Bill for exempting the sites of epidemic hospitals from Land Tax.

THE REVISED CIVIL CODE.

At the request of the Government the Order of the Day was then changed for the purpose of taking the First Reading of the Bills embodying the remaining portions of the Revised Civil Code.

Mr. Hognmi, Government Delegate, having briefly introduced the Bills and answered some questions relating to them,

Mr. Kubota inquired what relation existed

between the Bills and Treaty Revision.

The Minister of State for Justice replied that unless the whole of the Civil Code had been in operation for a year the Revised Treaties could

not go into operation.

Viscount Soga asked what concern foreigners had with the laws of consanguinity and succession, and why those particular laws could not be separated from the remainder of

it was quite impossible to separate the sections

as auggested.
Mr. Ume, Government Delegate, gave detailed explanation of the provisions that would affect foreigners residing in Japan.

The Bills were entrusted to a Special Committee of 15 nominated by the President.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The private Bill providing special procedure in taxing lands devastated by inundations, led to a long but somewhat desultory debate. House finally voted for the Second Reading by 102 to 80, and on the motion of Viscount Ogasawara took the Second and Third Readings at once.

The private Bill for partially amending the Local District System was favourably reported by the Special Committee, and the Second Reading was voted after some discussion, but the House declined to proceed to the Second Reading at once.

MR. OKABE.

The Onalifications Committee then presented its report with reference to the election of Mr Okabe Yusaku, against which a protest had been lodged. The report was in favour of Mr. Okabe, and the House, having unanimously endorsed it, rose at 3.45 p.m.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.10 p.m., and proceeded to the Special Cont-mittee's Report upon the Bill for amending the Law of Election.

#### THE LAW OF BLECTION.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill with certain amendments, the principal of which were:-(t) That the system of monomial voting he changed into scrutin de-liste;
(2) that, while leaving the representation in rural districts as proposed in the Bill, namely, one member for every 100,000 of population, the proportion for urban districts should be cliauged to one for every 80,000 instead of 50 000, an additional member to be returned for every fraction over fifty thousand; (3) that the qualifying age for an elector be 20 years instead of 25, and for a candidate, 25 years instead of 30; (4) that among the officials disqualified for election, the following be excluded, viz, Ministers of State, the President of the Legislative Bureau, the Vice-Ministers of State, and the Chokunin Councillors of Departments. There were some minor amendments also.

Numerous questions were asked and answered with remarkable facility by Mr. Nakamura.

In answer to a question whether the Govern-ment approved of the proposed amendments, Mr. Kaneko, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, said that he preferred to postpone his reply until the report of the minority of the Special Committee had been presented.
Mr. Toshimitsu, on behalf of the minority,

argued eloquently in favour of the original Bill especially with regard to monomial voting. He contended that with the system of scrutin de liste there could be no such thing as the representation of minorities, and combated the argument that such a system was essential to the development of political parties.

Mr. Kaneko, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, delivered a learned and cloquent speech in the same sense as that Mr. Toshimitsu. He quoted from the history of Parliamentary institutions in foreign countries to demonstrate the theoretical advantages of the monomial system of voting, and said that some provision for the representation of minorities was especially necessary in a country like Japan, where the feudal custom of holding the weak in subjection still found many adherents. With regard to the number of members, the electoral units chosen by the Government, namely, one member for every 100,000 rural inhabitants and one for every 50,000 urban inhabitants, might seem disproportionate from a purely numerical point of view, but had been carefully determined with regard to the taxes paid in the different districts-a point which the speaker explained very clearly.

amendments, and contended that the Government's object in proposing the monomial system

was to break up the political parties.

After some desultary debate, the House voted for the Second Reading, and decided to proceed with it at once,

Much discussion ensued. Mr. Shimada Saburo proposed an amendment to change the open ballot for the closed, but his proposition was rejected by 145 votes to 91. Mr. Kono Hironaka said that though originally an advocate of the monomial system of voting, he considered that the great evils in Japan to-day were the vensity of members of the Diet and insecurity of the bases upon which political parties stoud. scrutin-de-liste system seemed well calculated to correct those evils, and he should therefore vote for it.

A division being taken with regard in the question of the monomial and the scrutin-de-liste ystems, the Home decided in favour of the latter by 143 votes to 80.

#### THE NEW TAXES.

Mr. Odake Kanichi asked permission to make a statement with regard to the work of the Special Committee appointed to examine the Increased Taxation Bills. The Committee had been unable to continue its sittings that day owing to the absence of the Minister of State for Finance. His Excellency's presence had been requested, but he had failed to attend. It seemed very strange that after the Government had asked to have the Bill discussed with apecial expedition, the Cabinet Ministers should themselves be the means of causing delay. Marquis Ito, when addressing the Committee on the preceding day, had said that although he were cut into pieces he could not change his opinion as to the necessity for increasing the taxes. It was true that he had subsequently withdrawn the towards the Committee. It was to be hoped that the Premier and the Minister of Finance would both attend the Committee's meeting the

The House rose at 7 p.m. without having completed the second Reading of the bill for amending the Election Law.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH.

#### HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers met at 10,15 s.m., and proceeded at once to the Order of the Day,

#### SILVER YEN AND TREASURY NOTES.

The Bill for limiting the exchangeable period of silver one yen coins to July 31st, 1898, having been favourably reported by the Special Committee, its Second and Third Readings were passed.

The Bill for limiting the circulation of Government paper currency to December 31st, 1899, was then taken. The Chairman of the 1899, was then taken. Special Committee explained that the notes in question had been in the hands of the public since 1886, and had become so much defaced and torn that constant complaints were heard. Gradual withdrawal had been effected, and the sum now remaining in circulation was less than 74 million ren. The Second and Third Readings were passed.

#### SPECIAL PORTS OF EXPORT.

The House then passed, without discussion, the Bill authorizing the Government to designate the articles of export from Special Ports. Bill provides that, with the exception of rice, bailey, flour, coal, and sulphur, the commodities exportable from Special Ports may be designated by the Minister of State concerned, who also shall be competent to draft the necessary regulations, and that the system shall become operative from July 1st, 1898.

#### TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

The Minister of State for Education in-troduced the Bill (sent up from the House of Representatives) authorizing the Government to increase its grant in aid of Technical Schools h the speaker explained very from 150,000 yen to 250,000 yen, and to include ing of three items, namely, that for Chokunin Digitized by Council marine schools in the number to be Council was alkney; that for the repair of the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Mr. Kudo Koken supported the Committee's assisted. After some questions, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

THE NEW CODES.

The Bill relating to Registration in connection with the Revised Civil Code was handed to a Special Committee.

THE PRACE REGULATIONS.

Marquis Hosokaws, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee, by a majority of one, had decided to report un-favourably upon the Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations. The Marquis himself, however, approved the Bill and explained that the Government had announced its intention of introducing, in its stead, when the Piet next meets, a measure which, while preserving whatever was essential in the Regulations, would be more in accord with the spirit of representative institutions.

Messrs. Yamanaka and Audo Sokumei spoke in favour of the Bill. A show of hands was called, but, the result having been challenged, an open ballot was taken, when 106 voted for the Second Reading and 89 against it. The Second and Third Readings were then passed.

#### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

The Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for abolishing the special system of municipal government in the three cities of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto was then taken, and, baving been reported favorably by the special Committee, was passed by 132 to 50 (closed ballot), in spite of opposi-tion on the part of Baron Yasuba and others. The Bill for supplementing the Municipal

Corporation system was then passed, and the House rose at 3 p.m.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.00

A Supplementary Budget providing an appropriation for the reconstruction of the chief shrine at Ise was taken as an urgency measure and passed without opposition. The amount of the appropriation was 106,490 year, to be defrayed in the course of three years as continuing expenditure.

#### LAW OF RESCTION.

The House then resumed the Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Elec-Various amendments were proposed but rejected. The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce spoke in opposition to the Special Committee's ameniment of the pro-portionate representation of urban and rural districts, and explained the considerations that had induced the Government to adopt the scale embodied in the Bill. But the House, after some discussion, adopted the Special Cou-mittee's amendment, by which the total number of members was reduced from 472 to 440, the electoral unit being 100,000 for untal districts and 80,000 for urban. The Third Reading was then taken and passed.

### NEW BILLS PASSED.

The President announced that the House of Peers had passed the Bills for abolishing the special system of municipal government in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, as well as the Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations, and added that the former Bill had been slightly amended. The announcement evoked great applause, and the House, on a motion of urgency, proceeded at once to discuss the amendment made by the Peers, adopting it

The House then passed the following Bills :--Bill relating to the Operation of the Civil Code.

Bill relating to Procedure in Civil Suits. Bill relating to Procedure in Arbitration Cases, Bill relating to Procedure with regard to Public

#### BUDGET DISCUSSION.

The Supplementary General Budget for the current year was then taken. Mr. Ebara Soroku, on behalf of the Budget Committee, explained that the Committee recommended the expang-

Prime Minister's official residence, and that for the rebuilding of the Osaka Industrial School, the total reduction on the three accounts being 44,895. Thus the Government's proposed aggregate expenditures of 13,788,117 ven became 13,743,222 yes. On the revenue side, a sum of 593,500 yes, being the amount to be realized by the sale of the Government land at Etchujims, had been expunged.

In answer to questions, Major-General Noda (Government Delegate) explained with regard to the clothing of conscripts in Hokkaido, that the system of conscription having been enforced in that part of the Empire for the first time last year, some difficulty had been experienced in determining the proper kind of clothing. The conditions existing in the coldest parts of the main island had been taken un a standard, but experience had shown that something more was needed in Hokkaido. A special appropriation on that account would be inserted in the regular Budget for next year.

Mr. Kanayama Jukaku failed to understand a system of finance which involved the inclusion of such large sums in a supplementary budget, and moved that the Budget be rejected.

The Minister of State for Education, replying to a question addressed to him by Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi, with reference to the High Council on Education, admitted that the usefulness of the Coutcil in the past had been more or less hampered by constant changes in the control of the Department of Education, and regretted that educational affairs could not be kept independent of political. As to the future proceedings of the Council he could not speak but he hoped and believed that he would one day be in a position to give thoroughly satisfactory replies to all queries about its doings

Baron Savematan, on behalf of the Govern ment, said that the item providing salaries for Chokunin Councillors was not regarded as es-The House knew the circumstance sential. under which this appropriation had been originally made, and was at liberty to preserve it or to expunge it at will.

Two or three members having briefly spoken Mr. Kudo Kokan ascended the costrum and announced his intention of moving a series of amendments. As, however, his speech would probably occupy two hours, and it was now past five o'clock, he wished to be assured of not be-ing interrupted mid-way. The President bav-ing signified his intention of prolonging the session if necessary, Mr. Kudo commenced his speech, but the members gradually left their sents, and the House was counted out at 5.30 p.m.

#### MONDAY, JUNE 6TH. HOUSE OF PEERS.

ISE SHRINE AND OTHER BILLS.

The House of Peers met at 10.20 a.m. A Supplementary Budget for the current fiscal year, providing an appropriation for the rebuilding of the Ise Shrine, was passed unanimously, as sent up from the Lower House,

Two Bills relating to District Boundaries in Kagawa and Hiroshima Prefectures were then reported for approval by the Special Committees and received the endorsement of the House,

A Bill determining the provisions of law applicable to fines in connexion with banking business was hunded to a Special Committee.

A private Bill for amending a part of the Registration Tax Law was then passed, in spite of a proposition that its Second Reading should be deferred until the receipt of an official Bill on the same subject now before the Lower House.

MR. MATSUMURA'S RESCTION.

An argency motion was made for proceeding immediately to receive the Qualifications Committee's report upon an appeal lodged against the validity of the election of Mr. Matsumura Shohei. The House adopted the motion, and a debate of some length ensued, the texult being that the Committee was asked to reconsider the matter and present another report. A recess was taken to allow the Committee to prepare mittee, and the House then passed, without deal with the various Supplementary Budgets its report, and ultimately the Pouse, by told discussion, the Second and Third keadings of programming from the Lower House, and, having votes against Digitized that the Committee with in-

invalid,

The appeal against the election of Mr. Shiba Yoshichi was next considered and rejected unanimously, and the House tore at 4,50 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1.15

THE ASHIWO MINE AGAIN.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo ascended the rostrum and delivered a speech lasting 21 hours in explana-tion of a Question on his perennial topic, the Ashiwo Copper Mine.

#### PETITIONS.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that 79 petitions had been endorsed and submitted to the Government; 15 had been laid aside for fuller consideration; 36 had been handed to the Government for purposes of comparison, and 28 had been rejected.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGETS.

The Supplementary Budgets for the current fiscal year were then taken.

Mr. Kudo Kokan resumed his speech which had been interrupted by the counting out of the House on the 4th instant. His general argument was that, although certain liberty should be given to the Government in the matter of expenditures when they had to work with the Budget of the preceding year, owing to the new Budget's not having come into existence through the dissolution of the House, the proper measure of latitude was largely exceeded by the Supplementary Budgets which they were now asked to vote. The sum involved was 13 million yes, and there was no regular revenue to meet it. It would have in be defrayed out of Indemnity. If the House passed these Bills, the Government would be practically guaranteed against any inconvenience resulting from the failure of the Budget to come into existence, and an evil precedent would be established, a precedent contrary to the spirit of constitutional institutions.

After some desultory debate a ballot was taken, and 105 voted against Mr. Kudo's motion, 87 approving it. The Budgets were then passed as amended by the Committee; namely, with the appropriations for Chokunia councillors' salaries and repairs of the Prime Minister's official residence expanged.

On taking the Expenditures Over and Above the Budgetary Items, Mr. Inonye Kakugoro moved that the extra appropriation asked for ou account of the Iron Foundry should be expanged. From sistements made by H.E. Mr. Kaneko, Minister of State for Agriculinre and Commerce, and by Mr. Wada Koreshiro, Manager of the Foundry, the Budget Committee had learned that a sum of nearly five million yen, that in to say, nearly five-sixths of the proposed appropriation, was attributable to mistakes made by the official who prepared the original estimates. He thought that the House should mark its disapproval of such incompetence by throwing out the appropriation.

The House nevertheless voted the Expenditure as asked for by the Government.

PROLUNGING THE SESSION

The House was counted out at 6,25 p.m., after the President had read an Imperial Rescript prolonging the session until the 15th instant.

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

PROLONGING THE SESSION.

The House of Peers met at 10.15 s.m. The President announced the receipt of an Imperial Rescript extending the session of the Diet until the 15th instant.

NEW BILLS

A draft Bill relating to an amendment of the Nobles Law was entrusted to a Special Com-

report declaring Mr. Matsumura's election yen the grant in aid of technical schools, well as the Bill for amending the Formosan Bank Regulations.

The following Bills, sent up from the Lower House, were handed to Special Committees; A Bill relating to the Operation of the Civil Code: a Bill relating to Procedure in Civil Suits: a Bill relating to Procedure in Arbitration; a Bill relating to voluntary sales by Public Auction.

#### VISIT OF THE PRINCE IMPERIAL

The House took a recess (11.30 a.m.) to prepare for the reception of the Prince Imperial, who had announced his intention of attending the session in the afternoon. Business was resumed at 1.25 p.m., Marquis Kuroda taking the President's place.

#### THE NEW PRANCHISE BILL.

The Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Law of Election was then read for the first time.

The Government Delegate explained the Bill briefly, and drew attention to two amendments made by the Lower House; the first, a reduction of the number of representatives for urban districts; the second, a change of the system of voting to scrutin de liste. The Government was entirely opposed to these amendments and trusted that the House of Peers would not

endorse them.

The Minister President of State, in response in a request from Mr. Kubota Yuzuru, spoke m some length in explanation of the Government's reasons for presenting the Bill. The property reasons for presenting the Bill. qualification for electors had been originally fixed at a high figure as a matter of precaution. The Government had no experience to guide it, and the necessity of proceeding deliberately had been strongly appreciated. Nevertheless little doubt had been felt that the property qualification would have to be lowered ultimately in order m give effect to the principle of constitutional institutions. At the time of drafting the Conatitution, exact calculations showing the number of franchise-holders on the proposed basis could not be made, but when the system went into operation, it was found that only 440,000 or 450,000 voters were qualified. The time had now come to give the people a larger voice in the management of state affairs. With the property qualification reduced to 5 yes, the number of franchise-holders would be increased to nome two millions, the quintaple of the present figure, approximately. Such a change might be the nght too violent, but it was better to make a radical amendment of the Law at once than to have the question constantly cropping up for reconsideration. He did not for his own part believe that the franchise would be found too low; he was persuaded that the abolition of a property qualification in the case of candidates for election would work advantageously. Having elaborated these points with some minuteness, Marquis Ito went on in declare that the Government emphatically opposed the amendments made by the Lower House. The system of voting by scrutin de liste was condemned in all constitutional countries since it effectually deprived minorities of representa-Again, although the industrial and commercial classes living in the urban districts were greatly out-numbered by the agricultural class they contributed proportionately much more to the wealth of the country, and ought to have proportionately greater representation. The Bilt had been drafted in obedience to that principle, but the Lower House had refused to endorse it. It would be impossible for the Goversment to regard the Bill as a proper legislative measure if the amendments of the Lower House were allowed to stand.

Various questions having been asked and answered, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee of 15.

#### OTHER MEASURES.

The Bill for amending the Provincial Districts System was then passed through its Second and Third Readings.

The House prolonged its sitting in order to

structions to report on them by the 13th inst... rose at 3.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives met at 1 p.m. A CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

Mr. Kudo Kokan, having with some difficulty

obtained leave to speak before the Order of the Day was taken, delivered a pempons homily. censuring the Government for presenting so many Bills, and blaming the House for allowing them to be placed on the Order in batches of a dozen at a time.

Mr. Mochida spoke on the same subject, but the House, without taking any notice whatever of these remarks, proceeded to the Order of the Day.

ENDORSING THE UPPER HOUSE'S WORK,

Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported on three Bills sent down from the Upper House, namely, the Bill for amending the Commercial Code, the Bill relating to the operation of the Commercial Code, and the Bill relating to the Law of Trusts. The Committee recommended all the Bills for endorsement as sent down from the Upper House.

AN IMPERIAL VISITOR. The Prince Incertal entered the House and took his seat in the Peers' Gallery while questions with regard to the Bills were being asked and answered. His Imperial Highness remained for half an hour, and left the House at 2.20 p.m.

The Second Reading of the Bills was voted and a motion for taking the Reading at once was made but not supported.

THE NEW TAXATION BILLS.

At this stage Mr. Nakamura Yaroku moved that, as the Special Committee was understood to have come to a decision about the Bill for increasing the Land Tax, the Order of the Day should be changed, and the Committee should be asked to present its report at once as a matter of urgency. The House endorsed the motion, and Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that, after careful deliberation, and after hearing full explanations from the Minister President of State and the Minister of State for Finance, the Committee had decided to recommend the rejection of the Bill, only one member voting for its adoption. Various reasons had influenced the opponents of the measure. disapproved of it radically; others considered it unseasonable; others thought that an Increase of the Land Tax must go hand in lland with re-assessment of the taxable value of the land, and others held that until the Budget of Expendinces was in the House's hands, the question of income could not be properly disussed. In answer to a question, he explained that the Committee had conducted its proceed ings with closed doors because the majority of the members had voted to do so,

The House voted, on the motion of Mr. Nakamura, to proceed to the discussion of the Bill at once

Mr. Nakano Buyei moved, as a previous question, that the Bill be entirested to a Continuing Committee. It appeared that the opposition to it was not fundamental, but was based chiefly on an objection to discussing the sources of revenue before having an opportunity to examine the Budget of Expenditures; or on the contention that reassessment must be undertaken at the same time; or on the ground that the increase of the Land Tax must be preceded by financial reorganization. Under the circumstances, the wisest course seemed to be a Continuing Committee which could investigate the matter thoroughly and at leisure.

#### SPRECE BY MARQUIS ITO.

Marquis Ito, ascending the rostrum, said :-Marquia IIo, ascending the rostrum, said:

The Government can not consent to the proposal for the appointment of a Continuing Committee. The absolute accessity of increasing the taxes was fully explained to the Special Committee by the Minister of State for Finance and by myxelf. This question is not accessing the said of the American Continuous and the continuous accessions. an ordinary matter of legislation admitting of various interpretations. It is a question Digitized by

financial adjustment, and unless the Bill passes the House, the finances will be embarrassed even from next year. It is true that there has already been a deficiency of revenue, but special means of meeting it existed. These means are no longer available. There is some justice in the contention that the Diet should not be asked to discuss the question without having the whole Budget before it. But the facts are that the unavoidable need of increased taxation was appreciated by the last cabinet, and that a measure in that sense would have been submitted simultaneously with the Budget had not the House been dissolved. It is for that reason that you are now asked to consider'this Bill. If the Bill might be presented without serious inconvenience in the appreaching regular session, it would not have been laid before you now. But I must remind you of the fundamental principle that the operation of a law relating to taxes can not be made retrospective. If the proposed increase of taxes be not effected, the finances will be embarrassed next year, and the obstacles thrown in the way of the nation's progress will be greater than the inconvenience caused to the Government. Should the rejection of the Bill by the Committee be endorsed by the House, the Government will have to adopt special messures (betsudan no shudan we torasaru bekarasu)."

At this stage Mr. Tanaka Shozo shouted out. "Don't threaten the House," and a turnult

Marquis Ito added :--- "If the taxes can not be increased, the Government, whatever responsibility it has to lucur, will not abandon the undertakings that have been continued up to the present. The increase of the taxes is not a matter of financial organization, but is for the purpose of making up a deficiency in the revenue. I trust that the House will reconsider the question."

In answer to questions, His Excellency said that he was not unacquainted with the condi-tion of the agricultural classes, but that he believed them fairly capable of paying the proposed tax.

Various queries and suggestions followed. One member called out, "Reject the Bill and let the Government adopt its special measure."

Marquis Ito said that the special measure to which he had referred was to keep the Diet in session for any length of time and present the some Bill again and again,

After some desultory discussion the House rejected the proposal for a Continuing Committee, and proceeded to debate the Bill.

A member ascended the rostrum and began to argue m length against the Bill, but cries of "Closure," "Closure," were raised on all sides. SUSPENDING THE HOUSE.

At this stage the President announced the receipt of an Imperial Rescript to the effect that the House was adjourned until the 9th instant.

#### THE REVISED INCOME TAX LAW.

The project of a revised income tax law, now lying before the Diet, is of considerable interest to foreigners, in they will be liable to its pro-visions after the new Treaties go into operation. The persons to whom the Law applies are thus

curred in the discharge of official duties, will not be required to pay tax on such relief or pension.

3 Tax will not be levied on travelling expenses,

funds in sid of education, or pensions sanctioned by law.

4. Tax will not be levied on dividends allotted

by a legal person who is already liable.

5. Tax will not be levied on the income of a legal person who does not seek to cap a profit.

6. Tax will not be levied on income according

from a loreign country,
7. Tax will not be levied on an income temporarily according, and not desired from business.

The following is the scale of taxation :-

Class A .- Incomes of Legal Persons :-PER 1,000 YEN. 1-Incomes of 1,000,000 or apwards..... 50 500,000 to I,000,000..... 45 100.000 to 500.000..... 40 da 50,000 to 100,000..... 35 30,000 to 50,000 ..... 30 do o1 000.01 30,000.. ... 25 da 5.000 to 10,000 ..... 20 đo I,000 to 5,000,..... I5 less than 1,000 ..... Io

g - do less than 1,000 ..... to Class B.-Incomes accoung from rent of land, touses or tenements, from public or private bonds, from shares in business concerns, from deposits, from loans not connected with regular business, or from other property:-

	somes brok	,					
		YEN.		Pa	R 1,10	οVi	KN.
1-1	comes of	100,000	avd	upwards		50	
2	' de	50,000		de		45	
3	do	30,000		da	*****		
4-	da	20,000	- 6	da .	*****	35	
5→ 6—	do	10,000		do		30	
ó—	do	5,000		do	*****	25	
7—	do	3,000		dσ		20	
8	do	1,000		do	*****	15	
9	de	500		do	*****	12	
0	do	less	than	500		10	

Class C.—Incomes accruing from agricultural, commercial, industrial, mining, or other busi-

		YEN.		R (,00		EN.
1-6	comes of	100,000 and	upward	S	40	
2	do	50,000	da	******	35	
3-	do	30,000	da	*****	30	
4	do	20,000	do		25	
5—	do	10,000	do		20	
6	de	5,000	Ti o	*****	16	
7	de	3,000	do		14	
8	do	1,000	do	*4***	12	
9-	do -	500	da		61	
10-	do	less than	500		g	

Class D. — Incomes according from salaries, wages, allowances, or professions :--

		YEN.	P	BR 1,00	οVi	LINE.
t—Inc	ames of	50,000	and upwards		25	
2	do	30,000	do		20	
3-	do	20.000	do	488445	18	
4-	du	10,000	da	499041	16	
5—	đe	5.000	do		14	
6	do ·	3,000	do			
7	do	1,000	do	*****	01	
8—	do	500	do		8	
9-	do	less	thán soo	***	5	

Class E .- Incomes not falling under any of the

apove categories :							
	_	YEN.	P.	R [,00	o Yan		
1—Inc	comes of	50,000 and	upwards		30		
2—	do	30,000	do		25		
3	do	20,000	da				
4-	du	10,000	do		18		
5—	do	5.000	do	*****	16		
Õ-→	do	3.000	do		14		
7-	do	1,000	do	*****	12		
8-	do	500	do		10		
9—	do	M less tha	in 500	401411	8		

#### PORT ARTHUR.

Admiral Colomb says this in The Times

1. Subjects of the Japanese Empire.
2. Japanese legal persons (i.e. associations having a legal status) and foreign legal persons who head offices are in the Japanese realm.
3. Persons who, though not Japanese subjects, have resided there for at least a year.
4. Persons who, though not belonging to any put the shave categories, derive income from real property in the realm of Japan, or from business carried on or professions exercised there, are liable in respect of such income.

The exemptions from obligation to pay income tax are as follow:—

1. Persons serving in the Army or Navy-dining a time of war are exempt.

2. Persons receiving State relief or pensions in control and are received or such as a supply toops and stores for the defence at snything like the attack.

When took it we cut it off from the mainland by troops on the neutral ground. We have rather fallen into the way of saying to ourselves that Port Arthur must be strong because the Japanese took it so easily; the very weakness of the Chinese garrison being held to prove what great things could be done by a different one. It appears to me that Port Arthur can be easily invested by the ships and troops of the Power commanding the surrounding sea, and I cannot see that a line of broken up railway could supply troops and stores for the defence at snything like the attack.

UNITED TO THE TIMES.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN GRIDLEY.

THE U.S. NAVAL OFFICER DIES AT KOBE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, June 6, 6.50 p.m.

Captain C. V. Gridley, of the U. S. flagship Olympia, who had been invalided home, died here on board the O & O, steamer Coptic yesterday from dysentery. His body has been embalmed for conveyance to the States.

Captain C. V. Gridley was re-appointed to the U.S.S. Olympia on July 25th, 1897, having served a commission and then gone home on leave. He had been suffering grievously from dysentery some time before leaving Hongkong for Manila, but declined to be invalided home. Throughout the battle of Manila Bay he carried out his duties courageously, never allowing his physical exhaustion to interfere with his duty to his country and his flag. His condition gradually grew worse, however, and at last, much against his will, he had to how to the inevitable. But it was his fate not to see his native land again. him the United States loses a brave and capable officer and the men under his command a loyal friend and sympathetic chief.

#### FUNERAL SERVICES AT YOKOHAMA. IMPRESSIVE CERRMONIES.

Nationality was for the moment put saide on Thursday among the English-speaking population of Yokohama. British subject and American citizen united in doing honour to the memory of a brave and gallant officer. The news of the death of Captain Gridley, the commander of the Olympia, with the honours of the Manila fight thick upon him, caused almost m keen a regret among the English as it awakened among the Americans; and in the last telbute of respect to his temains the British joined reverently and sincerely with their consins. The Stars and Stripes floated dejectedly from balf-mast at the American Conaulate, and the Union Jack was hoisted in a similar position on most of the British ships in the harbour, including the Coptic, which had brought the corpse of Captain Gridley from Kobe. The whole of the mournful proceedings illustrated the friendly feelings which exist and have always existed hetween English and Americans in Yokohama—feelings that the atress of recent circumstances has ripened into most enthusisatic friendship.

It had at first been arranged that the service should take place on board the O. & O. liner, but it was finally decided that the funeral ceremony should be held at the Union Church, and that afterwards the body should be cremated. Eleven o'clock was fixed as the hour, but long before an expectant crowd of spectators and a large number of mourners had assembled at the hatoba awaiting the arrival of the body. It was a carious scene, and an impressive one Several big steamers lay alongside the pier, and the business of loading and unloading was going on noisily. Gangs of coolies were singing and shouting over their work, loaded trollies passed up and down the pier, snorting steam launches touched at and put off from the landing-stage, and everything, with the exception of the pile of wreaths and the black coats and solemn looks of the mourners, was of the ordinary workaday world—a vivid contrast which intensified the solemnity of the sad occasion. Presently a boat, with the coffin on board it, was lowered from the Coptic, and a steam faunch, propelled sedately at quarter speed, toward it to the landing stage. coffin was covered with a naval pull of blue with white stars and behind it were scated :- Captain Scalby, R.N.R., Commander of the Coptic; Mr. Frank Bendwell, first officer; Mr. W. F. Morgan, 2nd officer; Mr. W. Loley, fourth officer; Mr. Lacey Goodrich, pusser; Dr. James Mallonie, surgeou; and Mr. Robert Gore, chief engineer. The Japanese attendants on the lannch were habited in black kimonos, and there were half a dozen stout tars from the Raleigh, the Boston, the Concerta and the Baltimore to act michigares by

Slowly and reverently the remains of the gallant seamen were debarked, and, as a Japanese band played the mournful strams of Chopin's Marche Funebre the cortége was formed. A large party of marines from H.I.J.M.'s gunboat Het yen acted mescort. It would be impossible to give a list of all who were present to pay the last tribute of respect; it would include pay the last tribute of respect; it would include hearly all of the better known residents of Yokohama. The following, however, were among the service and official gentlemen present:—The Hon. A. E. Buck, U.S. Minister to Japan; Mr. J. F. Gowey, U.S. Consul-General M Yokohama; Mr. Huntingdon Wilson (Second Secretary of U.S. Legation at Tokyo); Mr. G. H. Scidmore, Mr. J. McLean, and Mr. Moura (attached to the Yokohama Consulate); Mr. R. S. Miller and Mr. Waker (stached to the Lega. Miller and Mr. W. Baker (attached to the Lega-tion at Tokyo); Lieut. J. B. Briggs, U.S.S. Ballimere; Captain F. Davis, R.N.R.; Dr. F. Anderson, United States Naval Hospital; Dr. Hoskyns, British Royal Naval Hospital; Pay-master M. McDonald; Paymaster Gault, U.S.S. Raleigh; Col. W. W. Brown (National Guard of New York State), on his way to Manila; Governor Asada, Secretary Rinouye, Chief of Police Takehila, and the Marquis C. Nembrini de Gonzaga (Kencho Officials), Officers of H.I.J.M.S. Rei-yen, &c.

It was some little time, so long was the train of mourners, before the Church—which had meanwhile been half filled by a congre-gation consisting chiefly of ladies—was gation consisting chiefly of ladies—was reached. By the time those who had joined in the procession had also entered, th modation afforded by the little building was taxed to the utmost. Some kindly hands had busied themselves in making the appearance of the interior in harmony with the solemnity of the occasion. Above the organ, at which Mr. J. T. Griffin officiated, was draped a huge of the occasion. American flag, and the front of the pulpit was made beautiful with fucshing and other flowers and an abundance of greenery, while the flag under which the dead man fought and died appeared again proudly here. All around were linng numbers of lovely wreaths, sent by the admirers of the dead seaman, which it had been found impossible to place upon the coffin. On the left of the chancel there was another mass of white flowers and delicate foliage, tied with a white silk ribbon bearing the words, "To the brave victor." Over the gallery m the rear, and again in the windows on each side of the Church, the Stars and Stripes were also to be

As the body was borne into the Church, followed by the long line of officers in full uniform and officials in mourning dress, the Funeral March was played on the organ, and the first solemn sentences of the funeral service were repeated by the Rev. E. S. Booth, who then read the usual chapter from the Epistle to the Corinthiana.

The Rev. Dr. J. G. Cleveland next offered a lengthy prayer, in which, referring to the fact that not only they in Yokohama, but many far away were mourning for the deceased, he said :nation weeps to-day for a nation's dead. He who was loved by his family, by his friends, by his comrades, is now loved by a whole nation, because it was in the discharge of his duties to his country that this, our brother, passed from the transitory life of this world in the world that lies before us. A nation, a great nation Hes before us. . , . A nation, a great nation that has for its foundation stone the brotherhood of man, which stands for universal liberty the freedom of all classes, the freedom of thought -all :bat is noble in life. And it was to help forward all these things that this our brother laid down bis life.

H.E. the hon. A. E. Buck then spoke me follows:-

On this and occasion words are inadequate to express what is within our hearts, as we come to pay to bute to the memory of our departed friend ment pay to thate to the memory of our departed friend and hern of our navy. All whose pleasure it was copman, Capt. and Mrs. C. I the know Captain Gridley, as many of us knew him, can bear testimony to his valued services to his country during our Civil War, lately surpassed the by his gallant and distinguished service as Captain the Olympia in the great sea-fight at Manila.

Original from Works, Original from the should have survived the battles of the U.S. Naval Hospital, Hamma, Engine and Iron Works, Original from

Civil War, and also should have escaped un-Livit War, and also should have escaped im-scathed the greatest naval battle in modern times in which he was engaged, to be laid low by disease so soon after, seems strange to us. But the ways of Providence are inscrut-able. In grief we are here to pay our last tribute to our departed friend, whose name and form will ever be green in our memories and honoured by the nation he served so well. Among the naval hernes who fought the battle at Manila, the name of Capt. Gridley, with that of the Admital and other beroic men, will appear, and will ever be commemorated in song and in the history of the Republic."

Mr. J. F. Gowey, the American Consul-General in Yokohama, was next called upon to say a few words. He delivered himself of a warm panegyric on the deceased in the following eloquent sentences :-

We are here assembled to do the little that we We are here assembled to do the little that we may in giving expression to our regard for a friend, our exteem for a high-souled gentleman and gallant officer, and our sympathy with his distant family. When the news of the Manila victory came throbbing over the wires, how many of us awaited with anxious heart the details, the list of the killed and wounded, half dreading to receive the record for fear that we should find the names of those who had become endeared to us through past acquaintance and friendship—men whom we had been glad to greet and proud to honour. As the particulars of that battle came to us our forebodings vanished and we read the—at first,—almost incredible announcement of no loss of -almost incredible announcement of no loss of life and but half a dozen of our sailors wounded. There was then nothing to mar our rejoicing, no sad news to dim our enthusiasm, and make us half repent the battle won. But death for one's country does not always come on the battlefield or the ship's deck; there are enemies as deadly as shot or shell, as potent as bullet or sword. Slower in execution they are as certain in effect and to me in execution they are as certain in effect and to me the death of him who lies before us seems more heroic if less glorious, than had he gone down with the flag floating above him, the din of battle about him. Going into action, preyed upon by disasse, with the pale phantom already beckoning to him, we can surely say that if ever man died for his country so passed away Charles Vermon Gridley. Entering the Naval Academy in 1800, carries with ability and courage during the war Gridley. Entering the Naval Academy in 1860, serving with ability and courage during the war of the Rebellion, Captain Gridley for 38 years of the Rebellion, Captain Gridley for 38 years devoted his life to his country's service. As an officer he was brave, fearless and determined, his career was a credit to himself, a satisfaction to his friends and an honour to his country. A man of personal dignity, with a cultivated mind and a warm and generous heart, the esteem in which he was held, not confined to his own country need, was only limited by the extent of his acquaintance. We say to those who were his nearest and deacest, who, not privileged to be with him at the last, are to-day in their quiet home on the shores of beautiful Lake Erie, lamenting their dead, that we too surrow with them and share their grief; that although Captain Gridley died in a far away land, kind friends ministered unto him, a far away land, kind friends ministered unto him, willing hands cared for him and warm hearts comforted him to the last. We send to them the message of our deepest, tenderest sympathy, te-membering that his life was dimmed by no disas-ter, broken by no flaw, and at the last was sealed with the signet of glory.

The service concluded with the Benediction, the coffin remaining in the Church, while the congregation, with the exception of some who lingered behind to look at the beautiful wreaths, took their departure. The remains will be cremated, the arrangements for being made by Messrs. Rogers and Abel, of the Standard Oil Company, and the ashes will be forwarded to America by a later steamer. Mr. Holgate was the undertaker.

Among the many beautiful floral tributes sent were a shield, crown, anchor, and wreath con-tributed by the American Community of Yokotributed by the American Community of Yoko-hama; and wreaths from Mr. and Mrs. Jas. R. Morse, Paymaster M. McDonald, Messrs. G. W. Colton, J. W. Copman, E. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Abel, E. Engling, Dr. C. H. H. Hall, E. R. H. Manley, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Bramhall, Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, Miss Copman, Miss Powell, and Mrs. Anderson, Miss Copman, Miss Powell, Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Thorn, Mr. Jas. W. Weaver, Mr. Chester Copman, Capt. and Mrs. C. F. Pope, Patients of the U. S. Naval Hospital, Mr. W. L. Merriman, Mrs. Burns, Mr. A. H. Emanuel, Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, and many others.

#### THE C. P. ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

We have received a poster advertising the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's fast express service by the Royal Mail Steamship Line. The poster is the most beautifully executed thing of the kind we have ever seen. The central subject is a representation of one of the Company's splendid vessels, steaming over a calm sea with snow-capped Fuji in her wake. Overhead, six of the Seven Gods of Good Fortune look down upon her from the clouds, and in the right fore-ground Fukuroku-jin, the seventh deity, stands before a cliff on which he has just inscribed an ideographic announcement that by no other route than the Canadian Pacific can a traveller from Yokohama reach New York in 17 days and London in 24. It is a very pretty design, for it gives us a glimpse of old Japan delightedly welcoming the progress of modern times. We understand the design originated in this country. Whoever can claim the idea deserves much credit. The execution, however, is principally noteworthy. The celebrated Mr. Ogawa, of Tokyo, is responsible for that, and we confess that it establishes his title to chromolithographic skill not inferior to his attainments as a photographer. The part of the poster is occupied by a skeleton map showing the route by steamer from Hongkong vid Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama to Vancouver, and thence by railway and steamer The service is performed by the three magnificent steamers of six thousand tons burden and 19 knots speed-the Empress of India, the Empress of Japan, and the Empress of China.

From Yokohama to Vancouver is 4,230 miles and as the vessels cross the fortieth parallel of latitude soon after leaving Yokohama, and the fiftieth when half way across, and as the Cana-dian Pacific Railway starts from Vancouver latitude 50° and never gets farther south than the forty-sixth parallel at Montreal, the route ought to be perfect for summer travelling, and at all seasons it will be chosen by people desir-

ing to make the trip rapidly.

# DISTURBANCE IN TAIPEH PRISON.

Information from Formosa, published in the Tokyo Asahi, is to the effect that a serious disturbance occurred in Taipeh Prison on the 26th ultimo, several convicts as well as prison officials being killed and wounded.

The workshops of the Prison, it seems, are divided into six sections, of which the first is devoted to tailoring, the third to straw plaiting, the fourth and fifth to carpentry, the second alone being without any particular class of occupation. Each section contains from 13 to 20 labourers,

At 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 26th ultimo, the convicts having been released from their work as usual, 24 plasterers and 14 masons, who had been employed outside the prison, returned under escort of inspectors, and, forming file in front of the bath-house, had

their chains removed to prepare for bathing.
\* Some three of them were sent away to fetch wooden clogs, and no sooner had these returned, than fifteen convicts in No. 5 Workshop raised a loud outcry and proceeded to acts of violence. One of the masons auddenly attacked an inspector with a large are and killed him on the apot. Thereupon more than 40 prisoners, yelling loudly, attempted to escape from the jail. The inspectors, swords in hand, closed the gates of the first, third, and sixth workshops, so that only 4 or 5 rioters in the fourth section escaped amid the confusion. Meanwhile lu-spector Moriyama received a fatal wound on the head, and other inspectors and wardens were badly injured. The prisoners grew more uncontrollable, attacking the officers with iron bars or carpenters' tools, and throwing lime to blind their eyes. In short, the jail presented a scene of the wildest confusion, and the distur-

#### TAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENIS.

The Mainichi says the Russian Minister resident in Soul demanded from the Korean Government on the 11th ultimo a territory extending over ten ri outside the Settlement in Mokpho. From this there can be no doubt that Russias intention is to hold a territory of military importance in Mokpho. The recent so-called "treaties of co-operation" have not been made public, but it is supposed that at the time when the Emperor was removed to the Russian Lagation, a Protocol consisting of thirty-six Articles was handed over by Li Koshun, the then Korean Minister of Finance. Russia's demand II pre-sent is said to have been made in conformity with one of those Articles. The Koreans won a victory in regard to the Deer Island question; what attitude will they now take in respect to Do the Powers intend in treat Korea Mokpho? as they did China, with threats of dismemberment?

The general meeting of the Economic Investigation Society was held on the 30th ultimo at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, when over twenty members, including Messrs. Shibusawa, Osaki, Amenomiya, etc., were present. Mr. Shibusawa Kisaku, m Chirman, reported that he, together with two other colleagues, waited upon the Minister of Finance the other day to ascertain the latter's views on the Government's financial policy. They were furnished with valuable information on the subject, and had also secured the approval of the leaders of the Liberal, Progressist, and National Unionist parties. With regard to the Bill presented by the Government for floating railway and industrial bonds in foreign markets, the meeting decided to forward a memorial in the Cabinet as well as to the two Houses, urging the advisability of raising the loan, not in yearly instalments, but in one sum, in order to effect the redemption of old bonds and the improvement of the money market. It was also decided, on the motion of Mr. Okada, that so objection should be made to the increased Taxation Bills.

The excess of imports still continues, and the specie reserve has been decreasing by several millions of yen every week for the past few months. This tendency seems to have increased considerably of late. Below are the comparative figures for May :--

Mey.	Specie Reserve, ven	Decrease in comparis
	64,106,891	- Jen
	61.876,659	230,232
	63,636 632	240,027
28111	 62,974,322	762,310

The loans issued by the Bank of Japan increased considerably during the past week The figures stand thus :- Louns to private individuals on the 28th ultimo, 42,520,451 ven; on the 21st 40,753,618 pen; discounted bilis on the 28 h, 36,374, too ven; on the zint, 37.323 077 ven; totals—78,864 551 ven and 77,076,695 ven. Thus the increase baving 77,076,695 yen. Thus the increuse having conclude 1,800,000 yen over the previous week, the issue of notes above the legal limit was augmented by 3 millions approximately. The circulation of yes pieces (inclusive of trade dollars) was prohibited on the 1st April, but the amount now in the hands of the people through out the empire exceeds, according to official investigations, 26,508,611 yen.

From the Yomiuri we gather the following :-Chunkiang, which lies at a distance of 154 miles from the Pacific Ocean, affords considerable facilities for the auchorage of large vessels. It now possesses a population of 250,000 in addition to several hundred altens in the foreign settlement. The place was frequently a scene of war, being of atrategical importance, but trade flourished. The amount of imports and exports during last year reached 18,4773,370 and 4,556 958 taels respectively, making a total of 23,034.328 taels. The imports, the Pamiuri remarks, have increased by two million taels as

sugar, and metals, whereas the staples of export are beaus, rice, wheat, &c. Among the main imports from Japan are matches, cotton crape, cotton flannel, yarns, and copper, ogether with seaweed and umbrellas, which are of secondary importance. The value ill these commodities imported last year totalled 183,195 tacls, against 210,000 tacls of the year before last, in which trade was unusually prosperous on account of the war coming to a close. Following are comparative figures for the Japanese staples of import to Chunkiang during the past three years :-

zigą Taeln.	1895 Tanla.	15/6 Tack
Matches85,293	161,592	122,487
Cotton crape 2.993	775	482
Copper24.190	25,119	40,049
Varus 2,346	9,065	6,001

That Japanese matches have secured and are still securing a considerable demand in foreign markets is beyond question. There is another lis attention, namely, the steady increase in the import of Japanese yarns into Chinkiang. It was in 1894 that Japanese yarns were first entered in the Chunkiang Custom House Report as forming a distinct flem. The demand for this commodity has an anidal increased that this commodity has so rapidly increased that the amount of import in 1895 showed an excess of over 7,000 taels over the previous year. accurate information has yet been obtained as to the gross value of seaweed imported, but the amount is supposed to exceed 45,000 taels for last year. As regards exports, beans appear to have realized 89,000 taels, and rice 743,900 thele during last year, these commodities being chiefly transported in Canton.

According to the Mainichi the authorities are inclined to appropriate the Indemnity as

tollows:—	
Total Indomnity received	Yen. 362,184,499
To be paid from the above-	
Special War Funds brought over Revestue for 20th fiscal year, carried	78,957,164
over Revenue for 30th fiscal year, carried	11,789,389
Subscription to Public Bonds for 30th	51,000,000
fiscal year	19,679,135
Total	161,425,688
Balance Disbursements for the 31st fiscal	200,758,809
	year -
Amount included in the accounts of	
the 30th fiscal year Subscription in the remaining bonds	27,742,354
for the 30th year	30,704,000
the 31st fiscal year	10,036,205
account of Revenue for the 31st	
fiscal year Supplementary fund for the 31st	3,000,000
Real control of the c	
	12,000,000
Subscription to Chinese loans	32,710,360
Subscription to Chinese loans	17.183,516
Parchase of Industrial Bonds and	
others (estimate)	20,000,000
Loans to the Formora Bank	3,000,000
Loans in connection with Soul Inch-	
hon Railway , ,	1,800,000
Total	158.175 975
Balance	42,582,834

Commenting upon the pressing need of capital, the Mainichi says that the loans issued by the Bank of Japan at the end of May, compared with the corresponding period of last year, were as follow :-

1897. Yen. Thus the figures for this year show an increase of 10,432,080 yen-5,509,236 yen in loans and

4.922,844 yes in discounted bills—over the previous year. Yet a glance at the financial world shows plainly the inactivity of all enterprises and the considerable diminution in bance was not quelled until two of the prisoners compared with two years ago. They consist domestic compared. Under these circumhad been killed and one severely country of blankets, kerosene oil, cotton fabrics. stances the demand for capital ought to have

decreased instead of being augmented. The stagnation of trade and capital must be considered the most inauspicious phenomena in the financial world.

The Nippon deplores the indifference of the Diet on the subject of foreign diplomacy Since the authorities, it remarks, first bungled in regard to the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula, they have continued to show incapacity in all other matters of diplomacy. When a representation condemning the Government was introduced into the Diet it was supposed that it would be received with acclamation and be passed by an overwhelming majority. Contrary to all expectations, however, the Representation referred to has, after a brief discussion, austained an ignoble defent, its supporters being only 116 against 171. The majority of the Diet, the Nippon adds, can not be relied upon; public sentiment is not represented in the Diet.

The Tokyo Shimbus urges the necessity of persnading China to maintain her independence by exertion and self-culure; in the second place it recommends threats or demonstrations in the event of her proving refractory. lapan's policy towards China as adopted by the Cabinet is not, in the Tekyo Shimbun's opinion, free from cause of regret, as it fails to reach the point originally contemplated. The bunglings of the Government, however, do not warrant the presentation of an Address to the Throne. The agitators for the Address seem to have no idea of the State in their mind. Nor have they any regard for the Imperial discretion; their sole purpose is to attack the Cabinet Ministers. The Liberals cannot agree with such motives; there are other methods for censuring the Ministers without giving annuyance in the Emperor.

According to the Nippon the coins atruck at Osaka Mint up to the present seem to have been limited to sursidiaries, no order having been received from the Government for the manufacture of gold pieces. The following are the estimates for the 31st year :- Silver pieces 50 sen, 20 million ven; 20 sen, 1 million ren ; 10 sen, 2 million pen ; 5 sen nickel coins, 2 million yen; I sen copper, 100,000 yen. In addition to the above figures the following orders were received from the Bank of Japan for the manufacture of gold coins between the middle of May and the end of June :-

Weight. Converted

yen. momme. 

The above bullion was in the hands of the Bank of Japan. It is said that since the production of 5 yen gold pieces is attended with considerable difficulties, no work in this line will be undertaken for the present. The policy of the Mint is to undertake the manufacture exclusively of 10 yen pieces. The pro-duction of one sen copper is likewise suspended on the ground of serious difficulties attending the process, and 10 sen and 20 sen silver pieces, being liable to confusion in manufacture, are not to be produced at the same time.
The amount of coins produced from the beginning of the current fiscal year up till the 30th May was as follows:-10 ven gold pieces, 365,000 yen; 50 ren nilver coins, 2,9 to,000 yen; 20 sen silver, 31,200 yen; 5 sen nickel pieces 145,050. The greater portion of the 10 yen gold pieres were coined on application by private individuals. They include, however, a portion on account of the Bank of Japan, the manufacture of gold coins for the Bank being commenced a fortnight ago.

The correspondent of the Hongkong Telegraph at Manila says that there has been very setions sickness among the men of the Boston, which is believed to have been caused by the Spaniards poisoning the fish. Anti-British de-

#### KORBAN NEWS.

The marine guard for the Russian Legation at Soul was withdrawn permanently on the 23rd May.

The English Charge d'Affaires, Mr. J. N. Jordan, formally presented his credentials to His Majesty the Korean Emperor on 19th May.

The Korean Department of Agriculture has resolved in establish a Textile Industrial Factory, to encourage the development of skilled labour in the Empire.

We are always pleased to welcome additions to the English language, but the line must be drawn somewhere, and we think it is reached when the Soul Independent endeavours to foist the word inbiguation upon its readers. What does it mean?

The controllers of the work on the mansoleum of the late Empress, Yi Hoik, Yi Jungno, and Kim Chonghan who were placed under arrest some time ago for their unsatisfactory work, have been sentenced to 15 years' banish ment on Chul-to Island in Hwangin Province.

Ye Wanyong, Governor of North Chullado issues a proclamation to the following effect:-

In Christjanity itself there is nothing objection-able. But of late instances of disorderly and ma-lawful deeds committed by some of the followers of that religion are more and more increasing. Is it because they have not learned the spirit of the decane they have not rearned the spin of the doctrine, at because they do fail to put into effect the precepts of the religion? Be the cause what it may, those who break laws are criminals. Henceforth, come and report to me at once if any Chris tian violates the law of the land. He shall be punished without indulgence.

Yi Byengku, Choi Haknai, Yi Myongku, and others, says the Independent, formed a comwhose landable object was to eke onl their fortune by counterfeiting money. After having succeeded in turning out a large sum of spurious coins (presumably nickel pieces), they buried the machine and tools in deep The secret holes outside the North-east gate. might never have seen the light, for holes do not have ears, if walls do. But, Yi Byengku refusing to lend some 200 dollars to his cousin, the latter divulged the secret to the authorities. The guilty persons were arrested and their property, personal effects not excepted, has been confiscated.

A military college is about to be opened in Korea. Candidates are expected to be "healthy, muscular, and intelligent;" their ages to range from 18 to 27. There are to be three courses, two accelerated and one regular. The regular course is to be completed in five years. dents pursuing this course are to be fed and clothed at the expense of the Government, Beginning from next year, a regular cadet is to receive \$2 per month me packet money which will be increased at the rate of one dollar per mouth each succeeding year. After his gradustion, if there be no vacancy in the rank of company officers, he is to be given the salary of second lieutenant while waiting for a vacancy.

The Mai it Sinmun is a Korean daily news paper published in the vernacular. Recently it came into collision with the Foreign Office, and the Independent translates into its columns, the Mai-il Sinmun's leader on the matter:-

"Last Friday, the 19th inst., one of our editorial staff was summoned to the Foreign Office by the order of the Minister. The members of the office were profuse in their congratulations on the suc-

were profuse in their congratulations on the success of our paper, saying that it was indispensable to the country. Then came the following dialogue: F. O.: "We don't know how, but you have succeeded in reproducing in your journal the official communications between our office and foreign legations. There is danger of dividging the secrets of state. The two legations whose communications you have made public have repeatedly demanded why we allowed office secrets to be published in the Mai-il Simma and the Kanjo Shimpo, the copies of which they have sent us as

office belong to a foreign nation. How is it then that you should carry on secret regularious with foreign legations while keeping them dark to your own people? In critical times like these if such a own people? In critical threa time these is such a triffing affair toosbles you, how can you expect to die for the country when foreign powers should invade her with an army? You tell me that the papers give you a deal of trouble. Would it he right for un to speak only in the interest of foreign powers and not for the benefit of Kerea?" F. O.: "Not so. But as we have to send replies to the two legations on the subject, we want

to consult you concerning the best way of answer-ing them."

ng trent.

Editor. "Then simply tell them that, as you and the editors are the subjects of Korea, and as we are all interested in maintaining the integrity the country, the foreign legations have no right to interfere with our actions.

"The gist of the complaints made by the legations was that it was wrong to let the public know what had been told the Minister in con-fidence and that the editor of the journal should be proceed for publishing the same, \* \* 11 is all right for the said legations to forward the interest of their own nations. But we deem it impunishment of him who may speak for the good of his own country. Our officers and people are this much advanced; and we sincerely hope our foreign friends will treat us little differently than before, so as to promote the amicable relations existing between Korea and other countries."

#### CHINESE NOTES.

The Royal Humane Society have awarded their bronze medal to Mr. F. Harris, chief officer of the revenue cruiser Chuentiao, in recognition of his plucky act in rescuing a sailor who tell overboard in Shanghai on the 29th of August last.

The Shen Pao says that the Tsung-li Yamen has obtained permission of the Emperor to construct a railway from Ningpo to Shaoshing, The contracting merchants propose to loan Tls. 4,000,000 at 6 per cent. per annum, repayable in lour or five years.

Chinese reports from Amoy appearing in a contemporary state that the prefectural city of Ch'uanchon, Fukien, to which Amoy also be-longs, has lately been visited by the plague, and in such a degree that sixty and more deaths are now daily reported in the city itself, without counting those dying in the auburbs and villages in the immediate vicinity.

A report has reached Shanghai from Peking that the Taungli-Yamen has inclined a favourable car to the bitter cry of the Customs Staff, and that the pay of the Indoor Staff is to be doubled, that of the Outdoor Staff raised by 66 per cent, and that of the Chinese Staff by 50 per cent. The N. C. Daily News gives the report with all reserve.

A Chinese Imperial edict announces the death of Prince Kung on the 29th of May. The Emperor bestows upon the late Prince the posthumous title of "Prince Kung the Faithful," and a tablet bearing these words is to be placed in the Memorial Temple dedicated to Wise and Faithful Ministers of the Dynasty, by command of the Emperor.

The Daily Chinese Progress reports that a certain Russian lately approached Governor Lino of Chêkiang offering to pay a royalty, auanally, for the monopoly of the kero-ene oil trade in that province, the said sum to cover also all dues or likin for ail en route to destination. The bait is a tempting one, as the sum offered far exceeds the amount now collected by the likin offices for that article. Governor Liao, however, has given no answer to the offer and is now awaiting the instructions of the Tsungli Yamen, to whom he has communicated the matter.

The Daily Chinese Progress states that on the 23rd May, as the district magistrate of the city of Changshu, near Soochow, was inspecting some canal work outside Changshu, he was Spaniards poisoning the fish. Anti-British demonstrations in Manila are intensifying, the Queen's portraits being grossly insulted. These attements are Dibatiscential with Culture. If the first place, the Minister for the Direction of the district praying him to open the Circumstantial of the sale of cheap tice owing statements are Dibatiscential with Culture. The magistrate surrounded by several thousand women and

tried to temporise with his pleaders, who thereapon became violent, tearing his official hat from his head and almost disrobing the "great Fortmuntely a number of the local gentry man.' came to the official's rescue, but not before the latter had promised his female assailants that he would see to the granting of their " prayer as soon as he returned to his pamen, for which, of course, he left at once.

All interested in the work of the Tien Tau Hui will learn with pleasure, remarks a Shanghai journal, that a proclamation has been issued by the acting Provincipal Judge of Hunan, H.E. Huang Kung-tu (formerly Consul-General at Singapore), exhorting the people to unbind their female children's feet and praising the energy and work of the Society in Human and elsewhere. It appears now that the district magistrate of Shaoyanghaien also of his own accord issued recently a similar proclamation destined for distribution in the highlands which compose a great part of his jurisdiction. The people of the hill country of Hunan have but little intercourse with the dwellers in the plains, and the promulgation of the proclamation sims at informing the highlanders of the new movement.

A number of Manchus belonging to the Banner regiments in garrison at Panking made a savage attack on the district magistrate of Shangynan, the other day, says the N.- C. Daily News, while the latter was holding an inquest over the body of a Manchu who had committed suicide in the Chinese quarter of Nanking. The riotous Manchus tried to make the magistrate give a decision that the man had been murdered by a certain rich Chinese living near by, but the self-destruction was so clear and the number of eye-witnesses so many, the deed being done in the public thoroughfare, that the magistrate sternly refused the hoisterous request of the Manchus, who doubtless wanted this chance to extort money from the rich merchant in question. The result was that the magistrate was hadly mobbed, and would have lost his life had not help come in time. As soon as Viceroy Liu was informed of the affair, he ordered the eight regiments of Manchus to appear before him, and gave them three days to arrest the ringleaders of the attack for punishment on pain of being severely denounced to the Throne.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is reported that the U.S. battleship Oregon coming to reinforce Admiral Dewey's squadron, but inasmuch as the Oregon, when we last heard of her, was en route for the Atlantic from the Pacific coast, we do not see how she can be destined for the Philippines.

The Captain of the Spanish gunboat Callao has not been shot, as was at first stated, but has been confined within cettain limits in Manils and the populace are classouring for his execution. It is probable that Admiral Montajo will not be court-martialled, as the public feeling against him is abating somewhat.

The Government has decided on the question put by the Kobe Customs authorities as to whether some Japanese swords and armoni which were being shipped as curios to New York were contraband of war. The Customs have been instructed to allow the shipment of the goods, says the Chronicle.

The charges in connection with the Kobe Custom House frand came on for trial on Monday morning in the Kobe Chiho Saibanaho. There are 39 defendants, and 16 lawyers are employed in their defence. Some of the defendants, says the Chronicle, were arrested last November, and the others have been kept in prison awaiting trial since the beginning of the

Mr. Cowie, Managing Director of the British North Borneo Company, who was sent out by the Board with a great flourish of trumpets to put matters straight, has suddenly returned to of which was useless. The Spanish ComEurope. His relations with the officies have not, manders knew well that fighting was hopeless, be insight to be

nature. Two officers of position and experience have had to resign the service owing, it is said, to their having expressed in very strong terms their opinion touching the peace-at-any price policy which Mr. Cowie desires to pursue in regard to Mat Salleh, the notorious dacoit.

The steamer Knight of St. George, which arrived at Kobe from Rangoon on the 4th inst. reports passing the steamer Labuan off the North-East coast of Borneo. She signalled that she had broken one of the blades of her propeller, but was able to make 64 knots an hour The steamer wished to be reported.

News from Aden says that the P. & O. steamer Ganger, which left Bombay, on the 16th April, with a general cargo and one passenger for Aden, narrowly escaped grief in Aden harbour. She arrived at 1 a.m. on the 22nd April, and before entering the barbour was taken charge of by Pilot Eckert, of the Aden Pilot Service. Owing apparently to some miscalculation in the matter of distance, the Ganges made for a lightship, with which she collided, and going forward became embedded in the sand. In this position she lay for four hours, and then floated off at high title. Fortunately no damage was she grounded were not a little anxious.

There is an impression in some quarters says the China Mail—that because the Spaniards were beaten at Manila they are necessarily poor fighters. On this score, an attempt is being made to belittle the American success. This is hardly fair. Impartial observers, men who have no reason to layour the Spaniards, are unanimously of opinion that in spite of the blunders of their superiors the Spanish sailors fought plucktly and well. Their ships, it must be remembered, were anchored part of the time, and during the remainder of the fight had a prescribed area in which to manusure, thus affording comparatively easy targets for the American gumera, whereas the American ships were under full steam, were therefore mobile, and mancenvred in such a way as to make them less easy or attack. These facts point to one conclusionthat the Spanish sailors still retain the fighting spirit that animated their progenitors,

The Honkgong Daily Press mentions the airival in Hongkong of a Mr. Doore, who has acted for two or three years as manager of a coal mine near Cebu. He shows that the revolt at Cebu was entirely the fault of the Spaniards The Daily Press continues :- The bombardment of Cebu by the Spanisids seems to have been most uncalled for. Before the bombard-ment a notice was issued to foreigners telling them to seek a place of safety. The British Consul protested against any bombardment, inasmuch as there was not a single rebel in the place. His words, however, had no effect, and in consequence thousands of pounds' worth of property was wantonly destroyed. With regard to the defences at Cebu and Hoilo, Mr. Doore says many of the guns are of a most antiquated design, some of them being over a hundred years old. Only about one-half of the Spanish troops in the Philippines are at Manila, the rest being distributed among Iloilo, Cebu, and other

The resident correspondent of the Hongkong Telegraph, writing from Manila, says :- I met Don Juan de la Concha, the Capiain of the Don Juan de Austria, the other day, and he told me that the Spanish fleet was in a shocking state when the Americans arrived. The Castilla and Ulloa had their machinery broken down at the time, the latter having only two gues that could be used, while the former was so old and leaky that it needed all her engine power to keep her affoat. The El Duero had but one gun, and was of less than two hundred tons displacement. The Isla de Luson and Isla de Cuba had only one protected deck, and the Don Juan de Austria had three guns, one of which was useless. The Spanish Com-

opinion would turn against them otherwise. The fleet did not surrender during the first attack, and, had the Americans not withdrawn from the engagement when they did, the Spa-niards would have gone out to meet them and died to a man.

Foreign residents in Japan may be interested in the manners and customs of that curious production, the house-boy, as developed in China. The Rev. Father Spada, of the Ca-China. The Rev. Father Spada, of the Un-tholic Mission, in the Hongkong Police Court charged Kwok Chi Sha, a house boy, with disorderly behaviour. It seems, says the Hongkong Telegraph; that defendant was discharged from the Mission in November last. He was repeatedly ordered to go but would not, and the police had to be called in. A letter was read from Bishop Piazzoli in which it was stated that defendant had been ordered to leave but would not, and that he brought in people whom he regaled with the bishop's wines and cigars. A fine of \$5 or fourteen days was imposed.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Dr. Luigi Sambon delivered an address on the acclimatisation of the white man in tropical lands, contending that heat had not so much to do with the diseases from which he suffered in them as the germs of disease to be found in the localities themselves. This was shown by the fact that European families, which had been settled in tropical areas for some two centuries, showed no sign of deterforation in their members except in occasional inherculosis or leprosy, which had nothing to do with heat. Dr. Manson (Colonial Office) agreed with these ideas, and emphasised the necessity for a more energetic study of tropical diseases and their germs; while Dr. Johnston pointed out that dysenters, malarial and black-water fever, which rendered Central Africa so deadly to Europeans, were all germ diseases.

#### ACULLING RACE.

A single scull race took place on Thursday night in connection with the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club. The water was rather too rough to admit of rowing outside the breakwater and the course was therefore from a point just within the breakwater round a flag boat by the Pier, and back to the starting point.

The following started: - L. Mottu, H. Irwine, E. H. Irwine, and H. Goddard, Mottu took the lead at the start, closely followed by Goddard and H. Irwine, and he was two to three lengths shead at the boat-bouse. At this point H. Irwine collided with a yacht, and was brought to a full stop, and Goddard, who was just behind, also had to pull up. Irwine soon picked up and overtook E H. Irwine, but Goddard was hopelessly left behind, and was unable to make up the lust ground. Mottu finished an easy winner by a dozen lengths. H. Irwine being second, and E. H. Irwine third. Goddard did not finish.

#### ARREST OF "C. D. NELSON."

The man named G. E. McKey, who is allegto have defrauded a Yokohama indesman under the name of C. D. Nelson and to have afterwards absconded, was arrested on the arterwards abscounces, was accessed at Kyoto by the Japanese police authorities. It is stated that he stayed at the Oriental Hotel, and left without paying its charges. It is also charged against him that he obtained goods to the value of yen 479, at the watch importer Kawakita's, Bentendori; yen 20 from the Azuma-Shokai, No. 102, Settlement, and yen 10.40 from the hookseller Marnya, Benten-dori. It is alleged that be also ordered clothes value yen 69 and yen 35 of the Chinese tailor Tokutai. Before he got the clothes, however, he left for Hakone, afterwards making his way to Kroto.

McKay, it appears, is a British subject and he արդ իրգը եզրերդ H.B.M.'s Consulate at Kube

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### BENEFITS OF WAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sin,-With all due respect for the opinion of those who are positively opposed to war under all circumstances, who believe it is "the greatest of all evils" and is contrary to the will of God, the fact remains that wars have rendered incalculable henefits to mankind in minierous periods of its historical development. Both sacred and profance history teach us that wars have in many instances history leach us that were named in many instances aided the progress of civilization and the development of human society. We may deplore the necessity of war and charge it to the "deprayed and sinful" condition of our race, and we may endily admit that if all men were as good as they englit to be "wars would be no more." Man's depravity, if you please, has caused innumerable wars which in turn have taught himself useful

A study of ancient history, especially as seen from the standpoint of Old Testament inspiration, from the standpoint of Old Testament inspiration, and as interpreted by the inspired chroniclers, will show that mose than more Jehovah Himself directly indered war to be waged by His chosen people, even wars of congrest and extermination, and as the only macricable means to the accomplishment, of the Divine purpose. The historical lunks of the Old Testament, from Genesis to Nehemiah, afford abundant examptes which need not be cited here. God even sometimes used his angels as waterings. Who will say that it was not a distinct gain to human society for all times, when the Hebrews, delivered from the tyranny of when the Hebrews, delivered from the tyranny of Egypt with high hand and outstreched arm, drove out the barbarians who inhabited Palestine with the edge of the sword and took possession by force of arms of their aucient heritage? The wars of King David were for the most part occessary for the establishment of Israel as a nation and were the establishment of triver as a multiplication and were successful under the special blessing of God. On the other hand, sacred history tells us that Jehovah employed even pagan armies at different times against His own people on account of their wickedness. The soldiers of the Roman army who encamped round about Jerusalem, beleaguered the sacred city, and razed it to the ground, were in so doing fulfilling Divine prophicy.

in so doing fulfilling Divine prophicy.

Single battles have been turning points and watersheds of history. Think of Marathon, Salamis, Thermopylae, of Paitiers, of Hastings, of Marston Moor, of Bucker's Hill, of Leipzig, of Waterloo, of Gettysburg, and Appomattex! Had the Persians won at Marathon instead of the Greeks, how different would subsequent history have been. The trimoph of Greek righty-stire in the have been. morable struggle placed Greek civilization in the morable stringgre piaced oreek civilization in the ascendant. It was a triumph of civilization over barbarism. In the battle of Politics, in 732 A.D., Charles Mariel, called "the Hammer of God," won such a decisive victory over the Saraceus, that it turned back forever the tide of Mohammedanism which threatened to inundate Europe, and danism which theatened to mindate Europe, and saved the continent for Christianity and progress. At Waterloo, Napoleou, the modern example of ancient antocracy, lost his power for ever. The American civil war was a terrible affair, yet its blessings have been heyond price. War may be likened note a surgeon's knife which, though a terrible instrument, yet is sometimes necessary.

E. W. VOEGELEIN. Yours truly, Tokyo, June 2014, 1898.

#### ANOTHER WEEK OF REUTER'S INFORMATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sta,—Up to May 21st Henter succeeded in demonstrating the state of quivering mobility of the Spanish squadron. At that time the squadron was reported at Santiago de Cuba. On May 23rd we are informed that "the whereabouts of Admiral Gerveras" squadron continue uncertain." On May 24th we heat, "it has left Santiago, but its present whereabouts are uncertain." On the 26th it is back again at Santiago and "hemmed in by the American ships."
On the 28th we learn that "at a conference held between President McKinley, the Secretaries of State, and the Admirals and Generals, it is understood to have been decided to commence operations against Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Philip Sta,--- Up to May 21st Henter succeeded in dé-

tions against Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines, if if proves that Admiral Corveras is hommed in." Of course Renter could not have italicized the above passage, but its brilliance should be called attention to. Neither Reuter, nor the President and his Admiral who were doing the hemming in, have any certain news about that same hemming in. But the President and his array of

plan for every emergency. The following telegram makes it plain that such a course is expedient in view of several emergencies, which, Router is care-

ful to inform us, may arise.

May 30th. "The Spanish Reserve Squadron has left Cadiz. Its destination is either Cuba, the Philippines, or America as the Government may deem expedient."

It is more reasonable far to suppose that there is an error in transmission than to suppose that Renier, the reporter of the world's news, should condescend to the kinder-garten instruction given There is reason to suppose that what he actually telegraphed was this :-

The Spanish reserve squadron has left Cadiz on a polar expedition. Its destination is either the North Pole or the South Pole as the Government may deem expedient, but prior to starting the Government had not decided which Pole was the

Government had not decided which more in need of its help.

At last there seems to be one more fact upon which to rely. Up to this time all that we could affirm was that there is, pomewhere, a Spanish squadron. The following telegram has the ap-

squadron. The following telegram has the appearance of truth:
May 31. "The Navy Department at Washington has received a telegram from Commodure does Schley confirming the report of the presence of the Spanish Fleet at Santiago de Culm."

So at least the squadron is a rest, and the history

So at last the squadron is at rest, and the history of its mangeneres during the past two weeks has taught as more of the tactics of the reporter than of those of the Spanish admiral.

Having in mind the excellent motto of the reporter l'sign myself,

WHAT CAN'T BE PROCURED SHOULD BE MANUFACTURED

#### THE FAR EAST.

#### THE CHINA CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM " THE TIMES," APRIL 25.

The promised correspondence respecting the affairs of China (China, No. 1, 1898) was laid before Parliament on Saturday. It begins with a telegram from Her Majesty's Minister at Peking dated November 17th, 1897, announcing the arrival of German men-of-war at Kiso chou in consequence of the murder of German missionaries in Shantung, and the first part relates chiefly to the demands subsequently made upon China by the German Government and the agreement finally negotiated at Peking by the German Minister. A despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin dated January 28th sums up the assurances given on this subject by the German Government to that of Great Britain. Sir Frank Lascelles writes :

I had a conversation this afternoon with Herr than a conversation this attention with 15ch von Büling, who received the assurances he had already given me of his earnest desire to come to a good understanding with Her Majesty's Government. He said that he had seen with pleavenment. He said that he had seen with plea-sme that several of the leading newsyapers in England had taken a favourable view of the Ger-man action in China, and had written in a friendly spirit of the occupation of Kiao-chou. He repeat-ed what he had previously told me, that the German Government had carefully selected a port which was not in the direct sphere of English in-terests, and that we need feel no apprehension from a commercial point of view, as he was conterests, and that we need leef to apprehension from a commercial point of view, as he was convinced that Kiao-chou, would be opened to the commerce of the world. In fact, he said, the German Government fully shared the English view of colonization, and believed that our system of opening our parts to the commerce of the world was the best in the interests of the colonies themselves. The board sharefore that the former readselves. He hoped, therefore, that the former good relations between the two countries would eventually be re-established, and he believed that all that was required was a little patience.

Of far greater interest is the portion of this correspondence relating to the action of Russia. As early as October 17th her Majesty's Minister et Peking, when remonstrating with the Russian Charge d'Affaires with regard to his demand for the removal of the English engineer in chief of the Northern Chinese Railways, was informed by M. Pauloff that "the Russian Government intended that the provinces of China bordering on the Russian frontier must not come under the influence of any nation except

Chinese Government had given permission for the Russian fleet to winter at Port Arthur. Count Muravieff gave the following explanation of this measure to Sir N. R. O'Conor on the rath of January :-

His Excellency referred to the wintering of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur as a temporary measure, taken with the free consent of the Chinese Government, and occasioned by the difficulty of harbouring a large fleet in Japanese ports; and he briefly alfided to the serure of Kinocham by Germany, observing that when the Russian fleet had left the port, after wintering there, the Chinese Government had given them a prior right of anchorage—"le droit du premier moniflage."

In this arrangement Her Majesty's Government appear to have acquiesced without further debate: But the Russian Government was not deterred thereby from soon raising objections to the presence of English warships at Port Arthur:

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquis of Salisbury, St. Petersburg, January 19, 1898.

In the course of my interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs to-day on the occasion of his weekly reception his Excellency complained of the action of the British gumboats in entering Port Arthur. Their proceedings, he said, were looked upon here as so unfriendly as to set afford rumones of war with Great British, and the Russian Ambassador had consequently received tostructions from him to make representations in a friendly solicit to your lordship on the matter.

friendly split to your lardship on the matter.
I abserved that I was unable to perceive how the exercise of a right secured to us by the Treaty of Tientsin (Article LH.) could be construed as an unfriendly act; the boats in question had pro-bably gone to Port Arthur on a reconnaissance, such as is usual in those waters, and I added that I did not suppose your ford-hip had given orders respecting their movements.

Count Minavieff next spoke to me of a rumour that had reached him to the effect that the opening that had reached him to the effect that the opening of Talienwan as a treaty port was to be one of the conditions of the loan. This, he said, he could not regard as a friendly action, if it were true. I replied that I had as yet heard nothing of this stipulation, but that his Excellency must be aware that the aim of our policy in China was to open up the country to fereign trade as much as possible.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor. Foreign Office, January 26, 1808.

Sir,-The Russian Ambassador called at this Office on the 20th instant, and said that he had just received a telegram from St. Petersburg stating that the Immorialité and Redpoie had now arrived at Port Arthur. The telegram went on to say that the Russian Government attached great importance to the maintenance of the most friendly additionable with Great British in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Kartington and Control Petersburg in the Control Petersb friendly relations with Great Britain in the Far East, and they hoped that we should show our desire to avoid any friction in their sphere of in-

desire to avoid any friction in their sphere of influence in China.

His Excellency was informed that, as far as the actual facts were concerned, it had been understood that the Iphigenia alone had remained at Port Arthur, and that she had now left. If any other vessels had called, as they might have done in the ordinary course of centising, they were not likely to remain.

In consequence of his Excellency's remarks, the lu consequence of the Execuency's temory, the Lords Commissioners of the Admirally having, at my request, made inquiries by telegraph of the Commander-in-Chief on the China Station as to the Bitish vessels of war at Port Arthur, M. de Staal was informed that neither the Immortalité Staal was informed that neither the Immortalité non the Redpole were there, the cody British ship at Port Arthur being the Iphigenia, which would be leaving in a few days. Her visit to Port Arthur was inade under instructions from the Admiral, issued in his own discretion, and not in consequence of any directions from her Majesty's Government. I thought it right, however, to observe that British ships of was have a perfect right to visit Port Arthur and other Chinese puris in that neighbourhoud, and that there did not appear that neighbourhood, and that there did not appear to be any ground for raising objections or attaching special significance to such visits.

I am, &c. SALISBURY.

SALISBURY.

The effect produced at Peking by the Russian version of this incident in the midst of the loan negotiations is seen in a telegram from Sir Claude MacDonald.

Sir C. MacDonald to the Margnis of Salisbury

Peking, January 27th, 1898.

It is stated in a Renter's telegram published here that it is officially announced at St. Petersburgh that British mensol war have received orders ing in, have any certain news about that same hemming in. But the President and his array of advisers have sat in council on this proper and the proper and

Lord Salisbury replied on January 27 to the following effect :

Foreign Office, January 27, 1898. Statement that Admiral has been directed to withdraw ships from Port Arthur is a pure inven-The Immoralite was ordered to Chusan on the toth January.

But this disclaimer apparently failed to weaken the impression produced on the Yamen, and on January 31 Sir Claude McDonald telegraphed from Peking :-

Yamen at a meeting yesterday informed me that they greatly appreciated the generosity and good will-displayed by Her Majesty's Government in offering to help them by guaranteeing a loan. They considered the financial terms very generous, and the concessions such as they could hecause they were as much for the benefit of China as for foreign Powers, and they would gladly accept our offer if left to themselves, but Russia had used such threats that they saw no way out of the difficulty but coming to some arrangement with Japan, and borrowing neither from England our Russia.

I pointed out that if Russia were prepared for a hostile move she could easily find some other pretext, and that China had better make her stand in

text, and that Crima had better make the statio in a matter where she would have general sympathy. They said that a promise of protection against Russia was the only thing that would help them.

They said that the French Charge d'Affaires had again been to see them, and had spoken very

Another meeting, at which the Princes are to be present, is arranged for Wednesday, when I am to receive a definite answer.

With regard to the first assurances conveyed by the Russian Government a Note from the Russian Ambassador to Lord Salisbury and the Foreign Secretary's reply throw an instructive light upon the vexed question of "written" as against "verbal" assurances :--

(Translation.)

Landon, Feb. 10, 1898. M. l. Marquis,—In the fine and eloquent speech in which you dealt with the political situation last Triesday in the House of Lords, your lordship necessarily touched on the affairs of the Far East, which are at this moment of so much importance.

In the course of your remarks, and while allud-to the rumours to which the question of Talienwan had given rise, you had occasion to announce to the House that you had received from the Imperial Government spontaneously the written assurance that any port which Russia might obtain for the outlet of her trade in those regions would be a free port open to the trade of England. Your fordship added that a free port was better than a treaty port, and therefore, being assured that Talienwan would be a free port, it mattered butle to you to know whether it would be a treaty por or not

\* As I had the honour of being the means of communicating the assurance in question to her Majesty's Government, I would ask leave to make certain observations with a view to remove all ambiguity from the meaning of my contmunication.

These observations refer to two points-one merely of form, the other relating to the substance of the anestion.

As to the first, I think I should point out that my communication was not written, but verbal, our fordship will remember that it was conveyed to you through the Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office. Left no written communi-cation in Sir T. Sanderson's hands. I confined myself to translating to him the tenour of the instructions which I had just received, and asking him to inform you of them. Similarly your lord-ship's reply, which was transmitted through the same channel, is regarded by me as a

As to the second point, it appears to me that a slight misunderstanding has crept into the distinc-tion to be drawn between a free port and a treaty tion to be drawn between a free port and a freely port. It is perhaps due to a difference of terminology. The English term "free port" appears to correspond to the French term "port franc" ("porto franco")—that is, a port where goods imported are exempt from all import dues—whereas a treaty port, while being equally open to international commerce, subjects it nevertheless to the observance of the Customs regulations and tariffs

remains free either to establish a "porto franco" there, or to assimilate the port in question to the treaty ports of the Chinese littoral.

In making these reservations my sole object has been to define exactly the meaning and scope of the communication which I was charged to make to your lordship,

Í have, &c ,

The Marquis of Salisbury to M. de Stad. Foreign Office, Feb. 15, 1898.

Your Excellency,—I have had the boronr to re-ceive your note of the toth inst., calling attention to two phrases in a speech delivered by me in the House of Luids on the 8th inst. regarding the com-munication which you made at his office on the rouse of Lucia of the off first legal and fire con-munication which you made at his office on the 27th aft, respecting the port of Talienwan. I regret that I should have misunderstood, even

in a small degree, the meaning which you wished in express on that occasion.

With regard to the character of your communication, I spoke of it as a written assurance because the telegram was shown to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State in a written form, and he was allowed to take a note of it to writing.

Your Excellency states that there appears to have been a slight misapprehension as to the distinction between a lice port and a treaty port and that in the event of the Russian Government acquiring an ontlet into Chinese waters they will be free to decide whether to establish a "porto franco" there, or to assimilate the port in question the trenty ports of the Chinese littoral.

The word used by your Excellency was, Lunder-stand, "onvert," and it would fave been better it I had said "an open port" instead of using the word "free," which seemed to me to be the equivalent, but which is, of course, in some degree

ambiguous.
I beg to leave to a-sure your Excellency that I will take note of the rectifications with which you have been good enough to favour me,.

I have, &c., SALISBURY.

The first mention of Wei-hai wei is contained a telegram of February 25 from Sir O. MacDanald:

I have heard from a Chinese Minister, who is probably well informed, that the Chinese Government would offer lease of Wei-hai-wei to British Government if they thought their request would Government meet with a favourable response.

But at that time her Majesty's Governmen were not prepared to encourage the suggestion. Lord Salisbury replied on the same day :-

With reference to your telegram of the 25th inst., the policy which is at present being pursued by her Majesty's Government aims at discouraging any alienation of Chinese territory.

my any anemaran or Chinese territory.

The discussion of any proposal for the lease of Wei-hai-wei would accordingly be premature, provided the existing position is not materially altered by the action of other Powers.

A few days afterwards, however, the Foreign Office was informed of the Russian demands, and telegraphed on March # to her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg :-

Peking Correspondent Times telegraphs yester day that Russia, in consequence of loan concluded Peking, ilemands sovereign rights over Port Arthm and Tahenwan, on same terms as Ger-mans at Kiao-chon, and right to construct railway from Petuna on Trans-Manchunan Railway of a Mukden to Port Arthur; five days given for reply: event of non-compliance Russian troops will advance into Manchuria.

Similar report comes from MacDonald. Ascertain from Minister for Foreign Affairs whether this statement is correct.

On the next day Sir C. MacDonald telegra plied further from Peking :-

Sir C. MacDonald to the Marquis of Salisbury. (Received March 9, 4.30 p.m.)

(Telegenetic.)
Peking, March 9, 1898, 11.45 a.m. I was informed vesterday by Yamên that Rus-sian Charge d'Affaires had demanded lease of and Port Authur and railway to Port Talienwar Arthm. No conditions named.

Only reason given for this demand was in "as-sist in protecting Manchinia against the aggression of other Powers." Though England and Japan were evidently mean, Charge d'Affaires declined to say which Power was intended. The absurdity of this pretext is fully recognised by the observance of the Customs regulations and taiffs in force in the country where the port is situated. It is only the latter class of ports to which my communication had reference. I did not make the of the term "port franc."

I cannot, moreover, in any way anticipate the decisions of my Government, which, in the event, which is the event, which is the event, which is the event, which are aware that they must yield to UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Russian demands unless they receive help. excuestly beg that your lordship will assist them by giving an assurance to the Russian Governby giving an assurance to the Russian Government that her Majesty's Government have no designs on Manchoria. I pointed out to them that recent assurances given in the House of Commons showed clearly that her Majesty's Government had no designs on any part of China, meless driven thereto by aggression of other Powers. For these assurances they evinced great gratitude, but begged me to telegraph their request.

On March 13 and 16 her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg sent the two following important despetches recording the assurances conveyed to him by the Russian Government :-

Si. Petersburg, March 13, 1893. My Lord,—As I hoped Count Minaviell would give me the assurance that Port Arthur, equally with Talienwan, would, in the event of a lease of these ports to Russia, he open to foreign commerce, I called upon his Excellency this

I told him that the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons had given notification of a question on Monday in respect to affairs in the Far East, and that I would be glad to be in a position to inform your fordship, before the debate came on, of any further assurance his Excellency was willing to give me in regard to this matter.

I pointed out that the assurance given by M. de Staal on behalf of his Government, and frequently reprated to me either by himself or Count Lams-durff, was positive as to the fact, namely, that any port ("tout port") leased by China to Russia

port ("tout port") leased by China to Russia would be open to foreign trade, His Excellency said that this applied only to Talienwan, and that he was some I would admit that be had never given me any assurances that Part Arthur would also be open to trade. I said I would not deny this, but that I begged to ramind him that when the question was first mentioned the Russian Government only alluded to a lease of a port as an outlet for Russian commerce

Count Muravieff then sent for M. de Count Muravieff then sent for M. de Staal's report of his conversation with your lordship, which contained a copy of his note to you, in which he took exception to your lordship's statement in the House of Lords that he had given a "written assurance," and had said that it would be a "free" port. He read me the despatch, a copy of which was already in my possession through the contrest of your lordship, and he found that it coincided with my statement, and that the expression med was clearly "tout port." His Excellency said that he had received the Empero? so deer to tell me that Talienwan would

Emperor's orders to tell me that Talienwan would be open to foreign trade, but that his Imperial Majesty had told him, at the same time, that Port Arthur would be regarded strictly as a military Arthur would be regarded strictly as a military port. He could not, therefore, take upon himself to promise that both Port Arthur and Tahenwan would be open, but that he would be able to give me a definite answer on Wednesday. In the meantime I could report to your lardship that the question was under discussion here.

Referring to his remark that he had never given me any assurance in respect to the opening of Port Arthur, I reminded his Excellency that the mention of this port as comprised in the Russian demands was of comparatively recent date, and that, as I pointed out at the time, it altered in a most important degree the whole situation of affairs.

Count Maravieff then went on to say that the Russian Government did not in any way ("d'au-cune manière") desire to abrogate the sovereignty of the Government over these ports, but that they only required a lease of them for 25 years, for which they would pay an annual rent. The Russian Government considered that China awad them this for the services they had rendered her in her war with Japan, and these services must be pro-perly requited. He spoke of the uncertainty still existing as to the points where the Manchurian Railway would terminate, and seemed to indicate that it was by no means settled that Talienwan

that it was by no means settled that Latenwan would be the terminal station.

I did not enter into any discussion as to the policy of Her Majesty's Government in face of recent developments in the Far East, but confined mysell, as far as possible, to finding out whether he was able to give me an assurance to-day that both Port Arthur and Talienwan, in the event of their being leased to Russia, would be opened to

British and foreign commerce.

I have, &c.; N: R. O'CONOR.

me the assurance that both Port Arthur and Talien wan would be opened to foreign trade, like other Chinese ports, in the event of the Russian Govern-

Chinese ports, in the event of the Kussian Government obtaining a lease of those places from the Chinese Government.

His Excellency further said that he had also repeated to His Imperial Majesty the remarks I had made to him integral to the supreme importance attached by Her Majesty's Government to the maintenance of all rights and privileges secured to Great Britain by their existing treaties with China, and that His Imperial Majesty had told him to assure me that Russia would respect those China, and that first imperial majesty had told him to assure me that Russia would respect those rights, and that there was no intention to infringe them or to impair the sovereignty of China.

I took advantage of the opportunity to again remind this Excellency that I had raised the quention of Port Arthur without instructions from your

remind to Executercy that I had a maked the ques-tion of Port Arthur without instructions from your lordship or without being aware of the view that would be taken by her Majesty's Government in regard to the present demands of the Russian Government, which were totally different from the original proposal, in which there was only a questhe open sea. My object in asking for an assur-ance that Port Arthur as well as Talienwan would be open to foreign trade in the event of their being leased to Russia, was to endeavour to remove, as far as lay in my power, a point which I was sure would be the cause of sectous difference between our respective Governments, and which I con-sidered would be a direct infringement of Article-XXIV., LII., and LIV. of the Treaty of Tientsin.

I received this morning a message from Count Muravieff requesting me to attend his official re-

Ception at the Foreign Office is the afternoon.

Upon calling upon his Excellency, he repeated the assurances he had given me last night, and said that his reason for wishing to see me was that it had occurred to him that, if the assurances be had given to me were mentioned at the present moment in the House of Commons, it might be considered as a want of courtry towards the Chinese Government, who had not yet formally agreed to give the Russian Government a lease of the ports in question.

I told his Excellency that I quite admitted the force of the observation and that I would mention.

force of his observation, and that I would mention

it to your lordship.

I then produced the draft of a telegram which

I then produced the dealt of a telegram which I proposed to send to your lurdship, reporting the assurances he had given me, and, after submitting it to his pecusal, I inquired whether I had accurately reported his language.

His Excellency suggested that instead of my original words, which were that the Russian Government agreed to respect the rights and privitages of the Treaty of Treatsin, the assurances thought he made sonicable to the treates between should be unade applicable to the treaties between China and other foreign Powers.

On this alteration being made, his Excellency said that my report of his statements was accurate, and that I might regard them as a formal assurance on the part of the Russian Government.

I have, &c., N. R. O'CONOR.

I have, &c.,

The Foreign Office replied in the following despatches :-

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor. (Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, March 22, 1898, 5 30 p.m. Inform Count Muravieff that Her Majesty's Government have satisfaction in noting the assurances given to you, to the effect that the Russia Government "have no intention of intringing the rights and privileges guaranteed by existing treaties between China and foreign countries," and that no interference with Chinese sovereignty

is proposed.

Hee Majasty's Government on their part would not regard with any dissatisfaction the lease by Russia of an ice-itee commercial harbour, concted by rail with the Trans-Siberian Railway which is now noder construction.

Questions of an entirely different kind are opened if Russia obtains control of a military port in the neighbourhood of Peking. Port Arthur is uscless for commercial pusposes, its whole im-portance being derived solely from its military strength and strategic position, and its occupation strength and strategic position, and its occupation would inevitably be considered in the East as a standing menace to Peking and the commence ment of the partition of China. The mititary occupation or for infication of any other harbour on the same coast or in the Gulf of Pechili would be open to the same objections with almost equal

From some observations made by Count Lams-doff, and reported by you in your despatch of the Sthinst, her Majesty's Government gather that it is contents, after formally expressing the satistation of Her Majesty's Government at the assume of British trade exceeds this is not a policy favoured by Russia, while it is some to which her Majesty's Government entertain grave objections. Her Majesty's Government, on the other hand, are proposed to give a surface of the sovereignty of China.

The Majesty's Government at the assument at the assument to that in the hands of other nationals. Speaking generally, it may be said that the grave objections. Her Majesty's Government, on the other hand, are proposed to give a surface of the sovereignty of China.

that beyond the maintenance of existing treaty rights they have no interests in Manchinia, and to pledge themselves not to occupy any port in the Gulf of Pechili so long as other Powers pursue he same policy.

The Marquis of Salishury to Sir N. O'Conor,
Foreign Office, March 24, 1898.
Sr.—The Russian Ambassador called upon
Mr. Ballour this afternoon, and asked how things
stood between Russia and England in the Far East,

Mr. Balfour said that the news he had received appeared to him of the most unsatisfactory character. We had always looked with favour upon the idea of Russia obtaining m ice-free port on the Pacific, and he himself had given expression to this view two years ago in a public speech. But the Russian Government had now given a

most unfortunate extension to this policy. If they succeeded in carrying out their proposal of occupying Port Arthur, which was wholly useless as a commercial port, and had no significance or importance except as a military stronghold, they would in effect be commencing the dismenbesinent of China and inviting the other Powers to follow their example. The possession of Port Arthur was not desired by us; but, on the other hand, its occupation by another nation would have an effect upon the balance of power at Peking, which her Majesty's Government could not but tegral with group objection.

regard with grave objection,
Mr. Balfour added that it was much to be regret ted that a policy which, so far as he could judge, would not further the aims or interests of Russia should in any way menace the friendship of the

wa countries.

M. de Staal replied that Talienwan point offering the most lavourable conditions as a outlet for Russian commerce on the Pacific, and that this autlet must necessarily be protected. that this antice must necessarily be protected. La-lienwan, however, was entirely dominated by Port Arthur, and Russia could not leave this stronghold in the hands of another Power. I am, &c. (Signed on behalf of the Marquis of Salisbury.)

The action of Russia had by this time comepelled the British Government to make a countermove, and the Foreign Office accordingly sent the following instructions in Peking and Tokyo .---

Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. MacDonald.

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, March 25, 1898.

Balance of power in Gulf of Pechili is makerially altered by surrender of Port Arthur by Vameo to Russia. It is therefore necessary to obtain, in the manner you think most efficacions and speedy, the refusal of Wei hai-wei on the departure of the Japanese. The terms should be similar to those granted to Russia for Port Arthur. British fleet on its way from Hongkong to Gulf of Pechili.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir E. Satow. (Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, March 31, 1898. Inform Japanese Government that we are manding a lease of Wei-hai-wei, whenever demanding a lease of Wei-haiswei, whenever evacuated by Japan, on same terms as lease of Port Arthur to Russia.

Government to be informed.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir F. Lascelles, (Telegraphic.)
Faceign Office, March 26th, 1898.

My telegram of the 25th inst. to her Majesty's Minister in Peking, repeated to you. Her Majesty's Government have demanded a teversionary lease of Wei-thai-wei, and it is possible that the German Government will address you with regard to our occupying territory which forms

part of the Province of Shanting.

Should this be the case, you are authorized to explain that Wei-wei wei is not at present, and cannot, we believe, be made a commercial purt by which access can be obtained to any part of the province. We do not wish to interfere with the impresses of Garman in the terrior. province. We do not wish to make the action, the action, in our opinion very regrettable, of Russia with respect to Port Arthur has compelled us to take the course we are now pursuing.

Sir N. R. O'Conor had an important interview with Count Muravieff on March 23rd.

Sir N. O'Coner to the Marquis of Salisbury. (Received March 28th.)

St. Petersburg, March 23, 1898.
My Lord,—I have the honour to report that I spoke to Count Muravieff this alternoon in the sense of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, and before I left I read to him a paraphrase

I repeated to his Excellency the arguments set forth by your Lordship and those I had previously used, as your Lordship is aware, with a view to induce his Excellency to reconsider the advisability of pressing demands upon China, which were satisfaction to the commencement of the dismemberment of the Chinese Empire. I laid stress upon the great advantage to Russia of the pledge which your Lordship was willing to give, not to occupy any port in the Gulf of Pechili so, long as other Powers likewise abstain from doing so, and tried to convince his Excellency that this would be improved. would give Russia all she could legitimately demand without opening the way to possible com-plications, and that an understanding between her Majesty's Government and Russia would in aln any possible eventuality secure the safety of Russian Fleet either at Talienwan or else-

His Excellency would not, however, admit that the occupation of Port Arthur was an attack upon the occupation of Part Arthur was an attack upon the integrity of China, or a menace to Peking, or that it injured other Powers in any way. In fact, he said that it was England alone that made diffi-culties, and stood in the way of Russia. No other Gavernment had questioned him officially on the subject, or seemed to resent in any degree the proposed action of Russia.

His remarks on this subject showed some heat, but I found it easy to justify our interference on the score of the immensely superior importance of our commercial interests.

His Excellency then want on in say that Talien-wan was useless without Port Arthur, as they must have a safe harbour for their fleet, which could not be at the mercy of the elements at Vladivostock, or dependent upon the good will of the Japanese. Every other great mailtime Power had a navel station in the China seas, and why should not Russia, whose fleet was now very considerable, and whose territory was conterminous? In fact, it was a matter of vital importance to Russia, and they must lusist upon obtaining a lease of the ports.

When I had presented the situation in as serious a manner as I could, I told his Excellency that as a diplomatist I was, of course, anxious to report everything to your Lordship that might help in any way to an understanding, and with this idea I would like to ask his Excellency if he would be willing to give me a written statement of the assurances he had authorized me to com-municate to your Lordship in respect to the sovereignty of China and the validity of existing treaties.

Count Muravieff said that he would give me a written assurance, but that he did not see how it could take a definite and, so to say, concrete form until China agreed to grant the Russian demands. I said that I would report to your Lordship what he had said.

date.

I had the honour to do so in my telegram of this

I have, &c., N. R. O'Conor. On March 28 Mr. Balfour embodied the views of her Majesty's Government on the action of Russia in an able and exhaustive desnatch :-

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.
Foreign Office, March 28, 1898.
Sir,—From your Excellency's telegrams, and from those which have reached her Majesty's Government from Peking, it appears that the Russian Government have requested or required from that of China three concessions in Manchuria and the Lizotung Peninsula. They have demanded a lease of Talienwan, a lease of Port Arthur, and the right to construct under specified conditions a railway connecting these two ports with the geneal railway system of Siberia.

It is evident that these concessions, It is evident that liters concessions, whether temporary in form or not, will permanently and profoundly affect the future condition of Man-churia. For good or for evil, the social, political, and economic state of this region must inevitably be revolutionized when it is traversed by a railway under Russian management, connecting ports on the Pacific under Russian control with the commercial and military system of the Russian Empire. It becomes necessary therefore to examine how these changes are likely to affect British interests, and what attitude Her Majesty's Government should adopt with regard to them. The interests of this adopt with regard to them. In a interests of this country in China are not, indeed, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, different in kind from those of other countries, but they are greater in extent, and have a greater relative importance, in proportion as the volume of British trade exceeds that in the hands of other nationals,

estimate of the action of other Powers in the Fac East depends on the degree to which it promotes

or hinders the attainment of this object, It follows from this that the occupation of terri tory by loreign Powers is to be judged by the re-sults, direct and indirect, immediate and remote, which it is likely to have upon the commercial in-terests of the world, and the right of all nations to trade within the limits of the Chinese Empire upon equal terms.

The construction of tailways, so long as the natural flow of teads among them is not obstructed or diverted by fiscal or administrative regulaed or divested by fiscal or administrative regulations, must always be one of the most powerful means by which the mode desired by her Majesty's Government may be attained. It is with no dissatisfaction, therefore, that they view the scheme of railway extension which is to traverse Manchuria from north to south, and ultimately to connect Talienwan with the general system of Russian railways. An ice-free port in the Far East has always seemed to her Majesty's Government to be a legitimate object of Russian ambition, and they have no objection to offer to its acquisition.

have no objection to offer to its acquisition.

Her Majesty's Government have further noted with satisfaction that the conditions to which the opening of new callways and ports in China should, opening of new callways and ports in China should, in their opinion, he subject—viz., the continuance of the rights and privileges secured to foreign nations by existing treaties—have been guaranteed by the explicit declarations of the Russian Government, which have been conveyed through you to her Majesty's Government in your telegram of March 16 and despatch of that date. These declarations are to the effect that Port Arthur, as well as Taljenwan, shall be open to foreign trade like other Chinese ports; that Russia has no intention of impairing the sovereignty of China; and that she will respect will the rights of China; and that she will respect all the rights and privileges secured by existing treaties between China and other foreign Powers—a pledge which not only includes equality of commercial treatment, but also the right of foreign ships of war to wist notes which though lessed to Russia assertion visit ports which, though leased to Russia, are still

to remain integral portions of the Chinese Empire.
The commercial side therefore of the Russian policy in Manchuia, considered in the light of the engagements entered into by the Russian Government, is in accord with the general views of Her Majesty's Government. Unfortunately, this cannot be said of the policy considered as a whole. The Russian Government have exacted from the Yamen not merely railway concessions through Manchuria and the lease of a commercial harbour Maleuters and the lease of a commercial harden at Talienwan; they have required also that the control of Port Aribur should be ceded to them for a like term of years under similar conditions. Now, Port Arthur is not a commercial harbour. It is doubtful whether it could be converted into one. It is certain that, even if such a project were pas-sible, it could never be worth while for the owner or lessees of Talienwan in embark upon it. But, though not a commercial harbour, Port Arthur supplies a naval base, limited, indeed, in extent, but possessing great natural and artificial strength. And this, taken in connection with its strate-gic position, gives it an importance in the Gulf of Pechili, and therefore at Peking, upon which, in their representations to Japan at the close of the war with China, the Russian Government laid the greatest emphasis.

It is from this last point of view that the occupation of Port Arthur chiefly concerns her Majesty's Government. It is not because a position which can easily be made a naval arsenal of great strength has been acquired by Russia that they regree its occupation by that Power. It is because the possession, even if temporary, of this particular position, is likely to have political consequences at Peking of great international importance, and because the acquisition of a Chinese barbour intosionsly useless for commercial purposes by a foreign Power will be universally interpreted in the Far Bast as indicating that the partition of China has begun.

As regards the second of these reasons multing It is from this last point of view that the oc-

As regards the second of these reasons nothing Intther need be said, insamuch as Her Majesty's Government noderstand from Count Moravieff's communication to you that this result is as little communication to you that this result is as little desired by the Russian Government as it is by that of Her Majesty. As regards the first, it may penhaps be proper to observe that a great military amirable exchange of views between your Excellency with the land femilier of China, including the portion lying nearest to its capital, is never likely to be without its due there of influence on the connocils of that country. Her Majesty's Government could pretend to the privilege of being made acquainted with negatiations in progress here regard it as most unfortunate that it has been thought necessary in addition to obtain control of a port which, if the rest of the Guiff of Pechili remains in hands as helpless as those of the Sovereign Power, will command the maintime approaches to its capital and give to Russia the same strategic advances by a which we hoped, moreover, to obtain the Russia the same strategic advances by a which we hoped, moreover, to obtain the

she already possesses in so ample a measure by

Her Majesty's Government have thought it their duty thus to put on record their grave objections to the occupation of Port Arthur by Russia. They regret that the proposals contained in my telegram of the 22nd inst, were not acceptable to the Cabi net of St. Petersburg; but as these were rejected they must retain their entire liberty of action to take what steps they think best to protect their

own interests and to diminish the evil conse-quences which they auticipate.

Your Excellency will read this despatch to the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and give bim m conv of it.

I am, &c. (on behalf of the Marquis of Salis sry), A. J. Balfour.

This was followed by an argent telegram :-The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

Foreign Office, March 31, 1898. With reference to your telegram of the 30th in With reference to your telegram of the 30th instant, it is of importance to us that the assurances which were given to you by Count Moravieff on the 16th of the present month by authority of the Emperor should be obtained in writing. Our present policy is based upon these assurances, and should any attempt be made to modify them it might be necessary for us to reconsider our attitude. A recapitulation of these assurances will be found in my despatch of the 28th instant, and Mr. Curzon will repeat them this afternoon in the House of Commons. A debate on foreign affairs will probably take place on Tresday, the 5th proxime, in the course of which I shall refer

It would be desicable that a note should be sent to the Russian Government in which the precise language employed by the Minister for Foreign should be recapitulated, with a request that he should confirm its accuracy.

Satisfactory replies with regard to the lease of Wei-hai wei to Great Britain were received a few days later from Tokyo and Peking.

Sir E. Satow to the Marquis of Salisbury .- (Re

Ceived April 3.)
(Telegraphic.)
Tokyo, April 2, 1898.
With reference to your hordship's telegram of the 31st ultimo, I have received repty from Japanese Government expressing concurrence in contemplated lease to Great Britain of Weishai weighter expectation by Lonan.

after evacuation by Japan. Peking, April 3, 1898, 8.30 p.m. Yamên agreed yesterday to the

rangement :---China will lease Wei-bai-wei to Great Britain on the same terms as Port Arthur has been leased to Russia, but Great Britain agrees not to take possession of the place until it has been given up by Japan. The lease will continue until Russia ceases to occupy Liaolung Penisula. Details are lacan. left for subsequent adjustment.

The series close with the following Note from the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg setting forth the last and final construction placed by the Russian Government on the various assurances which it had conveyed in earlier notes and despatches.

#### (Translation.)

St. Petersburg, March 22nd (April 1st), 1893.

II. L'Ambassadeur,—The note which you excellency was good enough to ad rest to me on the 20th March (1st April) indicates certain missunderstandings which I am auxious to rectify without the least delay.

I mill begin by a judge got deat the idea which

without the least delay.

I will begin by p inting out that the ideas which I may have expressed very confidentially on the 4th (16th) and 11th (23td) March, relative to the conditions in which it seemed desirable to me that Port Arthur and Talicowan should be placed, if China consented to gont a lease of them to Russia, ought never to have been interpreted as "assurances," and could not in reality have such a signification.

a signification. was evidently impossible for me to make the slightest engagement on this subject before the conclusion of the arrangements which were only

opening of the port of Talienwan, which would offer great advantages to all nations. Now that the negotiations with China have brought about the desired result, all that is entirely confirmed. The substitution of the Russian multiout for possession by China of Ports Author and Talienwan has not affected in any way the interests of the other Powers in these regions; quite on the contrary, thanks to the friendly agreement arrived at between the two great neighbouring empires, a port hitherto closed is open in the trade of the whole world and placed order exceptionally favourable conditions, as it is destined to be consected with the great line of the Siberian Railway.

As regards all other points, the respect for the sovereign rights of China implies the scumpulous maintenance of the status quo existing before the trace of the ports which have been conceded.

Your Excellency having observed to me that

sing Excellency having observed to me that stem-of-war and merchant ships are in certain cases, provided for by the treaties, admitted even into the closed purts of China, I answered that accordingly this facility would be assured to them by the regulations in force.

It follows that Port Arthur will be open to English ships up the same conditions as it has also

lish ships on the same conditions as it has always been, but not that Russia should alone the lease which has been granted to her by a friendly Pawer to arbitrarily transform a closed and principally military port into a commercial port like any

These are the few observations which I have thought it right to make to your Excellency to complete the conversation which we have had on the same subject.

Lhave, &c., Count Moravibre,

The correspondence also includes a number of other despatches dealing with the abortive negotiations at Peking for a British loan, and with the concessions subsequently made by the Chinese Government at Sir Claude MacDonald's instance, but these contain little which has not already been made public.

#### CRICKET.

A match was played on Saturday afternoon tetween teams captained by Mr. C. M. Duff and Mr. J. P. Mollison. The former won the toss and Mr. J. P. Mollison. The former won the toss and went in first, managing to compile a total of 108. A Kingdon was the chief-scorer with 28, which was not altogether free from faults, as he ought to have been taken more than once. For the opposing side Crawford and Powys batted well, the former making 45 and the latter 32, including 6 fours. White's 28 not not was also a creditable achievement. The result was an easy win for Mr. Mollison's team. Score:—

# MR. BUFF'S TRAM. 12 10 Mr. H. Irwine not out Extra ... ... ... ... ... ... ...

108 MR. HOLLISON'S TRAM, Mr. T. S. Forrest, b. Murdoch,
Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, c. White, b. Mardoch
Mr. E. W. Kilhy, b. Mardoch
Mr. P. B. Clarke, b. Mindoch, Mr. P. B. Clawford, c. H. Goddard, b. Stewart
Mr. J. P. Mollison, b. Stewart
Mr. J. P. Mollison, b. Stewart
Mr. J. P. Mollison, b. Stewart
Mr. H. S. Goddard, c. H. Goddard, b. Stewart
Mr. E. White, not out
Mr. B. Powys, c. Schuri, b. Kingdon
Dr. Wheeler, c. and b. Kingdon
Mr. A. S. Garfit, c. Doff, b. Mindoch
Reter 43 Extras ... ... .. ... ... ... ... it. ...

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT KOBE.

... ... ... ... ... ... 174

#### TEA-FIRING GODOWNS DESTROYED.

(FROM OUR OW" CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, June 10, 9 10 a.m. Mesers Asserilla ten-firing godowns completely destroyed by fire last night.

#### H.R.H. PRINCE HENRY IN PEKING.

Preparations have been going on in Paking for some weeks nust for the coyal reception of Prince Henry of Prassia and especially in the German rienty of reasts and especially in the German embassy, which the Basoness von Heyking had arranged for the occasion in a princely manner.

Baron von Heyking left Peking to set out on the 13th inst. from Taku on hoard the Chinese

man-of war Chenhal to meet the Denischland and receive the Prince, Upon landing at Taku, the flows, which had hoisted the German flag, thundered forth a salute, in which shared a Japanese gusboat and the Bitish dispatch-boat, the Alacrity. The Vicesov of Chiliti, H.R. Wang Wenshao, boarded the Cheshai, as she reached the landing stage, to welcome the Prince, who then set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the special train built and the set out for Peking in the set which had boisted the German flag, thunfor the Downger-Empress, and reached Muchiapu, for the Downger-Empress, and reached Machaph, the Peking terminus, at 2 p.m. Here Prince Henry was received by H.E. Prince Ching and the members of the Tsung-ii Yamen, as well as by the German Legation. Thence the Prince was carried into Peking in a special Imperial chair. On either side marched a detachment of German marines, under Lieutenant Robert, with a martial bearing that impressed not only the Chinese but the assembled Europeans. At Chinese but the assembled Europeans. At the embassy, the Chinese had ensited two tents for a guard of honour during the Prince's stay. Immediately after his entry presentations took place of Chinese high officials, of the diplomatic , and of the Germans resident in Peking. In the evening a dinner, with twenty-four covers, was given by the Ambassador.

On the 14th of May the Prince assisted at the races and presented the German cup to the fortu-nate winner, Mr. Gwyone, Renter's Agent. After this lunch was served in the Grand Stand, which was dressed with German colours. In the even-ing the whole diplomatic corps was invited to disc with the Prince at the embassy, when the band of the Deutschland played in such style as to touch the feelings not only of the Germans present but equally these of other nationalities.

On the following morning His Highness displayin his vigour by vising at 5 o'clock in order to
interview the Emperor of China at 7 precisely, in
his palace at Wan-Chu-Shan. The Prince rode
thither on horseback and dismounted at Niangniang temple close by, where, with his suite, he donard his gala uniform. Thence the party were carried in sedan-chairs to the charming summer palace of the Chinese emperor,—the Was-Chu-Shan, sever before touched by European funt. After the opening of the pm ple doors of the palace, the Prince and his attendant suite of military and dutilities were employed into a payillion known civilians were conducted into a pavilion known as the Yu-Lan-Tien, where a Chiunse dejeuner was laid out. Hence, accompanied by the LG Minister, his Adjutant Commander Müler, and the Chief Secretary and Interpreter of the LG. embassy, Reither von der Goltz, the Prince proceeded to visit the Dowager Empress.

The Empress received the Prince in a hall admined with every possible decoration of Chinese adding the well every possible decoration of collises at, and an avenue of old eloisonné led to the yellow-carpeted throne upon which the Dowager Empless was rested. Her Majesty, on whom no European eye had ever gazed notil this day, carried on a lively conversation with the Prince corried on a livery conversation with the Prince through the intermediary of Heir von der Goltz; and we are informed that this was not a mere interchange of compliments but that, among others, the question of the reception by the Empress, on a future occasion, of the ladies of the diplomatic corps was discussed. We are taid too that the Empress, whose Manchu headdless was covered with magnificent jewels, displayed an intelligence and energy of character which greatly impressed those who now has her for the first time. At the close who now saw ner for the first time. At the close of the interview Her Majesty distributed to orders "adorned with precions stones and other presents, -amongst them fans and pictures painted by her own hand,

After this the Emperor himself was visited by the Prince, accompanied by his full suite and the menibers of the legation. pyer the presents sent by his brother, the German Emperor, and which consisted of wonderful speci-mens of the Berlin porcelain works,—vases of the much valued Sang de banf on bronze stands. The Prince sat in the seat of honour beside the Em-peror, who expressed his satisfaction by repeated peror, who ex handshakes.

Immediately, as soon as the Prince had return

marines presented arms and sounded the drums. This is the first time the German, or indeed any Buropean troops; have presented arms to a Chinese Emperor.

At the close of these formal ceremonies, the Empress invited the Prince to inspect the beautiful gardens and plantations of Wan-Chu-Shan.
Thereupon His Highness and suite entered a small steam-launch and were conducted to the different pavilions bordering the lake, all filled with choice works of art; among them, the painted studies of the Downger Empress specially at-tracted the Prince's attention.

Then followed a banquet at the Prince of Ching's, which did great honour to His Excellency's chef de cuisine. Prince Ching toasted Prince Henry and expressed the warm admira-tion and friendly feelings entertained by the Emperor of China for the Emperor of Germany, o which the Prince responded in similar terms.

On the evening of this ever-to-be-remembered day, a dissert in hosons of the Prince was given in the British Legation. Naturally the conversation at this dinner turned chieff on the event of that at this dinner throad cherry on the event of that morning and the new era now opened up in the intercourse of China with European Powers. It was such a triumph of Germany as the oldest experts had not deemed possible. Congratulations were showered upon His Royal Highness from all

This historical event is a testimony to the able work of German diplomacy, as well as to the fasci-nation of Prince Henry's presence, such as cannot but inspire all Germans with a feeling of exultation and thankfolness —Condensed from the Ostasia thche Lloyd by the N.-C. Daily News.

#### THE SUBMARINE WARSHIP.

There is an interesting account of a submarine boal, invented by an American, in a recent number of the Illustrated American. The writer remarks that a few years ago if any one had seriously talked of a boat which would carry human beings in its cabins, dive like a fish and stay for hours out of sight and sound, he would have been laughed at; in fact, such a boat was made the feature of the most improbable story ever written feature of the most improbable story ever written by the French witer of fantastic romance, Jules Verne. The experts in such matters differ in opinion about the safety of the boat, but others are quite sure it will be very useful in secretly attacking the big fleets of an enemy, and are quite certain that there is no danger to life for those who go down into the sea in this interesting craft. It is comparatively easy nowadays to build a ship which will float upon the stuface, but it is an untied problem to construct a vessel which will disappear and re-appear at the bidding of one man, while other men untits oughts and fire its guns while other men um its engines and fire its gununder the surface, away from the natural light and air. The boat designed for submarine work and air. The bost designed for submarine work for the Navy was invented by a man who lives in Newark, New Jersey, named John P. Holland. The plans call for a boat 80% long and 11% in diameter. In general shape it resembles the Rugby football. It has a little turret on its top or outer deck, and one smokestack. This turnet can be deck, and one smokestack. This turiet can be quickly closed to keep out the water, and will be used only when the boat is on the surface as a coming tower or pilot house from which the boat is sterred. The smoke stack can be quickly shipped and the aperture immediately closed and made and the aperture influentiatry codes and make absolutely watertight. When on the surface the bust will be run by steam, but when below the surface electricity will be used from a storage string which is capable of setaining enough power to tun the vessel under water for several bours. When it is desired to dive, the snoke-stack is pulled in and everything made tight on the rounded deck. The furnace doors are closed air-tight. Certain valves are opened and the water is allo to enter small apartments, or pockets, in the bow of the boat, and, by the operations of diving "rudders," or prepallers, the boat descends. The filting of the rudders at certain angles causes the boat to ascend or descend.

The boat after reaching the desired depth, may proceed straight ahead. Suppose it is now 40h, below the surface. The dynamos or electric enbelow the smalace. The dynamos or electric en-gines are started, the passage so far having been made by the surplus amount of steam in the es-gines. There is a small screw or propeller at gines. each end of the boat, and the operation of either of these will case that end of the boat. Of course, beneath the water the torpedo-boat cannot pro-

who will be imprisoned in this steel cask feet from light and air, will maintain life, not to say comfort. There are on each side of the vessel heavy panes of glass, each protected with a steel sintter which can be closed, should the glass be broken. There are incandescent electric lights, such as you see in all offices, which give artificial light to the different cabins, connecting passages, and engine-rooms. Air is carried in manganese bronze cylinders in the bottom of the boat, and this air is regularly distributed for the benefit of those in the boat.

The interior of this marvellous bont will be an interesting and cosy place, for everything must be compact and no room must be wasted in luxurious appointments or spacious surroundings. Some of the interior space is given over III two little ruoms from which torpedoes may be discharged. These torpedoes are sent out from the ship with great force and proceed through the water at considerable speed, the intention being that they shall go through the side of the enemy's ship and burst in the interior of the vessel. The bottom of the boat is fitted with spaces, into which the water may be admitted to give the boat added weight, so that the craft may descend. An ingenious accompensatis provided by which the water is expelled and the beat enabled to lighten itself and rise. There is provision also for storing seven torpedues. The onter spaces along the sides of the vessel are used as bunkers, some of them filled with coal to feed the furnace, and care has been taken that the coal be used equally from each side so as to counterbalance the ship. Within the inner space the forward end is designed as a coom to dis-charge torpedoes from. Just behind this is the charge torpedoes ham. Just behind this is the boiler, enclosed in asbestos, which is a material designed to prevent conflagration. Then comes the engine-room, with the engines, condenser, pumps, blower, and the dynamo. Last of all, in the stern of the vessel, is the sir compresser. Ordinarily this vessel will be run only partly submerged. On such occasions steam will be used, merged. On such occasions steam will be used, the firemen standing before the furnace and shovel-ing in the coat. The captain will steer the boat from the tower, and smoke will pour out of the ittle smoke-stack. Quicker than it takes to tell of it, the smoke-stack will disappear, the tunet be closed tightly, and the boat dive out of sight. Nothing on the surface will indicate that there has ever been a torpedo boat about, and nothing will show which direction this curious engine of war has taken. If the exemy send out a torpedo boat, this submerged vessel can use under it and strike it with the armour timet. For larger ships the submarine boat must approach quite sear and discharge its torpedo with great certainty, for the failure of a shot would mean discovery and perhaps death for all on board. The boat is provided with diving all on board. The boat is provided with diving helmets, one for each member of the crew, so that in case of accident the crew may stand some chance of escaping in case their boat is blown up. White submerged, a clever contrivance for observing what is happening on the surface is provided by means of a "camera lucida." This is an arrangemeans of a "camera lucida." This is an arrange-ment in one of the cabins which reproduces the view on the surface of the water by means of a long tube which is run up through the deck of the binst and the water above it. It need only be above the surface for a moment and then withdrawn. By this artificial means of observation those in this submerged cask can see all that is in progress around them without exhibiting their position.

#### EIGHTY-FIVE MILES AN HOUR.

Not much has been heard of late iil the s Not much the trials of locomotives on English railways. There is an article on the subject in a recent Engineering Magazine, in which Mr. C. Rous-Marten tecords the most notable lacts. After giving the trials of earlier years, especially those of the "race war" of 1895, he mentions that maximum speeds of 85.7 index an hour were attained on the West Coast by the London and North-Western and Caledonian coupled 6ft. 6in., and on the Eant Coast by the North-Eastern 7ft, coupled. The Coast by the North-Eastern 7st, coupled. The other engines, towever, do not appear to have been pressed to their utmost especity. He goes on to state that early in 1897 a curious series of speed trials took place. The proceeding was virtually forced on the North British Railway, a time not usually distinguished for exceptional speed, by the columnation of its long-standing dispute with the North-Eastern Company as to the working of the line from Berwick to Edinburgh. This length of 57\frac{1}{2} miles had been worked, up to that date, by the North-Eastern engines, see one pavilion to the other. The Prince then conducted the Emperor into a small side-toom, where he had a long private conversation with him, the only third person present being the German interpreter, Herr von der Goltz. Upon the Emperor leaving the pavilion, the German detachment of leaving the pavilion, the German detachment of leaving the pavilion, the German detachment of leaving the pavilion. This length of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which hough of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which hough of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which hough of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which hough. This length of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which hough. This length of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which hough. This length of 57½ miles had been worked, now completely surrounds the vessel. On the surface, for there is a greater resistance by the body of water, which had been working of the line from Berwick to School 57½ miles had been worked, up to that date, by the North-Bastern engines, so far as the through Anglo-Scottish expresses were concerned, owing to considerations of convenienced, owing to considerations of convenienced and the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of the working of

North British, desiring to terminate this arrangement, gave notice to the North-Eastern that, at the expiration of January, 1897, of the old agreement, it would not be remewed on the same terms, but that the North British Company would work all the through trains on its own line. The North Eastern authorities contended that, having statutory running powers as far as Edinburgh, they had a right to insist on continuing to work the trains.

The rights of the case are still under litigation, being now before the eighth court first has adjudi-

The rights of the case are still under hitigation, being now before the eighth court that has adjudicated on the matter. But the North British authorities positively declared that they would not permit the North-Eastern engines to work the through expresses after the expiration of the old agreement, and arrangements were made for changing locomotives at Berwick. Now, this was a simple enough matter as regarded the expresses which stopped regularly at Berwick, such as the "Flying Scotchman" and the "Corridor Diner." The time allowed was anote for the change. But "Flying Scotchman" and the "Corridor Diner. The time allowed was ample for the change. But two of the night expresses "down," and one "up," were timed to run past Berwick without stopping, the former making the long run from Newcastle to Edinburgh, 1242 miles, in 2 hours 23 minutes, or at the average rate of 52.2 miles an hour. It was contended by the North-Eastern Company that

Edinburgh, 1243 miles, in 2 hours 23 minutes, or at the average rate of \$2.2 miles an hour. It was contended by the North-Eastern Company that this could not be done over a somewhat heavy road, if the trains were delayed at Bet wick. The North British authorities replied that it could an should and would be done. They pledged themselves that no time should be lost by their engines, but that, if "the North-Eastern engines delivered the train punctually at Betwick, the North British engine should ensire its punctual arrival at Edinburgh." And so a "match against time" was virtually entered upon. The task set was to run the \$7\frac{1}{2}\text{ miles from start to stop in 63 minutes about half the distance being up-hill. The journey began with a climb to Goant's House Summit, 17 miles, mostly at 1 in 190 and 1 in 200, with a short break about midway. Then came a \$5\text{ mile drop at 1 in 96, then an easier descent of 6 miles to Dunban, followed by short alternate rives and falls, and concluding with a steep rise of 1 in 78 into Edinburgh.

Although it was found by experiment that one of Mr. Holme's coupled engines 6ft, 6in. (cylinders 18 by 26) could easily keep time—one, indeed, running the heavier opposite journey, with 220 tons, in a minute less time—as the company was upon honour to maintain absolute ponctuality, an assistant engine was always used on these particular trains, in anticipation of any slight mishap to the train-engine which might prevent a punctual arrival. As a result, not only was the run invariably made within the brooked time, but on aspecial "spirit" was made made, the times were espectively \$5\text{ minutes 40 seconds, 57 minutes 21 seconds, and \$5\text{ minutes 40 seconds, 57 minutes 21 seconds, and \$5\text{ minutes 40 seconds, 57 minutes 21 seconds, and \$5\text{ minutes 40 seconds, 57 minutes 21 seconds, and \$5\text{ minutes 40 seconds, 57 minutes 11 state it in six Mr. Rons-Matten, and when a special "spirit" was made made, the times were respectively \$5\text{ minutes 40 seconds, 57 minu having single driving wheels of 7ft. 6m, and cylinders 16 by 24. This performance, both for average speed and for length of uninterrupted run, rage speed and for length of uninterrupted con-ternamed for many years unbeaten. On Decem-ber 20, 1895, the Great Western Company can a special train from Plymonth to London to prove that arriving mails could be conveyed more quick-by by that unite than via Liverpool. The journess from Plymonth to London was made in 4 hours 27 minutes, including stoppages. The con-from Exeter to Bristol, 75½ miles, was done in 73 minu-les, or at the average rate of 62.1 miles an hour; the run from Bristol to London, 118½ miles, occu-pied t16 minutes, a rate of 61.3 miles an hour. The engines used from Exeter to London were Mr. Dean's single-wheelers 71, 8 n. The load was about 129 tons, was about 129 tons.

# LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE " JAPAN TIMBE.") THE WAR.

SANTIAGO BOMBARDMENT RESUMED.

London, June 6. is expected, will The Americans renewed the bombard-ning of October.

· Digitized by GOOGLE

ment of Santiago on Friday, damaging the batteries. The ship Merrimac, which had been sent out of the harbour for the express purpose of blocking the channel has been sunk by a volunteer vessel and her crew taken prisoners.

SPANISH SQUADRON CANNOT ESCAPE.

Admiral Sampson, now commanding the American squadron at Santiago, in a despatch to Washington says that Admiral Cervera with his six warships in the harbour is unable to evade capture or destruction.

SENATE PASSES WAR REVENUE BILL. SPECIAL TAX ON TEA.

The Senate has passed the War Revenue Bill, with an amendment for taxing tea ten cents, per ound.

AMERICAN PLUCK AND SPANISH CHIVALRY.

London, June 7.

The sinking of the Merrimac in the harbour of Santiago, by Lieutenaut Hob. son and eight volunteers, was an act of distinguished heroism. Having steered the Merrimac athwart the channel, under a tremendous fire, Hobson pressed a button which exploded a series of torpedoes. The crew then jumped into a small boat and tried to return to the Fleet. Admiral Cerveras chivalrously ceased firing, sent a boat to pick up the Americans, and offered to exchange prisoners in recogni-tion of the crew's gallantry. The Spanish Admiral's conduct is keenly appreciated in America.

REPORTED LANDING OF AMERICAN TROOPS.

INSURGENTS JOIN FORCES.

London, June 8, Reports have reached New York that 5,000 Americans have landed near Santiago, their landing being covered by the fire of some of Admiral Sampson's ships, joined by 3,000 insurgents. The rest of the Squadron simultaneously renewed the bombardment of Sautiago forts.

> SANTIAGO FORTS SILENCED. CONSIDERABLE SPANISH LOSSES. COMMANDER KILLED.

London, June q. Admiral Sampson telegraphs that he bombarded the Santiago forts for three hours on Monday, completely silencing The Spanish admit that the cruiser Reina Mercedes was struck by a shell, her commander and six men killed, and seventeen wounded. Besides three army officers were killed and eighteen soldiers wounded. The damage to the batteries is said to be unimportant.

#### THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN. BRITISH REINFORCEMENTS.

London, June 4. The Times states that the infantry brigade under the command of Colonel Lyttelton, which is going to the Nile, will probably consist of the First Grenadiers, Second Rifle Brigade, First Warwickshire Regiment, and Second Lancashire Fusi-

# DEATH OF MR. PLIMSOLL

The death has occurred of Mr. Plimsoff, for twelve years Member of Parliament for Derby.

#### THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN. EXPEDITION TO KHARTOUM.

London, June 7. An expedition consisting of 20,000 troops has been sent to Khartoum, which, it is expected, will be reached at the begin-

#### RIOTING IN IRELAND.

MOB OVERPOWERS POLICE: TROOPS IN CHARGE OF STREETS.

Serious rioting has occurred at Belfast, An Orange mob attacked a Nationalist procession, and overpowered the police, chasing them back to barracks and wounding fifty. The streets had to be cleared by the military.

DUKE OF YORK IN COMMAND.

London, June 8.

The Duke of York has left Portsmouth in command of the cruiser Crescent on a three months' cruise.

#### (Received by the Fift) PASSPORTS FOR PORT ARTHUR.

Peking, June 4. The decision of the Russian Authorities at Port Arthur that aliens desirous of visiting Port Arthur, must hereafter be furnished with a passport issued by the Russian Consuls was, it is said, due to their misinterpretation of the home Government's instructions.

## CITY IMPROVEMENTS AT PEKING.

The Representatives of the foreign Powers accredited here have conjointly advised the Court of Peking to improve the streets of the city.

#### FOREIGN WARSHIPS AT JINSEN.

Jinsen, June 4. The foreign warships now at anchor here are the Undaunted, British man-ofwar, and the Russian vessel Gremiastchy. SUCCESSFUL "COUP" BY PHILIPPINE REBELS.

Hongkong, June 7.
According to a private letter from Aguinaldo, the rebels have occupied the province of Cavite and taken prisoner its governor. It is stated that Batangas has also fallen into the hands of Aguinaldo.

THE "UNDAUNTED."

Jinsen, June 8. The Undaunted arrived here to-day.

#### COMMUNICATIONS RESTORED.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.) Fujiya Hotel, Miyanoshita,

June 9, r p.m.
Through horse trains (basha) are now running between Kodzu and Yumoto, and, the mountain road having been cleared. jinrikisha can now proceed from Yumoto to Miyanoshita.

### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUK

From	Line.	Steamer,	Date.
Tacoma, Wash	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	So. Jone 10
Canada, 8cc	C. P. B. Co	Ken, of India	M. June 23
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Caledonien t	. W. June m
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric a	Th. June
Hongkong	C. P. R. Cs.	Em. of China a	Th. Jave 26
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Braemar	Th. June 26
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	C of R. Pro	Th. June 16
Hongkong	P. & O Co.	Rohilla	M. June so
Honghong	O, & O. Co.	Gaelie	Su. June 16
Вигаре	N. D. Llayd	Hohenzotiern	W. July 6

- z Left Hongkong on the 7th Inst. San Francisco en the 18th May.
- 3 Left Houghong on the 8th inst.

THE	NEXT M	AH. LEAVE	is.
for	Line.	Steamer,	Date,
dongkenng flougkeng Hongkong flougheng shaughai annada, &c fongkong cottand, Ore tureperica turope, via S'hei, turope, via S'hei,	N P. Co. P. 81. co. M. M. Co.	Roberzoilera kim, of India Tacoma Rosetta Satkvo Maru Em. of China Doric Braccarr C, of R, Pro Caiedonien Gaelle	F. June m. M. June 13 M. June 13 M. June 13 W. June 15 F. June 17 F. June 17 St. June 18 W. June 18 W. June 18

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### CHRSS

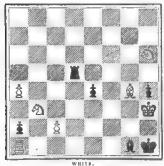
All Communications to be addressed to the Curss Eption.

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Clubs are closed during the summer months.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 370. BLACK. WHITE. -Q to Q sq -Q in R sq cli 2-Ki lakes O Õin Risquii BloB3 male 1-B takes II 2—Q to B sq ch 3—Q to B 5 mate -Bitakes P 2-B covers (Kt 7) 2-Q to B :q ch 3-Q to B 5 mate -B to K18 2-Kt to B 4 ch 3-Q takes P mate 2-K to R 7 B to Kt 6, or other 2-Q to R q ch 2-B to R 7 3-Q to B q male Correct solutions received from W.H.S. and Voila.

PROBLEM No. 371.
The journal from which we "lifted" this problem auronuces that a mistake has been made in the diagram. We offer ample applopries to our in the diagram, we ofter annue apologies to our solvers for wasting their time so seriously, but can assure them that we ourselves have apend many weary days in striving to fathorn the mystery. The white K given in the diagram as on B 2 should have been on Qs.

#### PROBLEM No. 374. By J. A. BROHELM. (A Danish Prize Winner.) BLACK



White mates in three moves.

GAMB No. 395.

One of the strongest players in Vienna is Herr H. Fahndrich, who, however, does not aspire to international fame. We append a game played by him against Mr. Steinitz during the latter's visit to Vienna.

VISIT TO VICE	ana.		
White	. Steinitz.	Black-11.	Yahndrich.
WHITE,		WHITE.	
1 P K4	PK4	20 KxQ	B*P
2 P KB4	PxP	21 K: Q2	BxR
3 KK1 B3	P KK4	gra RxB	Casiles QF
4 P KR4	P K:5	23 QKı K4	
5 Ki Ks	B K12(a)	24 Kt K13	KR Kisq
6 KtxP	P Q4	25 K B3	P B <sub>5</sub>
7 Kt B2	Px₽.	26 K+ K2	R Kis
8 KixP	O K2	27 KIXP	■ QR <sub>3</sub> (I)
9 Q K2	ÕKı B3	28 P K-4	R Ø5 R(Ø5) R5
10 P B3	K R3	29 P K 5	R(Q5) R5
11 Kt B2	BK3	30 P R5	RxP
12 P Q3	Kt B4(b)	31 RxR	R*R
13 BxP	KK: Q5(c)	32 P K 6	PxP
14 PxKt	KtxP	33 PxP	R R4
15 Q Qa	B Kigdis.ch	34 Kt K4	R K <sub>4</sub>
16 B K3	Kt Bych(d)	35 P K17	R Ksq
17 QxKt	Qx Bch	36 Kt B6	R Q q
18 B K2	B̃×B	37 Kt K6	Resigns
19 QxB	QxQch	.,,	1.

NOTES. (a) K Kt to B 3 gives a better defence.
(b) All this is played by Black in accordance with book analysis.

This is also given by the books; but castling Q R seems sounder play, and would appear to give Black a good game.

(d) Black hoped to compensate himself for the

(d) Black hoped to compensate himself for the sacrifice by winning the Q R for his bishop. We are not sure, however, whether Black could not have afforded to delay this mancouve and play B to R 4 instead, as he then threatens to gain the piece back by Kt to B 4. In fact, his position is paid the piece back by Rt to B 4. In fact, his position is paid in good one that he might perhaps even he is Kriki a ble to afford the time after B to R 4 to castle of R. Digitized by Google

(a) The advance of this pawn proves fatal, as White soon captines it, and then wins by his K Ki P. He might have played K Rio K sq instead.

(i) Although Black's game is now precations in any case, still be minimises his chances of tesistance by wasting time with the attempt to win. White's Q R P. White made excellent use of the opportunity given thereby to advance his pawn to victory in a masterly manner.—St. James.

Position after 16-B to K 3.



GAMB No. 306.

Curious game played on the orcasion of the re-rest match between Heretindshire and and Wor-cestershire—White, Mr. Grove (Worcestershire); Black, Mr. Monkman (Herefordshire);—

		RUY	LOPEZ.	
	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE,	BLACK.
1	P K4	P K₄	5 PxP	PxP
3	KK: B3	QRi B3	6 OxOch	RiO
3	B KIS	FQ3	7 BxKtch.	₽ĸ₿
4	P Q4	B Kc5	8 K(xP	R Q8 mate

#### GAME No. 397.

A small game won by Mr. Elcom from the Champion to a recent Toppoament at the Singapore Chess Club.

RUY LOPER.				
White-P.A.	Rentens.	Black—J. B	Elenm,	
	BLACK.		BLACK.	
r P K4.	P K4	to PxKt	BxKt	
2 K: KB3	K+QB <sub>3</sub>	20 QxB	QxP	
	PKK:3(a)	21 ŘPxP	ŘPxP	
4 P B3	B Kız	22 QxP	BKP	
5 P Q4	PxP	23 K R6(e)	Q K161	
6 PxP	KKt K2(b)	24 Q B4	K+B4	
7 Castles	PQ3	25 B K12	Q R5	
	Castles	26 B B q	R Kisq	
g Ki B3	P QR <sub>3</sub>	27 B Q2	K) K(61	
10 B R4	P QK <sub>1</sub> 4	28 R K-q	BRPch	
ri B Ki3	Ki R4	29 KxB	Kt K5ch	
12 B B2	B K(2	30 K Kisq(I)	Q Bych	
13 P QK4	Kt B5	31 K R-q	KixB	
14 B R13	QK B-q	32 Q K2	QxQ	
15 P QR4(d)	P K84	33 BxPch	Řхв	
tő KiPxP	QPxP	34 RxQ	R Kt8ch	
17 Kt K2	Kr Q3!	35 K R2	Kt B8ch	
18 P K5	BxK!	36 Resigns (g	)	

NOTES. (a) According to Dr. Tarrasch this defence is not worse than others.

(b) Black's best continuation was QKi to K2;
7 Castles, Kt to B3.
(c) Fearing B to KK15, but White has nothing to be afiaid of; a developing move was to be preferred.

(d) This premature advance involves the loss of a P and gives Black a strong attack.

(e) Overlooking Black's powerful reply and getting his R into a very useless position.

(i) White has no better move apparently. Black presecutes the attack with spirit and vigour.

(g) Obviously White must lose at least the R. GAME No. 398.

### A BRILLIANCE IN NEW YORK. SICILIAN DEFENCE.

-De Visser. Block-Amateur. WHITE-DE VISEC.
WHITE, BLACK.
PK4 PQB4
KK1B3 QK1B3
QK1B3 KK1B3
PK5 K1 KK1S BLACK. R R-g WHITE WHITE BLACK
15 QAQP R. q
16 P.K16 P.K13
17 B.QB4 B.K12
18 B.B4 P.Q3
19 B.K15ch M. B-q
20 K.R.K-q P.K.K4 P K4 KK(B3 2 KK B3 QK B3
3 QK B3 KK B3
4 P K5 K KK K5
5 Q K2 Q B2
6 K QK 5 P QR3
7 P Q4
8 Q K4 K K KB
9 K K K B P QR3 KIXKBP 21 BxP 22 RxB PxR 23 Q KR4 24 B R6ch Q Q3 K B2 R R5 K) Q5 25 B K2 25 B K17 26 B K17 27 O×RP 28 K Rsq K Ksq R KKisq QxQP Resigns R Ra PKB

I cannot help expressing my hearifelt sympathy and sorrow, says Gunsberg in the St. Fames Budget, for the large number of generous and en-Budget, for the large minitier of generous and en-thusiastic chess players at Havana, who may ex-perience at any moment the horrors of war in the shape of a bombardment of their city by the Ame-rican fleet. Let us hope that good will come of evil, and that the Cubans will emerge out of their trial free and prosperous. It speaks volumes for the masonic and levelling influence of the game to be able to rate the fact that with a larger of the be able to state the fact that at the Hayana Chess Club Cubans and Spaniards met like friends and brothers—albeit the Cubans possess the greater pride of the two, and occasionally treated their Spanish follow club members with a certain amount of reserve.

According to a home contemporary, the Vienna Committee have had to "climb down," at least in so far as the date of entry into their projected touroament is concerned. The conditions not having proved sufficiently alluring to attract the best players of the day the Committee have, therefore, decided to give them a further opportunity of changing their minds by extending the time for many. The competitors are to be limited to 20, and a list of those who will most probably take part has been compiled as follows:—Blackburne, Alason, Burn, Caro, Lipke, Walbrodt, Tarrasch, Tschigorin, Schiffers, Alapio Charousek, Maroczy, Marco, Schiechter and Janowski. It will be noticed that the names of Lasker, Steinitz and Pilsbury are missing. Lasker, says that he will not enter as he cannot stand the strain of a two-round tournament. There is hitle likelihood also of any American player competing. of any American player competing.

In the thirty-six grand chess tournaments which have been held there have been seventy different prize winners, and of the living ones whose highwater mark has been first prize there are Black-burne, Burn, Charonsek, Guosbing, Lasker, Mason, Pillsbury, A. Schwartz, Steinitz, Tarrasch, Tachigorin, Weiss, and Winayer.

The seconds are Bird, Judd, Lipke, Makoverz, Maroczy, Porges, Statiopp, and Walbrodt.

The thirds are Mieses, Owen, Tanbenhans, and Teichman.

The fourths Bardeleben, Berger Davidson, Elson, Janowski, Macdonnell, March, Rosenthal, and Schlechter.

Sir George Newnes, Bart, has been elected President of the City of London Chess Club.

#### LATEST SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS.

ARRIVALS.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. P. Bishop, 5th
June, Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 28 h
May, Mails and General. P. & O. S.N. Co.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, R. Nobuta, 5th June, Vokkaichi, 4th June, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wahanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, H.
W. Horton, 6th June, Kobe, 4th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker,
6th June, Hongkong, 1st June, Mails and
General.—H. Ahrens & Co. Nacht.

Langbank, British steamer, 2,966, W. J. Rout, 6th
June,—Rangoon via Singapore, 23rd May,
Rice.—M. Raspe & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Riele, 6th

Peru, American Steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 6th June,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 5th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S., Co. Mogul, British steamer, 2,354, Burlen, 7th June,—Portland, O egon, 17th May, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 7th June, — Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 6th June, Mails and General, —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mans and General,—O. & O. 5.5. Co. Heisen Kan (7), Japane e gembon, 2,185, Capl. K. Ohtsuka, 7th June,—Yokkaichi 7th June, Tokio Marn, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. W. Haswell, 8th June,—Sydney and Methommer, via ports, Kobe 6th June, Maths and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

pon Yusen Raisha.

Iuaba Ilaru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, C. Bainbridge, 8th Jime,—London and Antwerp via
ports, Hongkong, 2nd June, General.—Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 8th June, — Kobe, 7th June, General, — Nippon Yu-sen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi. 8th June, - Yokkaichi, 7th June, General. -Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Main, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yama-moto, 8th June, Olain via poits, 4th June, General, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Labuan, British steamer, 2,293, J. S. Gardner, oth June,—Cardiff via ports and Nagasaki, 6th June, Coal,—Jardine, Matheson & Co. Nora, Norwegian steamer 767, Ball, 9th June,—Saigon via Hongkong, 27th May, Rice,—Dudwell Carlini & Co.

well Carlill & Co.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, G. H. C. Weston, 10th June,—London via ports, Kobe, 9 h June, General.—P. III O. S.N. Co.

Humber, British Storeship, 1,640, Commander F. W. Grausmore, 10th June,—Nagasaki.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Tsuji, 10th June,—Shanghai via port, 5th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumience Maru, Inaganese steamer, 866, S. Mura-

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Mura-malsu, 10th June, — Bonin Islands, Mails and General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

#### DEPARTURES.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, J. Alwen, 4th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General —Dodwell Cariill & Co.

—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Vonus, British ateamer, 2,312, R. McGregor, 4th
June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.

—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Dunblame, British steamer, 2,402, Prothers, 6th
June,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,750, James Rurison,
6th June,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swite.

Perus, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 7th
June,—San Francisco, via Honolulu, Mails and
General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Fava, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellew, 8th June,
—London via ports, Matts and General.—P. &

O. S.N. Co.

O. S.N. Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Auberts, 8th June -- Marseilles via ports, Mails and General. -- M

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, G. Shi-

man, 8th June,—Shanghai vià ports, Mais and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Eiffel Tower, British steamer, 2,063, A. J. Camp-bell, 8th June,—Moji, Ballast.—Cantain, Kaisow, British steamer, 2,520, E. Warrall, 8th June,—Moji via Kobe, General.—W. M. Stra-

June, Maji via Kohe, General. W. M. Strachan & Co.

Armenia, German steamer, 3,469, Magin, 8th June, Loudon, Hamburg and Antwerp via ports, General. C. Illes & Co.

Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. Dudwell Carbill & Co.

Dadwell Carbil & Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby,
3th Jone,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails
and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Paotung, British steamer, 1,088, Joyles, 3th June,
—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield I Swine.
Hohensollera, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker,
10th June,—Hungkong via Kohe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.,
Nach! Nachl.

Nachl. Egremont Castle. British steamer, 1,834. Conby, 11th June,—Kobe, General.—Sale & Co. Glenearn, British steamer, 1,425, W. Murray, 11th June,—Moji via Kobe, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson II Co.

#### PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Rosetta, from Hangkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Milner, Misses Milner (2), Capt. P. Marshall, Col. A. Churchill, Miss Elizholtz, Mr. James Planigan, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Chambers, and Mr. O. Brioke, in cabin. Per German steamer Hohentlaceru, from Hongkong:—Mr. N. Sorokeymonski, Mr. F. Eilon, Consul and Mrs. Hagen, and Mr. B. Bunge, in cabin; Mr. E. Heidenheimer, and Mr. S. H. Logan, in second class, Master Bredow, and Mr. T. Levy, in steerage.

Per British steamer Cobtic. from Hongkong via

Logan, in second class, Master Bredow, and Mr. T. Levy, in steerage.

Per British steamer Coptic, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Wallace and servant, Mr. Geo. T. Myers, Miss E. B. Sale, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Marques, Mr. A. Donald, Miss Brown, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Lo She and native servant, Mr. W. Clement Drew and native servant, Mr. W. Clement Drew and native servant, Mr. Lo Wing Ban, child and servant, Miss G. Palmer, Mr. C. B. Harvey, Mr. W. E. Schiele, Mrs. N. J. Blackwood, Mr. and Mrs. Oustinoff, Mrs. N. J. Blackwood, Mr. and Mrs. Oustinoff, Mr. R. W. Wickins, Miss Greiar, Capt. J. J. Efford, Mr. B. Hyde-Pearson, Mr. A. Kuhin, Mrs. A. Kuhin, Miss Kulin, Mrs. Nicholls, Mr. Nuttall, Mr. E. R. Smith and servant, Mr. S. Strauss, Mr. F. N. Sennet, Mr. C. Thwaites, and Mr. F. P. Cooper, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss J. M. Hall, Mr. V. W. Masterson, Mr. H. Skott, Rev. B. C. Henry, Mr. H. D. Haoks, Lieut. Postt, Paymaster Galt, U.S.N., Pay Clerk White, Bishop F. R. Graves, Miss Pansy Mason, Miss Mary Mason, Mrs. Av. and Mrs. P. F. Price, child and in fant, Mrs. J. S. Frason, Miss M. Fearson, Mis.

F. Gore, child and amah, Dr. F. A. Robinson, Mr. G. Richardson, Mr. H. Richardson, Mr. H. Maitland, and Mr. M. S. Friede, in cabin.

Per British steamer Ceylon, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Thistlewaire, infant and amah, Mr. G. H. Mirk, Mr. C. M. Flaudman, Miss Dyke Poore, 11. J. Gold, Mr. A. B. L. Melville, and Mr. H. E. Snagge, in cabin.

#### DEPARTED.

Per American steamer Peru, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. E. Ader, Capt. Geo. W. Coffin, U.S.N., Dr. and Mrs. F. T. B. Fest and child, Master Willie Fest, Mr. Milton E. Hatfield, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Neal, Mr. T. S. Nightingale, Mr. and Mrs. A. Prierly, Mr. W. A. Peairs, and Mr. T. Takasu, in cabin.

Per Reurh steamer Sedrey for Masseilles via

Mr. T. Takasu, in cabin.

Per Freuch steamer Sydney, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. E. C. Allen, Mr. W. H. Crawford, Mr. R. T. Tangge, Mr. F. Kiene, Mr. R. Schaub, Mr. E. Krug, Rev. M. Cutting, Miss Lomballe, Miss Uchida Tsuna, Mrs. Jame, Mr. and Mrs. Plugger, Mr. R. Pascio, Mr. Lyed Abdullah Lawawee, Mr. Llyed Mahomed Bin Agill, Mr. M. Hechter, Mr. F. Ninand, Mr. Nurand, Miss Hreliter, Mrs. and Miss Ninand, Mr. S. Shimojo, Mr. S. Takahashi, Mr. H. Patert, Mr. J. Ping, Mr. W. H. Ray, Mr. G. Gillson, Mrs. E. Morrison, M. l'Abté Lecombe, Mr. Luperne, Mr. Alsagoff and servant, Scenes Gabrielle et Honorine, and Mr. Aton Miller, in cabin.

combe, Mr. Lapeine, Mr. Alsagoff and seivant, Scenis Gabrielle et Honorine, and Mr. Aton Miller, in cabin.

Per British steamer Java, for London via ports:—Mr. L. Piummer, in cabin.

Per British steamer Coptie, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. Billings, Mr.s. F. Billings, and maid, Miss Billings, Miss E. Millings, Mr.s. M. Billings, Mr. and Mis. E. Bjornson, Miss. N. J. Brackwood, Mrs. Geo. W. Coleman, Mr. M. Budelin, Madam Endelin, Miss Bilaholtz, Mr. M. S. Friede, Mrs. J. S. Fearon, Miss M. Fearon, Paymaster Galt, U.S.N., Mrs. F. Gove, child and servant, Mrs. M. R. Goodwin, Mrs. Adam Grant, Bishop F. R. Giave, Mr. H. D. Hawke, Mr. and Mrs. M. Herrings, Mr. Walter Heichey, Mr. and Alts. H. Herrings, Mr. Walter Heichey, Mr. S. Kondo, Miss E. J. Lokins, Mr. Geo. T. Myers, Jr., Mr. H. Maitland, Miss P. Mason, Mrs. M. W. W. Masterson, Mrs. E. Meyen, Rev. and Mrs. P. F. Price and 2 two children, Lient. R. W. Prau, Mr. M. Richardson, Dr. F. A. Rohinson, Mr. Albert Redel, Mr. G. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Southgate, Mr. Shott, Mr. J. P. Whiton-Stuart. Mr. Victor Schmidt, Mr. H. N. Tock, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Thresher, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Welch, Miss Welch, Hayelerk White, U.S.N., Mr. Norman Walter, and Mr. and Mrs. John J. Valentine.

Per German steamer Hohensollern, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. W. Kennett, Miss

Valentine.

Per German steamer Hohensollern, for Hong-kong via ports:—Mr. H. W. Kennett, Miss Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Rehrens, Mr. H. W. Stiar, Dr. B. Lanfer, Mr. E. Becker, Mr. Alf. L. Knoth, Miss M. Sada, Mr. A. Donald, Mr. A. Klienwort, Mr. P. Büller, Mr. C. J. da Silva, and Mr. K. Avai, in cabin; 1 Chinese, and 1 Lutian in Sterrage.

Indian, in Steerage.

Total .....

#### CARGOES.

Per French steamer Sydney, for Marseilles:--Raw Silk for Europe, 105 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 197 bales.

Per British steamer Coptio, for San Francisco,

oth June:-

Shanghai . 655 Amoy ..... Hingo ..... 3,200 391 3,358 9/6 2,055 549 3:937 1:446 9:542 — 1:767 973 okehama 3,623 2,963 537 Hongkong 179 Total... 4r157 51948 51422 791 1,095 18,614 SILK. Hongkong ........ Vokotama ...... 265 105 205

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

447

44 7

#### IMPORTS.

In Yarns, fancy cottons and wonliers the stagnstion which has characterised the market for weeks past still remains, and prices are quite nominal, COTTON PIECE (400) is.

COTTON PIECE (400) is.

Grey Shirtings—84 B. 384 yds. 45 inches 2.85 to 3.35

ł	I. Cloth-7 lb, 2   yards, 32 inches	1.8u to 2 00
ı	Indigo Shirtings-12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.75 to 2.60
1	Printe-Asserted, #4 yards, 30 mehen.,	2 00 (3 3.75
ı	Cotton-Italians and Satteens Higch,	PER YARD.
ı	3s inches	0.15 (0.0.15
ı	WOOLLENS.	
ı		Lin Armbi
ı	Plannels	Fo.30 tu 0.50
ı	Italian Cloth, 30 yanda, 32 inches heat	0.88 to 0.41
ı	Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 37 inches	
ŀ	Madinia	Nominal
ļ	Italian Cloth, 30 yarda, 32 fuchas	
Į	Common	Nominal
l	Monosoline da Laine-Crapo, sa yarda,	
ľ	31 inches	0.45 to a mi
ţ	Clubbs Procis 51 dp 34 140 mes	0.35 10 0.50
ì	Cloths-Presidente, 51 at 56 inches	0.60 to 0.724
1	Cloths-Union, 54 of 56 inches	0.50 tn <b>6.8</b> 5
ł	minimal and theen, 3 to 5 lb.	
ı	BB1 M	0.50 In a 60
ı	Volvets Black, 35 yards, aninches	PRE PINCE.
ı	Victoria Lawen, 12 yards, 12-3 inchen,	7-75 to 9-30
ı	Turkey Reds-1.oto 3.oh, 24/25 yarda,	4.50 tn 4.00
ı	30 inches	
ı	Tuckey Reds-3.8 to 40, 24/45 yards,	1.35 to 9.20
ı	32 inches	
1		2.50 to 3.51
ł	COLEON VARUS.	THE FIRST.
ł		5.50 to 38.50
ľ	Not. 48/31, Singles	3.00 to 41.50
1	Nos. 38/42, Singles	1.50 to 45.50
ı	Nos. 32, Doubles	1.00 to 43.50
ı	Nos. 42, Doubles	7.00 to 50.50
ı		1.00 to 63.00
ı		5.00 to 76.30
ı	Nos. 2/100, Plain	7.00 to 99 oc
ı	Nos. a/do, Gassed	50 to 76.50
ı	Nos. 2 80, Gassed 8	1.00 to 90.00
1		1.00 to 124.00
1	RAW COTTON.	FAR PICUL.
E	American Middling	10.00 to -
ŀ	Indian Hroach	30 00 —
1		\$1.50 to -
	MICLARS.	
	7D) 1 . 1 . m	

The market is suffering from over-supply, and things are likely in be depressed for weeks to come. Except for a few feeble inquiries for tin plates, below home cost, buyers, have not been heard from.

Donother to the Control of the Contr	de le carrie
Round and square & inch. and upward. 3.85	10 4.10
1204 Flates, majorted amountains a doc	In 4 44
311691 11709	1
Chairs alized I full absets & so	In an ac
Wire Halls, annuted 5 90	10 10.43
lin lates, per box	10 11.10
Cia lana din a	10 5.80
Pig Iron, No. 3 2.08	to 2.10
Hoop Iron (1 to 14 inch)	to 5.85

No change in prices. Market weak, and little doing.

American	I be for	
SUGAR.		

In brown sugars the market is easy, with a decline of 20 to 40 sen per picul. Arrivals from 19th May to date have been 31.515 piculs of Manila from Hongkong. Sales during the same period have totalted 26,256 piculs, of which about half have been Manila. Prices for the Formeasur. period have totaled 20,250 piculs, of which about half have been Manila. Prices for the Formosan product are 30 to 35 see fower. Sales have reached 24,050 piculs, and arrivals 39,350. In white refined there has been as advance of about 25 see.

Brown Taken		748 E1	Cirks
INCOME I WASH		\$4.60 to	8 7m
Brown Manila		93100 10	3.10
D 1314	+- 41=	5.50 lo	0.30
Brown Daitong		4-45 to	1 50
Brown Canton			
Party Committee of the party in the carrier in the	***	4-35 to	0.00
White Jave and Penang			
White Relined	** ***	7.70 te	9.60

#### EXPORTS.

#### RAW SHIK

A good demand from the States for filatires on times, and a fair business has resulted at a slight decline in prices. The advices concerning the crop from the interior are, on the whole, favourable.

GOV. ATTOMA.	
Filetures-Raira 9'11, 10/14 den	Nominal
Filatures-Ruten 13/05, 14/16 den	Nominal
Filatufes-No. r. 10/13 deufern	tota ta c.
Wilnternes the a settle set of a	raco to 870
Filatures-No. 1, 13/15, \$4/16 don	830 to 840
Filatures-No. 11, 10/11 daniers	840 to 810
FII \$1 10 CE 11 O. 1 L. 7 1/10 0 4/10 4 4/20	Str to St.
CHAINES-10. 1. 10/15 denies	Ren da Da
PIINCHEES-LYO. A. TEINS JANUARE	Hon he O.
Re-tesis-ila. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	790 10 804
He seeds the state of the state	900 Eu S10
Re-reels-Ho. 14, 13/16, 13/17 den	Nominal
Ne-10013-140. 2. FI/15 desilers	Nominal
MC-tccis-140, Mf. 13:131 (Jenticia	Namical
Re-reels-No. 3, 1 //10 deniera	Noninal
Kakedas-Estea	11-Omitmai
Kekedas-No. 1	Nomina!
Kaliedas-No. 11	Nominal
Kakedas—No. a	
Kakedas-No. 24	Hominal

#### WASTE SILK.

A little more doing, but prices are practically unchanged. Samples of new waste are not auticipated before the end of June. The settlements from May 19th up to the present have been 81,270 plenis illigiacate now about 3.800 piculs in Block.

#### QUOTATIONS.

Nonhi-Filnture, Bant	lees	to.	120
Noshi-Filature, Good	165		
Monti Ohm Dari			
Noshi-Oshu, Bast	110		
Noshi-Osler, Good	100	(o	103
Noshi-Oshu, Mediam	00	to	95
Noshi-Shinaku, Best	70	to	75
Noshi-Shinsky, Good			674
Noshi-Bustin, Haut	115		
Noshi-Beshu, Good	100		
Noshi-Bushu, Medium			05
Noshi-Joshu, Gond			64
Noshi-Joshu, Fair			574
Kibiso-Filature, Hest			100
Kibino-Filature, Seconde			90
Kibiso-Joshu, Good			10
Military San C. W. C.			
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20	ţa	224

#### TEA.

The news of the new duty has produced almost a stagnation in trade, and is filling holders with alarm. There has been little doing the last few alaim. There has been little doing the last few days, while the stocks on offer are very large. The total settlements so far are 96,677 piculs as compared with 104,261 piculs at the same date last year. The Peru took with her 422,766 list, to America. The exports from the 1st May in 10 now may be tabulated as follows:—To New York and Eastern States, 1,695,254 lbs.; Chicago, and West, 1,892,469 lbs.; San Francisco and Pacific Coast, 241,445 lbs.; Canada, 263,771 lbs.; Europe, &c., 24,291 lbs.; total, 4,115,230 lbs.

QUOTATIONS,	
Choicest	135 & upward
Choice	#31 to 33
Finest	\$30 to 31
Fige	\$18 to an
Good Medium	\$26 to 27
Medium	\$24 to 25
Good Common	\$12 to 25
Common	. Nominal.

#### EXCHANGE.

Silver back again to 27 pence from London, and tates all unaltered.

Sterling -Bank T.T 2/0]
- Bills on demand 2/0 %
- 4 months' sight 2/0}
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight 2/0}</li> </ul>
- 6 montha sight 1/02
On Paris-Bank sight 2 55)
On Paris-Private 4 months' sight 2.59104
On America-Bank Bills on dentand., 49}
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight50g to ½</li> </ul>
On Germany-Bank night 2.064
- Private ( months' sight 2.11
On Houghoug-Bank sight64to7°/odis.
<ul> <li>Private rodusa's igno74to8° odia.</li> </ul>
On Shanghat-Back night80 to 802
- Private to days sight81to811
On India-Bank night 150
- Private 30 daya' aight 155
Bas Silver (London)

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Engineer and Oock Mnfr., sccessor of ACHILLE CADET) 27, Rue des Taillandiers.

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create an undentable effect upon the patient, which satisfies
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No. 25.]

RESISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 18TH, 1898.

月三年五十二院標 Vol. XXIX. 可能會促發日三十

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# The Japan Weekly Mail.

" PA(SCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POUREA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN Wagary Mart." must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all fetters on business be addressed to the Manauer, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 18TH, 1898.

# SUMWARY OF NEWS.

THE Tokyo Electric Light Company declares dividend of 11 per cent. per annum.

THE Tanaka Bank in Token on the 10th inst. changed its name to the Dembu Bank,

THE railway between Hikone and Aichigawi was opened for traffic on the 11th inst.

An agreement has been concluded between Great Britain and France on the Niger ques-

A STRIKE of miners has broken out in South Wales. Troops were bastily despatched to the

THE German newspapers are openly discussing the probability of securing a port in the Philip-

THE Hokkaido Coal Mining and Railway Com-pany will pay a dividend of 15 per cent, per annum this year.

H.M.S. Powerful, the most formidable first class cruiser in these waters, arrived at Yokohama on Thursday.

THE Rectung Madigitize theby Osking Sibled

Kaisha, will leave Kobe for Hawail on the 7th prox., taking 550 emigrants.

THE National Unionist Party is about to be disbanded, its members joining the new pro-Government party.

MR, CONGER, the U.S. Minister to China, passed through Yokohama this week en route to his new appointment. -

MR. ERNEST TERAH HOOLEY, the millionaire speculator, has been declared a bankrupt on his own petition.

THE Liberal and Progressist Parties have fused, the new taxation schemes being the dissolvent of their former differences.

THE Government will shortly issue a manifesto setting forth the reasons for dissolution, and appealing to the electorate.

THE Filipinos are gaining head near Manila, forcing back the Spanish troops and taking prisoner the provincial Governors.

THE weather during the past week has been most unprecedently cold, but reports from the silk districts are generally satisfactory.

MR. NAGATARI, the Japanese Consul at Shashi, who retired to Hankow after the disturbances, returned to his post by the watship Alago.

JAPAN is on the eve of seeing a pro-Government political party formed, with Marquis Ito as its head and Cabinet Ministers among its leaders.

LEITER'S wheat corner at Chicago has collapsed. Ten million bushels have been thrown on the market, causing a heavy decline in prices.

A FIRE broke out, on the 9th inst. at 10.50 p.m., in Oga-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo. Thirtyone houses were wholly and 17 partially destroyed.

THE Norwegian steamer Smit, laden with cargo of beans for Yokohama, has been wrecked off the coast of southern Korea. There was no loss of life.

A RECENT Formosan despatch states that on the 31st uit native rebels attacked a body of soldiers, and one Japanese was shot. One rebel was also killed.

An American subject has been found guilty of murder in Nagasaki and sentenced to be hung, A petition praying for commutation of the death penalty has been presented.

In the event of a re-construction of the Cabinet, it is expected that Count Matsukata will resume charge of the Treasury, Count Incuye taking the portfolio of foreign affairs.

THE British Government has decided to reinstate, on the half-pay unattached principle, all of Dr. Jameson's officers except Sir John Willoughby and Colonel Rhodes.

THE Chinese students who arrived in Tokyo on the 10th inst. took lodging at the Koseikwan, Kobiki cho. Four of them will attend the Im-perial college and another four the military

NINE cases of yellow fever have appeared at McHenry, at the mouth of the Mississippi. Grave fears are entertained that the epidemic will spread, and the troops collected from the Southern States are in a serious ferment.

belonging to the Bank. It is said that he re-deemed a girl from a house of ill-fame at Shinagawa with the money.

THE French Government has been defeated after a debate on general policy. Subsequently a general resolution of confidence was adopted by a majority of twelve. Nevertheless it is believed the Cabinet will resign.

An American Lieutenant who has made a tour of observation in Santiago harbour, reports that the whole of the Spanish Fleet is there. Admiral Sampson telegraphs that the bodies of American dead have been barbarously mutilated.

Ox the 10th inst. a named Ogawa Hanshichi and his wife, living at Fukutomi-cho, Nichome, Yokohama, were arrested on suspicion of strangling a man named Numata Kinjiro (45 years of age), residing in the same house.

A COMMERCIAL Commission organized by the Philadelphia Commercial Museum and authorised by the U.S. Government, has arrived in Japan. Mr. S. P. Read, formerly U.S. Consul at Tientsin, is head of the staff.

On the 11th inst. a man named Nishihara Shikajiro and a girl named Kitamura Saku attempted suicide in a brothel in the Yoshiwara, Tokyo, by taking about 4 grammes of nitric acid. They were sent to the hospital, where both are lying in a dangerous condition.

THE scheme for a railway between Yokohama and Hachioji, which Mr. Hara Zeuzaburo and 12 others, in May last year, sought permission to construct, was recently rejected by the Minister of the Communications Department. The proposed capital was yen 1,500,000.

the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated that according to a despatch by M. Muravieff, Russia maintaine China's sovereign right over Port Arthur and Talienwan, and respects the Treaties between China and other countries, implying the scrupulous maintenance of the status quo. Foreign warships and merchant vessels will continue to enjoy access to all posts

THE rise in the price of Yarns and Grey Shirtings on the Manchester market has had no stimulating effect in Yokohama, and the apparently normal condition of complete stagna-tion in the local market has not been disturbed by the slightest ripple of enquiry. The market for fancy cotions and woollens also retains its unsatisfactory aspect and dealers are looking very glum. A few enquities are reported in tiu plates, though prices continue to rise; but MI varieties of iron are reglected. In kerosene no new feature of any interest is in be reported. Sugar has again had a quiet week in face of steady supplies. Transactions have been satisfactory for brown sorts and steady for white refined. Owing to holders of silk showing a disposition to dispose of their old stock before the new cocoons arrive on the market, rather more has been done in the principal staple of export. Demand has also quickened in Europe but prices remain unaltered. Total settlements to date amount to 57,220 piculs against 49 480 piculs at same date last year. It is too early to prophesy about the new crop, but it seems highly probable that it will not fall below that of last year. Nothing is doing in Waste Silk. The new tea duty in the United States has demoralized the tea market, prices falling on all An employé, named Akiyama Ken, of the 5,386 piculs being settled during the week. Yokohama Branch office of the 100th National There is a large stock on offer, principally of the being settled during the week. There is a large stock on offer, principally of the being settled during the week. There is a large stock on offer, principally of the being settled during the week. There is a large stock on offer, principally of the being settled during the week. There is a large stock on offer, principally of the being settled during the week.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The political situation naturally evokes much comment. From what we have already published about the Jiji Shimpo's views on the subject of taxation, our readers will be prepared to learn that that journal now condemns the Cabinet's tactics in the most unsparing terms. Having an excellent and perfectly unobjection-able source of additional revenue in the Saké tax, the Government clung with desperate obstinacy to its Land Tax Bill, and finally at tempted to pass it by petty and undignified devices. The suspension of the Lower House's session for three days was a purely temporizing manceuvre, having for its object a kind of compromise with the mulcontents, the Government undertaking to set about re-assessment provided that the House consented to increase the Land Tax. That exit from the dilcinms having failed, the Government dissolved the House. But what is to be gained by dissolution? If the power of sending the members back to their constituencies was intended to be exercised merely as a punitive measure in case the House proved disbedient, the Cabinet's action might be justified. But dissolution means an appeal to the country from the House's verdict. Does the Government imagine that the country will send up new members instructed to endorse the Land Tax proposal? Nothing of the kind can be anticipated. On the other hand, if the new House follows in the footsteps of the old, and if the Government is consistent, there must be another dissolution. Apart from the fact that a general election involves a great expenditure of time and money, there is the evident fruitlessness of auch procedure under the present circumstances. However, the fat of dissolution has gone forth and can not be recalled. What has to be determined now is the Government's future course. There is only one pradent plan for it, in the Fife's opinion; namely, that the Cabinet should resolutely and definitely abandon its attitude of independence towards political parties, and ahould place itself on the crest of the great wave of change now sweeping over the country. Unless the Meit statesmen take that course, they are doomed to be swept away. They must go in boldly for party cabinets.

\* \* The Rolumin Shimbun takes practically the same line with regard to the future. It does not pause to criticise or condemn the conduct of either the Government or the Diet, but it declares that the opportunity has at length come for carrying out the system of party cabinets. difficulty is, not how to form a party cabinet but how to form parties competent for the purpose. The Land Tax Bill has solved the It has acted = a kind of borab, shattering the old party fabrics, and preparing the fragments for re-accangement and re-construction. There is no definite line of party cleavage; a line on one side of which the positive politicians who advocate an increase of the Land Tax can stand, while the negative politicians, opponents of the Tax, may take their place on the other. The section of the Progressists known as the original Kalshin-to. and the Tosa coterie of the Liberal Party can form the nucleus of the negative party. As for the cabinet it must be in definite alliance with one or other of the parties, and its personnel must include four elements, men of experience, men of wealth, men of talent, and men of the rising generation. It is an old saying that those not arong enough to lead must reconcile themselves to be fed. The touth of the aphorism will be proved now. Unless the Meiji statesmen place themselves at the head of the movement of the era, it will sweep over them and overwhelm them.

There is a remarkable agreement among the vernacular newspapers with regard to this Question of party cabinets. The Fomiuri Shim-bun alleges that Marquis Ito has definitely decided to anticipate the inevitable by at once laying the foundations of a great party, having rejected its proposal. Thus the country is to for nucleus the National Unionists, the Independents, and the business men Our poster for which it definitely answered on the 15th of UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

word, has now not only endorsed the above project, but is conspicuous in his endeavours to promote it. The Yomiuri sets forth this programme in language not calculated to commend it to responsible individuals, but as an opponent of Marquis Ito and all his doings, the Progressist organ could scarcely be expected to make an attractive statement.

The Shogyo Shimpo, which has always been a stout advocate of Land-Tax increase, thinks that the Cabinet and the Diet are equally to blame for the crisis which has arisen. members of the House of Representatives knew perfectly well that an increase of the taxes was inevitable, and knew perfectly well that the Land Tax is the most appropriate source of additional revenue. Yet they allowed some paltry considerations to influence them into voting against the measure. On the other hand, the Cabinet, instead of maintaining s firm attitude, lent its ear to the talk about re assessment-more talk, for re-assessment has no immediately practical significance-, and agreed in a compromise on the basis of reducing the taxable value of land by 150 million yen That kind of vaciliation is fatal to successful administration. Much will have more, and the result of these advances and retreats, these demands and concessions, these claims and compromises, is that the true interests of the country are obscured for the sake of consulting some momentary prejudice or reconciling some petty conflicts. The outcome of it all is that the nation's progress is arrested and its credit impaired.

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun addresses itself chiefly to the obvious inconclusiveness of the main reason alleged by the House of Representatives for rejecting the Bill-namely, that, while not denying the necessity for the measure, the members considered that it could not properly be debated in an extraordinary session. It is impossible to regard such an argument as anything more than a mere pretext. The whole attitude of the House towards the Bill indicated either prejudice or perfunctoriness. There was no debate worthy of the name. The members had made up their minds to reject the Bill for reasons quite apart from its merits, and they did not even take the trouble of complying with the usual forms of discussion. does not appear to have occurred to them that they were confronted by the responsibility of placing the finances of the State on a secure basis, and thus restoring confidence in commercial and industrial circles, as well as opening avenues for the inflow of foreign capital. The Cabinet did everything in its power to save the situation. It suspended the House's session for three days, in order that the members might have time for reflection, and it even agreed to a proposal for re-assessment, though re-assessment under such circumstances can not be regarded as wise. But nothing could remove the House's infatuated disposition. The members allowed themselves to be carried away by considerations waich ought not to influence serious legislators, and they now stand in the menviable position of having sacreficed the national good to petty prejudices. be no solid progress so long as 🛮 ate affairs are the plaything of party politics.

\* \* \* The Hochi Shimbun, a journal allied with he Progressists, is chiefly concerned about the ides of two dissolutions of the House of Representatives within a period of six months, and two general elections within an interval of one year. It maintains that in dissolving the Lower House on the 10th instant, the Ito Cabinet is simply repeating the appeal to the constituencies that the Matsukaia Cabinet made last December. The Matsukata Cabinet wished to increase the taxes and the House declared want of confidence in it. The Ito Cabiner wished to increase the taxes, and the House

porary alleges that Count Inonye, whose dislike March. Starting from these premises, the of political parties has long been a household Hochi easily convicts the Cabinet of unconstitutional procedure.

> A very radical view is taken by the 20kys Asahi. It does not think that this question of the Land Tax was considered on its own merits at all. The true explanation of the crisis is a sudden ebullition of the old animosity to clan cabinets. When the Address to the Throne on foreign politics was rejected by a large majority, the relations between the Goveryment and the House seemed intimate and amicable, but, in a moment, the anti-clan prejudice of former years was awakened, and thenceforth the sentiment developed force like that of a rock rolling down an incline. The two great parties hitherto at daggers drawn, anddenly clasped hands to bear down the clau statesmen, and, by a majority of unprecedented dimensions, the House practically declared its want of confidence in the Cabinet. The position of the latter, after six months of office, closely resembles the position of the Matsukata Cabinet last December, and the analogy will be complete if the Ministry now resigns prior to the general elections. The Asahi believes that such a step would be the acme of irresponsibility. It hopes that the elections will be held with all possible expedition, the Diet convened as soon at may be, and all these questions of vital importance settled definitely.

\* \* \* The Chuo, which represents the National Unionists, adopts practically the same tone as the Nichi Nichi. It alleges that the House of Representatives disregarded the necessities and interests of the nation and allowed itself to be swayed solely by considerations of party politics. A sound and solid system of finance is the first essential of a country's prestige. Japan's efforts to secure a high place in the Orient have been attended with comparatively small results because her financial position is weak. It is for that reason that Powers like France and Russia, which have not lavished blood or treasure in this quarter of the globe, are nevertheless able to secure advantages denied to Japan. The members of the Diet must have been alive to these facts, and must have known very well that to place the public finances on a sound basis is the prime need of the hour. They nevertheless suffered party prejudices to turn them from the discharge of their plain duty, and, under the circumstances, nothing temained for the Cabinet except to appeal in the patriotism and sound instincts of the people.

The Osaka Asahi takes a moderate line. It admits that an appeal to the country on the question of increased taxation is a perfectly constitutional step, and it urges the constituexpressing their opinion. The procedure of the Matsukasa Cabinet was to be condemned, because, immediately after dissolving the House, it resigned office, without awaiting the verdict of the nation. The Ito Cabinet will doubtless act differently. It will remain in power to meet the next Diet, and it may possibly dissolve the House of Representatives two or three times until there can no longer be any doubt as to the people's sentiments. Hence nothing is more to be desired than that the constituencies should be thoroughly and clearly instructed 💵 to the views of the Cabinet and the Opposition, so that they may be able to pronounce an in-telligent and final judgment. Probably every one is agreed that the taxes must be increased. The only difficulty is that men hesitate to entrust an augmented revenue to m Ministry under whose management the expenditures of the State seem to increase by leaps and bounds. The public must be helped to an unerring appreciation of these points.

It is rumoured that the general election of

# NEW PRO-GOVERNMENT PARTY.

At a meeting of the various leading political parties on the 12th instant, it was decided that the following manifesto should be issued for the purposes of the proposed union :- Ten years have elapsed since the establishment of the Diet, and five dissolutions have taken place in that period. Yet the legitimate advantages of the constitutional system have not been realized. The fact may probably be attri-buted to the hostile attitude being maintained towards each other by the various political parties opposed to the clan government. Now is the time to discard all the inimical elements and sentiments his therto dividing them and to dissolve their separate cliques by way of preliminary to forming one vast union, so that their efforts may be conjointly devoted to the overthrow of claunism and the establishment of a responsible Cabinet. The principles agreed to by the Union as the bases of future operations are as follow :--(1) The Imperial Court shall be revered and the Constitution protected. (2) A responsible Cabinet shall be formed, and the responsibilities of Ministers accurately defined. (3) The foreign policy shall be based on the preservation of peace and, the promotion of commerce, with the strict maintenance of the balance of power. (4) Domestic administration shall be reformed so as to eradicate the eyils of needless multiplicity of correspondence and forms of procedure. (5) Proper equilibrium shall be established between the income and expenditure of the State so as to place the finances on a sound footing. (6) Means of communica-tion shall be developed. (7) Education shall be encouraged for the promotion of scientific accomplishments. (8) Armaments shall be maintained in proportion to the national strength. (9) The abuses connected with the centralization of authority shall be eradicated so as to secure the development of local self-Government. (10) Sources of capital shall be opened with a view to promoting productive enterprises.

following:-The Progressists and Liberals, as well as other influential associations, having held conferences with a view to effecting a radical reform in the field of gressist organizations and the recasting politics, two resolutions have been adopted, namely: That the existing parties permeated by only one purpose, party shall be dissolved on the 21st instant cabinets. The Progressists numbered a with the consent of general meetings, and hundred in the last House of Representathat the ceremony for the formation of tives. If they can secure fifty additional a new party shall be performed on the adherents from the ranks of the Liberals 23rd. These resolutions were immediate- and minor coteries, they would command ly reported to the former members of the Diet, who strongly approved them. committee of ten was then appointed from each of the two parties—Liberals and Progressists—to make the necessary ar-rangements for the proposed union. The rangements for the proposed union. The Liberals were represented by Messrs. Sugita, Nishiyama, Kataoka, Kurihara, and Tanikawa; the Progressists by Messrs. Kusumoto, Daito, Özaki, Hatoyama, Shimada, Shiba, Nakamura, Takenouchi, Kikuchi, and Taketomi. The five remaining members of the committee for the Liberals were selected on the 15th instant, but their names are not yet published. Messrs. Suzuki Jimbei, Komuchi, Oishi, Haseba, Kono, and Hiraoka are among that an increase of the Land Tax is neither that it publishes it because some reconstruction of the Cabinet appears inevitable. Digitized by Google

nounced their desire for amalgamation. The general concensus of the various political parties having been thus secured, t was decided that a grand social gathershould be held on the 16th instant at the Nakamuraro Restaurant, Ryogoku, Tokyo, by way of preliminary to celebrating the proposed Union.

Several of our Tokyo contemporaries speak confidently of the probable formation of a new political party consisting of the Progressists and a large section of the Liberals, together with the Doshi Club. This last is a small coterie, including, however, some politicians of considerable notoriety, as Mr. Kono Hironaka and Mr. Arai Shogo. It is alleged that, despite the traditional enmity existing between the Progressists and the Liberals, there has been an interchange of views for some time back among several of their members, and the collision with the Government on the question of the Land Tax having brought the two parties once more into the same camp, they are now inclined to bury the hatchet finally, and unite to organise a party of overwhelming strength. Count Itagaki having been consulted on the subject, is said to have expressed the opinion that he is somewhat weary of attempting to hold the Liberals together, and that if anything like effective collesion could be secured by amalgamation with the Progressists, he sees no better plan. He would employ the pruning knife ruthlessly to lop off all objectors, and thus secure the new party against the corrosive influence of in-sincere elements. How much of this impulse towards amalgamation is the outcome of a mere ebullition of transitory excitement, it is impossible for us to express any intelligent opinion. We notice, however, that the old Kaishin-to have not as yet given any conspicuous indication of promoting the amalgamation scheme, and since experience has amply established the Keishin-to's title to be regarded as the only stable and really resolute political association in Japan, we shall not be disposed to place implicit confidence in the new movement until we see From vernacular papers we gather the that it has the active support and countenance of Count Okuma and his followers. Present indications, however, point to the dissolution of the Liberal and Proof their elements into a solid amalgam, tives. If they can secure fifty additional and minor coteries, they would command the plurality in the House, and for the first time in Japanese parliamentary history, a political party wielding an invincible majority would be called into existence. Education, are likely to leave the Cabinet, Nothing is more desirable. The country the former on account of illness, the latter wants rest from the perpetual wranglings at his own request. Count Inouye then of parties capable only of destructive pass from the Department of Finance to statesmen of the time would be willing the union of the Liberals and Progressists feature of the scheme is its proximate the former taking the control of Home motive. Can the Progressists and any Affairs, and the latter the control of considerable section of the Liberals Finance. Our contemporary is careful to honestly pledge themselves to the principle explain that this is a mere report, but says (strong-foreign-policy clique) as well as gamation is to be on that basis, we venture the Satsuma coterie have now openly an-

will soon force them to take a "sharp turn.

The new political party concerning whose organization we have heard so much during the past few days seems to be now really in process of organization. A meeting of its promoters was held in the Imperial Hotel on the forenoon of the 15th instant, there being present Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Masuda Ko, Okura Kihachiro, various representatives of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, the Economical Society, the National Unionists, the Yamashita Club, the Liberal Party and so on. The proceedings are said to have been enthusiastic, and it was arranged that another meeting should be held on the 8th instant in the same place. The promoters anticipate an attendance of about 300 men of note on this second occasion. Marquis Ito will address the meeting, and all the Cabinet Ministers will attend, except Marquis Saigo and Viscount Katsura, who, as Ministers of the Navy and of War respectively, can not with propriety take part in politics.

The Chuo Shimbun, as the organ of the National Uniomsts, ought to be well informed about the subject now attracting so much attention in political circles. says that the idea of openly organizing a pro-Government Parly has been enter-tained by Marquis Ito since 1892. When Count Matsukata dissolved the House of Representatives for the first time, the Marquis, who then held the office of President of the Privy Council, submitted his views in that sense to the Meiji statesmen, but found Count Kuroda and Marquis Yamagata opposed to him, and only Marquis Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa endorsed his project. He would have resigned, and probably carried his plan into effect, had not the Emperor desired him to remain at the head of the Privy Council. Thus the result was that Marquis Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa alone entered the political field, and the National Unionists were organized under circumstances not at all conducive to the birth of a strong party. When Marquis Ito resumed office as Premier, he formed the celebrated coalition with the Liberals, in partial pursuance of his old conviction, and now he sees that the time has come to take the final step, and appear before the public as a party leader. We can not tell how far the *Chuo's* account may be trustworthy, but it is certainly interesting.

# RUMOURS OF CABINET CHANGES.

The Chugai Shogyo Shimpo publishes a rumour to the effect that Baron Nishi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Professor Toyama, Minister of State for the former on account of illness, the latter opposition. We imagine that the best that of Foreign Affairs, and Viscount Yoshikawa would receive the portfolio of to cooperate with an association such as Education instead of the portfolio of Home Affairs. The two new Ministers would be would represent. The only doubtful Marquis Yamagata and Count Matsukata,

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# THE CODES & TREATY REVISION.

A small coterie of members in the Upper House endeavoured, yesterday to block the passage of the Bill embodying the remaining portions of the Revised Civil Code. Their plan of campaign was subtle. The Special Committee, to which the duty had been entrusted of examining and reporting upon the Bill by the morning of the 10th instant, decided by a majority of one that it should be handed to a continuing committee. Then, instead of offering a report, as is usual, on the merits of the Bill, they simply announced their resolution as to a continuing committee, so that the House had to choose between re-entrusting the Bill for the Committee's consideration and debating it without the usual report. Marquis Ito's speech probably settled the matter, for an overwhelming majority voted in favour of discussing the Bill at once, and the Second and Third Reading were passed almost unanimously. The whole Civil Code will now become law within a few days. But some parts of the Commercial Code had not emerged from the hands of the Lower House at the time of its dissolution, and these the Government will doubtless put into operation on its own responsibility.

The Civil Code, as revised by a Committee of experts after several years of labour, has now been passed by the two Houses of the Diet and will doubtless become law by the 1st of July. But the remaining portions of the Commercial Code have not been equally fortunate. They were approved by the House of Peers and sent down to the Representatives, but the latter did not display any special expedi-tion in dealing with them. The special committee, to which they were handed in the ordinary course of procedure, had not presented its report when the House was dissolved, and the Bill must therefore remain undiscussed until next session. The question then arises: What course will the Government adopt? It is necessary that the whole of the Civil and Commercial Codes must have been in force for a full year before the Revised Treaties go into operation. In other words, both Codes must be enforced from the 1st of next month. Will the Government, acting on its own responsibility, enact these revised portions of the Commercial Codes which failed to come up for discussion in the House of Representatives? Has it competence to do so? The latter question is difficult to the officials administering them, that the answer confidently. The Constitution declares that the Emperor has power to issue Imperial Ordinances in place of law when, the Diet not being in session, an ity with those of the Civil Code, and urgent necessity arises to maintain the it is thus possible that some provisions public safety or to avert a public calamity. of the unrevised Commercial Code may it certainly would be a public calamity to be found to conflict with the revised the Japanese nation that the Revised Civil Code. Treaties should fail to go into operation, it would be but whether that kind of calamity falls vernment sho within the purview of the eighth Article of the Constitution, we are not prepared to though they have not received the consay. It appears probable that the Gosent of the Lower House; and, in any vernment will avoid any difficult problem of the kind by following the simple course of enacting these portions of the Commercial Code in their unrevised form. We presume that our readers have not for-gotten the story of the Code. Originally

by a Japanese Committee, and duly promulgated to have binding force from january 1st, 1891. But before that date the Diet met for the first time, and in deference to the vehemently expressed opinions of both Houses, the opera-July 1st, 1898, in order that it might undergo farther revision, a proviso being added that if any portion were revised and the revision approved by the Diet at an earlier date, such portions might be enforced at once. Thus it is seen that what the Legislature did was, not to suspend the operation of the Code indefinitely, but merely to fix a maximum period of postponement. That period expires on the 30th of the present month, and consequently the remaining portions of the Code must go into force from July 1st in their original form, unless the Govern-ment takes the responsibility of promulgating them in their revised form. say the remaining portions, because the portions dealing with Partnerships and Companies, with the law of Bills of Exchange and with the law of Bankruptcy, were duly revised by the Committee, and, having been approved by the Diet, were put into force from July 1st, 1893. So far, then, as the conditions relating to Treaty Revision are concerned, they will be satisfied: both the Civil Code and the Commercial Code will have been a full year in force before the date fixed for the operation of the Treaties. Still it must be confessed that the situation is not without inconvenience. We shall probably have a Code enforced in its original form while a revised and greatly improved version is waiting to receive the Legislature's consent. The epithet "greatly improved" seems to have entire justification, for competent jurists allege that the changes effected by the revising committee are excellent, and that the Code, as submitted to the Diet last month, is probably the best body of commercial laws in existence. Assuming then that the Diet, when it re-assembles in November, endorses the revised portions, will they be put into operation at once? In other words, will a body of laws enforced from July 1st, 1898, he replaced by another body of laws on the 1st of February or March in 1899? That would be a somewhat light-hearted kind of procedure where matters of such importance are in question. On the other hand, it will be very much in the interest of the people who have to observe the law as well as of revised portions should be promulgated as quickly as possible, for the revisions are understood to have been made in conform-From that point of view it would be far better that the vernment should take the responsibility of enacting the revised portions, even case, it will be desirable that the revised Code should be substituted for the unrevised as soon as possible, however objectionable such rapid legislative changes Mitsui Bank), Mr. Soma (President of the may be in the abstract. Our own belief Specie Bank), Mr. Masuda Ko, Mr. Uriu,

# MARQUIS ITO.

The Chuo Shimbun is the organ of the National Unionists, the only political party that supported the present Cabinet unflinchingly throughout the recent crisis. We presume, therefore, that what it has now to tell about Marquis Ito may be trusted. Very interesting intelligence it s: neither more nor less than that the Marquis has decided to enter the political arena and organise a party to support his policy in the Diet. The announcement of his purpose is said to have created the greatest excitement and satisfaction. Ever since it became known, hundreds of politicians have besieged his gate, to offer allegiance and assistance, and men of business and property feel as though rain had suddenly fallen in a season of drought. As for the Marquis, nothing could be simpler or franker than the position taken by him, as set forth in the columns of the Chuo. Speaking to a member of that journal's staff, he explained that Japan is on the eve of the greatest experiment ever made by an Oriental State, the experiment of recovering her judicial autonomy and taking her place among Western nations as their equal. If she makes a mistake at this juncture, the world will conclude that her civilization is only skin-deep and that she is not fit for the part she aspires to play. The Opposition in the Lower House, led away by the spirit of conflict and the force of party prejudice, refused to vote an increase of the taxes, amounting to only 35 million yen. Not merely have they checked the progress of the country, but they have also acted in such manuer as to convey to foreign Powers the notion that a paltry sum like 35 million yen overtaxes Japan's resources. Nothing could be more injurious than the prevalence of such an impression, except, indeed, the obstacle that the Opposition's conduct has placed in the way of the country's advance at this important juncture. It is essential that some remedy should be found at once and applied quickly. "I am not obstinately wedded to any course," the Marquis continued. "I do not shrink from changing my opinion or my plans. I have not the least hesitation about sacrificing the views bitherto held by me on the altar of the pressing needs of the time."

# YOKOHAMA AND TOKYO.

Yokohama and Tokyo seem to be approaching each other. We observe that Messrs. R. D. Robison, Ryle Holme, H. M. Bevis, J. Stiven, and James Dodds, entertained a party of some twenty-five guests at the Oriental Hotel on the 10th instant, and that among the guests were Their Excellencies Marquis Ito and Count Inouye, Mr. Komura (Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs), Mr. Asada (Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture), the two Barons Mitsui, the Barons Iwasaki, Mr. Shibusawa Éiichi, Mr. Minakami (Commissioner of Customs), Mr. Kondo (President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha), Mr. Okura Kihabased on the German system, with many modifications from the laws of other countries, especially France and England, it was remodelled and considerably altered is that the Government will not raise the and Mr. Takashima. The foreign guests constitutional issue, and that the remaining portions of the Commercial Code will Mr. J. H. Gubbins, Mr. R. G. E. Forster, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. J. P. Mollison, Mr. was remodelled and considerably altered

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# THE CURRENCY.

We find a good many comments in the vernacular press with reference to the volume of the currency and the probable effect of bringing over the remainder of the Indemnity in specie. Many Japanese economists are still haunted by an apprehension that the nation being already more than "saturated" with media of exchange, every addition to the volume must have the effect of still further raising the prices of commodities and accentuating the unfavourable balance of trade. The Bank of Japan, as our readers know, has issued convertible notes to the amount of about 25 million yen over and above the legal limit, and though, by raising the rate of interest, it was believed to have adopted a course which would lead to the gradual withdrawal of the excess, there are now symptoms of a further over-issue, and people talk of the total being carried to thirty millions. In view of that prospect, the Treasury is said to be considering the advisability of augmenting the specie reserves of the Bank, so as to restore equilibrium between its note-issues and its hard-money security. But some journalists insist that such a course would largely developed, and that the functions be mischievous, as ultimately tending to swell the volume of the currency. They urge that the only sound plan is to in-crease the interest payable by the Bank to the Treasury on account of paper issues over and above the legal limit. So long as the Bank can obtain g per cent, by lending notes on which it pays only 5 per cent. to the Government, there is very little chance of its making any resolute effort to reduce the volume of its overissues. On the other hand, there are critics who contend that it is absurd to speak of a plethora of currency in view of the actual facts. Twenty years ago, when the foreign trade bulked only eighty million ven, when only thirty miles of railway had been built, and when all enterprises were in their infancy, the volume of the fiat currency reached some 200 million yen. The volume of the convertible notes stands to-day at about the same amount, though hundreds of millions have been spent upon enterprises of all rapid progress, industrial and commercial, kinds; though 3,000 miles of railway are open; though the foreign trade is getting into the neighbourhood of 400 millions; and though the work thrown upon the currency has been multiplied many times

Very opportunely to this question the Japan Times publishes some figures, just obtained by it from the Bank of Japan, the following:-showing the volume of the paper currency during the past ten years. Unfortunately our contemporary prints the informa-tion in a somewhat abbreviated form, so that we are unable to distinguish exactly how the figures are to be distributed among the various years. So far as we can discern, however, the table stands thus :-

Volume of Paper Currney in Conculation from 1888 to 1898.

1888131	million yen,	at the close of the year.
1889 1	Wo.	de,
1890?	do.	do,
1891 138	do.	do.
1892141	do.	do.
1893156	do.	de.
1894171	do.	de.
1895201	do.	do,
1896215	do,	do,
1897 213	do.	do,
1898177	do.	at end of May.

In 1897, the monthly returns show con- As to the actual amount of the specie re- lent kind of procedure in some cases, but siderable fluctuations. Thus the volume serve, it stood at 44 million yen in 1890; it applies it be the only effective course. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

at the end of January was 213 millions; then it fell to 189 millions in April; and the war), and to 132 millions in 1896 then rose gradually to 213 millions at the (owing, doubtless, to receipts from the then rose gradually to 213 millions at the end of the year. This year, the fluctua-tions have been still sharper, for we find that in January 216 millions were in cir-culation and in May 177 millions only, a difference of 39 millions in five months.

Looking at the above table, we find that the volume of paper currency in circula-tion at the end of May was 177 million yen, and the volume in circulation at the close of 1888 was 131 millions, so that the increase in eleven years has been 46 millions-or, roughly speaking, two shillings per head of the population. Can it be seriously claimed that such a paltry difference is responsible for a general appreciation of commodities averaging about 70 per cent.? It appears to us that such a contention is extravagant. Indeed, when we recall the immense changes that have occurred in the economical conditions of the country during the past decade, we are astonished at the comparatively small increase in the volume of the paper currency. It is true that the system of cheques and clearing houses has been performed by the currency have thus been materially lessened. But if cheques and clearing houses had not come to play so important a rôle, we cannot doubt that the volume of the currency would now be found totally inadequate. Cheques and clearing houses do not enter into the realm of wages at all, and it will not be denied that the great industrial development of the past decade-and when we speak of industrial development we include, of course, the construction and working of railways and the manning and supplying of the mercantile marine-has necessitated the use of a correspondingly larger volume of monetary tokens. Do the economists who attribute such a disturbing potency to currency expansion imagine that the Japan of 1808 does not require more money for the purpose of its daily affairs than the Japan of 1888 required? Do they think that 35 per cent. is an excessive increase in view of the made by the country in that interval? And do they seriously ask us to believe that an addition of 35 per cent. to the volume of the currency in ten years can have caused an appreciation of commodities to the extent of 70 per cent.?

Another interesting table furnished by the Bank of Japan to the Japan Times is

RATIO OF THE VOLUME OF THE PAPER CURRENCY TO THE SPECIA RESERVE AT THE END OF BACH YBAR.

rer cet	it. Per cen
188834.1	189350.2
188941.1	1894479
189033 8	189520 9
189144.8	189661.7
189254.0	
18	97.
Jan58 g	July53.3
Feb	Aug51.6
Mar56.2	Sept46.7
April56.3	Oct43.9
May,56.3	Nov43 6
Jun e58.8	Dec41.5
18:	98.
Jan42.2	April34 E
Feb41 8	May35.4
Mar34.3	
	1

rose to 85 millions in 1893 (the year before Indemnity). Between January and August in 1897, it fell from 132 millions to 106 millions; after which it fell steadily, thus: —January (of current year) 98 millions; February, 83 millions; March, 74 millions; April, 64 millions; May, 62 millions. It may be presumed that the reserve will now swell once more, owing to the import of the Indemnity.

Concerning the issue of convertible notes by the Bank of Japan beyond the legal limit, it appears that the excess in 1895 was no less than 55 million yen, owing to the exigencies of the war, and that the forces for root to recent war. that the figures for each month since July, 1897 were as follow:-

	In million	€,	In millions
July,	189710	Jan.,	189839
Ang.	,,	Feb.	,, ,,,,,,,30
Sept.	,, ,,,,,,,,21		
Oct.		Apr.	
Nov.			,,
Dec.	47	1	

# CYCLING REGULATIONS.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Board has issued a set of Regulations for the control of persons riding bicycles. The provisions are :-

- t.—That bicycles must be equipped with bell and lamp.
- 2 .- That lamps must be lighted after sunset.
- 3.—That racing must not be carried on in the
- 4-That the bell must be rong and the pace stackened when turning corners or traversing crowded places.
- 5 -That learning to ride must not be carried on in the streets.
- 6 -That persons under twelve years of age must not ride in the streets.

Violations of these Regulations are punishable with minor confinement for from I to Io days, or a fine of from 5 sen to 1.95 yen.

The regulations are very good and outless very necessary. We have not doubtless very necessary. noticed much tendency to furious riding on the part of Japanese cyclists in the streets of Tokyo; certainly not in crowded places. Occasionally a foreigner-one of the class whose differentiation from the loafer is an enigma-flashes past obtrusively and vehemently. But the Japanese do not appear inclined to race or take any other break-neck liberties. However, they would probably have risen to their opportunities had not the police taken precautions. The interesting question now is, how are the new regulations to be enforced in the case of the foreigner. If he violates them and if the police venture to arrest him, they will not get much encouragement from the average Consul, we imagine. In fact, the average Consul has no competence to enforce Japanese cycling regulations, or any other cycling regulations for the matter of that. It is not likely that many foreigners will show a disposition to act in defiance of the regulations. But the regulations are not intended for the control of men that have no disposition to violate them, and if the police strike one of the other class, their only remedy, so far as we can see, will be to close the road to him. That might prove a troublesome and possibly turbu-

# THE DELAY IN DISSOLVING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A good deal of comment has been provoked in connexion with the fact that the Government allowed the Lower House to continue its session on the 10th instant for about an hour after the rejection of the Land Tax Bill, One vernacular journal asks how the Government can possibly claim to be acquitted of gross inconsistency as well as contempt of the Constitution when it permitted legislation to be carried on by a House which it had already made up its mind to dismiss as unfit to legislate. That is decidedly quaint; a most interesting specimen of hypercriticism, and a good illustration of the extraordinary notions that prevail in some quarters with regard to the significance of dissolution. The Government dissolved the House of Representatives simply for the purpose of appealing to the country on the subject of the Land Tax. The dissolution might have been deferred for a week without any impropriety or inconsistency. In fact, can not now be effected except by promany people regret that it was not defercess of law. With regard to a second red until, at any rate, the House had passed the remaining portions of the Commercial Code. Presumably our readers know the reason of the brief delay that took place before the issue of the sentence of dissolution. The Government desired to have the Supplementary Budget and certain other Bills passed by the House of Peers before the session was brought to an abrupt close. Accordingly, the President of the House of Peers sent out a a circular inviting the members' presence -they had risen for the day at a little after 2 p.m. They came together again at 4 o'clock, discharged the duties required of them, and rose at 4.30, after which the Imperial Rescript ordering dissolution was issued. It had been deferred simply as a matter of legislative convenience.

# THE CHARGE AGAINST "THE TIMES."

Our readers all remember, doubtless, that The Times became the object of some unpleasant charges during the recent crisis in the Far East. It was freely alleged that at the critical moment when the British Government was treating with the Tsung-li Yamên for the grant of a loan to China and the opening of Talien to trade, The Times, by publishing the fact of the negotiations being in progress, attracted Russia's attention, and led the St. Petersburg Government to bring such pressure upon China that the latter abandoned the project. The charge has now been conclusively disproved. The Times' telegram was published on January 17th. Now from the official correspondence recently laid before Parliament, we learn that Sir Claude Macdonald, telegraphing to Lord Salisbury on January 16th, said :- Yesterday (January 15th) I saw Yamen and had a prolonged discussion with them respecting concessions in return for loan. A protracted discussion took place upon the opening of Talienwan as a treaty port. They said that Russian Chargé d'Affaires had protested, under instructions from his Government, against its opening in the strongest manner, and (injuring the public peace), and kwanri bad warned them that they would incur busyoku (bringing officials into contempt), hostility of Russia by doing so." It is thus seen that Russia's protest was made at least two days before the publication of The Times' telegram. Yet we renture to

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predict that this accusation will go down to posterity in the pages of history as an incontrovertible fact.

# DUMMY EDITORS.

A correspondent asks about dummy editors in Japan. Such individuals certainly existed when the old Press Law was in force. The Government had competence in the early days of Japanese journalism not only to suspend and suppress a newspaper without recourse to a court of law, but also to imprison the editor, publisher, and printer. Several years have elapsed, however, since the Administration was deprived of power to inflict criminal punishments independently of the judiciary, and with the disappearance of that power, the dummy editor, printer, and publisher ceased to have any raison d'etre. Further, according to the amended Press Law passed by the Diet in its 1896-7 session, and immediately put into operation, the suspension or suppression of a journal statement quoted by our correspondent from a foreign magazine, namely, that when m paper was suppressed it immediately appeared under another name, there certainly was once a case about which such a story might be related with some approximation to truth. The proprietors of the Nippon-if we remember correctly -published simultaneously another paper called the Nippon jin. So long as the Nippon did not fall under the displeasure of the official censors, the Nippon-jin remained wery perfunctory kind of publication; but whenever the Nippon was suspended, its staff devoted their labours to which we speak. For the rest, it editor to "give his paper a new name and go on publishing it" after its suspension under the old title. A feat of that kind was out of the question, for the preliminaries that had to be arranged before bringing out a paper were both tedious and expensive. Official permission had to be obtained and a considerable sum lodged as security. Long before steps to publish a remplacant could have been com-pleted, the ban of suspension would certainly have been removed from the original journal. Finally, it is necessary to correct the idea that Japanese journals were ever "censured and suppressed for offending the Emperor." We are familiar with the career of Japanese journalism from the day of its birth until the present moment, and we can not recall a solitary case of any newspaper utterance disrespectful offensive to the Emperor or to any member of the Imperial family or Prince or Princess of the Blood. The Law, as is natural, provides against such m contingency, but there has not been an occasion for enforcing that particular provision. chief offences-one might almost say the only offences—that got newspapers into trouble during the era preceding the amendment of the Law were chian bogas

# SOBER COUNSELS.

The vehement and excitable folk generally have the field to themselves at the outset. They are quick to raise their voices, and they reap the full advantage of getting in the first word. But sober and moderate persons come in afterwards and generally win the final verdict. That is what is happening now with regard to the recent Anglo-Russian complication. is not to be denied for a moment that Russia has scored heavily. Neither is it to be denied that she has made Port Arthur mayal station after promising to make it an open port, and that her method of opening Talien will be very different from the method which China would have been obliged to adopt had she opened it. We doubt, indeed, whether many British subjects will care to make Talien the scene of their enterprise under existing circumstances, and, so far as experience goes, it may be asserted that Eastern settlements from which British subjects stand aloof are slow to attain prosperity. Granting that Russia has gained much, however, we are compelled to grant also that England could not have resisted her gains with the smallest pretence of right or justice. Great Britain has no mission to place obstacles in the path of another Power's commercial development, unless, indeed, Heaven has conferred on her a title to hold the whole world herself in fee simple. She went as far as she could reasonably go-without actually drawing the sword—to avert the perils threatening China's integrity, and unless it be held that everything gained by every other State is necessarily a loss and an injury to England, we do not see how she could have insisted on opposing the Nippon-fin, sending it also to the Nippon's subscribers. We can not vouch for the accuracy of this tale, but it was currently believed at the time of ed to The Times by Conservative memed to The Times by Conservative members of Parliament, which show that Engcould never have been possible for an lishmen are reviewing recent events with considerable calmness:-

ishmen are reviewing recent events with considerable calmness:

I believe that the action of Lord Salisbury has been taken with a large view of all the position, or a comparison of the questions at stake with the great issue of peace or war, and that, while there has been a determination not lightly to take of feace, there has been a vigilant observation of points of vital importance, so that, if in smaller matters we have seemed to yield, distinct advantages have been secured, and the words of Lord Salisbury yesterday remain as much as ever the motio and the governing principle of the Ministry—"Undonbtedly we shall not allow England to be at a disadvantage in any rearrangement that may take place."

I grant that many Tory members of Parliament would have welcomed a more Enzabethan Englishing in the answers of the Foreign Office when Russia made question of the presence of our flert in neutral waters. But few, I think, will deny, upon lair consideration, that in the Far East we have secured valuable results, with no loss to Bhirish interests—open waterways in China, new trading ports, a recognition of our superior rights along the Yang-tsze-kiang, a naval sentry box at Wet-bat-wei, whence we can challenge all seafarers to the Gulf of Perchi-li, a recognition of mutual interest by Germany, and, above all (to him who cam "anticipate events before they occur") a sympathetic understanding with Japan.

Democratic our constitution may be, yet ingratitude, the historicyice of other democracies, has carely dishonoured our commonwealth, and neither the Tory party nor the nation are likely to forget that during Lord Salishury's courted af

titude, the historic vice of other democracies, has tarely dishonomed our commonwealth, and neither the Tory party nor the nation are likely to forget that during Lord Salisbury's control of foreign affairs Burma and vast tracts of South Altica have been added to our Empire, the Sudan has been teclaimed to civilization, a kindlier feeling has been kindled between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race, and we have been steered through a position of splendid, but not too comfortable, isolation into one of comparative security, while yet peace has been maintained between the stable and the Great Powers of Europe.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# VERACITY.

Here is a report of the proceedings of the House of Representatives on the 10th instant, as published by the Japan Herald:-

The order of the day being resumed, Mr. Sassa, of the Kokumin Kyokai, spoke on behalf of the Bill, to which Mr. Nakamura, representing the Progressionists, expressed objection. Hot discussion ensued, which was conducted with such violence that the utterances of individual members was hireful and the progression. were hardly sudible by the audience. After a pro-longed interval of unusual confusion, marked by yells, and altricks from excited members, and in some cases by actual personal assault, the Bill for increasing the tax on land, was finally rejected by the great majority of 266 against 26 votes, amid-land analyse. the great majo

This is pure invention. As an account of the demeanour of the House it is absolutely false in every detail. At the commencement of the session on the 10th instant, a disturbance did occur in connexion with a point of procedure. It was a disgraceful disturbance, but it did not last five minutes, and the conduct of the House throughout the remainder of the sitting was of the quietest and least excited character. The story quoted above says that, "after the Order of the Day had been resumed, two members spoke about the Land Tax Bill. That is correct, though the name of one of the speakers is wrongly given. The rest is all imagination. After resuming the Order, no "hot discussion ensued;" there was no "violence such that the utterances of individual members were hardly audible by the audience;" there was no "prolonged interval of unusual confusion;" there were no "yells and shrieks from excited mem-bers;" there were no "actual personal assaults." On the contrary, the proceedings were calm almost to the point of listlessness, and to us, looking from the gallery, it seemed as though the members took only the scantiest interest in the brief debate and its striking conclusion. We refer to the subject solely for the purpose of correcting an erroneous impression. Our contemporary's reporter evidently was not present in the House, and, having received a very exaggerated account of the episode that occurred at the commencement of the sitting, made it apply to the whole debate, adding a great deal of imaginary embroidery. The Japan Herald itself, in its editorial columns, describes the affair thus :--

Pandemonium reached its maximum limit over Pandemonium reached its maximum limit over a discussion as to the method of voting on a certain "ingency" motion, and the scenes in this connection, were, we learn, of the most disgraceful description. These were not confined to the more exchange of verbal complianents, but even included displays of actual physical violence between individual members. The respect which, one night naturally suppose, would be attached to and protect the President from insult, proved non-existent, and some members tried to pull him from his seat, and some members tried to pull him from his seat, and prophers of the assauling him at the same time with epithers of the assailing him at the same time with epithets of the most opprobilious nature. But these disturbances were not isolated phenomena, and the behavious of the members throughout, was more suggestive of 305hi, under the influence of 102h, than of civilised legislators moulding the destines of a settine.

There were no attempts to pull the President from his seat, nor was he assailed with opprobrious epithets. As to the assertion that " these disturbances were not isolated phenomena, for the behaviour of the members throughout was more suggestive of soshi, under the influence of the destinies of a nation," it is amusingly false. The disturbance was essentially an pleased, or whether the acquiescence of "isolated phenomenon." It happened at the beginning of the session was session was essentially an UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

by the most perfect order and quiet to the end of the sitting.

Japan Herald, June 10. Japan Herald, June 14.

After a prolonged interval of unusual confu-sion, marked by yells, and shright from excited members, and in some cases by actual personal assault, the Bill for inwas fivally rejected by the great majority of 266 against 26 votes, amid loud applause.\*\*\* But these disturbances were not isolated phenomena, and the behaviour of the members throughout, was more sugges-tive of soshi, under the influence of sake, than of civilised legislators moulding the destinies of a nation,

Even the Mail itself Byen the Mail itself admits that what took place was "a disgraceful disturbance, that did not last five minutes." But if this statement were true, which it is not, all that we stated could have occurred in that were that period.

It will be seen that, according to our con-temporary's defence, a period of less than five minutes may be properly described as "a prolonged interval of unusual confusion;" a solitary episode as "distur-bances that were not isolated phenomena," and the proceedings of a moment as "the behaviour of the members throughout."

# THE TARIFF.

A kind of fatality seems to attend the new Tariff. The facts about its operation have been explained again with the utmost explicitness, yet one journal after another continues to make confusing reference to We repeat again that the Tariff can not be put into operation earlier than September 19th, and then only in the event of the ratifications of the Austro-Hungarian Revised Treaty having been exchanged before August 19th. the latter event be delayed until after August 19th, the enforcement of the new Tariff will have to be postponed so as not to take place until at least a month after the exchange of ratifications. Under no circumstances is there any likelihood, we imagine, of the Tariff's being put into force from Sept. 19th. The 1st of October would be chosen in preference.

# KOWLOON.

The Chuo Shimbun credits Mr. Chater with having originated the idea that Great Britain ought to obtain possession of the Kowloon Peninsula. Our contemporary quotes, or rather gives the gist of, a letter said to have been addressed to Sir William Robinson, the Governor of Hong-kong, in 1894, in which the tenure of Kowloon is declared to be absolutely essential to the safety of the Colony of Hongkong. The Chuo appears to approve of the acquisition, and notes that by obtaining Deep Bay and Mirs Bay Great Britain shuts all other Powers out of the harbours best suited for naval bases in that part of China. With reference to this, it will be interesting to observe what steps England will take about the use of Mirs Bay by the United States Squadron. Mirs Bay is now actually employed by Admiral Dewey as a naval basis. The public does not know how the thing was

in less than five minutes, and was followed regard the question as particularly important. China is not in a position to resent violations of her neutrality, nor is Spain likely to call her to account. But when Mirs Bay becomes a part of the Crown Colony of Hongkong, things will be different. It is a pity that England's acquisition of the place could not have been deferred until America had no further use for it.

# CUTTING CABLES.

There is a conflict of evidence on the subject of the cutting of the Manila cable, and those that know do not appear to have thought it necessary to take the public into their confidence. As bearing upon this question, the following extract from a leading article in The Times is interesting :-

Modern civilization is constantly providing new problems to be solved by some extension of ascient rules. One of these arising just now is the position of lines of ocean telegraph in case of war. It is said that the American Government contemplates cutting the telegraph to Cuba in order to prevent communication with Spain; and also that the cable in question is the property of an English company. Is a telegraph cable contraband of war? To maintain such a proposition is surely to give a violent and unnatural extension to the phrase, and to open the door by analogy to many things condemned By the spirit if not by the words of the Declaration of Paris. If the property of neutrals is to be respected even under the enemy's flag, how much more ought it not to be nespected under a neutral flag? That is really the position of a cable owned by neutrals and crossing the high seas. It is therefore to be hoped that the American Government does not intend to set so evil a precedent, which, by the way, might be held by Spain to justify the cutting of any cable one end of which is on American soil. Diplomacy is now happily relieved of the necessity to concern itself with the more familiar questions arising from war between nations which have not sigued the Declaration of Paris, but it might perhaps with advantage consider the new questions suggested by various forms of peaceful enterprise perhaps with advantage consider the new questions suggested by various forms of peaceful enterprise which may incidentally become involved in belligerent action.

# NEWLY-APPOINTED U.S. MINISTER TO CHINA.

The O. & O. steamship Doric has on board the Honourable E. H. Conger, the newly appointed United States Minister to Peking. Mr. Conger is a resident of Des Moines, Iowa, and under the Harrison administration represented the United States of America as Minister to Brazil. To this same position Mr. Conger was re-appointed by President McKinley, but was re-cently transferred from Rio de Janeiro to succeed Col. Denby at Peking. Mr. Conger has earned the reputation of being a strong man, and as occasion arises is known to act with energy and good sense. It requires such a person to take the place occupied so ably and so long by Col. Charles Denby, whose term as U.S. Minister at Peking begat under President Cleveland in 1885. Mr. Conger is accompanied by his wife, daughter, and by Miss Pierce, his niece.

Mr. William E. Bainbridge, the newly appoint d Second Secretary of the U.S. Legation at Peking, is also on board Doric en route to

# THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

The members of the House of Representatives were elected on March 15th and sent back to their constituencies on June 10th. Their Parliamentary career did not extend over three months. The Constitution provides that general elections must now be held and the new House convoked within five months, namely, by Nov. oth at latest. Usually the ordinary session commences about December 20th, the Govern-

# THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

E have seen a great many strange things in Japan; strange, that is to say, in the sense of unaccustomed. By this time, indeed, nothing should surprise us; we ought to be prepared for anything and everything. Yet many people evidently find it difficult to contemplate the prospect of statesmen like Marquis ITO, Count INOUYE, Viscount YOSHIKAWA, Marquis SAIGO, and so forth, stumping the country by way of preliminary to a general election. We ourselves have never had the slightest doubt that such a spectacle would ultimately be included in the kaleidescopic views furnished by modern Japan. Party Cabinets have to come in this country, as they have come in other countries under constitutional institutions, and the only question, so far as we can the "policy of isolation," and appear in see, is, when will the Meiji statesmen the new character of political organizerscease to present a firm phalanx of opposition to the great change; when will they recognise the inevitable, and, joining stage of probation seems to have now hands with the leaders of the political been reached. During the first five years parties, carry to completion the system of Parliamentary institutions, the Cabinet inaugurated by themselves? It is not right, perhaps, to ask "when will they recognise the inevitable?" They doubtless recognised it from the first. The question should take the form, "when will they give practical effect to their recognition?" So long as they choose to stand together, they can probably control the Progressists. Finally ensued Marquis more actively than they have done hitherto. situation. They have the support of the ITO'S union with the National Unionists Marquis ITO can awaken that interest if EMPEROR; they have the command of the army and navy; they hold the strings of the national purse. How long will they remain immovable? It may fairly be admitted that their whole career forbids us to suspect them of purely selfish motives, or to imagine that, in defiance of public interests, they would labour to nullify the Constitution which they have been the means of procuring for the nation. If they have been conservative in this matter, it is because they believed that some preparation was necessary, some period of probation essential, before the final goal of Parliamentary institutions could be safely reached. Of course they have laid themselves open to the charge of self-seeking. That could have been foretold from the first. Each of their enemies, each politician that coveted their places, could not fail to accuse them of PERORhadnot intervened. But the question obeying the selfish motives by which he was himself inspired. That is an old, old story, and, strange to say, it never fails to finances. It must be settled; there can command credence. The public is always ready to believe that to struggle for some- in the manner that Marquis ITO and his thing which others possess is much finer, colleagues advocate if they maintain their from a moral point of view, than to cling to its possession. Representative institu- sentations of the Land Tax Bill and repeattions are very handsome things, and party ed dissolutions of the Lower House will because of the general problem, what is cabinets are their natural outcome, but it not do. Such m programme is practically to be the future of the Philippines? It is may fairly be doubted whether politicians impossible. The Cabinet can not go on now plain that European opinion is dividagitating for party cabinets are more time after time asking the constituencies ed into two camps: in the one are ranged indifferent than other men to the sweets to answer the same question. The reply France, Russia, and, perhaps, Germany;

we do not see why the holders of power will have to be accepted as final. And pedestal of independence and join hands with, will be thrust aside. Administration any parallel for the unanimity of journalistogether the Progressists and a large section of the Liberals, and that the Meiji statesmen will now abandon what is called They can hardly do otherwise, we imagine. Speaking generally, the third lived in an empyrean wholly removed epoch of coalitions. Marquis ITO inprogramme. Count MATSUKATA adopted tions may be called a failure. The first succeeded so far as its immediate object may be said to have proved a fiasco from the beginning. The third never became practical reality. There can not be another coalition of the same kind. If the Meği statesmen want the support of political parties they must now pass to the stage beyond coalition, namely, union. And it is not, after all, a question of what they want so much as of what the country needs. None of the previous disputes between the House of Representatives and the Cabinet related to a vital issue. Even the House's refusal to endorse the initial steps of naval expansion in 1893 need not have produced any very serious results though the EMupon the tapis to-day is essentially vital. It concerns the stability of the national be no paltering. But it can not be settled attitude of independence. Repeated pre-

are less respectable than those that want there can be no doubt about the nature of to grasp it, and from a practical point of the reply if the control of the situation is view it must be admitted that the Meifi left in the hands of the present political statesmen have served their country about parties. An overwhelming majority will as well as it could have been served, be returned hostile to the so-called "clan However, there is now a most striking statesmen." The men who have made consensus of opinion that the time has modern Japan, men whose abilities and come for them to step down from their experience she can not afford to dispense with the political parties. In all our ex- will be impossible for them, and they will perience of Japan we can not recollect have to resign their trust to untried politicians. Marquis ITO would be neglecting tic expression that this crisis has evoked. his plain duty if he made no attempt to The Tokyo editors seem unable to talk of prevent such a conjuncture. He has no anything except the prospect that a new right to abandon his post. Japan wants popular party will be formed by fusing him, and wants also the veteran statesmen who have worked with him as well as the young officials who have been trained under his care. As to the success that would attend his efforts to organise a political party, there can not be any manner of doubt. He and his colleagues have only to enter the field publicly and unequivocally. The best men in the country will flock to their standard. That is another point which they have to consider. It is just as much their duty to assist the from party influences. Then followed the safe inauguration of party cabinets as it was their duty to introduce the constituaugurated it by joining hands with the tional system, and the safe inauguration Liberals for the sake of the post-bellum of party cabinets can not be hoped for unless the better classes of the people are the precedent and allied himself with the induced to interest themselves in politics and the Liberals. Each of these coali, he steps into the arena as a political leader. It is absolutely certain that a campaign conducted by him, Count INOwas concerned, but ultimately failed UYB, Marquis YAMAGATA, Marquis SAIGO, through inherent weakness. The second Viscount YOSHIKAWA, Baron SUVEMATSU, Baron ITO, Viscount AOKI, Mr. KANEKO KENTARO, Viscount KATSURA, and the many other distinguished administrators who share their views, would take the form of a triumphal progress in which the vast majority of men of substance and education would gladly and gratefully march. The nation must be quite weary of this endless friction, this pernetuity of unsightly quarrels, between the EMPEROR'S advisers and the people's representatives. Progress is arrested, and the world begins to suspect that Japan's aspirations have outrun her capacities. Foreign observers can see no reason why such a situation should be prolonged.

# THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIP. PINES.

HE news of Admiral DEWEY'S successes at Manila caused a great deal of interest in Europe, not in connexion with the facts of the fight so much as June 18, 1898.]

occupants of the former camp are all petition that she creates wherever she in Asia a place of our own, and not what antipathetic to America and sympathetic goes, no other Power thrives with Spain. England, on the contrary, is she thrives, and the spectacle of heart and hand with her kinsmen. Rus. growth is naturally disagreeable to her sia and France, especially Russia, seem rivals. Their objection to an Angloto be most anxious that the Philippines Saxon alliance is, therefore, easy to undershould not fall into England's possession, stand, and the more we ourselves desire and equally anxious that the United States should not retain them. England would condemn them for disliking it. Their be more than content that the Stars and obstructive efforts have not as yet passed Stripes should float permanently over the the tentative stage. They give it to be islands. It is not a matter of mere senti- understood that the possession of the ment with Englishmen. There enters into the case a consideration of vital poli- be "disquieting" for Germany, France, tical importance. If America holds the and Russia, and that the only arrange-Philippines, she becomes at once an Asiatic Power, and must accept all the rope's endorsement is the restoration of responsibilities attaching to that character. She must complete the annexation of Hawaii without delay; she must create a powerful navy; she must face complications with Europe; she must enter upon a new path of destiny. Already that outlook has been squarely faced by her people, and they evidently regard it with calm confidence. A nation of overflowing vitality and boundless resources does not shrink from any problem that its own greatness thrusts upon it. The imagination of the Americans seems to be attracted by the idea of stepping out of the region, vast as it is, to which the exercise of their energies has bitherto been limited, and playing a worthy rôle on the world's stage. No conceivable change in the conditions of the era could be more welcome to Englishmen. Most of us have for years harboured deep down in our hearts the hope that an union of the whole Anglo-Saxon race might be among the eventualities of the future, but few of us have ventured to imagine that such a splendid result could be consummated in our own lifetime. What the union would mean, we need not here attempt to forecast; but that it would make for the permanent good of the human race and for the lasting peace of the world, is not to be questioned. The amount of resistance that Continental Europe opposes to the first steps of the programme is a measure of its desirability. We do not mean to suggest that whatever the Continental States of Europe encourage must be bad, and whatever they oppose, good. That would be ridiculous. Our meaning is that a sharp line of demarcation has been drawn between the policy of Great Britain and the policy of Continental Europe in the Far East. England's is a policy of commercial expansion with equal privileges and opportunities for all the world. Europe's is a policy of territorial aggrandisement, or, at best, a policy of commercial expansion selfishly restricted; commercial expansion the privileges and opportunities of which are practically limited to the exponent of American feeling when it Power that promotes it. Continental says: -- "The world may as well know cular journals. They seem to take a Europe does not favour England's policy, that what we have won by the sword we mistaken view in one respect. Foreign because, in the atmosphere of free com-shall keep by the sword. We would have Governments are not, in our opinion,

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as such an alliance, the less right have we to Philippines by England or America would ment which can secure Continental Euthe islands to Spain as suzerain, under conditions of full local autonomy and independence. In short, the world seems likely to witness the spectacle of another Liaotung farce. Liaotung was taken from Japan by Russia, France, and Germany because they considered that its alienation from China would imperil the latter's independence. They restored it to China, and then Russia proceeded to acquire it for herself. Similarly, they are now preparing to take the Philippines from America because they consider that the possession of the islands by a strong Power might create difficulties, and possibly precipitate a terrible struggle. Having given practical effect to that theory, which of the "guardians" would complete the Liaotung parallel by stepping into America's place at Manila? These pretences are so comical that we can not but admire the gravity of the publicists advancing them? An additional element of amusement is furnished by the solicitude that the "guardians" begin to evince on Japan's behalf. St. Petersburg set the example. St. Petersburg discovered that the notion of England's purchasing the Philippines from America was "based upon surmises which did not take into account the interests of Japan." Cologne Gazette quickly followed suit. "As the Power in possession of Formosa," it wrote, "Japan is the nearest neighbour of the Philippines. Their inhabitants approved by both Houses, ceases to be have long regarded Japan as their model operative. There is little chance of the and as their future deliverer from the Diet's refusing to endorse the urgency Spanish voke." Is not that entertaining? The memory of Liaotung is well calculated, of course, to strengthen Japan's confidence in the disinterestedness of these possible, though not probable contin-Powers which have become so anxious gency, a question might be raised as about her rights and titles. The chief to the validity of any notice now addrespoint of dissimilarity between the Liaotung and the Philippine situations is the Foreign Governments might say :- "We difference between the United States and can not tell whether your Commercial Japan. America is not altogether likely Code will receive the approval of your to efface herself at the bidding of any Diet five months hence, and we are con-Power or Combination of Powers. The sequently unable to accept as satisfactory New York Herald may be taken as a fair your notice of twelve months' operation."

may be conceded by the goodwill of other Powers." A place of her own America will probably have too, for it is impossible to suppose that she will restore the Philippines to Spain.

# THE REVISED COMMERCIAL CODE.

VE have explained pretty fully the problem that presents itself with regard to the Revised Commercial Code. The subject is now beginning to attract much attention in political and official circles. The revised Code was duly passed by the House of Peers, and would certainly have been passed by the House of Representatives had not the latter been dissolved. Now the operation of the originally promulgated Commercial Code was postponed from 1892 until June 30th, 1898, for purposes of revision. It can not be further postponed without the enactment of a law for the purpose or the issue of an Urgency Ordinance. The Diet, intending to pass the revised Code, took no steps to further postpone the operation of the unrevised. Consequently the latter, as we have said, goes into operation on the 30th of the present month, unless the Emperor chooses to create a fresh period of delay by means of an Urgency Ordinance. But some of the provisions of the un-revised Commercial Code conflict with the provisions of the revised Civil Code, which has passed both Houses, and must now be enacted. There is thus a manifest inconvenience in allowing the law to take its course-that is to say, in allowing the un-revised Commercial Code and the revised Civil Code to become operative side by side. On the other hand, unless the Commercial Code in some form be enacted within the course of a month, notice can not given of the operation of the Revised Treaties. Under the circumstances it would appear simplest to enact the revised Commercial Code by Urgency Ordinance. Here, however, there is a fresh difficulty. Urgency Ordinance has to be submitted to the Diet in its next Session, and, if not ordinance by which the revised Commercial Code was enacted. But it might refuse. At all events, in view of that sed by Japan to the Treaty Powers.

Such is the problem as stated by verna-

competent to raise the objection suggested above. They can not forecast the action of the Diet. If, indeed, the Diet should withhold its consent, and if the Code should consequently cease to be operative, the Governments of the Treaty Powers would be justly entitled to protest that the condition of a year's operation had not been fulfilled. But surely nothing of the kind can reasonably be anticipated. The revised Commercial Code was passed by the Upper House, and is known to have received the approval of the Special Committee appointed by the Lower House to examine and report upon it. That the House should refuse to give post-facto consent to the Urgency Ordinance by which it was enacted, seems incredible.

Of course, from a legislative point of view, the easiest plan is to let the law take its course; in other words, to let the remaining portions of the Commercial Code go into operation from July 1st in their original, or unrevised, form, and then to replace it by the revised Code in its entirety when the latter receives the approval of the Diet in the autumn. But there are several objections to that method. There is, first, the general objection that to put a body of laws into operation now with the certainty that they are to be supplanted by a different body of laws six months hence, could scarcely be called a serious proceeding. It may be urged, perhaps, that the question is not of different laws, but of a revision of the same laws. That is true in a measure. But the revision in this case has been very extensive. The revised Code is not only an immense improvement on the original, but in some respects has been virtually re-written. Still, this objection would have less cogency were it not supplemented by the consideration that the revisions of the Civil Code and of the Commercial Code proceeded side by side, and that whereas the revised forms of both are entirely consistent, a conflict more or less grave would be found between the provisions of the revised Civil Code and the unrevised Commercial. Experts alone are competent to determine the weight of this difficulty, but taken in conjunction with the former it makes a case deserving careful consideration. Finally, if we examine the matter from the point of view of foreign Powers, we can not ignore the fact that He deprecated the idea of debating such an the provision relating to a year's operation of the Codes by way of preliminary to the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, is intended to ensure practical knowledge on the part of the judges. They are to have had a year's experience in administering the Codes before being required to apply them to foreigners. Will they have had a year's experience in the sense contemplated by the framers of the Treaties if the unrevised Code is to be operative for a moiety of the time and the revised measures, the third Reading being dispensed during the remaining six months?

On the whole the greater advantage seems to be obtainable by enacting the revised Commercial Code at once. It is an admirable body of laws, simple, clear, and in accord with the best modern principles. The Government would be applauded by all thoughtful persons if it adopted that course.

# IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH. HOUSE OF PEERS.

PASSING THE CIVIL CODE

The House met at 10.15 a.m., and proceeded to receive the Special Committee's report on the Bill embodying the remaining portions of the Civil Code. The Committee, by a majo-rity of one, had decided in favour of handing the Bill to a continuing committee, on the ground that the time remaining available for its examination and discussion was outle inade-

SPEECH BY MARQUIS 1TO.

Viscount Tani asked for a statement of the Government's views on this point, and Marquis Ito, ascending the rostrum, said that he had already explained at some length the intimate relation between Treaty Revision and the enforcement of the Civil Code. It was scarcely necessary to remind them of the history of Treaty Revision, or to repeat the fact that under the existing Treaties Japan's Sovereign rights were impaired and her independence was incomplete. For thirty years the nation had desired to correct this state of affairs, and after much labour success had attended Japan's persistent efforts. All the Occidental Powers had acceded to her proposals, and nothing except the operation of the Codes stood between her and the consummation of an object which so closely concerned her national honour. The Government was fully sensible of the inexpediency of presenting such an important piece of legislation for discussion in the brief interval of an extraordinary session; but circumstances had rendered that course inevitable. If the House endorsed the Special Committee's recommendation, and entrusted the Code to a continuing committee, thereby postpooing its operation, all the labour expended upon Treaty Revision and all the anccess that now promised to crown that labour would be lost.

Mr. Ozaki Saburo spoke in favour of passing the Code, his main argument being that experience of its operation would furnish the best guide for its amendment, should amendment be necessary, and that the task of revision, if once Kato's argument. undertaken by the House, would become interminable.

After some brief speeches, the House, by a closed ballot, rejected the proposal for a continning committee, only 28 members voting for the proposal and 204 against it.

Mr. Watanabe Koki moved that the House proceed at once to discus the Bill, but Viscount Soga urged that the Special Committee had to merely report on the merits of the Code. The Committee had merely reported its decision in favour of a continuing committee, and important piece of legislation without a full report from the Committee.

Mr. Ozaki Saburo considered that the decision of that point rested with the House, and the President having invited a decision the whole House, with the exception of Viscounts Taul and

Soga, voted in favour of Mr. Watanabe's motion. Viscount Soga spoke vehemently against the Bill, arging that several provisions of the New Code were entire opposed to the best traditions and revered customs of Japan.

The Government delegate answered various questions with regard to these points, and the closure having been put and carried, the second

The House was counted out at 2.15 p.m., but called together again at 4.30 p.m., to debate on the supplementary Budget for 1897-8, as a matter of urgency. Viscount Tani having rematter of urgency. ported on the Budget, it was passed manimousy, as amended by the Lower House, as were also the correlated financial measures.

URGENCY MEASURES.
The President then announced that the Government desired urgency for the following four Bills, which had been passed by the Lower House :--

The Bill for ameoding the Registration Law, The Bill relating to Arbitration Suits, The Bill relating to Procedure in Civil Suits, The Bill relating to Voluntary Public Sales,

The four Bills were passed unanimously, and the House, on the motion of Viscount Tani, adopted 24 petitions for prescutation to the Government.

The House rose at 5 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The House of Representatives met at 1.05

p.m. A REPRESENTATION ON REASSESSMENT.

After the reports had been read, Mr. Bando Kangoro ascended the rostrum and moved that precedence be given in the Representation introduced by him for reassessment of the taxable value of land.

The proposal was received with much applause.

THE NOTORIOUS MR. TANAKA SHOLO.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo shouted loudly that such a motion at such a time was ulterly out of order, and, ascending the rostrum, proceeded to reprove the President, declining to pay any attention to the somewhat feeble efforts of the sergeants to restrain him. Dr. Hatoyama and Mr. Kutibara endeavoured to quiet him, but he only became more obstreperous, and was with great difficulty induced to resume his seat,

The President announced that the question of granting precedence to the Re-assessment Representation was now under debate. announcement evoked many cries of dissent, and Mr. Tanaka Shozo was again found shouting that the President's conduct was grossly disorderly. The President, however, displayed

unusual determination.

PANNING THE PLAMES Mr. Kato Masanosuke contended that the reiation between re-assessment and the increase of the Land Tax was not sufficiently intimate to warrant the House in changing the Order for the purpose of giving precedence to the former.

This argument evoked applause and counter-applause, and amid much excitement Mr. Wads Hikojiro spoke in opposition to Mr.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku contended that the relation between the two measures was purely of a personal character.

BEAR-GARDEN PROCEDURE.

A ruling to decide the matter by closed ballot brought Mr. Weda to the rostrum to exposiulate with the President, whither he was followed by several members, and some pushing and shouting took place. Order having been at length restored, a ballot was taken to determine whether the voting with regard to the Representation should be by open ballot or by closed. The result was that 127 voted for an open ballot, 164 for a closed ballot, 1 ticket was declared void.

A closed ballot was then taken to determine whether precedence should be given to the Reassessment Representation, when 127 voted for precedence and 165 against it. The Represen-tation consequently did not come up for dis-cussion, and the House proceeded with the debate on the Bill for increasing the Land Tax, which had been interrupted by the suspension of the session on the 7th instant.

THE NEW TAXATION SCHEME.

Mr. Sassa Tomofusa spoke in favour of the
Bill as an inevitable measure, and Mr. Arai Shogo, while approving it in principle, urged that it should not have been submitted in au extraordinary session when the Budget was not before the House.

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## DEFEAT OF THE BILL.

The closure was put and carried, and a ballot was taken, when 27 members voted for and 247 members against the Second Reading. three votes being declared invalid.

Mr. Numata Ugenda complained that a cir-cular signed "Yukokusei" had been distributed among the members. Such an occurrence seemed a violation of the discipline of the Such an occurrence House, and he called upon the President to investigate how it had occurred,

Some members urged that the House should rise, but Mr. Haseba Junko contended that it was their duty to continue the business of the

The remaining Bills on the Order were rapidly disposed of up to the 23rd, when the House was counted out at 3.40 p.m.

### THE DIST DISSOLVED.

At 5 p.m. an Imperial Rescript was issued, ordering the dissolution of the Lower House and the prorogation of the Upper.

# UNITED STATES COMMERCIAL COMMISSION TO CHINA.

The Hon. Sheridan P. Read, recently United States Consul at Tientain, China, is a passenger on board the *Doric*. Mr. Read is Chairman el United States Commercial Commission to China, which Commission, while having the endorsement of the U.S. Government at Washington, is under the direction of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Mr. Read is well known both in Japan and in Chius, having been formerly connected with Messrs. Russell & Co., as one of the resident managers of Messis. Russell & Co.'s Canton branch. As U.S. Consul at Tieutsin, China, Mr. Reid's record is still fresh in the memory of those who watched the course of the recent was between China and Japan. While Consul he acted as protector of Japanese interests in Northern China during the war, and rendered such good services that the Japanese Government offered him a decoration through the U.S Minister at

The object of the Commission, of which Mr. Read is at the head, is carefully set forth in a prospectus. It desires to lay before the mer-chants and manufacturers of the United States a comprehensive study of the internal resources of China, illustrated by samples of raw materials and products, and of existing trade con-ditions and methods of doing business. Mr. Read is accompanied by his wife and children, who will reside in Tientsin, while Mr. Read is engaged in the work of the Commission, Mr. Read is accompanied by Mr. Cassius A Green, the Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Information of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Mr. Green with his wife will remain according to the vernacular plan several weeks in Japan before proceeding to taken as the general standard:-China to rejoin Ex U.S. Consul Read. The object of Mr. Green's stay in Japan is in connection with the Philadelphia Exposition to be held from May to October of next year, and especially in connection with the second International Commercial Congress to be held in June. 1899, in conjunction with this exposition. At this Congress there will be represented not only the leading Chambers of Commerce of Latin America, but also those of South Africa, India, Australia, China, and, it is to be hoped, of Japan. Mr. Green will visit the principal Chambers of Commerce of Japan, and lay before their members all the necessary data connected with this exposition, and arge the sending of representatives to the Commercial Congress. The convocation of this Congress in conjunction with an exposition of such manufactures as are best suited for export trade, will give to foreign merchants an unusual opportunity to study and examine what they can best buy in the United States.

The Chambers of Commerce of Japan will no doubt extend to Messrs. Read and Green a warm welcome and will assuredly not lose cribed to the receipt of the Indemnity. Congress.

# TAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENIS.

At the meeting of the Tokyo Municipal Assembly on the file instant, it was decided that a Special Municipal Council should be convened to celebrate the passing by the Diet of the bill for the abolition of the special system of local administration in the three leading cities of the country. A vote of thanks to Governor Okabe, who was the chief agent in bringing about the result, was also passed, while expressions of gratitude were ordered to be transinitted to the Representatives in the Diet who had agreed to the measure. A representa-tion introduced by Mr. Okata with regard to the extension of the electric railway from Hiroo, Azabu, to Shinano cho, Yotsuya, was submitted to a committee of fifteen. The Assembly then went on to discuss the question of the establishment of street railways in Tokyo, and decided on a petition to Government urging he necessity of reserving rights for such an enterprise to the Municipal Anthorities.

The Hochi represents Marquis Ito baving addressed a certain politician as fol--"I do not intend to relinquish my lows :portfolio. Should I resign, who could be my successor to adjust the entangled affairs State? Count Okuma will certainly find the task too difficult for him, in the present state of affairs; Count Itagaki, too, cannot but experience a similar difficulty. Whosoever may come upon the scene will find a scheme for increased taxation unavoidable. therefore to make a firm stand, and however frequently I may have occasion to dissolve the Diet, I shall ask the reconsideration of the scheme until is is accepted.

Commenting upon the condition of various banks in Tokyo, the Nichi Nichi says that the fact that some of the banks have suspended the issue of loans is to be attributed to their impecuniosity rather than to any motives of precaution. The depreciation of shares in companies to which loans were issued by the Central Bank has necessitated the presentation of extra security, but the deptors have proved unable to comply with the demands; and in some extreme even interest is in arrear, tions have therefore been placed upon loans by various banks in the capital. Even bills issued by respectable merchants have been declined under the customary terms of discount. All these facts are more than sufficient to prove that the Central Bank is seriously embarrassed by the scarcity of capital. Ruin, adds the Nichi Nichi, must be the inevitable result.

Since the Kwansei Steamship Companies Union was dissolved, the rates of freight have become extremely irregular. The following, according to the vernacular papers, may be

1	F	reight
	From To	Yen.
	Moji	1.70
	Karatsit , , , , , , , ,	2,20
	Kobe Tokyo Rice per 100 koku	40.0
	KobeNiigata	70 00
i	KobeSakata n p n n	75 00
	KobeNaoyetsu Beaus, ,	65 00
	OnichiNiigataSalt per ling	0.15
	OmichiSakata , , , ,	0.16
	MajiShanghai Coal, per ton	1 90
	Meji	2 20
	MejiSingapore , , ,	2 80
	Muroran Takow Steepers per piece	0.30
	SaigonKobeRice per picul	0.35
	Rangoniana a managa a managa a	o 60
	ManilaSugar, per plcut.	0 45
	Newchwang . , Beans, per picul	0.18

The gold reserve of the Bank of Japan has been steadily decreasing during the past few months. The report of the Bank for the week ending 4th instant, however, shows an increase of 31.000 yen, which sum, together with the amount in hand, constitutes a gross total of 63.008,000 yen. This change may be asthe opportunity of being represented at this order to prevent any sudden fluctuation in the

the Indemnity be brought home at once. the Nippon Ginko has adopted a policy of gradual transmission. Yet though the specie is retained in London, there can be no reason, asserts the Mainichi, why it should not be indirectly utilized for the immediate succour of the financial community. The convertible notes issued up to the 4th instant amount ed to 172,360,000 yen, showing a decrease of 111,700 yen as compaped with the previous week, whereas the issue above the legal limit totalled 26,870,000 yen, the decrease being 260,000 yen. As to the loans issued by the Bank it may be stated that an increase of 260 010 pan is noticeable in discounted bills, of 2,720,000 yen in cash, and of 2,010,000 yen in exchange bills, these items together making a total of 4,000,000 yen.

The Chuo writes at some length in condemnation of the recent attitude of the Dict. The scheme for increased taxation is absolutely indispensable for the maintenance of State and the management of national affairs; its necessity must be plain "even to the uncultivated minds of the members of the Diet." The House of Representatives, in recklessly rejecting the bill for increasing the taxes, acted against the in-terests of the country. Both Liberal and Progressist Representatives are under the absolute control of the party to which they belong, and are not free in person, thought, or action; nothing in their speech or conduct emanates from their conscience; party decisions bind them more strongly than iron chains. The State is sacrificed for party ambition; the dissolution of the Diet under these circumstances is entirely justifiable.

The Shogyo is astonished at the want of a spirit of thrift among the people of this country. The cultivation of a desire to save is essential to the development of society. With this in view the Government has frequently issued instructions to the Superintendents of the various Post Offices, as well to the local Governors, to spare no pains for the encouragement of this spirit. Yet with all the energies so displayed by the Government, there are scarcely any prospects of success. The matter properly belongs to the business of educationists, and any serious interference by Government must be avoided. The labouring classes were considered as having gained considerably in money after the war, and in order to permanently improve their stains a plan was formulated for awakening in them the spirit of economy. The wages of labourers have risen, and the demand for labour is steadily increasing, but apparently there is no proof to show that the lower classes have really improved their condition. In fact, they are as poor as ever. They lived more comfortably when their yen could procure a to of rice, than when they have to pay the same amount of money for only 4 sho of the cereal. It is for these reasons that County cereal. It is for these reasons that Count Matsukata's premium boads have virtually ended in a failure, - did the industrial bonds of a similar nature contemplated by the preceding Cabinet. If the Government really desires to encourage the spirit of thrift among the working classes, steps must be taken to raise the rate of interest on deposits and to remove all the intricate procedure required at the time of the withdrawal of money.

The Chuo publishes a trade return from the Japanese Consul at New York with special reference to straw braids. Straw braids are chiefly imported from Switzerland, Italy, and China, for the manufacture of summer hats for both sexes. According to statistics of the Finance Department of the United States, materials imported for use in the manufacturing of hats in that country amounted in value to \$2,111,200 for 1897 and to 82,254,280 in 1896; but in these figures the value paid for straw braids was not included. No accurate information has yet been obtained as to the amount of braids im-ported, or the countries from which they were exported during the past two years. But dealers in this commodity affirm that the bulk is fur-Imarket which would take place should nished by Europe, China being only of second-

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ary importance in this respect. The import from Japan is still insignificant; but as Japanese braids are really excellent in their quality, any improvement in the process of their manufacture will make them one of the most hopeful staples of export. The Swiss production is likewise excellent, but the amount of its import is steadily decreasing through competition with Japanese manufactures. The Italian and Chinese manufactures are far inferior to others, though they are much cheaper. In New York, the best hats are produced from January to May, whereas in November and December the manutacture of the lowest qualities is undertaken, The import of straw braids, therefore, commences in October and closes in March or April of the following year. Bleached or coloured braids are charged 20 per cent. ad valorem duties, while plain braids are required to pay 15 per But the taxation does not affect the sale cent. of the commodity.

From the Nichi Nichi we gather the following:—Arrivals of tea in Kobe have more or less decreased as compared with last year, but still no fewer than 1,000 cases are being received every day. Sales are somewhat hrisk, but the buyers do not push their competition to the point of raising prices. The falling off in the arrivals for this year is attribu ed partly to injuries from frost in the producing districts, but mainly to the appreciation of commodities. The Yokohama market being comparatively prosperous this year, some of the Kinshin teas were sent thither instead of to Kobe. In Kobe teas of medium quality varying from 20 to 30 dollars in value are chiefly asked for. The superfine leaf acarcely finds sales, and prices are rapidly falling, while the inferior qualities have risen by 3 or 4 yen. The following are the comparative figures for the two years:—

The prices of commodities have continued to rise steadily for the past three years, remarks the Blainichi. According to investigations carried on by the Bank of Japan, prices in April this year showed an appreciation of 79 per cent, as compared with January, 1887. The Bank's report for May places the figure at 77 per cent, indicating a slight tendency to fall. The following are the figures showing the fluctuations since January this year:—January, 70 per cent.; February, 73; March, 76; April, 79; May, 77. The domestic staples which have undergone fluctuations during the past month may be tabulated as follows:—

	.,			****		
		RICE	1.54	AVEAR.		A 21
				May.		April.
	Coal	194	***	252	***	242
	Kernsene		414	108	411	106
	Dried benite	***		248	***	246
	Raw Lacquer			115	P-0-0	113
	Flour	***		215	***	211
	Charcoal	***		189		195
	Sake	***		142	***	141
	Sugar	***		133		130
	Powls for foot	ł		191	***	189
	Silk	***		132	***	129
		PALL	1 10	VALUE.		
	Lion			173	401	175
	Shirtings		***	198	***	2:0
	Timber			272	***	280
	Barley			306	***	308
	Bleached cott	DII	***	E17	***	121
	Rice bran			210	***	22E
	Imported yarr	15		119	***	121
	Cat tobacco (	apan	esc)	173	***	170
	MISO	***	***	227	***	228
	Yains	4+1	444	115		118
	Floss (silk)	***		. 116	***	123
	Say	***	***	145	***	147
	Indigo	***		217	***	255
	Oil cake	***		211	***	219
	Vegetable wa	X.	***	122		125
	Eggs			200		211
	Floor matting			202	144	203
	Glass panes	***	+	154	***	159
(	Other articles,	such	48 (		inniog	

wood, wheat, manure, tea, oil, nails, leather, &c., remain the same value. The slight depreciation of commodities as noticed above to attributed by the public to a reduction in the volume of currency. That the currency has considerably decreased in an indeniable fact. The largest amount in circulation was in December of the 30th year of Meiji, when it had reached 231,490,000 pen; but whether the fall in the prices of commodities, however slight it may be, is really to be ascribed to currency shrinkage is extremely doubtful. The problem can only be solved by careful observations for several months.

The question whether foreigners are entitled to own shares in banks or companies existing in Japan has long, sats the Mainichi, been ambject in respect to which the civil authorities themselves differed in opinion. Article II. of the Civil Code, however, provides that aliens are entitled to all privileges not specially prohibited by treaty or by law. The problem which at one time evoked much criticism is thus entirely cleared. Foreigners are now entitled to enjoy freedom of occupation and to hold shares in companies, so that railway and other corporations may, by the issue of bonds, secure facilities for the introduction of foreign capital.

The Korean Privy Council recently decided to open Phyongyang and three other ports—Kunsanpho, Masanpho, and Sanchinphoto commerce. Some critics are inclined to assert that Korea's action in regard to the new ports is simply based on a deep-rooted apprehension as to the possibility of her territories being demanded by other Powers under the guise of a lease or temporary occupation, as in the case of China. Such assertions, however, remarks the Kokumin, are the result of an over-estimation of Korea's capacity for foreign diplomacy. The sagacity attributed by critics to the Korean Government is wanting in a people who are generally frightened even at ordinary communications from the Ambassadors of foreign Powers.

The Nippon alludes more suo to the Government scheme for the formation of an Increased Taxation party. It is but in the natural order of things that such a party should be called into existence at the present juncture. The Government originally attempted to sever the agitators for the reassessment of land from the Liberals and Progressists, and efforts were made, on one hand, to secure the sympathy of business men in Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, and Kyoto, and, on the other, to consolidate the Satsuma clique and some of the eminent politicians of Tohoku. But as this last and the Liberals and Progressists declined to co-operate with the Government nu the terms proposed, the project fell through However, the Government is still engaged in pourparlers with the Liberals. It lately obtained the assistance of such influential merchants as Mr. Fujita in Osaka and Mr. Shibusawa in Tokyo, and steps are now being taken to secure a greater number of business men among its supporters, Messrs. Walanabe Koki and Kaneko Kentaro making special efforts to that end. It is said that the young graduates of the University and others who have returned from study abroad are also to be enlisted to form a government party, while an amaigamation is contemplated between the Satsuma and Choshiu coteries, with Count Yamagata II their head, the Doshi chib alone showing an attitude of opposition. Messrs, Nakamura, Misaki, and Tokutomi are ready to follow the Government. At two meetings held during the past few days, it was decided that Marquis Ito and other Ministers of State should be the chief members of the proposed combination, which is to be designated the "Imperialist Party. The new party, the Nippos alleges, will include all officials subordinate to the Ministers, the National Unionists, the moderate members of the Yamashita Club, and some of the secoding Liberals. So soon at the inauguration is completed. Count Inouye, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Kaneko, Minister for Agri-

dition of the country to special meetings of the leading citizens engaged in commerce and industry. According to investigations made by well-known politician, a majority of 160 in favour of increased taxation will be secured at the forthcosting general election, Tokyo alone being expected to return the whole of its representatives, except Messis. Hatoyama and Matsuda and two others, in support of the Government. Unprecedented official interference is anticipated in the elections. The contest will be, the Nippon adds, a struggle of despoism against the Constitution, of cruelty against justice. The two journals—the Chuo and Kokumin—will be completely englaved by the Government for the furtherance of its selfish ends. In short, money versus purity (1) will be the prominent feature of the electoral campaign.

RUSSIANS AND JAPANESE SAILORS IN COLLISION.

FIERCE RIOT AT NAGASAKI—FIGHT BETWEEN MARINES—SEVERAL WOUNDED.

Nagasaki, June 12.

Later.

Last evening, 23 Japanese marines and 45 Russian soldiers came into collision at thasa street. The disturbance was quelled about midnight. Six Japanese and 12 Russians were wounded.

The quarrel between the Japanese and Russian marines lasted about an hour, and the latter then escaped to the warship to which they belong. The Japanese were attached to a torpedo hour.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

According to an official report which has reached the Admiralty, it seems that on the evening of the 11th inst. 23 Japanese marines belonging to a torpedo-boat and 45 Russian soldiers belonging to the Dimitri Donskoi, quarrelled at a bouse of ill-fame in Inasa-machi. They fought for an hone, but the disturbance was ultimately quelled by the police. Six Japanese and 12 Russians received slight wounds. The Governor of Nagasaki states that while the Japanese were drinking the Russian soldiers stepped into the room and insulted them. The authorities have probibited night leave to naval men and soldiers. It is said that the Russian warship will leave within a few days.

# THE NAGASAKI MURDER CASE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
KELLY SENTENGED TO BE HUNG.

REFRIEVE FRAYED FOR.

Nagasaki, June 15, 7 p.m. In the U.S. Consular Court to-day, Kelly, the proprietor of a grogshop in Oura, was found guilty of the murder of an American sailor named Gaunin—by shooting him in his house on the 14th May—and was sentenced to death. A petition has been presented to the Court praying that the sentence may be commuted in imprisonment for life.

# THE SHASHI RIOTS.

and Choshis coteries, with Count Yamagata and their head, the Doshi club alone showing an attitude of opposition. Messrs. Nakamura, Misaki, and Tokutomi are ready to follow the Government. At two meetings held during the past few days, it was decided that Marquis Ito and other Ministers of State should be the chief members of the proposed combination, which is to be designated the "Imperialist Party. The new party, the National Unionists, the moderate members of the Vamashita Club, and some of the seceding Liberals. So soon the inauguration is completed. Count Inouye, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Kaneko, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, will proceed to Osaka with a view to lecturing upon the financial contents.

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# DR. KATAYAMA ON THE 820th ARTICLE OF THE REVISED CIVIL CODE.

Dr. Katayama Kokka, a professor of the Tokyo Imperial University, makes some interesting remarks in the Hogakukyokwai Zaishi, about Art. 820 of the new Draft Civil Code, which was lately published. The article is :-

A child conceived by a wife during matrimony is presumed to be the child of her husband.

A child born on a after two bundred days from the date of the marriage, or on or within three bundred days from the date of dissolution or onli-Scation of the marriage, is presumed to have been conceived during matrimony.

When Marquis Saionji, then Vice-President of the Code Revision Committee, asked the Imperial University in November, 1895, to obtain the opinion of the Medical College of the University on the above subject, Dr. Katayams and other professors were manimous in their views as to the maximum and minimum periods of gestation. But they added, with regard to a child born before the minimum term or after the maximum term, that an infant born between the 180th and 199th days after the ostensible parents' marriage, or between the 301st and the 320th days after the death of the husband or the date of divorce, should not be presumed to have been conceived during matrimony nuless the degree of the development could be proved by medical evidence to be consistent with the dates mentioned. This point should have been inserted after the 2nd paragraph. Dr. Katayama strongly condemos the Revising Committee's disregard of the point, and criticises an groundless nearly all the reasons given for disregarding it. He suggest that, if a provision in the desired sense can not be inserted, the period of 300 days should be changed to 320 or at least 310 days, for the following reasons:----He and his colleagues thought 300 days proper as the maximum term of gestation in general, despite the possibility of its reaching 320 day, because they expected that another provision, relating to a child born after the 30tst days, would prevent the unjust operation of the Law in special cases. Without such a pro-vision, they think that the maximum of 300 days is insufficient. An eminent Professor the Berlin University holds the same opinion, and states, with regard to the Draft Civil Code of Germany, that the maximum term of pregnancy for widows is 320 days, 300 days being undoubtedly too short; that, in certain cases, circumstantial evidence ought to be permitted to extend the term to 320 days. Also, according to investigations conducted by three other experts with regard to 665 women, in whose cases the dates of conception were known, twenty gave birth to children after 300 days. Again, statistics relating to 1700 women about whom similar knowledge existed, it showed that 117 gave birth to children after 300 days. Three other experts allege that 20 out of 782 pregnant women gave birth to children after periods varying from 302 days to 326 days; and four others, all famous accoucheurs, say that parturition may often be prolonged to 320 days. These facts are now generally recognized. The maximum term of pregnancy allowed in the 820th art., viz., 300 days, is therefore too short, and should be changed to a term of 320 or at least 310 days, unless special provision be made for cases in which the ordinary maximum is exceeded,

# ASSOCIATION FOR THE INVESTI-GATION OF JURISPRUDENCE.

In the issue of the Högaku-kyokwał Zasshi for January, 1897, a first report of the then condition, together with a general sketch of the career, of an association called the Höri-kenkyn kwai (Association for the Investigation of Jurisprudence) was published. The first meeting of the association was held in the private residence of Professor Hozumi Chincho, the President of the Association, at Ushigome. Guild received a telegram from New York that Tokyo, on the 31st of October, 1893; and by the law was signed by the President and would 1897 it had grown to be a highly important come into force on the 14th instant.

body. About the latter epoch, some reforms of vital importance were made, and thenceforth a short report of the dissertations held at the society's meetings was published in the above magazine. Not until lately, however, did there aspear any pamphlet devoted solely to the association. The Högaku kyokwai Zasski of Muy, 1898, reports the first publication of such a pamphlet. It is called the Höri-ronso (Discussions on Jarisprudence) and was first issued by the association a few months ago. We proceed to translate the general outline, as it not only explains the nature of the association but also gives some idea of the present condition of jurisprudence in Japan:—"The Association for the Investigation of Jurisprudence is an assembly of persons ardently desirous of studying the science of law. Its members have held a monthly meeting since its first estar lishment in the 26th year of Meiji (1893) for the purpose of reporting the results of their investigations and discussing matters relating to Jurisprudence. Summarized reports of the meetings were published in the monthly numbers of the Hogaku hokwai Zasshi and the Kokkagakkwai Zasshi. Lately, however, the members decided that such of their essays as had any bearing on the study of jurispindence should be published in pamphlet form by the association itself under the general name, Horironso, and that each volume should have a special title according to the nature of its con-Many law-books have recently been published in Japan. Not a few are of great importance, and several treat of the Codes, or some particular branch of law, but very few deal with special topics in a detailed manner. That is perhaps because, owing to the immature state of the development of juris-prudence in Japan, books relating to a single topic of jurisprudence could scarcely be expected to repay the cost of publication. It results that a student who, after elaborate and earnest investigation, has formed some new opinion relating to a particular topic, can not have the advantage of learning his colleagues' views on the subject. He may be prepared to treat topics historically, or to compare the laws and institutions of the East and the West, but he is compelled to keep his conclusions un-published. Nothing could be more regrettable. The general rule of scientific evolution is progress from the rough to the minute, and from the broad and shallow to the narrow and deep. Jurisprudence is no exception to the rule. The present great demand for books relating to general topics will surely be followed by a need for books relating to special topics, as legal studies are carried further in Japan. We propose, therefore, to publish the results of the investigations conducted by our members, whatever may be the pecuniary results of the enterprise.

Among the pamphlets already published, as Among the pamphilets already published, as well as those now in the press, the following are mentioned:—An essay by Professor Tomidau Kwanjin entitled "The Stoic Philosophy and the Roman Law"; another essay by Mr. Tatsu; "Laws and Treaties" by Professor Hozumi Yatsuka; two essays relating to Chinese law and usage by Professor Tomidan and one relating to Language institutions. dzu; and one relating to Japanese institutions by Professor Hozumi Chincho and another. In the list of the members we find, Professors Hozumi Chiucho, Hosumi Yatsuka, Tomidzu, Tomii, Ume, Okano, and Hijikata, Messrs. Okuda, Ogawa Shigejiro, Tomitani, Kawamura, Tanabe and other lawyers of repute. We congratulate Japan on the appearance and steady growth of such an association.

# THE TEA DUTY.

A telegram from Mr. Hoshi, the Japanese Minister at Washington, has reached the Department of Foreign Affairs to the effect that the law imposing a duty of ten cents, on tea would be enforced from the 13th instant. On the 15th instant, the Central Staff of the Tea Merchants'

# LAWS RESTRICTING THE PRIVI-LEGES OF FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN.

An article in a recent issue of the Hogaku-Kyokwai Zasski enumerates the following laws and regulations as limiting the private rights of foreigners in Japan :-

1. Article 11 of the Regulations relating to Mortgage and Hypothecation of Land-Notification No. 18 of the sixth year of Meiji-prohibits the sale, mortgage, or hypothecation of

land to a foreigner.

2. Notification No. 124 of the 7th year of Meije prohibited for the first time the sele or hypothecation of underground deposits to a foreigner. This was followed by Par. 1, Art. 3 of the Mining Regulations (Law No. 87 of the 23rd year of Mein) which provides that no person but a Japanese subject is permitted to be a miner, or a member of a mining association, or a shareholder in a mining company; and by Par. I. Art. I. Law relating to the Gathering of Dust Mineral (Law No. 10 of the 6th year of Meir), wherein collectors of such

6th year of Meiji), wherein collectors of such dual, or members of an association or company formed for the purpose of gathering mineral dual, are limited to Japanese subjects.

3. By Art. 1 of the Regulations relating to National Banks (Notification No. 106, dated the 9th year of Meiji), Art. 5 of the Regulations relating to the Bank of Japan, (Notification No. 32 of the 15th year of Meiji), and Art. 5 of the Regulations relating to the Yokohama Specie Bank (Imperial Ordinance No. 29 of the 20th year of Meiji), it is provided that any the 20th year of Meiji), it is provided that any person, except a foreigner, can establish a national bank, and that no person but a Japan-

ese is permitted to buy, sell, or transfer a share of the Bank of Japan or the Specie Bank.

4. Art. 6 of the Newspaper Regulations, (Imperial Ordinance No. 79, the 20th year of Meift)—rarious articles of these Regulations have been amended from time to time, but this article still remains in force-prohibits a foreigner from becoming the publisher, editor, or

printer of a Japanese Journal.
5. Art. 5 of the Law relating to Public Meetings and Political Associations, (Law No. 14, the 29th year of Meift) provides that no person except a Japanese subject is permitted to be a promoter of a meeting for the delivery of political speeches; and Art. 7 of the same Law prohibits any person who is not a Japanese subect from speaking at such meetings.

6. Art. 824, Commercial Code, issued in the the 23rd year of Meijl, provides that only ships wholly belonging to Japanese subjects or a Japanese legal person, shall be regarded on Japanese ships and be entitled to fly the Japaness flag. Thus a foreigner is prohibited from becoming the owner of a "Japanese ship." The Code is now in course of amendment, but the restriction here alluded to will probably be found in the new Code, or in some special law.

7. Par. 1, Art. 11, of the Law relating to Bourses (Law No. 5, the 26th year of Meijt) prohibits any person but a Japanese subject from being a member, shareholder, or broker of a hourse.

8. Att. 2 of the Advocates Law (Law No. 7 of the same year) provides that no person but a

Japanese subject can become an Advocate.

9. Arts. 1, 3, and 11 of the Law relating to the Encouragement of Navigation (Law No. 15, the 29th year of *Meiri*) provides that a subsidy for navigation shall not be granted except to a vessel belonging to a Japanese subject, or to a company whose members are solely japanese subjects; and that a vessel thus subsidized shall not be sold, lent, exchanged, transferred, mortgaged or hypothecated to a foreigner.

10. Art. 1 of the Law relating to the Encouragement of Shipbuilding (Law No. 16 of the same year) provides that no subsidy for shipbuilding shall be given except in cases where Japanese subjects, or a company whose members are solely Japanese subjects, are the builders.

11. Art. 7 of the Law for the Eucouragement of Emigration (Law No. 70 of the same year)



provides that no one but a Japanese subject, or a company whose members are Japanese sub-jects, is permitted to become a manager of emigration business.

# AN INDUSTRIAL BANK SCHEME.

According to the Nichi Nichi the monthly general meeting of financial magazine writers was held on the 4th instant at the Kiushin Club, when Mr. Sugiyama, who was specially invited to attend, spoke at some length on the results of his conference with foreign capitalists in regard to the establishment of a Manufacturers' Bank in Japan. He said he consulted last year with his triend Mr. Kaneko, now Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, from whom he received valuable advice on the subject. In September last he went over to New York, where he succeeded in obtaining the hearty approval of Messrs. Morning and Zening, the famous capi-talists in that city, who agreed to invest a cer-tain amount of funds on condition that the bonds were sold to them at 95 yen per 100 yen face value and at 5 per cent interest. Mr. Sugiyama, however, did not accept this offer, Sugryama, nowever, did not accept this oner, the rate of interest being too high, as Japan could obtain loans from England or Germany at a much lower scale. The reason why she was unwilling to apply for assistance to either of latter was that their compliance would necessarily involve some political influence. After further consultation with the New York capitalists, it was arranged that the bonds should be bought by them at 97 yen or even at par with interest at from 3 to 5 per cent, according as the actual condition of the market required. With these brilliant prospects Mr. Sugiyama returned to Japan at the end of last year. Meanwhile the Matsukata Cabinet had resigned office, and he found it necessary to submit his scheme to Marquis Ito and Count Inouye for considera-The programme contemplated by him is as follows -(1) The proposed Bank to be designated the Imperial Industrial Bank, the capital to be supplied by a foreign loan, under the guarantee of the Government. (2) The gross amount of capital to be above 50 million yen, and below 130 millions. Bonds of 100 yen face value to be sold for not less than 97 ren, with interest below 5 per cent. The term of redemption to be above 20 years and below 30 years. The promoter of the scheme considers that the present time furnishes a unique opportunity for the organization of an Industrial Bank, and desires that steps shall be taken by the Government to aubmit the proposal to the Diet for approval.

# RUSSIA'S VIEW OF THE PROTOCOL

The official view taken in Russia of the Rosen-Nishi Protocol is conveyed in the following paragraph, which appeared in the St. Petersburg Official Messenger on May 11th.

"Since the conclusion of the Chine-Japanese war the Imperial Government has spaced no effort war the Imperial Government has spaced no effort to secure the integrity and complete independence of the State of Kocca. At the outset, when the question of placing the financial and military organization of the young State on solid bases was being considered, it was natural that the latter could not do without foreign support. That is why in 1896 the Sovereign of Korca addressed to the Emperor a pressing request to send to Soul Russian military instructors and a financial adviser. Owing to the assistance which Russia tendered her at the time of need Korca has now entered upon a path where she can manage her tendered her at the time of need Korea has now solered upon a path where she can manage her own affairs, even in an administrative respect. This circumstance made it possible for Russia and Japan to proceed to a friendly exchange of views to determine in a clear and precise manner the recipiocal relations of the new position of affairs created in the Korean Peninsula. The pourparlers in question led to the conclusion of the subjected arrangement (the Protocol, aiready published in the Fapan Mail) the object of which is to complete the Protocol of Muscow, and which was signed, in pursuance of the Emperor's command, by our Minister at Tokyo. By the essential stipulation of this arrangement, By the essential stipulation of this arrangement, so in order to prevent the increase of food sup-the two Governments confirm definitively their plies of the city. He did not wish, he said, to recognition of the sovereignity and entire inde-bombard the city, but to starve it into submission.

pendence of the Korean Empire, and at the same time pledge themselves mutually to abstain from all interference in the internal affairs of that country. In the event of Korea's needing the assistance of one of the two contracting States, Russia and Japan pledge themselves to adopt the measure with regard to Korea without a prelimination of the tween themselves. nary agreement between them.

Diplomatic language is a very useful factor in inter-state affairs, and every one accepts its enphemisms with a measure of satisfaction. But it is really too shockingly inartistic to allege, even by implication, that Russian experts had anything to do with the feat of reducing Korean finances to a condition of order. These solemn pretences are endurable only when they show some reflection of the truth, however dim.

# CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.

On Sunday afternoon a rather serious carriage accident happened on the Road, at the bottom of Negishi Hill. Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Stoart Eldridge were being driven in an open victoria, when, passing a landslip near the temple steps, the horse bolted, throwing the betto from his seat. The carriage passed over the man's body, but, according to his account, without doing him injury. A gentleman on horseback was approaching the carriage, and as Mrs. Eldridge bent over to catch the falling reins the carriage horse swerved and caught the rider's animal and the equestrian was thrown, Mrs. Eldridge being precipitated from the carriage almost at the same moment. rider reports no injury, but Mrs. Eidridge, we are sorry to say, did not escape so lightly, her shoulder being seriously hurt. Fortunately Dr. Koch, of the I. G. Hospital, happened to he close at hand, and he rendered all the assistance possible, afterwards taking the injured lady home. Mrs. Morse escaped with nothing worse than the fright natural to such a trying occasion. We should mention that a Japanese near whose house the accident happened did all he could in rendering assistance to Mis,

# ARIMA CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

The announcement of the programme for the Summer Conference at Arima has been somewhat delayed this year. However, the papers have all been assigned and the following subjects will be brought before the meetings, which will take place in August, beginning with the 7th, and concluding on the 14th.

"The Lord's method of dealing with enquirers."
"The Character and Mission of the Prophet Jeremiah."
"The Place of singing in Christian life and work."

" Moses in his intercourse with God."

"Our Ascended Lord, His present Work."
"The Work of the Huly Spirit as revealed in the Book of Acts."

Although arrangements have not yet been perfected, it is expected that Mr. Geo. C. Needham, the well-known Evangelist, will be present during the meetings of the Conference and it is hoped will take part.

# THE TORYO DRAMATIC & MUSICAL SOCIETY

We are informed that the last performance of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society netted 850 yen, after paying expenses. The money was divided among the following charities:—the Gotemba Leper Hospital, the Tsukiji Convent Orphanage and the St. Andrew's Orphanage.

The railway between Manila and Dagupan has been cut in eight places. Aguinaldo wrote the manager apologising for the step he was going to take, but stated it was necessary to do so in order to prevent the increase of food sup-

# SHOYL

A correspondent writes :- " I have just returned from a trip to Shoji, and if I only had the time I should like to write an account of that most lovely part of Japan. To any one that has not been there I say, go at once, for I think for pure cool air, lovely scenery, beautiful walks, good bathing and fishing, combined with the comforts of an excellent English hotel, there is nothing to beat it in Japan. The only there is nothing to beat it in Japan. The only trouble is that if you do not make your arrangements beforehand so as to have horses or kage waiting for you at Gotenba and relays at Yoshids, you can not reach Shoji in one day and must stop a night at Yoshida, where the hotel accommodation is rough, to say the least. The road back is easy enough-down the Fujikawa to Iwabuchi, where one strikes the railway, passing the fine temples at Minobu; or vid Omiya, when Yokohama can be reached in a day:"

# CHINESE NOTES.

The Europeans at Wuhu fully expected a serious riot on the night of June 6th, but it was prevented, says the N. C. Daily News, owing to the toresight of the British Consul and the Commissioner of Customs in having all available rifles ready loaded with ball cartridge (some filty in all), as well as rounds to each in reserve audicady for immediate distribution both at the Consulate and Custom House. H.B.M.'s Consul had also notified the Chinese authorities that in the absence of a gunboat the Europeans in Wuhu would stand no nonsense whatever, but at once if a tacked fire volley after volley as might be required, and there would be no thing as blank catridges in use. The Taotai in Wubu, when asked if he would order his soldiers to fire with ball on the mob, replied: "Yes, if necessary," but those in Wuhu affirm most positively that none of the soldiers would obey such an order, and the people, knowing it to be "play pidgin," would not stop their loot-

Wei-hai-wei is to be as strictly administered as any other British possession. A Chinese who had opened a place for selling vile native spirits, with its usual accompaniments in Chinese Ports, was turned off the island. The next morning bright and early he was found back again. As his expulsion had been made as public as possible it was felt, says the N.-C. Daily News, that something that would impress the popular mind must be attempted. And to somebody or other, probably Lieutenant Grant of the Narcissus, acting Governor of the island, came the inspiration to cut off the man's tail. The representative of British Power, in co-operation with the Chinese Commissioners, courtmartialled the offender; sentence was passed, and the unhappy wretch left the island minus his pig-tail. It made a deep impression on the people generally, more so than fine or im-prisonment would ever have done. It probably will soon be known and spoken of for miles around.

The Isai-li, or Total Abstainers from Intoxicants and Narcotics, a very powerful Manchurian sect, practically identical with the so-called Kalao Hui, are gathering in bands and defying petty local authorities. They are the anti-foreign element in Manchuria,

A gunpowder explosion took place on the river side at Wuhn on the 6th June. It seems some Chinese belonging to four boats laden with kerosene oil and straw were smoking on the top of this dangerous cargo when a terrific explosion took place, portions of the cargo and boats going up over 200 to 250 feet in the air, and flames sprang out on all sides, setting fire to six or eight straw houses, killing two persons, and wounding four others. It was found that about one and a half piculs of coarse gunpowder had been smuggled into the boat and aid under the oil,

It is reported in native official circles that



sented his Majesty not long ago by M. Hanotaux, at the recent audience granted to M. Pichon, the new French Minister to Peking. It appears to have been a spontaneous act on the part of his Majesty, for when Prince Ching was informed of his imperial master's desire to wear the decoration, the Prince strongly adviaed his Majesty against taking a step opposed m the ancient etiquette of the Chinese Court. Apparently not satisfied with Prince Ching's reply, his Majesty next asked the ex-Viceroy Hung-chang what he thought of the matter. "Although there me nothing in our Court etiquette sanctioning the wearing of foreign decorations by the Emperor," replied the diplomatic Li, "yet your Majesty is your own master and can do whatever pleases your Ma-jesty in the matter." The result was that the Emperor had his way and wore the French decoration.

A correspondent of a Hongkong journal has been again preferring against the Japanese soldiers in Formosa accusations of "indiscriminate and savage butchery of helpless women and children." The charge is avowedly based on the alleged deaths of two women and four children during the capture of a village where a party of tebels were defending themselves against the Japanese. The facts are sufficiently insignificant to condemn the accusation, but another correspondent has thought it worth while to give details of the operations which the apanese were obliged to undertake against the rebels in April, and has denounced the injustice committed by the former correspondent,

Two most important contracts, were signed says the N. C. Daily News, at the Taungli Yamen during the past few days. Both were first reported by the Yamen to the Throne in separate memorials and afterwards approved by Imperial decree. The first of these was a contract with the Russo-Chinese Bank for a railway onehundred and forty miles long from Talynan fu, the Capital of Shausi province, to Chengtingfn, in the province of Chihli, the first large city south of Paotingfu, on the trunk line known as the Lu-Han, now under construction. The second and by far the more important is granted to M. Luzatti, agent of the Anglo Italian Syndi-cate, for working coal, iron, and petroleum throughout Central and Southern Shausi with the privilege of building railways and cutting to join trunk lines or navigable rivers. This contract is for a period of sixty years, during which the control is entirely vested in the Anglo-Italian syndicate. As experts have long since pronounced Shansi the banner province of China for iron and coal it can readily be seen that this is by long odds the greatest industrial concession ever made by China. . The result of the workings of this plan to a completion will he vasily beneficial to the Empire and certainly profitable to the syndicate. As more than sixtenths of the capital of this syndicate in represented by English firms of prominence, and the engineers and staff generally are to consist of Englishmen and Americans, it is certain that ability and energy will combine to make Shansi a great mining and manufacturing centre. The Kabe Chronicle of some time in October last had a long article by a Russian traveller describing the wonderful mineral wealth of Southern and Central Shanai and urging that this should be developed under foreign auspices. It seems that the Chinese have at last been brought to realise this and have entrusted the matter to Chevalier Luzatti's syndicate.

A general uprising of the Black flag regi-ments of General Liu Yung-fu occurred on the afternoon of the 6th instant, at Canton. transpires that no proper provision had been made by the military secretariat of the Viceroy of the Two Kuang provinces, to feed the 3,000 extra Black flags recruited by their General in Kuangsi and the Annamese border towns, at the request of Viceroy T'an, immediately after it became known that the Germans had seized Kiaochon Bay; and General Liu Yung-fu had the harbour, as well as on the prospect of trade

losing patience, the men rose and plundered all the rice shops and banks in the suburbs in the vicinity of their camps. Canton is now in a state of siege, and unless the demands of the Black-flags are at once conceded by the high authorities of the city, it is feared that the band of Kolae Hui and members of the "Triad" Society will also rise up in arms and so cause a still more serious rebellion.

The Peking correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News writes :-

A telegram received in Peking the day before yesterday (May 27th) from A. W. Bash stated that the Carey-Washburn syndicate had signed contracts in Washington with the Chinese Minister, Wo Ting-lang, to construct three rail ways, vig.: The Haukow-Canton, The Lu-Hau, and another. The East of the reads has desirable for the first of the reads had been desirable for the first of the fi ways, vis. The Hankow-Caulon, the Lu-Han, and another. The first of the roads has doubtless been given to this syndicate, but there must be some mistake about the Lu-Han, as I inderstand on good authority that King Leopold himself telegraphed H.E. Li Hang chang, that the Belgians would build the Lu-Han and furnish the capital, if not required by Shèng Tantai to commence simultaneously from both ends of the line. H E. Sheng has been holding out for this, as he is very soxious that the road should be completed within three years. Bash, however, is coming our again, but in what capacity we are unable to say,

Hongkong's impatience had almost reached the point of effervescence when the acquisition of the 200 square-mile extension on Kowtoon peninsula became an accomplished fact. The colonists were beginning to think that they were to be left out in the cold, and Lord Salisbury was coming in for the wonted shower of complinents—"when were his instructions ever peremptory?" Was he not evidently still haunted by "the bogey of the Yellow Terror?" "He should give Sir Claude MacDonald a free hand for a few days and suspend telegraphic communication meanwhile." Unless the desired days, a mass meeting of indignant colonists should be held," and so forth and so on. How sorry these agitators must feel now that they did not wait a little longer before airing their impatience.

# GERMAN NOTES.

Three weeks after the outbreak of hostilities between the United States and Spain, a rumour was industriously circulated in Europe that the Emperor of Germany had expressed to the United States Ambassador in Betlin his regret that misconceptions about German sentiment ahould prevail in America. The rumour was officially contradicted very soon after its first appearance in the public prints. A declaration was made by the North German Gazette that Germany had no idea except to preserve strict and loyal neutrality, but the semi-official organ added that " the policy of the Emperor might claim to be trusted not to suffer the friendship of a hundred years with a State in which millions of Germans had found a home to be disturbed without imperative reasons,

Germany seems likely to feel the effects of the Hispano-American war very severely. She has large interests in Manila, whither four warships have been sent for purposes of protection, though there is, of course, no idea of inter-vention. The programme is to await it e end of the war, then demand indemnification for any losses sustained. We can not find any forecast however, as to the source whence payment may be expected. Of course German export houses are suffering greatly owing to the cessation of orders from the United States. They are said to have already found a difference of several millions of marks in their accounts. War is almost as bad for outside countries now a-days as for the belligerents themselves.

Herr Wolf, who recently visited Kiso-chon and the adjacent territory, reports very favourably on the climate, the soil, and the quality of to go on as best he could feeding 5,000 men with the hinterland and the opportunities for in the good celations which prevail, to my satis-with the rations allowed to 2,000. At length, coal-mining. But he condemns the kind of faction, between the German Empire and all

administration that has been established and would substitute a military governor for admiralty control. His opinion is that the local situation at present is most unsatisfactory, and that the spirit of commercial enterprise and the interest of German capitalists in the newly acquired territory are in canger of rapid decline.

An obituary notice of the German Reichstag, which expired last month after a life of five years, and an epitome of the Emperor's speech reviewing its legislative labours, are thus compiled by the Berlin correspondent of The Times, writing under date of May 10th :-

No German Reichstag has been the subject of stronger invective and more bitter attack than that whose existence came to an end to-day. Its reception of the Anti Revolution Bill and its rereception of the Anti Revolution Bill and its re-fusal to congratulate Prince Biomarck on his 75th birthday exposed it to the charges of want of patriotism and of base ingratitude, and these charges were frequently levelled against it by in-fluential classes in Prussia, and even from the highest quarters. Suddenly, as by an enchanter's wand, all this gloomy ondook was transformed. The Navy Bill was triumphantly passed during the present Session. The acquisition of Kiao-chau was welcomed by practically all publicious chair was welcomed by practically all politicians, and it was immediately discovered that this Reichstag, which had been the subject of such sustained invective, could show as brilliant a tecord of arthous work and of successful legislative achieve-

ment as any of its predecessors.

It was in this spirit of cordial appreciation that It was in this spirit of cordial appreciation that the Speech from the Throne read by the Emperor to day had been composed. "The legislative period has been foutful in successful measures of legislation, which will permanently contribute to the might and properly of the Fatherland." "Your persevering labours, which have been unremittingly directed to an exalted aim, were successful in bringing to a conclusion the great work of a common Civil Code for the German nation—a prectous possession which it had out been privileged to attain during a history of a thousand years." In like monner the Reichstag had unified the military judicial procedure of the German Empire by a measure "which is equally in accordance with modern conceptions of justice and with the demands of discipline." By voting the occessary amount for strengthening the army the necessary amount for strengthening the army the Reichstag has carned a permanent claim to gratitude for its services in promoting the peaceful security of the Empire." "In recognizing the security of the Empire." "In recognizing the significance of the Navy Bill for our economic development and for the strengthening of our maritime defences, the Reichstag has aided in a work which will meet with the grateful recognition of posterity." Such were the complimentary phrases in which the Emperor expressed his ungrudging acknowledgment of the Parliamentary

achievements of the last five years.

Moreover, the political and economic condi-Moreover, the political and economic condition of all interests and classes in the country were reviewed in the rosiest light. "The financial situation of the Empire, in accordance with the prosperous development of its economic condition, has entered unon a phase of remarkable prosperity." Although the financial relations of the separate States to the Empire had not yet been regulated in the systematic manner at which the Government had aimed, and although the only increase in taxation had been that which affected the Imperial stamp thites, "it had been possible in recent years to been that which affected the Imperial stamp duties, "It had been possible in recent years to duties, "it had been possible in recent years to confine the maricular contributions of the several States within the limits of that portion of the revenue derived from taxation which the Empire annually handed over to these States. Besides this, material amounts derived from surpluses have been applied to the amortization of the Imperial Debt," References to the ratification of the new Washington treaties of the Postal Union, to the improvement of the telegraph and telephone services throughout the Empire, and in the law for the organization of handicustic were followed by an acknowledgment of the increased followed by an acknowledgment of the increased subsidies voted for the mail steamship lines to Rast Asia. This fresh subvention had contributed "to facilitate our communications with countries which have acquired an increasing significance as markets for our products, and our position in these countries from the point of view of commercial policy has thus been strengthened."

The Speech next passed to the subject of foreign affairs. 'The peace-loving character of my foreign policy, which is lar from involving any infingement of the rights of others, but which will always champion with emphasis the protection of menaced German interests, finds expression

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Powers. In view of the war between Spain and the United States of America, I regard it as the task of any Government entirely to fulfit towards both parties the duties of our neutral position on the one hand, and on the other to use its influence to secure as far as possible the exemption of German commerce from interference and from injury. The action which I found mysell compelled to take in sending a portion of my fleet to Kiao-chou in order to demand just reparation for the blood of German missionaries which had been shed placed me in a position to bring to fulfilment the long-cherished and most legitimate desire to possess a base in East Asia which should desire to possess a bave in East Asia which should desire to possess a base in East Asia which should be expable of commercial development and which should, at the same time, be secure from the military point of view. The object was achieved in the way of friendly agreement with China and without disturbing our relations with other States." After a reference to the success of the German Government is bringing about a settlement of the Greak finances so as to secure to the greatest extent obtainable the rights of German and all other creditors, the Speech sketched the lines of extent optamage the rights of Centain and an other creditors, the Speech sketched the lines of Imperial policy for the future in the following words:—" In common with my exalted federal allies, it will continue to be my extrest endeavour to promote the economic development of the Empire; in particular, to alleviate more and more the depression under which agriculture finds that the success of its labours is impaired; and to the success of its labours is impaired; and to secure and extend for industry, commerce, and shipping the basis of their peaceful activity. In so doing it is my belief that I am most effectively providing a market for the babour of the working-classes and promoting their increasing prosperity."

The anticipated reference to Social Democracy was not contained in the Speech unless it may be discovered in the penultimate paragraph, which was as follows:—"I know that I am at one with the Genman people, which is resolved to

with the German people, which is resolved to support the Federated Government in the arbievement of this object and to maintain the foundations of our national life in its political, ecclesiastical, and civil aspects. Inspired by this firm conviction I trust to God that it may be vouchsafed me to increase the strength of our Fatherland at home and to uphold the prestige of its name among the nations of the earth,"

The most striking omission in this Speech is the absence of all reference to the important treaties of commerce with Austria, Russia, and other Powers, which were concluded during the last legislative period and ratified by the Reichstag, The omission of any reference to the necessity of a combination among political parties against the Socialists was, of course, strongly condemned by the Bismarckians and their many fellow-thinkers, but it is well understood that so long as Prince Hohenlohe is Chancellor a fresh

legislative campaign against the Socialists is

most unlikely.

England has been credited by Russian jour nals with a suggestion that it would be well to make Europe independent of the United States in the matter of grain supplies by establishing State granaries. Of course England never made any such suggestion, and equally as a matter of course the idea emanuted from Russia herseif, which, being the greatest grain-producing country in Europe, would profit most by such an arrangement. The news was received with special interest in Germany, where the agrarian problem has of late occupied such a large share of public attention. German newspapers anggested that Russia would do well to begin her charity at home by relieving the crying need of the sections of her empire which are threatened with famine instead of promoting the export of Russian grain.

Speaking of agrarianism in Germany, students of the times appear to think that it has entered a period of decline. The people do not love a cause which tends to raise the price of their loaf, and agramanism has come to be connected with the present high prices of wheat and rve. A special cause of complaint against the agrarians is the working of the Bourse Law. They are directly responsible for that piece of legislation, and one of its results has been to abolish the Berlin produce exchange, thus depriving the public of any means of obtaining trustworthy quotations of the prices of cereals But the general charge is that the measures which the Government was induced to take at

example of the working of one of the objection able measures is thus set forth by a home journal:—"The Minister of Public Works instituted at the beginning of the present year preferential railway tariffs for the export of German grain to Austria. Thus, for example, grain sent to Zittau from Danzig is charged at the rate of 276 marks per wagon; but if its destination is 26 kilomètres further, to Reichenberg across the Bohemian frontier, the freight is only 190 marks per wagon. The result is that by the action of the German Government the scarcity of grain in Austria is mitigated, while in Germany it is increased."

The Emperor of Germany is unquestionably one of the most practical Christians of the nine-teenth century. We are tempted at times to conclude that he believes in the doctrine of apotheosis, at any rate as applied to his grandfather. On May 6th, His Majesty gave a grand banquet in the White Hall of the Castle to about 200 members of the Reichstag, and in a speech referring to the resolution to erect a monument to his father, he expressed the wish that "like the great Emperor, every man, whoever he might be, of high or low degree, or whatever faith he might profess, would in everything that lay to his hand in the work which he contemplated doing this year have such a conception of his task that when in the future he appeared before his God, before his old Emperor, he might with a good conscience be able to answer 'Yea' to the question whether he had worked with all his heart for the welfare of the Empire." It is impossible to read these words without concluding that the speaker intended to suggest a second occupant of the Throne of Judgment, so far, at least, as the spirits of departed Germans are concerned.

Some surprise and a good deal of curiosity were caused by Germany's omission to issue any formal declaration of neutrality in connexion with the Hispano-American War. planation now given is that, according to the view always held by the German Government, "Powers which do not take part in a war are under no obligation to make a formal announcement of their reutrality, but are none the less bound to fulfil the duties of neutrals where they claim the rights attaching to their positions as such," Our readers will probably think, as we do, that so far = the form of this explanation is concerned, it might have come from Ireland with more propriety than from Germany. However, the fact remains that Germany did not publish any declaration of neutrality in connexion with the wars between Russia and Turkey, France and China, Japan and China, or Turkey and Greece, though she nevertheless observed strictly the obligations devolving on a neutral. It seems a pity that Germany's policy in this matter is not better understood by her own journalists, for several of them have been claiming recently that by not issuing a declaration of neutrality she occupies a more favourable position than other Powers, and can intervene at the proper moment between the combatants or during the negotiations for peace, as she did in the case of Japan and the Liaotung Peningula.

The German Foreign Secretary, in reporting to the Reichstag the result of the Kiao-chou negotiations, said that the portions of the Treaty relating to railway and mining concessions were confidential. These portions have, however, been published by the China Gazette :-

The second important concession by China to

THE RAILWAY AND MINING CONCESSION, the principal provisions of which are as follows:

The Chinese Government sauctions the contruction by Germany of two lines of railway in Shanting. The first will run from Kiaochow and Tsinan-fu to the houndary of Shanting province via Wei-brien, Tsinchow, Pashan, Tsechnen, and Sniptog. The second line will connect Kiaochow with Chinchow, whence an extension will be constructed to Tsinan through Laiwu-brien. The construction of this extension shall not be begun antil the first part of the line, the main line, is the instance of the agrarians are largely accountcompleted, in order to give the Chinese an opable for the scarcity of grain in Germany. An puriously of connecting this line in the most ad-

vantageous manner with their own railway system, What places the line from Tsinan-fu to the pro-vincial boundary shall take in en route is to be determined hereafter.

II. In order to carry out the above-mentioned railway work a Chino-German company shall be formed, with branches at whatever places may be necessary; and in this Company both German and Chinese subjects shall be at liberty to invest money if they so choose, and appoint directors for the management of the undertaking.

the management of the intertaking.

III. All arrangements in connection with the works specified shall be determined by a luture conference of German and Chinese representatives. The Chinese Government shall afford every facility and protection and extend every welcome to representatives of the German Railway Company operating in Chinese territory. Profits desired from the mocking of these railways shall be rived from the working of these railways shall be justly divided pro rata between the shareholders without regard to nationality. The object of con-structing these lines is solely the development of commerce. To insugurating a railway system in Shantong Germany entertains no treacherons intention towards China, and undertakes not to unlawfully seize any land in the province.

IV. The Chinese Government shall allow German subjects to hold and develop mining property for a distance of 30 li from each side of these rail-ways and along the whole extent of the lines. The following places where mining operations may be carried on are patientarly specified along the northern railway from Kisochow to Tsinan, Weilisien, Pa-shan-hyien, and various other points; and along the Southern Kiaochow-Tsinan Chinchow along the Southern Kirochow-Tsinan Chinchow Inc., Chinchow In, Luiwinhsien, etc. Chinese rapital may be invested in these operations and arrangements for carrying on the work shall here after be made by a point conference of Chinese and German representatives. All German subjects engaged in such works in Chinese territory shall be properly protected and welcomed by the Chinese authorities and all profits derived shall be fairly divided between Chinese and German starcholders according to the extent of the interest these ers according to the extent of the interest they hold in the undertakings. In trying to develop mining property in China, Germany is actuated by no treacherous motives against this country, but seeks alone to increase commerce and improve the relations between the two countries.

# OTHER CONCESSIONS TO GERMANY.

If at any time the Chinese should form schemes for the development of Shantung for the execution of which it is necessary to obtain foreign capital, the Chinese Government, or whatever Chinese may be interested in such schemes, shall, in the first mestance, apply to German capitalists. Application shall also be made to German manufacturers for the necessary machinery and materials before the manufacturers of any other Power are approached. Should German capitalists or manufacturers de-cline to take up the business the Chinese shall then be at liberty to obtain money and materials from sources of other nationality than German. We do not vouch for the correctness of the above version, but if it be correct, its final provisions are in distinct contravention of

most-favoured-nation rights of other States. Preferential privileges are secured to German capitalists and German manufacturers with regard to the material development of Shantung, whereas, according to the most-favoured-nation clause, China is bound to grant equal privileges to all.

# NOTES ABOUT FRENCH AFFAIRS.

The great Socialist leader, M. Jaure's having decided not to risk probable defeat by submitelections, has covered his retirement from Parliamentary life by writing a letter evidently intended to summon for public intimidation a vague spectre of coming unrest and proletariat victory. He admits indirectly, however, that without education the Socialists are virtually powerless, and insamuch as the tendency of education is to teach that if one section of the people has rights the other also has duties, the Socialist leader's ambition to make his followers better instructed does not suggest very alarming results. "A proletariat armed by science for action"—to use his own words—may mean a "A proletariat armed by science for mob provided with nitro-glycerine and infernal machines, and when M. Jaure's, almost in the same breath, speaks of "the noble elementary instincts of the people" we are by no means certain that the picture presenting itself to his Original from

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prophetic gaze is not one of savagery and "red ruin." However, it is a wholesome sign that such demagogues—especially when, like M. Jaure's, they possess aplendid eloquence and subtle powers of seduction-should find the French constituencies turning against them.

The Times correspondent at Paris sums up the lesson taught by the recent elections thushe wrote, of course, before the second ballots were cast, but his remarks are none the less pregnant :---

The elections show everywhere, and those of Sunday week will simply emphasize the fact, that France has but one wish—to be allowed to attend tranquilly to her own affairs, that she feels neither tranquilty to her own affairs, that she feels neither hatted nor anger, and that she regards useless enthusiasm with perfect indifference. But this indifference is, perhaps, after all, only the sign of a passing weatiness. The criterion which makes it possible for the reader to judge for himself whether the present Cabinet has obtained a real success is this. If, when the Chamber meets, M. Brisson is again chosen President it may be said that M. Métine has really been beaten, whereas if it elects M. Ribot, M. Poincaré, M. Decrais, M. Paul Deschanel, in spite of his youth, or M. Duppy, M. Métine will be free to retain office as long as possible. He has sufficient ability and authority to succeed in this.

The same authority writes in a still more interesting strain on the inferences suggested by the elections with regard to political sentiment in France :-

What these elections prove is that universal suflrage in this country, far from obeying a general impression, expresses itself in obedience solely to impression, expresses itself in obedience solely to local considerations and under the influence of purely individual action.

The same phenomenon is to be seen throughout France. There are no signs of any endeavour to vote on questions of general policy, or on anything resembling a definite political programme. It is out of the question, therefore, to draw any special conclusions as to general policy from yesterday, polls. It is the cleoker, as they say here, which throws its shadow over all. Merely local likes or dislikes determine results. It may, however, be said to the honour of France that the policy of race-basted and false accusations has not found encouragement. In Algeria alone, that land where all the nurnly members of society have taken reinge, riot, pillage, and even assassination where all the current memoes of society have taken refuge, riot, pillage, and even assassination prepared men to use voting papers as cartridges for eventually civil war. In short, whatever majority the Cabinet may command at the opening of the Chamber will remain faithful to it only as long as small reforms are proposed. The majority will break up the moment the Cabinet attempts to undertake one of those comprehensive measures which save a Ministry and a Legislature from ablivion.

It was remarked in connexion with the addresses of candidates to constituencies in France that the old conflict of constitutional principles had ceased to furnish leading topics, and that the controversies of the moment were everywhere given prominence. Except in cases so rare as to emphasise the general rule, all the opponents of republicanism had put their principles on the shelf and turned to subjects of reater practical and more immediate interest, There was apparent, also, an inclination to-wards religious toleration. What the supporters of the present Cabinet and the Republicans chiefly opposed was an income-tax—which is thought likely in prove a Socialistic weapon— and any revision of the Constitution tending to Impair the powers of the Senate, which has come to be regarded as the chief guarantee of peace and order. With regard to the Opposi-tion, on the other hand, its character is admirably summed up in the following :--

As to the Opposition, not to speak of the Royalists and Bonapartists, they comprise Radicals, Socialists, Collectivists, and Revolutionists of every stamp. There are the ex-Bondangists, styling themselves Nationalists, who have tricolour styling themselves Plattonaists, who have incoton posters exclusively, and claim a monopoly of patriotism. They are the most dangerous faction, for they would continue to make France a hotbed of distrust and defusion until, exhausted and experited, she flung herself into the arms of the flist adventurer. They appeal to racial and religious aniposities, M. Drumont standing as their leader to the latest and the standard part of

as debasing the national character, and their peras debasing the national character, and their per-sonalities give the elections a tinge of hatred and calomny-at which linnest men of all parties thuch. If this coalition of Extremists of the Right and Left, of Socialists, ex-Boulangists, and fomenters of disorder obtained a majority, the prosperity and even the security of France would be in jeopardy. But, happily, the past shows us that Prance has an instinctive sense of safety and thwarts the intrigues of deceivers.

The remarkably sensitive nature of French opinion with regard to the Dreyfus affair is illustrated by a report recently circulated to the effect that the General Staff were in possession of a photograph showing ex-Colonel Picquart walking arm in arm at Carlernhe with the German Military attaché at Paris, Colonel von Schwarzkoppen. Why on earth the two officers should not walk arm-in-arm if they are friends, it is difficult for Englishmen to conceive, but a French Senstor nevertheless thought it necessary to write to the President of the Conucil warning him that he should question him at to the existence of the photograph when the Senate met. We do not yet know how the incident terminated.

# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

(WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

This American institution of learning has two histories; that of the old and that of the new. The "University", as it may convenien-tly be called, was founded in the fifties through the beneficence of Senator Stephen H. Douglas. Lincoln's great political rival, and lived till 1886, when it expired in bankruptcy. although this first epoch was marked by financial troubles, it was a period of success in edu-cational work. Famous scholars and teachers filled the professorial chairs; an excellent education and training were obtained there, and the standard and the rank of the institution were both high. It was one of those "small colleges," with which America abounds, which have done and are still doing a very important educational work. The alumni and the alumnee of those days went forth will equipped, and have filled responsible positions in the world.

The so-called "new University" was established in 1891 by the munificence of the Standard Oil magnate, John D. Rockefeller, who has thus far contributed several million dollars, and whose gifts, together with the donations of others, have put the institution on a strong financial basis. With such good monetory backing, the University of Chicago has

been able to procure the best in every way.
In the first place, it is well located in the eat city of Chicago, with all the advantages which that fact includes, in the way of libraries, museums, lectures, churches, etc. It is not in the beart of that city, nor too remote from the centre; but in pleasantly situated near two beautiful parks and not far from the shore of Lake Michigan. It possesses fine modern buildings :—several domitories, for both sexes several recitation buildings, each specially fitted up for one department, and including an excellent museum as well as laboratories. It has also its own general library, besides special departmental libraries.

The "new University" was opened Oct. 1, 1892, and in June, 1893 granted its first degree (Ph. D.) to Eiji Asada, now a teacher in both he Aoyama Gakuin and the Foreign Language School connected with the Higher Commercial School. Moreover, among the first persons called to its faculty were two Japanese, who are still serving in that institution. Massuo Ikuta, Ph.D., a graduate of the Imperial University. and later a student in Germany, is an Instructor in Chemistry; and Sho Watase, Ph.D., a graduate of the Sapporo Agricultural College, and later a student in America, is an Assistant Professor of Cellular Biology. I do not know of any other American institutious where two Japanese are regularly accredited members of

under the Presidency of that profound scholar and strong executive, Wm. R. Harper, Ph.D., LL.D. It is his fixed purpose to spare no pains or expense in getting the best men to fill every position.

There are many "special features," of which only two or three will be mentioned here. One of the most convenient arrangements is that of the calendar. The solar year is divided into four quarters of 12 weeks each, with a vacation of one week between every two quarters; and each quarter is divided into two terms of six weeks each. It may thus be seen that there is a summer quarter during which work is carried on just the same as during other quarters. This is the first arrangement of such a kind in an American university, perhaps in any university. There have been "aummer schools" in many places, but these have not afforded the full opportunities of regular university work,

Moreover, the courses of study offered are arranged by quarters, in some cases even by terms, so that a student may, if necessary, atudy one quarter or one term, be absent the next quarter or term, and then return to take up his work just where he left it off; in other words, a student may take a vacation according to his own convenience, and receive credit for just what he has done. This flexible arrangement is especially beneficial to those who may not have the means to pursue a course consecutively, but must occasionally break off study to earn money. And the summer quarter is particularly convenient, for instance, to school teachers, who can pursue regular college work during their own vacation. (The summer quarter of 1897 was attended by 1,285 students.)

Another special feature of the University of Chicago is found in the system of "major" and "minor" studies. Each student is expected to have about 15 hours per week, or 3 hours per day, of class-room work; and these hours are generally devoted to only two branches in the proportion of two to one. For instance, during one term a student may have two hours per day in Latin and one hour per day in algebra; so that the former is called a "major" and the latter is called a "minor." The next term, however, the condition may be reversed or the branches changed. In any case, no student is allowed, as in Japanese schools, to scatter his powers, and dissipate his mental energy, over a great many different branches; but he is obliged to concentrate his attention on one branch, with a minor study to break the monotony and prevent narrowness. This, I may say from experience, is one of the most successful features of the University of Chicago.

As I do not wish to occupy too much of this valuable space, I can only refer briefly to the unusual opportunities for hearing special lectures by eminent men and for pursuing special study; to the publication of magazines, twelve in all, and of books and pamphlets setting forth the results of original investigation and research; to the system of scholarships and fellowships, awarded by competitive examination; to the fact that there are thirty different departments, each well equipped with a corps of specialists as teachers, of whom 250 or more hold the degree of Ph.D. This, the youngest of the great universities of the United States, is already second to none.

These are a few points about the institution, which will hereafter give entrance examination annually in Tokyo. In Chicago students are admitted by examinations and are granted degrees every quarter; but here there is, of course, no necessity for more than a yearly examination. This year the examination will probably be given in September, but hereafter in June. The examiners will be pleased to give any further information, either in writing or in print, or by word of mouth. Dr. Eji Asada may be addressed at 30 Oban-machi, Yotsuya; and 43 Tsukiji is the address of the undersigned. It is certainly a matter of congratulation to Japan that Tokyo is the first foreign city selected by leader in Algiers, and they trade upon the Dieylus and Zola case to get themselves elected as a limited to the army. They describe the faculty. These facts and many other which and Zola case to get themselves elected as a limited to the desirable place from the faculty. These facts and many other which authorities of the University of Chicago many other arms. They describe the faculty. These facts and many other which the authorities of the University of Chicago many other which the authorit

# NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Changkai, the Captain's boy on the steamer Columbia, was convicted in the British Con-Bular Court, Kobe, on Saturday, of an aggravated assault upon Mr. H. Howard, the ship's steward, and sentenced to six week's imprison-

One or two changes that will interest Far Eastern residents have just taken place in the London office of the P. and O. Company. Mr. H. II. Joseph, the Secretary, has been appointed an Assistant Manager, and his post as Secretary is filled by Mr. Johnson, also a former China hand.

On the night of the 14th inst., as the train from Kanazawa was approaching Osaka, a robber presented a revolver at the passengers in the first carriage, numbering six persons, and threatened them. He finally selected a bag belonging to one of the passengers, and escaped through the window before the train stopped.

The Dutch steamer Smit (Captain Karst) has been totally lost on her voyage from Newchwang to Yokohama with a cargo of beans. The Amil was a steamer of 822 tons built in Holland in 1884, and had been trading be-tween Chinese and Japanese ports for the past two years. The crew were saved.

Peter Bonnevie, who had been serving = month's sentence for assault on the mate of the May Flint, at Kobe when remonstrated with by the captain for not immediately reporting himself on his discharge from prison, lost his temper and brandished a revolver. He then jumped into a sampan and endeavoured to get away, but was secured and placed in irons. The American Consul is now investigating the matter.

The Northern Pacific liner Columbia left Kobe on Sunday evening bound for Portland, Oregon. She carried 3,500 tons of tea from Kobe, occupying 3,850 tons space measurement. The Kobe Herald says every available nook was utilized for cargo, the fittings of the cabins being landed in order to provide additional space. The two saloon bathrooms were filled with the samples, and even some of the forecastle and bunker space was turned to account.

H.M.S. Swift arrived at Hongkong from Manila on June 6th. She reported that Admiral Dewey had given permission for the withdrawal of the steamers and other vessels from the River Pasig. These craft are now along side the men-of-war at Cavite, and before any bombardment occurs the British and other foreign residents will be moved to them. ing was going on daily between the rebels and the S. aniards, and for two days, commencing on the afternoon of the 31st May, a big battle was fought. The result was not known when the Swift left, but the tebels are reported to have made many prisoners. The Spanish Garrison was proceeding with its preparation of shoreward defences. In the city the streets have more than ever a deserted appearance, the reported Spanish reverses in the encounters with the rebels causing the civil population to flee for shelter to the country behind the city.

A new and important use has been found for the London May Meetings. They are becoming an infallible cure for insumnia. Ladies and gentlemen troubled with this exhausting affliction find instant relief at these excellently affliction find instant relief at these excellently somniferous gatherings. While the Archhishop of Canterbury was delivering an oration in praise of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel the other day and even byfore the Primate had finished speaking. Sir Richard Temple had, according to the West minster Gasette, gently subsided into slumbers minster Gasetie, gently subsided into slumbers with the coffin was laid on the bier, Purcell's lost, and during the address of the following speaker Bishop Barry followed Sir Richard's example. The applicance of Dr. Mylne's address aroused the rector of Piccadily again, while the same "Rock of Ages," and Mylne's address aroused the rector of Piccadily again, while the coffin was being borne along for a while, but when Bishop Goulburn had got the abile to the grave, sang Mr. Gladatone's the first of his Australian this favourite hymn, "Praise to the Holiest in the sixtles and early seventies. England has favourite hymn, "Praise to the Holiest in the sixtles and early seventies. The import duty was hewered diocese the payorific lightnings that the fact of his Australian Height."

When the pastient on the Japahese complain that ten cents per lost a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this is a high duty they cannot be aware that this day have a being the following as high duty they cannot be aware that this day have a being the following as high duty they cannot be aware that this day have a being the following a high duty they cannot be aware that this day have a being the following a high duty they cannot had been duty they cannot had been duty they cannot had a low a high duty they cannot solt, and during the address of the following speaker Bishop Barry followed Sir Richard's

terribly contagious, and the remarkable spectacle was revealed of the Primate, Bishop Barry, Sir R. Temple, and Mr. J. G. Talbot, all asleep in a row.

The death is announced at Forest Hill on the 4th May of Mr. Horatio Nelson Lay, C.B., the organiser and first Inspector General of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

The Record announces that the see of Victoria Hongkong, vacant by the resignation of Bishop Burdon, has been offered to and accepted by the Rev. Joseph Hoare. The bishop-designate, who is a son of the late Canon Hoare, has been a member of the Mid-China Mission of the C.M.S. since 1876. He possesses all the experience and all the personal qualities which promise to make him a successful missionary Bishop.

The figures in Mesars. Holme, Ringer & Co.'s comparative table of the value of the trade of Nagasaki from 1887 to 1897, inclusive, are very remarkable, says the Nagasaki Press. ten years, the import trade of Nagasaki has actually increased ten fold. The following are the figures for the total imports during each of the years 1887 to 1897, exclusive of treasure, and with deduction made for re-export:--

1891 ......2,929.343 1897 ... 13,067,543 1892 ..... 2 929,307

On the 7th of May, an interesting ceremony took place at the Bank of England-the final payment of the Chinese Indemnity to Japan. Sir Halliday Macattney and Mr. T. Y. Lo represented the Chinese Minister, and Mr. Yamaza and Mr. Kolke, the Japanese Minister, in making the payment, which, in view of the largeness of the amount-namely, £11,008,857 16s, QJ., was made in the presence of the Governor, the Deputy Governor, and the chief cashier of the Bank. After certain formali-ties had been completed, the representative of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank handed over to the Chinese Secretary a cheque This cheque was then for £11,000,000. formally given into the custody of the officials of the Bank of England and placed to the credit of the Chinese Government, Immediately afterwards the representatives of China drew what is said to be the greatest cheque on record—£11 008,857 16s. 9d. in favour of the Japanese Government. Larger sums than that have had to be met on one of two previous occasions, but in instalments. Che ques of such magnitude m those drawn on the 7th May, however, have never before been seen. A few persons calling at the Hongong and Shanghai Bank were shown the cheque which that Bank had drawn for £11,000,000.

Mr. Gladstone's funeral on May 28th is reported very fully in the papers brought by the Canadian Mail. It must have been a very wonderful and soul stining speciacle—this state funeral of a national hero. Mrs. Gladstone stand bravely throughout the ceremony, her face lifted upward, her lips continually moving. The musical part of the service was very impressive. As the procession approached Westminster Abbey the dismal strains of a quartette of trombones playing Beethoven's "Foneral Hymn," in a recess high above the heads of the congregation, swept through all the recesses of the ancient fane. When these finally died away, the great organ took up Schubert's "Funetal Mar h," with a clash of cymbals in orchestral accompaniment. A chair of 100 male singers awaited the coffin at the entrance to the Abbey, and preceded it along the nave, chanting, "I am the Resurrection and the Life," When the cuffin was laid on the bier, Purcell's "Funeral Chant," "Lord, Thou Hast Been our Retuge," was sung. The Dean and the whole

# CORRESPONDENCE.

# DUMMY EDITORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL,"

SIR,-You will please pardon this inquiry, and may be, the ignorance it betrays. I find this statement in a certain magazine, Every news. statement in a certain magazine, "Every news, paper in Japan has what is called a dommy editor whose only duty is to go to jail whenever the paper is censured and suppressed for offending the Emperor. The genuine editor stays at his post, gives the paper a new name and goes on publishing it." Is this the case? By answering you will oreally oblige. will greatly oblige,

Vaura sincerely. Osaka, June 4th. INQUIRER.

# THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL,"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL,"

SIR,—In the epitome of Pres. Yokei's article
in the Kirisuto-kyo Shimbun given in the "Monthly
Summary of the Religious Press," in your issue
for June 4th, it is said:—

"But in cases where certain State regulations
had to be considered the Missionaries conceded a
great deal. For instance they did not object to
the exclusion of Bublical instruction from the curriculum of the Ordinary Middle School articlithed. rightum of the Ordinary Middle School established by the Doshisha."

No statement could be farther from the truth. Mr. Yokoi was not atthat time connected with the school or acquainted with its internal affairs. This must be the explanation of his making this grave misstatement. The truth is, the establishment of the Ordinary Middle School and the consequent limitation of Christian and Biblicalinstruction to a part of the Doshisha, was hotly contested by the missionaries through several vessions of the Faculty. The deplorable results likely to follow were pointed out by the missionary members of the Faculty, and when the final vote was taken and President Kozaki and nearly all the Faculty voted against us, then—to speak for myself alone—I for the first time realized that the beginning of the end of our relations with the No statement could be farther from the truth. the beginning of the end of our relations with the

Doshisha had come. M. L. GORDON. Sincerely yours, Kyoto, June 9th, 1898.

# THE U. S. TEA DUTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL"

Six—It is impossible for one to understand how any Japanese can construct the proposed teat cents per the tea duty in the United States as an act unfriendly to Japan. In the first place, the United States imports teas from all the temporal during districts of the world. I have not now at ham statistics of the comparative quantities exported from different countries to America. Sir t-It is impossible for one to understand ported from different countries to America. I have no doubt that Japan stands very high, if not nave no nount mar japan stands very light, that first, as a tea exporter to America, especially now that Formosa is a part of the Empire. Nevertheless much tea is imported from China, from Iodia, Ceylon, and some even from Java. Why then should Japan coosider it an act specifically directed against hersell?

But facther the act is a revenue and not a protective measure, and for this reason is free from the very imputation which certain Japanese ies dealers ascribe to it. It it were a protective measure they might justly complete of a want of the railty on the part of the American Government. Under these circumstances Americans would be tempted to grow tea for themselves and would be tempted to grow tea for themselves and thrust the Japanese from the American market. But a revenue measure can injure the Japanese tea producers and dealers only if Americans stop the consumption of tea. Will a duty of ten cents per the affect the consumption of tea in America? This is entirely unlikely. The Japanese must singularly misunderstand the standards of consumption of the ordinary American if they think he or she is to be affected by a patry ten cents spread over a pound of tea. Besides, as Japanese tea is generally cheaper than the other wateries, the tax may induce certain consumers to fall back the tax may induce certain consumers to fall back upon a slighter cheaper tea and thus actually stimulate the use of the Japanese variety. On the whole, however, the effect will be slight.

When the Japanese complain that ten cents per

a few years ago the duty was Is, per lb., which was subsequently reduced to 6d, per lb. and lately to 4d., I believe, per lb. The total amount of duty collected in Great Britain in 1895. of from tea alone under the 4d. per lb. rate was £3.746,000, or nearly as much as the receipts of the entire Japanese land lax. Surely 6d, and 4d. per lb, if not too high for the English consumer, who drinks tea far more than the American, ought to be equally a good rate for America. What the to be equally a good rate for America. What the duties on ten in France and Germany are, I do not know, but I doubt whether they are lower or materially lower than to cents, per lb. A lower rate of duty in the United States would not produce sufficient revenue to make the trouble worth while.

The price of tea has almost continuously fallen in the United States during the past twenty-five years. Tea at present of the same quality selfs for less than one-half of what it did twenty years ago. Even with a tax of ten cents, per lb, the price of tea will be out more than one-half of the price of tea will be out more than one-half of the price prevailing in the early seventies, and as the come process in their spending power, how is it possible that they will buy less tea now than then, or after the tax has been imposed? The true effect of the tax will pubably be a temporary suggnation of the tea market after the imposition of the tax, and nothing more. Dealers in America will returned to have in a low in Javing in the seconds. of the tax, and nothing more. Dealers in America-will naturally be slow in laying in new stocks until all the old ones have been worked off. Be-sides they will be looking for a cessation of hos-tilities and a possible repeal of the tax. But no permanent injury will result to the Japanese pro-ducers. As for any unfriendly feeling towards Japan actuating the members of Congress or the Government in imposing this tax, I doubt whe-ther the shadow of such a motive ever crossed the minds of anyone. minds of anyone.

Yours truly,

# REV. H. MINAMI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Str.,—In the last summary of the religious press I find a misunderstanding of my contribution to the Shinri on "The influence of Christianity in Japan at the present time," which I am anxious to correct. The writer of the summary makes me say:—
"Our theological notions of Christians should be harmonized with those conceptions of Godhead which we inherited from our ancestors." My real contributions are converted in my crisis in the String Contributions of Christians. which we inherited from our ancestors." My real opinion, as expressed in my article in the Shinri, is hearly the very opposite of this view. I take the liberty to give a literal translation of the passage in question. "Which are the inherited thoughts on God existing in our country? With regard to this point there are some men who think that the Shintoistic notions of God are similar to those of Christians. But this is contained in those of Christianity. But this is a rather superficial state ment. If any similarity between Shintuistic and hiblical ideas exists, it can only be with the old Testament view of God, and even here only with that notion of God which (according to the historical critical view) prevailed in Israel before the prophetical influence. But from this to the Christianian of God which (according to the light of the control of the cont prophetical influence. But teem this to the Christian idea of God there is a long way, and both can not be placed side by side. But there may be other old ideas on God in Japan, and if there should be among them, something good, it could be used."

I take this occasion to express my thanks to the

writer of the summary who, with the exception of this mistake, generally has summarized the articles in the Shinri with a degree of fairness with which

in the Shinri with a negretary of the kind insertion are not always treated.
Thanking you in advance for the kind insertion of this letter, I temain, dear Sic,
H. MINAMI,
Phone Ronkal Yours truly, H. Mirecon,
Pastor of the Fukyu Fukuin Kyoka
Pastor of the Shinri.

Takyo, June 9th, 1198.

# THE JAPANESE WRITTEN LANGUAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I was much struck by the statement in your yesterday's article on the above subject, that the Japanese to whom certain writings in the Romaji characters were presented, could better under stand it when read by others than by themselves, and by your following remarks thereupon, "that it would seem that the majority of Japanese minds

tation and tonic sol-fa. When John Curwen tation and tonic sol-la. When John Cnewen first introduced the new notation, more than filty years ago, he related an anecdote of a young lady tooking at some music printed in his tonic sol-latype, who remarked to him, "But Mr. Carwen, this is not music?" To which he replied, "Then will you tell me, my dear, what is music?" Upon which she took up a piece in staff notation, saying, "This is music," To which he retorted tolding the sheet of paper to his ear, "Is it? I don't hear anything!"

History only repeats itself, for here in Yoko-

History only repeats itself, for here in Yoko-hama fifty years afterwards, the same remark is aften brought to me by pupils, that they are told their music when printed in the tonic sol-la nota-tion, is not music at all! But as these remarks invariably come from the crassly ignorant it would be more becoming if these people were to hold their tongues until they know something at least

of what they are talking about.

I have frequently heard that staff notationists members of choral societies, standing beside fellow-members singing from tonic sol-la copies of the same piece, have expressed their surprise at the same music emanating from both, which it not only does, but in the majority of cases of the tonic sol-faists, with far greater certainty and correct-

Evidently the same prejudices and habits will have to be combatted and overcome before the have to be combatted and overcome before the great reform of the Japanese written language can be successfully achieved, and as every one knows how all-powerful are the prejudices and habits, not only of a nation, but of an individual, the task appears almost a hopeless one. Even the fact of millions of people in every part of the world, now singing by tonic sol-la, has not been evidence sufficient to analytic transaction. ence sufficient to establish its superiority over the old notation for practical and educational purposes in minds obscured by prejudices and habit, and if the Japanese people, even at the end of the next two decades, which your article gives as the limit for successfully carrying out the proposed reforms, have effected this mighly change, which appears so vitally essential to their future educational, commercial, and social progress, it will only be another convincing proof of their devoted patriotism, which has always hitherto been equal to any demand upon it that has had for its object their country's good, and it will have to be counted as by no means the least of their many national triumphs.

Yours, etc. EMILY S. PATTON. 142-A Bloff, June 10th.

# PRISONS IN JAPAN-KAJIBASHI AND ICHIGAYA.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE YORONAM GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Yokohama, 20th May, 1898.

To the International Committee, Vokobama,

GENTLEMEN,-Your Committee baving decided that it was within the scope of their dulies to as certain the state of the Prisons in this country, some of our members arranged to go up to Toky on the 18th instant, to look over the House of De-tention at Kajibashs, and the Convict Prison at Ichigaya, this latter being chiefly used for the innow submit their report.

It will not be out of place here to refer to a pre-

twith the both of place here to refer to a pre-vious Report made by some members of your Committee, of a visit to the Convict Prison at Sugamo, on the 6th of April, which was of special interest to Fareigners, as we were officially in-formed that this prison would be the one in which Foreigners convicted of crimes in this country, after the coming into force of the new Treaties, would be confined during the term of their sen-tences. In our Report we were able to express tences. In our geport we were sure our admiration of the excellence of the arrangetimed to make two or three suggestions to the officials who accompanied us, as to the insufficiency of the diet given, if it would be the same in the case of Foreigners being cunfined there, and as to the necessity of heating the cells during the coldest part of the winter, also that it would be de-sitable, in case of Foreigners, to allow some sort of furniture in the cells; and on all these points we were assured by Mr. Ogawa, of the Prisons' Bureau, that they had had the consideration of the authorities, and would be attended to. In that case we consider that this institution will be equal tries, and we found that he had obtained very full and valuable information.
It seems also to the point to draw attention to

the fact that this prison at Sugamo is under the direct control of the Government, and not under the management of the local numicipalities. It is to this, on doubt, that the general excellence of this prison is attributable,

With regard to the two other Prisons visited on the 18th instant, we regret that our report must be enticely different; they are under the ma ment of the municipal authorities of Tokyo. the manage-

The House of Detention at Rajibashi is chiefly an old building which dates back 25 or 30 years; it is a compromise between the old style of Japanese Prisons and new ones, such as that at Sugamo. The situation in the town of Tokyo is unmo. The situation in the town of Tokyo is unobjectionable; as a prison, it would probably be
more advantageously placed at some little distance
in the country, but if used only as a House of
Detention for people who have yet to undergo
their trial it is no doubt preferable to be nearer the
Law Courts, the prisoners' friends, and their
lawyers. The entrance, offices and out-buildings
are of an ordinary Japanese style, and one-storied;
they are not in the best of repair, but probably
answered their purpose at the time they were
built, though they are somewhat out of date now.
The Prison itself consists of three wings, two
stories high, about 150 to 200 feet long by about
40 feet wide, and each floor about 14 feet high.
The cells are ranged on the two sides of the buildings, with a fairly broad passage down the centre, ings, with a fairly broad passage down the centre, from which the inside of the cells is readily visible, from which the tuside of the cells is readily visible, the partition walls being simply stout wooden lattice work, with doors made of heavy bars of wood. They are of various sizes, and are fairly well lighted by windows of considerable size, protected by iron bars. These windows should give sufficient ventilation, were it not that the sanitary arrangements inside are so utterly defective, that no amount of ventilation can clear the foefid atmosphere. The "W.C." arrangements on the upper floor consist simply of two small wooden buckets, with loose wooden lids. They wooden buckets, with loose wooden lids. They are in a corner of the cells, and quite insufficiently protected for the purposes of decency, by a low screen of wood, about two feet high, and when it is remembered that this is all the accommodation given to the 12 or 14 occupants of the cells, and that they are only removed to be cleaned once in the day, it will be seen that the whole arrangement is entirely inadequate and objectionable, causing the whole building to be permeated by a sickenodour.

ing odour.

The over-crowding in the cells is also most excessive. We counted 13 persons in one compactment about = ft. by g ft. and so ft. high. They were sitting on the floor, which was covered by thin straw-mals, and so closely together that it would seem impossible for all of them to lie down at night. At the back of the cells there was a pile of blue colour cotton futous or cotton-wadded bed or blie colors cotton intoles or cotton-wadded bed covers, one for each prisoner with a small wooden pillow for each in the Japanese style. The occu-pants of the cells were not in *Prison Clothes*, but each one of them had a cotton ticket sewn on to the front of his diess, indicating who they were. The washing arrangements were primitive and inadequate. Work was not given to the inmates

The washing arrangements were primitive and inadequate, Work was not given to the iomates of these cells; they were, however, allowed to have books to read, but writing letters was only permitted in another part of the building and in the presence of some of the officials.

On the ground floor the "W.C." arrangements were a little better, being under a trap door in the floor, but there was the same crowding, the cells were not so well lighted, and the atmosphere was most unhealthy. There was a Bath house in the Japanese style, and we were told that each prisoner could take a hot bath every third day. The Frison diet consisted of boiled cice and bactey mixed, with a modicum of vegetables, and Japanese condiments, but those who could afford Japanese condiments, but those who could afford it had food brought from the outside.

A very objectionable feature in this Prison was the highly inflammable name of the interior; everything was wood, and of course very dry, so that, in case of fire, a disaster to the immates would seem inevitable. Kerosine was used for lighting.

We consider that confinement in this portion of this prison would be liable to be seriously injurious to the health of Foreigners.

There was another separate building, which seemed rather an improvement on the one above described. We were told that this part of the prihave become so habitually accustomed to associate were assured by Mr. Ogawa, of the Prisons' an idea with the Chinese character which represents it that in the absence of the characters, the deat to becomes non-existent." And also—"when we have been reading rapidly from a Romaji manuscript, we have often been asked where we got the meaning from?"

Now all this is precisely analagous, to the positive of the two murical notations of investigating the prisons of after court.

shing food, though the officials told us that they shing food, though the officials told us that they gave him 50 per cent, more than to an ordinary Japanese. Healso said that his greatest hardship was from the cold in winter, from which there was no protection, his clothes, being made on Japanese atandard of size, were insufficient, and too small for him, and we could see that they scarcely searched below his elbows and knees. We are endeavouring to find out more about this man, lor, if true, his statements show his case to be a hard one.

ome of the prisoners in this part of the building had occupation found them, plainting reeds for covers to pipe cases, etc.; the work was done neatly but seemed uninteresting. There was yet another portion of this prison, the one reserved for Femate prisoners, and this part was probably the worst of

erisoners, and this part was probably the worst of all. There was the same overcrowding, entire want of proper sanitary arrangements, and some of the cells or rather cages, for they were little better, were almost quite dark.

The best thing that we can report about this prispn is that the officials told us that they recognised its inferiority, and that plans were under consideration to pull it down and rebuild the whole. This work, however, could not be completed by the time the now Treaties are likely to come into force, unless it was taken in hand at once, and therefore some alterations are urgently treeded.

theeded.

The Prison at Ichigaya, where women convicts are confined, is in the old style of Japanese Prisons, and is entirely unsuited to modern ideas of the requirements of the present day. The prisoners with few exceptions seemed of the lower order of Japanese women. They were mostly clad in prison garb, of a stout cotton material and uniform in colour. They generally seemed clean and healthy, and a good many of them were at work, chiefly in preparing cotton and weaving it into material for Prison clothes. In such work and in their general life we could see no signs of abject misery and the usual Prison diet seemed sufficient for them; but the compariments where they were them; but the compariments where they were confined, though large and airy enough in summer, must have been miserably cold in winter. They were simply large Japanese rooms surrounded with wooden bars, which, even if covered with paper pasted over them in winter,—and we were told that this was done, -gave no sufficient protection from the elements.

There were a good many prisoners in solitary

confinement (for convalencence as well as for punishment) and the compartments where they confined were far worse than the above, being simply cages surrounded by wooden hars on two or three sides. They were far too small, and almost entirely improtected from the curside; they would be learfully cold in winter, and un-

they would be learfully cold in winter, and un-bearably hot in summer.

In one part of this prism we found a number of nothers with their children of various ages up to 3 or 4 years. They all looked of the very pourest class, and naturally they seemed dity, but not inhealthy, and though it was painful to see children commencing life in prism, it was pro-bably the best thing to be done with them under the CICCIM-tances, for with no one to look after them outside, they were probably better with them outside, they were probably better with

One of the worst features of this prison was the Punishment Cell. It was separated from the main building, and was a sort of miniature mud godown from the outside; the door was so small and so low that one of us, going inside to inspect, had to crawl in on hands and knees, and inside it was simply like being in a large packing case. It was perfectly dark, and the only ventilarian consisted of half a dozen slits in the ceiling, three or four inches long and perhaps half an inch wide, which would probably negerit positive sofficiation in the would probably negerit positive sofficiation in the inches long and perhaps half an inch wide, which would probably prevent positive suffocation in the cool weather; but there were was absolutely no possibility of a current of air, and in the hot weather lew Foreigners would be able to escape with their lives, after one day's incarceration, and we were told that up to 5 days were given as nonishment in this place.

will then over, we were all that up to 5 days were approximated in this place.

On the whole it would be a relief to us to be assured that this Prison would never be used for Foreign prisoners, for the buildings are entirely inadequate for the protection of women, even of the lowest orders in our countries.

R. D. Robison.

Rames R. Alorss.

JAMES R Alorse.

(Signed)

(Signe

# LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(ERON THE "JAPAN TINES.")

THE WAR.

UNABLE TO COPE WITH SITUATION.

London, June 10. The Governor of the Philippines has sent a despairing telegram to Madrid, stating that nearly the whole archipelago is in open revolt, and unless the Government comes to his assistance it will be impossible for him to cope with the enemies both on land and sea.

# DISPATCH OF AMERICAN TROOPS.

A force of 27,000 men commanded by General Shafter has sailed from Tampa for Key West, whence the troops will be conveyed by a strong fleet to a point agreed upon.

AMERICANS OCCUPY A CUBAN PORT.

London, June 13.

The Censorship has stopped all news regarding the expedition from Tampa, and its present whereabouts are unknown. Meanwhile the American warships have seized and occupied the outer harbour of Guanatomo, Cuba.

AMERICAN TRANSPORTS RETURN AND SAIL AGAIN.

STUBBORN FIGHT AT GUANTANAMO. SPANIARDS RETREAT.

London, June 14.

The transports have returned to Tampa. The men on the overcrowded transports suffered terribly from the heat and many horses died. The latest reports state that they sailed again. On Saturday the Marines who had landed at Guantanamo were attacked by a body of regulars. The Spaniards fought from cover, and were only discernible in flashes when the Marines poured volleys into them. An American launch ascended the Bay and enfiladed the enemy. Shortly after mid-night the Spaniards charged and were met with repeated volleys. Ultimately they broke and retreated, their losses being uncertain.

AMERICANS LEAVE KEY WEST FOR CUBA.

London, June 15.

It is officially stated at Washington that the expedition has left Key West for Cuba. The American losses at Guantanamo were only five men.

BARBARITIES ON AMERICAN DEAD.

London, June 16.

An American Lieutenant who has made a tour of observation in Santiago harbour, reports that the whole of the Spanish Fleet is there. Admiral Sampson tele-graphs that the bodies of American dead have been barbarously mutilated.

# ENGLAND AND FRANCE ON THE NIGER.

AGREEMENT CONCLUDED.

At agreement has been concluded between Great Britain and France on the Niger question.

# ALLEGED GERMAN DESIGNS.

London, June 15.

The concentration of German warships off Manila is attracting attention. It is rumoured that Germany has designs upon the Salu group.

# THE ALLEGED GERMAN DESIGNS.

London, June 16.

JAMESON'S RAIDERS TO BE RE-INSTATED.

The Government has decided to reinstate, on the half-pay unattached principle, all of Dr. Jameson's officers except Sir John Willoughby and Colonel Rhodes.

THE VICTORIA CROSS

JUSTICE TO VETERANS.
Mr. Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary
to the War Office, has announced in the House of Commons that the Victoria Cross will henceforth carry with it an annual pension of fifty pounds for incapacitated soldiers.

AMERICAN WHEAT CORNER COLLAPSES.

RELIEF OF THE MARKET.

Leiter's wheat corner at Chicago has collapsed. Ten million bushels have been thrown on the market, causing a heavy decline in prices.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT DEFEATED,

IMPENDING CABINET CRISIS.

The French Government has been defeated after a debate on general policy. Subsequently a general resolution of confidence was adopted by a majority of twelve. Nevertheless it is believed the Cabinet will resign.

> (Received by the Fift.) LEASE OF KOWLOON.

Peking, June 10. A contract for the lease of a plot of land in Kow-loon, opposite Hongkong, has been signed between the Representatives of Great Britain and China. The term for the lease is to extend for 99 years commencing on the 1st of July next.

Peking, June 10. The land secured by England by virtue of the Treaty of the lease of Kowloon includes that portion of the peninsula divided by drawing a straight line along the rear of the city from Mirs Bay to Lantao.

RAILWAY PRIVILEGES.

Peking June tt. The right of establishing railways granted by the Chinese Government to England extends only to the Shanghai-Nauking section. No sanction has yet been given to the railway connecting Shanghai with Ningpo.

RUSSIAN RAILWAY DEMANDS.

Pekin, June 11. Russia is actively negotiating for the right to establish a railway starting from Hankow.

THE "MAYA."

Genzan, June 11.
The Maya left here for Susan this morning.

THE "MANDJOUR,"

Bosen, June 12. The Russian warship Mandjour arrived here from Port Arthur to-day.

CHINESE MINING MONOPOLY.

Peking, June 15. The English-Italian Merchant Union has secured the monopoly of mine development in Hwaiking, in the province of Hunan.

CABINET CHANGE.

Peking, June 16. Mr. Wang Tung-hwo, a Minister in the Cabinet, has been released from office. Mr. Wang Wan-shao, Governor-General of Pechili, has been ordered to come up The German newspapers are openly to the Capital, Mr. Yung-luh being apdiscussing the probability of securing a pointed itsing of overnor-General during point the Philippines.

UNIVERSITED FILLINOIS AT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed in the Chass Solton.

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Clubs are closed during the summer months.

## PROBLEM No. 371.

Owing to the unfortunate error in the above which we corrected last Saturday, we postpone the solution for one week, so as to give our friends more time for solving it.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 372. WHITE. 1-P to Q 8=Kt 2-Kt to Q B 6 mate BLACE. I-K takes Kt

if Ki moves 2-R to Q 7 mate or Kt to Q B 6 mate Correct solutions received from W.H.S. D.D., and M.W.

W.H.S. justly remarks:—The heading -- " A Study in Knights "-seems to give this away.

# PROBLEM No. 375. By ALIQUIS.



White to play and mates in three moves.

# GAME No. 399.

UNITED STATES CHAMPION MATCH. TWELFTH GAME PLAYED AT NEW YORK, APRIL 1.

AA HITTO- SHOWARITEET.	DIRCK-PHISBURY.	
WHITE, BEACK.	WHITE. BLACK.	
1 P K4 P K4	14 P QB <sub>3</sub> ■ KB <sub>4</sub>	
2 KKt B3 QKt B3	15 Q K16 Q B-q	
3 B Kt5 Kt B3	15 Q K 6 Q B-q 16 K Q2 K K3	
4 P Q4 PxP	1 t7 Kt B3 Kt B5	
5 Custles P QR3	18 11 K(3 K(xP(d)	
6 B R4 B K2"	to KR Osq(e) B Ks	
7 R Ksq(a) Castles	20 Kt Q2 R R3	
8 P K5 Kt Ksq	21 O Ou K Be	
g KixP KixKi	22 Q K3 Q K-5ch	
TO Ox KI P O4	23 K B-q B Q6ch	
ti P QKt4(b) P QB3	24 QxB Q Ki7ch	
12 B K 2 K 1 B2	25 K Kag KixQch	
13 P QR3 P QR4(c)	26 Resigns.	
2 2 2 2 2 2		

NOTES. (a) If it is the intention of White to play P to

(a) If it is the intention of write to play P to K 5, he should have done so at once.

(b) Black threatened to win a piece by P to Q B 4, followed by P to Q Kt 4 and P to B 5

(c) Good play; it disorganises the queen's

wing.

(d) An excellent move; it decides the game.

(e) If 19-K takes Kt, B to R 6 ch, 20-K to R sq. Q to Kt 5 wins.

STUDIES OF THE OPENINGS.

There are so very many "openings" that it is quite difficult, if not altogether impossible, for the amateur to get a thorough knowledge of them. There are several of these "openings" which are more commonly played, and with which one can be, must be, somewhat familiar in order to hold his own. While White has the advantage of the move, yet if Black plays correctly there should not be any superiority in White's position when the middle game is ceached. It is at this point, when we must get away from the book moves. the middle game is cached. It is at this point, when we must get away from the book moves, that superior ingenuity and skill show themselves. The Ruy Lopez is probably played more than any other opening, and if Black's defence be inferior, White soon establishes a superior position. As a the celebrated game between Blackburne and

> GAMB No. 400. Notes from The Press, Philadelphia.

RUY	LOPEZ.	65-
J. H. Blackburne.	M. Weiss.	66—
WHITE.	BLACK.	67-
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4	68
2-Kt to K B 3	2-Kt 10 0 B 3	1 60-
Digi	itized by $oldsymbol{GOO}$	ale.
		)

```
3—B to Kt 5
4—P to Q 4 (b)
5—Castles
                                                                                       3-K: to B 3 (a)
                                                                                       4-P takes P
5-B to K 2
6-Castles
5—Castles
5—B to K 2
6—R to K sq (c)
6—Castles
7—Kt takes P. Had White moved P to K 5
Black would have answered Kt to K sq. If then
Kt takes P, Kt takes Kt and after Q takes Kt
Black moves P to Q 4.
7—Kt takes Kt
```

7-Kt takes 8-P to Q 4 9-Kt takes P 10-B to K 3 -B takes B 8-Q takes Kt 9-P takes P 10-B to Q B 4 10—B to K 3 11—B takes B 12—B to K 3 13—P to Q B 3 14—R to K sq 15—Q to Kt 3 16—Q to Kt 5 17—B takes Q 18—B to K II-Biakes Kt -Kt to B 3 13—Q to K 4

14—B to B 4

15—Q R to Q sq

16—R to R 4

17—Q takes Q

18—R to K 4 18-R to K 4 18-B to K Kt 5.
Which forces an exchange of Rioks and Black

mains with a very s

19—R takes R ch

20—P to K B 3

21—P to B 3

22—P to Q Kt 3. satisfactory game,
h 19-R takes R
20-B to K B 4
21-B to K 2

21—F to B 3
22—P to Q Kt 3. Necessary, for B to B 7
was threatening, as well as P to Q K: 4
22—......
23—Kt to Kt 2
24—R to Q 2
24—R to Q • q. Threatening P to Kt 5. White is obliged to play P to Q Kt.

Q Ki 4 Kt 4.
25—P to Q Kr 4
26—B to K sq
27—Kt takes R
28—Kt to K 3
29—P to Q R 3
30—K to B 2 25-Plokk 26-Riakes R 27-B to B 7 28-B to Kt 8

29-P to Q R 3 29-K to Rt 8
30-K to B 2 30-B to Q 6. Wi
Queen's wing.
31-B to C. Which

31-B to K1 3
31-K to K 2
32-P to K B 4. Prior to this move the game was in favour of Black yet there was hardly any winning chance, since the Black King was prevented from entering. The text-move endangers vented from entering. The text-move endangers the game, and Black skilfully takes advantage.

32-..... 33-K to B 3 34-B to B 2 35-Kt to Q q 36-Kt to Q q 32-K to K 3 33-R to K 3 33-B to Q sq 34-P to R 4 35-B to K 6 37-K to K 4 37-P to B 4 ch. The Pawe can not be captured on account of 11 to B 7

ch winning the Rt. 38-K to Q 3 39-Kt to Kt 2 38-P to Q R 5 39-B to B 5 ch 40-K to Q 4 41-P to K 3 42-K to K 5 40-K to Q 2 41-B to Q 4 42-Kt to K 3 cli 43—Kr takes ■ 44—K to K 2 43-Ptakes Kt 44-P to Kt

44-K to K 2

powerful move. White can out capture, for Black answers B takes P, followed by B to H 8, winning the Q R P; if, however, K to B 2 or K to Q sq. then White wins the Pawns on the King's

45—B to K 3 46—B takes P 45—P takes P 46—B to B 3 47—P to R 5 48—B takes P 47—B to Q = 48—P takes P 49—B to K 3 50—B to K 2 51—B to K 5q 52—K to B 2. 49-B to B 3 50-P to B 5 Sr-P to B 6 ch He could not play Il to 

53-K to B sq 54-K takes B 53-B takes 1 54-K to Q 6. Excel lent play, which forces a win. The combination extends over a great number of moves, and Mr. The combination Weiss must have calculated to the very end.

59—P to B 8 (Q) 59—P to B 8 (Q ch)
61—K takes Q 61—P to B 8 (Q ch)
62—K to Q 2 62—Q to B 7 ch
63—K to Q 3. Had he played K to Q sq,
then Q 1 7 ch and Q B 6 ch would have forced
the exchange. The move adopted leads to a

similar result. 63-Q to B 7 cli 64-Q to B 6 ch 65-K takes Q 66-K to Kt 6 64-K to K 3 65-Q takes Q 66-K to III 4 67-K to Q 4 68-K to B 3 67-K takes P 68-K to R 7

69-P to R 6

K to B 2

70-K to Big 70-K to Kt 6. Had White moved 70-K to B 3, then, of course, K to Kt 8, followed by the advance of the Q R P, would have won. A most remarkable end game.

71-Resigns

71—Resigns.

(a) Mr. Mason evidently favours P to Q 2 3.

Mr. Lasker, however, says that this move is a violation of the principles of development, while Kt

to B3 is in accordance with them.

(b) "Castles" is recommended by Mr. Lasker, followed by P to Q4. He says of 5-P to Q4, that by this move "we develop and attack at the

(c) Mr. Lasker does not consider this the best Q to K 2 is more aggressive. is also good.

NOTES.

Notes.

According to the chess educe of the Birmingham Weekly Mercury, there is more enthusiasm amongst problemists and problem solvers than any other class of chess players. Nor, in his opinion, are there any artists so free from unfriendly rivalry as are problem composers, or so generous in praising the work of others. He adds:—"It has been my lot to meet with many poets, big and little, with many novelists and musical composers, and with theatrical folk of all sorts and sizes. In nearly with many novelists and musical composers, and with theatrical folk of all sorts and sizes. In nearly every case I have observed about nine parts of naulty to one part of ability, together with an almost invariable tendency to depreciate others in the same line of business. I regard problemists as real actists in every sense of the word (as a tists of a high order, who in modesty and genuine artistic instinct stand for above the average of the classes I have named. I am confident that all will be an me out, who know the study involved, the nights of sleepless meditation, the days of untiring experiment, the delicate distinctions, the suppressionent, the delicate distinctions, nights of sleepless meditation, the days of untiring experiment, the delicate distinctions, the super-lative subtlety, the inventions, the imagination, and the poetic instinct required." This testimony is the more valuable because it comes from one trimself a problemist, from one, too, who during years of these editorship has has had the best op-portunities of induing. portunities of judging.

"One of the burdens of Hongkong life," says Black Bishop, "is the long two hours between office bours and dinner. Some men walk, others cycle, wiser ones sleep and not a lew loaf. Personally, I hate athletic exercises of all kinds; let monkeys leap from tree to tree and puppies tun in mags, but man, or so it seems to me, was made for higher things, and I pity those who see dignity or advantage in setting twenty or thirty men to kick a bladder over a string or who find recreation in poking ivory marbles into holes round a table. It is not much better to couch over a couple of wheels or throw a hard ball at three sticks. It mind is or throw a hard ball at three sticks. It mind is what distinguishes man from the brute creation, let him find his amusement in the highest form of mental gymnastics, and that of course is chess.

correspondent of an esteemed confider, the A correspondent of an esteemed confider, the checker editor, suggests that Shuwalter might improve his play by practising at checkers a while, as Pillsbury has done. No doubt Showalter will appreciate the friendly advice. It is well known that Steinitz obtained his great cless proficiency by playing whist, and that Zokertor won his great fame as a chess player by practising billieds. fame as a chess player by practising billiards. We might add that Patti's great success as a singer was also due to her skill at billiards. Evideathly the sure way to success in any art is by as-siduously cultivating some other art. It is well to know this, But we think we can improve on the checker correspondent's suggestion. Let Sinowalter devote his time in future to parcheesi, halma, or tiddle de wink-, and thus become a great chess player,—Sunday Call.

# MAIL STEAMERS.

# THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

4 1 1 43	THESE OF	IUITY ISI DE	J 115
From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Robilla z	M. June so
Mangkong	0, & O, Co.	Gaelic 2	Su. June 26
Taconin, Wash.,,	N. P. Co.	Victoria	M. f.ne 27
Houghong	M. M. Co.		W. June ao
Canada, &c	G. P. R. Co.	Em, of Japan	M. July 4
Houghong	P. M. Co.	Aztec	Th. July 6
Houghong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th, July 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Th. July 7
Europe	N D. Lloyd	Hohensollern	W. July 6

r Left flagaraki on the zoth inst. . Left Hongkong on the zoth inst.

	LITE	NEXT	TAIL LEAV	ES
	Ent	Lines	Steamer.	Date.
į	Portland, Ore	N P. Co.	Braemar	Sa. June 18
	America	P. Matto	C, of H. Pro	80. June 18
	Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	W. Inne an
	Shanghar	N V.E.	Kobe Maru	W. June so
	America	O. & O. Lo.		In. June of
ļ	America	N. P. Ca.	Victoria	Tu. June all
i	Hunghous	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Inne ng
	Housekousetark	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. July 4
۰	House House Hall f	rano, t.	Hubenzollern	F. July 8

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT **URBANA-CHAMPAIGN** 

# LATEST SHIPPING.

# ARRIVALS.

Wm. H. Starbuck, American ship 1,272, Henry McDonald, 12th June,-New York, 30th Dec., Kerosene Oil.-Standard Oil Co.

Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Rotik, Russian steamer, 269, Aulin, 12th June,—
Petropaulovski via Mororau, 4th June, Seal,
Sable, Fox and Bear skins.—Mr. Paulos.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P.,
Marshall, 13th June,—Vancouver, B.C., 30th
May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 14th
June,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 27th
May, Mails & General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.
Pathan, British steamer, 1,762, J. Day, 14th June,
—Hongkong, 8th June, Rice and Sugar.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.
Poric, British steamer, 2,036, Harry Smith, 15th

—Hongkong, 8th June, Rice and Sugar.—Dodwell Cashill & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 15th June,—San Francisco, 28th May, and Honolulo, 4th June, Mails & General.—O. & O. S.S. Co. Arisona, British steamer, 2,657, J. Panton, 15th June,—Hangkong via Amoy, 11th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Queen Adelaile, British steamer, 1,835, McNair, 15th June,—Bangkok, 3tst May, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Trinan, British steamer, 1,460, Geo. Ramsay, 15th June,—Anstralia and New Zealand via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,173, Durrandr, 15th June,—Marseilles via ports, Kohe, 14th June, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Mount Tabor, British steamer, 1,494, I. Jamson, 15th June,—Vanconver, B.C., via Kobe 13th June, General.—Fregar & Co.

Della, German steamet, 3,200, Christiansen, 15th June,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 9th June, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Powerful (14), British Cruiser, 14,200, Capt. Hon. Hedworth Lambron, 16th June,—Nagasaki, 12th June.

Embress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry

tath Inne.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pybus, 16th June,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 15th June, Matts and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

City of Rio de Faneiro, American steamer, 2,275
Wm. Ward, 16th June,—Hongkong via ports,
Kobe, 15th June, Mails and General.—P. M.
S.S. Co.

City of Lucknow, British steamer, 2.250. D. Morrisan, 17th June, Rangoon via Ningata, Rice. Samuel Samuel & Co.

Bennohr, British steamer, 1,935, Le Boutillier, 17th June, London via ports, Kohe, 15th June, General, Cornes & Co.

General.—Cornes & Co.
Brasmar, British steamer, 2.316, Edward Porter,
17th June,—Hongkong via ports, Kohe, 15th
June, Mails & General.—Dodwell Cartill & Co.
Kashing, British steamer, 1.158, F. Hopkins, 16th
June,—Takow and Auping, 10th June, Rice
and Sugar.—British de Swire.
Alton, British steamer, 1,169, Wan. Nicholson,
17th June,—Vancouver, B.C., 23rd May, Rails
and Lumber.—Dodwell, Cartill & Co.

# DEPARTURES.

DEPARTINKS.

St. Andrews, Norwegian steamer, 2,009, Trivold, 11th June,—Meji, Ballast.—Captain.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, Joseph Pulford, 12th June,—London via ports, General.—Butter field & Swice.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 13th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Resetta, British steamer, 2,039, E. P. Bishop, 15th June,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, Autin, 15th June,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mr. Paulos.

Humber, British Storeship, 1,640, Commander F. W. Gransmore, 15th June,—Hongkong.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, A. Dixon, 15th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Nord, Norwegian steamer, 7,67, Bull, 16th June,—Moji via Kohe, Ballast.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Langbank, British steamer, 2,966, W. J. Rout, 16th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Ose, Rice.—M. Raspe & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 17th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Devonshire, British steamer, 2,359, Coull, 16th

June,—rrongkong via ports, Mails and General.

—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Devonskire, British steamer, 2,359, Coull, 16th
June,—Kuchinoshu, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan
& Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archi-bold, 17th June, -- Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. -- C. P. R. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. W. Has-well, 16th June,—Sydney and Melbourne, via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Kaisha.

# PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Empress of India, from Vancouver, B.C.;—Mr. T. A. Addinsell, Mr. T. Y. Bernet, Miss Campbell, Mr. A. M. Eckfurd, Mr. A. Glendining, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert J. Owen, Capt. Mashke, Mr. B. Matsuki, Miss Morgan, Mr. O. Nordhorst, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Neff, Mr. N. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Stewart, Mr. Reid Taylor, and Mr. Worbs, in cahin.

Per British steamer Desic, Iram San Francisco.

Mr. Reid Taylor, and Mr. Worbs, in cahin.

Per British steamer Doric, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Juo, C. McKim, Miss A. Neilson, Miss Clara Andrews, Dr. and Mrs. Clinton Cushing, M. Frank Deardorf, Mr. Thos. H. Williams, Rev. M. C. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. N. Dentz, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mrs. Frank Klien, Mrs. C. P. Low, Mr. J. H. Fertig and child, Mrs. C. D. Harmon, and Mr. Oumé Seijita, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. A. Leatieff, and Mr. A. Başilwitch, in cabin. For Sharghat:—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Conger, Miss Mary Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Peet and children, Miss Laura Conger, and Mr. Wm. B. Bainbridge, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. A. McKillop, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Rud, Mr. and Mr. C. A. Green and two children, and Chaplain W. R. Reamy, U.S.N., in cabin.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Janeiro,

Per American steamer City of Rio de Jeneiro, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Maigolius, Mr. P. J. Fridler, Mr. R. M. Harter, Capt. W. H. Crawford, Lieut. Konsmie, and Mr. Geo. Frew, in cabin.

SEPARTED.

Per British steamer Empress of India, for Houg-kong via ports:—Mr. W. Poate, Mrs. Poate and child, Mr. W. J. Williams, Mr. T. J. Williams, Mr. M. Haytemano, Mr. W. Clement Diew, Mr. R. M. Harter, Mr. Paul G. Findler, Mr. T. D. Jackson, Misses K. M. and B. M. Jackson, Mr. C. Wuttke, Rev. Geo. E. Albrecht, Mr. A. G. Stokes, Mr. and Mcs. C. Brockmann, Mr. L. Abenheim, Mr. I. Allion, Mr. A. Stewart, and Mr. R. H. Sharo, in cabin. E. H. Sharp, in cabin.

Per British steamer Rosetta, for Hungkong via ports:—Mr. J. Guld, and Mr. Sun Nam Shing, in cabin; 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Pet Japanese steamer Salkio Maru, for Shang-hai via ports.—Mr. Glover, Mr. Y. Kaya, Mrs. Hamada and child, Mrs. Bennet and haby, Monsien Demetris Saloulis, Mr. Y. Minamikata, Mr. Y. Ohata, Mr. Y. Sakai, and Mr. Y. Kasa matso, in cabin; 52 Japanese, 2 Chinese, and I Emopean, in steerage.

European, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Kawachi Maru, for London via ports:—Sub-Inspector of Surgeons T. Murakami, Paymaster J. Nakada, Chief Eng. K. Sakai (I.J.N.), Mr. S. Bereda, Mr. G. Reffinger, Mr. R. Longin, Mr. M. Raspe, Mr. and Mrs. M. Nakajima, Mr. K. Haseba, Mr. O. Matsukata, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rushida, and Mr. E. Hidaka, io cabir; Lieut, Y. Higebisa, Mr. K. Kamemura, Mr. Y. Tanaka, Mr. K. Ozaki, Mr. M. Baba, Mr. K. Wada, Mr. T. Yamane, and Chief Eng. D. Henderson, in second class; 20 Japanese, I European, and I Chinese, in steerage.

# LATEST COMMERCIAL.

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Except for a few inquities in tin plates, which show a slight advance, the market continues totally mactive. For iron of all kinds there is no demand.

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Sheet from 4.90			
Galennised from sheets	to	10.25	
Wire Hails, assetted	10	fi.to	
Tin Plates, per bus	16	5-90	
Fig tran, fla. 1	to	7 10	
Hoop Iron () to () inch)	to	5.25	
actorosicate,			
Nothing new to report.			

Prices remain maltered, except for Daitong, which shows a slight decline, and Formosa, which is cather higher. Activals total 12,696 piculs, including 5,751 of Manila; sales are 9 338

Brown Taken and accommendation	\$5.6h to 5.70
Brown Manila	5-90 to 6.30
Brown Daitong	4.25 to 4.30
Brown Canton	4-35 to 6.00
White Java and Penang	0.90 to 7.25
White Refined	7.70 to 9.60

# EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

There is a slightly increased demand from Europe, and holders show a disposition to dispose of their old stock before the new cocoons arrived. Settlements from June 7th total 225 piculs, and there are about 2,600 piculs in stock. Prices are unchanged.



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Filatures-No. 2, 10/15 denfers
Filatures-No. 2, 14'18 deniers
Re-reels-Ro. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den, Soo to 810
Re-teels-Ho. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den Nominal
Re-reels-No. 2, 14/18 deniers Nominal
Re-reels-No. 24, 14/18 deniers Nominal
Restretts-No. 3, 14/20 deniers Nominal
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Kakedas-No. 1
Kakedas-Ho. 14 Nominal
Kakedas-No. 2 Nominaf
Kanedas-No. 21 Nominal
WASTE SILK

Nothing is doing; prices are at about the same level, but, if anything, slightly weaker than last week. Settlements from June 7th have amounted to 500 piculs; the present stock is put down as 3.540 piculs.

QUOTATIONS,				
Noshi-Filatura, Best				
Nashi-Filature, Good	205 to 110			
Norhi-Oshu, Bent				
Noshi-Osku, Good				
Noshi-Oshu, Medium				
Noghi-Shinehu, Beet	70 to 75			
Noshi-Shinshu, Good				
Nonhi-Bushu, Best				
Noshi-Bushu, Good	100 to 110			
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	90 to 95			
Noshi-Joshu, Good	bo to bs			
Noshi-Joshu, Fair	55 to 574			
Kibiso-Pilnture, Best	95 to 100			
Kibiso-Filature, Seconds	By to go			
Kibiso-loshu, Good	25 to 30			
Kibiso-Bushu, Fair	20 to 224			
TEA.				

The news of the American Tea duty taking immediate effect instead of from the 1st July has, to a great extent, demoralised the market. Settlements have considerably declined in amount, and prices have gone down by 5 or 4 yen per picul for the better grades of leaf. Lower qualities, however, are still dear as compared with last year. There is a large stock on offer.

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\$47 to 28
\$25 to 26
\$23 10 24
\$21 to m
\$19 to 20
\$17 to 18
Nominal

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— 4 mouths' sight 2 0}
- Private 4 months night 2/0#
- 6 months' sight 1/0∦
On Paris-Bank sight 2.55%
On Paris - Private 4 months sight 2.594
On America - Bank Bills on demand 494
— Private 4 months' sight50∦ to ⅓
On Germany-Hank sight 2.064
- Private 4 months' sight 2.10
On Hongkong—Bank sight610/odis.
- Frivate 10 days' sight 740 dis.
On Shanghai-Bank sight80°/odis.
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On India-Bank sight 150
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# The Jayan Meekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE; POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 26.]

RESISTERSD AT THE O.F.S.

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 25TH, 1898.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXIX. 管理者保護日十二

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# The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE BOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOUREA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, between its intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WERLLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAORE, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

VOROHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH, 1898.

# DEATHS.

On June 22nd, at Kobe, CHARLES A. TAYLOR. aged 54. Funeral takes place this (Thursday)

On the 14th of April, Monsieur Laurent Rous-tan, late of Mesos, Jardine, Matheson & Co., Shanghai and Marseilles,

# SUM-VARY OF NEWS.

THE pro-Government party seems to be hanging-fire.

THE Hyogo Agriculturel and Industrial Bank will open on the 1st preximo.

THE Chinese torpedo-cruiser Fei ting has foundered off Port Arthur with a loss of 147 lives,

Sir Herbert Kitchener and staff have gone to the front, to push forward the Soudan campaign.

THE new warship Takasago, constructed at Glasgow, arrived at Port Said on the 17th inst.

Ma. Akiyama, formerly Chief Judge of the Yokohama Local Court, has been admitted by The Washington House of Representatives har-lifefullet, Johan copper lifeless for the moment.

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practise as a Counsellor-at-law at the bar of the U.S. Court for Japan.

THE Government press in Spain is beginning to urge the necessity of a speedy termination of hostilities.

A SECOND Manila expedition has left San Francisco, and will be convoyed by men-of-war from Honolulu.

THE steamship Sado Maru, which has been constructed at Glasgow, left there for Japan on the 16th just.

While at target practise the other day, a quickfiring gnn on the Akitsushima kan exploded, killing one man.

COUNTS ORUMA and ITAGARI have formally applied for admission on the rolls of the new Constitutional party.

PRINCE HERRY of Prussia, who in now staying at Kiao-chou, will leave for Japan by the Deutschland in a few days.

The new "Constitutional" party has been duly inaugurated: its platform adopted, and regulations for discipline approved.

A CRICKET team from H.M.S. Powerful defeated a Yokoliama eleven on Thursday by five runs in an all-day match.

A SPANISH squadron left Cadis for the Far East last week, but according to last reports has turned back to Barcelona,

AT Yoshihama, Ashigara-shimo-gori, Kanagawa Prefecture, dysentery is prevalent; 38 cases have appeared within the last week or two,

MR. P. M. SEINNER has resigned the position of editor of the Hiogo News and proceeds to Singapore to take charge ill the Straits Times.

THE Kanegafachi Cotton Spinning Company, at its meeting on the 7th proximo, will probably declare a dividend at the rate of 9 per cent, per annum.

WILLIAM Evans, chief gunnery instructor on H.M.S. Grafton, committed suicide at Naga-saki last week while suffering from a fit of temporary depression.

THE theatrical company of H.M.S. Powerful gave a capital performance on Thursday evening m the Public Hall in aid of the funds of the Seamen's Orphan Home.

On the 17th inst. the body of a woman about 34 years of age was found in the water in front of the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo. It is supposed she committed suicide.

IT is officially appounced that the British naval manœuvres have been abandoned, the Admiralty being reluctant to deplete its coal supplies in view of the possibilities of the situation.

A DESPATCH dated the 13th instant from Mr. Yamada, Japanese Consul at Lyons, states that in Italy the crop of cocoons is better than in late years. In France the crop will be inferior.

Mr. Iwaya, ex-Superintendent of the Ryobashi Police Station in Tokyo, who was recently ap-pointed adviser to the Shanghai Taotai, will leave Tokyo for his new post on the 25th inst.

THE insurgents are making great headway in the Philippines and the fall of Manila may be expected at any moment, though Admiral Dewey has requested the rebels to await the arrival of the American soldiers.

passed a resolution for annexing Hawsii. In the course of the debate, strong declarations were made in favour of seizing and retaining the Philippines, Cubs, and Puerto Rico.

Four priests belonging to the Buddhist Hongwanji Sect (Messrs. Miyamoto, Honda, Toki, and Asakura) will shortly leave for Hongkong, San Francisco, and other places to investigate the condition of foreign religions.

A CHICAGO dispatch, dated the 18th inst., to the Central Tea Traders' Guild, states that, notwith-standing the war, the Omaha Exhibition is most successful. Since the duty on tea was announced the market has been anexpectedly active.

A DEEADPUL accident occurred at the launching of the British battle-ship Albien at Blackwall this week. A huge wave was created when the ship slid into the water and this awamped a stand where working-class speciators were seated. Some sixty persons were drowned.

Tux Chinese Government has concluded with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank a loan to the amount of \$2,000,000 for the laying down of a railway line between Newchwang and Shanhaikwan. The Russian Minister has publicly objected.

A TELEGRAM from the United States states that the Government has issued Government War Bonds amounting to \$40,000,000 gold. The interest is fixed at 3 per cent, per annum, and the bonds are of \$25, \$50, and \$100 value. They are issued at par.

On the 18th inst, the funeral of the late Baron Shirane took place at the Yanaka cemetery, Tokyo. Generals Yamagata and Nodzu, Vice-Admiral Ito, Viscounts Hayashi, Sugi, and Nomura, Baron Suematsu, Mr. Kaneko, and numerous peers and high officials were present. The same morning a message of condolence from the Emperor was sent to the relatives accompanied by two rolls of white ailk.

LORD SALISBURY has stated that negotiations are proceeding with China relative to the reorganisation of the army and navy. Though the negotiations regarding the navy were in a more advanced stage, the difficulty had hitherto been that China has been unwilling to give a British organising officer a free hand. The Premier added that he feared events in China would have but one issue, unless the naval and military defences of the country were thoroughly re-organised.

Important are experiencing "hard times" in Yokohama these days, and, do what they will, the depression which settled down on the market last autumn still remains m oppressive m ever. Godowns are full of contract goods, but dealers have no money to take them up, though the rise in home-markets is a temptation hard to resist, Hardly any transactions have been put through this week in metals, and prices are still quoted nominal for all sorts. Kerosene is steady, like-wise sugar, demand for which never slackens very much. Business has not been brisk very much. Business has not been brisk among raw silk-menthis week and a large stock -over 4,000-will have to be carried over to next session unless a spurt occurs in the next few days. In Waste, the record of the week is practically a blank, and the stock on hand totals 6,000 boxes. The tea duty scare has died away and business is brisker than ever, over a million pounds being settled this week at prices that

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Fift Shimpo urgra Japanese merchants and manufacturers not to lose heart because the outlook in the foreign markets is temporarily bad. Last year, the revival of prosperity in the United States owing to an exceptionally fine crop of wheat and the high price obtainable for the cereal, would have been far more pronounced had not the currency question, on the one hand, and the prospect of international troubles in connexion with Cuba, on the other, induced European capitalists in unload their American accurities in large quantities, the result being a heavy outflow of specie from the States. But the currency problem no longer constitutes a seri-ous menace, and the reserves of hard money have increased to such an extent that confidence is restored in banking circles, and an easy money market may be confidently anticipated after the restoration of peace. As for the war, the reality has proved much less embarrassing than the expectation. News from New York shows that there is a healthy feeling in business circles, and that no appreciable interruption of commerce is anticipated. The customs returns show, also, that a very marked increase took place in the volume of the export trade during the nine months ended in Murch of the current year. The fact is that American manufactured goods of certain kinds are finding a larger and larger market abroad, and the export trade is becoming less dependent upon agricultural products. Japanese merchants appear to think that the imposition of additional duties will greatly check American demand for the principal staples of this country's exports. Experience should have shown the groundlessness of such an apprehension. The American people are prepared to pay for the goods that they want. Imposing as the customs duties look statistically, they make very little difference to the individual consumer. He goes on buying his tea and his silk just as though their prices had not been slightly augmented. There is nothing to be really feared in the field of trade except loss of heart on the side of the Japanese producer and merchant. That would soon make itself disastrously felt, whereas the effect of increased egstom duties would be scarcely appreciable.

. \* . The news that the House of Representatives in Washington has passed a resolution for annexing Hawaii elicits strong comment from journals like the *Pomiuri Shimbun*, which represents the *Progressists*. Reading between the lines of the Yomiuri's article, we detect very palpable indications of party politics, but the arguments are stated with sufficient plainness. The disadvantages that would accrue to Japan from the annexation of Hawaii by the United States are taken for granted, and our contemporary recalls the fact that, in the time of the Matsukala Cabinet, a protest was lodged in Washington by the Japanese Government. It elicited from the President an answer that Japan's interests should not be impaired by the annexation, but although Mr. Hoshi, the Japanese Representative, subsequently approached the Secretary of State on several occasions with the object of obtaining some definite statement as to what was meant by "not impairing Japan's interests," he failed to get the point elucidated. Insenuch, however, as it did not appear likely that the Senate would endorse the project of annexation, Japan did not continue to press for an answer, and the matter was allowed to rest. The war with Spain produced an immediate change in American sentiment, and It in now evident that, unless some revolute protest be entered, annexation will become an accomplished fact. Some may urge that a protest would be futile. That does not follow. England, France, and Germany by protesting against the tonnage dues that America contemplated imposing to meet belligerent expenditures, induced her to change her plan. Japan is not alone in this matter; she would find Germany, Russia, and France in sympathy with any protest

of the Administration are the nation's representatives for the time being, and to them the people must address themselves.

. .

Publicists are beginning to speak plainly about the anomalous procedure adopted by the Op-position in the recent session of the Diet. The Tokyo Asahi has a tolerably outspoken article on the subject. It points out that there can be no second opinion as to the inevitable necessity of increased taxation. Growing expenditures have to be faced by every nation that is in a condition of development. The Land-Tax Bill was rejected by a large majority in the House of Representatives, though probably not half a dozen out of the two hundred and fifty members voting against the measure had any real doubt that they would one day be obliged to vote for it. Their opposition was founded not on the merits of the proposal but on the fact that it was not accompanied by Administrative re-organization. In short, they had no confidence in the Cabinet proposing the tax. Why, then, did they not make that point perfectly plain? Why did they place themselves in the embarrassing position of seeming to reject the measure be-cause they disapproved of any increase of the Land Tax as a matter of principle, whereas they disapproved of it rolely for colla-teral reasons? The truth is that the radical defect of Japanese politicians at present is want of resolution. They shrink from taking a stand that will render them a plain target for the shafts of public opinion, and prefer to leave themselves always some margin for paring and They look to the right and to the left, pruning. waste their time in retrospect and circumspection, instead of directing their gaze straight ahead, resolutely choosing their objective point and marching towards it undeviatingly. It is true that an nuffinching attitude invites attack and provokes criticism, but if the cause be good it must triumph in the end, and the more resolutely it has been nursued, the more signal is ite auccess.

Count Itagaki writes a long article in the Tokyo Shimbun, roundly accusing the statesmen in power and severely criticizing the political parties. The gist of his argument is that cabinets not taking their mandate from the Diel are utterly opposed to the spirit of constitutional institutions, and that the methods employed to keep them in power-official interference at elections, bribery and corruption, and making official posts the reward of political partisanship -have such a demoralizing effect upon the people that it were better for public morality had the constitution never been granted, and had the administration remained in the hands of an oligarchy. The nation at large has been nominally invested with the privilege of managing its own affairs, but in practice it is effectually prevented from enjoying that privilege. And now these statesmen, who have hittierto stood aloof from parties, are about III organise a party of their own in order that they may remain in office. The nucleus of their party is to be the so called 'business men," who, also, have never bitherto allied themselves with any of the politicians struggling for the reality of constitutional institutions. Count Itagaki has a great deal to say about these business men, but his censure of them seems to admit no construction except that the mercantile and manufacturing classes are not worthy to take part in politics. Apparently he bas not yet shaken himself free from the ancient convention which placed the agriculturist next after the military man, and relegated the aitisan and the trader to the lowest place. Turning to the political parties-the Liberals and the Progrespointed parties—the Liberals and the Progressists—he censures them for sacrificing national interests to parochial. They do not look, he declares, beyond the limits of the little districts they represent. They regard the State from the point of view of the village and the hamlet.

after all, the men that happen to be at the head the state's affairs. He leaves to others the task of filling up that histus in his argument.

A series of articles is commenced by the Nippon on the subject of domestic politics. Only one has thus far appeared, but it furnishes a sufficient index to the contents of the re-mainder. The Nippon's object is to show that the band of Sat Cho clausuren by whom the Administrative power has been grasped since the beginning of the Meijl era are the political descendants of the Fujiwara, the Minamoto, and As between the last three the Tokugawa. families, the Tokugawa Regents are judged by our contemporary to have been the most au-tocratic and sacrilegious, but so lar as we can understand, the proof of that somewhat novel proposition is deduced solely from religious considerations. By some process of reasoning too subtle to appeal strongly to alien minds, it is inferred that the relations between the Fujiwara and the Kasuga Shrine at the Nara, and the relation between the Genji and the Hachiman Shrine at Taurugaoka, did less violence to the Imperial Principle than the relation between the Tokugawa and the Gongen of Nikko. If the Fujiwara's tenure of power continued for more than four hundred years, whereas the Tokugawa's lasted less than three centuries, the difference may be attributed in great part to the judgment of heaven. Coming to the Sat-Cho clansmen, the Nippon considers that their knell has now been rung after thirty years of office. The interval may seem short when compared with that covered by the rule of the Fujiwara, the Tokugawa or even the Genji, but then the times have changed. This is an era of progress and civilization. Abuses cannot flourish long in the atmosphere of to-day. Our readers will doubtless wish to know how the Nippon establishes a parallel between the Sat-Cho clausmen and the great military families that possessed themselves of the administration in past ages, but the steps of the argument are not very profound. The of State are occupied by partisans of the two great class; that titles have been created for their advantage; that the posts of "commander-in-chief" and "field marshal" were made by them in order to be filled by themselves; that grand cordons and grand orders of merst are their special perquisites; that, in short, they monopolise the sweets of place and power == thoroughly as did the adherents of the Fujiwara or the Tokugawa. But the first for their over-throw has gone furth. The union of the political parties marks the opening of a new epoch, We need scarcely analyse the article any further.

The Hochi Shimben, under the pretext of offering good advice to Marquis Ita, seeks to discredit the business men and politicians that have espoused his cause, by applying to them the familiar old epithet "official." It is some time since members of the Opposition in the Lower House and their journalistic partisaus made a daily habit of dubbing their adversaries pro-official," and employed the term with such an assumption of disdain that it came to be counted altogether opprobrious. The Hochi revives it now, and we shall doubtless hear it very often within the next few months, Hochi's comsel to Marquis Ito is that if he wants to form a political party, he must resign his office. We find no reason advanced for such advice. It is based solely on the shallow and silly idea that party-organizing in too serious a business to be undertaken as an accompani-ment to official duties. In short, the Hochi seeks to create the impression that Marquia Ito is not really in earnest about this party project, and that people making any sacrifice to assist him will have their labour for their pains.

# GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

The Jeff Shimps reports that on the 18th inst. a loreign firm in Yokohama received a telegram from London saying that the relations between Great Britain and France are in a very the Pomiuri, to urge such a policy upon a weak, it has been wrong not to entrust to these paroinvertebrate Cabinet like that now in power but chief politicians the control and directions of have large Bookee from with France.

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# THE NEW CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL CODES.

Dr. Lönholm has now published a translation of the whole Civil Code of Japan, including the revised portions which re-cently received the consent of both Houses of the Diet. The history of this Code may be briefly summarized. It was originally drafted by M. Boissonade de Fontarabie, the eminent French jurist. He naturally worked mainly on the lines of French law. Having undergone some revision at the bands of a committee appointed by the Government, the Code was duly promulgated in 1890, and would have become effective in 1892, had not the Diet passed a measure postponing the operation until, at latest, June 30th, 1898, for purposes of revision. The Diet added a provision that if any portions of the Code were revised by an earlier date and approved by the Legislature, they might be put into effect at once. A committee of revision was immediately appointed, and by the close of 1895 it found itself in a position to present to the Diet the first three Books of the Code. These received the Diet's approval in March, 1896, and were promulgated immediately afterwards, but not put into effect, the date of their operation being left for subsequent deter-mination by Imperial Ordinance. The remaining two Books related to "Fami-ly" and "Succession" and bore, consequently, an intimate relation to the customs and traditions of the nation. their revision demanded exceptional care. It was completed in time to submit the two Books to the Diet in its recent session, and, having obtained the approval of the Legislature, they will doubtless be promulgated speedily, the whole probably going into effect from either July 1st or July 15th. We have two English versions of the first three Books: one by Mr. J. H. Gubbins, the other by Dr. Lönholm, and the latter expert now adds a translation of Books IV. and V., and prints the whole in one volume. Dr. Lönholm is eminently qualified for the task he has ungoverned by the law of the country where dertaken. In addition to a close acquaintie it is celebrated: that the effect of a tance with the Japanese and English lan- marriage and the matrimonial property are guages, he possesses an intimate knowledge of German law, upon which the revised Code is founded. For though, as we have said, its original basis was French, the revisers, Messrs. Hozumi (C), Tomii, and Ume, have practically recast it from beginning to end, taking the new German Civil Code for model. Very little indeed remains of M. Boissonade's Code, and it is evident that | jurist versed in the German system which constitutes the skeleton of this body of laws must have considerable facility in rendering them into an European language. Dr. Lönholm has had the benefit of the assistance of Professor H. Terry, of the College of Law in the Imperial University, for putting the English translation into correct shape, and we may at once compliment both experts upon the Speaking broadly, the provisions of these results of their labour in this respect, for laws do not apply to foreigners residing nothing could be clearer, more concise, or in Japan. When we say, therefore, that better constructed than the phraseology great interest attaches to them, we address better constructed than the phraseology they have employed.

seems to be a fine piece of legislation, reflecting great credit upon the Japanese revisers. Dr. Lönhohm prefers to call of modern Japanese legislators. The practical value of that restriction depends, then compilers. He says that, "instead laws relating to marriage first invite of course, on the docility of the wife, of simply revising the original draft, they made a wholly new Code, modelled very hibited degrees of relationship are the closely upon the new German Civil Code same as those observed in England, and the "mutual consent" arrangement if they and entirely different from M. Boissonad"; the manner of calculation is also the "mutual consent" arrangement if they had lost their UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

Code." However that may be, they have same, namely, by reckoning from one of done their work well, and will receive considerable applause from European To Dr. Lönholm, also, great jurists. praise is due for giving us such a good English version, and for giving it to us so promptly. The presence in this country of such an intelligent and rapid interpreter of Japanese laws is of great value no less to the Japanese Government than to the

foreign community. One of the most interesting parts of this new Code from the foreigner's point of view is the "Law concerning the Application of Law in general." It is to that section that we must go for information as to the responsibility of the foreign resident vis-à-ves the laws : in other words, for information as to the nationality of the law governing his actions. When we pass under Japanese jurisdiction we shall have a very keen interest in knowing such things as whether our capacity to do a jurislic act is determined by the law of Japan or by the law of our own country; whether our matrimonial affairs are governed by Japanese law or by English; whether questions of divorce are controlled by the laws of this country or by those of our native land, and so on. All these problems are determined in the clearest and most intelligible manner by the "Law of Application"—the work of Mr. Hozumi, we believe—and our readers will be pleased to hear that the general tendency of the enactment is to maintain the applicability of his own national laws to foreigner. For example-it is provided that the capacity of a person is governed by the law of his nationality; that the question as to what law is applicable in regard to the existence or effect of a juristic act is determined by the intention of the parties to it; that the effect, as to a third person, of the transfer of an obligation, is governed by the law of the domi-cile of the debtor; that the requisites of a marriage are governed as to each party by the law of his or her nationality, the forms, however, being governed by the law of the husband's nationality; that divorce is governed by the law of the nationality to which the husband belongs at the time when the facts forming the cause of divorce arise; that the legitimacy of a child is determined by the law of the country to which the husband of the mother belongs at the time when the child is born; that succession is governed by the law of the ancestor, and so on through thirty articles of the most explicit character. This section of the law seems to us to be a model of lucidity and conciseness.

Very great interest attaches, of course, to the fourth and fifth Books of the Code; that is to say, the Books embodying the laws relating to Family and Succession. ourselves to students of Japanese ethics, Concerning the Code as a whole, it for it will be at once apparent that these Books embody the customs and principles

the persons related to the common stock and so down to the other person. Up to the third degree, inclusive, marriages between relatives are forbidden, and this holds with regard to affinity as well as with regard to collateral relatives. Thus a man may not marry his deceased wife's sister, since she is related to him in the second degree of affinity; nor his sister's daughter nor his deceased wife's sister's daughter, for both are in the third degree; but he may marry his first cousin, for she stands in the fourth degree. The minimum legal age for marriage is 17 in the case of a man and 15 in the case of a woman, and marriage takes effect on notification to the registrar, being thus a purely civil contract. As to divorce, it is provided that the husband and wife may effect it by mutual consent, and its legal recognition takes the form of an entry by the registrar, no reference being necessary to the judicial authorities. mutual consent is not obtained, however, an action for divorce must be brought, and here it appears that the rights of the woman do not receive the same recognition as those of the man. Thus, although adultery committed by the wife constitutes a valid ground of divorce, we do not find that adultery on the husband's part furnishes a plea to the wife. Ill-treatment or gross insult, such as renders living together impracticable, or desertion, constitutes a reason for divorce from the wife's point of view, and since no treatment can be worse nor any insult grosser than open inconstancy on the part of a husband, it is conceivable that a judge might consider that such conduct renders living together impracticable. But in the presence of an explicit provision with regard to the wife's adultery and in the absence of any such provision with regard to the hus-band's we doubt whether a court of law would exercise discretion in favour of the woman. The fact is disappointing, but in asking for a fuller recognition of the woman's right, we are aware that we ask for more than the law of England grants. All of us remember Justice Maule's celebrated address to the poor man convicted of bigamy in 1845, but all of us do not remember, perhaps, that the law of England, as amended in 1857 and now in force, provides that adultery on the husband's part does not give the wife a claim to divorce, unless the adultery is coupled with such cruelty as would, without adultery, have entitled her to the desired remedy. One can not help wishing, however, that the peculiar code of morality observed by husbands in this country had received some condemnation at the hands of the framers of the new Code. further laid down that a "person who is judicially divorced or punished because of adultery can not contract a marriage with the other party to the adultery.' that extended to the husband it would be a most excellent provision, well calculated to correct one of the worst social abuses in this country. Unfortunately, as we have seen, it applies apparently to the case of the wife only. Readers of the new law will note, of course, that divorce by the husband against the wish of the which have now received the endorsement wife is not recognised as lawful. The

husband's affection and that he could not live comfortably with them.

Many points in the Family Law strike the foreign student as novel and interesting. Such, for example, are the provisions relating to the entry of a man into the house of his wife: in other words, the marriage of a man to a woman who remains The head of a the head of a house. house is a very important personage in Japan, being charged with the duty of supporting the members, of controlling their affairs, to a large extent, of managing the property of the house, and of bearing its name. The law recognises a ing its name. woman's title to discharge these functions. She may not only be the head of the house as regards the members of the family, but if she takes a husband, he adopts her name and it becomes her right to use his property and appropriate the profits of Speaking generally, a wife's property does not pass into her husband's possession. He is merely its manager, and he can not alienate it without her consent. There are several articles bearing upon this point, and the last in the Section says : -"Such property as a wife, or the husband of the head of m house, had before the marriage, or acquires during the marriage in his or her own name, is his or her separate property." It follows, therefore, that if a wife can make any money in her own name, she is entitled to keep it for herself, and her husband has no legal claim to it.

By the law relating to natural children we find that much latitude is allowed in the interests of the child. Thus a father can acknowledge a natural child, making it what is called a shoshi, and if, subsequently to acknowledgment, the father and mother marry, the shoshi acquires the status of a legitimate child, such status reckoning back, apparently, to the time of birth. But if the acknowledgment is made after the parents have married, the status of legitimacy is acquired from the time of acknowledgment only. The acknowledgment of a child is effected by the the same simple process as marriage, namely, a notification to the registrar.

There are many interesting points in the section relating to Parental Power, the Family Council, the Duty of Supportduty which, we may mention, is held to exist between brothers and sisters—the Forms of a Will and Legal Portions, but be substituted for the old until some we have not space to refer to them in detail. Indeed these two Books, the fourth and the fifth, contain more information about the traditions and customs respected by the Japanese nation than foreign investigators could hope to obtain

by independent research.

Dr. Lönholm has also published a translation of the revised Commercial Code, of which the revisors were Professors Ume and Okano and Mr. Tanabe. It may be interesting to note, with regard to the history of the Commercial Code, that it was originally compiled by Dr. Rösler, an eminent German jurist. Dr. Rösler's specialty is said to have been international law. His employment for the purpose of drafting a commercial code was, perhaps, a deviation from the fitness of things, but a man of his ability might be trusted not to make a signal failure under any circumstances. Nevertheless his Code left a great deal to be desired, especially when judged by the most modern standards. Moreover, he worked instandards. Moreover, he worked in-dependently of Mr. Boissonade, the compiler of the Civil Code, and som conflic

between the two bodies of laws was therefore inevitable. In these facts Japanese legislators found sufficient reason to postpone the operation of certain portions of the Code until revision could be effected. Other portions-the Laws of Bankruptcy, of Partnership and Companies, and of Bills of Exchange, &c—being urgently needed, were put into force in July, 1893, but it was arranged that the whole should be simultaneously subjected to revision. The task has been excellently accomplished, but the revisors approached the work with such radical intelligence that the result is a substantially new Code; a very marked improvement on the original draft, and eminently preferable from the point of view that all its provisions have been brought into strict accord with the Civil Code. The question now arises, however, when will this new Code take effect? It failed to come up for discussion during the recent session of the House of Representatives, owing to the latter's dissolution, and unless the Government resorts to the expedient of enacting it by urgency ordinance, it must await approval by the Diet five months hence, the originally observe that Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, advertising this translation, announce that the new Commercial Code will come into force during the course of the present year. That is a very courageous prediction. We should like to be able to credit it, but we can not. No doubt many advantages would be gained by enacting the new Code at once, but there would always be the risk that the Diet might refuse, in its next session, to give post-facto approval to the enacting Ordinance, which would then tose its force and the nation would have to revert to the 1893 Code. Unfortunately the Diet has shown that it can not always be trusted to adopt the course most conducive to the public interests. The Government will scarcely be bold enough to trust it. have very little doubt that the remaining portions of the Commercial Code will go into operation, as originally enacted, from July 1st, 1898. In that event, it is tolerably certain that the revised Code will not time in the year 1900, since considerations connected with Treaty Revision and with the preliminary notice that must be given to the Powers, render it inadvisable that any radical change should be made in the laws during 1899. Our conclusion is that Dr. Lönholm's translation of the new Commercial Code will not be practically valuable until eighteen months at least have elapsed, and we therefore refrain from commenting on its provisions further than to say that they are eminently lucid and free from superfluities of detail, and that the task of rendering them into English appears to have been accomplished with thorough understanding and skill.

It was rumoured in Peking last week that Prince Ching, the President of the Tsungli Yamên, was dead. He was Vice-President of the Ministry of War. Originally a Prince of the 3rd order, Beileh, he was raised to the 2nd order in 1893. He has held many offices in Peking, and has never been out of the capital, except perhaps to the Elio Park. The Prince has constantly been connected with the Tsungli becomewhat narrow views. Yamen, and was reported to be a fair-minded

# POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS.

It is very interesting and instructive to note the various expressions of public opinion elicited by the political developments now taking place in Japan. At such a time the writings of the Fir Shimpo have special value. Nearly all the other leading journals of the capital are virtually party organs. Anything like impartial discussion is not to be expected from them. But the Jifi does not lean in either direction, and, at the same time, the knowledge, experience, and keen insight of its editor lend weight to all his dicta. So far as outsiders can perceive, the outlook is very gloomy at present for the Meiji statesmen. The two great political parties seem to be on the eve of forming a union to oppose them, and unless in the two or three months remaining at the Cabinet's disposal before the general election some very resolute and successful steps be taken, the Ministry will find itself confronted by an overwhelming Opposition in the next session of the Diet. As yet, however, no such steps appear to have been taken, and people begin to ask whether the Governcompiled Code—or rather the portions of ment intends to sit with folded it that were not enforced in 1890—being arms awaiting defeat, or whether it put into operation in the interval. We has some hidden plan. The Fiji believes that Marquis Ito has a plan : he proposes to play off his opponents against one another. Examples of the efficacy of that device are not wanting in Japanese history. The Fujiwara had recourse to it in order to secure their tenure of power in medizeval times. They used the Taira family to restrain the Minamoto when the latter because inconveniently strong, and they used the Minamoto to crush the Taira when the Taira's power grew embarrassing. If on the eve of their fall, the chiefs of the Fujiwara had been warned by a candid friend that their seat upon the arm of the balance could no longer be maintained, and that they must either descend into the arena and fight for their supremacy, or assign themselves to political extinction, they would probably have We have left the counsel unheeded. Tokugawa Regents constitute another example. Their estates aggregated only eight millions of koku, less than one-third of the total produce. They could not possibly have stood unaided against the whole country. But by a wonderfully adroit system of organization, they pitted the great feudal nobles against the great, the small, against the small, thus effectually nullifying the capacity of feudatories for independent resistance or effort, and strikingly illustrating the old maxim divide et impera. nearly three centuries that programme achieved its purpose, but the day of doom came for the Tokugawa as it had come for the Fujiwara, and both alike failed to detect its approach. The Meiji statesmen seem to have hitherto pursued cognate tactics. They did not want to be supported by a party wielding a large majority in the Lower House. Such a party would have been troublesomely self-assertive: it would have assessed its support at a price that the Government could not have afforded to pay for it. Two parties, neither of them possessing a plurality in the House, and each so nearly equal in strength to the other that the balance of power would rest with a third coterie easily amenable to official guidance -that was the ideal state of affairs from the Ment Statesmen's point of view. And UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

they hope to see repeated. All, even the stitutional Party." It was necessary, as Liberals and the Progressists in combination, will not command more than 130 or 140 votes in the Lower House. The Government may hope to raise a party of nearly equal strength, and then, by means of the so-called Independents and Business Men, a pro-official majority will be secured. The advantage of such an arrangement is that the Government's supporters, not being strong enough to stand concerned, both sides followed exactly easily induced to stand by it. But the truth dawns upon them sooner or later : the truth that they are merely pulling the chesnuts out of the fire for other folks dissent in the case of the Progressists, and gaining nothing substantial for thema similar difficulty in appreciating the facts of the situation. If they could persuade themselves to resign their titles and offices, and descend among the people as propagators of their own views on the platform and in the Diet, they could still win the victory without difficulty. But if they think that they can remain in power and continue to play the game of balance, they are egregiously mistaken. The Jiji addresses itself espepecially to Marquis Ito, for whose talents t has a sincere admiration. It reminds him that he sprang from nothing, and that the sacrifice he must now make if he hopes to secure another lease of power is not rendered painful by his antecedents. We may suppose the Jiji Shimpo to be a good judge of the times. But Marquis Ito must be assumed to be at least equally clearsighted. It seems to us that we are now confronted by the most interesting crisis in Japan's modern history.

The second question—some may, perhaps, regard it as the first—is, what pro-gramme do the Liberals and Progressists tion and dispersed. Count Itagaki, howin combination intend to pursue. Their proximate purpose is to overthrow the occasion, and thought it necessary to Government. That is plain enough. But take his fellow members into his conwhen the Government is overthrown, they want to take its place, and then they must been suffering from a severe cold and have a constructive policy. Now it is a strange but undeniable fact that no hint meeting had he not appreciated the great has yet been given about that policy. The union, were emphatically in favour of a positive policy in State affairs. They were uncompromisingly determined to persevere with the post-bellum measures, and they were willing that new sources of revenue should be sought for that purpose. The Progressists, on the contrary, at any rate a considerable section of them, advocated a smaller scheme of military expansion and opposed additional taxation. Their policy was negative. What, then, is to be the policy of the amalgamated parties? It is significant that no hint has been given on this subject. Each of the new allies seems to shrink from seeking or offering an explanation which might at once over-strain the bond of union. This phase of the situation is set forth by the Kokumin Shimbun in a clever article.

that is probably the state of affairs that and have amalgamated to form the "Cona preliminary to union, that each party should formally dissolve its organization, for the law does not permit the cooperation of two parties so long as they are independently registered. The Progressists conducted the ceremony of nominal dissolution in a quiet manner without any display of sentiment. So far, indeed, as the actual steps of procedure were alone, could not accomplish anything if the same routine. A resolution in favour they broke away from it, and are therefore of dissolution, having been drafted by the managers and adopted by the executive committee, was presented at the general meeting and passed, absolutely without and virtually without dissent in the case selves. The Fai is confident that the of the Liberals. Only one Liberal, Mr. discovery has already been made. It be- Komatsu Sansei, had the courage to raise lieves that, so far as Marquis Ito and his his voice against the proposal. He argued colleagues are concerned, their position is that the Liberals, during many years of precisely analagous with that of the Fuji-independent existence, had evolved a wara and the Tokugawa on the eve of platform of their own which they could those great clans' fall, and that the not conscientiously discard merely for the Marquis and his colleagues experience sake of forming an union with another party. He thought that the wisest plan would be for the two parties to arrange a programme of cooperation if they had a common purpose to achieve. The experience gained during cooperation would show whether amalgamation was possible or desirable. But these views obtained no other supporter, and when the resolution was put to the meeting Mr. Komatsu found himself in a minority of one. The terms of the resolution were identical for each party :-

Our Party, entertaining some profound convictions with regard to domestic and foreign affairs, and being deshous of achieving the reality of constitutional Government, hereby determines to dissolve its organization, in order to unite with other parties actuated by the same purpose, thus forming one great party which will devote itself to the attainment of that aim.

When we say that there was some display of sentiment on the Liberal side, we allude to a speech delivered by Count Itagaki. There were apparently no speeches at all at the meeting of the Proever, evidently felt the gravity of the occasion, and thought it necessary to fidence. After explaining that he had would not have thought of attending the gravity of their circumstances and the Liberals, before they declared in favour of necessity of declaring his views, he went on to say : -

The first intelligence I received with reference to his plan of toron was communicated to me by Mr. Hayashi Yuzo. He explained that there appeared to be a wide-spread feeling in favour of amalgamation, and that it was desired that the leaders of the two parties should take the matter into matter consideration. I replied that if a general concensus existed, there was no occasion on non-acted reflection; it would be better to no for protracted reflection; it would be better to pro-ceed to union at once. There could be no doubt, ced to union at once. There could be no doubt, in my opinion, that the continued releating of power by the class statesmen had been due to the failure of the two parties to work together, and to the mitual dissensions which had paralysed their potentiality. On the other hand, the arrangements for union might prove very trouble-some, and I was desirons that they should be some, and I was desions that they situate the act once undertaken by Mr. Hayashi and his fellaw-thinkers. The Progressists, I was informed, were very keen about the matter, and were ready to make almost any concessions to bring about amalgamation. But I could not conceal from myself that while the mere act of union was action while the mere act of union was

finance. These were the two vital questions of the finance. These were the two vital questions of the time, and unless some previous agreement was arrived at with reference to them they were not sublikely to prove sources of hiction after union had been effected. The re-assessment of the taxable value of land was also a problem that had profound interest for the Liberals, and it ought to be maturely considered by way of preliminary to any final step in the direction of amalgamation. The upshot of it all was that a resolution was come to be favour of union on a hill and tion. The upshot of it all was that a resolution was come to in favour of union on a brief and simple basic. Doubtless the spirit of the time is in favour of that consummation. Each party has tried the experiment of couperation with the clan statesmen, and each has found it a failure. The remon is that the Government attaches no real importance to political parties, but merely consults its own convenience in taking them up and casting them off. Consider the session that has just closed. The Cabinet introduced a Bill for increasing taxes and did not side the session that has first closed. The Cabinet introduced a Bill for increasing taxes and did not accompany it by any statement of expenditures. When the House refused to pass it, the utterly lawless device of dissolution was resorted to, and a programms of repeated dissolutions was aua programms of repeated dissolutions was aunounced—the very acme of unconstitutional procedure. It is out of the question that political
parties should consent to be the playthings of
such a Government. Men do not "bend the lost
rate for the sake of straightening the inch scale."
The two parties are now about to amalgamate for
the purpose of developing strength to overthrow
the system of clan administration. Once amalgamation has become an accomplished fact, the
onion must be carried out with all sincerity to the
bitter end. To-day the Party which for more
than twenty years I have devoted myself to organizing is to be dissolved. But the spirit that
animates it will not disappear. It is to achieve
the objects of our policy that we form this union. animates it will not disappear. It is to achieve the objects of our policy that we form this union. When I was menaced with death in Gift, I said that though Itagaki Taisuke might die, liberty could not die. Is it likely, then, that the spirit of liberty will be annihilated by this union that we contemplate? We are not sacrificing our own views to adopt those of others. We are joining others in order to carry out our own policy of liberty. He that would gain much must be prepared to concede a little. I carnestly hope that you will adopt with complete unanimity the resolution for amalgamation.

After the adoption of the resolution, an enthusiastic vote of thanks to Count Itagaki was passed, and cheers were given for him. In response to the wish of the Party expressed through one of the leading members, the Count declared his intention of continuing to work in its interests with unabated zeal. The public can not doubt that for the sake of the cause he advocates, he is prepared to give up the position of leadership hitherto occupied by him, but we can not say that his tactics on this memorable occasion strike us as being very astute. He has managed to convey the impression that it is the Liberal Party which disappears, not the Progressist, and that all the sacrifice is on the side of the former.

The organization of the so-called "Constitutional Party " is now an accomplished fact. The grand meeting at which the union of the Liberals and Progressists was cemented took place in the Shintomi Theatre on the afternoon of the 22nd instant. There was a fine display of bunting; the stage and its immediate environment were gaily draped in red and white; the chairman's seat rose imposing in the background; a business-like rostrum occupied the middle-distance; some two thousand eager spectators stood or sat, packed tightly in the foreground; the strains of the city band floated overhead, and on colossal hoardings the manifesto of the new Party was raised like an idol for the worship of the multitudes. At 2 p.m. Baron Kusumoto, formerly President of the House of Representatives, appeared upon the stage, and, having sought per-The Progressists and Liberals have missing the great deficulty in solving a common with reference to foreign policy and President, who was voted to the post by

acclamation. Mr. Kataoka spoke briefly, He had not very much to say. The gist of it was that the two Parties had made a noble effort when they decided to bury all their old animosities, dissolve their previous organizations, and link hands under a common bauner for a victorions campaign against a system which was sapping the country's energies and enabling the clan statesmen to plant their feet upon the necks of their disunited opponents. Of course he alluded to the crises that were impending abroad and at home, and of course his words were cheered to the echo. Then followed Mr. Hiraoka Kotaro, on behalf of the He, too, was organizing committee. proud to think that the two parties were no longer to follow the example of the fighting fishes which fell an easy prey to the net of their enemy; and he, too, felt. persuaded that at a time when such problems at the operation of Treaty Revision and the question of the Far East were pressing for solution, nothing could be more unfortunate than that the capacities of the nation should be paralysed by an interminable struggle between the clan statesmen and the people's representatives. But there was another subject that occupied a large place in the vista of this speaker's reflections-the danger that internal dissensions might wreck the fair union formed under such happy auspices. He prayed that all petty grounds of quarrel might be sacrificed on the altar of the common cause, and that they might march to victory without a check.

The last speaker was Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo. His remarks deserve more protracted notice than those of the above politicians. He said that when, as a member of the organizing committee, he approached the task of negotiating the union, it was with many apprehensions as to the difficulties lying in the way. But in fact there had been no difficulties at all. It had been as easy as setting fire to dry reeds. (A Voice—"The clan statesmen burn up with the conflagration"). But even when the representa-tives of the parties in Tokyo had been brought into line, there remained the constituencies to consult, some of them six or seven hundred miles away. The slightest opposition on their side might have produced troublesome and lengthy complications. There had been no opposition. A single telegrain had settled the whole question. Could there be any doubt that the spirit of the time was with them? They had heard two or three congratulatory telegrams read aloud by a Secretary. If all that had been received were read to them, the task would occupy them until the following morning. responsibility of having allowed a useless, talentless (mus muno) body of clan statesmen to remain in power so long rested with the political parties. But the time to make amends had come. The Government's only way of escaping its fate had been by dissolution after dissolution. Such a hand-to-mouth Government was not fit to be entrusted with the management of State affairs. But now that the Constitutional Party was formed to take its place, the nation would at length find itself under Ministers having a fixed and intelligent policy. They might ask how the Party's mainfesto, would the clan Government be driven out having now been authoritatively endorsed, and the people's nominees substituted for There were two ways. One was that above, we reproduce it here in its proper Government property on the ways. this Government paraged on the rest of

dissolution, would be so alarmed at the organization of the Constitutional Party that it would lay down its arms and take to flight, when nothing would be necessary except to step into its vacant place. Marquis Ito had talked of forming an Imperialist Party (Tessei-to) and Mr. Kaneko was understood to have coquetted industriously with the "Business Men," but sad silence had suddenly overtaken these busy voices, and it was easy to infer that the clansmen were getting ready to fly. Probably the politicians he was addressing would find themselves introducing the Budget in the next session of the Diet and seeking the House's consent. But if the Clan Government remained with eyes closed to its impending fate; if, deluded by flatterers, it clung to power in the face of the general elections-a proceeding almost too absurd to be contemplated,then the Constitutionalists must attack it. They would not be impelled by individual ambition. They had only one thoughtto devote themselves heart and soul, in their country's cause, to the overthrow of clan Government and its replacement by responsible Cabinets. If attack were necessary, they would attack. Nothing could be simpler than their plan of campaign. They must reject the budget in toto-reject it again and again; reject it as often as the Government chose to present it. Nothing could be easier; nothing more efficacious. They had only merely to take their places session after session in the House and record their votes. However obstinate the Government might be, it would have to yield at last. But there must be no violence; no assassination. It would be their duty, too, to remember that they were not working in the interests of individuals. To whomsoever's fortune the portfolio of a Minister might fall, the rest must not be jealous. Otherwise their grand object would be imperilled. It should be enough for them to hand down to posterity the undying fame of having been the founders of party cabinets.

This speech was perfectly in accord with the humour of the assembled politicians: they cheered it to the echo. It did not occur to them, apparentlyshould it have occurred to them, indeed, when it did not occur to a man like Mr. Hatoyama?-that to call the makers of modern Japan "useless and talentless" must impart an element of extreme absurdity to the whole of the meeting's proceedings. What would youth and inexperience be, however, were they without conceit and assurance?

Nothing raised such a storm of cheers as the announcement that Counts Okuma and Itagaki had formally applied to be admitted as members of the Party, and had promised to work for it, heart and soul. Count Itagaki has always been publicly enrolled member of the Liberal Party except when he held the portfolio of Home Affairs in the Ito Cabinet. in Count Okuma's case no direct relationship with the Progressists has been openly admitted. The step he has now taken is therefore decidedly interesting.

In previous issue we published a translation of a document believed to be The document and exhibited at the meeting described

(1) The Imperial Court shall be revered and the Constitution maintained. (3) A responsible Cabinet shall be furmed, and the responsibilities of Ministers accurately defined. (3) The foreign policy shall be based on the preservation of peace, the promotion of commerce, and the strict preservation of the balance of power. (4) Domestic administration shall be reformed so as to eradicate the evils of needless multiplicity of correspondence and forms of procedure. (5) Proper equilibrium shall be established between the income and expenditure of the State so as the place the finances on a sound footing. (6) Means of communication shall be developed. (7) Education shall be encouraged in order to promote scientific attainments. (8) Armsments shall be in proportion to the national strength. (9) The abuses connected with the contralization of authority shall be cradicated so to see the development of lucal self-government, (10) Sources of capital shall be opened with a view to (1) The Imperial Court shall be revered and the (to) Sources of capital shall be opened with a view to promoting productive enterprises.

Manifestoes are generally worthless documents: they have to be framed on such broad lines that they practically mean nothing at all. Not a politician in the country would feel the smallest conscientious scruple about affixing his name to the above, and what adds to the comedy is that not one of the ten items has really anything to do with the formation of the new union. The whole manifesto might be reduced to two words :- " Party Cabinets."

According to the Tokyo Shimbun a meeting of the Organising Committee of the Constitutional Party was held on the 20th instant II the Manufacturers' Club Hall in Tokyo, when the following regulations were adopted :—

Att. I.-The Head Office for te Party shall be

Att. I.—The Head Office for te Party shall be established in Tokyo, and its branches in various cities and prefectures. Two branches may be established in one district provided sanction be obtained from the Head Office.

Att. II.—The fullowing officials shall be appointed in the Head Office, the term of their service being one year, and their re-election admissible:—Persiding Committee of 4, 30 Councillors, 5 Directors, and a number of commissioners.

Art. III.—The Presiding Committee shall be chosen at a general meeting of the Party, and be vested with the power of superintending all its

Art. IV .- The Presiding Committee is empowered to oftend a meeting of Councillors, but thall not take an active part in the decision.

shall not take an active part in the decision.

Art. V.—The Conocillors shall be elected at a general meeting, their function being to deliberate upon and decide all the important affairs of the Party.

Art. VI.—The Directors (Kapff) shall be chosen by the Presiding Committee, and shall be entrasted with the conduct of general affairs.

Art. VII—The Commissioners shall be appointed by the Directors to transact miscellaneous affairs under the direction of the latter.

Art. VIII.—The general meeting of the Party shall consist of the actual members of the Directors to transact miscellaneous affairs under the direction of the latter.

the former representatives, and delegates from the various prefectures. The number of delegates to be returned from each city or prefecture is fixed

Art. IX —A general meeting shall be held in Tokyo prior to the session of the Diet, in order that the fundamental principles to be adhered to by the Party may be determined its financial position resulted. tion reported.

Art. X.—A special general meeting shall be convoked, whenever the Presiding Committee deems it necessary in view of argent matters for immediate consideration.

Att. XI.-A meeting of the Council shall be convened by the Presiding Committee. It may, however, he held at any time by application from more than five Councillors.

Art. XII.—Any person destrous to be enlisted as a member of the Party must secure the recommendation of more than two members, and obtain approval by application at the office of the district to which he belongs.

Art. XIII.—The value of the branches must obtain the approval of the Head Office.

Art. XIV.—Withdrawal from the membership must be affected by measuring a report to the

Can be effected by presenting a report to the branch to which the member belongs.

Art. XV.—Any member whose line of conduct is deemed improper shall be liable to have his name struck out of the list.

Art. XVI.—The ordinary expenditures of the

Party shall be horne by its members and the re-presentatives from the various prefectures. They make high he supplied by special contributions or ERSTIFIER PUISSAT

Art. XVII.—Each member is required to pay at cost one yen a year at the Head Office.

Art. XVIII.—No provision in the statutes of

the Party shall be attend except by the decision of the general meeting.

# THE GOVERNMENT PARTY.

It is evident that the enthusiasm displayed a few days ago by the projectors of a Pro-Government Party has cooled down considerably. All the vernacular journals are agreed as to the fact, but all differ as to the cause. Some say that a split has taken place in the ranks of the "business men," who, at the outset, were conspicuously anxious to see the party organized, and that Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi and Masuda Ko, two of the most influential merchants in Tokyo, are disposed to cry a halt. Others allege that Marquis Ito has not found the Satsuma element among the *Meiji* statesmen as willing to endorse the project as was expected, and that without their hearty cooperation he is unwilling to proceed lest while gaining new allies he should sacrifice old friends. Others, again, suggest that the politicians offering themselves as the nucleus of the intended Party do not improve upon close examination, and are not exactly suited to form the first stratum of a Government Party. Still others affirm that while the rank and file of the National Unionists are willing enough to take the field in the interests of the Cabinet, their leader, Viscount Shinagawa, and his great ally, Count Kabayama, show no sign of lending their aid. Finally, there is an explanation which seems to us the most credible of all, namely, that men of age and experience see no occasion for hurry, and deem it wiser to wait a little until the result of the Liberal-Progressist union can be more clearly estitimated. Unquestionably many Japanese of light and leading are persuaded that the day for party cabinets is still far dis-tant. They do not deny that government by party is the inevitable outcome of the constitutional system, but they think that not a dozen among the members of the present House of Representatives have any comprehensive knowledge of the working of a Constitution, and that until at least one half of them are men born during the Meiji era, there is no possibility of safely introducing the party-cabinet system. At all events, whatever may be the cause, the scheme of a Government party is temporarily in abeyance.

The Porosa states that a member of its staff waited upon Mr. Sone, Minister of Justice, on the 16th instant, and interviewed him as fol-

Q .- Is it true that the Government proposes or

circumstances do not permit adherence to the policy of isolation. So soon as the new party is inaugurated I intend to have my name and those of Marquis Ito and Count Issurye placed on the

list.
Q.—The Government officials, if I temember aright, have hitherto been prohibited from holding any connection with political parties. How about

A.—No special regulations exist in respect to these matters. We have certain rules to be ob-served among ourselves, but those rules may be

changed according to our own convenience.

Q.—Does the Government, in organising a political party, recognise the necessity of a party Cabinet?

A .- Of course. But it depends entirely upon the progress the country may attain in future. I am not in a position to give any definite answer on this point. Although we may our anger on this point. Although we may our anger of the School, and his leading position in the party and enlist our depictation of the party and enlist ou

the Ministers may decline to follow us, and in that case the so called coalition. Cabinet may be called into existence.

Q .- Does it then follow that the Government is

disposed to relinquish the principles of the former "Imperialist Ministry?"

A.—The public seems to imagine that the socalled Imperialist Ministry is a ministry involving the worst elements of despotism. That is, however, entirely mistaken. A Cabinet on the basis of political parties is also an Imperialist Cabinet. To form a ministry apart from the Imperial Court is a matter of impossibility. There can be no difference whatever as to the two forms of Ministry. We are, in fact, extreme Progressists in matters of principle, as might be proved by reference to the annals of the country since the Restoration. No nation on earth has ever displayed such a progressive spirit as now characterizes the Japanese Ministry. Conservatives and bigots are only to be Ministry. Conservatives and bigots are only to be found in the new popular parties. We alone, both in principle and in practice, are on the path of steady progress. What attitude is to be taken by the Liberals and the Satsuma coterie when the Government presents in the winter session of the Diet bills relating to the general budgets and in-creased taxation? They will be unable to say a word on the subject. The same will be the case word on the subject. The same will be the case with some of the Progressists, such as Messes. Nakano and Shimada, who lately expressed upinions in favour of the maintenance of a continuing committee to investigate increased taxation. The combination of these parties seems to have arisen, not from uniformity in their political principles, but because each is unable to bear alone the coormons expenses connected with the forthcoming general election. It will be fortunate if their inongruity does not tend to create a division among

them and bring about an entire dissolution of their party in the next session of the Diet. Q.—Of the Codes necessary to the operation of the revised treaties, the Commercial Code was not

the revised freaties, the Commercial Code was not passed through the Lower House on account of the dissolution of the Diet. How does the Government propose to deal with it?

A.—The Government is indeed perplexed in this respect, but elaborate investigations show that no serious difficulty is likely to follow. The new Civil Law can be enforced in conjunction with the old Commercial Code. No necessity therefore exists for the issue of an Urgency Ordinance in senect to the orablem. espect to the problem.
Q.—Rumour has it that the Government, in

creating an increased taxation party, has arranged to secure the support of the business men, through whose pecuniary influence a victory may gained at the general election. Does not the variment active general receiving. Does not me ga-variment recognise the necessity, under these circumstances, for the issue of an Urgency Odi-nance in regard to the prohibition of bribery? A.—No. The Government had already recognised.

nised the importance of such a measure, and had nised the importance of such a measure, and had submitted m bill to the Diet for the revision of the Election Law. Unfortunately, however, the bill having failed to be passed, no alternative exists but to have recourse to the Ordinance previously issued, and to secure eigenous police control.

Q -When will the general election take place?

A.-On the 18th August.

# THE HIGH COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

There has been another of those scholastic disturbances for which Japan is becoming remarkable. The scene of this latest experience is the High Commercial School. Its Director, Mr. Koyama, was recently appointed Vice-Minister of Edu-Q.—Is it true that the Coverance of the Cation, and Frotesson is and A.—Yes, that is quite natural. The changes of the Imperial University, became Director constances do not penuit adherence to the pro tem. being ultimately replaced by Mr. Cationing on instructor in the University. Shimizu, an instructor in the University. It does not appear that there is any special objection to Mr. Shimizu, but the students of the Commercial School did not consider him fully qualified to hold such an important post, and they accordingly expressed their dissatisfaction in plain terms. There was no refusal to attend classes, or any extreme step of that kind, yet the situation gradually became intolerable, and had not Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi intervened, the trouble might have assumed large dimensions.

influence. In deference to his advice the students abandoned their attitude of protest, and things are now progressing quietly. It is not a particularly exciting story, and we should scarcely have wearied our readers by relating it did it not derive some interest from a collateral incident, namely, the publication of a leading article on the subject by the Mainichi Shimbun. The article is so long that were we to translate it verbatim, fully three of our columns would have to be devoted to its reproduction. Yet from first to last there is not the faintest suggestion that the students are reprehensible for having ventured to make such a protest. Japan is a wonderful country in some respects. The Minister of State for Education, acting on the recommendation of the Vice-Minister, appoints to the directorate of a school a man whose name has long been on the tapis in connexion with the post; the students forthwith undertake to denounce the appointment, though they have had no opportunity of judging-even supposing them competent to judge-the new director's qualifications, and a leading newspaper, discussing the matter editorially at great length, confines its remarks solely to the director's antecedentswhich, though not striking, are irreproachable-to the supposed narrowness of the Minister's views, and to the history of the School, but does not find space for a word in condemnation of the students' presumption and want of discipline.

# A REMARKABLE PICTURE.

The Imperial Household Department has just issued a remarkable picture

probably the most remarkable in the world. It is nothing less than a collection of portraits of all the sovereigns that have ruled Japan. Even the semi-mythical beings that reigned in the ages before Jimmu are represented, the distinction of a nimbus being added in their case. What artist conceived their likenesses, we do not know, not does it much matter. Neither they nor any of the Tenno prior to the sixth century can be regarded as historical personages, however profound may be the faith of the Japanese people on the subject. But even though we confine ourselves to the comparatively moderate estimate covering thirteen centuries, it is plain that we have to rely on tradition and imagination for portraits of the sovereigns up to the tenth or the elsventh century, inasmuch as, so far as we know, Japan did not possess, at an earlier date, any artists capable of transferring the Imperial lineaments to paper. It is true that the fifth in descent from the Chinese immigrant painter Nantiu is supposed to have received the title of Yamato Yeshi from Emperor Shotoku in the eighth century, and that the Korean Kawanari, who enjoyed the patronage of the Emperor Saga (810 A.D.), in said to have painted from memory so accurate a likeness of a fugitive servant that it served as a means of identifying the man. These artists, as well as Kose no Kanaoka (ninth century) and his immediate followers, the representatives of the Kose School, may have painted portraits of the Emperors. But it has never been alleged that they did so. The only claim advanced, we understand, is that pictures of the Emperors, drawn by Tosa

painter Fujiwara no Tsunetaka in the thirteenth century, and even if we suppose that his predecessors of the Yamato School, from Kasuga Motomitsu down-wards, were employed to transmit likenesses of the Emperors, we do not get back any farther than the beginning of the eleventh century. That method of calculation cuts off seventy-one dynasties, from Jimmu to Go-lchijo, and makes the list of credible portraits commence with Go-Shujaku. Hence, out of the 97 Emperors whose likenesses are roughly said to have been limited by Tosa artists, only 26 appear to admit of that description. As for the succeeding 23 Sovereigns down to the immediate predecessor of the present Emperor-whose dynasty is the 121st-statues of them all, carved in wood, are preserved in the temple Senyuji, which has been the burial place of the Emperors from 1244 A.D. to the present day. We are here repeating information obtained from the Imperial Household Department. It was not previously within our knowledge that statues of the Sovereign buried at Senyu-ji are preserved there. Indeed, according to popular notions, the only important heirloom of the Fushimi temple is a tooth of Buddha, large enough to have been taken from the jaw of a fifteen-hands horse. Students of Japanese art will, therefore, be much interested to learn of these statues, and since photographic likenesses of them are reproduced in the picture spoken of above, it deserves to be called remarkable even without taking account of the 26 Tosa likenesses which are also included in the long array of faces. By whatever process the portraits of the Sovereigns prior to the eleventh century were obtained, they must be regarded as more or less apocryphal, and we can only say of them that the artists have succeeded in achieving the somewhat difficult feat of giving to the whole 7t Emperors distinctly different features and different expressions. The picture was composed with the object of assisting the funds of the Red Cross Hospital. It is, therefore, for sale at the very moderate cost of 40 sen per copy. Only twenty thousand copies have been struck, and probably not many now remain unsold.

# EDUCATION IN FAPAN.

After the war with China, when it was known that the Middle Kingdom had been condemned to pay a sum of 300 million yen, the public applied itself with considerable diligence and ingenuity to devise means of spending the money. Innumerable were the suggestions advanced. Every section of the people seemed to think that its own particular "fad" ought to reap the benefit of the golden shower, and petitions by the dozen found their way to the Government. One of the most respectable of these various proposals emanated from men interested in education. They wanted to have some millions of yen set aside as a fund for endowing the University, or aiding the primary schools. Not much fruit was borne by their agitation. A grant of 150,000 yen annually for technical education-now to be increased to 250,000-and an appropriation of six hundred thousand yen approximately for founding a university in Kyoto, establishing an Imperial library,

the only concessions made to the cause of education. Nothing more was heard of the question for a time, but it has now been revived by Marquis Kuroda and other zealous educationists. They intro-duced in the last session of the Diet a Representation which did not reach the order of the day, and they have now pubblished it journalistically. It suffers from the defect common to so many Japanese documents, vagueness. The compilers lay great and just stress upon the paramount importance of education, and severely criticise the Government for attaching greater weight to military and naval expansion, but they do not say what they want to have done. Presumably | big grant in aid of education is their object. but, if so, they have not chosen their time very happily. Meanwhile the Imperial Educational Society seems to be in difficulties. The best men decline to become its President, and there is talk of the Society's going to pieces altogether unless extensive reforms are introduced.

# PERPLEXITIES.

The new pro-Government party are said to be inconvenienced by the difficulty of not knowing whether to regard the organization as permament or temporary; they are not sure whether Marquis Ito and the other Meifi statesmen now allied with them intend to share their fortunes for good and for evil, or merely to use them as means to bridge over the present difficulty Then again there is the question of the party's basis. Is it to be regarded as an expansion of the National Unionists, or are the seceding Liberals to form its nucleus? If the National Uniomsts are to be its foundation, there will be jealousies and objections in other quarters; and if the seceding Liberals, the credit of the Party will not stand very high from the outset. As for the anti-Government politicians, the great dif-liculty of fusing elements hitherto so an-tagonistic as the Liberals and Progressists is not their only embarrassment. They have also to determine their attitude towards the taxation problem. Are they to stand forth as the declared antagonists of increased taxation, knowing well that it is inevitable? Are they to boldly admit the need of augmenting the revenue, though the admission would cut away the ground of their opposition to the Ito Cabinet? We take this analysis of the parties' perplexities from the Kokumin Shimbun. If it be trustworthy, it does not suggest a very vertebrate condition on either side

# THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

It appears to be definitely decided that the remaining portions of the unrevised Commercial Code shall go into effect from the 1st proximo, as duly fixed by Ordin-ance, and that the whole body of laws shall be replaced by the revised Code as soon as the latter receives the consent of the Diet. There will, of course, be some Japan could succeed in following Gerinconvenience in this arrangement, but we understand that the experts by whom the Code was received are now engaged compiling regulations to facilitate the sup-planting of one Code by the other. We are unable to offer any precise informa- to such a shape that legislation, adminiconstructing and improving surgeries, tion as to the nature of such regulations, stration, and finance shall be possible, and chemical laboratories, engineering halls, but presumably it is within the competence if that can be effected without party Cabination and so on the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of the competence of the second stration of t

# DISABILITIES OF FOREIGNERS.

Mr. W. Silver Hall asks some questions on the subject of foreigners' disabilities. His first query is whether a foreign physician or surgeon will be able-we speak in the future, for we presume that our correspondent refers to the days of mixed residence—to practise and claim his fees without bolding a lapanese diploma or some special license or appointment. We can not give a definite answer. It may be presumed that as in European countries, so in Japan, some system of recognising foreign medical diplomas will be adopted. We are decidedly of opinion that physicians and surgeons who have been practising in Japan for years during the era of Consular jurisdicand foreign settlements should be suffered to continue their business without query after the Revised Treaties go into operation, but the rule to be applied in the case of new comers remains to be decided. As to the acquisition of shares in a railway or a factory, the second article of the Civil Code seems to settle the point. It says:—" Foreigners enjoy private rights except as forbidden by law, regulation, or treaty." Thus, wherever no special regulation exists interdicting the ownership of shares by a foreigner or his appointment in the capacity of director of a company, we see nothing to interfere with the enjoyment of those privileges. The matter of farming is somewhat obscure. In the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty it is provided that land may be leased for residential or commercial purposes. Nothing is said about agricultural purposes, and the omission might be inconveniently interpreted. perhaps. But the second article of the Code, quoted above, may possibly cover the case, and so may the Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty where it is provided that the foreigner may carry on his métier. Journalism is a métier, and is therefore legalized. Farming is also a métier. This is a question concerning which an opinion from a competent jurist would be inter-

# THE " NICH! NICH! SHIMBUN."

The Nichi Nichs Shimbun commemorates the issue of its eight-thousandth number by giving to its readers a paper of 60 pages. It is a striking illustration of the progress of Japanese journalism. There are leading articles, editorial notes, miscellaneous-news columns, stories, pictures, ideographic sketches, and a multitude of advertisements. The pièce de resistance is an essay by the editor, Mr. Asahina. He undertakes to prove that it is a popular error to regard party cabinets as a necessary outcome of constitutional institutions. and he attempts to show that they are not only opposed to the spirit of the Japanese Constitution but also inexpedient as administrative mechanism. It is a very clever article and very conclusive, but the trouble is that we don't get a working theory. If many's example, she might postpone party Cabinets for a time at all events. German precedents do not appear to be adapted to this country, however. The first necessity is to reduce the Parliamentary system

# COUNT OKUMA'S OPINION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT PARTY.

In the Hochi Shimbun we find a statement said to emanate from Count Okuma. It sets out with a very high tribute to Marquis Ito's ability and attainments, and with an admission that no time could be better than the present for organizing a pro-Government party. But Count Okuma then goes on to say that already Marquis Ito has made a grave error of procedure. He should have resigned his office and descended to the ranks of the people if he entertained a serious intention of obtaining a political following. That has been the custom hitherto. The Liberals been the custom hitherto. were organized by a man who had resigned his official position; so were the Progressists; so were the National Unionists, and so were the Great Unionists (Daido Danketsu). This method has received the sanction of precedent, and no other method is now likely to succeed. The nation will find something incongruous and unbecoming in the spectacle of the Prime Minister acting the part of a politi-cal organizer. If Marquis Ito could not bring himself to resign, he should have delegated to Count Inouye the task of

Count Okuma alluded also to the rumour that Marquis Yamagata, head of the Board of Command, has identified himself with the new party. Men connected with the Army or the Navy should stand carefully aloof from politics. That is a sound rule in general, and it applies with special force to the case of a Field Marshal occupying the highest military post that a subject can fill.

Foreign critics will be disposed to agree with Count Okuma's remarks about Marquis Yamagata, but they can scarcely endorse his comments on Marquis Ito. The chief plank in the platform of the Progressists, at whose head Count Okuma stands, is party cabinets. They would have the Cabinet Ministers chosen from among the leaders of a political party, and they would have them take their mandate from that party's representatives in the Diet. How is such a system to be reconciled with the contention that the Prime Minister should not attempt to organise a political party, and that his association with a political party while he stands at the head of the Cabinet is an anomaly and an incongruity? If government by party is to become an accomplished fact, the Japanese will have to lay aside all the antiquated ideas attributed to Count Okuma by the Hochi Shimbun.

# THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

yet fixed. Some people talk of August about the organization of a political party Ist, but that is probably too early. It is with Meiji statesmen at its head. Nothing understood to be the intention of the is to be more desired, in the Jiji's opini-Government to assemble the local Governors in Tokyo at some time during July, in earnest, let them disencumber themin order to convey to them the instructions usually issued on such occasions. Vernacular papers say that Marquis Ito will take the opportunity of making a let them at least lay aside their de-hautstatement of the reasons for the dissolution and try to have their tion of the House of Representatives, If that he so, the Government will doubtless deem it wise to leave time for the information then conveyed to the Governors to be circulated throughout the districts under their administration. Digitized by \

# MOODS AND MANNERS.

Charles Dickens has shrewdly remarked that it is the tendency of mean minds to entertain animosity towards everything above them. The Jiji Shimpo says something of the same kind about the members of the House of Representatives, and says it in terms not less incisive than those used by the great novelist. The members of the House are neither refined in their choice of terms nor courteous in their demeanour. They think nothing of calling the Cabinet "a body of despots" and the individual Ministers "fools," nor does it member of the Cabinet to "shut up," or to "come along out here," or to "speak the truth," and so on. But if a member of the Cabinet employs an expression which, however irreproachable in itself, suggests resolute intention or strong purpose, they are up in arms at once. Marquis Ito declared that if the Land Tax did not pass the House, the Government would adopt a special measure." Why should he not say so? He was announcing m resolve perfectly within the Government's competence, and he couched the an-nouncement in simple and correct languforming a party. His first step has been age. But the House fell into a ferment of excitement, and wanted to make out that it had been grossly insulted, or threatened, or intimidated, or otherwise maltreated. The plain fact is that when a Minister of the Crown or any high official makes his appearance in the House, the members regard him as a personage belonging to another sphere, and hasten to insult him because they imagine that the more roughly and rudely they treat him, the more do they diminish the gulf that divides him from themselves. It is miserable snobbism. The Jiji Shimpo does no use that precise term, but it repeatedly calls these truculent members gari gari moja, which, in vulgar parlance, includes all kinds of disagreeable sugges-

The Jiji does not tilt at the members of the House of Representatives alone. It is almost equally severe on Ministers of State, high-class officials, and the nobility in general. It finds them insufferable, They behave as if they were superior mortals; are gracious by obvious condescension; carry their rank about with them perpetually; print their titles on their visiting cards; hang sign-boards at their gates, blazoning forth their official status, and describe themselves magnificently even in their invitations to their Their loftiness constitutes just friends. as effective a barrier between them and the people as does the latter's lowliness, and, unless they correct the fault, it is hopeless to expect anything like cordial The date of the general elections is not the State. There is much talk just now on. But if the Meiji statesmen are really selves of their titles, and step down into the arena with those whose support they seek. Or, if that be too great a sacrifice, en-bas fashious, and try to base their claim to distinction solely on ability and achievement.

# RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

The public is doubtless very reluctant to credit the intelligence from Peking that the Russian Representative has officially protested against the borrowing of British money by China for the construction of the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang railway. Such a protest would amount to an open declaration on Russia's part that she regards the whole of Manchuria as falling within her "sphere of influence," and that she intends to exclude every other Power from acquiring any material interests there. No one doubts, indeed, that such is her view. But whether Great Britain will endorse it is another question. Russia has tried England's patience very severely. M. Muravieff obtained his lease of Talien and succeeded in doing with Port Arthur precisely what he had promised not to do. But unless we are greatly mistaken he paid a very high price for the achievement. If England were polled to-morrow, we are convinced that ninety-nine per cent. of the population would vote unhesitatingly for war with Russia. The conviction gives us not the smallest satisfaction. It has always been our hope that the two Powers might come to an amicable understanding, and an immense number of Englishmen cherished the same hope until quite recently. They cherish it no longer. Russia has shown that an understanding with her is practically impossible, and she has shown it by an object lesson which leaves an exceedingly bitter feeling among British subjects, the world over. If, while England's nerves are tingling from her recent experience, she is to be asked to swallow another pill of the kind now spoken of in Peking, her patience will not endure the strain. Newchwang is an open port. Its opening was one of the concessions obtained by England in the Treaty of Tientsin. Its foreign trade—a flourishing and growing trade—is almost entirely in British hands. Russia has no share whatever in it. Is Russia to veto the employment of British capital for establishing overland communications with such a place? Surely not. Of course it is easy to appreciate and even to sympathise with her feelings in the matter. A Chinese railway from Shanhaikwan to Newchwang would place China on the flank of the Liaotung extension of Russia's trans-Asian road, and might also very seriously affect the prospects of Talien as a commercial port. If Russia had been left a free hand in Manchuria for ten or fifteen years longer, she would have effectually obviated any such contingency. No wonder that she struggles to prevent it now. But England can not submit to be dictated to any longer.

# LATEST MANILA DESPATCHES.

According to a Hongkong telegram of the gest inst, the insurgents have inflicted another defeat on the Government troops. They are moving on Manila from the South and are quite close to the town. They number 2,000 to 5,000 persons. They are in possession of the road by which the chief food supply has reached Manila. Another body of insurgents is attacking the town on the Northern side. The U.S. force is taking no part. Another despatch to a Japanese paper says the insurgents have a great victory, and are now attacking Manila

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# COLONEL RICK.

The recall of Colonel E. Rice, until recently Military Attaché of the United States Legation in Tokyo, was understood to be in connexion with the Hispano-American war, but we were not aware of the high position awaiting him beyond the water, and the news will be received with sincere pleasure by his many friends. He has been nominated an Assistant Inspector-General in the United States Army.
Colonel Rice has a long record of active and distinguished service, beginning in 1861. It fills a whole column of the Boston Transcript, and since it does not admit of abbreviation, we can not reproduce it here. But one paragraph should not be omitted:—" He was in the battle of Gettysburg, where he was wounded twice in the repulse of Pickett's charge. He was presented by Congress with a medal of honour for leading the advance of his regiment and the Forty-second New York, in the charge made to close the gap in our line and repel Pickett's assault. The inline and repel Pickett's assault. The in-scription was: 'The Congress to Lieutenant-Colonel Edmund Rice, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, for conspicuous bravery on the third day of the battle of Gettysburg.' In the fierceness of this affair, the Nineteenth Massachusetts (which he commanded) captured four stands of colours, and lost over one-half of its number, killed and wounded." It was believed in America, at the date of our latest advices, that Colonel Rice would be sent immediately to Manila, but our readers know that he has proceeded direct to New York.

# TOKYO.

Now that the Bill for abolishing the special system of Municipal Government for the three cities of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, has passed the Diet and is on the verge of becoming law, the people of Tokyo are beginning to interest themselves about the choice of a Mayor. have already explained the cardinal difference between the ordinary and the special systems; namely, that in the ordinary system the Mayor is elected by the citizens; in the Special, the Governor is Mayor ex officio. The change is to come into effect from October 1st, so that not much time remains for preparations. Attention is called by the vernacular press to four matters which the new Mayor should regard as particularly important. The first is "city improvement," a somewhat vague order, but intelligible enough when we remember that a scheme of city improvement was mapped out some years ago and has been in gradual process of achievement ever since. The second matter is sewerage and drainage. Defective sewerage is largely responsible for the insanitary state of the city, and one need only observe the condition of the streets after a night's rain to understand how bad the drainage is. The third matter is the laying of electric trains and street railways, and the fourth is the construction of Tokyo harbour.

It seems to us rather amusing to find this catalogue of desiderata published in connexion with the appointment of an elected Mayor. All experience in Japan goes to show that the officials of the Central Government are incomparably more zealous in promoting reforms of every paralive lable:—

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kind than are the people themselves or the people's nominees. It is possible, of course, that the first Mayor under the new system may chance to be a man of extraordinary energy and initiative, and that he may succeed in partially removing from Tokyo the reproach of being one of the most backward cities in Japan. But that would be an accident of personality, not a result of the system.

There appears at length to be a prospect of some resolute effort to improve street communications in Tokyo. Improvements Committee of the City Council have decided that railways shall be constructed joining the following points:—Yotsuya and Karasumori (Shiba); Ni-no-hashi (Azahu) and Shibuya (via Koyama-cho in Mita); Itabashi and Koishikawa; Senju and Etchiu-jima, vid Kawa-cho; and Senju and Uyeno. We presume that the money for these works is to be obtained by a City Loan. Some of the proposed lines are extensions or branches of roads already in existence. Certain other improvements were voted by the same Council, but they are of no special interest.

# FIVE MONTHS OF JAPANESE TRADE.

According to the Maintchi the excess of imports for the first half of last month amounted to 9 million yen in value, while the gross total of the excess from January reached 60 millions. The trade returns of the Finance Department for the whole of May and for the past five months give figures as follow :--

-			Mey. Yen.	Past five months,
Exports -	-	-	12,478.452	56,453.382
Imports -	tr.	-	30,211,173	126,515,901
Excess of	imports	-	17,731,721	69,092,519

The amount of exports for May, compared with those for the corresponding period of last year, indicates a decrease of over 2 million yes, or 14 per cent, approximately; and the figures for the ast five months, in comparison with those for last year, show a decrease of 7,500,000 yes, or II per cent. Unless the export of silk, ten, and yarns increase, the trade for this year can hardly come up to the figures recorded last season. A table showing the items of reduction in ex-

ports may be interesting :				
		Increase or decrease		
Faporis.	Past five	in comparison with the corresponding		
v a portar	months,	period of last year.		
	Yen,	Yen.		
Raw Silk	11,091,370	-6.956.062*		
Norhi and waste Silk -	1,084.712	— 331,6go		
Habutaye	4,229,277	46 718		
Kat Silk +	283.160	235.732		
Silk handkerchiefs -	1,187,387	- 251,077		
Cotton yarns	7,567,119	2,886,143		
Cotton staff	905 772	- 5,675		
Carpets	361,011	- 80,777		
Matches	2.747.829	336,548		
Matting	1,568,123	- 658,290		
Porcelam and earther				
Wales	754,495	→ 15,250		
Lauguer wates	295,712			
Straw braids	961 940	- 460,394		
Umbrellas - · ·	424.589	55.118		
Tea	1,298,911	- 933.715		
Rice	1,966,310	-2,788,187		
Dried cuttlefish	362 990	141,356		
Seaweed out & otherwis	se 174.220			
Fish Oil · · ·	147.895	<b>—</b> 50.789		
Mushicoms (Shidake).	213 541	- 54 918		
Camphor	513,316			
Copper, ciude and				
wronght	2,316,413	- 288,108		
Coal		1,982,818		
Vegetable wax	240,743	— g 38g		
The *induates decrease.				

Imports on the other hand, have steadily increased since January and still continue to do so. Details are shown in the following com-

Importa			Past	five months. Yen.	Increase or decrease in comparison with last car. Yen.
A					
Cotton	-			20,163 687	— 862,542
Cotton yar	1+5		-		
Shicings a	nd ci	rint <u>z</u>	e 8	2,198,559	876 535
Cotton sati	or action	Cat	ton		
velvet		-	=	1,082,262	- 55 r63
Wool -	-		-	578,302	352,654
Muslin de l	4ine			1,937,162	179 684
Balian clot	h			196,503	— 483 o86
Flaunel			-	424,234	21 946
Cloth -			~	575,567	- 155,561
Watches	-		-	1,046 020	267,032
Machinery				3.157.588	-3.397,636
Railway e	ngine	5 A	nd	0	0.037. 0
CACS-				1 995.073	778 420
Itoo, bar a	nd es	d		2,656,363	179.863
Rails -				1,369,262	- 164.275
line nails	-		-	340,425	- 102,115
Lion and st	eel		-	2 688,797	1,363,831
Sugar-, wh	ite Sc	hrus	N/11	8,532,666	1.655 896
Rice -	-	-	- ;	32,885,228	25.874,560
Peas and b	eans	*		3,240,719	1,700.627
Keresence	d .			3.298,250	178 623
Oil take			-	2,366,060	
Indigo				927.204	232,712
Spiri s	-			1,029,993	799,150
Cigarettes		4		511,360	142 985

The-Signifies decrease, Rice, after having steadily risen in value, now shows a slight downward tendency, but no definite forecast can be formed of the future definite forecast can be formed of the future price. Even supposing that the rice crop this year is successful, the quantity of rice imported by the end of the year will hardly fall short of 15 million piculs. for which an exodus of gold to the amount of 50 million pen must be expected. The import of cotton has been on the increase for many years, but the amount imported during the period under unice did not exceed 20.000 piculs, showing a decrease did not exceed 20.000 piculs, showing a decrease did not exceed 20,000 piculs, showing a decrease off 40,000 piculs as compared with the conesponding term of last year. The reverse, however, is the case with your and cotton fabrics. The import of these commodities largely increased after the war, but has since steadily decreased until this year, when the total shows a great augmentation. The cause for this is doubtless the near approach of the new tariff. The import of materials, shows a decrease, especially on the side of railway stores, machinery, &c. The dissolution of various companies and the suspension of work necessitated by deficiency in capital accounts for this diminution. Even the Government has been compelled to suspend some of its railway works and other undertakings on account of lack of funds.

# SHASHI.

We find the following in the A.-C. Daily News of June 11th, and reproduce it with all reserve :

The Daily Chinese Progress published yesterday the following dispatch from teliable sources at Wuchang s-H R. Chang, Viceray of Hukuwag provinces, has been informed by the Tsungh Yamen of the demands presented by Mt. Vano, Japanese Minister at Peking, on behalf of his Government in connection with the Shashi Riots. The following is the Summary under five head-

I.—An Imperial edict to be issued promising the kindest treatment and the fullest protection to all foreigners and their property throughout the Empire, and also that there will be no more similar riots in the future. The edict in question to be nomistakably clear and precise as to its meaning.

neading.

2.—That speedy and the severest punishments be administered to those guilty of the riots, while the local authorities are to be punished also for their traditing to prevent the said dicts.

3.—That an indemnity of Haikuan Tls. 105,000 be paid for losses incorred by Japangse at Shashi.

4.—That the regulations for the Japanese Settlement formerly arranged for the new port of Shashi be cancelled and those in Jorge at Hangeloop be

be cancelled and those in lorge at Hangchow be observed in Shashi for the future,

5 - Special Japanese Settlements to be granted in Yochon, Hunan, and Foochow and Santu, in

It is said that the Tsungli Yamen has signified its acceptance of some, but suggests afterations to one or two of the above demands.

Original from

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# THE TWO NEW PARTIES.

JE have now had an opportunity of arriving at a conclusion as to the line of cleavage between the two new political parties which are evidently destined to grow out of the present agitation-the party formed by amalgamating the Liberals and Progressists and headed by Counts OKUMA and ITAGAKI, and the party formed by combining the National Unionists, the Business Men, a section of the Liberals and various minor coteries, under the leadership of the " Meiri Statesmen " with Marquis ITO at their head. The great defect of all political associations hitherto organized in Japan has been that not one of them possessed a platform of principles: all were grouped about persons only, and with the solitary exception of the original Kaishin-to-Count OKUMA'S immediate, followers-all have shown themselves palpably deficient in cohesion. The first question to be answered, therefore, with reference to the new parties is, have they any clearly defined principles capable of holding their units together? Neither side having yet published a manifesto, no detailed forecast of their platforms would be justifiable. But we have before us speeches, delivered by Counts OKUMA and ITAGAKI, on the one side, and by Marquis ITO on the other, from which it is possible to derive a tolerably clear idea. Counts ITAGAKI and OKUMA spoke at a meeting held in the well-known restaurant, Nakamura-ro, on the 16th instant. Their appearance on the same platform is said to have been greeted with rounds of applause, and it is easy to appreciate the sentiment that dictated such a demonstration, for the two leaders, though both working in the interests of constitutional government and partly cabinets, had previously stood severely apart from each other, thus illustrating the fact noted above, namely, that persons not the Business Men, and others, offered a principles are the motives of political combinations in modern Japan. Count OKUMA'S speech was subtly constructed. It required some reading between the lines. His main purpose was to demonstrate that the amalgamation now about to be effected between the Liberals and the Progressists is necessary to preserve continuity in the scheme of national progress; in other words, that the object changes. To establish that proposition be alleged, in effect, that the group of statesmen now surrounding the Throne occupy greater than the Power exercised by the management of Sta

thus far effected have been superficial rather than radical, and that the spirit of feudal times and irresponsible Government still prevails. But he offered no clearly written prescription to heal the disease of superficiality. In fact, it was essentially an impressionist speech. His hearers doubtless carried away the conviction that they had been invited to combine for some great purpose, for lieved that among the sources of properly some implacable assault upon the men in power; yet, had they carefully analysed the bases of their conviction, they would have found nothing more tangible than inferences. Count OKUNA paid a handsome tribute to Count ITAGAKI, declaring that the latter with his Liberal followers had been mainly instrumental in procuring the gift of the Constitution, and it was by construing the significance of the compliment that his audience inferred an exhortation to combine and agitate for further concessions. Count ITAGAKI was less vague. He conjured up the old spectre of clan Government, and characterized as illegal the Cabinet's method of attempting to impose increased taxation. But he made no attempt to show in what the illegality consisted, or to explain how the epithet "clan" could be properly applied by him to a Cabinet which he and his Party, a few weeks ago, were willing to support had two or three portfolios been available to reward them. In short, we lay down the report of these two speeches with a sentiment of disappointment. It is plain that nothing fuses together the elements of the new Party except the heat of a destructive purpose. We can not discover even one solid reform that they hope to accomplish by their union, whereas their opposition to increased taxation blocks the path to several essential reforms.

Marquis ITO's speech, delivered to representatives of the National Unionists, very marked contrast to the above utterances. It was essentially explicit and statesmanlike. He said that the national policy throughout the Meiji era had been uniformly based upon principles of development and progress such as should secure for the country admission to the comity of nations, and obtain for it a worthy status among the Powers of the world. That policy had hitherto been contemplated by the united parties is a undeviatingly pursued, and now one of its great and essential reform following best results was on the eve of consummanaturally in the sequence of all the Meiji tion, namely, international recognition of the empire's sovereign rights, and the removal of the last barriers that separated Japan from the Occident. Emerging from in the Administration a place virtually her condition of partial isolation, and differently. The 10th Article says:identical with that of the chief officials in taking upon herself the duties and rethe Tokugawa Regency; that the Power sponsibilities of a member of the comity exercised by the SOVEREIGN to-day is not of civilized nations, the country could not possibly expect to make no change in its Shogun in feudal times, and that the people scale of expenditures. The people, as they advice to the EMPEROR and be responsible have really no more potent voice in the made their debut upon the stage of the for it." Referring to the former Article,

hesitate to say that the improvements burdens. That was inevitable. To deny it or to oppose it was to mislead the public and to-retard the progress of the country; in other words, obstruct the carrying out of the national policy from which, thus far, there had been no departure. Marquis ITO and his colleagues were determined to uphold the principles by which they had always been guided in the administration of State affairs. They beavailable revenue the Land Tax must be included, and they believed, also, that re-assessment of the taxable value of the land was a necessary reform. They pledged themselves to those two measures as part of the necessary programme, and they invited the cooperation of all patriotic and progressive persons.

> It appears to us quite superfluous to comment on these utterances, or to draw any comparison between the platforms of the two parties. The Liberals and Progressists have chosen their time adroitly, however. Opposition to increased taxation-concerning which, be it observed, Count OKUMA did not breathe a word in his speech-will prove a passport to popular favour, though they must be well aware that their first exercise of the power they struggle to obtain would of necessity be recourse to the very measure they now denounce.

# THE NEW "CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY."

T appears that the new political party I T appears that the best properties formed by amalgamating the Liberals and the Progessists will be called the Constitutional Party (Kensei-to). The name appears to us to be very unintelligently chosen. It is essentially a misnomer. Those that chose it must have intended to indicate that the purpose of the Party is to carry into practice the form of government contemplated by the Constitution. What is that form of government? It certainly is not government by party. The language of the Constitution must be interpreted in the sense of reserving exclusively to the SOVEREIGN the prerogative of appointing and dismissing his Ministers: not the barren prerogative of endorsing the mandate of the House of Representatives, whether it be in conformity, or at variance, with the Imperial will, but the genuine prerogative of selecting the Ministers as well as commissioning them. There is no room to doubt that the Constitution was formed on these lines, nor has any Occidental expert in Constitutional law suggested that it could be read "The EMPEROR \* \* \* appoints and dismisses all civil and military officials," and the 55th Article says :-" The respective Ministers of State shall give their with the stage of the Margins 170 Writes in his Commentary:—
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

"According to this system, the Ministers removes the Cabinet beyond the range of of State errs in the discharge of his reserved to him by the Constitution, and The appointment and dismissal of them privilege of choosing the justiciar, chanhaving been included by the Constitution cellor, and treasurer had adopted the in the Sovereign Power of the EMPEROR, name of "royalists." The Japanese conit is only a legitimate consequence that gratulate themselves on their exceptional the Power of deciding as to the responsibity of Ministers is withheld from the Diet. \* \* \* It is the SOVEREIGN and history justifies the claim, we are bound not the people that can decide as to the to say that it can scarcely be reconciled responsibility of Ministers." It may be with the action of the so-called "Consticontended that these explanations rest only on the ipse dixit of Marquis ITO. Yes, but the Commentary containing them the legal aspect of this question. They was published in 1889, simultaneously with say a great deal that is very just and the Constitution, and Marquis ITO was the pertinent about the qualifications of poliframer of the latter as well as the writer tical parties for assuming administrative of the former. If any one could claim competence to interpret the intention of the Constitution, he surely was the person; and, for the rest, his interpretation proof they could give of their genuine must be considered impartial since it was given to the world two years before the however, we need not shrink from insistfirst Diet met and long before the question of party cabinets began to be a political issue. It would have been possible, indeed, Party. It is the name properly belonging to employ still more explicit terms in drafting the Articles we have quoted, but unless the drafters had prophetic faculties, they could scarcely have been expected to speak more definitively. At all events, whatever estimate be formed as to the strength of their statement, there can not be the shadow of an honest contention that they intended to make the Ministers of the CROWN responsible to the Diet, or that they thought of limiting the Imperial Prerogative to acquiescence in the mandate of the House of Representatives. Some English writers, who know only the system now existing in England, and are wedded to the comical fiction that every constitutional polity, must necessarily be based on English principles, have not hesitated to affirm that to oppose party cabinets is unconstitutional in Japan. It is charitable to conclude that such persons have not read the Japanese Constitution. In their eyes there is but one constitution in the civilized world, the Constitution of England, an unwritten constitution constructed out of precedents; and since Englishmen, not many years ago, fighting long and stoutly against what was then the established precedent of the country, succeeded finally in wresting from the Sovereign a power which he had hitherto exercised, it is the railway and all kinds of courtesies were concluded that the written Constitution extended to them. It is not impossible that of Japan must be in strict accord with this demonstration, which took place on June English ideas. It happens to be nothing of the House of Representatives in Washington of the kind. On the contrary, texpinitis the annexation resolution.

of State are appointed and dismissed by the Diet's mandate. Hence the newly the EMPEROR himself;" and referring to formed Party are struggling to deprive the latter, he writes :- "When a Minister the EMPEROR of a prerogative clearly functions, the power of deciding upon his when they call themselves "Constitutionresponsibility belongs to the SOVERBIGN: alists "they indulge in a somewhat malahe alone can dismiss a Minister of State, pert jest. It would have been equally who has appointed him. Who is it, then, appropriate if the barons who sought to except the Sovereign, that can appoint, take advantage of HENRY the THIRD'S dismiss, and punish Ministers of State? minority to obtain for themselves the and reverent loyalty to their SOVEREIGN. Without pausing to inquire whether their tutionalists." The strange point is that neither journalists nor jurisconsults discuss duties, but they exclude the question of the Constitutional prerogative from the controversy. Perhaps that is the best respect for the SOVERBIGN. As outsiders, ing on the extreme incongruity of the name given to themselves by the new to their opponents, and that will be hisfory's verdict.

# DEAD SEA-GULLS AT KAMAKURA.

A correspondent writes :- A curious phenomenon is occupying the attention of visitors to Kamakura to the exclusion of all other topics. The beach above high-water mark is lined with dead sea gulls. Japanese fishermen and coastmen tell me that these birds were killed in the gale of twelve days ago and their bodies are now being washed ashore. A friend of mine, an old sea-going man, entertains the same idea, but thinks the dead gulls were young birds caught in the gale as they were flying north, beaten down, and then drowned. But this theory is hardly tenable, for many of the poor dead things are old, full-grown birds, and I have seen gulls face a much stiffer gale with ease and come through it safely. Anyway it is a curious thing, and, I think, worth making a note of-wide " Capt. Cuttle."

# HAWAII AND THE MANILA EX-PEDITION.

The welcome given by the people of Hono-Inlu to the American troops en route for Honolulu seems to have been extraordinarily enthusiastic. The troops, numbering 2,500 in all, went ashore in two equal batches, the first from 9 s.m. to 2 p.m.; the second from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. A special committee of 100 persons had been appointed to look after the visitors, but every citizen in the place seems to have constituted himself a committee-man, and the "boys in blue" had a royal time. Free drinks, free refreshments, free carriages on

GENERAL TENDENCY OF LAW RE LATING TO LABOURERS INSURANCE.

" Since Germany," writes the Kokka gakkwa Zasshi, "first promulgated the law relating to labourers' insurance, and rigorously enforced it, the Governments of various Western States have paid attention to the same question, considering it of vital importance for solving the so-called labour problem from the legal standpoint, Judging from recent indications, Russia, Sweden, Belgium, and France intend to follow the example of Germany. In Russia, a committee was appointed for drafting regulations relating to the matter. It was resolved by the committee that the amount insured should be paid to labourers employed in factories even in the event of death or inability resulting from their own fault or wifful negligence, that the insurance law should extend to mines belonging to private persons (the law had already been carried out in Governmental mines); that a labourer who had worked for thirty-five years should acquire the right to receive the amount of his insurance against accident or old age, and that his family, in case of his death, should receive support; that the premium should be paid by the labourer according to the amount of his wages, and by his employer according to the net profit of his industry; and that the State should gratuitously discharge the duty of controlling insurance affairs. The Swedish government has submitted to the National Assembly a draft law relating to a similar provision for labourers against old age only, and intends, when it is passed, to carry it into effect from the first of January, 1900. According to this draft, any labourer whose age is under thirty on the 1st of January, 1900, and whose wages are under 1800 krone, aball be compelled to maure against old age; a labourer who pays as preminan 20 öre a week ahali receive 200 krone at his 65th year; a labourer whose premium is 15 ore, a week, 150 krone; a labourer who pays 10 ore a week, 100 krone; and the premium shall be paid partly by the labourer and partly by the Government. In Belgium, the Board of Labour has drafted a law for the purpose of causing every espitalist to pay, according to the settled regulations, indemnity to a labourer against all accidents incurred in connexion with his enteraccidents incurred in connexion with massive prise. In a recent session of the French Chamber of Deputies, three motions were brought forward relating to compulsory insurance against old age and accidents. The first was introduced by Socialist members. It provides that every labourer, small farmer, or small workman shall receive, when he reaches his sixtieth year, or becomes disabled, 500 france a year, if he is married, and 400 france a year, if he is unmarried; that two-fifths of the premium shall be paid by the labourer and threefifths by his employer; and that the insurance affairs shall be controlled by the Government at its own expense. The second motion was drafted by a Socialist member, and differs from the first in the matter of the expense, which is chiefly to be borne by the Government, and a small portion by the employer. The third dialt is intended to apply to labourers in factories only. It provides that one half of the premium shall be paid by the employer and the other half by the labourer. In our country even the enactment of regulations relating to factories, which is the first step toward the legal solution of the so-called laborers' problem, has not yet been effected. We wonder when Japan's progress will attain the state above mentioned.

# SUIGIDE ON THE " GRAFTON."

All the vessels of H.M.S. ships in Nagasaki had their flags flying half-mast on Friday, the Nagasaki Press says, owing to the and death of William Evans, the gunner's mate of H.M.S. Grafton, who committed suicide by shooting himself at noon. Deceased was 38 years of age and ranked as a first-class petty officer.

Origina<del>l from</del> UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT FAPANESE LITERATURE.

Various magazines have been publishing the views of eminent Japanese statesmen on Japan's policy in the present Eastern Crisis. We furnish a brief synopsis of the views expressed on this subject, taken from the Taiyo and the Shakai Zasshi.

(1.) Marquis Lo, referring to the advocates of a stalwart foreign policy, says that the sentiments of this party are quite antiforeign. The misconceptions under which they labour are twofold. First they do not realise the position that Japan occupies among powers as regards actual strength. The rank which nations take is proportioned to their ability to assert themselves by force of arms when neces eary. Secondly, they fail to see that mere verbal protests followed by no decided action only excite ridicule. They clamour, do these counsellors of the nation, for the retention of Weihaiwei, in apparent obliviou to the fact that the place is atterly unremunerative and would, if retained, only prove a burden to the nation. The Government knows of a better method of pushing Japanese interests in China and would recommend noisy agitators to wait and see what is the end of our negotiations before condemning our action or inaction. Saiku wa ryurya shiage wo miyo, "There are many kinds of workmanship (good and bad); reserve judgment till the work in complete."

(2.) Count Okuma is represented as having said that the mistake in Japan's foreign policy in recent years lay in not making the three Powers which insisted on the retrocession of the Linetang Peninsula promise that some of this territory should be subsequently appropri-ated by either of the three Powers. When Germany occupied Kizochau Japan should have objected. Having failed to do this, she lost her opportunity of interfering. To blame the Government alone, however, for what has occurred is unjust. Marquis Itô has not been backed by the nation and encouraged to make Japanese prestige felt. I am in favour of opposing Russia and opposing China. The idea of consulting Russia in reference to the policy to be adopted by us in Korea is not to be defended. I am not of opinion that a country should forbear from protesting against what it considers unjust simply because it is not prepared forthwith to back its protest by armed intervention. It is sufficient for it to utter its protest and, in the event of this protest proving ineffectual, to choose its own time and way of making its voice heard.
(3.) Count Katsu is said to be of opinion

that nothing but a change in the form of Government in China will right matters. Clan government will have to go, and the people be stirred up to take an interest in political affairs. Though the members of the Japanese Governmentare men of great courage, most of them are behind the age. They do not realise fully what is the spirit of the times and what the prevailing tendency among leading nations,

(4.) Count Itagaki says that the foreign policy of a country must be suited to its actual resources. Very atrong countries alone can afford to adopt a stalwart foreign policy. Japan no doubt gained reputation by her war with China, but the fact remains that the balance between imports and exports is on the wrong side, and financially Japan may be said to have de-generated since the war. There is a talk about our making an alliance with England, but difference of race, religion, and sentiment is against the contracting of such an alliance. We must possess our souls in patience, bearing quietly all we are called on to bear till brighter days shall dawn.

(5.) Marshal Yamagata thinks that it would e difficult to give reasons for the retention of Weihalwei, but is not prepared to assert that, all things considered, its retention would have been a wise policy for the Japanese Government to adopt.

(6.) Viscount Aoki is alleged to have given continues for 7 years. Daily lessons are given object, and begging in Japan was more respectable utterance in the following softiments. The by the heads of gauge who are experts in the librar it had ever been before or in likely to be people of Japan are the following softiments. It is said that one property of the property of the property.

reign policy. The English are eager for com-merce and the Russians for territory, and in each case this eagerness becomes the source of distinct policy. But what cagerness have the Japanese as a nation that concerns foreign countries? Few are the Japanese that avail themselves of the privileges already obtained by our Government, and from a perusal of Japanese papers from week to week one rises with the conviction that there is no such thing as a national foreign policy. How is it possible for the Government to go ahead of the people in the matter of foreign policy?

(7.) The Minister of Justice says that it is most undesirable that a fruitless agilation on the subject of foreign policy should be stirred up. There is a great deal of needless alarm. Countries are no longer seized in the way they were years ago. The Japanese Government may be depended on to do what is possible, but they will have to choose a suitable The development of commerce time for action. and the accumulation of material wealth are the only sure means of establishing permanent

national prestige. Armaments are expensive things. The pavies of the principal naval Powers are only maintained by an ever-increas ing expenditure. Japan will need to put forth all her energies in order to be in a position to cope with great Western powers.

In the Shakai Zasshi, No. 12, appears an article which reveals a number of facts bearing on the lives of beggars not generally known The writer is Mr. Adachi Noritada, Manager of he Tokyo Poor Asylum, who has made a special investigation of the lives led by beggars, their children, and dependants. Few people have any idea of the hardness of the lives passed by these outcasts. We epitomise Mr.

Adachi's essay = follows :-(t.) The class of children who become beggars: - These are mostly custaways, children who have fled from cruel mothers-in-law, or children begotten of parents of nomadic liabits, who, finding it impossible to drag their offspring from village to village, commit them to the care of beggars, who teach them how to earn a livelthood. Then adult beggars beget a large number of children. There is seldom any such thing as real marriage among them. They live very much as unimals. In Mannen-chō, Shita va. there is a house known as a Kodomo no Son ryôya, " A child-hiring agency," where children as young as 4 years are kept for hire. They are leased out to adult beggars of about 40 or 50 years of age, mostly cripples or deformed in some way, who represent themselves as widowers, with these young children lett on their hands, Since the object of the employers is to excite pity, they prefer emaciated children to those who have plump faces and pay the agencies better prices for the former. The price paid better prices for the former. The price paid for these children ranges from 10 sen to 3 sen per day. Emaciation being at a premium, the poor little mites are in many cases poorly fed. (2) The kind of life led by beggars' child-

From 5 to about 12 years of age, they beg from door to door. When 14 or 15, under pretence of collecting old paper they commence petty thieving. When about 16 they are in-structed in the art of picking pockets and the like. From the offspring of beggars come the like. From the offspring of beggars come what are known as botahajiki (a type of picknocket) and kopparai (a type of thief). The latter under the guise of rag and paper gatherers constantly steal from houses and back yards. Some of them use bamboos with bird lime on the ends, by means of which they procute articles that are difficult to reach,

There is an intimate connection between the majority of beggars and the majority of thieves. In some cases the leader of a gang of thieves is chosen by the beggars who are in league with that gang. Thieves are divided into oyakata, that gang. Thieves are divided into oyakata, chiefs, or leaders, and kobun (子分), subordinates.

(3) The training received by pickpockets. This training commences at the age of 12 and

sional instructor now in Tôkvô studied at the Berlin school of pickpockets, and is a past master in all the tricks of the trade, and that he has more than 100 promising pupils. class of criminals all work in gangs. There is an upper, lower, and middle grade of pick-pocket. The lower class pickpockets receive only 10 per cent, of their earnings, the rest being handed over to the head of the gang, who provides clothing and food for his pupils. middle and upper class of pickpockets receive about 40 per cent. of their earnings. It would seem that there is such a thing as honour among thieven; for when one of the gang is arreated no information is given that might inculpate other members of the gang. The money or articles taken are, it s said, faithfully handed over to the heads of the gangs and any breach of this rule involves expulsion from the ring. Every conceivable disgnise is assumed by these pickpockets. In turn they appear as well-to-do traders, carpenters, masons, or apprendices, The man who steals is invariably attended by a receiver of the stolen goods, into whose hands the stolen pro-perty is passed. The actual thief puts on an innocent face, while his accomplice conveys the article to a distant place. Thieves are accustomed to speak of their imprisonment as a tax paid to the Government. The time spent in gaol is in most cases utilised for devising new ways of deception. Mr. Adachi is of opinion that, imperfect as was the Tokugawa method of controlling the beggar class, it was infinitely preferable to allowing them to enjoy liberty in the way they now do. Beggars were designated 非人 Hinin (Beings that were not human) in l'okugawa days, but the Government exercised control over them by appointing heads of guilds\* and making these heads responsible for the conduct of their subordinates. As begging is found to exist, the Tokugawa Shoguns thought it preferable to countenance control it rather than allow it scope to develop crime in the way it does at the present time. In those days men who had lost all their money joined a beggara' guild and were content to stand outside the pale of society for a while till the accumulation of money enabled them to start in life again. The heads of guilds had the power to reinstate outcasts in this manner, the process being described as the " washing of leet " (ashi wo arau). In those days thieving was very take among beggars, the offence being followed by serious consequences to the head of the guild to which the thief belonged,

The Toyotetsugaku Zasshi contains a report of an address delivered by Dr. Inoue Tetaujno on the Oriental Congress last year. This is the second or third time reference has been made to this congress and its bearing on Japanese subjects. Dr. Inone expresses the opinion that on the whole the Europeans who have investigated Japanese history, literature, and philosophy have done no more than skim the surface. He says, Waga mirû tokoro de wa karera ga kenkyû wa mad : jôchi nari, "In our opinion their mad: pôchi nari, "In our opinion investigations are those of children." Inoue may have been referring particularly in Frenchmen, and even so he was incorrect, anyhow, but he seems ignorant of the fact that there exist numbers of treatises written by foreign students of Japanese which for ac-curacy, research, and thoroughness have not been surpassed by any native worker on the same subjects; Dr. Inoue goes on to say that it withe duty of men like himself

\* Tokingawa Hidetada was, we believe, the first Tokugawa rincetana was, we nemero, and man Shogun to introduce this practice. He made the lamous Kuruma Zeushichi the head of a beggars' guild. The story of Zeushichi's life is an interesting one. At first the would be assassin of Hidenals, he lived to organise a beggars' guild of a most interesting type. His beggans were trained to perform military service and held ready to aid to perform military service and held ready to aid the Shōgun at any moment. Zenshichi kept a re-cord of the life of each beggar in the guild. Some of the beggars were created heads of companies of fifty or a hundred. The organization was comto introduce European Orientalists to the excellencies of Japanese philosophy and literature. Anything Dr. Induye may do in this line will no doubt be highly valued, but the report of his lecture before us contains no notice of the scholarly work done by such writers as Satow, Aston, Chamberlain, and others, and conveys the impression that the Westers world is left in profound ignorance of the history of Japanese thought in past ages—an impression the falseuess of which the 23 volumes of Asiatic Society Transactions, to say nothing of other works, suffice to demonstrate. A brief resume of the paper read by Dr. Induye at the Congress is given in the Tōyō-Teisugaku Zasshi, dealing with Japanese philosophers of the Confucian School.

\* \*
The Hakubun Kwan announce the publication in Japanese of an entirely new history of the China-Japan War, which was written under the superintendence of Li Hung-chang by a Chinaman called 装置廠 (Ta'ae Rh-Kang) and an American whose name in its transliters ted form we do not recognise, with the object of giving to the world the secret of China's defeat.

The work is said to contain a large amount of information bearing on the course of events during the war that has never hitherto been made public. It covers 1,170 pages and sells at 2 yen 50 zen per copy. The author of the Japanese version is Mr. Fujino Fusztaio, the editor of the Fomiuri Shimbun. As a history of the condition of China at the present time it atands alone. It should attract the attention of all who are interested in the Far Eastern question. A very long article entitled Kokufiron (國学論) by Mr. Mitsuishi Shizuo appears in the Toybietsugaku Zasshi, which advocates the apolition of the Chinese characters and the adoption of Japanese Kana in their stead. A great part of the article is taken up with an enumeration of the inconvenience attached to the use of the ideographs, all of which are familiar to residents in Japan. The one redeeming feature in the use of Chinese characters is the brevity and conciseness with which they express thought. Ideas which in other languages require long words or several words are expressed in Chinese by means of a few monosyllables.† Mr. Mitsuishi, however, reaches the conclusion that the advantages of their use is more than outweighed by their many drawbacks, and ranks himself among the carnest advacates of reform.‡

The Hakubukan has published a classified catalogue of all the principal Japanese books in existence, entitled Shoteki Somokuroku. It covers 1,100 pages and sells at 1 ren 70 ten. The catalogue was compiled at the office known as the Tôkyō Shoseki Shuppan Yeigyō Kumiai Jimusho. This is the first time that any such exhaustive catalogue of Japanese works has been published.

The Hakubunkan also announces the appearance of Vol. V. of its series of Miscellaneous Works called Hyakka Zensho, which consists of a treatise on "Religious Philosophy," compiled Mr. Anzaki Manahato. The views of Kant, Hegel, Schilling, and other Germans are discussed in this work.

The Kyōiku Kōhō calls attention to the paucity of Municipal Middle Schools in Tōkyō as compared with other cities of Japan. The writer maintains that there is only one high class Middle School established by the Municipality, namely the Tsukiji Chūgakkō. The

† Mr. Mitsuishi hunishes nu examples. We append a few. Compare 化体 Kuataswith Transubstantiation: Ribkensessi with Constitutional Government; Gekidő-Sayo with Excito Motor action; Kwannen sengé with Association of Ideas; Shèmei meidas with Demonstrative Proposition; BP Renhs with Scrutin de liste; and BD tanks with Scrutin individual and Tekishussisen with Survival of the filtest.—Writer of the Summary.

† The following facts are inforshed by Mr. Musuishi The B Shū-in has \$3.525 chatarters; the 中最 Jii, 45.550 and the RShijitan 47,210.

Kauda Kaiseigakkö and the Köjimachi Jöhokugakkö are what are called Shiritangakkö, that is, schools established by private persons. There are 15 other schools that aim at furnishing a Middle School education, but they are insufficiently supplied with funds, and are weakle to pay adequate salaries to teachers. That the Tökyö municipality should only spend 2,000 yen per annum in Middle School education is a perfect diagrace, says the Kyöiku Köhö. The Osaka-fu and the Hyögoken each maintain some 6 schools at a cost of 200,000 yen a year. And yet the demand for High Middle Schools is greater in Tökyö than anywhere else in Japan.

The Nihon Shugs furnishes some instructive statistics bearing on the increase of population in Japan between 1891 and 1895.

TABLE SHOWING BIRTHS AND DEATHS, ETC.

				Increase o
				Births over
Year	r.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths.
A.D. 1	891	1,086,775	853,130	233,636
_ 1	8g2	1,207,034	886 388	320,046
at 1	893	1,178,418	937,644	240,784
. 1	894	1,208,983	840,768	368,215
= 18	895	1,246,427	852,422	394,005
Then	witch	da showa th	a bronavlin	u of famoles

The next table shows the proportion of females who were born or died during the 5 years per 100 males;

Percentage of Female.

	-	
Ye	ar. Buths	Dentlis,
A.D.	1891 95.84	94.42
88	1892 95 56	
11	1893 95 65	
20	1894 94.73	
10	1805 05 00	G8 G0

The third table furnished by the Nihon Shugi gives the proportion of births and deaths per each 1,000 inhabitants, and the amounts of increase of births over deaths.

	one. E			eaths.	Inch	case.
A.D. 18	891	26 7		21 0	497901	5.7
81 .,	92	29 4		21.6	10+004	8.7
	93			22 7	*****	58
	94					
, 18	95	29 5		20.2	*****	9.3
It will be	neen by	the ab	ove, o	baerve	a the A	then
Shugi, th	at as re.	eards (	popula	tion I	anan's	out-
look is de	cidedly	bopel	ul.	,		

Mr. Ueda Mannen dilates at some length in the Nikon Shugi on the delects of Kangakusha (Professors of Chinese) in Japan. asserts that as a class they are altogether behind the age. Their methods of study are antiquated. They have no ambition to make their knowledge thorough. Though acquainted with one branch of a subject, they make no effort to master another branch, however intimately connected the two branches may be. Though versed in Chinese history, they are profoundly ignorant of Chinese geography. Though studying Chinese chronology, they never think of comparing it with the chronology of other countries. Their learning is all of a mnemonic type, and not the result of thought and independent research. They seem to be men without any standard of their own. They aim at reflecting a distant past and they do it in a perfunctory and inanimate sort of way and without any regard to the state of mind of the average Japanese student of the present day. These professors of Chinese, according to Mr. Ueda, are slaves to the letter and imbibe little of the spirit of the books they read. Their knowledge of ethics, menul philosophy, and logic in next to nil. And as for methods of teaching they never trouble their heads about them. Other teachers engaged in school work are ever seeking to improve their methods, but professors of Chinese teach now as they taught 30 years ago. To any one interested in Chinese studies a hundred and one questions suggest themselves as to the best manner of conveying to the minds of pupils an adequate impression of the excellencies of Chinese literature; but no attempt to answer any of those questions is made by the men to whom Chinese is a special study.

Japan of an eminent Sanscrit scholar from the Paris University, M. Levy, the text for an article on the need of greater camestness in the work of translation. M. Levy left France last August with the intention of spending one year in India and six months in Japan, for the purpose of qualifying himself for the work of translating as examining different versions. The writer in the Tetsugaku Zasshi is full of admiration of the devotion in scholarship displayed by Professor Levy and observes that in the philosophical world here in Japan such zeal ought to stimulate scholars to tresh effort. To most men life grows busier and busier as years pass, says the Zeisugaku Zatshi. Markedly is this the case with those who are engaged on special investigations. What is needed on special investigations. What is needed in Japan at the present time is devices for saving labour as much as possible. We Japanese read our own language with greater ease than we can read any foreign tongue. Hence it is an immense boon to us to have thoroughly reliable translations of standard works to refer to in the course of study. The lack of appreciation of translations in the past is partly to be attributed to pedantry, it being considered more learned to be reading the original, and partly to the small number of correct translations that have appeared. To be of value and to become authoritative, translations must be made by specialists. There has long been a talk of creating a Translating Bureau in the Mombusho, but as far as we are aware, concludes the Tetsugabu Zasshi, the affair Il still in the clands.

A new magazine called the Take to Kögyö Kwagaku Zasshi, has made its appearance. Its object is stated to be the application of Chemistry to industry. Hitherto, says the introductory article of the first number, little use has been made of chemical knowledge by the industrial world in Japan. The magazine is designed to remedy this delect. Prefaces from Viscount Venomoto, Messis Otori, Watsunabe (Hiromoto), and others and congratulatory letters from a number of well-known scholars appear in the first number. The magazine covers about 80 pages and is artistically got up. It is issued by the Kögyö Kwagakkwai, : Misakichö, Kanda, Tökyö.

Mesara. Eastlake and Shimada's Gakussiyö (単生用) Eiwa Jiten (Students' English and Japanese Dictionary) has reached in second edition. It covers 1,350 pages and sells at 1 yen 50 sen per copy, the Hakubunkan being the publishers. This work is a translation of the terms appearing in "Webster's Pocket Dictionary" with certain additions culled from "Webster's Unabridged Dictionary." It is an improvement on the first edition in many particulars, one of these being the insettion of a number of terms found in recently introduced School text-books.

The Nihonteikoku-Keiseisäran (PSME), which has been lately issued and is to be had at any of the chief hook stores is a small encyclopædia of knowledge arranged in 22 chapters under some 400 headings, and is designed to give the latest information respecting the condition of Japan at the present time as regards education, industry, commerce, banking, military, and naval development, etc. It sells at 1 per 75 sen per copy.

Mr. Tsuchii Bausui has translated Carlyle's "Heroes, Hero-Worship, and the Heroic in History," a work that if well executed should command a large sale in Japan. This book is published by the Shunyödö, and sells at 60 semper copy.

those questions is made by the men to whom hinese is a special study.

The by a Zaizeigaku is a work on State Finance from the pen of Mr. Tanaka Hozumi, issued by the Meiholo, Urajimbo-cho, Kanda, Tôkyō nidirallifu m 2 yen per copy. The Calsugaku Zasski makes the arrival in subject is treated under the following six head-

ings, I. Expenditure; II. Income; III. Taxes; IV. National Debt; V. Budgets; VI. Provincial

The 中等西洋史 Chūto Seiposhi, by Mr. Takakawa Komakichi, is a History of Western Countries designed for use in Middle Schools, issued by the Nihon-zueho Kaisha and selling at 70 sen per copy. This work professes to record every important event in history from "the days of the early Egyptians down to the occupation of Kiaochou by the Germans." Mans are appended to the work. The \*\* 東洋史 Chūtō Tōyōshi, by Mr. Kuwabara Shitsuzo consists of 2 volumes, which sell at 90 sen. The Nihonzusho Kaisha are the pub-90 sen. The Nihonzusho Kaisha are the publishes. The Shigaku Zasshi praises the work and says that it should occupy a high position among Oriental histories.

A carefully got up little volume on Base Ball A carefully got up little volume on Base Ball has been issued by the Shikaidō (四海堂) Moto-fuji-chō, Hongō, Tōkyō, the title of which is Shinshiki Base Ball Jutsu (Base Ball According to New Rules). Everything connected with the game is explained, and drawings are furnished showing the position of the fielders, The work is to be had for 10 sen. author is a student of the Engineering College in the Imperial University called Takahashi

Mr. Uchimura Kanzô is to be the chief editor of a new magazine to be called the Totyo Dokuritsu Zasshi (The Tokjo Independent). The following English notice of the new organ has been published, which, as our readers will observe, in the point of composition resembles the English column of the Foresa Choho, which for some years was edited by Mr. Uchimura.

A semi-monthly magazine (soon to be made a A semi-monthly inagazine (son to be made a tri-monthly), devoted to honest, free, and fearless discussion of social, political, literary, scientific, educational, and religious subjects. None but the editors' Convictions shall find their ways to the columns of its editorials; no contributions shall be accepted that are not found to contain some Original fleas; no adventisement shall be inserted. pinal Ideas; no advertisement shall be inserted without due inquiries as III their Trustworthiness; and no books shall be reviewed without thorough and no books shall be reviewed without thorough Examination. Its subscribed editor and proprietor are no mere puppet figures to be made scape; goats of all the crimes committed in the name of free press (as, we are forced to confess, in the cases of too many of the Japanese journals,) but are the real editor and proprietor, who hold themselves responsible for every word printed in its columns. Price per copy ... ... 5 sen.

Price to copies (in advance) 45 sen.

Advertisement tate, 30 sen per Japanese line, 20 per cent, discount for continued insertions of more than two months. Absolutely no other discount. The Tokyo Dokuritsu Zasshi Sha, 18 and to, Sugamomachi, Kutatoshima-gui,

COURT. THE TOKYO DOKURITSU ASSERT SAS, 18 and 19, Sugamonachi, Kuatoshima-gqi, Tokyo, Japan.

In the pages of the Tairo Dr. Kato has something to say on the terms "Nippon Shugi," and "Sekai Shugi" (Nipponism and Cosmopolitanism). In Dr. Kato's opinion these words are used in a very slipshod manner. They cannot be considered antithetical terms in a strict sense. Japan is one of the countries of the world and hence is concerned in all the great world questions. The term "Nipponism" as opposed to "Cosmopolitanism" would seem to indicate that it is possible for Japan III follow an exclusive policy, would seem to imply that her customs and modes of thought and action need no improvement by contact with the ontside world. As long as the two principles are re-presented as aiding each other, as working in conjunction in the development of power, no harm is done. But when, as of late, they form the watchwords of hostile camps, and when it is represented that they are incompatible with each other, great harm is done. The progress of states and individuals are much alike, both depending on two sources. One of these is inherited knowledge and power; the other the faculty of adaptation to ever-changing circumstances. If either of these factors is absent progress is very slow. Notwithstanding all Japan inherited from the past,

the Nineteenth Century, she would be no more advanced to day than China and other Eastern To represent the principle of nationalism as sufficient of itself for the full development of the capability of a people is to show ignorance of history. Progress and development depend quite as much on the force of surrounding circumstances and on situation as on inherited

In the space devoted to literary topics the Taivo complains mournfully of the inferiority of Japan's newspaper writers. With a few excep-Japan's newspaper writers. tions the class of men who supply copy for the daily newspapers are flippant, semi-educated, irresponsible youths, into whose hands a very sharp-edged tool has been placed, says this organ. The character of these writers reveals itself distinctly when they undertake to review standard works. Nothing could be more shallow and commonplace than the observations they make, showing that they have not taken the trouble to read the books they attempt to criticise. It is only right and proper that the press of a country should command universal respect, but with the class of writers now in the ascendent in Japan this is impossible. should be made to raise the standard,

### JAPANESE FACIS AND COMMENTS

Investigations completed by the Finance De partment and published in the vernacular papers, with regard to the rates of interest throughout the Empire, may be summarized an follow :- Of the thirty-eight leading prefectures where banks are established, Miyasaki, Iwate, and Hiogo command the highest rates. Nabeoka, from January to March this year, paid 18.2 per cent, Ichinoseki 18, Himeji 17 in February and 16 in January and March. Tsuwano experienced an equally high rate, for the figure for March was fixed at 17.1 per cent, and at 16 in January and February. The lowest rate of in-January and February. The lowest rate of interest was noticeable in Iwate and Kagawa, 8 per cent for the three months being found in Ichinoseki and Takamatan. The highest rates of interest on deposits were secured in Kumamoto, January and February. Next came Hachioji and Fukushima with 7.5 per cent. The lowest rates indicated were in Shimonoseki with 3 per cent, followed by Himeji and Akashi, with 3.5 per cent. The highest daily interest on discounted bills was paid in Nobeoka, being 5.4 sen in March and 5.3 sen in February. Next came March and 5.3 sen in February. Next can Akashi, Sakata, and Takamatan, with 5 sen.

Commenting upon the future of the ten trade of Yokohama, the Nippon says the taxation of tea in America has caused serious confusion in the market, and now tends to produce a commercial panic. The various firms this year have curtailed the amount of export in consequence of the abnormal appreciation of freight, and though their purchases from the opening of the season have amounted to ro million cattles approximately, yet their actual export did not exceed 3 millions, the remaining 7 millions being still accumulated in the gudowns. When the manufacture of the leaf is undertaken in ordinary years, no fewer than 30,000 coolies flock to the port from the neighbouring district to severe amount of the second services. bouring districts to secure employment as firers; but this year half the number are deprived of employment. A serious reduction in the second crop under these circumstances must be expected. A circular has been issued to local tea producers by the Yokohama Tea Guild, expressing the opinion that though the trade may suffer a serious depression for the present yet the demand will revive. Taxation affects the consumers alone; and when the new standard of price is settled in the market producers will still be able to secure a profit. It would be injudicious to relinquish tea farms which have been cultivated for years, on account of the present disappointment.

A serious disturbance is reported from Kochi

with those in Takaoka with regard to bonito nets. A representative of the latter district repaired to the Prefectural Office with a view to obtain sanction for the use of the nets in dispute; as and soon as this fact was known 📧 the villagers of Tsuro they followed him as far as Muroto port, and, having seized him by force, imprisoned him in a small junk. They then returned to their village, and, having collected several hundreds of youths, marched on to Takaoka, and demolished the entire village. The whole place was entirely reduced to ruin before the police and court officials arrived. They dispersed the mob with great difficulty.

The Nichi Nichi comments on the probable price of silk this year. That there will be a serious reduction in the output both in Japan and in China is an undentable fact. year silk brought to the market at the beginning of the season-namely, on the 24th June —was quoted at 820 yen, and prices rose until they reached 870 yen by the end of July. New cocoons were first sold for 3.20 yen per kwan, rising ultimately to 4.30 yen in value, the average price being 3.50 yen. Things present much the same aspect this year. In Mino cocoons are now quoted at 4.20 yen, in Bushiu M 3.70 yes, and in Honjo at 3.50 yes. In some districts, however, sales are effected at from 3 yes to 3.30 yes. Prices, on the whole, having a downward tendency, the average rate may not exceed 3.50 yea. During the past two years, on the other hand, prices have almost invariably increased towards the close of the season.

Mr. Ishihara, a Commissioner of the Formosa Government Office, is reported by the Tokyo Asahi to have stated to its representative in Kobe that since he went over to Formosa he has been engaged with a railway corps in the reconstruction of a railway between Keelung and Historian the Keelung-Taipoh line having already been completed. Trains on this line run eight times a day at fixed hours, with average receipts of 800 yen. The highest amount ever realised was a little over 1,000 yen, inclusive of charges for the transport of rice and other cereals. The passenger fares in Formosa are nearly three times the amount charged in Japan, and the goods rates are equally heavy. The rates, however, can not equally heavy. The rates, however, can not be condemned in consideration of the prices of commodities in the island. The goods sent by rail chiefly consist of rice, camphor, and tea; but the greater portion of the last-mentioned commodity is shipped from Auping direct to Foochow. More facilities will be secured by the new Heinchu-Taipeh line, but work is not yet commenced. The transfer of this line to the Formosa Railway Company was to have been undertaken in September last, but was postponed until July this year.

The Tokyo Asaki gives the following table showing the output and consumption of coal during the past four years :-

Year				Output, Tous,	Tous.
1892		***	***	3,176,840	1,711,840
1893	441	***	***	3,317,104	I,754.440
1894		***	,	4,261,218	2,311,810
1895	144	***	***	4.766,670	2,667,952
De a	0.0			The state of the s	

The Asahi suggests the necessity of imposing a tax upon the mineral in order to prevent its . export.

The Kokumin publishes reports from various prefectures on the silk industry this year. Koshiu suffered for a time from the severity and unsettled condition of the weather, but the quality and amount of cocoons produced are supposed to be nearly the same as last year. Quotations per kwan vary from 2.30 to 3.50 yen. Bushin reports a reduction of 10 per cent. on the quantity hatched, but there is a prospect of an increase in the final production. In some parts of Gumma a reduction of 20 to 30 per cent. in the output is estimated. Ibaraki was eminently successful this year, though some difficulties were experienced ill the outset in had she not shown herself capable of adapting prefecture. According to the Tokyo Asahi, the received the morns, in consequence of the herself to her engineers of the latter and of the mean of Tsuro in Aki district had a dispute changeableness of the weather. Quotations for 1st class cocoons stand at 3.40 yen. kushima was scarcely less fortunate, but, malberry leaves having considerably risen in price at the time of hatching, it is supposed that little or no profit will be realized for this year's produce. The crop in Shiga is also excellent, no changes having occurred to affect the industry. Of all the silk-producing dis-tricts, however, Wakayama is most prominent this year, having realized 5,000 koku of cocoons, instead of 4,000, as originally estimated. Sales commenced at 43 yen, but the stock will probably be monopolised by the agents of the Mitsui and Tomioka Factories, who were despatched thither a few days ago. As regards Fukuoka, rearers appear to have decressed annually, and despite the cheapness of mulberry leaves a reduction of 20 per cent in cocoons is expected.

Intelligence from Mokpho published in the Nichi Nichi is to the effect that the Japanese residents in that port are steadily increasing, the figures for May reaching 960, inclusive of women. The Japanese Consul, Mr. Hisami, has urged the Korean officials to take immediate steps for the construction of a hatbour. As to the average prices of commodities, it may be stated that cleaned rice is now quoted at 16 yen per koku, soy at 20 sen per sho, miso at 10 sen per catty, clear saké at 60 sen, and beer at 35 sen per bottle. Wages of labourers are 1 yen in the case of ordinary Japanese coolies, 37 sen for Koreans, and plasterers and carpenters get 1.50 and 1.30 yen respectively, Masanpho, a port recently opened to trade, lies at a distance of 5 English miles from Chhangwon city. The port affords the securest shelter for vessels, and every convenience for the landing of goods. The town has about 3,300 houses, with a population of 15,000. The chief inland productions are silk, beans, oil, &c., whereas among marine products are enumerated sea-beans, sardines, mackerel, bonito, awabi, and sea-slugs. Gold, silver, and copper mines abound, while the production of salt is considerable. Massaupho is to be classed among the best barbours in the world, both for military and commercial purposes.

The Governor General of Formosa convoked a special meeting of local Governors on the 25th ultimo, and is reported by the Kokumin, in addressing them, to have remarked that the army under the existing system of organisation is not only unable to show an effective front, but fremently falls into danger in its tactical operations. Military evolutions are often conducted without the slightest knowledge of the Governor Gesseral. The turbulent portion of the islanders, however, appear to be anxious for an opportunity of showing their desire to submit to the new government. As for the financial administration, prospects are entertained that an independent status may be obtained by degrees. The revenue of the island will increase, and though the various official undertakings may require an outlay of at least 5 or Il million yes annually, that amount may be raised in the torm of public bonds; and the ordinary expenditures only will have to be disbursed out of the resources of the island. As to railways, he recommended their being carried on as a private undertaking. Education should be pushed on with the greatest possible promptitude.

Mr. J. A. Wilson, head of Messrs. Howell & Co., Hakodate, recently lodged a complaint against one Yoshimura Tsunekichi, of Nemuro, in connection with the delivery of refined sulphur. A distraint was made in May this year on application to the Hakodate District Court, and a quantity of sulphur transported from Nemuro by the steamer Gembu Maru was seized. But of the total amount so seized 819 bags are alleged to have belonged to Mr. Insgaki Tatsu, of Nemuro. Mr. Ins-gaki applied to the Court to have his goods restored, but his application was rejected on the ground that it could not be received or adjudged and demand for the article increased con-by any Japanese Court. He protested, how siderably. But the original fragrance, which by any Japanese Court. He protested, how siderably. But the original fragrance, which There is no prospect of any improvement until ever, urging that as his application was present. Constituted the attraction, has now entirely distributed in the original fragrance, which the original fragrance fragrance fragrance, which the original fragrance fragrance fragrance fragrance fragrance fragrance fragrance fragrance fragrance f

order of the Japanese judicial authorities, it did The failure to observe punctuality in the denot properly fall within the scope of the treaties between Japan and England. With this in view, an appeal was made. The case is entirely unprecedented, and is a general subject of discussion in Hakodate.

Since the Bank of Japan has undertaken the direct parchase of public loan bonds, their value has steadily risen. Quotations during the past few days, according to the Fift, were as follows :- On the toth instant, 92.30 yen; on the 1th, 92.50; on the 13th, 92.90; on the 14th, 93 30. The value cose by one yen during the four days, while there is still an upward tendency. Sales among private individuals are 20 III 30 sen higher than the figures above given. Although the Nippon Ginko's total purchase is fixed at 16 or 17 million yen, it is doubtful whether the Bank will continue to buy at the current rates, but so long as it does the pur-chase prices will tend to rise. At any rate, serious fluctuations will occur through the Bank's procedure.

Commenting upon the difficulty of dealing with 70 million yes of exchanged silver pieces accumulated in consequence of the enforcement of geld monometallium, the Nippos says the Government has failed to circulate them in Korea and Formosa, and it now experiences a similar failure in its attempts to recast them into subsidiary coins, for the subsidiaries are already in excess of demand. Fortunately, however, the abundant import of rice from silver-using countries in the Orient presents an opportunity for disposing of the white metal to the amount of some 30 million yes. The Hispane-American war now raging in the Philippine Archipelago will, 100, create a demand for silver, and give the Japanese Government an opportunity of profitably getting rid of its stock.

Since the Korean currency, remarks the Osaka Asahi, consisted chiefly of Japanese yen pieces, their withdrawal consequent upon the revision in the coinage system affected trade with Korea to no sm Il extent. In order to obviste the evil tendencies of the disturbance, it was suggested that the Japanese stamped coins should be thrown into circulation in the Korean market, but no practical effect was given to the proposal. Now that the period of exchange of the yen pieces has been shortened to the end of July, coins of this demonination now circulating in Korea will steadily be transmitted to Japan. The question naturally arises, coins are to be employed in Korea in future? It is stated that the Korean Government has entrusted the Copper Refining Company in Osaka with the task of manufacturing new eilver pieces, which, after being transported to the little Empire, are to be analysed and duly stamped for circulation. In view of these circumstances the Company is reported to have purchased new machinery, and to be ready to commence work from the 20th instant. The new coins are to be shaped like the Japanese 20 sen pieces for t ryo denomination and like t yen pieces for 5 rves. The circulation of these coins in place of Japanese ven pieces The circulation of will, it is supposed, secure the market against inconvenience.

#### A JAPANESE CONSUL'S STRIC-TURES.

The Japanese Consul at Tientsin recently eported to the Government that the Chinese have begun to regard Japanese manufactures with serious distrust. Merchandise received from Japan, they allege, does not correspond with samples and packing is, in almost all cases, miserably unsubstantial. The Consul expresses the deepest regret that Japanese merchants are disposed to break their faith without the slightest regard to honour. The sale of soap is a typical example. The fragrance and delicacy of Japanese soap attracted the notice of the Chinese,

livery of goods is alleged to be another de-plorable defect of Japanese manufacturers. Large orders from Chinese customers are never executed at the appointed time and to the contracted amount, owing simply to want of due attention. The utmost indifference is shown to small orders. Porcelain ordered in September last year has not yet been transmit-ted. The untrustworthiness of the Japanese, the Consul adds, is almost proverbial in many parts of China.

#### HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

An old resident of Shanghai who lately took up his abode in Hongkong has written a letter from which the N.-C. Daily News takes this extract :-

"I feel now satisfied that Hongkong is inferior to Shanghai. The climate is bad; the administration is costly and indifferent, the place is foul beyond measure of description; overcrowded; land available for extension held by Government for high prices; pestilence abroad ascribed, by men competent to judge, to neglect of sanitary measures; while I cannot safely say that a portion of Hongkong is the foulest place in the East, I can say it is the worst I have seen. Medical mensay Shanghai's immunity from plague is very wonderful, but that the epidemic will eventually find entrance is beyond doubt, and the misest means of holding it in check in public classificers, which should be advocated and carried out before the dreadful disease appears; once the germ finds "I feel now satisfied that Houghong is inferior the dreadful disease appears; once the gern finds congenial soil it grows rapidly. These bints may not be unacceptable in the Municipal Council, for, of course, prevention is better than cure.

Hongkong must have greatly changed for the worse if the above be true. A Chinese city is always dirty, and there was never any lack of dirty streets in the Chinese quarter of Hong-kong; but if the native city of Shanghai is not incomparably dirtier, we do not know what dirt

#### THE PLAGUE.

The plague is said to be raging in several park of Fakien. A correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News, writing from Hsinghua, notes the fact, and describes how the native Christians generally enjoy immunity, being instructed in the manner of using lime and other disin-fectants. The same correspondent sends the following curious piece of intelligence:

Last autumn an American patent medicine com Last autumn an American patent medicine company sent to one of the missionaries here two cases containing fifty dozen bottles of a well known remedy, called "Dr. Harter's Specific for Fever and Ague." Main in being very abundant here, as chewhere in South China, it was welcomed as a remedy, as there is much of this sickness among the native employer of the mission. A man who wanted work was given a few bottles to sell. In a few week he reported that this medicine was a good cone for the Plague. No special attention was paid to it at first; but soon reports began to come in from many quarters. It is claimed that was paid to it at this; but soon reports began to come in from many quarters. It is claimed that one bottle cures five or more persons. I fear to put down on paper all the stories I hear about it, lest my sanity or at least veracity be questioned. At first, it was used may among native Christians, but recently a Christian native doctor used

it so successfully apon several cases in his practice among the non-Christians that he is being besieg-ed for it by all classes. He came to Hsinghus city to buy one hundred buttles, but was not allowed to take so many, as the supply will soon be exhausted. He claimed that he had cured two cases where the

the claimed that he had cared two cases where the patients had been given up as hopeless, and in usual Chinese fashion had setually been decased in their grave clothes!

This is not an attempt to explain the phenomena, only to give the news. If it continues to be so successful, we will let the public know it. The people here believe that already hundreds of lives have here as well in it.

have been saved by it.

The preliminary annual return of the British Army shows that the Militia has gradually de-creased in numbers during the last five years, until it is now close upon 20,000 under strength.

#### THE "FOWERFUL" THEATRICALS.

British blueiackets have talents in other directions besides fighting, in which latter department their gifts are sufficiently well-known not to need further advertisement. That the modern tar unites with pluck and knowledge of nautical work a considerable capacity for fun and a surprising amount of histrionic ability was well illustrated on Thursday night at the Public Hall, when the dramatic company of H.M.S. Powerfut gave a performance in aid of the Seamen's Orphan Fund. There was a large audience, almost exclusively composed of English and Americans, and consequently the distinctly Britannic tings of the whole evening's enter-tainment was appreciated. Roars of applanse were heard when, at the conclusion of some acrobatic tricks, the Union Jack and Sters and Stripes were waved aloft together; and almost equally popular were the political references in a topical song dealing with our troublesome neighbours III Port Arthur. The final tableau, "Sons of the Oceau," and the descriptive song which accompanied it hymning the praises of our gallant lads of the sea, also called down tumuliuous applause. The piece de résistance was the farce "Checkmate." It was described as a comedy in the programme, but the whole thing was farce of the wildest description. One does not expect probability or coherence in a farce; as long as it makes one laugh it serves its purpose. Judged by this test, " Checkmate " was entirely a success. Once the mind of the hearer had got over the impossibility of master and servant, mistress and maid, acting m Sir Everton Toffee. Sam Winkle, Charlotte Russe and Martha Bunn did, the complications and funny situations ensuing forced a laugh, if only from their sheer aboutdity and wild incongruity. The plot is of a type well beloved of farce-writers. Miss Charotte Russe has come into a fortune, accompanied by a recommendation that she shall marry her cousin, Sir Everton Toffee, an Indian officer, whom she has not seen from boyhood, He, it appears, has by letter expressed his willinguess for the match, and this induces her to think that he is inclined to treat her as a good financial speculation. In order to test him, she persuades her maid Martha to play the part of the beiress in her stead, while she berself dons the white cap and apron of the servant. Sir. Everton Toffee, on the other hand, is apprehensive that Charlottes confessed willingness to marry him may be induced by the desire for a title; and, with similar motives, he decides on the same plan of action an that which Rose berself has hit on. He instructs his groom Sam Winkle to change clothes and social status with him. The ensuing complications are sufficiently obvious. Martha and Sam, in their attempts to assume the airs of people of consequence, make all kinds of solecisms, barbarously mutilate the Queen's English, and deviate disastrously into French; while Sir Everton and Charlotte make many interesting discoveries in the peculiarities of high life below stairs. The baronet finds the housemaids quarrelling for the privilege of his company on their " Sundary out;" the lady has the rather embarrasaing attentions of the groom, the page boy, and the gardener. In this situamanly man-servant; by a slip of the tongue they discover that both are masquerading; and the

curtain goes down on a happy ending The acting was on the whole excellent. The parts of the lady and gentleman, naturally the most difficult to make at once convincing and entertaining, were creditaly performed by S. Sadler and A. Sannders; W. Sims played the part of the groom transformed into a gentleman with much humour, if with rather loo much exaggeration; and W. Haynes was really innny as Martha the maid. The eccentric pas in the second act between the male and female servants of the Grange was capitally done, and the comic song "The Lady Help" would have done credit to many a music hall

"Sons of the Ocean," was a really fine stage The excellent music of the band made ihe waits enjoyable.

The full cast in the farce was as follows: Sir Everton Toffee, S. Sadler; Sam Winkle (his Groom), W. Sims; Henry (Waiter "Plan-lagenet Hotel"), Sergt. Wells; Paraley (a Gardener), W. Ross; Strap (a Stableman). ] Compton, Cheek, Boots (Pages), W. Dawson, W. Whiting; Bottles, J. Walters; Miss Char-Maid), W. Haynes; Mary Ann. J. Ingersoll; Jane, W. Dewey; Sarah (the Cook), R. Attee; Gardeners, Messrs. Bowes and Cryctal.

The arrangements were in charge of Lieut Streatfield, manager; Mr. Sims, stage manager; and Mr. Lintern, Secretary. The accompanist was Mr. Rea, and the Bandmaster Mr. Schofield

#### KOREAN NOTES.

A Roman Catholic Cathedral was dedicated in Soul on the 29th of May, Bishop Mutel conducting the ceremony, in the presence of the Foreign Corps Diplomatione, officials of the Korean Government, and a large concourse of The corner stone of the Cathedral was hid in 1892, and the building cost sixty thousand dollars. There is an interesting fact connected with the site. It is on an elevated place called Chonghyen (" Bell Hill ") which, on account of its proximity to the temple where portraits of the Korean Kings are kept, had never been considered by the Koreaus appropriate for building purposes. One imagines that the Roman Catholics would have been wise had they selected a site not likely to wound Korean ausceptibilities.

Korea is a country of curiosities; not specimens of pottery, or bronze, and so forth, but social, legislative, judicial and administrative The Supreme Court in Soul lately furnished an example. A certain Yu made over his house to a creditor, Mr. Kim, who sold it to a third party, Hong. Yn, being a special (riend of the Minister of Justice, saw an opportunity to recover his house. He persnaded the Minister to order Hong's imprison ment and make his release conditional on his Under ordinary circumrestoring the house. stances Hong would have been belpless. But he had been fortunate enough to enrol himself a member of the Independence Club, and when the latter learned what had happened, they asked the Supreme Court to 113 the case publicly. The Court consented and the Club attended en masse to witness the proceeding. The affair proved a farce. The presiding judge ruled that Hong, being in the position of defendant, must never speak but only listen, and the members of the Inde-pendence Club marked their disapproval by rising in a hody and leaving the Court. afterwards addressed a letter of remoustrance to the Minister of Justice. Beyond that we have no information. The whole story illustrates a delightfully primitive state of affairs.

Chemulpo seems to be getting on. A witty correspondent of the Independent says that the most impressive thing about the place is its future, and some people evidently have faith in that future, for the American Minister has purchased a site for a residence there, and so as the Emperor of Korea.

The Soul Independent, describing the death of a recently married woman who lived near the "Mulberry Palace," says that "she drowned herself in a well in front of her house," and that "it is thought she met with her untimely death either through accident or from a momentary derangement of her mind," editor is not an Irishman.

The Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Cho Pyengchik, has resigned, and his resignation seems to have been accepted, but we have no news as to his successor.

alloyed pleasure by the Koreans. papers published in Soul argues atoutly against the step, and proclaims a conservative creed, contending that the import of chesp foreign goods tends to ruin native manufacturers, and that all the benefits connected with foreign intercourse are reaped by foreigners. Even the Independent, while professing to traverse its contemporary's views, contends that "until the Government and the people become atrong and intelligent enough to take care of their own interests, Korea should be protected from the unrestrained influx of its neighbours.

There appears to be some hard dealing on the part of the Koreans connected with the Soul-Chemulpo Railway. Some of the persons owning lands and houses that were purchased on account of the line have not received the promised compensation. It is said that when they applied to the Americans in charge of the line, they were answered that full payment had been made of every cent due for houses demolished, lands appropriated, or cereals injured. The petitioners then had recourse to the Korean Director of the road, but he declined even m see them. It is easy to see where the responsibility for the dishonesty rests, if there has been dishonesty.

Some time ago we commented on the extraordinary fact that official correspondence finds its way into the public prints in Soul before the subject to which it relates in settled. We observe that the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs has warned the two veruscular papers, the Kango Shimpo and the Mai i Sinmun, to give up the practice. It would had been more to the purpose if he had taken measures to prevent the correspondence from being divalged by the Department over which he presides.

The inhabitants of Weijn complain that their magistrate, a man of "dark disposition and covetous and stingy heart," arrests innocent people throughout the district." like a string of fishes " and locks them up in jail, merely for the purpose of extorting money from them. He has succeeded to the extent of thirty thousand dollars.

Dr. Jaisobn has left Koren, the Korenn Government having decided to dispense with his services as "adviser." He leaves behind him three monuments in Soul: a vernscular press, the Independendee Arch, and the Independence Club. There is evidently a strong and general feeling of segret at his departure. But we are disposed to think that the functions of newspaper editor and official adviser to a government are not conveniently combinable.

The Korean Repository publishes a translation of an interesting chapter from a Korean bistorical work, according to which the line of Manchu Sovereigns now reigning in Peking are descended from Keum Chyun, & Korean priest, who emigrated from Korea during the era when the peninsula was divided into three Kingdoms, This man's descendants founded Nujen Tartar ' Keum" (gold) dynasty, and, baving captured Mukden, marched against the Ming Sovereigna and became rulers of the Middle Kingdom.

The suppression of the pernicious Pedlara Guild of Korea was one of the reforms which Count Inouye interested himself in promoting during his tenure of office in Soul. Recently the Korean Department of Home Affairs made a vigorous attempt to resuscitate the Guild, but happily the effort failed, and we observe that provincial governors and prefects are now under orders to check any schemes for re-organizing the mischievous association.

If one touch of nature makes the whole world kin, the hearts of 'Arry and 'Arriet of our slums must go out, says the Globe, to the gallant sailormen of Germany and Spain. They have been parading the atreets of Cadiz arm-in-arm and wearing one another's caps! Thus, Punch's singer of some note. The Irish song of Messis.

Bowes and Crystal and some acrobatic performances were also clever, while he find tables for trade has not been received with un-Digitized by

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT

#### CHINA NOTES.

The North China Daily News hears that a movement is on foot among some of the enlightened young Chinese and their Japanese friends to promote a visit to the Emperor of China by the Emperor of Japan. It is hoped that, if this can be accomplished, it will result in a pro-Asiatic alliance for the conservation of the integrity of China and Japan, and that the Emperor of Japan may be able to persuade his brother at Peking in come out of his Palace and see something of the outside world, a consummation devoutly to be wished. We in Japan have not heard anything of such a project.

The child of a well-known Shanghai resident living in the Bubbling Well Road has been bitten by a pet cat which was attacked with rables, and the little one has been sent to Nagasaki for treatment at the Pasteur Institute there.

The magazine of the Yangchow territorial troops was found on the 10th June to have been broken into by some persons anknown, who carried off nearly 800 catties of gunpowder. The military and civil officials of Yangchow, says a Shanghai contemporary, are greatly alarmed at the news of the theft, as they consider it ominous of armed outbreaks in the near future by the Kolao Hui. Following upon this came the arrest of an officer belonging to the salt excise battalion for having housed a Kolao Hui chief, who was alleged to have spread a rumour of an intended attack on the missionaries in that city, in consequence of which there has been quite a panic among the orderly citizens of the place.

Mr. Frosell, who is coming out to China as the representative of the Jameson-Hooley financial syndicate, has telegraphed to Shanghai that the bankruptcy of Mr. Hooley will have no effect upon the prospects of the syndicate, and he expects to reach Shanghai shortly.

The Emperor of China is m mortal much to be pitied. The ruler of millions, he finds his orders neglected on every hand; Recently he issued a decree in the Peking Gasette that has a more than usually plaintive ring about it. The document runs:—

The Princes, Nobles, Ministers, and subordinate officers of our Court who have one and all received our bounty, ought by rights to show their gratitude by doing their best in lightening our labours in such crises as the present, as well as to diligently attend to their several duties in order to deserve the confidence we have placed in them. We are therefore filled with indignation when we find that it has of late been the liabit of many of our officers to shick their duties, using all sorts of excuses to avoid them. Even, for instance, after we had ordered certain officers to attend simple ceremonies such as sacrificial worship and the like, we often now meet with menurials from the various Beards and departments praying us to select some one else to take the place of the selected officers owing to the latter being unavoidably prevented from one cause or another obeying the Imperial commands, etc. This we take to be sheer laginess and shirking of extra work, which must be severely denounced and prohibited once for all. We would therefore give fair warning to all such that in the future we will make careful investigations into any excuses hought to us and if we find any one guilty of trying to deceive us, we promise such persons that their punishment will in no wise be light. Now, after this decire, let no one say that he has not been given fair warning to desist from such evil practices.

The N.-C. Daily News gives the name of the foundered Chinese man-of-war as Foothi, and says that one officer and three men were saved out of a complement of 150.

The Daily Chinese Progress publishes the following despatch from its correspondent at Kirin:—The Russian surveyors have come very near the Chaolin mausoles, in fact, within the boundaries of the sacred and revered last resting-places of the ancestors of the present line of Emperors, in their demarcation of the Russian Manchurian Railway. As this is considered sacrilege, H.E. E. & O-tang-á, Tartar General of

Fênglien, protested against the proposed route, requesting that the line should make a détour in order to save the succeptibilities of the people of Manchuria. H.E.'s protest, it is said, has met with no response from the Russian Railway officials:

A Shanghai paper notes that it is rumoured in local mandarin circles that the Russian and French representatives at Peking are most jealous of the lease of territory near Hougkong to Great Britain, and in consequence Russia demands the "lease" also of Kinchon, to the northwest of Port Arthur in the Liaotung Peninsula, whilst France wants the "lease" of a port, still unnamed, in Fukien province.

A Peking despatch received in Shanghai, states that in the "Farewell" memorial to the throne of the late Prince Kung, just prior to his death, the late Prince strongly recommends four persons to his Majesty's notice and confidence, viz:—Prince Mo, 4th Order, Junior Vice-President of the Imperial Clan Coart; Chang Chib-tung, Viceroy of the Hukung provinces; Kang Yi, recently promoted Assistant Graad Secretary and President of the Board of War; and Li Ping-heng, the degraded ex-Governor of Shantung. The dying Prince declared these four men "were the ablest of all the high Ministers of the Crown" the Emperor has.

A recent decree in the Peking Gazette is worthy of note. It suns :-

We have received the memorial of Sing Fan, Viceroy of the Yung-Kuei provinces, demuncing certain military officers under him and praying that the punishment of loss of rank and dismissal for ever from the service be pronounced against certain military delinquents. With reference to Sen Subbung, Major commanding the Ching battahon of Yunnan, who has been found guilty of using dummies on his battahon roll, we hereby confirm Sing Fan's suggestion and cashier and dismiss for ever the said delinquent. The same punishment is also to be meted out to Ting Yaoning, Major commanding the Wan battahon, but as for Ku Hung, Colonel commanding the several battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the Teng brigade, as all his battahons of the tengent of the sent to work, on the military post roads and banished to the country beyond the Great Wall. This punishment will in future be adhered to integrate to all officers found guilty of commandingsuch "skeletine" battahous, thereby pocketing for themselves the pay of the said "dummies." We wish here to record our commendation of the conduct of the memorialist who had the confage to make such wholesale demociations in the face of the "precedents" which we know to "xist under such conditions, and would exhort all our Viceroys and Governors to do their duty by us and demonoce severely all attempts at lowering the strength of our military organisation.

News received in Shanghai from Yangchow reports that owing to numerous rumours circulating in that city of an intended rising against the constituted authorities and, incidentally, against missionaries, quite a panic is apparent amongst the general masses, and numbers of families of the well-to-do have begun to leave the city for quieter places. The authorities, however, appear to be preparing to cope with any disturbances that may arise and have brought from Kianchou and Chinkiang a large force of troops, a part of whom are encamped outside and a part inside the city walls.

Writing on June 14th, the China Mail announced that there had been little change in the condition of affairs at Hollo since last reports from that place. The summary measures taken by the Spanish garrison to quell the rebel disturbances have proved effective for the time, although they have engendered a feeling of distrust and lust for revenge amongst the natives. The rebel force which looted some churches a few weeks ago has been practically annihilated; and every day one or two suspected natives are taken out of the city several miles and shot. The arrest of these suspects is apparently effected by a few soldiers employed as a secret service, and the arrests are usually made at night.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A case of dysentery was reported on the 21st inst. at a house of ill-fame in Maganecho, Yokohanna. The victim was a girl named Kuto Kata, 25 years of age. In consequence, nine girls and five employes of the house have been isolated for five days.

Admiral Dewey having given permission, the firm of Messrs. Evans and Jackson, Duddell Street, Hongkong, will open a store at Cavite from which the firm proposes to supply the U.S. naval and military forces with provisions and general stores. Cavite is now regarded as an American possession.

A Bill has been passed, says a Washington despatch dated the 27th ult., providing for "the honouring of Rear-Admiral Dewey and his brave men, who fought so well in Manila bay." The Bill carries an appropriation for giving a memorial sword to the Rear-Admiral and bronze medals to all the officers and men who were engaged in the fight.

On May 18, Mr. Hoshi Toru, Japanese Minister at Washington received permission for two Japanese officers to accompany the American expedition to Cuba. They are Major G. Shiba, of the Japanese army, mutil recently military allache II London, who participated in the invasion of Manchuria and the storming of Port Arthur, and Commander Katsuro Narita, of the Imperial Japanese navy, who has for some time been an allache of the legation in Washington as well II inspector for his Government of the Japanese cruiser nearly completed at Cramp's shippard in Philadelphia.

Details of the recent big fire at Tsuchizaki, Akita Prefecture, are to hand. The fire originated at Shinyanagi-machi and the flames apread to Atago Kami-Sakata. Shimizu, and other streets. The conflagration destroyed 286 houses, 14 go-downs, the two branches of the Akita Bank and the 48th National Bank, a trainway station, and some other buildings. One person was injured. One merchant named Omi lost 10,000 piculs of rice, and 10,000 piculs of salt. Another named Sato suffered to the extent of yen 20,000.

An agreeable discovery is reported from Shanghai. A licensed dairyman, proprietor of a dairy in Li Hongkew, was found to be selling milk adulterated with water taken from a creek, into which habitually drain the contents of several piggeries situated on its banks. Moreover, the piggeries are said to be the most savoury of the sources of pollution from which the creek receives contributions. An analysis of the milk by Dr. Stanley showed that it had ten million bacteria to the cubic centimetre, many of them being putrescent organisms.

Mr. Bernard late secretary of the Austro-Hungarian Consulate in Hongkong, while stepping from the gangway of the Phra Chom Klao, then at anchor in the Bangkok river, on to a small sampan, was precipitated into the water and drowned. The China Mail says that the deceased was in the Transval during the stormy events of 1805-96, and as a member of the Reform Commutee lost heavily and suffered imprisonment. At one time, he was in business in Glasgow. He was an accomplished linguist, speaking no fewer than eight European languages, and had travelled in all parts of the world except America.

The Hisgo News, writing on Monday, said:—Cargo out of no fewer than thirteen vessels was involved in the fire on the Pier Company's compound on March 3rd last, and enormous interests were comprised in the adjustment that had to be made by the representative Committee. Mr. Th. de Berigny, to whom the actual apportionment work was entrusted, has achieved wonders, and his figures will, we expect, be unbesitatingly accepted by all the parties interested in the final settlement. This, however, will take some time as between marine risks, fire risks, and consignes, Mr. de

Berigny's elaborate statistics have made evident the amounts at stake but cannot settle the legal responsibilities to pay the same: 8,780 bales of cotton and large quantities of general merchandise were destroyed; the salvage fealised 43.051 yen; substantial sums bave therefore still to be made good. The adjustment has done all and more than was expected; the Courts of Law must do the rest.

Count de Barthelemy, who travelled recently across Indo-China, has brought to the monkeyhouse of the Jardin des Plantes, Paris, two fine specimens of the Semnopithec monkeys, which are among the most curious of the monkey tribe. As their name indicates, they are venerable in appearance, and resemble old scholastic doctors with grey beards and black velvet skull caps.

Some curious facts come from Belgrade in connection with the National Library there. has been closed, not because there are no readers. but because there are no books to read. And yet the library once possessed 40,000 volumes, many of which were valuable. With a view of making the library useful, the committee of administration conceived the idea of lending out the books. It was an evil day for the library when this was put into operation, for none of the books that were lent out has been retuined. And now only the catalogue remains.

A Coroner's jury at Nagasaki, consisting of Mesers. E. B. Shepherd, M. C. Adams, and E. A Measor, returned a verdict to the effect that William Evans, chief gunnery instructor of H.M.S. Grafton " came to his death by shooting himself with a revolver while temporarily insane on board H.M.S. Grafton in the harbour of Nagasaki on the 17th day of June." ing to Dr. Crowley, of the Graften, the deceased had no suicidal tendency; it was temporary in-sanity, caused by a hypochondriacal disposition and by nervous anxiety lest he should develop paralysis, that caused the man to commit suicide

The latest China Edict bears reference to meport made by the Tsung-li Yamen, asking the Emperor to select some of the clansmen of the Imperial family to be sent abroad for purposes of study and travel. The Emperor replied:-To send Princes and Imperial Clausmen to travel abroad is a step towards enlightenment and is in accordance with the times. The Imperial Clan Court is desired to find out and recommend to the Throne any Clansman who is acquainted with up to-date affairs and possesses sufficient intelligence for acceptance, to be sent to foreign countries.

Philatelists will be interested in the new postage-stamps for Thesealy, which the Turkish Government has just caused to be circulated. These stamps are of the value of five, two, and one plastre and of 20 and 10 paras, and so eager were collectors to possess the new stamps that on the third day following their introduction, those valued I five and two plastres were all bought up, and changed hands at eighteen shillings. The stamps of smaller value brought four shillings. The traders in these stamps were Turkish officers and Civil servants, who evidently thought it an opportunity for making money not to be thrown away.

The Temps thus discusses the recent Bluebook concerning Port Arthur and Wei-hai-wei, The reades sees therein, it says, "German policy marching on with the vigour of an imperturbable logic," and Russia "pursuing a line of conduct established some generations ago while suiting her language and actions to the changing necessities of the present hour,' As for England, says the Zemps, one cannot may as much. "Constantly surprised by events which everyone could have anticipated, she improvises her decisions, acts a little at haphazard, and combines the maximum of distrust with the minimum of prudence."

Mr. A. D. Startseff of Tientein has purchased the German steamer Tai Pick for the Russian Steam Navigation Co. in the East. The steame was transferred to the Edgis a flag of the Ch

will trade on the company's regular line between Shanghai and Vladivostock, calling at Chefoo, Port Arthur, Nagasaki, and Korean ports on both ways, She left on her maiden trip under her new ensign at noon on June 17th under the command of Captain V. G. Bollman. She is 1,005 tons net, 1 678 gross, and 2,300 tons dead-weight capacity, 264 feet long over all, 36 feet beam, and 24 feet moulded depth, engines 186 nominal and 900 indicated hoise-power, and was built at Rostock, Germany, last year, of steel with teak decks and double bottom.

The principal attraction at the sale of the Ashburnham Library in London was the offer of the rare first folio copy of Shakespeare's The first folio, printed in 1632, is the rarest, and when in good condition always realises a good price. The Shakespeare, with portrait after Drosshont, 1623, measuring 127111. by 84 in., but very imperfect, was put up at £210. and finally knocked down at the sum of £585 to Mr. Sotheran. After the bidding a gentle-man, who turned out to be Sir Arthur Hodgson, chairman of the committee of the Memorial Library at Stratford on-Avon, announced that he had travelled up specially from Shakespeare's birthplace, and had given instructions to Mr. Sotheran to buy the "first folio" for the committee, and that this relic was going to be put in the library, and would never be seen in an auction again.

"Intimately connected with the physical conditions of the criminal are his psychic peculissays Helen Zimmern, in Appleton's ar Science Monthly (April), "These rities, Popular Science Monthly (April). consist chiefly in great matability of character, coupled with overwhelming development of some passion and the strophy of some others. The criminal acts from impulse, although he often displays, as madmen do, a low couning in finding means to carry out his impulse. He is intensely vain, priding himself on the number of crimes he has committed. He is further devoid of all remorse, fond of boasting of his evil deeds and of describing them in detail. Thus Lombroso gives the reproduction of a photograph, in which three murderers who had assassinated one of their number caused themselves to be represented in the very act of committing their deadly deed, a pholograph taken for the benefit of their less fortunate associates

Count Mouravieff, the Russian Foreign Secre tary, is thus described in the Outlook :- He is pre-eminently a diplomatist of a bygone era; all things to all men and, therefore, to most men not remarkable. About fifty years old, about five feet nine in his stockings, slightly marked with small-pox, and rather hald, he has com-manded the successes of a Wilkes with men and women. Frigid, cryptic, or, perhaps, only artistically bored, he was never easy of access throughout a long diplomatic career. But, access conceded, as it was whenever not obviously unremusierative, any beautiful woman or popular man in the capital to which he was accredited was certain to ancoumb to his charm. Few have played a better game of whist or invested the uncorking of choice vintages with a pleasanter echo from the Odes of Horace. Polyglot and bejewelled, he would sit up later than anyone, and rise earlier to reap the harvest. The indiscretions of others overnight guided his pen in the morning. They had babbled whilst he had listened, and he wrote whilst they slept. His pleasure was a duty and his duty a pleasure.

The Times' St. Petersburg correspondent deals with the famine in the interior which has been the subject of so much lament during the The area affected in a varying past winter. degree, though not without some favourable exceptions, is situated mostly in the south-east and east of Russia. It embraces no fewer than 19 large provinces, 16 of which suffered from the terrible famine of 1891, and the total popu-

inst. and renamed Fostock (The East). She the verge of starvation, and "hunger-typhus" and other effects of insufficient nourishment have begin to appear among them. At the beginning of the winter the Minister of the Interior authorized the distribution of 27lb. of flour per head per month among the women and children and aged peasants unfit for work, but the able-bodied unable to find work appear to have been left out of account. The Government declares that these reports are exaggerated and at variance with the actual state of affairs. Several officers were specially sent to one or two spots to make inquiries, and they were unable to confirm the newspaper reports of extreme distress and misery. Such discrepancies between Russian official and public views are by no means rare or extraordinary, and there is a sad want of confidence in official explanations. It is admitted in the official statement that some of the facts published in the Press are only the "ordinary appearance of poverty and want to be met with in the existing conditions of life among the agricultural as well as other classes of the population," and it is this permanent state of wretcheduess, not to speak of the additional distress of the present moment, that has caused the Russian newspapers of publish some pretty broad bints as to waste of money and attention in the Far East,

> The statistics of English Law Courts for 1896 show that on the whole there is a remarkable stability in the movements of litigation. During the last to years the total number of proceedings begun has varied little m compared with population; the highest figure was 4,308 per 100,000 persons in 1894, and the lowest was 3,966 per 100,000 in 1890. The total number of proceedings of all kinds begun in 1896 was 1.231,798. Of this number 99 9 per cent, were in Courts of first instance, Actions heard and determined numbered 408,273 out of the total of 1,231,798 proceedings begun. One interesting point is the extreme rarity with which applications to sue in forma pauperis are made or granted in English Courts. In the House of Lords there were three, and in the Queen's Bench four, orders of the kind in 1896, and in District Registries and the Probate Division one each. In the Divorce Division, where they would naturally be more numerous, there were 36; and these would appear to be all. In France, on the other hand, there were in 1894 no fewer than 71,128 demander d'assistance judiciare, of which 29,529 were granted. In Italy for the same year there were 57,285 petitions for gratuito patrocinio, and of these 31,429 were admitted.

The Berlin Echo, a weekly journal devoted to the expansion of German export trade, contains the following remarks upon the new line of steamers now trading with the Far East :-The importance of this undertaking is far above the limits of a purely mercantile interest. German shipping industry is busy in every region of the world, whether it be on the regular service of fixed trade routes, or whether it be on long journeys from port to port. At the present acute stage in trade competition this initiatory step on Germany's part to connect North Americe and the Far East is worthy of attention; three-fourths of trade in Eastern Asia now lies in the hands of the Germans, and the projected bringing together of the thickly-populated districts of the Eastern States of America with the immense market for their goods in Asia must still further develop the inercantile marine of Germany. Slowly, but irresistibly, Germany's sea commerce and merchant service are approaching those of England, and will scon surpass them in quantity and numbers. The German spirit of cuterprise is creeping up step by step, and may now proudly call the attention of Englishmen to the fact that at this moment a German steamship company, the Hamburg-American Line, is the greatest in the world, that the largest cargo steamer in the world is the German steamer the Penusylvania, and, finally, that a lation outunmbers that of the British Isles. The German Royal Mail steamer, the Kaiser Witreserve stores of grain in many places have been being the Great, is the fastest ship in the world. Ethansted, the peasants have been reduced to These are three records all won from England.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE EVILS OF CIGARETTE SMOKING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—The accompanying, copied from The Republican, an Obio paper, dated May 17th, should be of interest to all concerned in the welfare of sankind. I trust you will give it space in your paper, and that the note of warning it sounds may not only be heard, but heeded, by many.

L. S. E. Yours truly.

HABITUAL SMOKERS OF CIGARETTES NOT FIT FOR SOLDIERS

Large numbers of rejections of volunteers have caused much comment in the Army Medical Corps. However, the physicians who have con-ducted the examinations say that outside of the ducted the examinations say that outside of the ranks of cigarette smokers there are even fewer rejections than there were in the days of the civil war. Among habitual users of cigarettes the rejections are about 90 per cent. Dr. Benjamin King, of Philadelphia, who acted as an examining surgeon during 1861-63 in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana, says that the average rejections during these years did not exceed 13 per cent. He attributes the large increase almost entirely to the cigarette habit. "I have been inspecting the papers in a number of have been inspecting the papers in a number of cases under the present recruiting act," said Dr. King, "and I observe that most of the men who King, "and I observe that most or one man multiple to pass the medical examination have weak hearts or lack the vitality necessary to make a good soldier. I had expected that the percentage of rejections would be greater now that in 1861, but I did not dream that it would be almost three times as great. The examining physicians with whom I have talked have generally told me that the excess of rejections is due to the large mumber of young men applying for enlistment who have become victims of the cigarette habit."

#### WAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Str.—In reply to a rejoinder of my esteemed friend Mr. Voegelein, to an article of mine which appeared in your columns under date May 20th, I hope to be permitted to say a few words. I would not be understood as contending that war is an unmixed evil from which no possible good ever comes. I have no thought of denying that war has sometimes done good. There is no good ever comes. I have no tonight or conying that was has sometimes done good. There is no unmixed evil in the universe. Providence brings good from everything, from fearful sufferings, from atrocious crimes. But sufferings and crimes are not therefore to be set down among our blessings. Murder sometimes cuts short the life and triumphs of a mouster of guilt. Robbery may throw into circulation the useless hordes of a miser. Butlit would indeed be a strange turn of mind that would would indeed be a strange tirn of mind that would therefore attempt a defence of minder and obtery. The kiss of Judas, his love of money, and betrayal of his Lord were all acts through which mankind have received incalculable good; but Judas was "the son of perdition " and went unto " his own place." No greater mistake can be made than to suppose that because good is made to result from evil, the evil is therefore justifiable. While we may rejoice at all the good an all-wise providence may bring out of crime and every evil deed, it nevertheless technical who an answer providence may only off of this and every evil deed, it nevertheless behaves all who have a love for truth, purity, and good will to men to stay out of crime lost they fall into condemna-tion; and thus not only work greater good to man

but a blessing to themselves.
That the Lord, according to Old Testament history, directed war is also a fact with which every Bible reader is acquainted. He did the same every Bible reader is acquainted. He did the same in regard to polygamy, divorce, and slavery. Father Ahraham in addition to Sarah hesitated not to take also his servant. Hagar to wife. His grandson Jacob not only had two sisters as wives, but also had a number of children by their maid servants. The owning of slaves was a common practice among the very best people of that time, and divorce was a recognized right. He who therefore thinks the Old Testament funishes a recognized to the control of the standard of the standard for war must also be proposed to defend precedent for war must also be prepared to defend

divorce, slavery, and polygamy.
The truth is the Lord suffered these things because of the "hardness of the hearts" of the people, but nevertheless afflicted those who thus fell into sin. David for example fought the battles of the because he had been a man of war and had shed much blood (I Chron. 28:§). This temple, built by Solomon, a man of peace, but whose father David was prohibited from so doing because he

Jews also demanded a king to rule over them. The Lord granted it and even selected their kings; nevertheless he says to Samuel; "They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not be king over them." This rejection of the Lord incurred his wrath and led to Israel's rain. "Where now is thy king that he may save there in all the cities? and the induses of whom thee in all thy cities? and thy judges, of those saidst, Give me a king and prince? given the a king in mine anger and I have taken him away in my wrath," "Thou art destroyed, O Israel, for thou art against me" (Hos. 13:5 12). The Lord uses people for the work they prepare themselves to do: if it be obedience to his commands they are blessed therein; if it be in going contrary to his will by following a deprayed and sinful heart, his ultimate purposes are not set ander the color of the c thereby, but it brings destruction on those thus engaged; and such is the nature of war.

J. M. McCALEB.

Tokyo, June 14th, 1898.

#### FOREIGNERS' DISABILITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " JAPAN MAIL."

Sir.-The list of legal disabilities onder which foreigners at present labour which you published on the 14th inst, is particularly interesting at the present time; but may I ask if it is complete? present time; but may I ask if it is complete? For example, can a foreign physician or surgeon practise and claim his fees unless he holds a Japanese diploma, or some special license a appointment, such as surgeon to a Japanese hospital? Can a foreigner buy, sell, or hold tailway shares, or shares in a manufacturing business. And can he become a director? Can he becomes a farmer? And so on. And in what direction, and to what extent, will these disabilities be affected when Treaty Revision becomes an accomplished when Treaty Revision becomes an accomplished fact?

W. SILVER HALL Yours. &c. Tokyo, 15 Jane, 1898.

#### THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE " IAPAN MAIL."

Sir.-Being only a visitor in Japan some migh-suppose that the Dushisha affair is no matter of mine or of any for whom I could speak in the case. But, Briton as I am, I am also a citizen of the world—of mankind—and have an interest in honour, right, truth, and justice throughout the world.

From the resemblance of their history to the history of our Island Empire, I feel especial in-terest in the people of Japan and in their brave and noble efforts to asset their national existence, and in the success of their Imperial authorities and their government in obtaining and maintaining a high place among the nations. For such a cason I am jealous of the honour of Japan, and feel grieved that anything should occur at this critical period of her splendid development to injure her, her government, or her people, in the eyes of the peoples of Europe and America, which I fear this Doshisha business will do, if not soon corrected by a sense of right and national honour under the force of a sound public opinion. The removal of landmarks, followed up by the violation of a sacred trust, cannot be winked at by a great and generous people, must hinder their prosperity and sub ject them at least to the distrust of mankind. I certainly were no excuse to say we have known such things to be done elsewhere; and were there even this justification, it is a very permicious and dangerous doctrine to mge let us consort to do evil that good may come. That smely were a compt principle and a worthless foundation to at tempt to build a school on for the education of youth, or with any prospects of success. The matter of trusts is something of great concern among Western nations. To subvert or betray a personal or public bust is reckoued among the gravest offences against law, against right and gravest offences against law, against light and bonour. To carry out a donor's will, a donor's bonefaction and toot, is a most sacred office and responsibility. For trustees to be faithless with regard to the trust they have accepted brings upon them score and condign problement. If there is nothing in the law of Japan to meet such a case, a strong and sound public opinion ought soon to make even law effective in this regard. Other nations must form an opinion concerning Japan, on the way this Doshisha matter is handled. As Count Olema well says, "This question will affect the confidence of foreigners in the Japanese," To have this confidence lessened in the present relation of the treaties cannot but do injury

and she has many-wishers among those who are giving life and treasure for her highest good Yours tenly, A. CARMAN.

General Superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada.

#### MR. MINAMI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL,"

SIR,—In a very control letter, published in your columns on the 13th instant, the Rev. H. Minami releas to a sentence in the last Religious Sunmary, which he alleges misrepresented his views as expressed in the article that appeared in the Shinri, which I epitomised. I have re-xamined Mr. Minami'a article, and as a result feel sure that he has misapprehended the meaning of this sent-ence he quotes, "Our theological notions as Chris-tians should be harmonised with those conceptions of Godhead which we inherited from our ancestors." In the interesting essay of which I gave an abstract, Mr. Minami's argument throughout is that wherever Christianity has been taught it has been affected in various ways by other religious and by schools of thought. He makes special reference to the manner in which the Greek philosoference to the manner in which the Greek philosophy was utilised for giving expression to Christian thought, ending up this part of his article with the words Każunogotoku ni shite Kiristokyō wa Girisha koku to dokwa [] this shitaru nari, "Thus did Curistianity and Greek ideas become assimilated," This theory he proceeds to apply to Japan, advocating the blending of ethical Christian teaching with Japanes treeting and the action Japan, advancing the continuous attitude consistant teaching with Japanese teaching on the subject of loyalty and filtal piety. Now the question of the interiority or superiority of Christian and non Christian theological notions does not affect in any way Mr. Minami's argument, and therefore in the short summary that the limits of your space allowed meaning the did not deep it recognition in the Manager of the control of to make I did not deem it necessary to insert Mr. Minami's remarks on the correspondence between Shinto conceptions of Godhead to Old Testament teaching in reference to the Divine Being. I gave Mr. Minami credit for the intention to carry his argument to its logical issue, namely, the neces of Christianity's using native conceptions of Deity as far as possible in order to express itself in a telling manner. If Mr. Minami is of opinion that there is nothing in Shinto worthy of use, then, it seems to me, the proposition that he set out to prove remains unproven, and his argument must be pro-nounced a failure.

By speaking of harmonising Shinto and Christian conceptions of God there is no implication that these conceptions are equal in value; any more than to speak of harmonising Old Testament ideas in reference to the Divine nature would be disparaging to the New Testament ideas as compared with the old. What I understand Mr. Minami to assert is that in all non-Christian comtries there are some definite untions in reference to the Godhead, and that Christianity makes use of the Godhean, and that Christianity makes use of these as far as possible. It is quite impossible to conceive of a civilised people like the Japanese baving no theological notions worthy of being utilised by Christianity. In all countries the most successful missionaries rely on the theological notions they find imbedded in the minds of the people as a basis for conveying Christian notions, and in the course of time the blending of the newlyimported Christian ideas with traditional theologiideas takes place.

the liters takes pince.
It seems to me that Mr. Minami has allowed the word "harmonise" to alarm him beyond what the word "has monite" to also in him beyond what the context and the whole gist of his argument warrant, unless he is prepared to say that there is nothing in the whole range of Shintô thought that is capable of blending with Christianity—an externm view which I think no writer of Mr. Minami's school of thought would venture to chemical champion.

I am, yours, &c.,

"THE WRITER OF THE SUMMARY."

### THE " POWERFUL."

Everyone is interested in war and warships just now, when two nations are clutching at each others throats and the rest are half afraid and half-desirous of joining in. Consequently visitors to the Powerful are numerous, and they—the men at any rate—show a keener and greater interest in the details of the lunge ship than is usually exhibited in such excursions. The Powerful is, as everyone in such excursions. The Powerful is, as everyone knows, the largest type of croiser in the world, and all her fittings, from the huge 92 in, guns thirty-five feet or so long, to the timest bolt or electric lamp are of the most approved type. The power had been a man of war, is generally admitted to la grey intelligent patient in the country, and projectly spirit in the projectly spirit in the country, and projectly spirit in the country, and projectly spirit in the country and projectly spirit in the country and projectly spirit in the country and projectly spirit in the country.

ful, which is defended by a mour 13 inches thick would not be quite safe from them. There are two would not be quite safe from them. There are two of these 9.2 in guns, 16 12 prs., III 6 in. quick firers, and 19 small quick firers and Maxims, as well as four torpedo tubes. The large quick firers can fire 6 rounds a nimute, and the Maxims can pour bullets into an enemy at the rate of 600 can pour bullets into an enemy at the rate of 000 rounds a minute. The means of manipulating the huge masses of metal, the case with which they are moved up and down, left and right, loaded, sighted, and fired are all most interesting to the novice. The engine rooms too, are marvellous, even to those who "thow all about?" engines, and are familiar with the arrangements of a great ocean liner. The Powerful is of course fitted with which there has been much controversy. The fact, however, that foreign Powers generally are tollowing our example in fitting ships with these boilers shows that they are the only type for boilers shows that they are to the fast warships of the future.

#### AN EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL.

The following Imperial ordinance has been issued :--

We hereby sanction the tules for the High Educational Conneil and direct the same to be promulgated.

(Imporial Sign Manual and Great Seal) June 17 of the 31st year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) Marquis Iro Hironumi, Minister President of State. TOYAMA SHOTCHI, Lit. Dr Minister of Education.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 605.

REGULATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE HIGH REUCATIONAL COUNCIL.

Act. I.—The High Educational Council shall be under the control of the Minister of Education. Att. II .- The High Educational Council shall

undertake the discussion of the following topics in conformity with instructions from the Minister of Education :-

(t). The establishment or abolition of libraries for the Imperial University or for other colleges under the direct supervision of the Educational Department.

(2). Method of superintendence, school currithe public and private schools and those under the direct control of the Educational Department.

(3). Obligation as to the education of children of school age, and the amount of tuition fees to be received by Primary Schools.

(4). Superintendence of educational affairs.

(5). School text books, maps, and atlases.
(6). Qualifications of officials in public and private schools and those under the direct control of the Educational Department.

(7). All other items the discussion of which is deemed necessary by the Minister of Education, Act. III.—The High Educational Council may

present memorials to the Munister of State with regard to educational matters.

Act. IV .- The Council shall consist of the following members :- Principals of the Nobles' Boys and Girls' Schools; President of the Imperial Museum; a general officer to the Army and Navy; President of the Imperial University; President of the Imperial University; President of each of the branch Colleges of the Imperial University; Superintendent of each of the various Bureaux in the Education Department and two Bureaux in the E-meation Department and two Inspectors; Principals of the High Normal Schools for Boys and Girls; Presidents of the High Commercial School, of the Tokyo Technical College, of the Fine Arts School, of the Musical School attached to the High Normal School, and College, of the Fine Aris School, of the Musical School attached to the High Normal School, and of the Imperial Library; one of the Directors of the High Schools; a Director of the Commercial Navigation Cellege; two of the Directors of the Normal Schools; two of the Directors of the Public Ordinary Middle Schools; one of the Directors of the Ordinary Middle Schools; one of the Directors of the Ordinary Intermediate Schools; Directors of the Ordinary Intermediate Schools; Precional School, and of the Girls' High School under the supervision of the Girls' High Normal School; two Presidents from the Private Schools; President of the Tokyo University Institute (Gakushi Kwai in); President of the School Sanitary Council in the Education Department; men of erudition or persons well versed in educational matters; other members to be collisted on the occasion of special necessity. Any person or any special member other than those who are exoficing entitled to attend the Council shall be appointed by the Minister of Education.

Art. V.—The Minister of Education may, if he deems necessary, direct his subordinate high officing the transit of the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing that the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the Council shall be officing the strend the council shall be officing the strend the council shall be officing the strend the council shall be officing th

deems necessary, direct his subordinate high officinals to attend the Conneil at any time, provided that they shall notable part in the decision.

Art. VI.—The Council shall have a President and Vice President appointed from among the members, subject to Imperial sauction, on application by the Minister of Education. When both the President and Vice President are mable to attend, the former may nominate one of the mem-bers to act in his behalf.

Art. VII.—The term of service of members

shall be one year, ex officio members excepted.

Art. VIII.—The President shall, according to

Regulations, adjust matters of debate, and report the decisions to the Minister of Education.

Art. IX .- The Council shall determine by dis cussion rules for the adjustment of its affairs, and eceive the sanction thereto of the Minister of Education,

Art. X .- The Council shall be held more in each year, but a special meeting may be convoked at any time when occasion requires. The date as well as the period of session shall be determined

by the Minister of Education.

Art. XI.—The members shall receive an annual allowance of less than 500 year, while special members are to be granted spitable compensation according to the business with which they are called upon to deal. In no case, however, will allowances be made to members coming under the category of the 1st portion of clause 1 and clause 13 of Article IV.

Act. XII .- The Council shall have a Directo Act. XII.—The Council shall have a Director (Kanji) appointed from among the high officials of the Education Department, and two Secretaries from among the clerks of the same Department. The Director shall superintend general affairs under the direction of the President; the Secretaries of the President of the President. ries shall act under instructions from the President and the Directors. The Director may receive an annual allowance not exceeding 200 yen, and the Secretaries of not more than 100 yen.

#### CRICKET.

#### H.M.S. "POWERFUL" V. YOKOBAMA.

A cricket match was played on Thursday afterneon on the Yokohama Cricket Ground between Powerful. The weather was a delighful contrast to the cold and rainy days we have had of late, and a most enjoyable day was spent. The pleaare of visitors was enhanced by the performances of the splendid band of the warship.

The naval men won the toss, and Nicholas and Wall went to the wicket to face the bowling of T. B. Clarke and Frangeley. Only one had been scored when Nicholas was stumped by Duff. Snagge then joined Walf, and the score began to mount, Walf bitting freely, and making two fours and several singles in the course of two or three overs. At 26 a change of bowlers was tried, Walovers. At 20 a change or nowters was tried, yearlord superseding Fradgeley, but he was punished
rather severely, several singles and a four by
Snagge being made from him. At 36 Snagge
was clean bowled by Clarke, his total of 14 including two fours and one two. Whittaker succeeded, and scored freely, bitting a three, a two, and singles from the first two or three overs. who appeared to be well set, also hit steadily, and fifty went up after 35 minutes' play. Kingdon was then put on in place of Walford, and Whittaker was madly taken at point in his first over. The was madly taken at point in his first over. The pace of the scoring, however, was not checked, and sixty went up a few minutes after, Wall making a four and several singles, while Whittaker hit less fixedy. At this point F. E. White took the leather hand the beather him. four At this point F. E. White took the leather from Clarke, but the change did not work, Wall hitting three off his first over. In Kingdon's next over Whittaker gave a chance at point, which was over Whittaker gave a chance at point, which was out taken, and the error proved an expensive one for Yokobama, as the pair continued to hit away merrity. Wall making several twos and a three, merrily. Wall making several twos and a three while Whittaker contented himself with singles At 70 another change of trundlers was White resigning the ball to Murdoch. T White resigning the ball to Murdoch. The new bowler did not himself effect anything, but at 80 Whittaker was taken by Powys off Kingdon, His 19 included a three and two twos; the innings was not without fault, as he gave more than one chance. Egetton was the next batsman, but he left the scoring to Wall, who, hitting hard, soon raised the total to 90. Seven run later Sutter took the ball from Kingdon, his first over being a maiden. The teams then addingted for tiffic. The nev maiden. The teams then adjourned for tiffin,

Soon after resuming, with the score at 99, Wall skied a ball of Sutter's and Powys took it at mid-on. Wall's 59 was a careful and correct inning-, and included six fonce, one three, and four twos. Ethelston went to the wickets but was bowled without making any addition to the score, and Kay then partnered Egerton. Runs or came steadily, and at 128 the home captain original spanners behinson taking the ball from Murdoll Scoring.

continued steadily, however. Egerton skied one continued steadily, however. Egetton skied one ball of White's into the hands of Powys, but he failed to hold it. At 138 Johnson clean bowled Kay, and Ingels succeeded him, only to be dismissed by Johnson's next ball. Seven for 138. Heneage followed in, but was dismissed by White, after Egeston had hit a three, for a duck. Eight for 141. Edwards went to the wicket, but with Johnson's first hall foreston's stumps fell, and the whole son's first ball Egerton's stumps fell, and the whole side were out for 141. Egerton's 31 was the result of a long and steady innings and included one four, one three, and five twos.

Kingdon and Kilby started batting for Yokohama, facing the deliveries of Wall and Nicholas. Kingdon skied the first ball from Nicholas, but was missed; the third ball of the same over he also sent up in the air, but not with the same good for-tune, for it was taken by Snaggeat mid on. Murdoch time, for it was taken by Snagge at mid on. Murdoch then went to the wickets. Runs came slowly, and only six had been reached when Kilby was taken in an attempt to snatch a run. P. B. Clarke succeeded, but Nictiolas dismissed him after he had made one. Three for to. White then pattnered Murdoch, and hit out freely, making five in his first over. Murdoch also added steadily to the score, paying particular attention to the leg bails; and the total gradually mounted to 30, when Whittaker took the ball from Nicholas. Two overs later Mindoch was neatly taken by Snagge, lour wickets being thus down for 41. His score included one four, one three, and two twos. At this point Captain Davis went mediated filled Murdoch's place at the wicket, and quickly distinguished himself by a capital cut quickly distinguished himself by a capital cut for three. The score went steadily up to 60, soon after which Nichelas took the ball from Whittaker. The change, however, did not work | Walford batted cautiously, and White continued to hit with freedom, placing the balls beautifully, and il was not until 90 was reached that a ball and il was not until go was reacted that a Dan from Snagge took his wicket. His 40 was put together in capital style, and embraced five fours, two threes, and one two. Duff followed on, and made several good hite in the first few minutes, the too going up at 5 p.m. A few runs later Walford returned a ball to Wall and was caught after a meeful winnings of 26, compiled by sound cricket lord returned a van to vyan and was caugin ances in useful winnings of 26, compiled by sound cricket and including two fours, one three, and two twosa. Sutter followed, and just after his arrival Whittaker took the ball from Snager, and shortly after Johnson just took Sutter's bails. Seven for 15, Johnson followed, and showed good form, placing his balls judiciously. The score crept up slowly to 140, when a fast ball from Wall took Johnson's middle stump. With two wickets in fall and 12 runs to win the game began to get exciting. Powys came in, and in two hits put on five. He added another single immediately afterwards, but the first ball of Wall's over dismissed him. Nine for 136. Fradgely came in, but Daff took the bowling. He made a good hit, and tried to make two from it, but the ball was smartly returned, and Fradgeley's wicket was useful winnings of 26, compiled by sound cricket smartly returned, and Fradgeley's wicket was smartly returned, and Fradgeley's wicket was thrown down. The game thus ended in a win for the Naval men by five runs. Duff's total of 23 included four fours. Score:—

# H.M.S. " POWERFUL." vye b. Kin Y. C. AND A. C. A. Kingdon c. Snage b. Nicholson... E. W. Eilby run out Hall J. Murdoch c. Snage b. Whittaker... P. B. Clarks b. Nicholson F. R. White b. Snage A. B. Waiford c. aud b. Wall W. Sutter b. Whittaker... W. Sutter b. Whittaker W. Sutter b. Whittaker E. C. Fradgeiy run cut ... 2 ... 16 ... 2 ... 40 ... 31 ... 9 ... 6 ... 6 BOWLING ANALYSES. H.M.S. " Fowarrus." Mr. Clarke ... Mr. Fradgeley ... Mr. Walford ... Mr. Kingdon ... Mr. Murdoch ... Mr. Murdoch ... Mr. Julianama. ... 100 100 87 100 100 83 100 100 83 100 100 81 100 100 81 100 100 81

#### " REUTER."

Far away in the East,— Very far from the West,— Many "Yankee" born sons, And some sons of the "Dons," In suspense, day by day, Await news of the Iray That their kith and their kin Haye been forced to begin Have been forced to begin. But, untoward, alas! Time has chanced to such pass, That they all must depend. From beginning to end, On a sumewhat named "Reuter,"— Preemptive Exploiter Of news telegraphic.

This newsmanger Proteam, Is it man or machine? If it's man in he dual. Or a unit or plural? Half his "specials," 'tis plain, Are from " Castles in Spain," Yester more Sir Munchausen Seemed the news to be boss in; And to-day Ananias Gives the items their bias; O., it may be 'tis Mercury Busy in the cheat-workery.

As for truths, they are treasures

Found maybap in the measures

Of the polyphoned 'Reuter,"— Mendacions Exploiter

Of news telegraphic.

"Spanish fleet is at Cadiz;"
"At St. Vincent," the next day 'tis;
On the next,—"Martinique;"
Were ships ever so quick?
Then,—"Off shores Nova Scotian"
Spanish keels cleave the ocean, And,-" At Cadiz there's still a Mighty fleet for Manila." But to Santiago it had run This redoubtable squadron, Was there ever advoiter Rumour jaggler than "Renter,"— Fallacious Exploiter Of news telegraphic?

"The Americans have gone To Mataczas," and blown Forts and town all to flinders; Nothing left there but cinders: Such report speeds from "Renter."-But that "news" may not loiter, Though again it befool, Anongo again a bettor,

Nothing killed but a mule
At Mataozas,

Comes next.

How we be duped and perplexed
By this nimble-voiced "Reuter,

Variant Parties." exations Exploiter Of news telegraphic!

Is there none to disown him, To subject or dethrone him,— Pseudophemist " Reuter?" Lack a-day! he still rules ins;
Daily puzzles and fools ins;
Sphinx and Hydra scenis! Renter,"—
A Nonsuch Exploiter
Of news telegraphic.

Takye, June 14th, 1898.

C. MACC.

# AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Sydney, May 20th. Sydney, May 2018.
The intelligence that the Japanese Imperial authorities were negotiating with Russia for assistance in preventing an American or British occupation of the Philippines, created no fittle irritation in Australia, until another cablegram amounced that Japan had offered to assist Great Russian in the acceptance of the control of the co

either singly or combined, a good base of operations in Chinese or Japanese waters. At the same time Japanese immigration would be encouraged as the best mode of promoting industrial settlement and progress. Practically the sympathies of the British, American, and Australian peoples of the Billish American, and Australian peoples appear to be with Japan; and it is generally admitted that European interference with the rights obtained by Japanese conquest in China was a gigantic blunder.

At the same time there exists some misgiving

with regard to the possible results of the antiwith regard to the possible results of the authories spirit in Japan, concerning which much has been said by Australians returning from a visit to Tokyo and other places. An Adelaide paper says:—"Should Luzon be brought under paper says :- "Should Luzon be brought under American influence, just as Korea and Manchuria have been taken under the virtual control of Russia, the inevitable result will be to greatly intensify the Japanese national resentment and the anti-foreign spirit. Many of the Japanese, in seeking to account for the aggressive manner in which Russia and other Powers overawed Japan into a reluctant abandonment of some fruits of her Chinese conquest, aver that the Czar has never forgotten the fauntical assault made upon him at Orsu when he was travelling in their country during the lifetime of his father, and Japanese feeling is strongly anti-Russian. It in the war between the United States and Spain in the war between the United States and Spain the southern extension of Japanese colonization is to be checked, as the western extension has been by Russia, the feeling of national disappointment among the Mikado's subjects will indoubtedly be very acute. By the amexation of Formers and of other islands Japan has seemed an infroken sequence of territory to within about 200 miles of Luzon. It is generally acknowledged all over the Malay Archipelago that Spanish misgovernment of the Philippines has been so shocking that any conceivable change of masters could hardly fail to be beneficial to the infortunate inhardly fail to be beneficial to the notortunate inhabitants; but to the Japanase, in their present mond, the annexation of the stands by a strong Power like the United States would be a matter of very deep concern.

The probable action of the new treaties coming into operation next year continues to be occasionally discussed by the leading Australian papers, the general tone of the various articles being distinctly infavourable, it being concluded that after the treaties have come into force, foreign residents will be practically Japanese subjects without any Japanese sympathies or influence. "Ominous signs, we are told, "of the contemptions treatment which may await foreigness when placed completely under the power of the local Japanese officials which may await foreigness when placed completely under the power of the local Japanese officials are now being noticed on every hand. One complaint, for instance, is that in the interior even the school teachers allude decisively to Europeans as 'The Red-whiskered Men' and 'The Haisy Foreigners,' By various observers well acquainted with Japanese under of thought this peculiar revulsion of national sentiment is attributed to different causes, but the cosmopolitan view of the sination is that Japan sat as a docile pupil at the feet of European military and naval instructors only so long as she had to acquire the task of learning how to inflict a crushing defeat upon China and accomplishing certain other purposes. To-day the situation is changed. The Japanese are conquerors, and they demand to be admitted as equals with other civilized nations in the world's comity. This would be all very well in its way, because the excastering indicating principle applied by other nations to the Mikado's country implies national inferiority on the part of the Jupanese aid establishes an imperium in imperio. But unfortunately the old autobicing and exclusive spirit coexists to some extent along with the desire to figure in advanced international but escriber. exists to some extent along with the desire to figure in advanced international polite society, At present any prosecution of a Boropean in Japan has to be conducted in a Consular Court, and the

difficult to obtain bail—a foreign resident may be subjected to incarceration in fifthy prisons, and when condemned forced to march scantily clad through snow and mud as one of a chain gang. To a native accustomed to live with very little clothing this may not be dangerous, although the fact that fifty prisoners in one gaul last winter were severely injured by frostbite seems to show that the limits of hardship inflicted are far beyond what even they can safely bear. To a European such treatment might mean speedy death. It was recently shown that when a native he was compelled to resort to a foreign Court in order to secure redress. It was, moreover, represented that the conduct sometimes indulged in by foreign seamen and some globetrotters would justify a touch of rigorous severity in the would justify a touch of rigorous severity in the punishment meted out to it, whether in native or in foreign prisons. By the Mikado's acceptance of the Revised Treasy based on the draft which was signed four years ago the foreigner and the native will in this respect he placed on a level; but in one other very important matter the customs and the religion of the natives alike forbid the admission of the foreign separate very important and the religion of the natives alike forbid the admission of the foreign separate very interesting the foreign separate very interesting the foreign separate very separate very separate very separate. the rengion of the natives alike form in eachiestion of the foreign element to any rights whatever. None of the sacred soil of Japan must ever be owned by a foreigner, and already, even before the treaties have come into operation, some of the will Japanese have begun to admitty utilize this fundamental national principle in their own favour. A case in point was mentioned lately by a Kole paper. A European resident having died and bequenthed to his two heirs his interest in a lease and the property (a it, the native ground landloid refused to complete the transfer. In this way a deadlock in the administration of the estate was a recard and after a way, a deadlock in the administration of the estate was created, and after a year of endeavour the heirs were no nearer to securing their rights than they were at first,"

The foregoing remarks embody the views generally taken by the leading Australian papers of the probable working at the treaties, and explain, to some extent, the disfavour with which a Japanese occupation of the Philippines would be regarded by a section of the Australian community; al-though the auti-foreign feeling in Japan is based on a sentiment skin to that expressed in the cry "Australia for the Australians." But there is an other side to the question; & New South Wales other side to the question; a New South Water paper, commenting no recent manufacturing progress in Japan, says:—"Doubtless the Japanese are a half-civilised folk, who are slowly learning from the outside world whence, for so many centuries, they shut themselves out. Ye, they have assimilated many ideas from without. Strange to say, however, they have not so far decided to adopt that fiscal system under which we are sometimes told the greater part of the civilised world lives. Trade is centrelly free throughout the Lapanese Trade is perfectly free throughout the Japanese empire. There could in fact have been no more perfect reversal of policy in respect of commerce than that which modern Japan has accomplished. Hers was a complete system of protection—she practically excluded the foreigner and all his works till about twenty-six years ago; and since then, the trade of Japan with the rest of the world has grown from 48 to 300 millions of dollars. The Government is making many efforts to improve the commerce and to augment the manufacturing industry of the and to augment the manufacturing industry of the country, by providing means of commercial education, by collecting and publishing statistics and details of foreign trade, by despatch of experts to foreign workshops, to ascertain by personal experience what is being done elsewhere and how it sidone, by promoting the improvement of means of transport. In fact, industry and commerce are being actively encouraged in every way that an enterprising, ambitious, and intelligent Government can encourage them. There is a population of 42,000,000 and it increases yearly at the rate of half-amillion: the obligations of the Government to such a population are serious. But it is netto such a population are serious. But it is not able that this Government, which obtentationally At present any prosecution of Entisy has to be conducted in a Consular Court, and the principles of the Philippines, created no little initation in Australia, until another cablegram amounteed that Japan had offered to assist Great Bittain with an army of 300,000 men in preventing further Russian encountement in China. This showed that there must be a mistake somewhere. As a matter of lact, should the Philippines leave the hands of Spain, it is instinctively felt that, unless taken over by the United States or Great II itain, they should be efforced to Japan, as it would form an outlet, for many years to come, for any simpling Japanese pupulation, and thus releve Australia and other countries from the Busides of Spain, it is most in a Count, for any simpling Japanese pupulation, and thus releve Australia and other countries from the Busides of Great II itain, they should be efforced to count, for any simpling Japanese pupulation, and thus releve Australia and other countries from the Busides of Great II itain, they should be efforced to countries from the busides of the prosecution seems to find the supplement of Japanese interpretation. All that the busides are of Japanese immigration. All that the occupied by either France, Germany, or Russia. It is asserted that under the States and Stripes on the Union Jack the Philippines would assist considerably in strengthening the position of redees. Again, after the passing of the countries point in the Dinion Jack the Philippines would assist considerably in strengthening the position of redees. Again, after the passing for future arrangement; no protective policy. That is matter for future arrangement; no protective policy is a security of redeess. Again, after the passing for future arrangement; no protective policy. That is matter for future arrangement; no protective policy is a security of redeess. Again, after the passing for future arrangement; no protective policy. That is matter for future arrangement; no protective policy of redeess. Again, after the passin

of the country to foreign trade must lend to enbe the country to covering reace must lend to en-large its commerce, and it remains to be seen whether the Government will allow industry to develop according to natural furtherance, or will force it. Obviously, opening all Japan to all the world means an opportunity for expanding Aust-ralian trade with the country, and we hope it now ralian trade with the country, and we hope it may be taken advantage of."

be taken advantage of."

In the above remarks are expressed the real feelings of the Australian people towards Japan. The Japanese Government is, after all, merely doing what that of any Australian colony would have done under similar coronnatances. Perhaps if a Japanese Alien Act were passed if would remove several sources of complaint, but it is doubtful whether its provisions would be largely availed of by foreign residents.

J.P.

#### MR. AKIYAMA " CALLED."

At the American Consular Court on Thursday, before Mr. J. F. Gowey, Mr. J. F. Lowder asked leave to propose that Mr. Akiyama be admitted to practise in that Court. He said he believed Mr. Akiyama was known to his Honour from the official relations which recently existed between them when he was president of the Yokohama Saibansho. He (Mr. Lowder) might montion that he had been for fifteen years on the Japanese Bench, and he had now left it to follow the nu less honomable profession of the bar. Although mentive of Japan Mr. Akiyama was versed in the language used in that Court, and he had m Japanese degree equivalent to that of Bachelor of Laws, ese degree equivalent to that of Bachelor or Laws, which gave him the cight to practise in his own Courts. Nevertheless he (Mr. Lowder) should not have ventured to take upon himself what he considered the very serious responsibility he was accepting in making that motion unless by being professionally associated with Mr. Akiyama he had satisfied himself that in attainments and character he was quite worthy of the privilege he

Mr. H. C. Litchfield said he had great pleasure

in seconding the motion.

in seconding the motion.

His Honour: It gives me very great pleasure to allow this motion, and to have Mr. Akiyama entelled as a counsellor-at-law in the records of this Court. It is, I say, a pleasure to me to do so. I have known Mr. Akiyama since I have been here, and from a short personal acquaintance I think that all Mr. Lowder has said is justified by his character and attainments. I will have the order prepared, and will give Mr. Akiyama a certified copy.

#### THE FRAUDS BY A FOREIGNER IN KYOTO.

#### A HEAVY SENTENCE.

Edward Allan Wallace Mackay, who had been committed for trial by Mr. F. W. Playfair, was indicted at Kobe on Monday, the 21st instant, on two counts. Mr. J. Carey Hall, H.B.M.'s Count sat as Judge, and Messis. C. Z. Ede and J. M. Maitland were drawn as Assessors.

Maitland were drawn as Assessors.

On the first count the prisoner was charged with obtaining by false preferees from Inouye Maokichi, of the Yaami Hotel, Kyoto, the sum of 50 yen; and on the second count with obtaining cash and gnods to the value of 100 yen from Loonye Kichibei by the same means. Prisoner entered a plea of "Not Guilty," and complained that no facilities had been afforded him to prepare his defence and

produce witnesses.

produce witnesses.

The Court found the prisoner guilty on both counts, and on being asked if he had any thing to say why sentence should not be passed upon him, Mackey said with evident remove:—The prosecutors have had weeks to get up their pro-secution, and I have not had a minute given me to prepare my defence. Although I said this morning that I was not prepared to go on, the court has proceeded to trial, and has given me no chance to get anybody to speak for my defence. I have a statement to make, but what is the use of making it, if I cannot get it corroborated? If I was given twenty-loss hours I could show that I had every reason to believe that this money would he in the bank when the cheque was presented. If I had any intention to defiand these people I I had any intention to defined these people I could have easily gone away, for there were plenty of trains running out of Kyoto. I went a short distance by train, but as soon as I found out that I had been duped, I at once letterned and delivered up the cigar case and the yen 30 III the second prosecutor. As regard yen 50 to the Yaami Hotel, he helped me to spend the money, for he took me to theatres and other places, and this is the hill be presented in me. He is the spendiffith, for he spend 15, year out of the 50 mer. Digitized by

If I am to be sentenced at once, I should like to isk the court to be lenient with me, and consider ask the court to be content with me, and consider that time I have been in prison under trial, but with equally the same hardships. I would also ask the Court to take into consideration that I have restored the cipar case and the money to the second prosecutor. I simply ask for the Court's

His Honour, in semencing the prisoner to six months' imprisonment on each charge, namely 12 months' hard labour in all, said that for such a long sentence, application would be made to the Indge at Yokohama for Mackay's removal to the Cousular prison at Yokohama. His Honour also made a restitution order that any property found in possession of the prisoner, or belonging to him in any way from utsides sources, should, if discovered, go towards paying Induye Mankichi the 30 yest, and the sum of 18 yest said to be due for refreshments supplied at the Yasmi Hotel.

The prisoner, who looked very defected when His Honour, in sentencing the prisoner to

The prisoner, who looked very dejected when sentence was pronounced, was then temoved in custody .- Hiogo News.

#### THE TERRIBLE DISASTER AT PORT ARTHUR.

The Nagasaki Press prints the following account of the wreck of the Chinese croiser Fu-ching, which occurred at Port Arthur during a storm on the oth instan-

Port Arthur, June 9th.

A terrible disaster occurred here during the storm on the 9th inst., the Chinese cruiser Fuching, with a crew of 130 men, being lost. The chief officer and three sailors were the only members saved.

The Fu-ching arrived here at 2 p.m. on the 8th

inst. The weather being foggy, she was unable to enter the harbour, and was obliged to anchor to eiter the halboir, and was obliged to anchor outside. Later the weather cleared up, but it remains inknown why she did not enter, although advised to do so by Captain Li, whose ship, in dock is flying the Commodure's flag. During the night the wind changed into a storm blowing from the southwest. About 6 a.m. on the 9th inst. the Fusching diagged her anchor, and was driven towards the shore. I believe they had an time to let the second anchor go, as it was tied to the ship, and remained in the same position when the vessel was an the rocks. The Fusching was driven to the same spot at which three years ago a similar accident occurred. The wind swing her alongside the shore, with her bow pointing to the north, and commenced dashing her on the beach. Unfortunately she fell on her starboard side, opening her deck to the waves. The crew sought refuge in the the waves. The crew sought caluge in the rigging and on the upper bridge.

The Russian first class cruisers lying in the roads could render no assistance to the disabled vessel, on account of their draught being too great to allow them to get alongside, nor could they send any boats. as the sea was running high and the boats would have been lost if sent. The crews from the ships that were in harbour got to the week by land, and tried to save the crew of the Furching by means of firing rockets with lines attached, but the Chinese did not know what to do with the lines that reached them, as they had never used them be-fore. The pupils of the Chinese Naval School on shore also came to the rescur, and tried by signalling to make the men on board under-stand how to use the line. At one time the Chinese made an attempt to use the line, but whilst doing so a wave covered the vessel, and washed off several of the men. The others seeing this stopped the work. At this time the washed off several of the men. The others see-ing this stopped the work. At this time the waves were nearly as high as the lighthouse, and in the narrow entrance from the roads to the harbour the water was seething. The captains of two Chinese men-of-war in harbour apparently considered the situation of the Fis-ching entirely hopeless, as they did not even send out a crew to the weeked vessel. At midday the Fasching was a total week, on which two or three men were total wreck, on which two or three men

a total wreck, on which two or three men were still seen clinging to the ropes, but after a short time they also fell into the water.

It is generally believed here that the roads of Port Arthur during the N. and S. winds are very dangerous, and therefore the Chinese ships in uningerous, and incretore the Comese ships in summer used to stay at Wei-hai wei. During such a storm as the one that raged on the 9th inst, any small ship anchoring outside would probably get lost. It is also believed that a large breakwater is required, so as to prevent such sad accidents in the future. the future.

#### THE FALL OF WENG TUNG-HO.

The news of the fall of H. E. Weng Tung-ho, the famous tutor of the Emperor of China, comes like a bolt from the blue, says the N.-C. Daily News. In an article which appeared in that paper last December, under the heading, 'The Blind Leaders of the Blind," the following remarks about this powerful personage, perhaps the most trusted of any of the men who then surrounded the Chinese Emperor, appeared :-

" Weng Tung-he, the Emperor's private tutor, and among other things President of the Board of Revenue, has long been regarded as an im-placable anti-foreigner, but since the humiliation placable anti-foreigner, but since the humilation of China at the liands of Japan, he has taken earnestly and conscientiously to the study foreign affairs, though unfortunately he can only pursue that study in his leisure time, if the cares with which he is loaded leave him any leisure. When Prince King is too ill to come to the Cabinet or the Foreign Office, Weng Ting-ho has to set for him, as the Emperor has more confidence in him than in anyone else. He is believed to be a man of the best intentions, but he has never him than in anyone else. He is believed to be a man of the best intentions, but he has never been in office out of Peking, and it is impossible for even the best-meaning man to act satisfactority as the chief adviser of the Head of a Great Empire if he has never been able to acquire a knowledge of the world, which it takes other statesmen a lifetime to master."

Up till the morning of the I4th inst., now writes our contemporary, Weng Tung-ho was reported to be the strongest man in Peking. He is an old man, a Conservative of the Conservatives, but he was supposed to be honest, and really anxious to understand something of loreign affairs, and this desire helped to make him an obstructive, as he was disinclined to take any course until he understood where it led, and it was very hard at his age stood where it led, and it was very hard at his age and with his training to make thin understand. It must be said for him that he and Ching Hsin, his colleague at the Board of Revenue, and Chang Yin-huan worked stremously in putting through the recent Anglo-German loan. There is a report than Wêng Tung-ho was demounced by lour Censors on the charge of treason, and that the Emperor only suared him the death and that the Emperor only spared him the death sentence because he had been the Imperial tutor, but such a charge is contrary to all that is known of the old statesmen. He was, as we have said, the intimate friend and mouthpiece of Prince Kong, and it is noticeable that his fall follows so quickly after the death of the Prince. There is an idea that his retirement means the inauguration of a more liberal regime at Peking; but it is impossible for a liberal régime to be introduced into such a museum of fossils as the Peking Government is, without a complete sweep being made. The re-moval of one man, however eminent and power-Indication offect any revolution of importance in such an invertebrate organism as directs the destines of China. Wang-Wèn-shap himself, who has been ordered up to Peking on Prince Kung's dying recommendation, is an old man, who took his metropolitan degree in 1852, and whose capabilities, and set supported to be more than versely. his met opolitan begree in 1052, and whose capaci-lities are not supposed to be more than respect-able. Jung Lu, who takes Wang Wên-shao's place temporarily at Tientsin, is a Manchu who has spent most of his life in military offices at the capital, but was at one time Tartar General at capital, but was at one time factar-General at Hsianlu. He became a favourite with the Emperor soon after the Franco-Chinese war, and is regarded as one of the most intelligent of the Manchus at the capital. It is many years since the post of Viceroy of Childi has been filled by a Manchus

It appears from the decree in reference to Empress-Dowager, that the dismissal of Weng Tung ho is a triumph for the Emperor's numb. She being enjoyered to memorialise her directly. How she has managed to resume the reins, and how far she has been assisted by the death of Prince King, we shall probably learn by and by.

Prince King, we shall probably learn by and by. The reasons given in the Imperial decree for the dismissal of Weng Tung-ho are the musatisfactory way in which he has performed his duties, and his obstinacy even in the Imperial presence. The Viziers of Oriental Emperies are always liable woulden dismissal, and are fortunate if they fall as softly as H.E. Weng has done. With the return of the Empress-Dowager to power, the star of H.E. Li Hung chang should be in the accendant once more; but whether the change is really for Chinu's good is a question that cannot be answered off band in the affirmative, if it can be answered off band in the affirmative, if it can be answered in the affirmative at all.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

### LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(BROM THE " JAPAN TIMBS.")

THE WAR.

SECOND MANILA EXPEDITION LEAVES SAN FRANCISCO.

London, June 17. A second Manila expedition has left San Francisco, and will be convoyed by

LARGE FORCE SENT FROM TAMPA.

men-of-war from Honolulu.

The Censorship has permitted the announcement that thirty-five transports left Tampa on Tuesday, escorted by thirteen warships, destination not stated.

SANTIAGO BOMBARDMENT CONTINUES.

London, June 18.

The bombardment of Santiago was continued for an hour on Thursday, during which over five thousand projectiles were fired, silencing a number of batteries.

#### STATEMENT IN BERLIN.

It is semi-officially stated in Berlin that the assembling of the squadron at Manila in no wise implies the abandonment of German neutrality, the object being to protect the large German interests.

SPANISH SQUADRON SAILS AT LAST. ADMIRAL SAMPSON IN ANXIOUS. CRITICAL SITUATION AT SANTIAGO.

London, June 20.
The Cadiz squadron under the command of Admiral Camara, accompanied by six liners, conveying four thousand troops, has finally sailed. It passed Gibraltar on Thursday going east. Admiral Sampson has telegraphed to his Government anxiously enquiring when the invading army will arrive, adding that the situation around Santiago is critical.

REPORTED AMERICAN LANDING. CATALONIANS THROW UP THE SPONGE.

London, June 21. Admiral Camaro's squadron has been sighted off Cadodegak. It is reported at Madrid that General Shafter's expedition has landed near Santiago. A manifesto has been issued signed by thirty-five provincial associations and eighteen news. papers of Catalonia, declaring that immediate peace can alone prevent the ruin of Spain.

SPANISH FLEET TURNS TAIL :- SANTIAGO TO BE SHELLED.

London, June 22.

The American Government has learned that the Cadiz Fleet has returned to a Spanish port. General Shafter's Army has arrived off Santiago. It is difficult to effect a landing owing to the Spanish troops lining tifteen miles of the shore. It will be necessary to thoroughly shell the place.

The Spanish papers continue to talk bout peace. The Ministerial Correc about peace. dwells upon the injury the war is causing to trade and industry.

### HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION VOTED. STARTLING DECLARATIONS AT WASHINGTON.

London, June 17.
The Washington House of Representatives has passed a resolution for annexing Hawaii. In the course of the debate, strong declarations were made in favour of seizing and retaining the Philippines, Cuba, and Puerto Rico.

FRENCH CABINET RESIGNS.

The Meline Cabinet has resigned. M. The Chinese Government has control ded with the Hongkong and Shanghai Digitized by Ribot will probably be Premier,

THE FRENCH CABINET CRISIS. M. RIBOT IN DESPAIR.

London, June 20. M. Ribot has renounced all attempts to form a Ministry. President Faure has asked M. Saurien, in view of the division of parties, to undertake the task.

ITALIAN CABINET RESIGNS.

The Marquis di Rudini has announced in the Chambers that the Cabinet had resigned, and requested the suspension of the sittings, which was agreed to.

BRITISH NAVAL MANŒUVRES COUNTERMANDED.

"IN VIEW OF POSSIBILITIES."

It is officially announced that the naval manœuvres have been abandoned, the Admiralty being reluctant to deplete its coal supplies in view of the possibilities of the situation.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

PROBABLE FURTHER ADDITIONS.

Mr. Goschen, in the House of Commons, stated that the question of some addition to the ship-building programme had been under consideration by the Government for some time, and added that details would be announced on the 15th July.

NAVAL AND MILITARY RE-OR-GANISATION IN CHINA.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT BY LORD SALISBURY.

Lord Salisbury has stated that negotiations are proceeding with China relative to the re-organisation of the army and navy. Though the negotiations regarding the navy were in a more advanced stage, the difficulty had hitherto been that China has been unwilling to give a British organising officer a free hand. The Preorganising officer a free hand. mier added that he feared events in China would have but one issue, unless the naval and military defences of the country were thoroughly re-organised.

THE BATTLESHIP "ALBION." TERRIBLE LAUNCHING DISASTER.

London, June 23.

The new battleship Albion has been successfully launched by the Duchess of York. The displacement of water, however, caused a huge wave to overwhelm temporary staging upon which 300 working class spectators were seated. It is feared that sixty persons were drowned. Thirty-four bodies have been recovered up to now.

(The Albion is a first-class battle-ship, built at Blackwall, of 12,950 tons, with a natural draught of 13,500 tonse-power, being a sister ship to the Goljath, Ocean, Glory, and Ven-

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN. THE SIRDAR TO THE FRONT. Sir Herbert Kitchener and most of the officers have started for the front.

THE FRENCH CABINET CRISIS.

M. Sarrieu has failed to form a Ministry.

(Received by the Fiji)

MORE CHINESE STUDENTS.

Peking, June 16.
Chang Chitung and Yuen Shikai are about to send military students to Japan

for educational purposes. RUSSIAN PROPOSALS REJECTED. Yuen Shikai has firmly declined the Russian overtures to supply military instructors to the Chinese government.

CHINESE FOREIGN LOAN.

Bank a loan to the amount of £2,000,000 for the laying down of a railway line between Newcwhang and Shanhaikwan.

MR. YUN YON-SÖN.

Söul, June 19.

Mr. Yun Yon-son has been appointed Councillor to the Right. He and the other Councillor are to act for the Premier in the latter's absence.

RUSSIA OBJECTS TO THE BORROWING OF ENGLISH MONEY.

Peking, June 20. The Russian Minister has publicly objected to the borrowing of funds from England for the construction of the railway connecting Shan-hai-kwan and New-

EMPRESS DOWAGER TO WITNESS MILITARY DRILL.

Peking, June 20.

It is understood that the Empress Dowager will proceed to Tientsin to witness the drilling of troops conducted after the new system, under the command of Yuen Shi-hai and Fich Chichang.

#### 4 ROM THE " NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.") MANILA NEWS.

Hongkong, lune 17.

The insurgents are in possession of the en-tire shore of the Bay of Manila to Malate. They have successively seized Old Cavite, Binacayan, Baccor, Zapote Pinns, Parsnaque, Passy; and inland, Imus, San Francisco de Malabon, Pasig, and lesser towns.

They control the provinces of Cavite, Balucan, and Bataan, and can, when they wish secure Batangas and Pampanga.

They possess nearly all the province of Manila ontside the city, and have taken 3,000 prisoners, half of them regulars.

They have captured the waterworks which supply Manila, and may cut the pipes leading to the city, but influence is being brought on them to prevent this.

Three insurgent forces surround the city; one south, between Malate and Passy, on the outskirts of the town; one east, cutting off the communication with the Leguns de Bay; one north, stopping the railway.

The prisoners include two Brigadier-Generals, nine officers above the grade of Lieut,-Colonel, and 79 inferior officers.

It is believed the city could be taken at any time, but Admiral Dewey wishes the in-surgents to await the arrival of the U.S. troops, who are expected in six days' time.

#### MAIL STEAMERS.

#### THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

Prom	Line	Steamer.	Date.
riongkong	O, & O, Co.	Gaelic z	Sn. June of
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Oceanies a	W. June so
Tacoma, Wash.4.	N. P. Co.	Victoria 3	Sa. July s
canada, ke	G. P. R. Co	Rm. of Japan 4	M. July 4
Hongkone	P. & O Co.	Rosetta	M. July 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Axtec	W. July 6
Honghong	G. P. R. Co.	Ein. of India	Th. July 2
Youerica	O. & O. Ga.	Melgic 5	Th. July g
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Holtensottern	W. July 6

- Left Nagasaki on the sand inst
- a Left Shanghai on the gard inst.
- 3 Left Victoria on the 17th Inst. 4 Left Vancouver on the 21st June.
- 5 Left San Francisco on the 18th June.

### THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

			200
₽a;	Line.	Steamer,	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	G≥elle ,	Tel. june al
Hongkoog	F. & O, Co	Rohilla	W. June ng
Skanghai	N V.E.	Satsume Meru	W. June sp
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Su. July 3
Hengtong	1 . P. R. Co.	lim. of Japan	M. July 4
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Oceanies	"W. July 6
America	P. M. to.	Astec	Th. July 3
Hongleons	N. D. L.	Hobersottern	F. July II
Caunda, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. July 6
Hongki@rieine	CENTON Co.	Belgic	F. July 2

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chass Entron.

The Yokohama and the Tokyo Chess Chibs are closed during the summer months.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 371. WHITE, 1-Kt to R 5 2-Q to Kt 5 3-B to Kt 7 mate 3-Kt to B 6 mate stack.

1-K to K 5

2-P takes Q

if 2-K to Q 4

if 2-K to B 6 II 2-B to B 8 or moves –O to K 2 mate I –O takes P (B6) mate I-P takes II 2-B to K 7

2-K to K fi

3-Q takes P (B3) mate if 2-P to Q 6

3-Q takes Q P mate if 2-Any other

3-K to B 6 mate 1-B to B 8 or P to 2-K takes P [K 4 Kt to B 6 ch 3-B to K 7 mate 1-P to Kt 4 2-K takes B or to K5 2-B takes P (K6) ch 3-Q takes B P mate 1—P to Q 6 2—K takes P 2-Q takes Q P cli 3-B to ■ 7 mate -K takes P 2-B to K 7 ch 3-Kt to B 6 mate 2-K to Q 4

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Voila,

D.D., and Marco.

D.D., and Marco.

Or should we also add "W. de H." whose solution, almost identical with the above, arrived soon after the problem was published, long before we noticed and corrected the error in the diagram. A curious colocidence surely !

### . PROBLEM No. 376. By B. G. Laws,



White mates in two moves,

# GAME No. 401. THE UNITED STATES CHAMPION MATCH.

EIGHTH CAME.					
	RUY L	OFEZ.			
White-Sh		Black—P			
	BLACK.	WHITS.	BLACK.		
t P K4	PK4	22 B Q4	Q Q2 Q R>q		
m Kt KB3	R QB3	23 Q Ki5(h)	Q Rag		
3 B Kis	Kt B3	24 P K6(i)*	P B3		
4 P O4(a)	PxP	25 BxBP	RxB		
5 Casiles	B K <sub>2</sub>	26 P K7	R Q2(k)		
6 KixP	Caviles	27 B R5	Q×P		
7 Kt QB3 8 B K2	P QR <sub>3</sub>	28 RxQ	RxR		
8 B K2	$P Q_3$	29 B B3	P Kt4		
g KixKi(b)	PxKt	36 P KK14	B K6		
10 P B4	P O <sub>4</sub>	31 Q. R4	P R <sub>3</sub>		
11 P K5	B Bach	32 O Kt2	P Q5		
12 K Rsq	K(Q2(c)	Lag O Kath	IZ Toolly		
13 P QK:3	R Ksq	34 Q Q8 F	R(K2) KB2		
ta B Rta	B B2(d)	35 K K12	PB4		
15 Q Q2	R K3(e)	136 B×B	RxB		
16 Kt R4	II R <sub>3</sub>	37 Q Q5	R QB <sub>2</sub>		
17 P Kt3	Q K <sub>2</sub>	37 Q Q5 38 Q K5	R(B2) B3		
18 QR Ksq	Ri Kig	39 P KR4	P Bs		
rg KixKt	PaKt(i)	46 P K14(in)	$R(QB_3)Q$		
20 P B5	B Ki2	4t R KRsq	K King [3		
21 B KB3	R Qsq(g)	47 P Ri5(ii)	Resigns		
Notes (abrid	lged) by Em	il Kemeny in	The Ledger,		

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny in The Ledger, Philadelphia.

(a) The usual play is: 4—Castles, Kt takes P; S—P to Q 4, B to K 2; 6—Q to K 2, Kt to Q 3; 7—B takes Kt, Kt P takes B; 8—P takes P, Kt to Kt 2, which establishes the Berlin Defence. Pillsbury, however, invariably selected the 5 ...... Kt to Q 3 defence, which leads to the following continuation; 6—B takes Kt, Q P takes B; 7—P takes P, Kt to B 4; 8—Q takes Q ch, K takes Q. This variation was not altogether satisfactory to Slowalter, who, consequently, abandoned the Rny Lopez, playing the Q P opening. In the present and proposed of current events, that the board have been monoted by the Havana (the boar

game he returns to his favourite opening, some-

what transposing the moves.

(b) Black having moved P to Q R 3 and P to Q 3, the defence resembles somewhat the one adopted by Steinitz against Lasker. The present The present position is, perhaps, more favourable to White, inasmuch as he can maintain the two Bishops.

inasmich as he can maintain the two Bishops.

(c) Much better than Kt to K sq. in which case P to B 5 would give White a decided advantage.

(d) Better, perhaps, was B to Kt 2, so as to be enabled to move P to B 3, which at present cannot be played on account of Kt takes Q P, followed eventually by Q takes P ch and Q takes R.

(e) It to K 3, R to R 3, with the intention to play II takes P ch and Q to It 5 mate, is somewhat premature.

premaiure.

(1) Black's Pawns on the Queen's wing were rather weak, and, unless he played P takes Kt, he was bound to have the disadvantage in the end game. The text-play, nevertheless, was inferior to B takes Ko.

(g) With the intention to continue P to B 4.

(g) With the intention to continue P to B 4. He, however, has no time for it. White answers B to Q 4 at once, threatening II to II 3.

(h) He might have played II to K 3 at once, which was certain to win the exchange. White could not save the game by answering Q takes P.

(i) A brilliant move, which in connection with B takes P and P to K 7 gives White a winning same.

game.

(k) There was no better play.

(l) He could not well play If to B sq, for then
Q to Q 6 would follow, and Black's game becomes

(m) White could not well play R to K R sq : nuce, for P taxes P, followed by R to B 7 cli, would give his apponent some chances of escape. (a) The decisive stroke, which causes Black to

surrender. He can not save the Rook.

#### GAM\* No. 402.

YOK HAMA CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNEY. KING'S BISHOP OPENING.

	friedlander.		pt. Weilbach.
WHITE,	BLACK.	WHITE,	BLACK.
t P K4	PK4	10 P K5	KoRP
2 B B4	B B4	ii KxKi	∈Ki Q4
3 Kt KB3	Ki QB3	12 K(x K)	PxKt
4 KixP(a)	KexKu	13 QxP	Castles
5 P Q4 6 PxB	K-xB	14 P B5	K Rsq
	Ki K4	15 P B6	R Ksq(c)
7 Kt B3	P QB3(?)	16 PxPch	KxP
8 Castles	Kt B3	17 Rx Pch	K Rsq
9 P B4	QKt Ki5(b)	18 Q K4	
_		and	mate in two.

NOTES.

(a) An unsound sacrifice; perhaps the cham-

on knew that he could afford it.
(b) The knight should have retired to Kt 3 Now White regains his piece, with a powerful at-

(c) P takes P would have been better. But whatever Black does, his game is hopeless.

#### THE VIENNA TOURNAMENT.

The great International Tournament was to begin on June 1st. At the time the last mail left, the following players had entered, representing six cauntries :-

America-Steinitz and D. G. Baird. England-Blackburne, Burn, Care, and Mason. Praince—Janowski. Germany—Taresch, Lipke, and Walbrott. Hungary—Charonsek and Maroczy. Austria—Marco and Schlechter.

The Chess-world will be greatly disappointed if the two champions, Lasker and Pilishury, are not included in the list. But up to the time of writing it was not known whether Pillsbury would be able to get away. The Vienna committee has again extended the time for him. Barry, the Boston shanning would be about a part of the property champion, would have been accepted as a contes-ant, but he could not be away for so long a time. The first International Tournament was played

at Vienna in 1873, when Steinitz won the first prize after a tie match with Blackburne. Anderssen won the third prize and Rosenthal was placed fourth. Next came Bird, Paulsen, Fleissig, Meitner, Gelblinhs, Heral, Schwartz, and Pitschel in the order named. Kolisch did not play in this the order named. Kolisch did not play in this contest, but in 1867 at Paris, where he won the first prize, Winawer was second and Steinitz third on this occasion. This was the last International

play any one no matter how strong. Tschigorin prayany one no matter how attong. Incligating v. Steinitz, Gunsberg v. Tschigorin, and other great matches were played in Havana. Lasker, Blackburne, Lee, Mackenzie, Steinitz, and numbers of other masters have been grandly entertained there, and the club occupied a leading position with a great reputation only quite recently. Even during the internal troubles the Havana players have been busy, and we imagine that even now the game will prove a resource to some of the beleagured townsmen, though serious fourttaments are of course out of the question.

The war between the United States and Spain, or some other cause, has spoiled the match by cable which was to have been played between the English and American Universities, and it has been postponed.

A Havana player says :- " The Evans' Gambit is a yellow lever attack; if you live through the initial stages, and avoid any carelessiess that may bring on a relapse, you will come out all right." An American chess editor thinks that the Evans' is like the yellow fever, because it is dangerous in the middle and critical at both ends.

Mr. Blake, the well-known problemist of Manchester, inexpectedly won the championship of the Manchester Cliess Club.

A timely protest has been raised by Mr. L. Hoffer, says an exchange, against the system of allowing manthorized consultation when a single player is encountering a number. A description of a match of this kind at Hastings suggests that the pirces on both sides were freely handled by onlookers and all sorts of analyses were allowed. What are we to say of the spirit which animates an assembly where such things occur? And in what other game could they be allowed? "The meanness of chess players almost surpasses belief," says the Times, and though the remark is perhaps too sweeping in form, in its present application it is not too strong. A timely protest has been raised by Mr. L.

### LATEST SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Yamanomchi, 19 h June, — Yokkaichi, 18th June, General, — Noppon Yusen Kaisha.

Alexander Gibson, American ship, 2,121, E. C. Colley, 19th June, — New York, 27th July, and Sidney, 15th March, Kensene Od. — Standard Oil Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556. F. W. Horton, 20th June,—Otacu via ports, 15th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Senta, German steamer, 2,660. S. Vuss, 20th June, —Hamburg via ports, Hongkong, 13th June, General.—Simon, Evens & Co.

General, Simon, Evers & Co.
Owarf Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, H. Sakimoto, 20th June, "Yokkaichi, 19th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Tibballs,
20th June—Kobe, 18th June, Geneal.—Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.
Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, L. de B. Lockyer,

20th June, Hongking via Nagasaki and Kobe, 11th June, Mails and General, P. & O. S.N.

Morven, British steamer, 2,360, J. T. Norrie, 21st June,—Rangoon, 20th May, Rice,—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Priam, British steamer, 1,803, Jackson, 21st June,
- Liverpool via ports, Robe, 19th June, Gene1al.—Butterfield & Swire.

nal.—Butterheld & Swite.
Vindubona. Austrian steamer, 2,689. C. Bollen,
21st June,—Trieste via port., Hongkong. 15th
June, General.—Browne & Co.
Manuel Llaguno, American ship. 1,650. C. V.
Small.—New York, 13th Jan., Kerosene Oil.—
Standard Oil Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Vagi, 21st June, -Yokkaichi, 20th June, General,-Nippon Yosen Kaisha.

Nippon Yoseo Kaistia.

Kumakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3.797, Trennt,
21st June, — London via potts, Hongkong, 15th
June, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaishia.

Banjo Kan (4), Japanese Gunboat, 667, SecondCapt. I. Takakuwa, 22nd June, — Yokosuka,
22nd June.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, F. L.

Sowmer, 22nd June, — Yokosuka, 22nd June,
General. — Nippon Yuseo Kaishia.

Sahura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mumee

-Yakkaichi, 22nd June, General.—Nippon June,-Yokkai Yusen Kaisha.

Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 23rd June,—Kobe, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iksi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 23rd June,—Otaru via poits, 18th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fortuna, Norwegian steamer, 1,921, Christopherson, 24th June,—New York via Suez Canal and way ports, General.—Frazar & Co.

Omari Marn, Japanese steamer, 656, H. Sakimoto, 24th June,—Yokkaichi, 23rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, G. Shimazu, 24th June,—Shanghai via ports, 18th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha. sha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, J. Nagao, 24th June, -Misuge, 21st June, General. -Nip-24th June,-Misuge pon Yusen Kaisha.

Riefun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, A. E. Moses, 24th June, Seattle, Wash., 9th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

#### DEPARTURES.

Asisona, British steamer, 2,657. J. Panton, 18th June, Tacoma, Washington, Mails and Gene-ial. Dodwell, Cartili & Co.

cal.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Faneiro, American steamer, 2,246,

Wm. Ward, 18th June,—San Francisco via

Horodulu, Mais and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 18th June,—Olam via ports, General.—

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi,

18th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

sen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Edward Porter, 18th June,—Portland Oregon via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Dudwell, Carlill & Co.

Tsinan, British steamer, 1,460, Geo. Ramsay, 19th June,—Australia and New Zealand via Kobe and Hongkong, General.—Butter field & Swire.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,709, C. Bainbridge, 20th June,—Robe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru. Lacanese steamer, 1,140 S. T. M.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Tsuji, 20th June, - Otatu via ports, General-Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Y. Murai, 20th June, - Kobe, General. - Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, R. R. Pearce, 21st
June, —London via ports, Mails and General.

P. & O. S.N. Co.

Heiyen Kan (7), Japanese gunboat, 2,185, Capt.

K. Ohtsuka, 21st June, —l'aleyama.

Ovari Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, H. Sakimoto, 21st June, —Yokkaichi, General.

Wisen Kaisha.

Shinagama Maru, Japanese steamer, 100, K.

Ninagama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Yamanouchi, 21st June,—Nemuro, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Della, German steamer, 3.200, Christiansen, 22nd June,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simp Kuer & Co.

Simon Evers & Co.

—Sunon Evers & Co.
Aldebaran, German ship, 1,836, C. Bruns, 22nd
June,—Caleta Buena, Chin, Ballast,—W. M.
Strachan & Co.
Caledonien, French steamer, 2,173, Durrande, 22nd
June,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.
—M. M. S.S. Co.

-M. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain,
22nd June, Shanghai via poets, Mails and
General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Tibballs,
22nd June, Otacu via ports, General. -Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109. J. Giese, 22nd June,—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yu-sen Kuisha.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,762, J. Day, 22nd June,
—New York via ports and Snez Canal, General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Vindobona, Austrian steamer, 2,689, B. Ballen, 22nd June, Trieste and Venice via Kobe and Hongkong and way ports, General. Browne &

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, F. W. Hotton, 23rd June, - Kobe, General. - Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Lucknow, British steamer, 2,370, D. Morrison, 23rd June,—Maji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Iss Mars., Japanese steamer, 771, J. Arakawa, 24th June, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Ume-zono, 24th Jime.—Otarn via ports, General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senta, German steamer, 2,660, S. Voss, 25th June,
Have and Hamburg ve phris Ceneral
Simon Even getteed by

Priam, British steamer, 1,803, Jackson, 25th June, - London via ports, General,-Butterfield and Swire.

Rashing, British steamer, 1,158, F. Hopkins, 25th June, Kobe and Shanghai, General.—Butter-June,-Kobe : field & Swire.

# PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per British steamer Rehilla, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. M. Godfrey, Mr. G. J. Fowler, Mr. J. W. Copmann, and Mr. Wong Mon Lin, in cabin; Mr. Wood, and Mr. C. Terando, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer Kamakura Maru, from Southampton via ports: -Surgeon Capt. Martin, in cabin; M. J. Wilson, in second class; 2 Japane

e, and 2 Chinese, in steerage. Per Japanese steamer Mithe Maru, from Bom-

rer Japanese steamer Mithe Maru, from Bombay via ports:—Mr. and Mis. C. Brockerman, in cubin: 15 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Riojun Maru, from Seattle, Wash.:—Captain Thompson, Mr. E. S. Young, and Mr. and Mis. Shibayama, in cabin; 3 Europeans, 7 Japanese, and 27 Chinese, in steerage. steerage.

steerage.

Per Japanese steamer Satsuma Maru, from Shanghai via potts.—Mr. T. Inglis, IIr. Vao. Schale, Rear-Admiral S. Arima, Rear-Admiral II Kawahara, Ia.-Col. S. Shinomiya, Rev. G. E. Albrecht, Mr. K. S. Walbank, and Mr. K. Oiso, in cabin; Mr. G. Shimokusa, Mr. Chang Rhin Tah, and Mr. A. Dillworth, in second class; 18 Japanese, and 1 Chinese, in steerage.

#### DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Doric, for Hongkong via gorts:—Mr. J. A. Phimmer, Mr. G. W. Meade, Mr. Drumoud Hay, Mrs. E. P. Nickels, Mrs. M. L. Allen, Mr. K. S. Walbank, Dr. A. D. Drew, Mrs. Curtis and daughter, Mr. W. S. Davidson, Mr. D. H. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. F. Klein, Mr. H. C. Ross, Mr. Bash, Dr. Paul, Mrs Gladys Palmer, and Mr. Hilborn, in cablin.

Palmer, and Mr. Hilborn, in cabin.
Per British steamer Arisona, for Tacoma, Wash, via ports:—Mrs. J. W. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Dudwell, Mr. W. A. Callagham, Mr. R. N. E. Espey, Mrs. Lee and daughter, Mrs. Taska, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. M. S. Hill, Miss Sutton, Mr. D. G. Davis, and Dr. and Mrs. H. Slade and infant, in other.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Janeir for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. C. W. Prescatt, Mr. H. W. Wickins, Mr. E. Roeper Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Saywell, Mr. Geo. Munice Mr. J. F. Hubert, Mr. Nicolay Scronnowsky Rev. Judson Smith, and Mr. C. Swynnerton, in cabin

Per British stemmer Coylon, for London via ports:—Miss Cumming, Miss G. Cumming and maid, Mr. C. G. Carrozi, Mr. H. J. H. Tripp, and Mr. M. Greenfield, in cabin

Mr. M. Greenfield, in cabin

Per French steamer Caladonien, for Marseilles
via poits:—Capl. A. Tillett, Mr. Baifoot, Mr.
Ange, Mr. Bander, Mr. Lays, Mr. Merecki, Mrs.
J. D. Munro, Mr. H. C. Field, Mr. W. Wallace,
Mr. W. Huchleshy, Mr. Lavacay, Mr. Ah Shung,
and Mr. Hong Wang Sang, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer Kobe Maru, for Shanghai via poits:—Miss Braess, Mrs. D. A. G. King,
Mr. Geo. Deiby, Mr. W. Daniels, Mr. J. Hara,
and Mr. H. Ohyama, in cabin; 50 Japanese, and
2 Chinese, in steerage.

2 Chinese, in steerage.

#### CARGOES.

Per American steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, for San Francisco, 18th June :

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Shanghai 30	3 27	3 3	lgo .	_	170	1,532
Amoy	3,88	ā ′	_	_	_	1,880
Biogo	- " -	-	-	_	309	300
Yokehama 1,52	3 -	_	-	318	-	1,841
Hongkong 576		-		_	_	586
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Oregon via Honolulu, 18th June :--

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	Chica	20	Pacific	1	otal.
	& We	st.	Coast.	Paci	kages.
Kobe	. 358		бат	*******	979
	-	SILK.		New	York.
Yokohams				13	59

Europe, 158 bales.

#### LATEST COMMERCIAL.

#### IMPORTS.

Stagnation still reigns supreme. Quotations can only be taken as nominal.

#### COTTON PIRCE GOODS.

	P 4.9	FIRLS.
Gier Shietings-8[th, 38] yds. 30 inches	\$2.55	to a.85
Grey Shirtings-oft, 3N4 pds, 45 inches	a.85	to 3.35
I', Cloth-7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.80	In 2.00
tudigo Shirtings-ten yarde, 44 inches.	1.75	to 2.60
Prints-Assorted, a4 yards, 30 mches.	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton-italians and Satteens Black,	ren	TARR.
30 inches	0.15	to 0.25

MOOLLENS.	LEK LYUP?
flancels	10.30 10 0.50
italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches haut.	e.sB to p.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yants, 32 inches Medium	Nominal
Continon	Nominal
Atomisaline da Laina-Crapa, e j yarda,	
31 inchop	0.15 16 0.22
Cloths-Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35 10 0.50
Cloths-Presidents, 54 of 56 inches	g.fig to g.729
Cloths-Union, 54 of 56 inches	a.50 ta a.85
Monketo-Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5th,	-
per b	0.50 to 0.60
• -	FER PLECE.

Vetyata—Hinck, 35 yards, saiochas ... Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inchas, TurkayReds—2.0 to 3.0 h, 22/25 yards, 30 inches ... Turkay Reds—3.6 m 4bs 24/25 yards, 32 inches ... 1425 to 2.20

2.50 to 3.516 

Nos. 28/32, Singles	39.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	43.50 to 45.50
Nas. 31, Doubles	42.00 to 43.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	47.00 to 50.50
Nos. 4,60, Plain	61.00 to 63.00
Nos. 1/80, Plain	75.00 ln 76.30
Nos. 2/100, Plain	97.00 to 99.00
Nos. 2/6u, Gassed	69 50 to 76.50
Nos. 2 80. Gassed	85,00 to 90.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	114.00 to 124.00
RAW COTTON.	
Americae Middling	\$40.00 to —

#### Indian Boach 20.00 — Chinese 21.50 to — MUCLALS

The market is entirely destitute of life. There are hardly any transactions; and quotations show no change from the general average of the last few

PRH FIGHE,
Round and aquate & inch. and upward.3.85 to 4.10
fron Plates, assurted
Sheet from
Galvanized Iron sheets
Wire Nails, asserted
Lin Plates, per box
Pig Iron, Ha. 3
Hoop from (# to 12 inch)
KEROSENE,

#### Qualations nominal at last week's figures. American ..... \$2 00 to 2.07

#### SUGAR.

Business is about the same as at the time of the last report, prices being practically unaftered.

	exp elong,
Brown Takao	\$5.60 to 5.70
Brown Manila	5.50 to 6.30
Brown Daitong	
Brown Canton	4:35 to 6:00
White fave and Penang	6.go tu 7.15
White Refined	7.70 to 9.00

#### EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

Purchases have not been brisk during the past week, and a large stock—amounting to over 4,000 boxes—remains on hand. The shipments to Europe by the French mail were 280 hales, and the Brasmar took 159 hales to Portland, Oregon. Quotations cominally at last week's figures,

#### QUOTATIONS.

Sentations:	
Filatures-Extra g'er, ro/12 den	Nominal
Filatures-Extra 13/15, 14'16 den	Nominal
	1860 to 870
	830 to 840
Filatures-No. 14, 10/14 deniers	840 to 830
Filatures-No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures-No. 2, 10/15 denters	820 to 830
Filatures-No. 2, 14'18 deniers	700 to 80u
Re-reels-No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	Sup to Sta
Ne-reels-No. 14, 13/10, 14/17 den	Nominal
Re-reals-No. 2, 14/16 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels-No. 24, 11/18 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels-No. 3, 14f20 deniet 8	Nominal
Kakedas-Estra	Nominal
Kakedas-No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas-No. 14	Nominal
Kakedas-No. 2	Nominal
Kaxedas-No. 21	Nominal

#### WASTE SHIK.

Business has been practically nil, and prices are Per French steamer Caledonien, for Marseilles: quite nominal. The stock on hand amounts to Raw Silk for Europe, 280 bales; Waste Silk for hand amounts to Europe by the Current for Europe for Europe by the Current for Europe for Eur

QUOTATIONS,		
Nachi-Filatore, Best	## 5 to	130
Noshi-Filature, Good	rog to	110
Nothis-Oshu, Best	Ha to	115
Noshi-Oshu, Good	100 to	103
Noshi-Oshu, Medium	go to	
Nashi-Shinahu, Bost	70 to	- 73
Noshi-Shinshy, Good		679
Noshi-Bushu, Bast	£15 to	
Nashi-Bushu, Good	100 M	
Noshi-Bushu, Medium	go to	
Noshi-Joshu, Good	őo to	65
Noshi-loshu, Fair	55 to	571
Kibing-Pilatura, Hast	95 to	
Kitim-Pilature, Seconde	B5 to	ge
Kibine-Joshu, Good	25 to	30
Kibiso - Bunhu, Fair	to to	122
TEA.		

The market shows a tendency to reviving ac-tivity, the scare of the tea duty having to a large extent passed off. There is a large stack of over half a million pounds still in sellers' hands, but large purchases, amounting in the aggregate to close on a million pounds, have been made during the week. Quotations are nominally at last week's figur 0s.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	o 🗷 opward
Chriffe an an anne bad and find the con any only one old the ord one are	\$47 to 28
	\$25 to 26
Fine to and and any other new ton ton end the ber aby the abil the	#23 to sa
Good Medium	\$21 to 28
Medium	Rig fa ba
Good Common as an attended as a second as	Nominal.
Common	eromenija.

#### EXCHANGE.

Nothing changed since yesterday.	
Stelling-Bank T.T	2/0
- Bills on demand	2/015
4 months' sight	2 0
- Private 4 months' sight	1/0
6 montha' sight	1/0
On Parls-Bank night	2.55
On Paris - Private 4 months' sight	2.59
the America-Bank Bills on demand.	492
<ul> <li>Private 4 months' sight5</li> </ul>	O lo
On Germany-Bank eight	3.06
Private 4 months' sight,	2.10
On Hongkong-Banksight5	}°/₀dia
- Private 10 days sight	dia/odia
On Shanghai-Bank sight	791
Private to days night	
On India-Bank night	150
Private 30 days' night	156
	*7 t

### TEA MARKET.

Yokohama, June 24th.

The market has a tendency towards further

Arrivals of Tea :- 1,695 boxes.
Purchases of Tea-50,900 lbs.
Tea is stock-165,000 lbs.

KORE TRA MARKET

Arrivals:-1,833 boxes, Parchases:-68,200 lbs.

RECR. MARKING.

Fukagawa, Tokyo, June 24th.

The market was active.

Sold, Japanese rice 5,430 hyo, Foreign rice 1,614 hags; arrived, Japanese 935, Foreign 3,480; in stock, Japanese 149,150, Foreign 64,377.

Reind ner Fen. Birst quotity 4 sho 1 go; vecanit, 4 sho 2 go; thiid, 4 sho 4 go 5 shaku; famith, 4 sho 7 go 5 shaku; titth, 5 sho 1 go.



Itching, scaly, bleding palms, shapeless nails, and painful finge, ends, pimples, blackheads, oily, mothy skin, dr, thin, and falling hair, itching, scaly scalps, all jeld quickly to warm baths with Cuticura Soap, and gentle anointings with Cu-TICURA (ointment), greatst of emollient skin cures.

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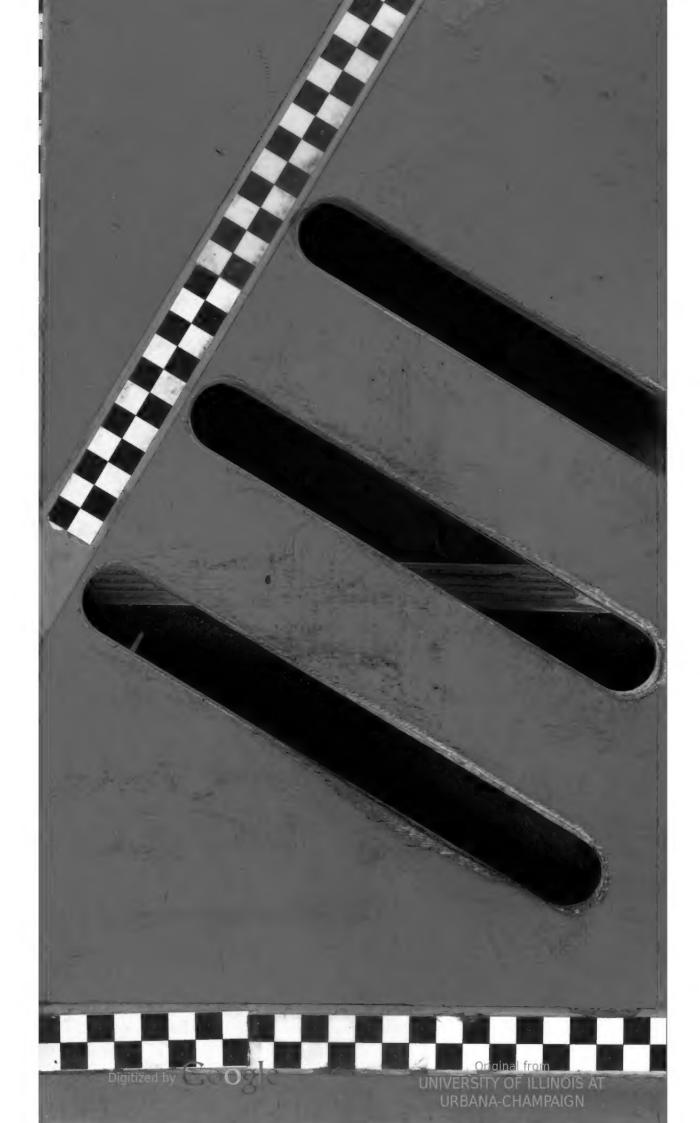
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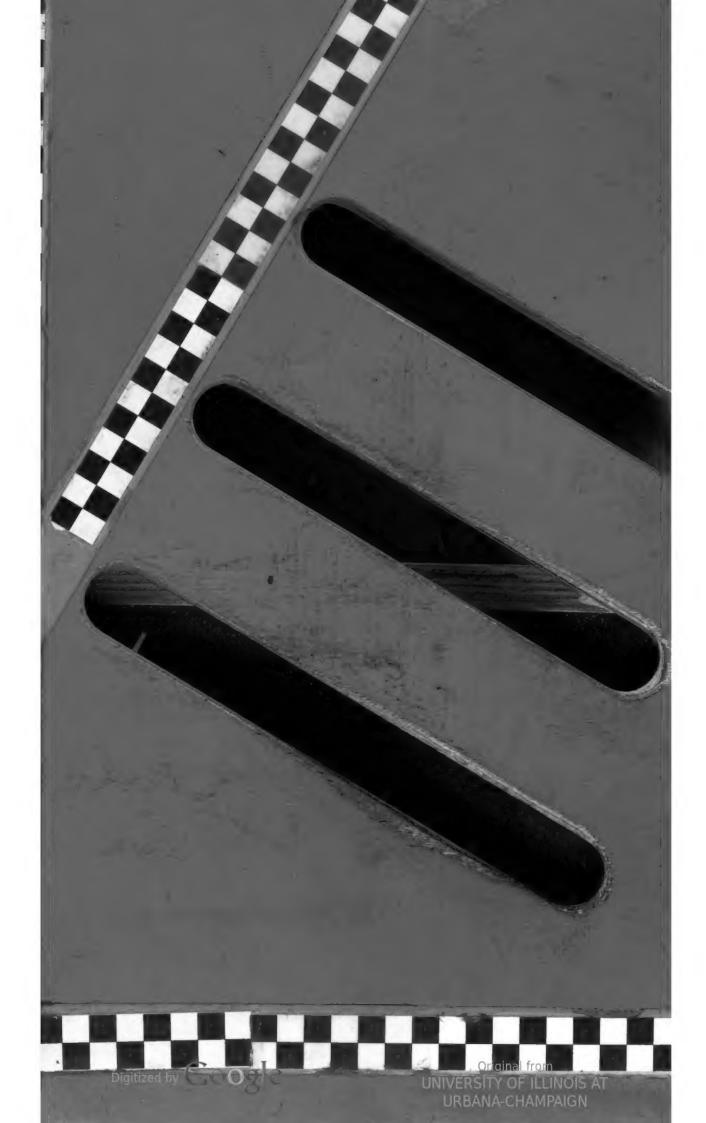
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